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Arran's Weekly Newspaper

SATURDAY, 17 NOVEMBER 2012

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FREE inside
this week's Banner

Arran Life

8 PAGE
PULL OUT

Brodick to get new double sized pier

Linkspan plans upgraded to new double berth port

Plans for a new linkspan at Brodick have been given a complete overhaul this week with the revelation that a new port is to be built instead.

Caledonian Maritime Assets Limited (CMAL), owner of the pier, has upgraded the proposals from a new linkspan to a new double berth pier at Brodick.

Arran's MSP Kenneth Gibson explained: 'At Monday night's Isle of Arran Ferry Committee CMAL Chief Executive Guy Platten presented exciting new plans to develop Brodick from a one berth pier to a two berth port, adding much needed capacity and increased flexibility.'

'There are many positive ferry related developments heading Arran's way and tribute must be paid to Ken Thorburn and the ferry committee for all their hard work over many years in continually pushing for improved assets

REPORT
by **JENNIFER LYON**
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

and service delivery.' The new two-berth port will be built south of the existing pier and a covered walkway will lead from a new terminal building to the boat.

It will be around 150 metres in length, allowing for at least 15 metres of water at the berths on either side.

'This is a highly positive development for Arran as the economic benefits for the island are immense,' said Ken Thorburn.

'If we can encourage small cruise ships to see Brodick as a popular port of call then it could be very encouraging for our tourism sector.'

Mr Gibson said that RET will also be a huge benefit to the island.

He said: 'Road Equivalent Tariff (RET) is expected to

provide a tremendous boost to Arran's tourist industry and capacity must be increased.

'The Ferries Plan - to be detailed in six weeks - will recommend two vessels and a 40 per cent increase in capacity on the Brodick-Ardrossan route.'

'CMAL are already looking at designs for two new, modern, fuel efficient vessels with better 'sea keeping', the first to be commissioned by 2016/17 and the second five years later when it replaces MV Caledonian Isles. From summer 2015 a vessel may be leased to address increased RET traffic.' He continued: 'Funding and designs must be approved and islanders will play a major part with the first public meeting scheduled for the evening of Monday 3 December, in Brodick Hall. Ideas and comments will be taken on board, with suggestions to www.cmassets.co.uk'



Some of the Lamlash schoolchildren with their time capsule; they are: Stuart Logan, Aleena Rojan, Jessica Reid, James Reid, Ethan Willis, Lori Murchie, Pawel Gren, Olivia Bunyan and Dylan Smith. 02_b46ben01

Children's time capsule for housing development

The children of Lamlash Primary School are going to plant a time capsule at the new Benlister housing development.

At the launch of the affordable homes site last Friday, some of the youngsters brought the capsule along for a photograph.

Depute Head Sharon Gregg said: 'They have been thinking about artefacts that will reflect the era such as their school photograph, some examples of their work, popular toys and technology, and of course a copy of our local paper,

the Banner.' In 1996, schoolchildren buried a time capsule in the lawn in front of Arran High School on the school's 50th birthday, to be opened in 2046.

It contains a £20 note with Brodick Castle on the back, a can of Irn Bru, a punishment exercise, English and Maths exam papers, a school handbook, a Euro 96 £2 coin and a copy of the Arran Banner.

This list may give the Lamlash youngsters some more ideas.

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War veteran calls for a proper burial for dead crewmen

'I think those men deserved to be buried properly'

A war veteran who witnessed a disaster that killed nearly 400 sailors has called for the victims to be given proper burials.

The crew of HMS Dasher drowned or were burned to death when the ship exploded off Arran's coast in March 1943.

They were said to have been buried at two unmarked graves at Ardrossan cemetery.

But ex-serviceman George Humphreys of Whitstable in Kent claims he saw the tragedy unfold, and says he carries the fates of the victims on his conscience.

Mr Humphreys believes the theory of author and historian John Steele, who says that at least 26 of the Dasher's dead were unceremoniously buried in two unmarked graves at Ardrossan cemetery.

But last month, George got the news he has long been waiting for, after he received a letter from the Scottish government which confirmed that permission had been granted for a small six foot trench to be dug in the Ardrossan cemetery, in the hope of finding the final resting place of the dead sailors.

The excavation work began on Monday 22 October.

Deserve

Mr Humphreys told The Banner: 'I'd previously written to the Queen about it, and the Royal British Legion, but I've never heard back. I'm glad that someone is finally doing something about it because I think those men deserve to be buried properly.'

Any findings will be reported to North Ayrshire Council who will be responsible for deciding what to do next.



George Humphreys with confirmation of a search for the graves from the Scottish government. Picture from the Whitstable Times.

Arran in New Zealand magazine

A popular New Zealand magazine is currently running a two-page feature about the Isle of Arran.

NZ Life and Leisure is a glossy monthly lifestyle magazine.

The feature was forwarded to the Banner by Vivien Bryan, now living in Ayr, but formerly of Brodick.

Vivien said: 'My dad and brother own Woolsleys of Arran. My sister Judi has lived in Queenstown, New Zealand for nine years so I know only too well of the great Arran/New Zealand connection.'

'Anne Trautvetter (Bilsland) lives in Auckland, Ann Small lives in Wellington, Fiona Hamilton (McLaren) lives in Rotorua, Alex Raeburn lives in Invercargill, Craig Hendry is also in Queenstown I could go on and on!' They were all brought up and educated on Arran.

Vivien lived in New Zealand herself many years ago, but was married last month at the Kinloch and now stays in Ayr. While her sister Judi was here for the wedding, one of her workmates forwarded the article to her.

She added: 'The magazine has only just been published, so I think you would be able to find it online.'

'I thought it would be good to highlight the article and the great connection that we as an island have with New Zealand.'

The two-page article has eight Arran photographs and features Vivien's father, Lindsay Keir and his bakery business, Creelers seafood smokehouse, Arran Adventure Company and the Lochranza Distillery.

It also waxes lyrical about the island's scenery, activities and places to stay, making favourable comparisons with similar places in New Zealand.

Glasgow pub venture for Arran Ales in merged Island Brewery Group

Two weeks ago the Banner reported on the merger between the Isle of Arran Brewery and the Isle of Skye Brewery.

Now this new collaboration of Arran Brewery plc is to open its first outlet in Glasgow City Centre.

The 220 square metres of customer area will house Glasgow's first Craft Beer Emporium, subject to planning and licensing approval.

The bar will feature both Arran and Skye real ales and craft beers as well as an international selection of craft beers on draft.

This will be augmented with a large range of bottled beers and guest ales all accompanied by artisan food offerings.

The property is a former bank building and is being designed by Burns Interior Design who did the iconic Clachaig Inn in Glencoe.

It is due to open in March 2013.

Gerald Michaluk Managing Director said: 'This will be our first bar venture and Angus (MacRuary) and I are very excited about the prospect of having a permanent outlet for both Skye and Arran Ales in Glasgow to complement our real ales guest appearances in the best bars throughout the central belt.'

The brewery is raising funds to open a number of bars throughout the UK.

- Do you have a story for **The Arran Banner**? Call our reporters on 01770 302142

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Record order helps push Arran Aromatics' revival

Arran Aromatics is in line to achieve a second successive year in the black under the management team that led the company back from the brink of collapse, and helped by a record order from a Saudi Arabian retailer.

While conditions are tough on the UK's high streets, executive chairman Iain Pittman said the company hoped to match the performance it achieved in the year to February when it returned to profit after a long period in the red.



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Brodick lights scrapped for Christmas

Brodick will miss out on the illuminating cheer of the Christmas lights this year due to the rising cost of maintaining them.

The ongoing outlay of lighting Arran's main port for the festive season has become so prohibitive that the Brodick Improvements Committee decided that no lights could be put up this year.

The decision is the result of the committee having to pay nearly £1,000 every three years to North Ayrshire Council to have the lighting poles assessed, as well as £1,500 for a licence.

Ian Small, chairman of the improvements, said they would be fighting to make sure the lights could go up next Christmas.

Claire Gilmore, organiser of the Brodick children's Christmas party, said that the lack of lights this year mean the kids' party could be in doubt. 'The money we raise at the Christmas Lights Switch On - usually around £500 - goes towards the children's party,' said Claire.

'With no lights to switch on not only does it leave Brodick looking rather sad and dreary over the festive period but it means we have no way of raising the money we need.'

A 'switch-on' event will still be held at the village hall on Sunday 2 December from 2pm until 4.30pm but the lights will centre on the hall and two large trees outside Bilslands and the Post Office.

And Claire is urging local people to come out in support 'so that the kids can still enjoy a Christmas party this year'.

Remembrance Sunday marked on Arran

Remembrance Day was marked at war memorials around the island last Sunday.

It takes place on the second Sunday of November or the Sunday nearest 11 November, but this year Remembrance Day actually fell on Armistice Day itself, 11 November.

In Brodick, a large crowd gathered at Ormidale Park, opposite the memorial.

The service was scheduled for 10am, specifically so as not to disrupt traffic heading for the 11.05am ferry, because the road is temporarily closed.

As recently as 12 years ago, the service was held at 11am with cars driving through the middle of the service, but the local police now hold up traffic for about a quarter of

an hour. The short but moving service was conducted jointly by Rev Angus Adamson, Church of Scotland, Father Noel Colford, Holy Cross Catholic Church and Vince Jenkins, Arran Baptist Church.

Biff Simpson played The Last Post on the bugle and Nicol Hume played a lament on the bagpipes.

Wreaths were laid by the Arran branch of the Royal British Legion and North Ayrshire Councillor John Bruce.

The two-minute silence was only broken by the thwack of three golfers teeing off on Brodick Golf Club's first tee behind the War Memorial.

Then the party followed the pipes in procession to Brodick Church of Scotland for a further service.



Nicol Hume playing a lament at Brodick War memorial, with Vince Jenkins of Arran Baptist Church, father Noel Colford, Rev Angus Adamson, Biff Simpson and Allan Milligan and standard bearer Ted Godfrey of the Royal British Legion. 02_b46rem01

Legion standard laid up in Brodick

As reported in the Banner last month, the Arran branch of the Royal British Legion has disbanded.

Branch chairman Alan Milligan said: 'We were short of numbers, and no-one was prepared to take office-bearers' positions. It's very sad, because we were the second smallest Legion branch in the country but managed to keep going for so long.'

'Last Sunday, after the Remembrance Service in Brodick, the Legion's Arran standard was carried into Brodick Church by Ted Godfrey and laid up there.'

'We are now negotiating with the Office of the Scottish

Charity Regulator to disband the Branch as a charity.'

The first branch on Arran was formed in 1929, but later became inactive except for the sterling efforts of Sandy Gauld and Billy Dickie.



The wreath of poppies laid at Bennicarrigan War Memorial by Kilmory Primary pupils. 02_b46rem02

Monday Lunch Club

The new Monday Lunch Club, run jointly by volunteers, the Salvation Army and Isle of Arran Homes, will be held at Glen Estate, Brodick at 12.30pm next Monday, 19 November.

As previously reported, it alternates from Brodick to Lam-lash each week. Lunchers do not have to be residents of Sheltered Housing. For more details, phone 302716.

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At the new housing site at Benlister: Alan West, chair of IHA, Kenneth Gibson MSP, Councillor John Bruce, Anthea Dickson, Margaret Burgess, Paul Brant and Paul Hillard. 02_b46ben02

£8.9m housing development launched in Lamlash

Arran affordable homes boost



Paul Hillard, managing director of IHA and Kenneth Gibson MSP at Glenisle Hotel. 02_b46ben08

Margaret Burgess, Minister for Housing and Welfare, officially launched Irvine Housing Association's development project on Arran last Friday 9 November.

The site launch event marked building works commencing on 56 affordable homes in Benlister, Lamlash.

Councillors, MSPs, Community Councillors, representatives from Isle of Arran Homes, Irvine Housing Association, Riverside Board and local community representatives assembled in Glenisle Hotel for coffee before making a site visit.

After speeches and photographs, the whole company returned to Glenisle for lunch and more speeches.

The development is for 40 houses for social rent and 16 for shared equity sale and is due to be completed in summer 2014. Local developer, John Thomson Construction Limited is the main contractor and Isle of Arran Homes will be managing the properties on completion.

The North Ayrshire Local Housing Strategy identifies Arran as the area in North Ayrshire with the highest level of affordable housing need.

This £8.9 million project is the biggest affordable development on Arran in decades, and has received grant funding of £2.44 million from The Scottish Government and almost £800,000 from North Ayrshire Council.

Pupils from S3 and S4 are taking part in a Construction Skills for Work SQA course on the site under Faculty

Head Mr Barr.

They will be participating in supervised visits to the site throughout the development as part of their studies.

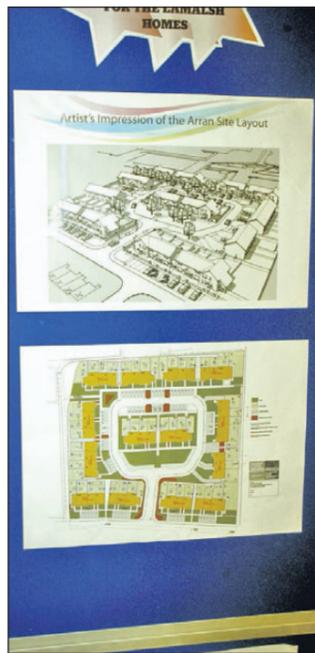
Speakers included Alan West, chair of Irvine Housing Association (IHA), Paul Brant, chair of IHA's partner organisation Riverside, Paul Hillard, managing director of IHA, Councillor Anthea Dickson, Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care and Kenneth Gibson MSP for Cunninghame North.

Kenneth Gibson said: 'I am absolutely delighted with this partnership development. Isle of Arran Homes' experience will be crucial in the allocation process.'

'Along with the Red Quarry Road development in Corrie, it means that people will be able to rent affordable housing on the island.'

Head Teacher Douglas Auld said: 'Our links with local enterprises are of great importance to us.'

'It is particularly important to have local children, some of whom may well end up living here, involved in the early stages of the project. Likewise we'd like to thank Mr Thomson for his commitment to supporting our construction skills course.'



An artist's impression of the new Lamlash development. 02_b46ben04

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Santa's Sparkle just one week away

Lamlash is all set for a bigger and better festive weekend

Last November, the Glenisle Hotel, in conjunction with a number of other businesses and organisations put on Santa's Sparkle on Lamlash front green and in the hotel itself.

Now Geoffrey Dallamore of Glenisle gives an update on preparations for this year's even more sparkly event planned for 24 and 25 November.

Geoffrey said: 'Preparations for this year's Santa's Sparkle are well under way and we believe that it will be the best one yet.'

'This year we will working with firework specialists Midnight Storm to create an even bigger and better Christmas tree lighting show. It will involve lights, showers of sparks and explosions plus spectacular fireworks, all set to music.'

Top magician Carl Royle will be back performing magic on-stage as well as in the marquees.

As a special treat, he will also be doing three performances of close-up magic on Saturday evening. Each per-

formance will be for an audience of just 10 people, lasting about 20 minutes, so booking in advance through the Glenisle is essential.

As in the past, the event will feature great local music.

Geoffrey added: 'This year we are happy to be adding Matt Johnston, The Black Lairds of Glenclay, The Ramblin' Boys and The Usual Suspects to the line-up.'

'The Jazz Café Band will be performing in the hotel on Saturday evening after the fireworks.'

'This year there will be an even larger Christmas market with more stalls than ever. We are happy to welcome newcomers to the island such as Floating Islands and some island institutions which are new to Santa's Sparkle, such as Arran Aromatics.'

Fastastic

'There will be great food and drink throughout the event and the Glenisle will be offering a fantastic barbecue and hog roast on both Saturday and Sunday featuring all local produce.'

'And, of course, we are thrilled that Santa will be joining us again. He will be flying in from the North Pole especially for the event and is looking forward to meeting all the children so that he can find out what they want for Christmas. Santa loves children so he never charges for a visit.'

'A great deal of effort goes into the event and we are very pleased to thank the fol-



Faye Black and Gerard Tattersfield on the Isle of Arran Distillery stall at last year's Santa's Sparkle. 02_b48san04

lowing for their support: Visit Distillery and Taste of Arran. Arran, Arran Events, Lamlash Improvements, CalMac, Neil Young, The Old Byre, The Red Door, Isle of Arran. All the latest information is available on the Glenisle website at www.glenislehotel.com/santa

Lamlash tree should stay straight this year

The traditional Lamlash Christmas tree has a tendency to lean once it's been buffet-

ed about by December's gale force winds.

The tree is put up by the lo-

cal firefighters and the trunk goes into a permanent hole on the front green which is made to take it. They pack out the space around the trunk but the trouble is that the very bottom of the trunk often slips, causing the tree to lean.

It was fireman David Ingham's idea to make a device like an inverted cone which could be put into the hole and which would keep the base of the tree trunk secure.

Larger version

Geoffrey Dallamore, co-chair of Lamlash Improvements said: 'It's a bit like a much larger version of the kind of stand that we all use for the Christmas trees in our homes.'

So, here's hoping that the Lamlash tree stays securely upright this year.'

The device was commissioned by Lamlash Improvements Group and created by Dave Nelson in Whiting Bay.



Geoffrey Dallamore and Timothy Billings, co-chairs of Lamlash Improvements and owners of the Glenisle Hotel with the new holder for the Christmas tree. b46tree01

Arran livestock sales

United Auction had forward 2,116 store cattle, cast cows, and suckled calves and 9,672 prime store lambs and cast ewes forwarded at their Stirling Agricultural Centre last week.

Arran prices:
 Bullock calves: Ceither Gaoithe (Saler cross) £410, 211p. Cast cows: Kilpatrick (Belgian Blue cross) £875, 130p; Craigview (Limousin cross) £800, 126p; Birchburn (Simmental cross) £755, 123p; Kilpatrick (Aberdeen Angus cross) £795, 112p; Clauchlands (Holstein) £835, 152p.
 Lambs: Craigdhu (Texel cross) £84; Glenkiln (Texel cross) £64.50; Bridge (Texel cross) £50.50; Drumaghinier (Suffolk cross) £70; Ceither Gaoithe (Meatlink cross) £54.50; Bridge (Mule) £41; Cosyden (Cheviot) £41.50; Glenkiln (Cheviot) £36; Sheddock (Cross) £50; Clenkiln (Blackface) £38.50; Corriegills (Blackface) £35; Bridge (Blackface) £32.50.
 Cast Ewes: Bridge (Mule) £52.50; Cosyden (Cheviot) £49.50; Glenkiln (Blackface) £43.50.
 Tups: Sannox (Blackface) £53.50.

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Rev Angus Adamson and Lady Jean Fforde who unveiled the remembrance plaque at Brodick Church Hall. b46war01

War Memorial plaque unveiled at church hall

St Bride's Church in Brodick is unusual among island churches in that it has no formal War Memorial.

Researches reveal that in 1947 the Kirk Session approved a proposal by the then minister Rev James Lithgow to name the proposed new Church Hall as the Brodick Church War Memorial Hall, but this was never implemented.

This omission was rectified at a short dedication ceremony immediately after the annual Memorial Church Service last Sunday 11 November. The Lady Jean Fforde unveiled a plaque on the outside wall of the hall.

It has a maroon background, to match the paintwork of the building, and gold lettering.

The citation reads: 1914 – 1918. In memory of those who served, and in sympathy with those who suffered. In grateful remembrance of those who gave their lives. 1939 – 1945

Lamlash war graves given welcome facelift

In June the Banner reported on structural improvement work being carried out on the war graves in Lamlash Cemetery.

This work, undertaken by The Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC), was completed last week when the whole area was landscaped and replanted.

There are 36 war graves in Kilbride Old Churchyard, of which 21 are those of people killed in an air crash on Arran on 10 August 1941.

The row of 21 graves are of the crew and passengers of a Liberator aircraft that crashed into Mullach Buidhe, north of Goatfell, en route from Prestwick to Newfoundland when it failed to clear the Arran peaks.

The dead were captains, first officers, flight engineers and radio officers. Sixteen were from RAF Ferry Command, four Air Transport Auxiliary

and one Overseas Airways Corporation.

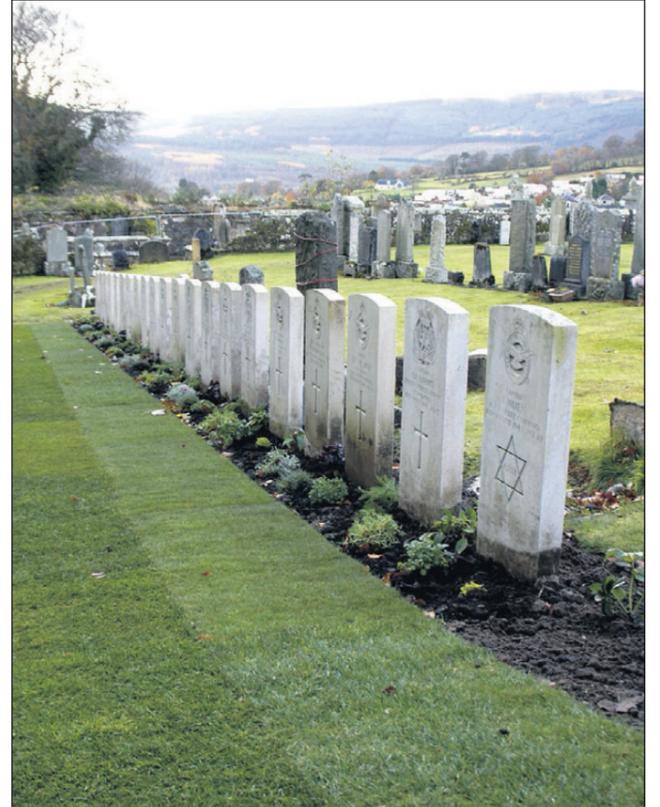
The beam underpinning some of these headstones needed to be replaced and this was carried out by local contractor Armitage Groundworks who renewed the base foundation and realigned the headstones.

Renovated

Iain Anderson, regional supervisor Scotland for CWGC, said: 'Two of my horticultural staff renovated the area obtaining the correct levels and laying new turf and introduced a full headstone planted border.'

'At present we are in discussions with North Ayrshire Council for their staff to maintain the plot to our standards from next Spring which will be checked by my staff.'

'We are very grateful to North Ayrshire Council bereavement services department who have fully supported this project. They have



The 21 war graves in Lamlash Cemetery with new turf and border plantings. 02_b46war01

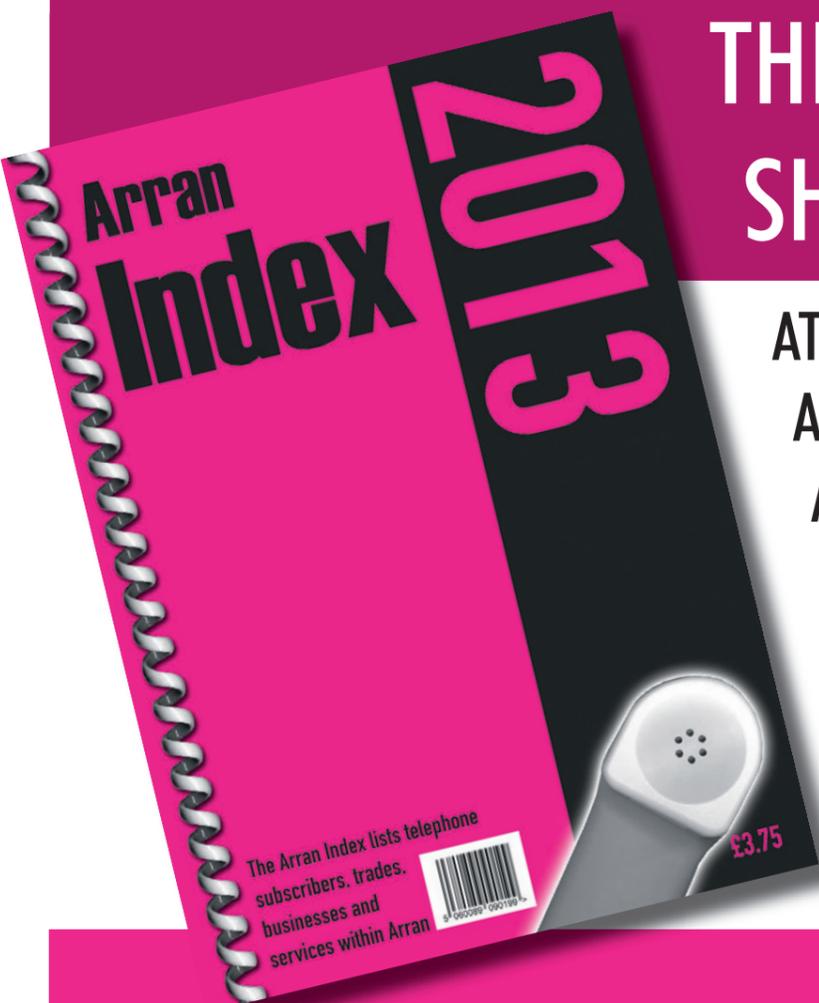
assisted with logistical and Similar renovation has just practical help from staff in been carried out at the war graves plot in Campbeltown.

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AT THIS STAGE WE WOULD INVITE EVERYONE WITH A BUSINESS LISTING TO COME INTO THE OFFICE AND CHECK THE DETAILS WE HOLD FOR YOU ARE ACCURATE AND UP TO DATE.

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Mairi's treasure cache unearthed on Arran dig

Do you know Mairi or great aunty Fiona?

Brian Robertson of Brodick has unearthed an interesting little treasure cache just outside the village.

For some weeks he has been clearing a prehistoric Neolithic cup and ring site in Stronach Wood and has found some buried treasure no more than seven years old.

He said: 'I spent 12 days digging to uncover the interesting ancient markings on the boulders. On the fourth day I came across this small plastic box.

'When I took it home and opened it I found nine coins, one of each denomination and the newest being dated 2005.

'There was also a small decorative dolphin, a piece of agate and a heart-shaped stone,

plus a small card with red ink writing.

'It was addressed to 'Miss Mairi Dare, with bunches of love', and said inside: 'Well done Mairi! You've found the treasure. Now give your Mum and Dad a kiss. Much love from Great Aunty Fiona xxx.'

Brian's brother Derek helped with the digging, and the mass of around 20 cups and rings unearthed on a large boulder are indeed impressive.

These ancient markings were made over 4,000 years ago and most of this rock art is found in the north of the UK, between West Yorkshire and the Caledonian canal.

No-one knows their original purpose and they are one of the most intriguing elements of the archaeological landscape.

This site in Stronach Wood is registered as an ancient monument with Historic Scotland. Brian has also unearthed flint and pitchstone on the site of this ancient Arran civilisation.

In the meantime, if anyone knows who Mairi or Great Aunty Fiona are, please get in touch with the Banner and we will forward the information to Brian.



Above: Brian Robertson with the array of cup and ring markings in Stronach Wood. b46cup01



Right: Mairi's treasure cache unearthed by Brian. 02_b46cup02



Brian with the plastic treasure box. 02_b46cup03

Christmas Fayre raises funds for Save the Children

The magnificent sum of £1,492.40 was raised for the Save the Children charity at their Christmas Fayre in Brodick Hall last Saturday.

Stallholders were kept busy with a steady stream of customers who also enjoyed a tasty soup and sandwich lunch.

Once again Yvonne Brothers set the atmosphere with her delightful piano playing, which was much appreciated by all.

Mrs Carol Burge, chairman, thanked the committee and friends for all the hard work that made the day a success.

She would also like to thank everyone who supported them on Saturday.

The lucky winners of the hampers were Mrs Kate Nichols of Brodick and Mr Peter Emsley of Pirmill.

Poppy collection in Shiskine

The poppy collection in Shiskine, Blackwaterfoot and Machrie raised £779.58 for the charity.

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THE ARRAN BANNER

New ferry port is exactly what we need

It's exciting news on the front page this week.

Instead of simply investing in a new linkspan at Brodick Pier, Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd, or CMAL as they are more regularly referred to, is investing millions in a new port for the island.

CMAL owns the ferries, ports and harbours and infrastructure necessary for vital ferry services serving the West coast of Scotland and the Clyde Estuary.

Their website proudly states that part of the company's remit is to 'seek extra investment to invest in ferries and harbour facilities, making a real difference for people and businesses using these life line services'.

And they sure are putting that investment to good use on Arran.

The plans that have yet to be finalised show a 150 metre long pier replacing the existing one just south of where it sits now.

At the end of the new causeway will be room for two boats to berth as well as a covered walkway and modern terminal building more akin to an airport lounge than the one we currently have.

This means that when Arran finally gets her two-vessel service, both can berth here when the weather requires it.

But it also means that in summer months there will be a spare berth, which it is hoped will be used by cruise ships.

Not only does this new ferry port have the potential to revolutionise ferry services on Arran – we could have twice as many sailings each day – but also it has great potential for the island's tourism sector.

If bigger cruise ships can be encouraged to see Brodick as a worthwhile port of call – and let's face it, it wouldn't take much persuasion – then the economic benefit could be mammoth.

As Kenneth Gibson himself says, these are exciting times for Arran and our ferries.

With RET set to be implemented in 2014 as well as a new pier and eventually two new purpose built ferries, it looks as though we may at last have the ferry service we have all been dreaming of.

The ferry committee should indeed be praised for all their hard work over many years in continually pushing for improved assets and service delivery.

They have received some harsh criticism in the past year from some who say the committee doesn't do enough to improve the service here.

This is a pier for the future, which will deliver a real economic boost for the local community; exciting times indeed!

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'The entire law is summed up in a single command: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' (Galatians 5:14)

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



Second home damage

Sir,
Mr Mark of Glasgow may not have quoted the exact words of my text, but the gist was much the same.

I was driven to join the discussion on Radio 2, having been angered by the pompous self-justification and Thatcherite 'I'm all right, sod the rest of you' contributions of many second-home owners on that programme.

It would be foolish to suggest that all holiday-home owners are bad people, but it would also be delusional for them to think that they are an economically positive addition to a rural community.

However much they think they spend on their visits, it will be in no way comparable to that of an inhabitant who is here for 50 weeks of the year.

Certainly the most damaging symptom of large scale second-home ownership (between one fifth and one quarter of all housing stock according to the Craigforth survey) is the disproportionate effect on house prices at the lower end of the property market - houses that would normally be bought as first homes by those wishing to stay on the island to raise a family or move here to live and work; a large proportion of those younger people just leave, or do not come here in the first place (the level of rents is a whole different rant.)

The price of smaller homes on Arran is way above the mortgageable capabilities of even teachers (with its own consequences for the island's students, due to high teacher turnover). This distortion of the market has had serious repercussions across the whole community, on the school roll and the ability to man essential services. Keeping a balanced demographic profile is essential for a healthy society, particularly on an island where essential workers cannot just commute in and out.

Insofar as my roots, it is just as well Mr Mark is not a gambling man as he has certainly lost this one, having been

raised, schooled (?), left and returned to where my family has at least three centuries of history. Going by the reaction I have received to last week's letter (85percent positive) there was no great surprise amongst locals who 'Nigel from Arran' was.

Finally I wish Clive the best of luck in the formation of his 'association/pressure group' for destitute second home owners and would love to suggest a name. What about 'The Colonialists'. I think 'The Bunty Club' has already been taken.

**Nigel Walker
Dunan Croft
Corriegills (approx 36 percent second homes)**

Working class and still working

Sir,
In reply to Dave who holds rather extreme views on second home ownership, I sympathise with all young people who cannot get on the housing ladder.

However the fact house prices on Arran matched those in London a decade or two ago is one of the reasons. If prices crashed by 50percent would those young people still be able to afford to get a loan? As far as council tax is concerned the 90percent payment allows NAC to not provide any assistance like loft insulation or central heating. I have no objections to paying 100percent tax but am not allowed as they might get a flood of requests for such things. I reckon most of Arran's young people will want to see the wider world perhaps retuning later in life and buying a second home. So Dave, or is it Nigel, your narrow views don't really stack up and I think you're in a minority. For the record I consider myself to be working class and still working aged 68 and if my pension hadn't been ripped off I would be living on Arran right now.

**Clive Mark
Corrie and Glasgow**

Lack of signposting

Sir,
I have recently returned from a delightful stay on your fine

island but have some concern over the walks.

My partner and I decided to walk near the Clauchan Glen up the loggers track from Shiskine but missed the turning for the actual footpath due to lack of signposting.

Not being residents we were not familiar with this route and the OS maps and walking books are out of date due to the ever expanding logging track which ascends into the ever depleting forest under the Clauchan Glen.

We feel the Forestry Commission should at least install a suitable sign where the footpath starts to prevent tourists from continuing to the quarry further up.

**Alan Houldey
59 Zoons Road
Gloucester**

Keep dancing ballet

Sir,
Scottish Ballet would like to thank everyone for the fantastic welcome we received last weekend with Find Your Feet.

We were delighted to see so many people engaging with us through dance. Special thanks must go to Arran dance teachers Fiona Rodriguez and Dawn Ulivi.

Not only did their dancers shine at the performance on Friday night but many of them, and their parents, were amongst those who attended Scottish Ballet sessions all over the island.

We worked with 930 people over 34 events (dance workshops and talks) from our parent and toddler classes and school pupils to the ladies and gentlemen at Montrose House and Cooriedoon.

We hope we can come back again before too long. In the meantime, as Brucie would say, keep dancing.

**Ann Nugent
Communications Manager
Scottish Ballet's
Education team**

Birthday thanks

Sir,
I would like to thank all my family and friends for remembering my 90th birthday.

Thank you to all of you for

your kind wishes.

**Janet Johnston
Gleneden
Torbeg**

Jubilee tree planting

Sir,
I would like to draw readers' attention to a special tree-planting event this Sunday 18 November at 10.30am.

The charity Roots of Arran Community Woodland has been awarded 480 trees plus some Royal Oaks by the Community Woodlands Association in order to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

The aim is to plant six million trees across the UK this year, so anyone who is free this Sunday please meet at 10.30am in the view point car park between on Brodick Hill with stout boots, waterproofs and a packed lunch.

Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

**Juliette Walsh
Whiting Bay**

Pirnmill Centenary Ceilidh

Sir,
We would like to express a huge thank you to everyone who attended, or in any way contributed towards our Pirnmill Primary School Centenary events so far. We have had an amazing level of support from so many people and local businesses.

Our last big event is coming at the end of this month and we would love to see as many people as possible coming along to help us celebrate our school turning 100.

The Centenary Ceilidh is taking place at Lochranza Hall on Friday 30 November 7pm.

This will be an evening of traditional Scottish Dancing with the Arranach Ceilidh Band and wonderful performances by the school-children that are not to be missed. There will also be a licensed bar, a fabulous raffle, homemade nibbles and a chance to buy our Centenary lollipops, tartan and much more!

Pupils and staff of Pirnmill Primary School

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Winter plans in place for council road crew

North Ayrshire Council has a stockpile of 2,000 tonnes of road grit in the Market Road depot, ready to keep Arran's motorists on the go over winter. Three hundred tonnes were left over from last winter, and another 1,700 tonnes have been delivered. Arran has nine council roads staff on winter stand-by, six of them drivers. The winter activities of the road staff throughout North



The team of Arran road staff, prepared for winter duty. 02_b46snw01



Pier Brae, Brodick in the winter storm three years ago, with Council snow plough driver Johnnie Kelso making a breakthrough. 02_b46snw02

Ayrshire are co-ordinated by five winter controllers, four on the mainland and one, Island Officer Gus Macleod, here on Arran.

Acting in rotation, there is always one winter controller on duty to check on a wide range of weather forecasts.

'There is a huge amount of information available to us,' said Gus. 'But it doesn't mean that we always get it right. We can look at radar for the whole UK and zoom in on Arran.'

'We have a 24-hour forecast that is updated morning, midday and evening.'

'The controller on duty goes

online again at 7pm to see if there have been any changes to the forecast.

'We all have encrypted PCs at home and log in live to the NAC website.'

'There are three lorries used as snow ploughs and grit spreaders; one for the Northend, one for the Southend and one spare.'

'Route one is the Southend and String, including Hospital Road, the Kildonan loop, Machrie Moor and Blackwaterfoot; route two is North Arran. The String is usually done twice.'

'The road surface temperature is critical and the wind

chill can make a difference; at or above minus two degrees Celsius the boys spread at 10gm/sq metre; between -2 degrees and -5 degrees they spread at 20gm/sq metre.'

'If it's wet, then we increase the rate, but if rain is forecast before a freeze, we hold back because it would just be washed away.'

For the Arran side roads and pavements, there are some 21 yellow grit bins in the main villages for folk to help themselves. But the Arran motorists should still be prepared, check tyre pressures and lights, and take heed of weather warnings.

Neals and Nails at Shiskine SWRI

On Wednesday 7 November our President Mrs Jenny Harper gave us all a special warm welcome to the meeting on such a wet evening.

Our speaker for the evening was Lynn Walker who gave us an outstanding talk and demonstration about Neals and Nails.

We were all invited to try some of the Neals products she had brought along. We were also encouraged to have a try at a hand and lower arm massage with our fellow members, which most of us found quite relaxing.

The competition of a Beauty Limerick was won by Joan Stewart with Yvonne Randell coming second.

The exhibition of a Compact was won by Marion Jones with Eunice Williamson coming second. The raffle was won by Mary Hamilton.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 5 December when members of Kilmory Institute have been invited to join us for a Scottish Evening.

The competition is for best-wrapped parcel and the exhibition is a Christmas tree ornament.

Brodick Bridge Club

The results for Thursday 8 November were as follows:

N/S 1 Tricia Martin and Douglas Hamilton +2040, 2 Janie McLure and Anne McKelvie +1730, 3 John and Mary Dick +1640.

E/W 1 Douglas and Margaret Bruce +2060, 2 Janette McBride and Peter Thompson +1160, 3 Jennifer McArthur and Maureen Cummings +610.

Lamlash Bridge Club

The results for Monday 12 November were as follows:

N/S 1 John and Jan Beattie +970, 2 Janie McLure and Anne McKelvie -150, 3 John and Mary Dick -170.

E/W 1 Trish Martin and Alison Bilsland +3800, 2 Jennifer McArthur and Jean Barclay +2420, 3 Margaret and Douglas Bruce +2300.

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A lifetime's ambition fulfilled; Mark Bunyan has his portrait hung on the walls of Brodick Castle at last. 'Nae Oil Painting' is by his partner Tracy Gibson. 01_b46cas07



The castle's grand entrance hall is festooned with paintings. 01_b46cas02

Exhibition of contemporary art at Brodick Castle

Held each year to exhibit the work of some of Arran's most talented artists

Brodick Castle remains one of Arran's most popular visitor destinations there is an added attraction this week.

The 15th annual winter exhibition of contemporary art is taking place this weekend bringing together pieces from both amateur and professional local artists. More than 300 pieces by 72

artists adorn the walls and stately rooms of the castle and the staff would like to thank all those that have helped and given up their time to help organise the exhibition and hang the paintings.

Talented

Held each year to exhibit the work of some of Arran's most talented artists, this year's ex-

hibition attracted more than 70 exhibitors and pieces were still arriving late on Tuesday afternoon.

As usual the arrangement of these works in the stately rooms of the castle make this exhibition particularly special.

Most items were also for sale and prices ranged from

£45 for Wendy Kilroe's lovely oil of Holy Isle from Sandbraes to £1,600 for Josephine Broekhuizen's stunning Sticks III.

Preview

After a preview for invited guests on Wednesday night the exhibition officially opened on Thursday and will run until Sunday (November 18).



Now in its 15th year, the exhibition brings together pieces from both amateur and professional local artists. 01_b46cas01



The stately setting of Brodick Castle makes this annual exhibition very special. 01_b46cas03



Blushing Clouds in acrylic by Ronnie McNeice. 01_b46cas05



In the library, paintings have pride of place. 01_b46cas04

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Sledding in Ormidale Park.

THE ARRAN
BANNER

A supplement of the Arran Banner

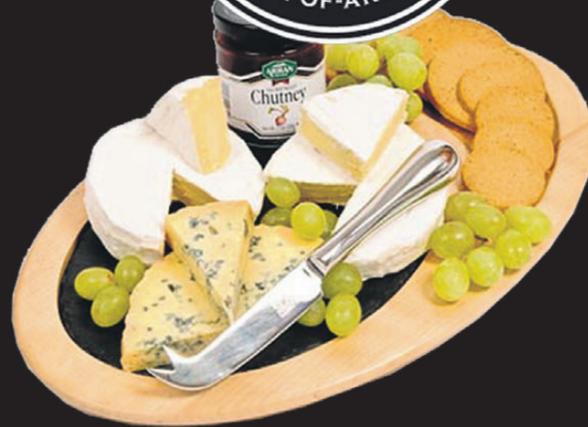
Arran Life

Welcome to the winter issue of Arran Life, our community focussed magazine for the people of Arran. Among the articles included we look at the success of the Arran Riding for the Disabled group, the skills of master wood carver Marvin Elliott and the remarkable frequency with which Arran appears in films and on television. We feature the Machrie garage

service of C M Weir and Sons which has been a fixture on the west coast for 145 years and Alastair and Alison Bilsland who have been at the heart of Brodick business for almost 44 years. And we give tips on feeding your feathered friends this winter and highlight the benefits of the martial art of Arran's first Tae Kwon-do club.

If you have a story to tell or would like to make a contribution to Arran Life, we would like to hear from you – contact Howard Driver on 01770 302142 or email editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Special gifts from a small island



Treat your friends to A Taste of Arran this Christmas – we've got a beautiful range of hampers and gifts available online at www.taste-of-arran.co.uk and if you can't decide, we now have gift vouchers in stock – buy online, collect on island at Arran Dairies, or call us **01770 302374**.

This Bellevue Platter with a beech and slate cheeseboard and a selection of award winning cheeses is just one of our stunning gifts –

Quote Code **WINTERLIFE** and receive a **FREE** cheese-knife worth £15 with this item!



Linzi Irving, Alastair, Margaret Mackay and Margaret Galloway, some of the long-serving staff. b10b1l02

Bilislands - the successful business at the heart of Brodick

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If you are proud of your business and have confidence in the service you offer, put your name over the door.

That's exactly what Alastair and Alison Bilisland did in 2002.

They opened a magnificent new emporium in the heart of Brodick seafront and called it 'Bilislands'. It all started 43 years ago when Alastair first rented The Boat-house Grill at Cladach in 1969. In 1970 Alastair and Alison got engaged on the strength of the purchase of the Mini Café, because it had a small timber chalet included in the sale which gave them a place to stay.

They got married in 1971 in time for the Easter holidays. There was also a large timber sectional building which had been used as a penny arcade by the previous owners.

It had to go. So it was auctioned at the farmers' market by Robbie Wilson for £105 to Willie Mc-Connell who dismantled it and carted it up to Glenscorrodale where it became the first tearoom up there.

They built the original timber Gift Shop and Boutique where Bilislands now stands and it opened its doors on Saturday 6 April 1974.

The two-acre site also had the Mini Golf course which had been going since 1960. Alastair and his team developed it further and had a go at a variety of other enterprises such as battery-powered kiddy cars, go-karts and



Shop frontage and sign b10b1l03



Bilislands of Brodick. b10b1l05

bike hire.

In the meantime, he bought a grocers shop in Brodick.

He explained: 'My good friend Bob Brass was looking to buy a business, so in 1980 we bought Curries 50/50. Our partnership was amicably dissolved in 1990 and I sold Curries in 1996.'

All the time, the business was expanding.

Alastair said: 'The Gift Shop and Boutique wasn't big enough and the Mini Café didn't suit winter opening. I wanted to create something that would be open almost every day of the year.'

'In October 2001 we knocked down the lot - mini-café, gift shop and go karts.'

At Easter 2002 Alastair and Alison opened the magnificent new 'Bilislands' and they are still at the helm.

Alastair was keen to stress two points.

He said: 'We have employed a lot of local youngsters over the years and they feel like family. Many of them keep in touch.'

'But Alison is really the brains of the business!'



Alastair and Alison Bilisland on the shop floor. b10b1l01

a Flavour of Arran

Filetto di Salmone con burro di capperi e acciuge su cavolo verde e prosciutto di Parma

Recipe from Rino Pisano, chef and co-proprietor at Stags Pavilion, Lochranza



Brush the salmon fillets with olive oil, season with black pepper and place in the hot pan for 4 minutes on each side (depending on thickness).

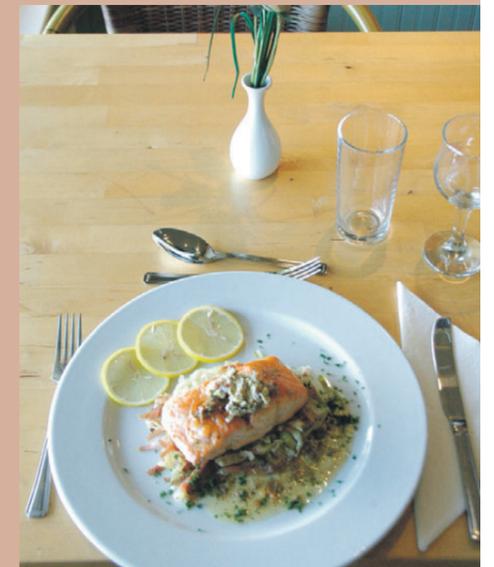
Divide the cabbage on to 4 plates, remove the salmon from the pan and place on top of the cabbage mix, top with a knob of the anchovy and caper butter and garnish with slices of lemon, and a sprinkling of freshly chopped parsley. Serve immediately.

Ingredients

- Serves 4
- 4 salmon fillets
- 2 tbsp capers
- 6 anchovy fillets in oil
- 70g unsalted butter
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- Black pepper
- 1 small green cabbage finely sliced
- 4 slices of Parma ham finely sliced

To serve

Blanch cabbage for 5 mins in boiling water, drain and add Parma ham and keep warm. Preheat frying pan for the salmon. While the pan is heating, make the anchovy and caper butter by roughly mixing the capers and anchovies together with the softened butter. Use the back of a fork to do this.



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Siskins at a feeder. b10bird01

Bird Notes – A Helping Hand in Winter

By Jim Cassels

Spare a thought for our feathered friends this winter.

Their survival skills are tested to the limit when winter tightens its grip and food becomes hard to find. During one cold winter's night a bird can use up to a tenth of its body weight keeping warm. Unless it is able to feed well every day to replenish its reserves, a prolonged cold spell can be deadly. Please provide a helping hand this winter by feeding your garden birds.

What to feed

Peanuts, black sunflower seeds and nyjer seeds are all rich in fats and oils.

Fat balls, cooked rice, uncooked oats, grated hard cheese and finely chopped unsalted bacon are all good, but not milk nor desiccated coconut nor salted peanuts. Fruits, including dried fruit and halved windfall apples and pears, all attract in birds.

How to feed

Use a bird table or feeders and avoid scattering on the ground. This attracts rats. Remove stale and mouldy food and reduce the amount offered if it takes days to clear. To avoid the build up of harmful bacteria and parasites clean bird tables and feeders regularly.

Remember to provide the birds with access to clean water to drink and bathe in. Bird-baths should also be regularly cleaned.

Where to feed

It is best to feed where the humans can get good views, but more importantly where the birds feel safe and can feed undisturbed.

In particular avoid putting bird tables and feeders near fences or dense hedges, where cats can easily get to them. If there is a bush nearby, birds can use this as a look-out point to make sure it is safe to come down.

When to feed

Feed at dawn and dusk: first thing in the morning - as birds replenish energy lost overnight - and last thing in the afternoon - to prepare for the long night ahead.

Wildlife-friendly gardening

Grow plants that provide natural food sources for your birds either directly with fruits and seeds or indirectly by attracting insects and invertebrates.

Abandon slug-killer and pesticides and increase the amount of invertebrates around for birds to feed on.

Grow plants that fruit in winter like holly and ivy. Delay your annual pruning of herbaceous and berry-bearing plants until late winter to provide food and much needed shelter and areas to roost.

Winter feeding of birds is not only good for the birds but also good for humans, giving us close views of our feathered friends enabling us to better appreciate their wonderful colours and fascinating behaviour.

For more advice visit these websites

<http://www.rspb.org.uk/advice/helpingbirds/feeding/index.aspx>

<http://www.bto.org/volunteer-surveys/gbw/gardens-wildlife/garden-birds/feeding/hygiene>
Enjoy your garden birds.



Putting the finishing touches to an otter in the workshop. b10mar03

Marvin Elliott – Arran woodcarver of renown

Marvin Elliott is a woodcarver of renown.

He came to Arran 22 years ago, and his workshop at Cladach is brimming with works of art in many stages of finish.

In a way, Marvin came to wood carving by accident. Originally from Derby, he had served 10 years in the Royal Engineers as a surveyor. Then while on duty in Iran in 1978 he suffered a stroke.

Marvin said with a laugh: 'I went overnight from being a mathematician to being a hippie.'

'We broke away from the rat race, sold up and moved to the tiny island of Shapinsay in the Orkneys. I couldn't use my left hand but took up carving as therapy.'

'Then after a while I entered a competition in Woodcarver Magazine.'

'It was to make a wooden gnome on a toadstool.'

'Out of 700 entries mine was the only one with the gnome climbing up onto the toadstool – the rest were all sitting on it.'

'I won the competition, and from the publicity commissions just came in. It was even on Blue Peter.'

Marvin's first big commission was from an Irish priest for a lifesize St Jude for a church in Birmingham.

The large piece of mahogany was sent up to Orkney, but Marvin had a dilemma.

How much to charge? With a grin he admits: 'I was well-paid for the job!'

Marvin's connection with Arran started at an Aviemore Trade Show in 1990.

He said: 'I came across Iain and Janet Russell of Arran Aromatics at the trade show and they asked me to come down and carve a

wooden elephant for the front of the factory.'

'I carved it in Orkney and brought it here. When I got to Arran, I thought it was paradise. There are only 140 people in Shapinsay, there are no trees and the weather is awful.'

'It made Arran look like heaven. Iain offered me a side shop free for a period.'

'I lived in an old BMC ambulance behind the shop, then moved to High Corrie and now Corrie.'

Marvin is now firmly established and has enough commissions for a year.

He added: 'I have never considered myself an artist – I'm just lucky to be in a position to do what I want.'



Marvin Elliott outside his workshop at Cladach. b10mar01 or 04



Marvin Elliott and Iain Russell with the carved elephant outside Arran Aromatics in May 1990 and a life size Cooper that he had carved in Princes Square, Glasgow. b10mar05

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Some of the graduates and instructors: back, from left, Emily Divine, Debbie McNally, Julie Cannon, Adrian Cannon, John Divine, Catherine Divine. Centre, Sammy Brobson, Kirk Inglis, Scott Mackay, Jaden Simpson, Ciaomhe McCallum. Front, Alyssa McGarrie, Shaun Clark and Laurie Miller. b10tae01

Arran's martial arts club for fitness and discipline



Jaden Simpson and Shaun Clark sparring. b10tae05

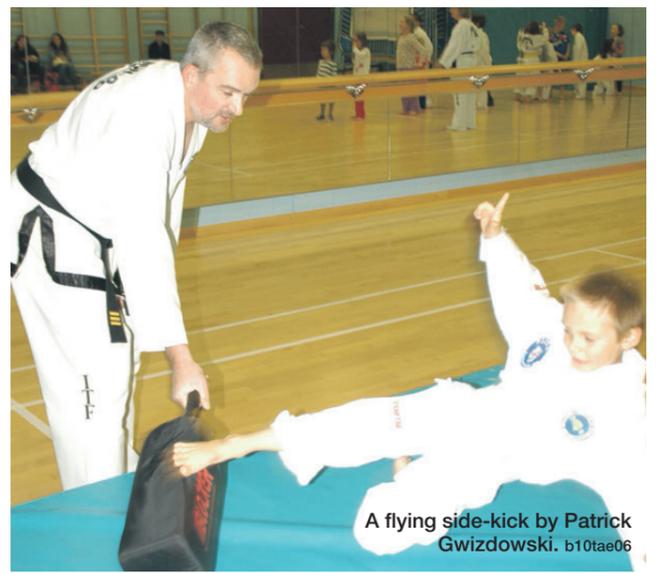
Arran's first Tae Kwon-do martial arts club was established in June 2010. The main instructor is Blackwaterfoot cabinetmaker John Divine and he now has up to 50 students with ages ranging from five years to 52 years old. The club meets in two sessions on Wednesday evenings in the Dance Studio at Arran High School and John said: 'On a normal evening we have about 33 students over two classes and are always keen to take more.' He is helped by his sister Catherine who is the chief Tae Kwon-do instructor for Scotland.

John was a keen track athlete when younger, but in 1989 he left athletics and went straight into Tae Kwon-do. Tae Kwon-do translates as 'the art of foot and hand fighting' and is a relatively new martial art compared to Karate, Kung Fu and Judo. It was originally created in 1955 as a close combat form of fighting for the South Korean army and now has around 150,000 students in the UK. John said: 'It embodies discipline, respect for other human beings as well as providing a tool for keeping fit and self-defence if ever required. The emphasis is



Adrian Cannon board breaking with instructor John Divine. b10tae02

most definitely on self-defence and all students, especially children, are specifically told not to use it as the aggressor. 'Families can benefit greatly from this sport as many parents and children train together. Problem difficulties or mental impairments can also benefit from the routine and discipline Tae Kwon-do provides. 'Our aim in Tae Kwon-do is to instil confidence in children and adults and show them that you can face situations in life and deal with them effectively without violence, knowing that they have a 'get out clause' as a last resort. We will be holding our first Tae Kwon-do competition in March 2013 and hopefully start our competitive wheels rolling.'



A flying side-kick by Patrick Gwizdowski. b10tae06

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Life through the lens

1994



Stella MacRae of Lamlash was awarded the MBE in the New Year's Honours List for services to the British Red Cross on Arran. b10lens03



Dog handlers Jack Murchie with Mack, Matthew McNeish with Sweep and Willie McConnell with Kia – prizewinners at the final dog trial of the season at Glenree. b10lens07



Hairdresser Alice Anderson with models Sheila Johnston, Jacque Andrew and Barbara Paterson and Helen Gatherer from James Watt College at a hair and beauty demonstration. b10lens06



CalMac pier hand Iain MacDonald trying out a new wind anemometer at the end of Brodick pier. b10lens02



Comedian Billy Connolly and Lama Yeshe Losal in Glasgow's St Mungo's Museum of Religious Art and Life with the winning model entry of the proposed retreat centre on Holy Isle. b10lens04



Hamish Cook retired after 59 years as church organist and received an oil painting of the Kings Cross house he was born in from Rev Elizabeth Watson. b10lens01



Brodick Ladies Golf Club trophy winners at their annual prizegiving and dinner in Brodick Bar. b10lens05



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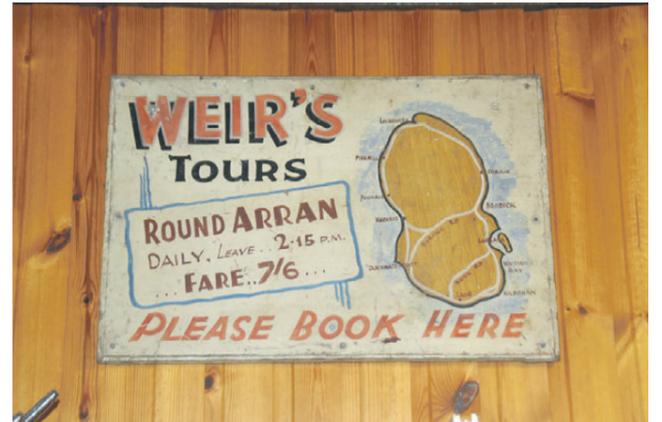


C M Weir & Sons –

established 1867



D G and Charles with the original merchant's shop and garage behind them. b10weir01



A bus tours sign on the office wall. b10weir02



Sam Rayner, Charles Weir and Jake Leese. b10weir03

Established 1867 – that is the proud boast of C M Weir & Sons, motor engineers of Machrie.

'We are certainly the oldest family service business on the island,' said current proprietor D G Weir.

'A young Watson Weir established a grocer's shop at Auchencar in 1867 because there was apparently no work for him in the family business on the mainland. And then he was approached to build a jetty here at Machrie for a boat to go out and collect mail from the steamer that came from the Broomielaw en route to Campbeltown.

'The jetty is still there. Then the house here at Dunedin became a general merchant's and post office – the old post box is still built into the wall.

'In 1901 Mrs Weir was the first sub-postmistress in part of the house. Watson's son, Charles Murchie Weir, was the first C M Weir. There were two successive C M Weirs running the business, then me, Duncan Gilbert.'

At the turn of the century they branched out into the haulage business with horse-drawn charabancs then lorries. They operated buses on two routes serving Lochranza and Brodick piers. They ran to Lochranza to meet the Campbeltown to Glasgow steamer and then down the west coast to Lagg, then also ran from Brodick to Lenimore.

The main haulage business was transporting agricultural produce to the Ayrshire mainland, bringing back machinery and fertilisers.

The first diesel-engined lorry to come to the island was brought here by C M Weir.

D G explained that the garage started out as a repair shop for their own vehicles.

He served his apprenticeship in Furness Quarry. 'I learned all about quarry machinery and heavy plant,' he said.

'The buses finished in 1965 and I came into the business in 1969. It was my father who started buying and selling cars, mainly to order. Auctions are the only safe place to buy – I stick to the major nationals.

'We have four full-time workshop staff including son Charles who has more or less taken over the business. We are kept pretty busy, but everything in the modern vehicle is electronic and inter-connected; nothing is really repairable any more. Up-to-date diagnostic equipment is crucial nowadays.'

The desk that D G sits at has two sturdy timber pillars from floor to ceiling next to it. 'Yes, that's a sign of the history. This was the original stable for the charabanc horses, and the tack would be hung on these.'

From 19th century stables to 21st century computer diagnostic mechanics, C M Weir and Sons is still going strong after 145 years.

Local Cheese made from Arran Milk

Made at the Torrylinn Creamery, Kilmory, Isle of Arran



The Real Arran Cheese



Established 1867. b10weir04



The success story of Arran Riding for the Disabled

Arran RDA was started by Barbara Tinto of Lamlash whose son, Mark, has Down's Syndrome. When Mark was growing up, Barbara realised that there was an ever widening gap between Mark and his 'normally developing peer group'. In Primary everything was fine, but by the time he got into secondary the gap began to widen. Barbara decided to combine her two main interests – children with disabilities and ponies. At first she intended to bring children from the mainland for respite holidays and the opportunity to ride ponies, and Mark the chance to mix with new friends, but the insurance implications made this near impossible.

So Barbara decided that setting up an RDA group with its national support network was the best road to go down. She gained an NVQ in horse care and management, training in childcare and qualified as an RDA instructor. By now it had become apparent that there were a significant number of children with disabilities on Arran. The RDA regional chairman came over to assess the ponies and premises and advise of any health and safety issues. A mounting block had to be installed to enable children to get on the ponies, plus a non-slip pathway. Specialist tack for the ponies was bought, but all this had to be paid for so grants were applied for and fundrais-

ing started.

First session in 2006
In 2006 Arran RDA held its first Saturday morning session for the children.

At present there is one adult rider and five children with a range of disabilities including ADHD, Down's syndrome, autism and other learning difficulties.

There are two Saturday morning sessions each lasting approx one hour and take place mostly in term time. There is currently no charge for the riding.

RDA chairman Janis Heaney said: 'We wouldn't be able to function without volunteers. We need an organiser, instructor, recruiter, trainer, rota organiser and child protection officer. That doesn't include looking after of ponies which myself and Rona do, and Colin Guthrie and Dave Patterson who collect the pony droppings, then bag them to get uplifted by the public for donations. We are always looking for more volunteers so please call me on 600553 if interested.'

The group has three ponies. Tabitha is 23 and a Cob on loan to the RDA.

Dan is owned by the RDA and is a Norwegian Fjord pony aged 12.

Janis added: 'Charlie –now – I know you shouldn't have favourites but I do love this boy. He is a 15-year-old Connemara.'

'We rely entirely on fundraising

and donations. It costs on average £1,400 to keep a pony for a year. This year we raised £500 with a bag pack in the Co-op and £1,000 from raffling a rare bottle of whisky. Last year we went along to Santa's Sparkle in Lamlash with Tabitha dressed as a reindeer.'

RDA from a parent's point of view

Rosanne and Tony Finnegan tell of the changes the RDA has made to their son, Arran. They said: 'Arran has shown remarkable progress in communication skills since starting at the RDA in March 2011. He eagerly awaits each session and has grown very fond of the organisers, helpers and of course, the ponies.'

'We find, as parents of an autistic child, RDA is a wonderful organisation, and are extremely grateful for the time, effort and preparation which is dedicated to helping our son and many others too.'

'Since attending RDA, he is visibly more comfortable around adults and children alike and now enjoys joining in and initiating conversations. His balance and strength have improved greatly, along with his co-ordination skills.'

'He is learning to take instruction and focus for longer periods of time.'

'We feel it has helped Arran gain more independence and confidence in himself which is

heartwarming for us to see. We are extremely proud of our little boy.'

Janis summed up: 'We currently have vacancies for riders. If you think your child could benefit from coming to riding for the disabled and want to find out more please call Rona on 600752 for a chat and to arrange a visit.'



Arran looms large on the silver screen

The Isle of Arran has proved to be a popular location for film-makers down the years.

Perhaps the most famous was the 1997 BBC film *The Missing Postman*, starring James Bolam, Larry Lamb and Alison Steadman.

Arran people were used as extras, and the face of Lamlash was changed for three weeks during filming. The two-and-a-half hour comedy drama centred on Clive Peacock (James

Bolam) who was due to be made redundant as a postman in Poole, Dorset.

But he made his mind up to personally deliver his very last letter. And it happened to be addressed to Mrs Taylor, Harbourview Guest House, Lamlash, Isle of Arran.

He set off on his bike, and long before he got to Arran he had become a national hero, striking a blow for all redundant workers and pursued by police and the press.

On television we saw him cycling off the Claonaig ferry and heading for Lamlash. It had been transformed into a sleepy fishing village with upturned boats strewn along the front green and fishing nets and seaweed everywhere.

'Clive' was taken in by landlady Barbara Dickson, who for the filming had taken over Audrey MacArthur's house.

The programme was described as 'the best TV drama of the year', and most of Arran came



A scene from a 2004 BBC Scotland comedy set at a football match in Kildonan when a flock of George Stewart's sheep invade the pitch and PC Derek 'Pluto' Murray grapples with the Shiskine goalkeeper. b10tel05



Brodict clansman Jamie McPhail Wilson who was in *Ivanhoe*. b10tel02



Emmerdale's Shelley in Brodict before she plunged to her death from the Ardrossan ferry in 2005. b10tel01

to a standstill to watch it. Then in 2005 the popular soap opera *Emmerdale* came to Arran. Shelley Williams, played by Carolyn Pickles, was on the run and pursued to the island by the wicked Steph Stokes, Alan Turner's daughter. Shelley stayed in the Douglas Hotel, then called the McAlpine while Steph searched Brodict guest houses. The drama concluded on the open deck of MV Caledonian Isles when the two grappled, with Shelley falling into the chill waters below. We saw Steph throw Shelley's suitcase in after her, and she was never seen again.

In 1997 the £6million BBC historical drama series *Ivanhoe* was filmed in Glencloy with Arran's own Jamie McPhail Wil-

son taking one of the clansman parts. Jamie was no stranger to the silver screen, having been involved earlier in the blockbuster film *Braveheart*.

Other notable movies made in Arran were the 1998 film *The Governess* with Minnie Driver and the *Goatfell Murder of 1889*, filmed here in 1983.

Television programmes include *Landward*, *The Beechgrove Garden*, *Songs of Praise* and *The Perisher Course* about the submarine commander training based at the Douglas Hotel and in the Clyde.

Not forgetting BBC's *Newsnight* which in April 1992 interviewed Margie Currie, Kenneth Bone and then *Banner* editor John Millar about moves to protect hen harriers.



James Bolam and Audrey MacArthur outside the Lamlash 'guesthouse'. b10tel04



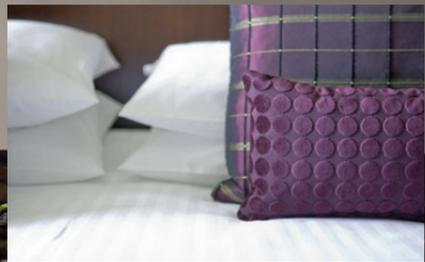
James Bolam as *The Missing Postman* comes up alongside Maureen Smith. b10tel03

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Sunshine and Showers in oil by Lady Jean Fforde. 01_b46cas10



Millport Sunset in oil by Rebecca Roberts. 01_b46cas06



Left: Lorna Sherry's Catacol Glen in pastel. 01_b46cas11



A pig carved by Marvin Elliott. 01_b46cas12



Corrie in oil by Nicky Gill. 01_b46cas08



A collection of Tessa Smith's hand spun and woven textiles. 01_b46cas13



Ring o' Brodgar in oil by Gus Smith, top, and Brodick Castle in oil by Michael Grant. 01_b46cas09

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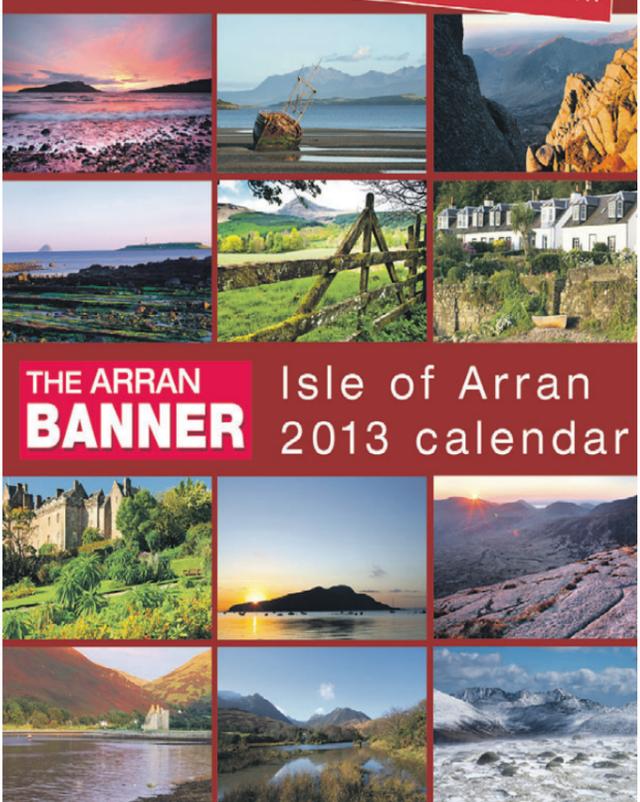
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Falling rock smashes car window near Dippen

A holidaymaker got a nasty surprise on his way back from lunch on Tuesday.

Robin Walsh and his wife Barbara have a lodge at Auchrannie and are regular visitors to the island.

On Tuesday they drove down to Kildonan Hotel for lunch, then began to make

their way back towards Whiting Bay.

Just as they were driving along the Gaery north of Dippen at 3.15pm in their BMW X5 there was a loud bang.

Big explosion

Robin said: 'A rock fell from the hillside onto the back of the car. It was like a



Red and white cones at the site of regular landslips on the Gaery. 02_b46car01



Robin Walsh with his damaged BMW X5 outside the Banner office. 02_b46car02

big explosion as the rear window shattered.

'Our Golden Retriever Henry was in the back and got quite a shock. There was glass everywhere.'

'We managed to lift Henry out without getting his paws cut, and fortunately no-one was hurt.'

Robin got his window taped up at a local garage and reported the incident to the police before going back to the

Auchrannie lodge.

The following morning, Wednesday, they were heading back down home to Preston and Paul had contacted his BMW agent to be told that the rear window would cost £900 and the car would need to be in the garage for at least two days.

'We have told the police about this,' he said. 'Hopefully the council will do something to prevent this sort of

thing happening again; someone could have been badly hurt.'

A spokesperson for North Ayrshire Council said: 'We have been dealing with continual slippage in this area for a number of years.'

'Our Design Team is working to address this problem and a barrier system is being prepared in order to contain any potential rockfall and to protect the road.'

Arctic Winds expected in Brodick Hall

That may seem unlikely, but in this case Arctic Winds is the name of a wind quintet who will be playing at Brodick Hall this Saturday evening, 17 November, from 7.30pm.

There can hardly be a more colourful combination of instruments, and this concert is a great way to get to know the sounds of this most lyrical section of the orchestra better. You can expect bewitching melodies from the flute, oboe and clarinet, each with its distinctive sound, underscored by the sombre and, at times, comical bassoon and the noble horn.

What is magical is that in combination, these instruments offer a palette of sound that is unimaginably rich and diverse, far more than the sum of its parts.

The concert programme includes pieces by Ibert, Poulenc, Hindemith, Shostakovich, Danzi and Malcolm Arnold, as well as by John Maxwell Geddes, who wrote a piece specially for Arran's McLellan Festival a couple of years ago.

19th and 20th century repertoire presents the best canvas for a wind quintet and you are assured of a tuneful evening.

Auchrannie is amongst the top hospitality employers in Scotland

The team from Auchrannie were celebrating last Tuesday night after being recognised as the 'Best Independent Hotel Employer' in Scotland at an award ceremony organised by trade publication The Caterer.com.

Group director Linda Johnston and operations manager Iain Hamilton attended the black tie ceremony at Edinburgh's Prestonfield Hotel where they were joined by hundreds of other hospitality businesses from the length and breadth of Scotland.

Designed

These unique awards were designed to reward and recognise the cream of hospitality employers as judged by the people who know them best - their employees. Employees were provided with an online tool-kit to answer a series of questions relating to their employer and workplace.

The results of which give the employer a ranking against other entries.

This process made for a realistic and unbiased judging process, as it is based on the true opinion of indi-

viduals who know exactly how good their employer is. Once all entries were scrutinised, Auchrannie not only came out top in the 'Best Independent Hotel' category but also ranked 12th overall for Scotland amongst all hospitality businesses that entered. Other businesses competing for the top honours included

national chains such as Marriott, Hilton and Jury's Inns as well as a number of independent operators.

Speaking after the awards, operations manager Iain Hamilton, said: 'It is great to be part of an organisation where so many staff are so passionate about working there.'



Group director Linda Johnston and operations manager Iain Hamilton attended the black tie ceremony at Edinburgh's Prestonfield Hotel.

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The Arran Banner 20 years ago

Saturday 21 November, 1992

Creamery quality cup

Torrylinn Creamery won the Quality Cup last week at the annual show of the Company of Scottish Cheesemakers.

It goes to the creamery which consistently achieves the highest grade of cheese, and at Torrylinn they achieve first grade 99.94percent of the time.

Sea eagle at Clauchlands

A white-tailed sea eagle was sighted last week by Tony and Margaret Church, flying around Clauchlands Point.

Local bird expert John Rhead rushed to the spot to confirm that it was indeed a white-tailed sea eagle, the first seen in Arran for 100 years.

Jim Morris

Jim Morris, former owner of Holy Isle died last month. He and his wife Catherine

bought Holy Isle in 1984 with the intention of making it their dream home.

It was sold earlier this year to the Samye Ling Buddhist Centre.

Honesty box stolen

The honesty box at Shiskine Golf Club was stolen last Friday night after a window in the starter's box was smashed.

The box was later recovered, but minus the £100 contents.

Puss in Boots in Lamlash

Lamlash Drama Club will be presenting Puss in Boots as this year's pantomime.

The audience can expect to hear plenty of jokes about Jimmy Gordon's shop, The Mustard Factory, Western Scottish, the Buddhists and Thomson's.

Chookie Show in Brodick

The 1992 Chookie Show

will be held in Brodick Hall on Friday 11 December.

Organising body Brodick Poultry and Pigeon Club was founded in 1898 and is open to the whole island.

The main objective is to show off the best of the island's hens, ducks, geese, pigeons, cagebirds, rabbits and guinea pigs.

Banner horoscope

This week the Banner introduces, for a trial period, a horoscope column.

It is written by Stephen Mackley who describes himself as a psychic counsellor and does clairvoyant readings.

Ferry car park at Lochranza Pier

Plans have been lodged to make a new car park and marshalling area at Lochranza pier.

The work, costing around £30,000, will make parking space for 24 cars.



Stephen Mackley of Dippen who is compiling an occasional horoscope for the Banner, with partner Evelyn Buchanan. b46twe03

Reflections of the crowd at Corrie and Sannox Harbour Trust's annual auction of collectables and bric a brac in the village hall. b46twe01



The new affordable housing development at Benlister, Lamlash, due for occupation in January. b46twe02

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gibbs galston

Last week Archie was sitting outside the new Scottish Water treatment works at the south end of Whiting Bay. Nobody got it right, but Euan Terras was nearest in suggesting he was at the Scottish Water site on the String. This week he is feeling ecumenical, but do you know what the building is behind him?

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

Bird Notes for October

by Jim Cassels

October was three degrees colder than last year with 30 percent more rain than recent previous Octobers.

During this month there were plenty of interesting birds to enjoy with almost 100 different species recorded. Here are a few highlights.

On Saturday 27 October, in an aerial display allowing comparison between two species of eagle, an immature White-tailed Eagle was seen off by the pair of resident Golden Eagles over Lochranza.

On Tuesday 9 October, there was a report of a juvenile Ring Ouzel in Glen Rosa. In June there had been reports of males singing in this glen. On Friday 19 October, a female Black Redstart was reported

on the shore at Blackwaterfoot towards Drumadoon Point. Black Redstart is a scarce passage migrant on Arran. This is the first record for 2012. The last record was on Cleats Shore on 15 December 2011.

Migration

Other birds on migration included: 200 Kittiwake in Whiting Bay on 5th, over 100 Skylark on Cleats Shore on 6th, six Barnacle Geese also on Cleats Shore on 7th, 12 Black-throated Divers off Cosyden on 14th and 80 Turn-

stone at Kildonan on 18th.

Throughout the month there were widespread reports of groups of Whooper Swan moving through. The largest group was 36 at Sliderry on 27th.

There were some 'last sightings' of summer visitors including: four House Martin at Cladach on 3rd, a Chiffchaff at Sliderry on 25th and 10

Little Grebe in Loch Ranza on 7th, 12 Rook on Cleats Shore also on 7th, 10 Wigeon at Auchenhew on 9th, a female Merlin at Clachaig on 19th, a female Goldeneye at Drumadoon Point on 20th, a Greenshank at Clachlands on 21st, four Moorhen at Portna-Lochan on 25th, a Yellowhammer at Sliderry on 27th and three Common Scoter in Brodick Bay on 28th.

Finally, there were two reports of Brambling in October; two at Sandbraes on 22nd and one at Sliderry on 29th.

While last winter there was only one record of this species on Arran, the winter of 2010-2011 was remarkable with sightings from 26 October to 3 April. This

could be a 'Brambling' winter.

I will say more about this species in a future 'Bird note'.

Enjoy your birding. Please send any bird notes with 'what, when, where' to me at Kilpatrick Kennels, Kilpatrick, Blackwaterfoot, KA27 8EY, or e mail me at james.cassels@virgin.net. I look forward to hearing from you. For more information on birding on Arran purchase the Arran Bird Report 2011 and visit this website www.arran-birding.co.uk



Fieldfare in a rowan tree, as seen by the Narachan track. Photo Brian Couper

Swallow in Lamlash on 27th. A pair of wintering Blackcap was reported at Shannochie on 23rd.

There were widespread reports of wintering thrushes, with the largest groups being 120 Redwing at Newton on 16th and over 1,000 Fieldfare by the Narachan track on 29th. There was also an influx of continental Blackbirds, with 20 in Kilpatrick on 19th being the largest group reported.

Other sightings included: 100 Greylag Geese in the Shiskine Valley on 6th, two



Redwing in an ash tree, as seen at Newton. Photo Brian Couper



Juvenile White-tailed Eagle in flight. b46bir01

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Whats On

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Auchrannie Sports Hall, 6-7pm
Brodict Hall 7.30pm
Lamlash Church 7.30pm
Auchrannie, 7pm-9pm
10am-1pm NTS ranger centre
Auchrannie Sports Hall 7 pm - 9 pm

Saturday 17th November

Army Cadets,
Over 21s Disco
Karate
Family Games
Arran Dancers (4yrs & up)
Junior Badminton Club
RNLI Shop
Arctic Winds, Arran Music Society

Auchrannie Road 11am - 1 pm.
Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 11.30am-12.30pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm
Arran High School, 10am
Auchrannie Sports Hall 1-3pm Ages 5-16
Lamlash Pier, 10.30am-12.30pm
Brodict Hall, 7.30pm

Wednesday 21st November

Hockey
Tae Kwon Do
Alcoholics Anonymous
Arran Brass Rehearsal
Senior Badminton
Yogalates
Aquafizz
Music Mayhem Class Parents & little ones
Arran Heritage Museum Archives & Genealogy Services
Arran Absolute Beginners Runners
Arran Advance Beginners Runners
Northend Football Training
Outside Boot Camp
Boot Camp
Dog Agility Class
AGM & Annual Review Friends of Brodict castle

Auchrannie Games Hall, 6.30-7.30pm
Arran high School - kids, 6.30-7.30pm, Adults, 7.30-8.30pm
Lamlash Church Hall, 7.30-9.30pm
Whiting Bay Hall, 7.15pm
Arran High School, 8-9pm
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
5.30pm, Auchrannie Spa Car Park.
6pm Auchrannie Spa Car Park
Lochranza, 7pm
Whiting Bay Park 6am
Outside Kinloch Hotel, 6.30pm - 7.30pm
W/Bay Hall, Beginners/Kids 1-2pm. Been before 2.30-3.30pm
Brodict Castle Tearoom 2.30pm

Sunday 18th November

Alcoholics Anonymous
New Al-Anon Meeting
Family Games
Fun in the pool
Open Mic Session

Church Hall, Brodict, 4.30pm
Brodict Church Hall, 4.30 - 6 pm.
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm
Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm-5pm
Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay, 2pm-5pm

Monday 19th November

Over 50s Badminton
Badminton
Ladies Netball
Citizens Advice
Breathe Walk class
Table Tennis
Quiz
Badminton
Lamlash Bridge Club,
Outside Boot Camp
Boot Camp
Volleyball Club
Arran junior football Club
Lunch club
Circuit

Lochranza Village Hall, 2pm-4pm
Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm
High School sports hall - seniors, 7.30-9pm
Ormidale Pavilion, 9.30-1.30pm
Kinneil, Lamlash, 5.15pm
Corrie Hall, 6.30pm
Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay, 8.30pm
Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7-9pm
Lamlash Golf Club, 7pm for 7.15pm
Whiting Bay Park 6am
Outside Kinloch Hotel, 6.30pm - 7.30pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 7-8pm
Ormidale Park, 6pm -7.30pm
Glen Estate, Brodict, 12.30pm
Auchrannie Spa, 6-7pm

Thursday 22nd November

General Knowledge Quiz
Lochranza Craft Club
Youth Club
General knowledge Quiz
Zumba Fitness Club
Live Country/Folk music
Brodict Embroidery Group
Brodict Bridge Club
Auchrannie Winter Bowls
Ladies Netball Club

Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
Hall, 2pm
Youth Cabin, Lamlash, 7-9pm
Kinloch Bar, 9pm
Arran high School, 6.30-7.30pm
Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay 8.30-10.30pm
Brodict Library 7.30 p.m. - 9.30 pm
Brodict Golf Club, 7 pm for 7.15 pm
Auchrannie, 7pm-9pm
Lamlash sports hall, 7.30-8.30pm

Tuesday 20th November

Pop Quiz
Alcoholics Anonymous
Youth Club
Rotary Club
Melody Movement, Ballet Class 2 ½ yrs up
Dudes & Divas Funky Dance Class 2 ½ yrs up
Youth Club
Zumba Fitness Class
Weight Watchers
Rink Games

Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
Brodict Church Hall, 2pm
Kildonan Hall, 7pm
Glenclay Suite, Auchrannie, 7.15pm
Auchrannie Dance Studio, 2pm
Auchrannie Dance Studio, 2pm
Brodict Hall, 6.30pm-8pm
Arran High School, 6.30-7.30pm
St Molios, Church Hall, 7pm
Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, 2pm

Friday 23rd November

Aqua Fizz
Yogalates
Arran Youth Foundations
Weight Watchers
Lochranza Kids Badminton
Lochranza Adults Badminton
Disco
Outside Boot Camp
Quiz
Arran Ceilidh Dance Group

Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.45-10.30am
Auchrannie Studio, 10am-11am
Church Hall, Brodict 7pm-9pm
Ormidale Pavilion, 5.30pm
Lochranza Hall, 6-8pm
Lochranza Hall, 8pm
Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Whiting Bay Park 6am
Whiting Bay Golf Club, 8pm
Lamlash Church Hall 8 - 10pm

Saturday 24th November

Army Cadets,
Over 21s Disco
Karate
Family Games
Arran Dancers (4yrs & up)
Junior Badminton Club
RNLI Shop
Arran Farmers Society Dinner Dance

Auchrannie Road 11am - 1 pm.
Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 11.30am-12.30pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm
Arran High School, 10am
Auchrannie Sports Hall 1-3pm Ages 5-16
Lamlash Pier, 10.30am-12.30pm
Kinloch, 7pm



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

Recruitment



Carr Gomm is a national charity and not-for-profit company. The main focus is Supported Living - supporting people to lead their lives, access services and achieve their hopes and dreams.

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Carr Gomm has opportunities for full time, part time and Relief Support Assistants across Argyll & Bute based in the following areas: Dunoon, Campbeltown, Helensburgh, Lochgilphead, Oban, Rothesay, as well as the Isle of Mull and Isle of Islay.

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Public Notices

ARRAN MEDICAL GROUP

The island GP surgeries will be closed for training from 1.00PM on Tuesday 20 November 2012

If you need to contact a doctor urgently when the surgeries are closed, please phone

NHS 24
08454 24 24 24

In an emergency, please phone 999

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AGM

Arran Theatre & Arts Trust Annual General Meeting

To be held in Brodick Public Library
At 5pm on Wednesday 28th November

All are welcome to attend
Scottish Charity No. SC006027

Elrig Construction are recruiting for an experienced, operator(s) for all forestry & related work including excavations; mounding and drainage, in Arran.

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Proline larder fridge £50 Tel: 01770 700667

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David Addison from Kilmacolm entered this stunning autumnal view of the Machrie Standing Stones into our photo competition last year. b46mac01NO

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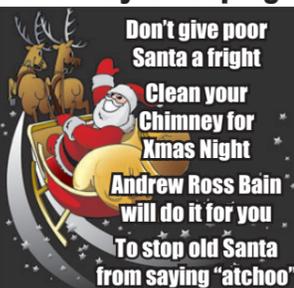
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CHURCH NOTICES

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(in full communion with the Church of England)
St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.
Sunday 18th November
Holy Communion, 11.00 am.
Rev Dr Hector Soga, Dollar.
Coffee after service.

Wednesday, 21st November
Holy Communion, 12.15 pm.
ALL WELCOME

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Sunday 18th November
Brodict Church, 10.30am,
Corrie Church, 12noon,
Lochranza and Pirmill
Churches
Service at Lochranza Church
at 10.15am
Shiskine Church, 12noon
A Service of Worship will also
be held in Montrose House
at 1.30pm.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Kilmory linked with Lamlash
"A faith to proclaim ~ a
fellowship to share"
Sunday 18th November
Rev. Gillean Maclean
Kilmory 10am
Lamlash 11.30am
In both churches:
All welcome, including
families; children's area
Scottish Charity SC015072

**HOLY CROSS
CATHOLIC CHURCH**
Sunday Morning Mass 11 am

WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(Charity Number: SC014005)
Sunday 18th November
The service will be conducted
by Worship group, at 10.30am.
Tea and Coffee will be served
in the Transept after the service.
There will be a sale of Traidcraft
goods and Traidcraft
Christmas Cards.

Also, the Church Christmas
Card, to be sent to all members,
will be available to be signed,
and all proceeds will go
to charity. All welcome.
At 7pm in the transept, there
will be an informal service of
praise, prayer and discussion.
All most welcome.

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday 18th November
Ormidale Sports Pavilion,
Brodict
11am Morning worship
Tea/Coffee after the service
Home Fellowship Group meets
on Wednesday
At 7.30pm, for details telephone
860 232
Everyone very welcome.

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Services as follows
Shiskine 10.45am (Church on
road between Blackwaterfoot
and Machrie)
Brodict 7pm (Church behind
post office)
Service will be taken by
Mr Sean Ankers
All welcome

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(continuing)
Sunday 18th November
Morning Service 11am
Trust Housing Lounge, Glen
Estate, Brodict
Evening Service 6.30pm
5Glen Road, Brodict
Wednesday 21st November
Prayer Meeting 7pm
5 Glen Road
All welcome

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, QUAKERS

Sunday 18th November
at 11am in Dippin House,
Dippen.
Enquiries to Judith 820223.
All are welcome.
Come and experience the quiet
of a Quaker Meeting.
Quakers believe that there is
"that of God" in each one of us,
and try to live life
accordingly.
We worship together and with-
out Leaders.
Laying aside the humdrum
busy-ness of daily life, we seek
a deeper place, open to the pres-
ence of God within and amongst
us all. Do join us.

DEATHS

LOWE

At home in Lochranza, on
Saturday 10th November
2012, Nan Walker age 96,
wife of the late John Lowe
and dear mother of Mavis,
John and Nanette and dearly
loved gran and great gran.
Funeral service at St Brides
parish church, Lochranza at
12 noon on Thursday 22nd
November 2012. Family flow-
ers only. Retiring offering

JEAN ALLAN

Dearly loved wife of Peter,
much loved mother of Rob-
ert, Sine, Lesley and Midge
and dear Grandmother and
Great Grandmother of the
family. Funeral service at
Brodict Church of Scotland
at 11:30am on Monday 19th
November and thereafter to
Brodict cemetery. Transport
provided from ferry. No flow-
ers please, donations if desired
to Alzheimer Scotland



Whiting Bay Golf Club

Ladies: Saturday 10 Novem-
ber, Ladies WhitLam. On Sat-
urday we had our third of four
matches between the Whiting
Bay and Lamlash ladies (held
at Whiting Bay). Eight of us
played so we had two teams
and as a reminder - this is a
fun Stableford which scores
are averaged out at the end of
the match.

This time we played just
nine holes as the weather was
not particularly favourable.
We had a jolly nice lunch at
Coast afterwards though. So,
on to the results - Lamlash
won this time round with 74
points against Whiting Bays
62. But when all added to-
gether averaged out and add-
ed to the ongoing score from
last time the results are ex-
tremely close. Lamlash take

the lead with 66.7 points, and
Whiting Bay with 66.1. On
an individual basis, Dorothy
Dixon from Lamlash won
with a score of 22 and Sheena
Murchie also Lamlash won
with a score of 19.

Fixtures: The Final Whitlam
has been rescheduled for Sun-
day 9 December at Lamlash,
time to be confirmed.

Gents: Sunday 11 Novem-
ber. 17 played in the sec-
ond round of the Winter
Cup, best three scores from
a possible six to count. Jamie
Ainsworth showed today
that his handicap is (over)
due to come tumbling down
with a super score - he would
have been cut further if the
CSS hadn't dropped to 62.

1 Jamie Ainsworth
(28)57, 2 Jamie MacPher-
son (6)62, 3 David Morrison
(9)63 BIH. Tam Young had
the only magic two of the day,
(followed by the only magic
10) and Jamie MacPher-
son won scratch with 68.

Fixtures: Sunday 18
November, first Win-
ter Friendly with Lam-
lash at Lamlash. Just turn
up to be paired up between
10.30am and 11am for a fun
game of individual Stable-
ford and Fourball. Sunday 25
November, non-counting
sweep from yellow tees.

Shiskine Golf Club

Thursday 8 November, La-
dies 18 Hole Medal. Silver
1 and Scratch Pat Adamson
86-18=68, 2 Elizabeth Kelso
90-19=71. Bronze 1 Sally
Brookes 93-23=70, 2 Fiona
Scott 101-25=76. Winners

of the Tri-am on the Sunday
(after the Club dinner) were:
Mary Samuel, John Culpan
and Ian Rae with an amazing
score of 32 including 3 net
holes in one!

Fixtures: Sunday 18 No-
vember, Gents 12 Hole Medal
and Winter Cup, 1pm draw.

Brodict Golf Club

Sunday 11 November Bran-
don, 20 played, CSS 64. 1
N Hume (13)63 (acb), 2 D
McKinnie (9)63 (acb), 3 F
Sillars (11)63. Scratch E
McKinnon 69.

There were five twos, Chris
Pattenden got two.

First Class Brandon D
McKinnie. Second Class
Brandon N Hume.

Fixtures: Sunday 18 No-
vember Clochendichter. Sun-
day 25 November, Winter
Cup, open draws 9am and
12noon.

Wednesday 7 November,
nine golfers turned out to bat-
tle the elements - well done
you chaps. 1 Wolfi Kroner
79-14=65 (better inward
half), 2 Charlie (I never win
anything) O'Neil 83-18=65.
There was one 2 on the 4th for
Wolfi.

Lamlash Golf Club

Ladies: Friday 9 November,
Lamlash Ladies Dinner and
prizegiving. The ladies of
Lamlash met at the club to
celebrate their year of golf
and congratulate the win-
ners of the various competi-
tions. After a delicious meal
provided by Holly and Stu-
art Cree the guest of honour
Morag Gardner presented the
winners and runners up with
their trophies.

Main winners were: Sher-
rie Walker, New Year Game.
June Richardson, Winter
Stableford. Sheena Murchie,
Kilbride Tray. Ellie Jones,
McGill Cup. Rachel Wren
and Jackie Winship, Grace
Cannon. June Richardson,
Away Day Trophy. Jean Bar-
clay, Marella Cup. Lesley

Handley, Progress Cup (35
to 22). Sheena Murchie, Fleet
Cup. Jo Hastings, Stroke
Quaich. Claire Barclay,
Centenary Tray. June
Richardson, Glenkiln Rose-
bowl. Sheena Murchie, Club
Championship. Congratula-
tions to all and we look for-
ward to another successful
year in 2013.

Gents: Sunday 11 Novem-
ber, Glenburn Cup (non-
qualifying for handicap). 1
Graeme Andrew 71-10=61, 2
Iain Murchie 66-4=62, 3 Bil-
ly O'Connor 83-20=63. Best
scratch Ian Murchie 66. Twos
from Alan Smith.

Fixtures: Sunday 18 No-
vember, Whiting Bay friend-
ly at Lamlash, 10.30am for
an 11am start. Thursday 22
November, medal off yellow
tees, 11am draw.

Corrie Golf Club

Saturday 10 November, Win-
ter Cup. Due to heavy rain
in the afternoon the day's
competition was cancelled.
A sweep was paid out to the
winners on morning round
scores. 1 J Adams 70-7=63,
2 E McKinnon 64+1=65
bih over B Sherwood. Best
scratch E McKinnon 64.
Magic twos E McKinnon, B
Rooney 2. There was no game
on Monday 12 November due
to heavy rain.

Fixtures: There will be no
medal round on Saturday 17
November as work is going
to be carried out on the course
- volunteers are welcome.
Monday 19 November, yel-
low tees at 12noon. Saturday
24 November, second round
of the Winter Cup, 8.30am
and 12noon.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Tuesday 6 November Win-
ter Cup, 1 David Price 65,
2 Alastair MacDonald 69
3 Campbell Laing 71 (BIH).
Scratch David Price 76.
Fixtures: Tuesday 20 Novem-
ber Lochranza Hotel Cup, tee
off 12noon.

ENGAGEMENT



Picken & Millar

Both families are
delighted to announce
the engagement of Jamie
and Kirsten, Lenamhor,
Kilmory

IN MEMORY

Bannatyne

In Memory of my dear husband
Jimmy, died 13th November 1992
and all my family gone before.
Sadly missed, silent thoughts of
times together, cherished memories
will last forever.
Love Sal and family

IN MEMORY

HAMILTON

In memory of my wonderful
husband Gordon who died on
armistice Sunday 11th November
2004.
Always in my heart
Never forgotten
Eleanor



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THANK YOU

Cathie Murchie,
Tigheanfraoch,
would like to say
a big Thank You
to all her family,
and friends for the
beautiful flowers,
presents, cards and
good wishes she
received on her
90th Birthday. It
was a lovely day,
made special by all
the kindness shown
from everyone.



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Prizewinners at Whiting Bay Bowling Club

The members of Whiting Bay Bowling Club held their annual dinner and prizegiving in the Bar Eden last Saturday night, 10 November.

Forty-two members sat down to a delicious meal before the trophies were presented.

The 2012 winners were:
Co-op Salver, L Heinemeir and J Steed; Angus Cook Memorial Trophy, K Turner, J Ainsworth and R Frame; Royal Bank Triples, K Turner, R Young and P Heinemeir; Anniversary Triples, N Pringle, S Allen and K Irving; Fun Week Shield, C Weir, R Crawford, P McCalla

and K Dewar; Shurig Shield, R Lammie, J McGregor, S McArthur and E Picken; Kiscadale Shield, J McBride and S McLaughlan; Gents Singles Champion, N C Pringle; Ladies Singles Champion, C Steed; Gordon McDonald Memorial Trophy, nominated pairs, M M Pringle and N C Pringle; Tom and Jennie Robison Memorial Trophy, drawn pairs, B Hamilton and E Picken; Whiting Bay Bowling Club (Jim's Trophy) Sets, I Davidson and K M Irving; 10 best scores, D Bland; Laidler Gardner Cup, Whiting Bay; Federation Ladies Singles, Murette Pringle.



The prizewinners at Whiting Bay Bowling Club's annual dinner last Saturday night. 02_b46bow01

Dan is Arran's conker champion for second time

Dan Goronwy lifted the 2012 Arran Conker Cup after a hard-fought competition in Kilmory Hall last Sunday.

After defeating his son Treor in the semi-final he went

on to beat Innes Thorborn in a best-of-three final.

Dan is the first person to reclaim the trophy, having won it in 2009. Last year's winner Peter McKinnon was unable

to defend his title.

Organiser Eddie Picken revealed that it had been touch and go whether this year's Conker Cup would go ahead.

He said: 'Because of the

weather, it has been a very poor season for conkers – a lot of the mainland conker competitions have been cancelled.

'But we managed to get enough for the cup to go ahead, even though they were quite small.'

This is the eighth consecutive year that Kilmory has hosted the island's only conker competition.



2012 Arran Conker Cup champion Dan Goronwy, left, with losing finalist Innes Thorborn and organiser Eddie Picken. 02_b46con01

Golf Club drop a home point in pool league

There were only two matches played last Thursday in the Arran Pool League as the Kildonan had a bye and the Drift Inn failed to turn up at Catacol for a re-arranged fixture.

Whiting Bay Golf Club still top the league after dropping a point at home to the PHT in a 5 – 5 draw.

PT1934 beat Mac's Bar 6 – 4 and won the gallon.

Next week's fixtures are: Drift Inn v Whiting Bay Golf Club, Kildonan v PT1934 and Mac's Bar v Catacol. PHT have a bye.

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Wbay GC	3	2	1	0	5
PHT	3	1	2	0	4
PT1934	2	1	1	0	3
Mac's	3	1	0	2	1
Kildonan	2	0	1	1	1
Catacol	2	0	1	1	1
Drift	1	0	0	1	0

Ladies darts resume

A ladies darts league will start for the winter season this week.

Unlike in the past where various island pubs have entered teams, this year individuals will be competing in the league.

The first meeting of the league will be at the Catacol Bay Hotel this Wednesday (November 21) at 7.30pm.

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