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Arran's Weekly Newspaper

SATURDAY, 7 NOVEMBER 2015

No 2036 60p

# Japanese knotweed needs removed at ferry terminal

## £22.2 million contract is awarded but work can't start yet

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

Japanese knotweed is holding up the start of work on the new ferry terminal at Brodick pier, the Banner can reveal.

It was announced this week that the £22.2 million contract to build the new terminal has been awarded to George Leslie Ltd, but before work can get under way the invasive knotweed will have to be completely removed.

Groundworks are due to start on Monday and are expected to take two weeks. As a result all car parks at the ferry terminal will be closed during that time, leading to parking concerns.

Ramsay Muirhead, head of civil engineering at port owners Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd (CMAL), said: 'I can confirm the groundworks are to remove Japanese knotweed, which is an invasive species and cannot be left beneath new structures. The works will involve excavation at the two or three known knotweed locations, then subsequent encapsulation in the area that is currently the rough car park.

'We have been spraying the Japanese knotweed for

the past few years, which has significantly reduced the amount, but has not totally eradicated it. The works need to be undertaken to allow the main redevelopment project to proceed but are not part of the actual redevelopment.'

The ferry terminal contract, awarded by CMAL, is worth more than £22.2 million and is part of a major investment of around £30 million to secure a safe, efficient and reliable ferry terminal and service. Work is due to start on site in early January and finish early in 2017.

Mr Muirhead said: 'The ferry terminal infrastructure at Brodick is now nearing the end of its serviceable life and the project will see the harbour transformed. The new pier will allow a wider range of vessels to berth and the new terminal building will improve the passenger experience. This project will bring significant economic benefit to the island and we will continue to work with the local community and businesses to ensure that these benefits are maximised.'

Work on the extensive redevelopment of the ferry terminal includes a new pier, an increased marshalling area

Continued on page 2



## The scariest weekend of the year

Prizewinners at the Kilmory party are back row: Ava Galloway, Lies Slaats, Kier Riddell, Lewis Thomson, Andrea Thomson. Front: Niamh Sturgeon, Niamh McNeil and Jenny Monteith. 20\_b45party01

## Frightful fun at Arran's Hallowe'en parties

What a spooktacular weekend it was on Arran. Hallowe'en is certainly far from dead and buried, with parents and children across the island taking a lot of trouble to come up with some splendid costumes.

The fun started with a host of

school parties on Friday, followed by a number of community and special events on Saturday – all making it the scariest weekend of the year.

**Coverage**

Full picture coverage of all the events starts on page 10.



Jenson Roberts is a smiling lion at the Brodick party. 20\_b45party02



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# Ferry tender process has been 'fair, open and transparent'

A panel scrutinising the tendering of the Clyde and Hebrides ferry services has said the first stage of the process was 'fair, open and transparent'.

CalMac Ferries Ltd faces competition from Serco Caledonian Ferries Ltd for the next contract to run the network for up to another eight years, including the two Arran routes.

### Resolved dispute

The tendering has been the source of a now-resolved dispute between unions and CalMac and the Scottish government.

The independent panel was set up to provide assurances about the process.

Its members include representatives from the Isle of Arran Ferry Committee and North Ayrshire Council.

The panel's report and the interim Invitation To Tender (ITT), which supersedes the initial ITT examined by the panel, have been uploaded Transport Scotland's website.

Transport Minister Derek Mackay said: 'From the outset, we have pledged to make this a fair, open and transparent procurement process.'

'The publication of both the first report from the Independent Procurement Reference Panel and the interim ITT underlines that commitment.'

'The first report from the

panel concluded that the terms of the initial ITT process were fair, open and transparent to both bidders.

'The panel has held two meetings which have proved very useful, and further meetings are scheduled to take place to review and provide comment on both the interim ITT and final ITT documents.'

### Outcome

'I once again underline that, no matter the outcome of the procurement process, Scottish ministers will retain control of all of important issues, such as fares and timetables, through the public service contract.'

'Vessels and port infrastructure will also remain publicly



An illustration of how the new ferry terminal could look.

owned as they are now. We remain focused on ensuring a fair and open competition that leads to getting the very

best deal for all of the communities of the Clyde and Hebrides.'

\*Serco is holding an open

posals. day in Brodick Hall from 2pm till 7pm on Monday November 9 to outline its proposals.

## £22.2 million contract held up by Japanese knotweed



The car park where the knotweed will be contained. 20\_b45contract02

### Continued from page 1

through reclaimed land and a modern terminal building, with bus stances and parking facilities. It will replace the existing facility which was constructed in the early 1970s.

Six organisations passed the pre-qualification stage of the OJEU tender process and all returned tenders, including an alternative submission from one of the tenderers. The seven submissions were assessed and the submission from Glasgow-based firm George Leslie Ltd scored highest based on the pre-determined combination of price and quality scoring, leading to

the contract being awarded to it.

The work on the passenger access system, the covered walkway to the ferries, worth around £2 million, will be tendered separately but will be complete within the same timescale.

CMAL has undertaken extensive stakeholder and public consultation throughout the preliminary phases of this project and will continue this during the construction stage.

Public meetings will be held in Arran throughout the works with the first meeting due to take place at the end of November, although a final date has yet to be confirmed.

Minister for transport and islands Derek Mackay said: 'The upgrade of Brodick harbour will bring real benefits to ferry users.'

'As well as providing an improved experience for passengers with a new terminal building, it will also strengthen the harbour's resilience by allowing a broader range of vessels to berth.'

'This is particularly important as we plan the future of the Clyde and Hebrides ferry services and look to renew the West Coast ferry fleet.'

• Japanese knotweed found in Lamlash Bay, see page 15.

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## Douglas and distillery win awards

The Douglas Hotel in Brodick was named Most Hospitable Hotel at the regional finals of the Scottish Thistle Awards in Glasgow on Wednesday night. VisitArran just missed out on the top prize after being named a finalist.

Meanwhile, the Isle of Arran Distillery has won the Distillery Visitor Experience of the Year award at The Scottish Field magazine Whisky Challenge. The award has been won by the Lochranza distillery for the second year in a row. *Full stories next week.*

## Winter art returns to Brodick Castle

The popular winter art exhibition is returning to Brodick Castle this year.

On Thursday November 12 the castle will welcome the public to the relaunch of its popular art show.

After a year's break in 2014, the exhibition promises to be another great success, showcasing the huge, and occasionally surprising, talent the island has to offer.

The show will run from Thursday to Sunday next week, between 11am and 3pm, with the work of more than 50 local artists exhibited alongside the prestigious castle collection.

The exhibition was started by a trio of local artists – John Connelly, Marvin Elliott and James Gorman – as an avenue for the island's professional talent to exhibit, but over time has expanded to encompass the multitude of different crafts and media Arran has to offer, both amateur and professional.

For more information, visit the National Trust website [www.nts.org.uk](http://www.nts.org.uk) or contact the castle office on 01770 302202.

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# Shiskine Bake Off raises money for Beatson

Shiskine Primary School marked Hallowe'en with a Bake Off competition last Friday, in aid of the Beatson cancer charity.

The fundraising group was delighted with the amount of entries and the quality of the baking being entered in the open categories, which were treacle scones, an apple

pie, themed cupcakes and Hallowe'en-themed decorated cakes. Primary 1 to 4 pupils decorated biscuits at the school, making up the final category.

Many primary 5 to 7 children entered the themed decorated cupcake after baking them at home and bringing them into school.

Erin McNiven took the first prize for her cupcakes. The treacle scone category was won by Olivia and Ava McNeice's gran, and the winning apple pie was won by Lewis Campbell's mum. Carol Shaw won the best decorated cake category with her chocolate cake cemetery, featuring zombies rising from the grave.

The school thanks Sheila Gilmore and Gordon Kinniburgh for judging the competition and everyone else involved in raising £166 for the Beatson cancer charity.



Erin McNiven with her winning cupcakes.



Primary 1 to 4 pupils with their decorated biscuits at the Shiskine Bake off. 02\_b45bake01

## 200 Club winners

October winners of the Brodick 200 Club, run by Brodick Improvements Committee, were Jane and Norval Murray, who collected £50.

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Carol Shaw shows off her winning zombie cake, to judges Sheila Gilmore and Gordon Kinniburgh.

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## Corrie Film Club

**Ida (Poland 2013) Cert 12A**  
This month's Corrie Film Club offering, carried forward from July, is an award-winning film from Polish director Pawel Pawlikowski.

It centres around 18-year-old Anna, an orphan, who has been brought up in a convent and is preparing to become a nun. Just before taking her vows, she discovers she has a surviving aunt. They meet and the aunt reveals they are Jewish and that Ida's parents were murdered during the Nazi occupation. This leads to a journey in which the two women try to discover what happened to their family.

Shot in black and white with taut cinematograph and stand-out performances, *Ida* won a best foreign film Oscar and is hailed as a masterpiece of modern cinema. See this film in Corrie and Sannox village hall tomorrow (Sunday) at 8pm.

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# Fishtail groynes would put an end to erosion at Brodick beach

## But where will £1 million needed come from?

**REPORT**

by **HUGH BOAG**

editor@arranbanner.co.uk

The construction of two fish-tail groynes is the recommendation of a long awaited report into how to stop the erosion of Brodick beach.

But the rock armour coastal structures could cost nearly £1 million to install and there is uncertainty about where the money would come from.

The only option at the moment is for the community to raise the money itself through Brodick Improvements Committee, which raised the money required for the shorefront walkway.

Chairman Harry Davidson said: 'At least the erosion issue has been addressed and a comprehensive report completed, but where they money is going to come from for the works no one knows, but the council has said it will not be from it.'

The long-awaited report was undertaken by international

consultant AECOM Ltd and will now form the basis of an application to Marine Scotland to allow the works.

It was hired by North Ayrshire Council to undertake an outline design report for coastal protection works at a 250 metre section of Brodick beach, currently protected by unsightly sandbags.

Representatives presented the report at a public consultation meeting in the Ormisdale Pavilion in Brodick on Tuesday, but only a handful of people turned up to hear the report findings.

The preferred option to tackle erosion at the beach is to install two so-called fish-tail rock groynes in front of the existing geofabric bags. The damaged bags would be repaired and the whole beach recharged with the groynes retaining the sand.

While they would be visible above the sea level, David Gorbella, principal engineer at AECOM Ltd, said they would not be 'particularly

intrusive'. The consultant put the cost of construction at anywhere between £683,000 to £900,000 which is significantly cheaper than some of the other options which would cost in excess of £2 million.

Members of the small audience asked a number of questions about how effective the groynes would be at protecting the beach but they were given assurances by Roy Glenton, lead technical, that they were the best option given the greater occurrence of easterly winds which led to the loss of the beach in one storm several years ago.

**Local rock**

They also asked where the rock and sand would come from. Mr Glenton said this had not been fully investigated but local rock may be used for the groynes as could possibly material from the ferry redevelopment works.

However, council bosses at the meeting confirmed that no money has been budgeted

for the work to be carried out.

However, an official confirmed that the council had paid for the consultant's report and would take it forward with the application to Marine Scotland, which could take up to 12 weeks.

Similar rock groynes have been used in Morecambe Bay and Felixstowe. The structures would be perpendicular to the shoreline and then split into two ends (fishtails). The total length would be approximately 90m with a space of 80m between them.

The most expensive option considered would be the construction of offshore detached breakwaters costing up to £2.1 million. A shoreline breakwater T-groyne would have cost up to £2 million with nearshore detached breakwaters costing as much as £1.1 million.

The report goes for the second cheapest option of two fishtail groynes, costing just slightly more than three fishtail groynes.

The report states: 'Fishtail groynes reduce partially incident waves and are significantly less expensive to build. However, although the monitoring of these structures can be carried out annually, special attention is required to monitor shoreline response at least annually and after extreme storm events.'

And while outlining the reasons for the current erosion, the report does not shy away from where the problem first started with the extraction of sand in the 1970s and '80s, stating: 'The historical prac-



The fishtail groynes would be visible in the sea in front of the beach.

tice of extracting sand and gravel from the bay has reversed a longer term trend of accretion, or at least encouraged chance from a dynamically stable situation to one in which erosion is the dominant pattern.'

North Ayrshire Council first took action in 2010 by installing the geofabric bags to help stop the leeching of waste from the former Brodick coup. Initially the bags were covered with sand but this was quickly removed during periods of high wave action.

Other associated measures were also introduced including grass planting and fencing and last year timber access steps over the sandbags.

However, as the report ac-

cepts: 'These measures have proved relatively unsustainable in terms of maintenance, mainly due to the action of high waves removing the sand covering the bags.'

'The defence is also subject to vandalism, hinders public access to the foreshore and does not encourage a healthy beach.'

'As a result the local community has raised concerns about the amenity now offered by the beach.'

'The scope of this work is the outline design of a group of rock armour coastal structures along a 250-metre section of the south of the shoreline in order to reduce the existing erosion that is currently prevailing.'



David Corbella outlines the proposals as Roy Glenton looks on. 20\_b45beach02

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# end to erosion



Beach which would be recharged. 20\_b45beach01



Small audience listen to the consultant's presentation. 20\_b45beach03

## Guest houses targeted in scam

A warning has been issued after two guest houses on Arran were targeted by the same scam.

Earlier last month the owners of a guest house in Whiting Bay were contacted by email and a booking arranged for a week's stay.

The owners then received a cheque for a couple of thousand pounds more than the fee amount with the instruc-

tion that they deduct the fee and wire the rest of the money back to them. Luckily they were suspicious and no money changed hands.

### Similar

Last week a second guest house owner, this time in Lamlash, made the police aware of a similar incident leading to the issue of the warning.

Arran Sgt Allen Dodds said:

'There has been no crime committed at this juncture as the cheque may be genuine, though this is highly doubtful, however, I am concerned it may be just a matter of time before someone sends them money before waiting on the cheque to clear.'

Anyone with any concerns should contact Police Scotland on the non-emergency 101 number.

## Musician drumming up support for charity

A young Arran musician is holding two events to help his favourite charity.

Scott Harwood, 21, of Pirmill has organised a ceilidh to be held at the Brodick Church hall on Thursday November 12 and a quiz night at the Catcol Bay Hotel on Saturday, December 5 with all of the proceeds going to Restless Development.

### Leadership

The charity, founded over 30 years ago, places young people at the forefront of change, taking on leadership roles in projects in areas where they are needed most.

It has offices in 10 locations around the world, including Nepal where the youth have played a large role in assist-

ing with the reconstruction and development of communities affected by the recent earthquake.

Anyone who wishes to support Scott with his fundrais-

ing, can visit his JustGiving page at [www.justgiving.com/Scott-Harwood1/](http://www.justgiving.com/Scott-Harwood1/) or attend his events where he will also have copies of his new album available as prizes.



Scott Harwood pictured volunteering in Australia recently.



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**Ecco Savvy explores green waste composting**

Eco Savvy will be welcoming Reeni Kennedy-Boyle from Fyne Futures on the Isle of Bute as guest speaker to the members' meeting in Whiting Bay Hall on Wednesday, November 11.

The open meeting for members starts at 1pm and then, an hour later, Reeni will present her experiences and ideas about composting and recycling on Bute.

Fyne Futures is a charity and social enterprise with an impressive history of moving Bute towards a zero-carbon future. The meeting will be focusing on the issue of green waste and food waste and Reeni's experience and thoughts could be useful to implement a similar initiative on Arran. Reeni is an inspirational speaker and an energetic campaigner and her enthusiasm will undoubtedly inspire the audience.

At present there are no facilities on Arran for dealing with green or food wastes, and sadly much goes either off-island to a landfill or is dumped on the beaches to rot. Eco Savvy intends to do something about this. He is working on ideas and plans for green waste composting and investigating possibilities for dealing with food waste on Arran.

# Bottle built greenhouse will allow pupils to grow their own

Offers have already been made to donate seeds and plant pots to the project

A greenhouse built out of old bottles has been completed at Brodick Primary School.

The project, aimed at teaching children about sustainable food production and the environment, has finally been completed after a lengthy period of collecting the eco friendly materials needed for its construction.

Built on a concrete plinth with a grant from the Arran Trust and using wood and fittings donated by Kier Construction, which built Montrose House, the greenhouse has also received support from Eco Savvy, who helped provide some of the recycled plastic two-litre bottles that comprise the walls.

Parents and teachers have also played a large part in its construction with the children themselves helping to wash the 2,000 bottles that were required.

The greenhouse will be used

as an educational tool for the school's 66 pupils and will likely house a mixture of fruit and vegetables and possibly some herbs. But this will ultimately be decided by the pupil council under the guidance of the teachers and parent council.

Offers have already been made to donate seeds and plant pots so, providing that the red squirrels that live in the nearby oak trees do not manage to infiltrate the greenhouse, pupils could soon be rewarded with a chemical and pesticide free harvest from their very own greenhouse.

Representatives from the Arran Trust were on hand to take a look at the completed greenhouse which they helped to finance with their grant and were told that they would be invited back for a tasting as the project progresses and once the first crop is ready for harvesting.



At the bottle greenhouse are Margie Currie, Sheila Gilmore and Robert Waine from the Arran Trust and Brodick Primary School's head teacher, Susan Kelly and Veronica Jeffrey with some of the primary pupils. 02\_b45greenhouse01

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**Volunteer day at land project**  
The Arran Community Land Initiative is looking for volunteers to help prepare paths for its orchard which is being planted at the end of November on its 80-acre plot in Whiting Bay. The work will take place today (Saturday) from 11am in the barn field which will be signposted from Golf Course Road.  
For more information visit [www.arranland.org](http://www.arranland.org) or they can be emailed at [development@arranland.org](mailto:development@arranland.org)

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**2pm Guest Speaker Reeni Kennedy-Boyle**  
Be inspired by Reeni from Fyne Futures  
She will talk to us about the amazing work done on the Isle of Bute  
**All Welcome**

# Schools join in one voice to present Ocean Commotion

During autumn term, pupils of P5 to P7 in all seven schools, and some younger pupils, are working with Lorna Buchanan towards a performance in Arran High School theatre on Thursday November 26 at 6pm.

The project is called 'Ocean Commotion' and features songs and narration on marine conservation.

Lorna explained: 'The young people are really enjoying learning the music and are looking forward to performing as one big choir. Two years ago we were delighted that 98 pupils supported the event and performed to an audience of more than 200. We hope we can enjoy the same level of support again as the experience of everyone singing together is a fantastic opportunity.'

'There are some really talented young singers on Arran and this gives parents, grandparents and friends the chance to hear the fruits of all their hard work. This would not be possible

without the tremendous support of the teachers in all the schools as it can be difficult to co-ordinate rehearsal times and on the afternoon of the performance we would really appreciate parental help in ensuring pupils are at the high school at 4.15pm to enable us to practise briefly before the performance. I appreciate this is a busy time of year and there are plenty of other after school commitments but it would be a shame to miss out on this as we only get a chance to do it once every few years. We would also really appreciate if parents could let the school know in plenty of time if any child, who is singing a solo part or narration is unable to attend as then another performer can be offered the chance.'

There will be one free ticket per child with all other adults being charged £3. The event is being organised by the North Ayrshire Music Service funded by Creative Scotland's music making initiative project.



Shiskine primary pupils in full voice.



Kilmory primary pupils all smiles during rehearsals.

# Corrie and Sannox SWI hear clothes talk

The second meeting of the 2015/16 session of Corrie and Sannox SWI took place in Corrie and Sannox village hall on Thursday October 8 when members and friends were entranced by Irene Barnes' wonderful collection of women's clothes from the early 20th century.

The dresses she brought were amazing and she also had some beautiful slides of others in her collection.

After a very good tea provided by Gillian Currie, Sheila Maclean and Pam McConnachie, the business bit of the meeting took place, and the names for the rally were taken. The competition was won by Marie Turnbull.

Ideas for the show syllabus are to be brought to the next meeting which is on Thursday November 12 at 2pm in the village hall when the demonstrator will be Beth Mowatt who will be helping members to make beaded bracelets. The competition will be for a favourite necklace.

# New sounds on a Sunday

Youngsters on Arran with an interest in singing can get involved in a new choir project on the island.

The first ever Young Sounds of Arran singing sessions will take place at Whiting Bay village hall tomorrow (Sunday).

They are being run by music teacher Diane Philips, who is now living on the island, and who has previous success with similar groups in Milngavie, near Glasgow, and Helensburgh.

Diane said: 'There is a lot of good musical talent on the island and I am hoping this will help get young people singing. While we will be aiming for a high standard, there is also a social element to community singing which can

make it a lot of fun. With the range of classes we are hoping that children and young adults will join in.'

There will be three classes: P4-6 from 4pm till 4.30pm; P7-S2 from 4.45pm to 5.15pm; S3-S6 from 5.20pm

till 6pm. There is a £15 joining fee and then it costs £2 per session.

Anyone who would like more information can contact Diane on 07890 178531 or email dianephilips@hotmail.com

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# THE ARRAN BANNER

## No cash for beach plan

It really is a case of one step forward and two steps back for Brodick beach this week.

The step forward sees the publication of the long-awaited consultants report into what is causing the beach erosion and what can be done about it.

They have come up with a detailed plan for the installation of two fishtail groynes to protect a recharged beach.

One step back is the news that North Ayrshire Council has no intention of funding the near £1 million needed for the work to be carried out.

Step back two. The only alternative is for the village, through Brodick Improvements Committee, to raise the money itself - and that's going to take more than rattling a few charity tins. Grants from other funding sources can be sought but it all takes time - something Brodick beach is fast running out of.

So does the report take anything further forward? The answer has to be yes. At least there is now a detail 52-page plan looking into the whole history of the beach with experts examining the past and coming up with fully-costed recommendations for the future.

That report and this week's consultation meeting will now form part of an application to Marine Scotland to carry out the works, a process which can take up to 12 weeks.

That takes it well into the new year and heading full pelt towards the Scottish parliamentary elections in May.

Does that then give a window for some serious political pressure to be brought to bear on the present incumbents and those bidding to take their place? If it does, this has to start sooner rather than later. Time on this front is also ticking.

Future discussions also have to continue to involve the land owner, Arran Estates, which has been involved in previous talks with Brodick Improvements Committee and the council.

So for now it looks like there is a detailed plan, which itself must have cost a small fortune, but no way to take it forward.

Brodick urgently needs a multi-millionaire beneficiary or a collective lottery win.

### 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 endeavour to ensure that all our reports are fair and accurate and comply with the Editors' Code of Practice set by the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO). We realise, however, that mistakes happen from time to time.

If you think we have made a significant mistake and you wish to discuss this with us, please let us know as soon as possible by any of the three methods: emailing editor@arranbanner.co.uk; telephoning the senior reporter on 01770 302142 or write to the Editor at Wyvex Media, Crannog Lane, Lochavullin estate, Oban, PA34 4HB.

We will attempt to resolve your issue in a timely, reasonable and amicable manner. However, if you are unsatisfied with our response, you can contact IPSO, which will investigate the matter. You can either telephone IPSO on 0300 123 2220 or email inquiries@ipso.co.uk. IPSO is an independent body which deals with complaints from the public about the editorial content of newspapers and magazines. We will abide by the decision of IPSO.

### 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



### Kiosk concern

Sir,  
Referring to the letter from Mr Nicholson in last weeks edition, (Saturday, October 31) regarding the telephone booth in Whiting Bay.

I have requested the removal of an unsightly phone box on the corner of Glenloy Road and Glen Road as it obstructs the view when pulling out of Glen Road, but was told 'the kiosk is there to provide a service and BT are required to provide the public with access to make emergency 999 calls.'

The kiosk has not worked for many years and has no receiver, so how are they supposed to make these calls?

An email I received on September 23 said 'an engineer would be out over the next few days to repair it'.

Here we are now at the start of November and nothing has changed.

How many more kiosks are there on Arran in the same state?

Yours,  
**Debbie Jackson  
Brodick**

### Ferry ordeal

Sir,  
We have just returned from another most enjoyable visit to Arran.

Unfortunately CalMac once again made our journey across a most stressful and unpleasant experience.

We have been holidaying on Arran (an island we love) for well over 30 years and in the past found the sail to and from the island a very pleasant start and finish to our holiday. This year it has been the opposite as it has become an ordeal.

When we came over from Ardrossan in May the loading crew of the Caledonian Isles had the cars so tightly packed on the mezzanine deck that I could not get the front passenger door open sufficiently to get out of the car. I am a woman of 70 and had, with a struggle, to climb into the driver's seat on my knees to get out of the car.

I was so stressed by this experience and realising the

only way to get back into the car, was to attempt to repeat the performance that I came off the ferry as a foot passenger when it arrived in Brodick.

On Monday October 26 we were directed once again on to the mezzanine deck closer and closer to the edge on the Caledonian Isles.

When my husband wound down his window to explain to one of the loading crew our difficulty on our previous journey he was met with a most rude and belligerent reply.

He was told to 'tell her to get out of the car now then'. I got out on the slippery slope of the ramp as my husband continued up the ramp to park the car.

Surely CalMac have some duty of care to passengers.

Two cars in front, a lady was struggling to get out of their car having had to climb into the driver's seat - she was breathless and explained to me that she has a heart condition and was really stressed by her experience. This is not good enough!

Had either of these experiences been on a first visit to Arran I do not think I would want to return, as it is I fear that it may just be an ordeal we have to endure, as long as we are able, to get across to your lovely island.

Yours,  
**Patricia Gibb  
Perth**

### Spread the word

Sir,  
Thank you on behalf of the Arran Ferry Committee for the earlier publicity about this post.

Since being appointed to the position of representative for the independent traveller for the committee I have experienced a mixed response from residents and the travelling public but mainly kind and well intentioned ranging from 'congratulations' through 'best of luck with that then' to 'you're aff yer heid'.

Strangely the ones in the

latter group then seem more than keen to share at least one 'ferry experience' with me obviously hoping that I can do something about it despite their initial scepticism! Long may that continue.

Of course I can only report facts if they are given to me in a reasonable and constructive way so I would ask your readers to please spread the word about the itferryrep@broombrae.co.uk email address or texts to 07522 860435. Anonymous messages, unless exceptional, by either route, are really not helpful and rarely usable. To date I have received some very balanced and valid comments and while the weather, despite the recent fog, has been unseasonably good, concerns on another number of recurring matters are coming through and will be reported to the November Ferry Committee meeting.

It is also only fair to say that, while my primary purpose is to represent the independent traveller, both shore staff and ferry crew who know me, and have recognised the duties of my appointment, have responded very positively and with good humour, which is to their great credit particularly at a time when they are concerned about the security of their own future employment and changes to contractual arrangements.

Yours,  
**Neil Arthur  
Independent Traveller  
Representative, Isle of  
Arran Ferry Committee.**

### Ferry capacity

Sirs,  
On Friday, October 23 I had an evening appointment on the mainland and had made a reservation on the 11.05am ferry several weeks earlier.

At the start of that week, the five-day forecast was poor for the Friday and on Monday 19th I tried to change my reservation to the 08.20am sailing instead.

I was told it was fully booked. I tried every day that week (until 6.30pm on Thursday) to get a reservation

on the early ferry and was told on each occasion that it was fully booked.

In desperation we arrived at the marshalling yard on the Friday morning at 7.30am (the first car!) and waited for the booth to open.

By the time the ferry arrived there were 24 cars, three articulated trucks and 8 transit type vans.

We were able to get on unbooked and after the loading was completed half of one car deck was empty and there was one mezzanine deck totally unused.

There was spare capacity for 15-20 cars and yet the ferry had been reported as fully booked all week.

I wonder if CalMac can explain the discrepancy between their computer booking system and reality as there is clearly a large gulf between the two.

Yours,  
**John Baraclough  
Brodick**

### Wedding cake surprise

Sir,  
I thought you might like to see our fantastic wedding cake, below, which was a complete surprise to us.

We got married on the island on October 10 after falling in love with the place over numerous visits from Lancashire and could not think of a more perfect place to tie the knot!

Yours,  
**Ben and Rachel Sumner  
Lancashire**



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## Friends of Brodick Castle seek support

The Friends of Brodick Castle have been hard at work for more than 18 years supporting the staff of the castle, the gardeners and the ranger service.

The castle and country park are an integral part of the community and draw many visitors to the island.

To continue this support they are always looking for more volunteers and this year they are also looking for new trustees as three of the existing ones are due to retire later in the year.

Next year should be an exciting 12 months thanks to an interesting programme of arranged talks, which are open to everyone.

The annual meeting will take place on Wednesday November 18 in the castle tearoom at 2.30pm, where tea and cakes will be served, with Fish and Ships providing the entertainment.

Anyone with an interest in helping, being a trustee or taking part in any of the activities are encouraged to attend.

## Market report

United Auctions at Stirling had forward 11,862 store and prime sheep. The prices were as follows: TexX lambs £65.50 Ardbheinn, TexX lambs £58.00 Drumla, SuffX lambs £67 Conc, Cross lambs £49.20 Sheddock, BF lambs £37 Glenkiln, TexX ewes £60.50 Ardbheinn, Cross ewes £46.50 Sheddock.



At the roadshow are, left to right: Gerry Mongiardini, Scottish Fire and Rescue; Vicki Yuill and Jim Nichols, Third Sector Interface, Arran CVS; Annie Weir, Health and Social Care Partnership; Doreen Walkenshaw, North Ayrshire Council and Marion Campbell, Scottish Fire and Rescue. b45plan01



Community councillors Jim Henderson and Peter and Joss Randell study the proposals during the roadshow. b45plan02



Community groups listen to the presentation by Dr Audrey Sutton. b45plan04

# Proposed locality partnerships prove popular with community groups

Community groups turned out in force to support proposals to introduce a locality partnership on the island.

Brodick Hall welcomed twice as many people than those anticipated to hear how North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership plans to establish six locality partnerships across the area.

More than 30 residents, involved with local groups and organisations, took part in last Wednesday's consultation which saw North Ayrshire Council's head of connected communities, Dr Audrey Sutton, deliver a presentation detailing what locality partnerships would mean for them and the island. The presentation became the precursor for the healthy debate which followed.

Dr Sutton was delighted with the level of support

received on the night. She said: 'It is always a pleasure to meet with Arran's vibrant community groups and Wednesday evening only served to underpin that. I was delighted to welcome so many people to the consultation and encouraged by their interest and enthusiasm for the proposals.'

'Community groups are vital to the success of each locality partnership because they will determine how they will function and I was personally delighted to hear all of the views put forward.'

The evening event followed an information roadshow which had been open to the public during the afternoon in the hall.

Information roadshows and consultation events will be taking place right across North Ayrshire in the coun-

cil's bid to gather as many views as possible on the proposals to introduce six locality partnerships across the area. All of the information gathered will shape the community planning partnership's final proposal which will be presented to cabinet early next year.

Last Wednesday's event formed part of the much wider nine-week consultation which got under way on October 19. It is a key part of the locality planning approach which results from the Christie Commission's argument for closer involvement of people in the design and delivery of the public services they use. The consultation will conclude on December 18, but anyone can keep track of developments from the consultation at #NALocality-planning.

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# Ghostly sightings an



Alfie Gilmore, Herbie Helliwell, Charlie Gilmore comforted the crying witch Mavis Helliwell, who disliked balloons. 02\_b45halloween09



Brodick Hall was awash with ghosts and ghouls 02\_b45halloween13



Luca Duncan with cousins Grace, Harry, Finn, Reece, Logan and Jack Popplewell haunt Brodick with parents Jenny Duncan and Kirsty Popplewell 02\_b45halloween01



Daisy Innes dancing with brother Jack 02\_b45halloween20



Whiting Bay primary held a Hallowe'en disco for the pupils 02\_b45halloween15



The Lamplash Early Years class with teachers Heidi Macfarlane and Mairi Inglis 02\_b45halloween06



Pupils at Brodick Primary enjoyed a fun-filled event held at the school 02\_b45halloween17



Decorated cars at the Balmichael Trunk or Treat event 02\_b45halloween18



# And ghoulish goings on



Dressed as Wendy and Bob the builder were Hector and Ruby MacArthur 02\_b45halloween12



Kellen Craig the Minion and Marie Craig as Harlequin who ran the dooking for apples contest 02\_b45halloween08



This skeleton is seen bobbing for muffins in Brodick with two zombie girls in the background 02\_b45halloween02



Above: Pirnmill Hall had a well attended ghostly gathering 02\_b45halloween19



The McNicol clan were joined by their friend Andrew McKelvie in Brodick 02\_b45halloween03



Baby Jackson dressed as a beautiful smiling pumpkin 02\_b45halloween14



Above: This gory duo's clothes were splattered with fake blood 02\_b45halloween11



Great friends, Annie McKelvie and Kaitlyn Haddow 02\_b45halloween10



Archie Adams and Kyle Farquhar dressed up as their favourite game characters 02\_b45halloween04



Stuart MacFarlane, Lauren Harvey, Bonnie Atkinson, Brodie Atkinson and Sophie MacFarlane at the Balmichael Trunk or Treat event 02\_b45halloween16



Left: Mum Michelle Williamson with Tia McKinnon the cat and Isla McKinnon the spider 02\_b45halloween05



# 'Frightful' fun at Arran



Madeleine Weir and mum Kirstin who helped organise the Pirnmill event 02\_b45halloween24



Traditional dooking for apples was very popular at Shiskine Hall 02\_b45halloween43



Parents were goaded into dooking for apples by their children 02\_b45halloween45



All of the Hallowe'en participants at the well-decorated Shiskine



A cannibal pumpkin 02\_b45halloween29



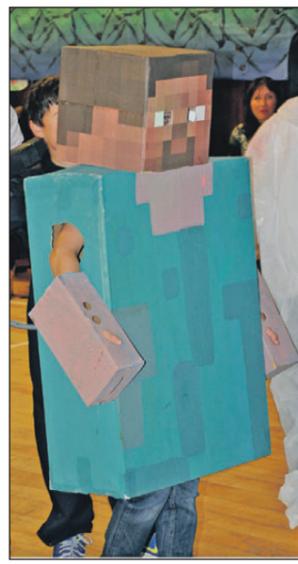
Pirnmill organiser Lorna Logan with daughter Catherine Smith dressed as vampires 02\_b45halloween25



Olivia McNeice doing the robot ballerina 02\_b45halloween38



Archie Gunaydi was a headless scientist 02\_b45halloween35



A Minecraft figure at the Shiskine party 02\_b45halloween39



Emma Henderson came as the Arran Banner girl 02\_b45halloween33



# n's Hallowe'en parties



ne Hall 02\_b45halloween32



Olivia McNeice managed to get her apple without ruining her makeup 02\_b45halloween44



Jack Innes as a little red devil 02\_b45halloween27



Eileen, Lewis and Callie Gregg vamping it up at the Pirnmill party 02\_b45halloween21



A green toy soldier stands motionless during one of the games at Shiskine 02\_b45halloween34



The smiling red devil danced up a storm at Pirnmill 02\_b45halloween26



Uilleam Hendrie as Edward Scissorhands at Shiskine. 02\_b45halloween30



Princess in the castle Poppy Murdoch won the best junior costume at Pirnmill 02\_b45halloween22



Witches Agnes Madden and Cecilia Paul helped with the traditional games at the Shiskine party 02\_b45halloween36



Sheila Gilmore leads the children's judging parade 02\_b45halloween37



# Ghoulish goings on in Arran



**Zombie bride Abby Stewart drinking a magic potion** 02\_b45halloween48



**The gang's all here at the Kilmory party** 20\_b45hallo11



**Prizewinners at Lamlash Primary School (l to r) Isabella Reid and Jack Ross, P5-7, Niamh Gosman, P3-4, Shalia Campbell, P1-2, Elyse Lambie, pre school** 20\_b45hallo08



**Niamh Sturgeon in her treasure chest surrounded by some of her friends** 20\_b45hallo12



**Judging under way at Lamlash Primary** 20\_b45hallo09



**Twins Isaac and Eion Jones patiently wait in line for the pancake bobbing** 02\_b45halloween47



**Sophie Clark performs her party piece for the residents of Montrose House** 02\_b45hallo02

**Right: A demon during The Dead Walk at Brodick Castle lays out the fingers she has collected**  
02\_b45hallo05



**Below: Decorating the goulsh cakes at Kilmory**  
20\_b45hallo14



**Left: Wizard Alex Lawrie and youngsters who were guising at Montrose House** 02\_b45hallo03

# Students help COAST keep track of Japanese knotweed

**'It's a great place for young people to get work experience or volunteer'**

Japanese knotweed is still prevalent in Lamlash Bay a group of Arran High School pupils have found.

Alyssa Colwell, Katie Mowatt and Charlie Weir recently joined the Community of Arran Seabed Trust (COAST) team for a week of work experience which saw them undertaking various research duties.

One of the tasks that the trio were tasked with was investigating the prevalence of Japanese knotweed around Lamlash Bay.

Alyssa explained their findings: 'We went from Clachlands Point to Kingscross Point over the course of three days and found substantial evidence of the presence of Japanese knotweed, finding 28 separate patches, some as large as 20 square meters, if not bigger. We found the majority between Kingscross Point and Cordon, but there was a definite presence around the rest of the bay, particularly near residential areas.'

Japanese knotweed is a non-native, invasive plant which has a negative impact on the natural plant species found on Arran, as well as being damaging to properties, should it grow near them.

This is because the roots of the plant can grow through concrete and cause structural damage to any buildings within a vicinity of seven metres.

It can be removed by excavation or by the use of herbicide spray over the course of about two years, but any treatment must be performed by a trained professional, as there could be legal consequences if the plant is not completely destroyed.

From a fragment the size

of a fingernail, the plant can grow vertically to the height of three to four metres above ground and three metres below, as well as growing seven metres horizontally underground. The plant is characterised by long bamboo-like shoots with purple flecks, stems in a zig-zag pattern with smooth, flat-based, shield shaped leaves, which can grow to 10 and 15 centimetres. In the summer months, the plant grows creamy white flowers, which it loses by winter.

Brenda Stewart, from the Lamlash Improvements has welcomed the report from the students. Members of the community group have been

trained by the Ayrshire Rivers Trust to monitor and deal with these invasive species.

The students have also contributed to the Rivers and Fisheries Trusts of Scotland biosecurity and invasive species programme by uploading the exact GPS coordinates of where the invasive species has been found, to make the information available online.

Charlie said: 'We leave our time at COAST with not just valuable work experience, but also a deeper understanding of how various factors can affect our environment.'

Katie added: 'It's a great place for young people to get work experience or volunteer.'



**Katie Mowatt and Charlie Weir document their findings**



**The three Arran pupils learning about biodiversity from Jenny Stark**



**Japanese knotweed, the invasive plant species found on Arran**

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# Success at winter biking event sees Arran pupils win grant for club

During the second week of the October break Arran High School pupils took part in a five-day mountain biking course at Lagganlia Outdoor Centre, Kincaig, in the Cairngorm National Park. Pupils Finlay Aherne, Ross

Trail, Stuart Logan and Duncan Coyne, accompanied by active schools co-ordinator Archie McNicol and the school's Steve Garraway made long trip north. The pupils had to prepare a presentation for Cycling

Scotland, who funded the whole experience, in order to secure a £1,500 grant towards equipment for the High School MTB Club.

They chose winter biking as their presentation, quite appropriate as the clocks change and we march on towards deep winter. The boys all did very well considering they were some of the younger of the 28 pupils from eight different schools, from all over Scotland that took part.

#### Kit library

With the grant it is proposed that winter jackets and bright lights will be purchased and hopefully these items will go towards building up a kit library for others to use.

During their presentation the boys also emphasized that they would hope to be encouraging girls to take part in school cycling activities with the new acquisitions.



Arran pupils take part in the night games



Pupils participate in the small bike race b45lagganlia03No

#### Cycling in the Caledonian Pine Forest

Whilst much of the week was spent brain storming for the presentation, the pupils took part in a six hour first aid course which they all passed successfully. They also participated in a cycle maintenance course run by two experienced mechanics from ReCyke. They gained a City and Guilds level 3 award and will now be able to help maintain the bikes and pass

on their experience to other interested pupils. It wasn't all work though. Other activities were organised including MTB ride-outs and skills training as well as fun races on small bikes.

The pupils also took part in night games through the centre's forest, which is one of the small remaining sections of the Caledonian Pine Forest.

This included a game where pupils had to retrieve a flag guarded by staff.

Arran won that, and also another game of follow the leader while wearing black-out masks.

Mr Garraway said: 'All in all an excellent week for the pupils and staff, with marvellous weather to boot, so congratulations to the boys for their achievements.'



Arran pupils take part in a bicycle maintenance course

## CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Published on 12th December

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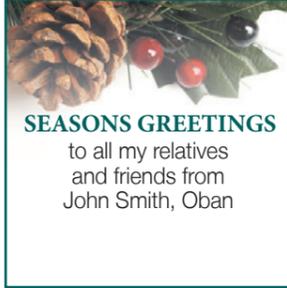
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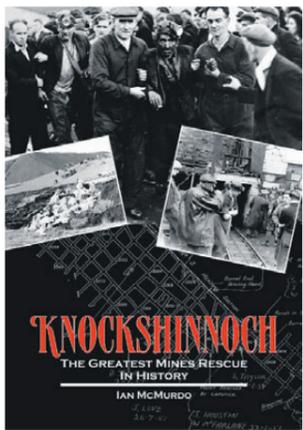

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# New book tells of the rescue mission which followed mining disaster

An Arran author has produced a long-awaited book charting the story of an infamous coal-mining disaster in tribute to his father.

'Knockshinnoch: The greatest mines rescue in history' is Kildonan-based author Ian



The cover of the book based on the Knockshinnoch Castle Colliery disaster

McMurdo's fourth book. It tells the dramatic story of the Knockshinnoch Castle Colliery disaster, which devastated the Ayrshire village of New Cumnock in September 1950.

The book is something of a personal milestone for Ian, whose late father John was one of the 129 miners buried half-a-mile underground for almost three days, after a waterlogged farm field collapsed into the pit's workings. So enormous was the force of the inrush that many miles of underground roads were immediately blocked from floor to roof with almost one million tons of 'sludge', cutting off all possible means of escape for the trapped miners. Tragically, 13 men would perish in the disaster, but the incredible rescue mission that followed gripped the whole world's attention and is now

the stuff of legend.

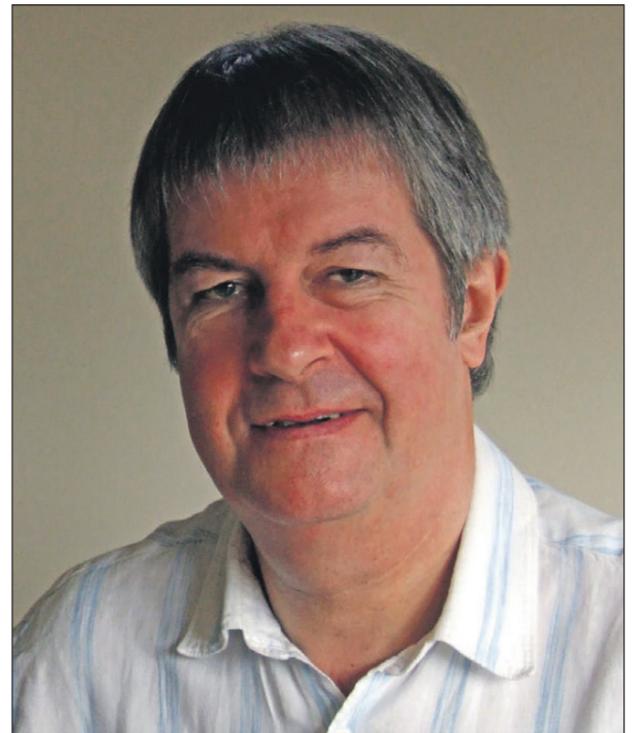
'It took me almost three years to write this book,' conceded Ian. 'My father never once spoke about the disaster afterwards, but ever since I was a young lad I've always wanted to tell his story. I also wanted to tell it through the words of those who actually lived through the whole thing – the miners' wives and families, the Rescue Brigades and other emergency services, the huge media circus and the vast army of volunteers who were 'camped' on the pit-head for days on end, and of course the surviving miners themselves.

'In carrying out my research for the book, I was fortunate enough to be able to interview over 60 people. It was a fairly time-consuming exercise, but well worth the effort, since it put me in a much more informed position to

reflect the recollections and views of those who actually experienced at first hand the incredible events of that whole weekend.'

The story of the Knockshinnoch disaster and the incredible rescue mission that followed is written in fast-paced 'diary style'. It charts the dramatic action, minute-by-minute, right from the very moment of the catastrophic cave-in at precisely 7.40pm on Thursday, September 7, through to the desperate end-game in the early hours of the Sunday morning.

The back cover review describes Ian's book as 'a relentless and at times brutally graphic account' of the infamous disaster. The book promises to be a pulsating read, and will certainly not be one for the faint-hearted. It is now widely available in a range of established book-



Kildonan based author, Ian McMurdo

stores including Waterstone's and other outlets, and locally in a number of island shops. It can also be purchased online through Amazon, and directly from the publisher at [www.carnpublishing.com/](http://www.carnpublishing.com/) Knockshinnoch.

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# Arran women for Independence hear Jeane Freeman talk

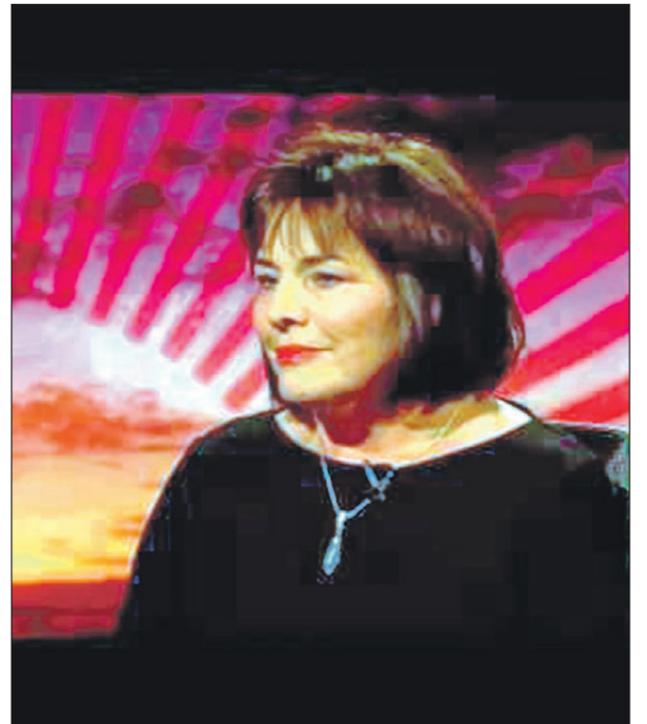
Jeane Freeman, founder member of Women for Independence, and prospective SNP Scottish parliamentary candidate, was the guest speaker at Arran Women for Independence's meeting on Friday October 30 at the Ormidale Pavilion in Brodick. Jeane, who is a columnist for The National newspaper and makes regular TV ap-

pearances as a political commentator, gave an account of the origins and rationale for the national group.

She went on to detail the huge continued success of the organisation and their contributions in spearheading national campaigns, such as the successful opposition to the proposed new women's prison in Greenock.

Groups the length and breadth of Scotland have continued to hold meetings of various kinds and have become involved in running food banks and provision of school uniforms to needy families as well as taking part in political campaigns and activities.

When the meeting was opened to questions from the audience, the discussion was enthusiastic and wide-ranging, covering topics such as ferry services, media bias, and the importance of engaging in community action and becoming involved in local issues.



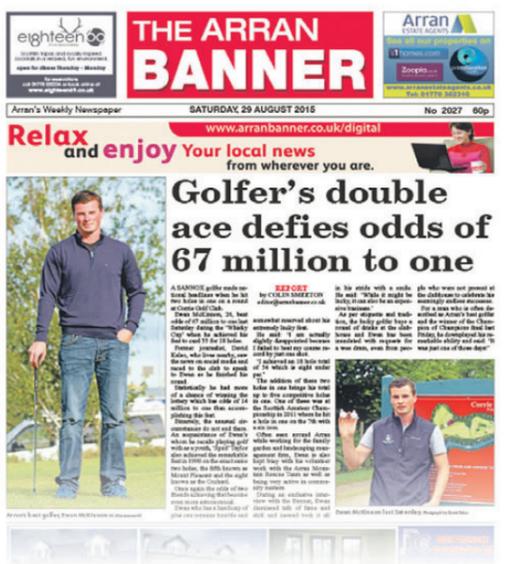
Guest speaker Jeane Freeman

There was a good turnout of women at the meeting, and all agreed that it had been a successful and entertaining evening, not least because of the excellent coffee and cake provided by various members of the group.



The Arran Women for Independence meeting held at the Ormidale Pavilion

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## Raising awareness of new consumer rights

As part of the National Consumer Week that was held this week, Citizens Advice Scotland has launched a campaign, Tough Act to Follow? to notify consumers of their key rights, some of them new. This follows the Consumer Rights Act becoming law on Thursday, October 1 which aims to update and simplify shoppers' rights and to help businesses know exactly where they stand in relation to the law.

The two key areas that the act covers concerns digital content and faulty goods.

In an update to keep up with technological advancements in digital content such as games, movies, e-books or music the Act now gives

a clear right to consumers to have faulty content repaired or replaced and to be included in the 14 day cooling off period applicable to most 'distance' purchases such as online.

In the case of faulty goods, the rules have become clearer as to what should happen if goods or services are not delivered with reasonable care and skill. The updated Act makes provision for redress so that the business must bring the goods or services in line with what was agreed with the customer as set out in a defined period of time. The buyer has 30 days after purchase to seek a refund or replacement which

must be provided within 14 days.

Other changes of note that bring the law up to date include secondary ticketing sites which must now clearly display the exact location in a venue and the face value of the tickets that they sell. Small print must be also be curbed where possible, and key terms and conditions clearly stated.

A new process called 'Alternative Dispute Resolution', (ADR) has been created for when traders and consumers do not agree on a resolution to rectifying poor service or faulty goods. This allows the two parties to bring in an ADR provider to negotiate a settlement. The Citizens Advice consumer service now has a dedicated helpdesk to assist in this area which is available on 03454 0405 06.

In addition to National Consumer Week, North Ayrshire Citizens Advice Service will be running events at various venues and over local radio until Friday, December 11. For advice or information on your rights visit [www.citizensadvice.org.uk/scotland](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/scotland)

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**THE ARRAN**

**BANNER**

**TWENTY YEARS AGO**

**Saturday 4 November, 1995**

**Cannon stolen**

An ornamental cannon valued at £7,500 was stolen from outside the front door of Brodick Castle on Wednesday night. The cannon, one of two which sit outside the front door belonged to the 12th Duke of Hamilton and came off his yacht Thistle.

It is Napoleonic in design and has never fired a shot in anger. Police and castle staff have been watching the ferries, looking for any vehicles that appear particularly heavily laden.

Castle administrator Olive Raymond said: 'It took four gardeners to move the cannon, whoever took it cannot have been alone and they must of been very determined. It's just very sad that it has happened at Brodick.'

**Factory buy out**

Paterson Arran, or Arran Provisions as it still tends to be known, is about to have new owners. The Robertson and Baxters board has decided to concentrate on the Scotch Whisky business and, as a result, have offered their food division for sale.

The food division comprises Paterson Arran, Bronte Biscuits and Patersons, all of which have been run from Livingston for some time.

Agreement in principal has been reached to have a management buy out in which directors Alan Hardie and Ian Appleton purchase the company from Robertson and Baxters.

Completion of this is subject to agreement with the trade unions and employees and was expected by the end of October however a full agreement has still not been reached.

**No school closures**

Arran is unlikely to face any school closures when the new North Ayrshire Council takes over. To say this is not as odd as it may seem, because school closures have been on the cards with some of the new authorities, and rural schools are most at risk.

Two weeks ago, at a community council meeting, John Sillars said that he had met with the new director of education John Travers and that he felt reassured. Schools facing closure were those with below 60 per cent occupancy and in North Ayrshire averages were 73 per cent for primary schools and 70 per cent for secondary.

**Birthday party**

The Isle of Arran WRI Federation celebrated its 70th birthday at the Kinloch Hotel on Wednesday, November 2.

In attendance was the Lady Jean Fforde and Mrs Mary Kidd, national chairman and past presidents Mrs Frew and Mrs Basford. Mrs Helen MacAlister who has been a member for 62 years was also there along with representatives from Ayrshire, Renfrew and Bute.

The members were entertained by the Ayrshire Fiddle Orchestra and a raffle was held for Marie Curie which raised £300.



All of the trophy winners at the Corrie Golf Club held in the Corrie Hotel last Friday. Club champion Eddie Cannon is seated on the right **b45twe04**



Bonfire night fun at Kilmory. Robin Jenks helps son Michael with a sparkler while Mairi McAlister looks on **b45twe01**



Arran youngsters were eager to see the costumes of the Kathakali performers who visited Arran last week. Kathakali is a male classical dance drama, an exotic Hindu Epic which was performed at the Brodick Hall by a troupe of eight colourful performers **b45twe05**



In Brodick the spectacular display is captured as a rocket explodes over Brodick beach **b45twe02**

Rosslyn Bailey of Lamlash is congratulated by principal and vice chancellor of the University of Paisley for academic distinction after she won the University Court Medal for best student in 5th year. Rosslyn graduated last summer with a B Eng (Hons) Civil Engineering **b45twe03**



# What's on



in association with Isle of Arran Brewery

[www.arranbrewery.com](http://www.arranbrewery.com)

## Every day

Trout Fly Fishing  
 Brodick Castle, garden open  
 Arran Brewery  
 Arran Brewery tour  
 Lamlash Tennis Courts/Putting Green

Loch Garbad, bank fishing  
 9am-Dusk  
 Mon - Sat: 10am - 5pm, Sun: 12.30 - 5pm  
 2pm (limited spaces call for availability)  
 Open all day

Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club rink game  
 RunArran run coaching  
 Open Cricket session  
 Non- competitive bridge  
 Scottish Country dancing  
 Lamlash Drama Club  
 Winter bowls

Blackwaterfoot bowling club, 1.15pm  
 Lamlash, 5.30pm  
 Brodick Astro Turf 7pm-9pm  
 Brodick Golf Clubhouse, 7pm - 9pm  
 Brodick Church Hall, 7.30pm  
 Arran High School, 6.30pm - 9pm  
 Auchrannie, 7pm

## Saturday 7th November

Army Cadets  
 Over 21s Disco  
 Family Games  
 Fun in the pool  
 Live music  
 Arran Physiotherapy & Acupuncture Clinic  
 Blackwaterfoot bowling club rink game  
 Lamlash Bowling Club rink game  
 WBay Bowling Club rink game  
 Ceilidh Dancing  
 Save the Children Christmas Fayre  
 Isle of Arran Horticultural AGM  
 Live music with Jamie McGeechan aka Little Fire  
 Hospital Supporters coffee morning  
 Lamlash Bonfire Night  
 Machrie improvements AGM  
 Machrie fireworks  
 Whiting Bay fireworks

Auchrannie Road 11am - 1pm.  
 Ormidale Hotel, 10pm  
 Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm  
 Auchrannie Spa pool, 4-5pm  
 Fiddlers, Brodick from 8pm  
[arranphysiotherapy.co.uk](http://arranphysiotherapy.co.uk) 9-12noon  
 Blackwaterfoot bowling club, 1.15pm  
 Lamlash Bowling club, 2pm  
 Whiting Bay Bowling Club, 2pm  
 Brodick Church Hall, 7.30pm - 9.30pm  
 Brodick Hall, 10.30am - 1pm  
 Brodick Library, 2pm  
 The Douglas Hotel, 9pm  
 Whiting Bay Hall, 10.30am - 12 noon  
 Lamlash Front Green, 7pm  
 Machrie Hall, 6.45pm  
 Machrie Hall, 7pm  
 Putting Green, Whiting Bay, 6pm

## Wednesday 11th November

Rock & Pop Bingo  
 Tae Kwondo  
 Alcoholics Anonymous  
 Arran Brass Rehearsal  
 Yoga  
 Hydrofit  
 Arran Heritage Museum Archives & Genealogy Service  
 RunArran mixed ability  
 Yoga-Arran  
 Live music  
 Drift Inn Quiz  
 Mixed Hockey  
 Dog classes  
 Knitting & crochet drop in group  
 Lochranza & Catacol Village Hall AGM

Ormidale Hotel 9.30pm  
 Arran High School Kids-6.30-7.30pm Adults-7.30-8.30pm  
 Lamlash Church Hall, 7.30pm  
 Brodick Church Hall, 7-9pm  
 Auchrannie Studio, 9.30am-10.30am  
 Auchrannie Hotel leisure, 9.45am - 10.45am  
 10.30-12.30 & 1.30-3.30  
 Brodick, 5.30pm  
 Kinneil, Lamlash, 7-8.30pm  
 Fiddlers, Brodick from 8pm  
 Lamlash, 9pm  
 Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7.30-9pm  
 Whiting Bay Hall, 1pm  
 Brodick Library, 4pm - 6pm  
 The Village Hall, 7pms

## Sunday 8th November

Family games  
 Fun in the pool  
 AA meeting  
 Open Session - All musicians & singers welcome

Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm  
 Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm-5pm  
 Brodick church Hall, 5pm-6.30pm  
 Fiddlers, Brodick 2.30pm

## Thursday 12th November

Morning Fitness  
 General knowledge quiz  
 Ladies hockey  
 RunArran Jogscotland beginners  
 RunArran mixed ability  
 Live music  
 Cardiac Rehab  
 QuiltArran  
 Brodick Embroidery Group  
 Burger & quiz night  
 Winter bowls  
 Bridge Club  
 Winter Art Exhibition

Auchrannie Gym, 9.30-10.30am  
 Ormidale Hotel, 9pm  
 Ormidale Pavilion, 7.30-8.30pm  
 Brodick, 9.30am  
 Brodick, 6pm  
 Fiddlers, Brodick from 8pm  
 Auchrannie leisure club, 2-3.30pm  
 Lamlash Fire Station, 2-4.30pm  
 Brodick Library, 7.30pm - 9.30pm  
 Felicity's @ Eden Lodge, from 7.30pm  
 Auchrannie, 7pm  
 Brodick Golf Clubhouse, 7.15pm  
 Brodick Castle, 11am - 3pm

## Monday 9th November

Over 50s Badminton  
 Badminton  
 Live music  
 Morning fitness  
 Table Tennis  
 Badminton  
 Arran Junior Football Club  
 Circuit Training  
 WBay Bowling Club Rink Game  
 10/10 Total Body Workout  
 Citizens Advice  
 Lamlash Aerobix  
 RunArran Jogscotland beginners  
 RunArran mixed ability  
 Bridge Club  
 Scottish Country Dancing for beginners & improvers  
 Tae Kwondo

Lochranza Village Hall, 2-4pm  
 Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm  
 Fiddlers, Brodick from 8pm  
 Auchrannie Gym, 9.30-10.30am  
 Corrie Hall, 6.30pm  
 Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7-9pm  
 Ormidale Park, 6-7.30pm  
 Auchrannie Gym, 6-7pm  
 Whiting Bay Bowling Club, 6.30pm  
 Arran High School, Lamlash, 6.45pm  
 Ormidale Pavilion, 9.30am - 1.30pm  
 Arran High School Dance Studio, 7pm  
 Whiting Bay, 5pm  
 Whiting Bay, 5.30pm  
 Lamlash Golf Clubhouse, 7.15pm  
 Corrie Hall, 2-4pm  
 Brodick Church Hall adults & over 10s, 7.00pm - 8.30pm

## Friday 13th November

Yoga  
 Hydrofit  
 Arran Youth Foundations  
 Live music  
 Lochranza kids badminton  
 Lochranza adults badminton  
 Quiz  
 AA meeting  
 Live music  
 Tae Kwondo  
 Jazz cafe band  
 Winter Art Exhibition

Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30am - 10.30am  
 Auchrannie Hotel Leisure, 9.45am - 10.45am  
 Church Hall, Brodick 7pm-9pm  
 Fiddlers, Brodick, 8pm  
 Lochranza Hall, 6-8pm  
 Lochranza Hall, 8pm  
 Whiting Bay Golf Club, 8pm  
 Whiting Bay Hall, 7pm  
 Fiddlers, Brodick, 8pm  
 Arran High School, Lamlash Adults, 7pm - 8.30pm  
 Whiting Bay Hall, 8pm - 11pm  
 Brodick Castle, 11am - 3pm

## Tuesday 10th November

Pop Quiz  
 Alcoholics Anonymous  
 Youth club  
 Rotary club  
 Healthy Outdoors

Ormidale Hotel, 9pm  
 Brodick Church Hall, 2pm  
 Kildonan Hall, 7pm  
 Glencloy Suite, Auchrannie, 6.30pm  
 NTS Ranger Centre, 10am - 1pm



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# Public Notices

**Machrie Improvements AGM**  
will take place this Sat 7th Nov 6.45pm  
in Machrie Hall.  
We are looking for new members to  
take the group forward.  
Please come and enjoy the bonfire and  
fireworks at 7pm.

## Recruitment

**The healthiest life possible for the people of Ayrshire & Arran**

**NHS**  
Ayrshire & Arran  
Ref: A/503/15

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Band 3

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Informal enquiries are welcomed by Robert McLaughlin Catering Services Manager, who can be contacted on 01563 577050.

An application form for this post can be completed online at [www.jobs.scot.nhs.uk](http://www.jobs.scot.nhs.uk). Alternatively, to request an application form please contact the Department of O&HRD, University Hospital Crosshouse, Tel: 01563 825715, or email [Leena.Alnaib@aapct.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:Leena.Alnaib@aapct.scot.nhs.uk).

Closing date: 21 November 2015.



**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Brodick Terminal**  
**Closure of car parks**

Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd (CMAL) has appointed a contractor to undertake essential groundworks at Brodick Ferry Terminal, in advance of the main redevelopment project. These works are due to start on Monday 9th November 2015 and are programmed to last approximately 2 weeks.

As a result of these works, the car parking areas at the ferry terminal will be closed from the first week of November 2015. All vehicles must be removed from this area by no later than Friday 6th November 2015. CalMac Ferries Ltd (CFL) port staff will be managing the closure of the car parks and your assistance in complying with their requests would be appreciated.

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**serco**

Serco Caledonian Ferries Limited is hosting an open day on the 9th of November at Brodick Hall in Brodick from 2-7PM.

We would like to invite members of the Arran community to meet the Serco CHFS bid team and learn more about the business and its operations in Scotland.

**For further information on the event contact Ruaridh Wilson, Stakeholder Engagement Manager at [caledonianferries@serco.com](mailto:caledonianferries@serco.com).**

**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 Planning Services, Cunninghame House, Irvine\*, between 9am-4.45pm weekdays (4.30pm Fridays) or at [www.eplanning.north-ayrshire.gov.uk](http://www.eplanning.north-ayrshire.gov.uk) and at The Council Offices, Lamlash

Written representations may be made to the Executive Director (Economy & Communities) at the above address or emailed to [eplanning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:eplanning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk) by 27.11.15. 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

15/00575/PP; Kilmory Post Office, Kilmory, Brodick, Isle of Arran; Part change of use to ground floor of building from retail use to residential use.

15/00565/PP; The Pottery Thundersguy, Pirnmill, Brodick, Isle of Arran; Demolition of former pottery building and erection of new dwelling house.

Elma Murray  
Chief Executive  
Cunninghame House  
IRVINE KA12 8EE

  
North Ayrshire Council  
Comhairle Siorrachd Air a Tuath

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All positions will benefit from free leisure club membership and various other discounts. Full descriptions can be found at [www.auchranniejobs.co.uk](http://www.auchranniejobs.co.uk) or contact [hr@auchrannie.co.uk](mailto:hr@auchrannie.co.uk)

**Isle of Arran Horticultural Society**

**AGM**  
Brodick Library  
Saturday 7th November at 2pm  
ALL WELCOME

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**Kenneth Gibson MSP**

will hold advice surgeries at the following times and locations.

<b>Monday 09 November</b>	
Whiting Bay Village Hall	11.15-12.15
Kilmory Village Hall	13.00-14.00
Brodick Health Centre	15.00-16.00
<b>Monday 07 December</b>	
Lochranza & Catacol Village Hall	11.30 - 12.30
Shiskine Village Hall	13.15 - 14.15
ACVS Office, Lamlash	15.00 - 16.00

**No appointment necessary**

To contact Kenneth outside these times, please contact his constituency office:  
15 Main Street, Dalry, KA24 5DL Tel: 01294 833 687  
Email: [Kenneth.gibson.msp@scottish.parliament.uk](mailto:Kenneth.gibson.msp@scottish.parliament.uk)

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- 3 The Publisher reserves the right to cancel or alter the advertisement by giving reasonable notice.
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- 12 A request to insert an advertisement assumes acceptance of our conditions.

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Email: [bevdamy@hotmail.com](mailto:bevdamy@hotmail.com)

**LONG LET**

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References

**Tel: 07799 077775**

**Winter Let - Kildonan**

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3 Bedrooms, 1 en-suite & a family bathroom  
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Please call Chris on **01770 820226** or **07976175850**

**WANTED**

Accommodation to rent by the new professional at Brodick Golf Club

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tel: **07771515121**

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OVER £30	UNDER £30
Tea set - 8 settings - Spode 'Eden' design perfect condition £200 Tel: 860342 New Joules tops at the taste of Arran shop Tel: 302142 King Size memory foam and orthopaedic spring mattress, 11inc deep, dual reversible, cost £599 will except £220, free delivery Tel: 07553110626	Two piece suite chair and two seater couch - oatmeal colour can deliver £25, Ducal coffee table £10 Tel: 07985070213, Brodick US Mail box £25, Fylmo electric £25 Tel: 07980671267

**WANTED**

Small garden house for Glen Estate residents and 2nd hand laptop Tel: 700666

Gents mountain bike £40, ladies mountain bike £40, garden strimmer 2 stoke £80, washing machine £90, chest freezer 90cm x60cm £50 Tel: 07980671267

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**CHURCH NOTICES**

**SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

(Part of the Worldwide Anglican Church)  
St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.  
**Sunday 8th November**  
(Remembrance Sunday)  
Holy Communion, 10.55 am.  
Mrs Janis Gallagher.  
Coffee after service.  
No Wednesday services till Lent 2016.

**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 8th November**

Lochranza and Pirmill Churches, 10.15am  
Remembrance Day Service at Pirmill, then Pirmill War Memorial Service, 10.55am.  
Shiskine War Memorial Service, 12noon, then Shiskine Church Remembrance Day Service, 12.15pm.  
Brodick War Memorial Service, 10am, then Brodick Church, 10.30am Remembrance Day Service.  
Corrie War Memorial Service, 12noon, then Corrie Church, 12.15pm Remembrance Day Service.  
There will also be a Service of Remembrance in Montrose House at 1.30pm.

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

Kilmory linked with Lamlash "A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"  
**Sunday 8th November**  
Kilmory 10am  
Lamlash 11.30 am  
Rev. Lily McKinnon  
In both Churches:  
Service of Remembrance  
All welcome, including families; children's area  
Scottish Charity SC015072

**ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

(continuing)  
**Sunday 8th November**  
Morning Service 11am  
Trust Housing Lounge, Glen Estate, Brodick  
Evening Service 6.30pm  
5 Glen Road, Brodick  
Prayer Meeting  
Wednesday 11th November at 7pm  
5 Glen Road.  
All welcome

**BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**WHITIG BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

(Charity Number: SC014005)  
**Sunday 8th November**  
Worship for Remembrance Sunday will be conducted by the minister, Rev Elizabeth Watson, beginning outside at 10.55am (N.B. change of time) for the laying of the wreath and two minutes silence observed at the War Memorial, followed by a shortened service of remembrance  
There will be a retiring offering in aid of the Earl Haig Fund. All welcome.  
Tea and coffee will be served in the Transept before and after the service.  
There will be a service of Remembrance in the Arran War Memorial Hospital at 1.30pm to which all are welcome.

**HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Sunday Morning Mass 11am

**ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH**

Minister: Rev Vince Jennings  
**Sunday 8th November**  
11am Morning worship in the Ormidale Sports Pavilion, Brodick  
Tea and Coffee after the service.  
Wednesday at 7.30pm  
Home Fellowship Group for Bible Study and Prayer.  
Contact phone no 600222  
Everyone warmly invited

**ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

**Sunday 8th November**  
Shiskine 11am (Church on road between Blackwaterfoot and Machrie)  
Brodick 6pm (Church behind post office)  
Rev Benjamin von Rensberg

**RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, QUAKERS**

Quakers meet every Sunday at 11am. For meeting venue ring - 830622, 820223

**BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
**BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS**



**Whiting Bay Golf Club**

Sunday, November 1. The first round of this season's Winter League campaign saw Whiting Bay up against Brodick at Machrie Bay GC.

In the opening pairings Adam Kelso, who hadn't been to bed but put in a gutsy performance, and Davy Morrison halved their match.

Then Jamie Macpherson and Sandy Pringle faced a back nine comeback blitz from Brodick to succumb by a two and one margin.

Having never been down in their match, John Pennycott and David Brookens saw Brodick hole a great putt on 18 to level the hole, the game and the tie as it turned out, since in the last match Graeme Crichton and Corey Allan had already stormed to a five and four victory against a strong Brodick pairing.

A great morning's golf in wonderful weather for the time of year - for any time of this year come to think of it.

Thanks to Machrie Bay GC for the fine food and refreshments which were much appreciated after the morning's endeavours. On now to the match against Machrie Bay GC at Shiskine on December 6.

Fixtures: Sunday, November 8, Winter Cup round 2.

**Lamlash Golf Club**

Thursday, October 29, Thursday Yellow Medal. 1 Graeme Andrew 70-9=61, BIH, 2 John O'Sullivan 81-20=61.

Sunday, November 1, Winter League at Machrie. Result, Machrie 1.5, Lamlash 2.5.

Well done Lamlash against the home team.

Fixtures: Thursday, November 12, Yellow Medal, 11am start. Sunday, November 8,



**Kema Genda, winner of the Arran Ladies Golf Union Drumadoon Tray with runner up, Elizabeth Kelso.**

Winter Cup 9.30am and 12noon starts.

**Corrie Golf Club**

Saturday, October 31, sweep, 1 G Hendry 64-5=59, 2 B Innes 81-21=60, 3 A Smith 74-12=62. Scratch G Hendry 62. Good scoring by Gordon who is beginning to find his way round Corrie.

Fixtures: Saturday, November 7, Winter Cup, draws at 8.30am and 12.30pm.

**Machrie Golf Club**

Tuesday, October 27, Winter Cup, 11 played in superb conditions. 1 Brian Sherwood 73-9=64, 2 Campbell Laing 87-17=70, BIH, 3 Rion Culpan 91-21+70.

**Brodick Golf Club**

Wednesday, October 28. The

weather stayed good for the merry band with one winner, Jim Green 86-20=66. There was one magic two at the third from Charles O'Neill. Tee off every Wednesday at 12noon, all welcome.

**Arran Golfers Association**

Sunday, November 1, Winter League/Duncan Trophy. The first round matches took place on a very unusually warm and dry day which was welcomed by all of the golfers.

Thanks to Machrie for hosting. The course was in great condition and the first game was the hosts against Lamlash which Lamlash managed to win two and a half games to one and a half.

Shiskine and Corrie and

Brodick and Whiting Bay all drew so Lamlash have got off to a flyer even though they played the host club. Well done to them, next month it's off to Shiskine.

**Arran Ladies Golf Union**

Saturday, October 31, Drumadoon tray, 15 played. 1 Kema Genda 81-11=70, 2 Elizabeth Kelso 91-19=72, scratch Kema 81.

Thank you to Whiting Bay for the courtesy of the course and to John for the lovely sandwiches and coffee after the game.

Fixture: Saturday, November 28, Drumadoon Tray at Shiskine. Sign up sheets in all clubs. Please come along and join in.

The draw for the 2016 Kiscadale tray will be held.

**BIRTHDAY**



**Look Who's 18!**  
**Happy Birthday**  
**Love from Mum and Dad xx**

**Arran Bridge Club results**

The results of the Arran Bridge Club competition for The Boyd Trophy, first round, (match points) at the Brodick clubhouse on Thursday October 29 were as follows: 1 Tricia Martin and Douglas Hamilton, 2 Fiona and David Henderson, Jean Barclay and Eendy McNiven, 3 Alison Bilsland and John Dick.

The results for the aggregate competition played at the Lamlash clubhouse on the Monday November 2 were: N/S, 1 Caroline and John Macmillan, 2 Tricia Martin and David Campbell, 3 Fiona Henderson and Maureen Cumming. E/W, 1 Anne McKelvie and Janie Maclure, 2 Jan and John Beattie, 3 Margaret McGill and Elizabeth McKellar.

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# Sport

Arran's Weekly Newspaper

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Anne Watts shot is goal bound. 20\_b45hockey05

# Arran give opponents a cat o' nine tales lashing

## Arran 9 Giffnock 0

Arran Ladies remain top of the West District women's hockey league division 4 after a convincing home win over Giffnock last weekend.

They sit at the top with 18 points having won six of their seven games, scoring 30 goals in the process and only conceding nine. They are five points clear of Glasgow Accies Ladies' Seconds who have 13 points after playing the same number of games.

On Saturday, Arran had 16 girls available and every player was subbed during the game to give everyone a good shot on the pitch.

Arran looked strong in the first half with wave after wave of attack and by half time were already 6-0 up. The visitors cause was not helped as an injury to one of their players left them short. Despite the score, the Giffnock goalkeeper did her best, saving around 20 goal-bound shots.

By the final whistle, Arran had scored another three goals to make the full time score 9-0, with goals coming from Susie Murchie, Judith Ross, Lorraine Hewie and Anne Watts. Giffnock awarded man of the match to Ellie Wood, who they didn't believe was only 13! Arran voted Faith McKelvie as dame of the

game as she played well and didn't let a ball past her in defence. Phil Adams and Cat Galbraith umpired the first half and Victoria McNicol swapped with Cat and umpired the second half.

Captain Victoria said: 'Unfortunately we need to take umpiring in turns until we get a date through for a level 1 umpire course which we hope all our players will attend and pass. It's a team game after all and we all want to play hockey, but we all need to take turns umpiring too.'

Today (Saturday) Arran play Clydesdale Western Ladies' 7s away at 1.30pm. Travelling support is welcome.



Helen Thomson shows fierce determination as she prepares to cross the ball. 20\_b45hockey01



Abbey McKelvie brings the ball forward on another Arran attack.

20\_b45hockey03



Ellie Wood on the attack. 20\_b45hockey06

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