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Arran's Weekly Newspaper SATURDAY, 21 NOVEMBER 2015 No 2038 60p

Homes flooded as Abigail leaves trail of destruction

An average of a month's rain fell in just three days

REPORT
by HUGH BOAG
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Arran took a battering from the tail end of Abigail at the weekend.

Days of torrential rain caused widespread flooding leading to a number of landslides and causing other major disruption.

One of the worst hit areas was Whiting Bay, where a double landslide left one couple's home flooded and uninhabitable. Several other houses and businesses in the village were flooded, including the office of County Carpets. High tides and substantial rainfall also saw considerable flooding on the road at the entrance to Glenashdale Falls, where at least one house was hit.

Landslides

Further south the deluge caused landslides at Sliderry Bridge and at the nearby Braehead Farm access road, which was cleared by a local farmer. There was also a lot of debris on the road at Dippen and on several areas of A841 where residents drive-ways were washed onto the road.

Several homes were also flooded in Douglas Terrace in Brodick.

While Arran may have missed the worst of Abigail, the first ever storm named by the Met Office, the island saw an average month's rainfall in just three days.

The double landslide, which left one couple's house flooded, was at Fernbank Cottage, the home of Dan and Nancy Bremner.

Four inches

They went to bed as normal on Saturday night, only for Nancy to put her feet out of her bed in their downstairs bedroom at 5am on Sunday morning and tell Dan: 'I'm standing in four inches of water.'

When Dan went to investigate he found water running down Middle Road like a river and he was to find worse at the back of the house where a double landslide had left bare rock exposed and piles of earth and shrubbery blocking all the drains.

When the water level rose it poured over the foundations of their new kitchen extension and through the temporary back door, through the kitchen and into the living



Arran Singers serve up a musical treat

The Arran Singers are in full voice at their winter concert held in front of a packed audience in the Lamlash community theatre last Sunday. For a full report and more pictures see page 3.

room and hall before reaching the couple's bedroom.

Dan explained: 'The landslide complete blocked the whole back garden.'

'I couldn't get past the first landslide, which destroyed the patio of the main house, to get to the cottage landslide.'

However both he and Nancy were full of praise for the

community spirit which saw the village rally round to their aid.

Dan said: 'Over the course of the day a dozen guys with their wheelbarrows and a tractor and trailer shifted tons of earth and rubble at the back of the two houses and helped clear up the mess.'

'We are extremely grateful

to them and would just like to publicly thank them for all their help.'

Nancy added: 'The phone calls and offers of help we have had have unbelievable. I am really touched.'

Carol Primrose from Bishopbriggs, who owns Fernbank house next door, has said they can move in there

while their own house is put back in order. 'She has been incredibly kind,' Dan added.

Nancy, who has stayed in the cottage for 16 years says she has never experienced any problems in the past but she said the water flowing down Middle Road had been getting worse.

Continued on page 2



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Abigail causes havoc across the island

Continued from page 1

'There are just too many houses built on Middle Road without adequate drainage having been put in place.'

The landslide was at the foot of the garden of the home of Isobel and Hugh Thomson at Mingulay. Water poured down both sides of the garden overnight causing extensive damage to their terraced garden.

Hugh said: 'We had just moved in 12 years ago and put the carpets and kitchen floor down when we were flooded. We put in some new defences then and I have not seen it as bad as this since. The garden is a complete mess.'

'The water pours down both roads behind my house and

the drains and pipes which should take the water away are completely inadequate and become easily blocked.'

Dan added: 'There really has to be something done with the Middle Road drainage or I am worried the same thing may happen again.'

A spokesperson for North Ayrshire Council said: 'The severe wet weather over the weekend caused a number of problems around Arran. The problems on the roads were at Lagg and Slidery which temporarily shut the C147 to HGVs and buses. The damage at Slidery is currently being assessed but could take a number of weeks to repair. Therefore, the road will remain unsuitable for HGVs



Nancy Bremner in her back garden where the double landslide happened.

20_b47flood01

and buses until further notice.

'In relation to Middle Road members of our Roads Team cleared the ditch and have placed sand bags across the driveway to prevent further damage.'



Hugh Thomson assesses the damage to his garden.

20_b47flood02



The bedroom carpet which was under four inches of water.

20_b47flood03



The landslide at Fernbank completely blocked the back garden.

b47flood04

Winter storm resilience to be discussed

Scottish Hydro Electric Power Distribution (SHEPD) is holding a meeting at Brodick Hall on Monday November 30 at 6pm to 8.30pm to discuss storm resilience with members of the public.

The meeting is part of SHEPD's partnership with the University of Dundee, which is conducting a study into how communities, including people with vulnerability, cope in an emergency situation such as a power cut.

The meeting in Brodick will help Arran's residents discuss their preparation for winter and to provide feedback on the support they would like to receive from SHEPD during a storm. It will also give people the opportunity to hear from the distribution network operator about shaping an emergency response strategy.

Kirstine Wood, stakeholder engagement manager at SHEPD, said: 'We are meeting with people to give them the opportunity to raise local concerns, discuss how they would like to be kept informed during a storm and hear about our priority services register, which helps vulnerable customers. We would encourage anybody who would like to input into storm resilience, to understand our plans and receive advice on being safe during a power cut or weather event to come along.'

Dr Irena Connon, who is conducting the knowledge transfer partnership research project at the University of Dundee, said: 'As part of our current research project, for the past year we have been looking at how different communities across the UK respond to prolonged power outages during periods of extreme weather. We are very interested in hearing people's views about what constitutes a resilient community and a successful storm response strategy.'

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An afternoon of music and song that delights at winter concert

A packed audience in Lam-lash Community Theatre was given a music treat last Sunday afternoon at the winter concert of the Arran Singers.

This was the fourth concert since the choir was formed last year, when the Lochranza Choir and Rowan Singers amalgamated.

The Opening opera section began with a lively rendering of Smetana's Let Us Join in Celebration (from the Bartered Bride), followed by three more thoughtful pieces: Mascagni's Summer is Over, featured some lovely singing from soloist Ile Morrison, and the ladies of the choir; a delightful and sweetly sung Evening Prayer (from Hansel and Gretel), sung by Lillian Smith, Alison Richards, Yvonne Brothers and Susan Dobson; and the popular Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves from Verdi's Nabucco.

In complete contrast, the vocal group Ain't Misbehavin' gave thoroughly idiomatic performances of Chatanooga Choo Choo, and You Make Me Feel So Young.

Then it was back in time to Vivaldi's Gloria, and the lovely How Lovely is Thy Dwelling Place from Brahms' German Requiem, sung really beautifully by the full choir. The gentlemen of the choir then did something really different and entertained with a fine unaccompanied barber-

shop version of My Evaline.

Then they acted as constables for Iain Auld's fine performance of the Policeman's Song from The Pirates of Penzance. Iain finished this section with a beautiful solo performance of Shenandoah. The first half of the programme brought everyone back to this era with Bring on Tomorrow from Fame.

The second half of the programme was again one of contrasts and variety. Two jazz classics - Blue Skies and Fly Me to the Moon - opened this section, the latter sung by an ensemble from the choir.

The generally thoughtful English section including two songs by composers involved in World War One, which were especially appropriate for this time of remembrance.

These solos, and the livelier Glorious Devon, were superbly sung by John Cruickshank.

Then, perhaps appropriate after the dreadful events in Paris, came the serenity of Mozart - Ave Verum and the Lacrymosa from the Requiem.

Sopranos Liz Kerr and Sarah Thomson had the audience laughing at their most entertaining portrayal of two cats in Rossini's comic Cats Duet.

After Look at the World and You are the New Day, the latter sung beautifully by

another ensemble, the concert closed with a fine performance of a medley from Bernstein's West Side Story, featuring solos from John Divine, Margaret Shaw, Lillian Smith and Andrew Walsh.

Diana Hamilton again conducted the choir, bringing out all the variety in the music very successfully, getting a great response from the singers, supported very ably by Douglas Hamilton on the piano. Archie Cumming was a genial and witty compere, who kept the audience laughing in between the items. All in all, it was a very successful concert with the audience appreciating both the variety of the programme and the high quality of the music-making. Well done, Arran Singers.



Choir members keep a close eye on conductor Diane Hamilton. 20_b47sing04



Iain Auld performs the Policeman's Song aided by the male section of the choir. 20_b47sing01



The packed community theatre audience shows its appreciation of the concert. 20_b47sing03

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Distillery exhibition rounds up a busy year for Art in Mind

It has been a busy year for the Art in Mind project following their 10th Anniversary last September.

Art in Mind is a local arts project for Arran residents, meeting weekly at the Brodick Country Park rangers centre. The aim of the group is to introduce local people with social isolation and mental health problems to art and self-expression to help them gain in confidence and self-worth.

In addition to their weekly art workshops, this year they have taken part in a number of other projects and events. These include the Woollen Woods project at Brodick Castle, decorating their own tree outside the rangers centre. They were also involved in a flags project with AIMS Advocacy, which saw the flag they created fly on the MV Caledonian Isles for a week in the summer. In October they travelled to the Harbour Arts Centre in Irvine to take part in the 'Safe to be

Involved' event held as part of the Scottish mental health arts and film festival.

Their latest event is an art exhibition hosted by the Isle of Arran Distillery. The paintings are on display in the café at the visitor centre and will be there throughout the winter.

Treasurer Sarah Hay said: 'We are trying to become self-financing and the sale of works through our annual exhibition at the distillery plays an important role in that. We also sell gift cards produced from our paintings, which provide much needed income. These are available at the distillery gift shop and Little Rock.'

'We would like to say a huge thank you to both these businesses for their continued support. We would also like to thank all those who make regular donations throughout the year, and all the volunteers and drivers who kindly give of their time and make a real difference to the atmos-

phere and enjoyment of Art in Mind.'

The group's tutor, artist Felicity Walker, said: 'The standard of the art work this year is fantastic. It's been amazing to watch people progress both in terms of their artistic ability and confidence. The exhibition has a real eclectic mix of styles, so there should be something to appeal to all tastes.'

Sarah added: 'We would really like to encourage people to visit our exhibition to get a flavour of what we do and maybe even find that unique Christmas gift for someone special.'



Visitors enjoy the artworks on display at the Lochranza distillery.

Winter art exhibition back at Brodick Castle

The popular Brodick Castle winter art exhibition was held last weekend. It returned after a year's absence due to essential works being carried out at the castle last winter.

There were numerous exhibits on display in the castle tearoom, as well as in the hall and historic castle kitchen and washhouse.

Paintings in all medium – textile and tapestry work, wood sculpture and ceramics

– all featured in the three-day event, held from Thursday to Sunday, with the works for sale at a wide range of prices.

The event was organised by castle staff with the help of the Friends of Brodick Castle.

Chris Mills said: 'We had to close the exhibition early on Thursday because of the high winds, but apart from that it has been a busy three days, with a number of exhibits sold.'



Allyn and Anne Dinwoodie inspect one of the exhibits in the castle kitchen. 20_b47art01



A smiling Ann Hollingworth, with Viv Parks and Sally Brookes, welcomes visitors to the exhibition. 20_b47art03



Some of the paintings on display. 20_b47art04



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Ferry service name to stay if Serco wins contract

'It is such an iconic brand name it would be unthinkable to change it'

The travelling public would notice little difference if Serco was to win the bid to operate the Clyde and Hebridean Ferry Services contract, it was claimed this week.

The company would use the same fleet of ships and would even retain the Caledonian MacBrayne name, it confirmed to the *Banner*.

'It is such an iconic brand name it would be unthinkable to change it,' stakeholder manager Ruridh Wilson said.

The ferry fleet is owned by Caledonian Maritime Assets

Ltd and leased to the present operator, CalMac Ferries Ltd. But Caledonian MacBrayne is a brand name that can be used under licence by any operator. In two other high-profile contracts Serco took over – Northlink Ferries and The Caledonian Sleeper – it did not change the brand name.

Determine

However, the £1 billion contact battle is about more than a name and will determine whether the ferries stay in public ownership or fall into private hands.

Serco was back on Arran last week to meet business and community leaders, holding an open day in Brodick Hall last Wednesday for members of the public to meet the Serco bid team, and learn more about the business and its operations in Scotland. However, the meeting was poorly attended.

Serco said it was one of a number of open days it was holding throughout the west of Scotland, where it is bidding for the right to operate the 25 Clyde and Hebridean

ferry routes. However, it said it had a 'productive' meeting with, among others, Arran Community Council, representatives of the Isle of Arran Ferry Committee, VisitArran, Taste of Arran, and the National Farmers Union.

Ferry committee independent traveller representative Neil Arthur said: 'The meeting lasted 90 minutes and covered a wide range of topics in relation to the ferry service.'

Both Serco and CalMac Ferries Ltd have submitted their initial bids, with the final bids now to be made by March next year.

A decision by the Scottish Government is expected to follow the Scottish Parliament elections in May. The new contract to run the ferry services will start on Octo-



The Serco bid team in Brodick Hall, from left: Ruridh Wilson, Steve Rowbotham, bid director Jonathan Riley, and Fiona Irvine. 20_b47serco01

ber 1, 2016 and run for about eight years.

Meanwhile, the RMT union's efforts to defend jobs and services at CalMac Ferries Ltd from privatisation continues. The union has received support from the Daily Record newspaper's 'Keep CalMac and Carry On' cam-

paign, with stickers and posters widely distributed.

General secretary Mick Cash said: 'It is extremely helpful to have a national newspaper in Scotland campaigning for public ownership of lifeline ferry services between the mainland and Clyde and Hebridean communities.'

Investment in ticketing system sees group post pre-tax loss

David MacBrayne Group, the parent company of CalMac Ferries Ltd, has announced pre-tax losses of £2.6 million in its latest financial year.

The publicly-owned company put the loss down to its investment in new ticketing technology over the period.

Digital platform

That includes an online ticketing system and a digital platform to support it, the company states in its latest accounts, for the year to March 31. Other costs incurred over the period were linked to its bid to run the military port at Marchwood and to regain the Clyde and Hebrides Ferry

Service (CHFS) contract.

The company, which had booked a £20,000 profit the year before, said the year had seen it continue to innovate in order to improve services for travellers on its current network of 49 routes and 50 destinations.

It reported group revenues of £172m, up from £154m, and a £5m increase in gross profit to £20m. And the company, which carried more than 4.9 million passengers on its services over the year, said it returned £1.9m to the Scottish Government in efficiency savings.

Group chairman David

McGibbon said: 'The company continues to grow revenues but several factors have led to increased costs last year. These are mainly down to increased investment in developing new technology to improve the customer experience, through more flexible online ticketing and the digital platforms required to make this happen.'

Boosted

The accounts show David MacBrayne, which was named Best Ferry Company at the UK Transport Awards earlier this month, boosted employee numbers by 140 to 1,482.



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PLUS BIG BUMPER PRIZE DRAW

A taste of Rome as author visits Brodick Library

As part of Book Week Scotland author Douglas Jackson will visit Brodick Library where he will give a talk on Ancient Roman history and read from his latest novel called Scourge of Rome.

This year's Book Week, which starts on Monday, is a week-long celebration of books and reading that brings people from all walks of life together in libraries, schools and community venues to meet Scotland's authors, poets and playwrights.

Douglas will give his talk at the library on Wednesday, November 25 between 2pm and 3pm. His novel tells the story of former military tribune Gaius Valerius Verrens and his quest to clear his family name after being dishonoured and banished from Rome in 70AD as he travels the Roman world, through a Judean rebellion, to meet his friend Titus, son of a Roman emperor who he hopes will be able to change his families fortunes.

The event has been organised by the Scottish Book Trust, a national charity which aims to change lives through reading and writing.

For more information on Book Week Scotland and for the full event listing visit www.bookweekscotland.com



Alison Price recites in the Brodick Bar at a previous poetry day event.

A free-fall poetry event on the island

All Arran poetry lovers will have noticed the passing of National Poetry Day without the usual celebratory reading on the island.

Although anyone is free to organise such an event, the usual suspects of David Underdown, Cicely Gill and Tim Pomeroy were all so busy with their own various works that there was no time to arrange anything.

But it was during one of their planning meetings at

Copperwheats that they decided to try and organise an event once there was space in their schedules before Christmas.

They are now pleased to announce a venue and date. Brodick Bar, Wednesday, November 25 at 7.30pm.

This reading has been designed as a less formal and, it is hoped, all-inclusive event and Cicely's email to the known poetry community reads: 'We want it to be an interactive evening so please let me know if you wish to read one of your own poems to us all. You can have a couple

in reserve as we don't know how many people will want to read.

'If you are a poetry lover. but not a poet, we would like very much if you would bring a favourite poem to read - or if you don't want to face an audience yourself, someone will read it for you.'

She added that people should feel free to go along. Although this is planned to an extent as a free-fall event, in order to shape the evening it would be useful, though not imperative, to let Cicely know in advance if anyone wants to take part. Phone her

on 700262 or email cicely25@btinternet.com It is anticipated to be none the less enjoyable because of its less formal structure. It is open to anyone; reader or writer, or even to the simply curious.

All forms of poetry will be considered and performance poetry and metaphysics will happily rub shoulders with beat poetry, sonnets, haiku, limerick, ballads or blank verse...to mention but a few forms.

If the urge to read or hear is strong, dig out that verse and go along.

Annual lunch for Kalimpong

Next Saturday November 28 the Friends of Dr Graham's Homes is holding its annual soup and sandwiches lunch in Brodick Church Hall, between 12noon and 2pm.

As usual there will be a selection of delicious soups, a wide variety of sandwiches, tea and biscuits, bric-a-brac and some home baking as well as the not-to-be-missed fabulous raffle.

Christmas workshops

Arran Visual Arts is holding two separate Christmas craft workshops this weekend which are open to everyone.

Today (Saturday) there is a chance to make a Christmas fabric wreath with Ann Hollingworth.

Tomorrow (Sunday) the Dippen Beaders will be teaching how to make a beaded Christmas decoration.

Both workshops will be at the Rangers Centre classroom at Brodick Castle. Anyone interested please visit Arran Visual Arts website or phone Kathleen on 600827.

Beach clean in Lamlash

A big beach clean up is planned for Lamlash Beach tomorrow (Sunday) at 2pm, after it was postponed last weekend due to the weather.

Organised by Lamlash Improvements, all those interested are asked to meet on the green opposite Lamlash Co-op. Pickers and rubbish sacks will be provided and everyone is asked to wear stout footwear and gloves. Children should be accompanied by a responsible adult.

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Roof top beer garden approved

The Pierhead Tavern in Lamlash has been given permission to use their new roof garden under construction as an outdoor drinking area.

Approval was given by the North Ayrshire Licensing Board at its meeting at Cunningham House in Irvine last Monday to applicants Alistair and Jane Howe.

The board also agreed to an extension of the previous raised beer garden at the front of the premises on Main Street along the whole length of the frontage.

The Pierhead will reopen on Saturday, November 28.

Meet the pier contractor

A public meeting is to be held when the local community will get the chance to meet George Leslie Ltd, which has been awarded the contract to redevelop the Brodick Ferry Terminal.

Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd (CMAL) says the meeting will take place on Thursday, December 3 at 7.30pm in Brodick Hall.

Individuals, groups and businesses interested in the project are invited to attend the meeting where CMAL will introduce the contractor and share the latest information regarding the redevelopment.

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

Selfie contest to help South Arran MPA

The Community of Arran Seabed Trust (COAST) has organised an MPA selfie photograph competition that will get Arran's young residents and visitors busy in or nearby the South Arran Marine Protected Area.

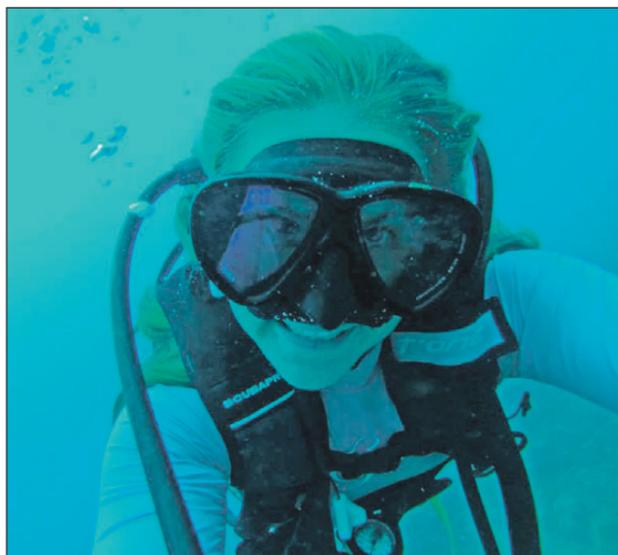
This marine reserve aims to reverse the decline in Arran's marine habitats and safeguard marine features, helping fisheries recover and encouraging responsible creeling, sea angling and scallop diving.

Young people from 13 to 25 years of age are being invited to explore Arran's healthy and rich marine environment

in different ways and capture an image of themselves, with or without friends and family, in a selfie to share with other people ideas and examples of how everyone can enjoy, learn and make the most of Arran's MPA coastal and marine wildlife, resources and landscapes in a sustainable way.

Young photographers can choose to enter any of three categories and prizes include a marine wildlife boat tour with Ocean Breeze, T-shirts, beanie hats and other goodies.

1. Amazing seas and coasts:



Selfies could be underwater.

Enjoy the Coastal Way walks, watching out for otters, seals, oystercatchers, herons, black guillemot or gannets - the largest seabirds in the UK. Portraits can include any of the magnificent seascapes around the Arran MPA.

2. Active on, by or under the sea: Take a photo in action. For instance take a snapshot when playing sports or doing yoga on the beach. A picture could include rockpooling while studying the behaviour of hermit crabs, bright red anemones, prawns or barnacles. Or perhaps photographers would prefer to set off to sea and take a selfie snorkelling, kayaking, rowing, sailing or sea angling. They could be lucky enough to encounter dolphins, porpoises, minke whales or basking sharks on a calm day.

3. Creative or funny marine selfies: look for an unusual composition, frame or perspective. Or try a photo-montage with a message if far away and unable to take a photograph at the MPA.

To enter the competition, selfies can be posted until December 4 to the COAST Facebook Page. Guidelines and conditions are available from COAST's website www.arrancoast.com and from its Facebook page.

Winter social at Garden Club

The Garden Club, which is part of the Horticultural Society, is coming to the end of another interesting year.

Members enjoyed a variety of speakers who inspired and educated them on topics from The Art of Bonsai to the Passion for Hydrangeas.

A full schedule has been arranged for 2016 and new members are always welcome.

The aims of the club are to provide a meeting place for enthusiastic and new gardeners where they can exchange tips and learn about different aspects of horticulture. It meet most months on the last Thursday of the month at 7.30pm at the Brodick Castle Ranger Centre.

The 2016 schedules will soon be available in the library, or through Carol on 600552.

The next meeting is on Thursday, November 26 with a winter social and an brief annual meeting.



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If you fancy a wander through the Castle grounds this winter the reception centre will be open **Wednesday to Sunday 11 - 4** offering hot snacks, teas and coffees, as well as the NTS shop and arts and crafts.



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THE ARRAN BANNER

Striking the right balance

First it was Abigail then along came Barney and we better get used to it. By the time we reach Wendy we may have had enough.

Yes, the British Met Office and Irish Met Eireann has decided to start naming storms in a pilot scheme aimed at making the public more aware of them. Clodagh will be along soon.

But will it make any difference? Certainly Arran only caught the tail end of Abigail but was still given a real battering under a deluge of a month's rain in just three days.

We tend to know severe weather is upon us when the ferries stop sailing or floods and landslides, as at the weekend, make travel difficult around the island.

What the Met Office, the governments, utility companies and agencies seem determined to ensure is never to get caught out again.

Of course, simplistically, this can all be blamed on Michael Fish, the weatherman who told the country the Great Storm of '87 was nothing to worry about. That evening, the worst storm to hit South East England for three centuries caused record damage and killed 19 people.

Of course closer to home there was the snowstorm which hit the west of the island nearly three years ago and many resilience lessons have been learned since.

Now, at even the suggestion of a storm early contingency plans are being made. On Wednesday of this week SSE put the Kinloch generator on stand-by and had other arrangements in place – just in case.

And at a public meeting later this month the power distribution company on Arran will be discussing storm resilience and seeking feedback on the support customers would like during a storm.

That rather goes without saying. Good communication and enough bodies on the ground to get the power back up and running.

What there really has to be is a balance between giving people enough information to 'be prepared' without bombarding them with storm watches, amber alerts, flood warnings when there is little more than a heavy downpour.

Will storm names help get that balance right? Only time and the weather will tell.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'Why are you downcast, O my soul? Put your trust in God and praise Him, for He is your Saviour and God.' (Psalm 43:5)

press policy

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your letters

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Letters to the Editor



Little say

Sir,
I feel I must comment on your article of November 7 about the Community Planning Partnership scheme meeting, which I attended. The turnout did indeed suggest a wide interest in the idea, and the meeting was well conducted and amicable and gave those present plenty of opportunity to express their views.

However, your article did not say much about the views expressed. It was felt by many present that the proposed structure of the Locality Partnership, which would be running the scheme locally, was heavily weighted in favour of representatives who were not, or not necessarily, themselves residents of the Isle of Arran.

The elected chair of the body would in fact be the elected councillor responsible for Arran on North Ayrshire Council. In view of the boundary changes currently under discussion, it is entirely possible that the island might not have a resident councillor (given that the rules decree that we cannot be a separate electoral ward, but must be part of a larger unit taking in part of the mainland).

The membership of the partnership would also include 'elected members for the locality' (again, elected members of NAC – we would be lucky to have the one, i.e. the chair, there would not be any other Arran residents available). There would also be a senior lead officer from the central community planning partnership, a mainland body; representatives of bodies like the police, fire and rescue, etc. (fair enough, I suppose); and the one guaranteed local, a 'representative of the local community council'.

The intention here may be good, but once again, Arran is likely to find itself with little real say in its own affairs.

The North Ayrshire officials present at the meeting did say they did not wish to approach this issue on a 'one size fits all' basis. So I hope they will consider the special circumstances of Arran before this

scheme is set in stone, and find ways of giving those who actually live on the island some guaranteed input beyond what is currently proposed.

The consultation period does not close until December 18, so there is still time for those who wish to express their views to do so. For more information go to <http://www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/council/community-planning-partnership/community-planning-partnership.aspx>, or contact Wendy Sharpe by email at wendysharp@north-ayrshire.gov.uk, or telephone at 01294 324170.

Yours,
John Roberts
Brodick

Shambolic state

Sir,
I suppose it must be good news that umpteen millions are being spent on upgrading the facilities at Brodick pier, even if many people appear to have reservations about the proposed design.

However, what is the point of spending all this money if Ardrossan is to remain in its current shambolic state? Ardrossan is the problem for Arran commuters, not Brodick, and there appears to be no will to do anything about it.

We also hear great news about the building of a new ferry - but it will be another high-sided, mezzanine-decked, wind-affected vessel.

Why will no-one give consideration to building a low-level catamaran vessel, such as those used in the Pentland Firth and in Norway? Or to having an all-year-round two (smaller and lower) vessel service? Oh, of course, thinking outside the box is not allowed, and 'it's aye been that way'.

PS: I think the ferry staff are great - unfailingly courteous and helpful. They must get as frustrated as we do.

Yours,
John N E Rankin
Bridge of Allan
and Whiting Bay
(when I can get there)

Poor show

Sir,
Arriving for a (wet) week on November 6, I noted the advert in The Banner for the Brodick Castle Winter Art Exhibition, from November 12 to 15, 11am to 3pm.

Accordingly I decided to delay my visit to the castle grounds until the 12th. I arrived at the car park around 1pm. Checking the visitor centre doors and windows gave no indication that the show was even happening, never mind where. Since it was not actually raining at that point, I decided to walk the dog first. On the way back to the car park, at 2.10pm, I saw that the lights were on in the cafe at the castle, checked through the window and saw that the exhibition was in there, but, since dogs are understandably not allowed in, went back to the car first, deposited the dog, collected my bag and returned to the cafe.

I arrived at 2.15pm to discover that in the intervening five minutes the door had been locked, the lights switched off and there was no sign of anyone who could let me in or even of whom I could enquire what was going on. OK, it wasn't a good day, weather-wise. I assume there hadn't been many people calling. However, the art exhibition was specifically advertised as open until 3pm. You certainly missed a trick and probably at least one sale. Poor show, indeed.

Yours,
Helen Heatlie
Church Gardens
Longniddry
East Lothian

Rocky road

Sir,
As a frequent visitor to Arran I think that the council do a good job in providing parking spaces around the island. On a recent visit, however, I see that on the road from Lochranza, at the start of Pirnmill, rocks are being placed on the grass verge on the shore side of the road, this prevents parking and so access to the nice sandy beach is inhibited. Not very welcoming.

Yours,
Jack Reid
Maryhill

Kildonan otters

Sir,
Despite the poor weather my wife and I were visiting Arran on Monday to Wednesday last week.

On Tuesday we were lucky to have a break in the drizzle and took a walk along the shore westwards from Kildonan. There we were amazed to see, amongst the several seal heads bobbing in the water, two otters.

We watched as they swam and played along the shore. We reckoned it was a mum and pup and possibly a fishing lesson was being held. Occasionally they would land on the rocks to frolic but mainly to eat their catch. I was able to catch a few shots of these two which I thought may interest your readers.

Yours,
John Barrow
Kelso

Below: An otter eating its catch in Kildonan as captured by visitor John Barrow last week.



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Signs of fresh growth with showcase allotment planned on community land

Work is progressing well on clearing the community land site at Whiting Bay and by next spring there should be a great deal growing. The Arran Communi-



Two little ones help clear the site.



Young volunteers clearing paths on the community land at Whiting Bay.

ty Land Initiative (ACLI), which bought the land, has also now secured funding for a showcase allotment thanks to support from Community Food and Health Scotland.

The showcase allotment will be a demonstration plot to show growing techniques, including some permaculture methods, and give space for growers who want to join in a communal space and also a base for courses.

ACLI is also applying to have allotments on the barn field so that all those who requested allotments can get digging. If anyone is interested in being added to the list for an allotment, some are still available at £1 per week.

The group has also applied for more funding from the Postcode Lottery to buy polytunnels and to create a hub building so allotment holders can all keep warm, drink tea and swap growing stories.

If successful, allotment holders will each be able to have a raised bed inside one of the tunnels to allow them to grow more exotic fruit and vegetables. The other tunnel is intended to have community fruit trees, such as lemon, lime, peaches, apricots, and possibly even a grapevine.

Two weeks ago, despite the weather, volunteers helped

clear brambles for pathways across the site to improve access. Paths for All provided funding for tools for the volunteers to use.

The path clearing will continue today (Saturday) at 11am before the orchard planting begins at the end of November.

As usual, the route will be signposted from Golf Course Road and volunteers are asked to bring a packed lunch, wear sturdy shoes and all children must be accompanied by an adult.

For anyone wishing to find out more about the community land initiative the AGM is on Monday November 23, at 7.30pm in the Whiting Bay Lesser Hall, where there will be a gardeners' question time, quiz, vegetable cake competition and updates on the projects. Everyone is invited to attend.



Youngsters take a break from the path clearing to toast marshmallows on an open fire.



Paths for All provided funding for the tools used in the work.

Whiting Bay pupils will put down new roots during tree week

Senior children at Whiting Bay Primary are to make a deep-rooted change to the landscape and environment in their community.

They are to plant apple trees on the community land during The Tree Council's National Tree Week – celebrating its 40th anniversary this year – which starts next weekend.

The Arran Community Land Initiative (ACLI) bought the trees from a specialist Scottish fruit tree nursery in Glasgow, with the help of a grant awarded by The Tree Council.

The orchard will be a permanent education resource for both the island's schools and the community and will achieve one of ACLI's missions, which is to teach about

the value of nature, biodiversity and sustainable food.

Thanks to the resources contributed by donors and supporters, The Tree Council is able to provide grants that will improve lives across the country as schoolchildren get digging.

The Tree Council's director-general, Pauline Buchanan Black, said: 'While millions of trees will be planted around Britain during the 40th anniversary of National Tree Week, it is important to remember that planting an orchard is a long-term commitment to producing fresh, sustainable, locally grown food, as well as providing a valuable habitat for wildlife such as bumblebees.'

ACLI land manager, Pippa

Downing, continued: 'ACLI will bring children together in a fun outdoor activity that will benefit the entire community.'

'By planting and tending these fruit trees together, we hope that pupils will develop a strong sense of the importance of trees and orchards to wildlife, biodiversity and people, which they will carry with them for the rest of their lives. We will strive to ensure these trees survive and thrive so that future generations can enjoy the fruits of our labours.'

ACLI is one of several schools and community groups across the UK that made a successful application for a share of grants totalling more than £30,000.



One of the new-look bedrooms which has a side and front view. 20_b44corrie01



The yet to be finished public bar was bedecked with flags for the rugby world cup. 20_b44corrie06



Anne Masson and Danny McKinnon outside the hotel. 20_b44corrie04 Inset: The imposing Corrie

Seal of app new look C

Historic hotel even has link

A couple has transformed a rundown Arran hotel in less than 18th months.

When Anne Masson and Danny McKinnon took over the historic Corrie Hotel in June last year it was in desperate need of a complete renovation.

Now, with a successful summer season behind them, it is back to work as they still have a long way to go.

Danny said: 'We had a five-year plan to complete the works, but we will have the place looking more or less how we want it to by this time next year.'

Fortunate

Danny, a builder to trade, has been fortunate he has been able to do 90 per cent of the work himself and only uses other tradesmen when required.

That work has involved com-

pletely refurbishing every one of the 'tired' bedrooms and bathrooms and creating new ensuite facilities for the rooms that were still stuck in the 1970s, complete with wood-chip on the walls.

While still a work in progress a number of the rooms have now had a complete makeover and because of the design of the hotel it only has two rooms which don't have sea views.

They have family rooms, double rooms, twin rooms and four single rooms which are popular with hillwalkers.

When the 14 rooms are complete they will also have a huge honeymoon room complete with four-poster bed and centrepiece bath. Most have a view of the famous Corrie Seal.

Anne was keen to stress that the rooms all have different

styles and that is the way she likes it. 'I didn't want the corporate look of all the rooms being the same, so they all have an individual - and some a quirky - style.'

Real progress

But it has not all been plain sailing. 'We have had major problems with the roof and when that is finally watertight we will feel we are making real progress.' They also had to replace the fire alarm, which was a cost they had not budgeted for.

The B-listed hotel has a long history having been originally built as a coachhouse in 1840 and was extended to its present size in 1899.

There are local rumours that Napoleon once stayed there and certainly it was used by the staff and servants of Royal visitors who have stayed at Brod-

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Hotel was a former coachhouse. 20_b44corrie02



The couple behind the bar in the lounge. 20_b44corrie05



An attic arch window - one of the quirky features of the hotel. 20_b44corrie03



Danny McKinnon at the charity pig racing track. 20_

royal for corrie Hotel

with 1889 Goatfell murder

ick Castle over the decades as it was next to the stables - now holiday cottages.

But perhaps their most famous confirmed resident was Edwin Rose, although sadly he did not know much about it as he was the victim of the Goatfell murder of 1889. After his body was discovered it was placed in the cellar of the hotel where the post mortem examination was carried out. He was later buried at Sannox Cemetery.

New to them

Anne and Danny are new to the hotel business but Anne, who is originally from Irvine, used to run a small gardening business and before that worked in a bank. Danny has always been a builder and the couple moved from Largs.

'It has been a lot of hard work admitted Anne, but we love

living on Arran and the locals in Corrie have been fantastic support.'

As well as pitching in with odd jobs around the hotel, two of them - Pete Crawford and Alan Turner - turned the public bar into a rugby-watching haven, which locals and visitors packed to watch the Rugby World Cup unfold.

They even designed the course where the charity pig racing took place at half time with the money going to the Parkinson Society.

Work on the public bar, which has also had a complete makeover, is now being completed.

Anne is certain that RET fares have brought more visitors to the island, but since they were not fully open last year, she has no comparison to judge it by.

'I have certainly had people

say that they didn't realise it was so cheap to come over, but I think it will take a couple of years to fully bed in.'

It is already being well used by visitors and locals alike, including visitors in the holiday cottages in Corrie, who have been posting good reviews online and on social media.

Live music

When the bar work is complete, Danny is hoping to have more live music, which they already have every two or three weeks, and they are looking to stage other events at the hotel including a clairvoyant evening.

Anne said: 'It's been a lot of hard work but at least we can see some light at the end of the tunnel. We really want to put the Corrie Hotel back on the map again.'

Merry Christmas

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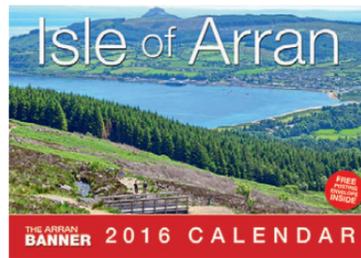


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Santa arrives with last year's Heath Queen Lucy Welch on Lamlash Green. 20_b47sparkle01

More attractions have been added to Arran's fabulous Christmas fair, Santa's Sparkle.

Arran Adventure@ Auchrannie are bringing the island's only fleet of Segway X2's to give taster sessions on the day. The machines have five inbuilt gyroscopes, two accelerometers and motors that work to keep itself upright and balanced, very technical and very clever which make them a unique experience to travel on. Taster sessions will be available at the Lamlash tennis courts, but are restricted 10 years and above only and subject to weather conditions.

The Segway's join regular favourites such as the Christmas market, the Glenisle tree-lighting spectacular, and Santa himself. There will also be some special treats.

It all takes place on Lamlash Green on Saturday, November 28 from 12 noon to 9pm organised, as always, by Geoffrey Dallamore and Timothy Billings of the Glenisle Hotel.

Entertainment on the day will be provided by top comedy magician Chris Dinwoodie. This five times Scottish close-up magic champion is one of the most popular comedy-magician on the Scottish comedy circuit. Having performed on TV, radio and in front of sell-out audiences all over Scotland.

He will be performing three different sets. During the afternoon he will be performing a kid's set featuring some balloon modelling as well as magic and a family set. During the after-fireworks party he will be performing a family-friendly set which will be aimed more at the adults in the audience.

Also joining the party this year will be Mrs Claus and her friend the snowman. During the afternoon she will be entertaining the children with songs and stories.

The organisers are also very pleased that The Vests will again be playing at the after-fireworks party.

One of the highlights of Santa's Sparkle is the show which celebrates the lighting of the mammoth Glenisle Christmas tree. Glasgow firework company Midnight

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Kids line up to meet Santa 20_b47sparke03

Storm is working with the Glenisle to produce a very special visual treat which combines music, lights and some magical special effects culminating in the lighting of the tree and the most spectacular firework display seen anywhere on Arran.

Of course, it wouldn't be Santa's Sparkle without the perennial favourites: the Christmas market featuring the best that Arran has to offer, the lighting of the Lamlash village tree to the accompaniment of Arran Brass and, of course, Santa himself.

Santa will be flying in from the North Pole especially for Santa's Sparkle. He will enter the village at the head of a fun parade and will then be ready to meet all the children to hear what they want for Christmas.

Add lots of fun games, great food and drink including the Glenisle barbecue and the infamous Glenisle mulled wine and this year's Santa's Sparkle should be even more fun than ever.

The full schedule and lots more pictures and information is on the Glenisle website at: www.glenislehotel.com/santa.

TIMETABLE OF EVENTS

Saturday 28 November

12noon	Event starts
12.30pm	Santa arrives with a parade
12.45pm to 3pm	Come and meet Santa
12.45pm	Fancy Feet
2pm	Comedy and Magic for the Kids
3pm	Mrs Claus and Friends
4pm	Comedy & Magic for Adults & Kids
5pm	The Heather Queen will light the Lamlash Christmas Tree
5.45pm	Raffle Winners Announced
6pm	Glenisle Christmas Tree Spectacular
6.15pm	Live music from The Vests
7pm	Chris Dinwoodie - Comedy & Magic
7.45pm to 9pm	Live music from The Vests

Volunteer stewards are being sought to help at Santa's Sparkle. If you would like to help please telephone the Glenisle on 01770 600559



The Vests performing last year. 20_b47sparke02



Full schedule and lots of info at: www.glenislehotel.com/santa



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12 noon to 9pm on Lamlash Green

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Saturday 28th November!

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Grey squirrels are 'more intelligent' than native reds

Arran is one of the UK strongholds of the red squirrel. Little wonder then that Pizza Ka Yee Chow of the

Centre for Research in Animal Behaviour at the University of Exeter chose to do some of her research here on

Arran, as reported in the *Banner* last November.

Now that she is towards the end of her PhD study into the difference between grey and red squirrels, she came back to the island to talk to the Arran Natural History Society about her findings at its November meeting.

Problem

The main research interest of the Hong Kong student is the cognitive processes in problem solving, using squirrels as her study model. She asked questions like: What do squirrels do when they encounter a problem (either artificial or ecological) and how do they solve the challenge? Is the behaviour adaptive? What are the factors that contribute to their performance?

Pizza's presentation was entitled: 'Squirrel intelligence: Do alien grey squirrels show superiority in problem solving over the native UK red squirrels?' In her talk, she described a series of investigations in both the laboratory



A red squirrel investigates Pizza's problem solving equipment on Arran.



Pizza during her research in Brodick Castle Country Park last year. 20_b47squirrel01

and in natural settings. Pizza presented results that seem to indicate that greys are more consistently successful in problem-solving tasks than reds. Although some reds

were as good as the greys on the tasks, others were not and overall there was greater variation in the reds' results.

Fascinating

Pizza then discussed how

this may have a bearing on red squirrel conservation and the control and management of grey squirrels.

It was a fascinating evening. *Alan Bellamy*

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Published on 12th December

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Don't let COPD take your breath away

Health campaigners say that more than two thirds of people in Ayrshire and Arran who have Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) do not know they have it.

Now health professionals are using World COPD Day, which was on Wednesday, to urge people to think twice about ignoring the signs of this condition.

For example: Are you aged 35 or over? Are you a smoker or ex-smoker? Do you cough often and on most days? Are you more breathless than others your age? Do you cough up phlegm? If anyone can answer 'yes' to more than three questions they should tell their GP or practice nurse because they might have COPD.

COPD is a term used to describe a number of conditions, including chronic bronchitis and emphysema. It is estimated that there are more than 118,000 people in Scotland who have COPD and many more are likely to have this condition but do not realise it because they confuse their symptoms with

getting older and being 'out of shape'.

Chest Heart and Stroke Scotland (CHSS) respiratory coordinator Jill Adams said: 'People who have these symptoms -persistent cough, phlegm, wheezing or shortness of breath - should see their doctor and ask about a simple painless test called spirometry to check the health of their lungs. If COPD is detected early, effective treatments are available to help them feel better, keep their lungs healthy and to live more active lives.'

Once diagnosed there is a lot you can do to manage

COPD and keep you healthier for longer. CHSS this year launched the self management resource My Lungs My Life (www.mylungsmylife.org), a free and user-friendly website for anyone living with COPD. It includes information on diagnosis, treatment, film clips showing the correct use of inhalers, audio clips of relaxation techniques and practical tips on how to manage your condition.

If anyone would like more information or advice, CHSS have a free phone advice line staffed by nurses. Call free, Mon-Fri 9.30am-4pm, on 0808 801 0899.



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THE ARRAN

BANNER

TWENTY
YEARS AGO

Saturday 25 November, 1995

Garage goes on

Bannatyne's Garage, one of Arran's longest established businesses within the one family, is on the point of being sold. On the market for almost a year, there has been a handful of interested buyers, each of whom has been rumoured to be taking over.

Now DS Bannatyne snr has told the Banner that it is finally sold in principal to Angus Cameron of Blackwaterfoot Post Office. DS and the late Don Bannatyne took over the garage from Ribbecks and in the intervening years it became one of Arran's largest businesses employing 28 people, ran the bus services from the north, south and west of the island to Brodick and had 14 lorries on the road.

In 1974 Arran Coaches took over all the island bus services and in the late '80s the lorries merged with Arran Transport to become Arran Haulage Services.

Licence to test

Motorcyclists are now able to get an MOT test on the island. Since last May, when the MOT tester left his employment with John Thompson Construction, motorcyclists have had to go to the mainland.

Police have given a warning that despite the absence of a testing station on the island there is no exception on Arran as there is for other small islands like Barra and Tiree. Now Graham Hutcheson of Lamlash has completed a course which allows him to test the 50 or so motorcycles that require the test each year.

Postal strike

The postal strike which began in Edinburgh on Monday has spread over the country gradually and was felt on the island by Wednes-

day. By the weekend, despite it being only partial, it has now become very clear how important the mail service is.

The dispute, which is unofficial, appears to be about a threat of second deliveries being phased out with redundancies following. Talks to resolve the dispute broke down on Thursday night and it is unknown how long it will continue for.

Vandal attacks

Alexanders of Brodick, frequently the target of vandals in the last month, had both its front windows smashed at around 1am on Tuesday morning. Minutes before this, a window had been smashed in the Brodick Bar and young people were heard to be whooping with delight in the night.

Asked if he felt roller shutters might offer protection, Hamish Thomson of Alexanders said that he was against this as he felt that this would be accepting that malicious vandalism was an established fact of life in Brodick.

School tables

The once controversial school league tables were published this week and Arran High School has fared similarly to previous years.

Head teacher Iain Murray said: 'We are quite pleased with the results portrayed.'

There are several tables which tend to make direct comparisons spurious, if not terribly difficult. Mr Murray accepted that Arran high had many advantages over other areas but said that it was already outperforming its predicted norms.

In one table, showing the percentage of S4 roll gaining standard grades at 1-4, Arran is in second position. This table indicates fewer high flyers but more pupils doing moderately well.



Since Holy Isle is now occupied the fire brigade has an obligation to respond to any emergency on the island. Last Sunday units of the fire service met at the Marine Harvest McConnell slipway to test out their readiness and see if small fire appliance could be transported to island. b47twe01



Scottish Opera brought its mini opera workshop titled Alba to Arran this week which primary 5, 6 and 7 performed last Friday morning and afternoon in Lamlash Primary School. The theme of the mini opera is Viking raids on Scotland. b47twe04



Bryan Craig of Brodick and girlfriend Janice Hopkin jumped from an aeroplane last Saturday for a planned sponsored jump at Auchterarder to raise funds for a word processor for Bryan's brother who is a patient at Biggart Hospital. b47twe02



Another new Kirkcare housing development has been completed on Arran. The eight one-bedroom amenity houses which have been built will be known as Fen Place. b47twe03

What's on

in association with Isle of Arran Brewery

www.arranbrewery.com



Everyday

Trout Fly Fishing
 Brodick Castle, Garden Open
 Arran Brewery
 Arran Brewery tour
 Lamlash Tennis Courts/Putting Green

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

Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club Rink Game
 RunArran Run Coaching
 Open Cricket Session
 Non-competitive bridge
 Scottish Country Dancing
 Lamlash Drama Club
 Winter Bowls

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

Saturday 21st November

Army Cadets
 Over-21s Disco
 Family games
 Fun in the pool
 Arran Vets – surgery
 Live music
 Arran Physiotherapy & Acupuncture Clinic
 Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club Rink Game
 Lamlash Bowling Club Rink Game
 WBay Bowling Club Rink Game
 Ceilidh dancing
 Rabbit vaccination morning
 Live music with James Burge
 High Heels & Horse Hair concert
 Baby & Kids Market

Auchrannie Road 11am – 1pm.
 Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
 Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm
 Auchrannie Spa pool, 4-5pm
 9.30am - 11am
 Fiddlers, Brodick from 8pm
 arranphysiotherapy.co.uk 9-12noon
 Blackwaterfoot bowling club, 1.15pm
 Lamlash Bowling club, 2pm
 Whiting Bay Bowling Club, 2pm
 Brodick Church Hall, 7.30pm - 9.30pm
 Arran Vets, Brodick, 9.30am - 12noon
 The Douglas Hotel, Brodick, 9pm
 Brodick Hall, 7.30pm
 Lochranza Hall, 11.30am - 3.30pm

Wednesday 25th November

Rock & Pop Bingo
 Tae Kwondo
 Alcoholics Anonymous
 Arran Brass Rehearsal
 Arran Vets – surgery
 Yoga
 Hydrofit
 Arran Heritage Museum Archives & Genealogy service
 RunArran Mixed Ability
 Yoga-Arran
 Live music
 Drift Inn Quiz
 Mixed Hockey
 Dog classes
 Knitting & Crochet drop in group

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

Sunday 22nd November

Family Games
 Fun in the pool
 AA Meeting
 Open Session – All musicians & singers welcome
 Live music with Biff Simpson and band

Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm
 Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm-5pm
 Brodick Church Hall, 5pm-6.30pm
 Fiddlers, Brodick 2.30pm
 The Douglas Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Thursday 26th November

Morning Fitness
 General Knowledge Quiz
 Arran Vets – surgery
 Ladies Hockey
 RunArran Mixed Ability
 Live music
 Cardiac Rehab
 QuiltArran
 Brodick Embroidery Group
 Burger & Quiz night
 Winter Bowls
 Bridge Club
 Lochranza Kids Badminton
 Lochranza Adults Badminton
 Arran Theatre and Arts AGM
 Garden Club
 Arran Riding Club AGM

Auchrannie Gym, 9.30-10.30am
 Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
 9am - 10.30am
 Ormidale Pavilion, 7.30-8.30pm
 Brodick, 6pm
 Fiddlers, Brodick from 8pm
 Auchrannie Leisure Club, 2-3.30pm
 Lamlash Fire Station, 2-4.30pm
 Brodick Library, 7.30pm - 9.30pm
 Felicity's @ Eden Lodge, from 7.30pm
 Auchrannie, 7pm
 Brodick Golf Clubhouse, 7.15pm
 Lochranza Hall, 6.15pm - 8pm
 Lochranza Hall, 8pm
 Brodick Hall, 7.30pm
 Brodick Castle Ranger Centre, 7.30pm
 Lamlash Fire Station, 7pm

Monday 23rd November

Over-50s badminton
 Badminton
 Live music
 Morning fitness
 Table Tennis
 Badminton
 Arran Vets – surgery
 Arran Junior Football Club
 Circuit training
 WBay Bowling Club Rink Game
 Citizens Advice
 Lamlash Aerobix
 RunArran Jogscotland Beginners
 RunArran Mixed Ability
 Bridge Club
 Scottish Country Dancing for beginners & improvers
 Tae Kwondo
 Lunch Club

Lochranza Village Hall, 2-4pm
 Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm
 Fiddlers, Brodick from 8pm
 Auchrannie Gym, 9.30-10.30am
 Corrie Hall, 6.30pm
 Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7-9pm
 9am - 10.30am & 3pm - 4pm
 Ormidale Park, 6-7.30pm
 Auchrannie Gym, 6-7pm
 Whiting Bay Bowling Club, 6.30pm
 Ormidale Pavilion, 9.30am - 1.30pm
 Arran High School Dance Studio, 6.30pm
 Whiting Bay, 5pm
 Whiting Bay, 5.30pm
 Lamlash Golf Clubhouse, 7.15pm
 Corrie Hall, 2-4pm
 Brodick Church Hall Adults & over-10s, 7pm-8.30pm
 Brodick sheltered housing, 12.30pm

Friday 27th November

Yoga
 Hydrofit
 Arran Youth Foundations
 Arran Vets – surgery
 Live music
 Quiz
 AA Meeting
 Live music
 Tae Kwondo
 Coffee morning
 Dougarie sheep Dog Trails

Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30am - 10.30am
 Auchrannie Hotel Leisure, 9.45am - 10.45am
 Church Hall, Brodick 7pm-9pm
 9am - 10.30am & 3pm - 4pm
 Fiddlers, Brodick, 8pm
 Whiting Bay Golf Club, 8pm
 Whiting Bay Hall, 7pm
 Fiddlers, Brodick, 8pm
 Arran high School, Lamlash Adults, 7pm - 8.30pm
 Corrie and Sannox village hall, 10.30am
 Birchburn, Shiskine, 12 noon

Tuesday 24th November

Pop Quiz
 Alcoholics Anonymous
 Youth Club
 Arran Vets – surgery
 Rotary club
 Healthy Outdoors

Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
 Brodick Church Hall, 2pm
 Kildonan Hall, 7pm
 9am - 10.30am
 Glencloy Suite, Auchrannie, 6.30pm
 NTS Ranger Centre, 10am - 1pm



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Property

WANTED

Unfurnished long let required preferably in Blackwaterfoot area for single female but any other areas would be considered.

**Tel: 01274813049
or 07415603042**

TO LET

Small cottage at prospect hill, Lamlash on 6 month plus short hold lease
Sleeps two, lounge with small dressing room, kitchen and bathroom shower over bath
£350 per month plus utilities
Available from 1st December

Ring Terry on 700628 or 07802250241

FOR LET

Two bed roomed house to let in Lamlash.
Please telephone Helen on
01770 600242

Public Notices



Public Meeting Brodict Terminal Redevelopment

Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd (CMAL) have now awarded the contract to redevelop the Brodict Ferry Terminal, and would like to update local individuals, groups and businesses on the project, as well as introduce the contractor, George Leslie Ltd. You are therefore invited to attend a public meeting where CMAL will present the latest information regarding the redevelopment.

Public Meeting:
**Brodict Hall, Brodict, Isle of Arran
Thursday 3rd December 2015 19.30hrs**

ARRAN RIDING CLUB AGM

Lamlash fire station
26th November 7pm
ALL WELCOME

Recruitment



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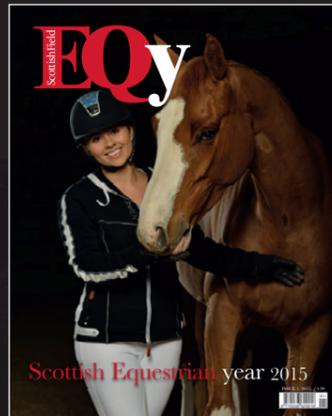
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Yamaha compact stereo system and 3 speakers £20, compositor drawer for displaying miniatures £20, wicker log/toy basket £10, wine rack holds 50 bottle £15, stereo cabinet with glass door 96cm h x 55cm w £20, frididaire fridge freezer £30 tel: 810620

Hoover upright electrolux 1900w £25, us mail box new £20 Tel: 07980671267

Mobile chicken fencing 11 poles approx 16 meters long £15 Tel: 830317

OVER £30

Barbour Men's Duracotton Parka Jacket - Olive/Brown. (Looks like a wax coat but without the wax) Size Medium (38" - 42").As new Condition. Tartan quilted lining. Waterproof, Breathable Dropliner with taped seams. Two-way front zip, under studded front. Knitted inner cuffs. Detachable lined hood. Four outer and two inner pockets. Cost £265.00 and available for £120.00. Call Allan on 700405. Craghopper Ladies Parka Coat - Olive. Size 10. As new condition. Waterproof and breathable Aquadry fabric, Attached hood with Faux-Fur trim. Warm Borg fleece lining including hood. Storm flap with inner zip guard. Four external and two internal pockets. Cost £100.00 and available for £50.00. Call Jane on 700405

Bespoke mahogany writing desk handcrafted in Norfolk cost £1400 new selling for £400, Ducal pine single bed £75, Ducal pine dressing table/desk £50, king size (5.5' x 7') pine bed £10 Tel: 810620

Disability chair to help with rising and reclining very little used, vgc £100 Tel: 07802250241

House safe with 2 keys £90, Gents mountain bike excellent £60, Ladies mountain bike £40, stove with double glass doors £380, washing machine excellent £90 Tel: 07980671267

Hen Ark, Sturdy re-cycled plastic, easy to clean, very good condition further details@ greenfrogdesigns.co.uk £150 Tel: 830317

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CHURCH NOTICES

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(Part of the Worldwide Anglican Church)
St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.
Sunday 22nd November
Holy Communion, 11.00 am.
Rev Canon Simon Mackenzie,
Priest-in-Charge.
Coffee after service, and
leaving event for Michael and
Dorothy Camping
Well-behaved bears especially
welcome.

The annual church meeting will
take place after the service on
Sunday 29th November.

ARRAN CHURCHES TOGETHER

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

Thursday 26th November
at 7.00 pm, in Whiting Bay and
Kildonan Church
(NB. Children assemble to make
Christingles at 6.30)

Offering to Christian Aid,
Syrian Refugee Appeal.

ALL WELCOME –
ESPECIALLY CHILDREN!

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Parishes of North Arran
Brodict, Corrie, Lochranza,
Pirrmill and Shiskine
Independent but working
together

Minister:

Rev Angus Adamson

Parish Assistant:

Mrs Jean Hunter:

Worship will be conducted in
the above churches at the fol-
lowing times to which
all are invited.

Sunday 22nd November

Lochranza and Pirrmill
Churches, 10.15am Morning
Worship in Pirrmill Church.
Shiskine Church, 12noon
Morning Worship.

Brodict Church, 10.30am

Morning Worship.

Corrie Church, 11.30am Prayer
Meeting, 12 noon Morning
Worship.

There will also be a Service of
Worship in Montrose House
at 1.30pm.

Wednesday 25th November,

Service of Prayers for Health
and Healing, 12noon at
Brodict Church.

Thursday 26th November

Island Christingle Service,
6.30pm for 7pm
at Whiting Bay Church.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Kilmory linked with Lamlash
"A faith to proclaim ~ a
fellowship to share"

Sunday 22nd November

Kilmory 10am
Lamlash 11.30 am
Rev. John Webster
All welcome, including
families; children's area
Scottish Charity SC015072

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(continuing)

Sunday 22nd November

Morning Service 11am
Trust Housing Lounge, Glen
Estate, Brodict
Evening Service 6.30pm
5 Glen Road, Brodict
Prayer Meeting

Wednesday 25th November

at 7pm

5 Glen Road.

All welcome

WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(Charity Number: SC014005)

Sunday 15th November

Worship will be conducted by
the minister, Rev Elizabeth
Watson, at 10.30am.
Tea and Coffee will be served
in the Transept after the service.
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 the
Glasgow City Mission.
All welcome.

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sunday Morning Mass 11am

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev Vince Jennings

Sunday 22nd November

11am Morning worship
in the Ormidale Sports
Pavilion, Brodict
Tea and Coffee after the service.
Wednesday at 7.30pm
Home Fellowship Group for
Bible Study and Prayer.
Contact phone no 600222
Everyone warmly invited

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Sunday 22nd November

Shiskine 11am (Church on road
between Blackwaterfoot and
Machrie)
Brodict 6pm (Church behind
post office)

Rev Benjamin von Rensburg

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, QUAKERS

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

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Arran primaries team to compete in athletic finals

A combined team from Arran primary schools will compete in the KA Leisure Sport Hall Athletics Finals being held at the Magnum Leisure Centre in Irvine on Wednesday, December 2.

It follows the Arran competition held at the Auchrannie, as featured in the Banner last week.

The full results, as promised, were as follows:

Boys' track event results: 2x1 lap relay 1 Brodict Benjamin Damazeux, Andrew Milton; 2 Shiskine George Andrew, Morgan Bell; 3 Lamlash Oscar Inglis, Jack Ross.

4x1 lap relay: 1 Lamlash Pawel Gren, Thomas Copperwheat, Jake Young, Albin Robin; 2 Shiskine James McCarthy, Archie Gunaydi, Lewis Campbell, George Andrew; 3 Whiting Bay Stuart MacFarlane, Eden Robertson, Cameron McCallum, Dario Devisme.

6 lap paarlauf: 1 Shiskine Donald Currie, James McCarthy; 2 Brodict Thomas Gilmore, Andrew Milton; 3 Lamlash Pawel Gren, Mackenzie Campbell.

2 x2 lap relay: 1 Shiskine James McCarthy, George Andrew; 2 Brodict Grant Coyne, Fraser McKinnon; 3 Lamlash James Macis, Oscar Inglis.

2x1 lap hurdle relay: 1 Lamlash Jake Young, Connah Wright; 2 Brodict Thomas Gilmore, Charlie Aitken; 3 Corrie/Pirrmill Aiden Hewie, Jay Atkinson.

4x1 lap over/under relay: 1 Lam-



A Lamlash pupil attempts a chest throw. 20_b47sport06

lash Jack Ross, Albin Robin, James Macis, Oscar Inglis; 2 Brodict Fraser McKinnon, Grant Coyne, Finn McAleer, Lachlan Campbell; 3 Whiting Bay Finlay Miller, Cameron McCallum, Addy Millar, Stuart MacFarlane.

Circuit relay: 1 Brodict Sam Reid, Callum Haddow, Benjamin Demazeux, Lachlan Campbell; 2 Lamlash Connah Wright, Ruaridh Lindsay-Smith, Thomas Copperwheat, Mackenzie Campbell; 3 Shiskine Morgan Bell, James McCarthy, Donald Currie, Archie Gunaydi.

Boys field events: speed bounce 1 Lamlash Albin Robin 70; 2 Corrie/Pirrmill Aiden Hewie 69; 3 Brodict Callum Haddow 65.

Standing long jump: 1 Brodict

Thomas Gilmore 1.90; 2 Whiting Bay Finlay Miller 1.74; 3 Brodict Lachlan Campbell 1.68.

Chest throw: 1 Brodict Charlie Aitken 4.5; 2 Whiting Bay Aidan Stone 4.0 acb, 3= Lamlash Pawel Gren 4.0, 3= Lamlash Connah Wright 4.0.

Vertical jump: 1 Lamlash Albin Robin 42; 2 Lamlash Jack Ross 35; 3 Lamlash Jake Young 33.

Standing triple jump: 1 Brodict Thomas Gilmore 5.25; 2 Shiskine James McCarthy 5.00; 3 Lamlash Jake Young 4.75.

Girls track event results: 2x1 lap relay 1 Brodict Charli Hodgart, Zara Wilson; 2 Whiting Bay Kirsty Morrison, Grace Crichton; 3 Kilmory Kaitlyn Rodgers, Roisin Ballantyne.

4x1 lap relay: 1 Shiskine Abby Stewart, Lily Currie, Beth McCarthy, Erin McNiven; 2 Lamlash Eva Devisme, Heather McLintock, Keira Willis, Gen Inglis; 3 Brodict Mary Smyth, Izzi Buckby, Natasha Nelson, Sophie Clark.

6 lap paarlauf: 1 Brodict Jemma Currie, Zara Wilson; 2 Shiskine Julie Hamill, Erin McNiven; 3 Whiting Bay Lori Prescott, Grace Crichton.

2x2 lap relay: 1 Brodict Megan McCartney, Freya McNicol; 2 Corrie/Pirrmill Meggie Gaber Hammednor, Gina Bone; 3 Shiskine Laila Webster, Lily Currie.

2x1 lap hurdle relay: 1 Shiskine

Julie Hamill, Laila Webster; 2 Brodict Megan McCartney, Isla McKelvie; 3 Lamlash Lanna Campbell, Alyssa McGarrie.

4x1 lap over/under relay: 1 Shiskine Abby Stewart, Lily Currie, Beth McCarthy, Erin McNiven; 2 Lamlash Caitlin McGarry, Eva Devisme, Heather McLintock, Gen Inglis; 3 Whiting Bay Iona Miggins, Lori Prescott, Zoe Mathieson, Daisy McNamara.

Circuit relay 1: Shiskine Erin McNiven, Laila Webster, Julie Hamill, Beth McCarthy; 2 Brodict Jemma Currie, Isla McKelvie, Charli Hodgart, Zara Wilson; 3 Whiting Bay Daisy McNamara, Grace Crichton, Lori Prescott, Kirsty Morrison.

Girls field events: Speed bounce 1 Shiskine Julie Hamill 70; 2 Brodict Isla McKelvie 68; 3 Brodict Jemma Currie 64.

Standing long jump: 1 Brodict Isla McKelvie 1.62; 2 Whiting Bay Daisy McNamara 1.48; 3 Corrie/Pirrmill Meggie Gaber Hammednor 1.46.

Chest throw 1: Lamlash Freya Campbell 4.25; 2= Corrie/Pirrmill Gina Bone 4.00; 2= Lamlash Jessica Reid 4.00; 3 Brodict Freya McNicol 3.60. Vertical jump 1 Lamlash Gen Inglis 34; Whiting Bay Kirsty Morrison 33; 3 Daisy McNamara 31.

Standing triple jump: 1 Brodict Jemma Currie 5.00; 2 Megan McCartney 4.75; 3 Zara Wilson 4.60.



This relay race is neck and neck. 20_b47sport10

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

RUSSELL Sandy - After a long and happy life Sandy, aged 93, passed away on 14th October 2015. His family would like to thank everyone at Brodict Church, Elizabeth Watson for a lovely service, Clair and David Hendry for their guidance, Amy Hume for her beautiful song, Ali Hume for his wonderful piping. Sandy would have loved it.

With special thanks to the wonderful, compassionate staff at Cooriedoon for the care given to Sandy and their kindness to us during his stay with them.

Thanks also to all those who donated to Alzheimers Scotland and Cancer Research and for the support of the many people who sent cards.

Sandy was a wonderful man and a lovely character and will be sadly missed.



Shiskine pupils cheer on their team. 20_b47sport04

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End of season at Machrie Bay



Machrie Bay Golf Club 2015 dinner took place on Saturday November 14. Thirty members had a superb evening and said a huge thanks to Claire and Gill for their hard work in making everything go so well.

Brodict Golf Club

On Wednesday November 11, five members fought through heavy showers encouraged by a rollover. Winner, Douglas Robertson 78-18=60.

There were no magic twos

Your club your Banner

Here at The Banner we are always on the lookout for sports and activities to cover in our sports pages.

If you have formed a new club or would like to encourage new members the pages of The Banner are always open to you.

Do get in touch by email: editor@arranbanner.co.uk by phone 302142 or via Facebook or Twitter.

so it is a double rollover. Tee-off is every Wednesday at noon. All welcome.

Remarkably, four brave golfers played on Sunday November 15 in the Winter Cup.

It is amazing what some people will do to avoid household chores.

They reported that the greens were not flooded, however, the rest of the course was a different story.

The scoring allegedly was good but no cards were handed in, and all of them claimed to have enjoyed the experience.

Fixture: Sunday November 22, second round of the Clochendichter at 10am The

Village v The Knowe, and at 10.30am Alma v The Street.

Corrie Golf Club

Monday 9 November, Monday Cup. 1 - J Henderson 77-18=59 BIH, 2 - A Smith 70-11=59, 3 - J McGovern 69-9=60. Scratch - J McGovern 69. Magic two - R Jeffrey @ 5th.

Saturday November 14, Winter Cup. 1 - A Smith 72-12=60, 2 - A McDonald 72-11=61, 3 - J McConnochie 69-7=62. Scratch - J McConnochie 69.

Monday November 16, Monday Cup. 1 - A Smith 71-10=61, 2 - J Adam 69-6=63. Scratch - J Adam 69. Magic twos - J Adam @13th.

Fixture: Saturday, November 21, Winter Cup, ballots at 8am and 12noon.

Lamlash Golf Club

Thursday November 5, Yellow Medal, CSS 61, par 61. 1 - John O'Sullivan 80-20=60, 2 - Alan Smith 72-12=60. Magic twos - Alan Smith @13th and Graeme Andrew @7th.

Thursday November 12, Yellow Medal, CSS 61, par 61. 1 - John O'Sullivan 79-19=60, 2 - Alan Smith 73-12=61.

Fixtures: Sunday November 22, Glenburn Cup, 9.30am and noon starts. Thursday November 26, Yellow Medal, 11am start.

Arran Bridge Club results

The latest results for the Arran Bridge Club are as follows - Aggregate competition at Brodict Clubhouse on Thursday November 12: N/S 1 - T Martin and D Hamilton, 2 - J Maclure and A McKelvie, 3 - M McGill and J Peacock. E/W 1 - A Bilsland and J Barclay, 2 - J and J Beattie, 3 - L Trickett and P Adamson.

Aggregate competition at Lamlash Clubhouse on Monday November 16: N/S 1 M Gardner and E McNiven, 2 - J and J Beattie, 3 - J Maclure and A McKelvie. E/W 1 - J and J Beattie, 2 - P Adamson and L Trickett, 3 - T Martin and D Campbell.

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