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Arran's Weekly Newspaper

SATURDAY, 28 NOVEMBER, 2009

No 1728 52p

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IN THIS ISSUE:

- Christmas Gift Guide
- A look at the life of a doctor
- The tradition of the Lamlash Queen

Hit hard!

Strong winds and heavy rain coupled with high tides have brought havoc to the island over the past week.

A large sycamore tree crashed through the roof of the Smithy suite at Kilmichael Country House Hotel on Sunday night. Owners Geoffrey Botterill and Antony Butterworth had been out for the evening and when they returned Geoffrey saw the branches protruding over the roof. There was nobody staying in the hotel at the time, but nearby self-catering cottages were occupied. On Monday local contractor Murray Boal lifted the tree off the building.

Joyce Adamson of Whiting Bay phoned the Banner on Wednesday morning to say that a tree had just fallen on her house.

She said: 'I was getting ready to take my dog Beau out for a walk when I heard a cracking noise then the tree hit the side of the house, right over the front door.' Joyce had a lucky escape as the tall eucalyptus had split in two and was resting on the roof. Workmen have since cleared it away.

Most of the golf courses have been closed for a few days, and on Thursday Brodick course was under several feet of water.

A landslip at the Gaery south of Whiting Bay closed the road for a short time early

Winds, rain and tides take toll on island



Joyce Adamson had a lucky escape. 02_b48tre02

on Monday morning. It was cleared by police in time for ferry traffic to get through.

Many ferry sailings have been disrupted with an unscheduled ghost sailing late on Saturday night to get the vessel safely berthed overnight in Brodick.

There was a diversion to Gourock on Sunday night, and on Tuesday the 6pm sailing from Ardrossan stayed overnight in Brodick. The ferry remained stormbound in port throughout Wednesday as high winds battered the pier.

Daily newspapers were cancelled by shops and bread flew off the shelves in a flurry of

panic buying. Council workmen were busy dealing with localised flooding on roads around the island. At high tide on Saturday afternoon the waves were crashing over the seawall in Whiting Bay making driving hazardous, and the road at Corrie shore was under water.

Colin Totty, head gardener at Brodick Castle keeps official weather records.

On Tuesday he confirmed that recent rainfall on Arran has been exceptionally high. In the first week of November he recorded 148.6mm (six inches) compared to 3.3mm over the same week last year. Over the first three weeks of the month the rainfall has been double that of 2008.

Colin said: 'The wettest day in Brodick so far this year was Sunday October 25 with 71.7mm (three inches), while the wettest 2008 day saw just 39mm of rain.'

Police sergeant Bob MacKay said: 'Drivers seem to be coping surprisingly well with the conditions. Nowadays cars are better at handling floods; years ago we would have seen vehicles abandoned all over the place.'



Geoffrey Botterill and Antony Butterworth survey the fallen sycamore tree at Kilmichael. 02_b48tre01



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Police files

Alleged assault

A 39-year-old man was allegedly assaulted in an incident in a Kilmory house at 11.45am on November 19. A 20-year-old Kilmory man was arrested and taken into custody.

Spate of housebreakings

There have been a number of housebreakings to commercial and domestic properties on the west side of the island over the past four weeks.

Police are asking members of the public for any information and advise to take basic precautions and lock all outbuildings.

Unlicensed metal dealers at large

An unusual number of itinerant metal dealers have been active on the island.

Up to nine unlicensed dealers have been cold calling at houses looking for items of scrap.

Sergeant Bob MacKay said: 'These people do not have the appropriate metal dealers licence. If anyone is approached they should contact the police with details such as vehicle registration numbers.'

'These dealers have come from all over Scotland looking for easy pickings. There is only one registered scrap metal dealer on the island.'

Fishy film night in Corrie

A film night in Corrie Hall on Sunday December 6 will show two films that reveal the environmental and human side effects of aquaculture and commercial over-fishing of wild fish. The films are being shown by the Pure Salmon Campaign in association with the Community of Arran Seabed Trust (COAST).

Don Staniford, global co-ordinator for the Pure Salmon Campaign said: 'The first film, 'Farmed Salmon Exposed' lifts the lid on the can of worms of the salmon farming industry.'

'The End of the Line: imagine a world without fish' is based on the book by Charles Clover and follows the investigative reporter as he confronts politicians and celebrity restaurateurs.'

Howard Wood of COAST said: 'The End of the Line is essential viewing if you want to understand the damaging effects the fishing industry is having on the seas globally and find out what you can do to make a difference.'

The films start at 7pm with tickets at the door.



Golf course manager Keith Aitken on the flooded first fairway at Brodick on Thursday. 02_b48wet01

Flooding closes Brodick golf course

Brodick golf course was closed last week due to extensive flooding.

A combination of high tide and heavy rain meant that water was backed up to the road

near Montrose House.

On Thursday golf course manager Keith Aitken said: 'It's a 3.5 metre high tide and there is nowhere for the water to go.'

'Most of the course is flooded and all we can do is to stay inside and do equipment maintenance. A lot of other courses are closed as well.'

Poppy appeal raises £452

The amount collected in Whiting Bay this year for the Earl Haig Fund Poppy Appeal was £452.02. Thanks go to all who collected and contributed.

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Order for closure of Middle Road

An order has been lodged by North Ayrshire Council to close Middle Road in Whiting Bay for a new housing development.

The Stopping Up order is open to consultation for 28 days after which time it will be confirmed unless there are any objections.

Details of the location and length of road to be closed can be inspected at the NAC local office in Lamlash.

The closure will involve installing bollards across the road just above the entrance to Heatherhill chalets. It is anticipated that these bollards will have a locking mechanism so that they can be removed for access by emergency vehicles.

This Stopping Up order is a condition of the granting of planning permission by NAC last June for a 10-house development in the field opposite Heatherhill chalets.

Conditions

Among the other conditions attached to this approval were that there should be a passing place on Middle Road west of the new site entrance and that construction traffic will only have access to the site from the Golf Course Road end of Middle Road.

The development of 10 four-bedroom houses was passed subject to the applicant, Quality Homes Scotland, agreeing to provide money to update play facilities in the area.

Objections to the proposal were lodged by nine residents at the time, mostly on the grounds of increased traffic and that the closure of Middle Road would raise safety questions of access by emergency vehicles.

Islanders urged to apply for help with home heating bills

Hundreds of Arran households are missing out on help with home heating bills.

Kenneth Gibson MSP is urging Arran constituents who may be missing out on big savings on their energy bills this winter to contact the Home Heat Helpline.

New research reveals around 9,200 households across North Ayrshire, including hundreds on Arran, are missing out on big savings on their energy bills. Contacting the hotline could result in families slashing more than £250 from their energy bills every year. Mr Gibson said: 'Up to 20 percent

of households on Arran could qualify for assistance.'

A call to the Helpline can result in reduced energy tariffs and grants for home insulation.

The Home Heat Helpline has received support from Help the Aged; Age Concern; Citizen's Advice; Energy Action Scotland; Energy Saving Trust; Counsel and Care and One Parent Families Scotland/Gingerbread.

Mr Gibson said: 'I want to ensure that constituents who may be worried about their fuel bills, particularly as the credit crunch continues to

squeeze household budgets, that there is help and advice available.

'I also urge friends, relatives and neighbours to call the Home Heat Helpline on behalf of someone else who may be in fuel poverty. There will be advisors on standby to help organise new tariffs, insulation

grants and advice and support on how to keep warm and save money on their bills.'

Home Heat Helpline spokesman Garry Felgate added: 'There are grants available that could provide a lifeline for many people as it gets colder through the winter months.

'We have trained advisers

who can help people on Arran obtain grants for insulation, special reduced tariffs as well as advice and support on how to keep warm and save money on bills.'

For more information, ring the Home Heat Helpline on 0800 33 66 99 or log on to www.homeheathelpline.org.uk.

New school again hit by leaks

The new Arran High School is once again suffering from leaks.

Rainwater is coming through the ceiling of the entrance lobby, an area that has already been repaired four months ago after buckets were scattered around the lobby to collect water dripping from the roof.

Major work was carried out on the roof in August despite the building being less than two years old. At the time, Jim Leckie, head of educational services for North Ayrshire Council said: 'A decision has been taken to completely replace the main entrance roof and these works are underway.'

Wet patches

On Monday Kenneth Gibson MSP said: 'The main entrance door at the high school is closed again and taped off. There are wet patches in the ceiling from water ingress.

'As one problem with the building is solved, another one emerges. I will be getting in touch with educational services about this matter.

'It needs a thorough examination and must be resolved.'

Access to the school is temporarily through the Argyll College entrance.

Attenborough's last show will be filmed on Arran

Legendary broadcaster Sir David Attenborough is to make his final major film project on Arran next year.

The 83-year-old, who revolutionised the way the world was brought into our homes via television and has been

broadcasting consistently high-quality programmes for more than 50 years, is planning to retire.

However, he has agreed to make one more documentary, which will involve a visit to the island in February.



Kenneth Gibson MSP with Home Heat spokesman Garry Felgate.

Serial bride married on Arran leaves husband number eight

A serial bride who was married for the eighth time in a secret ceremony on Arran has left her new husband 'destitute' after only 10 days of marriage.

Sandra McNab, 52, from Clydebank was married to James Beggs at Lamlash Registry Office on November 3 after a whirlwind romance

But the union lasted less than

a fortnight as Sandra stormed out of their Ayrshire home after a petty argument.

She has now hired an agent and plans to publish a book about her marathon vow-taking.

James told one newspaper that Sandra 'has left me destitute' as he looked for a fee to talk about the costly experience.

Sandra's first wedding was to Joseph Mullen in 1973 but they parted in 1981.

She'd been single since divorcing George Pollock for a second time in 2007.

But pub landlady Sandra moved into James' flat in Kilbirnie, Ayrshire, two months ago - just 48 hours after meeting him on an online dating site.

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Scout leader needed in Lamlash

Lamlash needs a scout leader.

Cub leader and Akela Rachel Armitage said: 'There is a very healthy beaver colony and cub pack in the village, but sadly once they finish at cubs there is no scout troop in Lamlash for our cubs to move on to.'

'At present they travel over to Shiskine scouts, where they are made very welcome. The cubs love the scouts, but we and the cubs would love to have a scout group here in Lamlash.'

'But we need a leader to run the group. If you can't commit every week, and we manage to get a couple of leaders you could take it in turns to run the nights.'

'We have someone willing to come on as an assistant leader. If we can get a leader or leaders, you don't need to have any previous training, just a love for the outdoors and adventure. All training will be provided'

'So please if you feel you have the time, and it is not a lot of time, become our scout leader. We promise you, you will love it. The kids are so amazing to work with.'

Please contact Rachel Armitage on 700224 or Ninna Crisp on 600547.



Marquetry artist Ary Bleshovsky of Brodick with the Mayor and Mayoress of East Staffordshire.

Work of Brodick artist goes on display in the Midlands

Ary Bleshovsky of Douglas Lodge, Brodick, has just exhibited his extensive and detailed marquetry work at The Brewhouse in Burton upon Trent, Staffordshire.

The special art exhibition ran for a month from October 22 and was arranged by Rachel Huyton, principal arts manager for East Staffordshire Borough Council.

Rachel's father, Stan Huyton, is a neighbour of Ary's in

Brodick and has lived on Arran for over 20 years. It was during one of her visits to the island that Rachel became aware of Ary's wonderful collection of marquetry.

Packed

Two months ago 40 of his works were carefully packed up and transported down to the Midlands.

Rachel said: 'The exhibition was extremely successful with positive comments from

visitors and local sales.

'Approximately 40 people attended the opening event and there has been a steady stream of visitors since the opening and throughout November.'

'We were thrilled to share Ary's beautiful expertise and intricate art work. The exhibition was a huge success for us and certainly one we would like to repeat in the future.'

Islanders urged to march with peace and justice group

Arran's Peace and Justice group is urging people from the island to make the effort to join a march in Glasgow against climate change.

The march will be led by a pipe band and start at the Palace of Art in Bellahouston Park at 10.30am on Saturday December 5. Arran folk can join at any point, because the first boat train does not arrive at Central Station until 10.20am.

Climate change is now recognised as an issue everyone must address. Politicians, church leaders and ordinary people of all persuasions are for once all in agreement because the effects of global warming are already endangering many species.

Father Noel Colford of the Peace and Justice group said: 'Throughout Europe demon-

strations are being held on December 5 in an attempt to register our demand to stop this climate chaos before the Copenhagen conference.'

'The main demonstration in the UK will be in London where marchers attired in blue will simulate the movement of waves to remind MPs that the Houses of Parliament could one day be surrounded by water. There is no need for the Arran marchers to wear blue in Glasgow.'

From Bellahouston Park the route will be along Paisley Road West, past Cessnock underground station, up Lorne Street to Govan Road and across the Squinty Bridge to Kelvingrove Park where a meeting will be held with political and church leaders speaking and pipe and samba bands will play music.

New Arran beer from whisky casks

Arran Brewery is about to launch another new beer to add to its already successful range of ales brewed at Cladach.

Milestone Special Reserve is described as a whisky cask conditioned beer and has been matured in oak casks from Bruichladdich distillery on the Isle of Skye.

Brewery managing director Gerald Michaluk said:

'The heavily peated casks have imparted a flavour and aroma to the beer which has a very strong distinctive peaty flavour. This may not be to everyone's taste, just like a heavily peated malt whisky can be overpowering.'

'But this beer is truly unique and very complex with a base of late hopped Arran Milestone, the Scottish Champion Real Ale in a bottle of 2008.'

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Arran to establish Red Squirrel group

Arran is to have its own Red Squirrel group to bring together interested parties wishing to support the endangered mammals on their island stronghold.

The group is to be formed under the wings of the Scottish Wildlife Trust (SWT), allowing islanders to concentrate on local issues while enjoying the support and back-up of a national organisation.

Philip Lardner recently met up in Brodick with Colin Stobbs and Diane Lewis of the Kirkend Nursery to discuss taking forward the idea of an island-based group. Colin and Diane have volunteered to get the group up and running and are planning to have the

first meeting of the group in January.

Philip said: 'I'm delighted that Colin and Diane are willing to lead the group. I've had discussions with Karen Pickles of the Ayrshire Red Squirrel Unit in order to look to the long-term security of the red squirrels on Arran, and we are keen to involve the National Trust, Forestry Commission and anyone who wishes to play a part in their conservation.'

The Banner previously reported on Colin's plans for information posters on the ferry and road signs to be placed at locations around the island where the squirrels were particularly vul-

nerable to being killed by road traffic. However, special permission is needed from the Scottish Executive before North Ayrshire Council could approve them.

Philip, who organised a meeting last year to highlight the conservation, tourism and economic issues surrounding the squirrels, hopes that an Arran group can coordinate the ideas put forward by various bodies and individuals, including numerous correspondents to the Banner's letters column.

He added: 'There are many people, such as Kate and Jo at the Ranger service and Andy Walker at the Forestry Commission who have been

doing great things to help the squirrels. With SWT involved too, individuals from near and far would be able to join the group and volunteer to help achieve a coordinated approach to ensure the squirrels' survival by, for instance, helping to reduce unnecessary road deaths.

'The group would be able to seek the support of councillors, MPs and MSPs as required, as well as develop educational ideas and promote Arran as a unique location to come and see the red squirrel.'

Contact

'It could also become the first point of contact for anyone interested in Arran's squirrels.'

'There could also be major benefits for Arran's businesses and tourism, with the brewery's development of my idea for a Red Squirrel Ale being the perfect example. I often have a pint or two in a Glasgow pub, only because it benefits the squirrels, of course.'

The initial meeting in January will help to establish the group, with details of the first public meeting and membership details to follow soon after.



Colin Stobbs of Kirkend Nursery with one of his specially-made red squirrel signs. 02_b37red01

Doggie message from Hamish

Banner dog Archie continues to receive substantial fan mail.

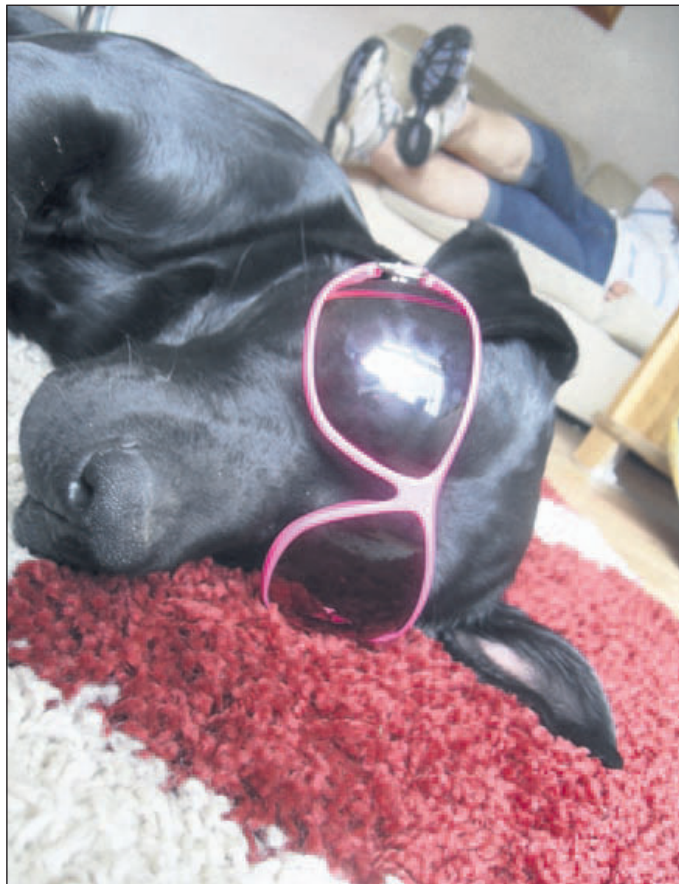
The latest message this week came from his brother Hamish, one of the same litter of pups from the gamekeeper at Dougarie estate.

Hamish went from Dougarie to live with Fiona and Calum Gilmour in Shiskine.

The Gilmour family has subsequently moved to the mainland but through the wonders of the internet, Hamish and Archie are still able to keep in touch. Hamish sent his brother this photo of him relaxing in his new home after the move from Arran.

He said: 'Hey bro; I know I am late Archie, but I think you are in Shiskine church entrance this week, my old hometown.'

'Just thought I would say 'hi bro' as I am now living on the mainland. Forgot to tell the family that I had moved.'



Archie's brother Hamish relaxing in his new home. b48dog01no

Sexual harm - one of the many faces of harm

The truth is shocking. Adults with a learning disability are far more likely to be sexually assaulted than the rest of the population.

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No new power station for Hunterston

'The nuclear waste was waste water from the employee showers'

Last week the UK government announced details of sites around the country which would be suitable for 10 new nuclear power stations but this list did not include Hunterston.

Philip Lardner, Conservative Westminster candidate for North Ayrshire and Arran said: 'This is very disappointing news for the workers at Hunterston B, especially the younger staff because it will now be impossible to build a new station to take over from the B station if it closes in 2016 as currently planned. I met with the Shadow Energy Minister Charles Hendry a couple of weeks ago at Westminster and presented him with figures which highlight the importance of Hunterston to the local economy in North Ayrshire.'

Mr Lardner defended the plant recently when stories came out about leaks of nuclear waste into the Clyde.

He said: 'The nuclear waste was actually simple waste water from the employee showers which is routinely flushed away with full permission. Hunterston has a first-rate safety record.'

The nearest proposed new nuclear power station to Arran will be at Braystones on the Solway Firth.



Philip Lardner at Hunterston B power station. b47hun01no

Local MP welcomes new paternity leave for fathers

Local MP Katy Clark has welcomed a Government announcement that mothers who are due to give birth on or after April 1, 2011 will be able to transfer some of their maternity leave to their partner if they go back to work after six months.

Under these proposed changes fathers will now have the right to up to three months paid and three months unpaid leave if a couple chooses to take up this option.

Referring to this change Ms Clark said: 'I was pleased by the Government decision to allow mothers to transfer a proportion of their maternity leave to a child's father, however I believe this should be introduced much earlier than 2011 so that parents of babies born today are able to make their own choices about what works best for their family.'

The Member of Parliament

for North Ayrshire and Arran has written to Gordon Brown requesting that he re-think the decision taken by the Government on plans to extend paid maternity leave from nine to 12 months.

The Government recently confirmed that this planned increase will now be dropped, citing the current recession as the reason.

Ms Clark said: 'I have been delighted to see numerous measures introduced over the last 12 years which have greatly benefited families. I do however believe that abandoning the 2005 manifesto pledge to extend maternity leave to 12 months is a retrograde step.'

Given the number of families who are currently suffering as a result of the recession I urge the Prime Minister to re-think this decision and extend paid maternity leave for all mothers up to twelve months.'

Mending Hearts duo come to Kilmory

Scotland's premier Western Swing Band - Stretch Dawson and the Mending Hearts - are making a special appearance at Kilmory Hall this Wednesday night.

The Mending Hearts duo will be playing a range of classical and original Western swing numbers with an emphasis on tongue-in-cheek good time music.

Guaranteed to put a smile on the faces of the young and the old - it is going to be a great night.

The band will be supported by local country singer 'Traylor Weldon' aka Mark Harwood from Pirmill.

Tickets cost £5 and any further information can be obtained from Simon Home on 850516 or Kirstin Napier on 870345.

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Help needed for Brodick parties

Brodick Christmas lights will be switched on at 3.30pm on Sunday November 29.

The ceremony outside Brodick Hall and party inside the hall is the main fundraiser for the Brodick children's Christmas party which will be held on Saturday December 19.

Nicola Coyne of Balnacool, Brodick said: 'On behalf of the Children's Party committee, can I appeal for any volunteers

willing to come along and lend support in organising and hosting the event next Sunday.

'If they can come about 2.30pm to help with sorting out the raffle, the biscuit decorating stall, the letter to Santa stall and teas and refreshments.

'The children's party will be on December 19 for all Brodick children of primary four and under. Some new

volunteers to help beforehand and on the day itself would be greatly appreciated.

'Arran has a great tradition of Christmas parties in villages and it would be a shame if lack of support made it too difficult to continue in Brodick.'

Anyone who can assist should contact Mandy on 303576 or speak to any of the helpers next Sunday.

Deer tested for purity

Arran's red deer population has been the subject of a scientific DNA survey to establish its genetic purity.

The study is attempting to monitor the purity of red deer and establish whether they have been affected by hybridisation with non-native species over the last decade. Local estate managers in Arran, Rum, Jura, Islay and the Outer Hebrides have been collecting samples of tongues and ears from cull animals for DNA study.

The testing on Arran was carried out by deer officer James Scott based with the Deer Commission in Stirling.

He said: 'We took about 100 samples from deer culled on the island. It involves extracting the DNA from tissue samples of small pieces of ears or tongues.

'The work is to underpin forthcoming legislation which would make it an offence to



Deer officer James Scott who carried out the tests on Arran deer. b48der03no

keep non-native Sika deer on islands such as Arran without a licence from the Deer Commission. Scotland's islands offer the best opportunity to retain a core population of red deer with as pure genetics as possible.

'Samples were collected

from animals on all three estates; Dougarie, Arran Estates and the Forestry Commission.'

There are around 2,000 deer on Arran of which about 220 are culled annually. Another 400 or so live wild in forestry land.

Islanders urged to post early

Royal Mail is urging customers on Arran to post early this year for Christmas.

The last posting dates this year are: Monday 21 December for first class items, Friday 18 December for second class items, Wednesday 23 December for special delivery parcels, Friday 11 December for airmail items

to Western Europe, Thursday 10 December for Eastern Europe, the USA, Canada and Japan, and Friday 4 December for airmail to Australia, New Zealand, South and Central America, Africa and Asia. Customers are also urged to ensure they use a postcode to help ensure their

Christmas cards and gifts are delivered without any problems. Royal Mail's Scottish operations director Paul Kelly said: 'Our Christmas operation is massive and it really helps us if people post their Christmas cards and parcels as early as possible and always remember to use the postcode.'

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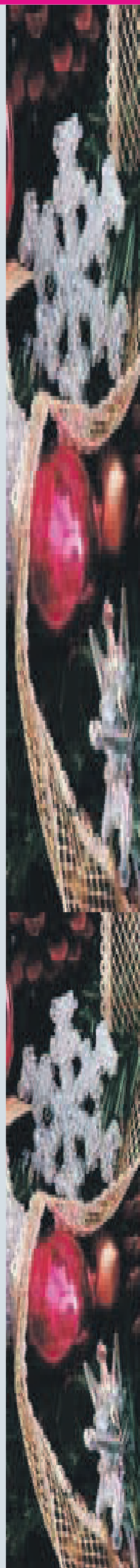
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THE ARRAN BANNER

Weather has us panicking

We are at the mercy of the elements.

For all the sophisticated technology at our fingertips nowadays, the weather is the one thing we have least influence over and impacts most on our everyday lives.

That fact has been brought home forcefully this week as heavy and sustained rain together with strong winds and high tides have combined to create general disorder throughout the country.

Parts of Cumbria and South-West Scotland have been hardest hit and powerful images of the misery and chaos have been beaming into our homes via television. But having seen the images and feeling sympathy for those washed out of their homes, our thoughts soon return to our own circumstances.

It has been particularly wet and windy on Arran.

That quaint phrase 'adverse weather conditions' coined by Caledonian MacBrayne to describe ferry sailing disruptions was never more true than this week.

Official precipitation figures from the National Trust for Scotland at Brodick Castle reveal that November rainfall was double the normal amount. All that rain has to go somewhere.

A former North Ayrshire Council roads officer was fond of pointing out that every drop of rain that falls on Arran has to at some time find its way over or under the round-island road.

This goes some way to explaining why the roads have been awash this month. When that rain is combined with a high tide, there really is nowhere for the water to drain away. Strong winds contribute to ferry disruptions and structural damage. At least two Arran properties have suffered this week from trees falling on them.

When the ferry does not sail it creates a mood of panic in some people. The 4.40pm sailing from Brodick on Tuesday was mobbed by folk rushing to get off the island because of the bad weather forecast. With no sign of the ferry sailing by midday on Wednesday, there were soon signs of panic buying of sliced bread and rolls.

Lamlash shopkeeper Jimmy Gordon decided that even if the ferry did sail, it would be too late for people to come out and buy daily papers, so he cancelled them. With no ferry, there would be no mainland mail, but the posties still have to deliver local mail.

And of course, there are the lovely blue wheelie bins at the mercy of the wind. On Wednesday dozens of empty wheelie bins were rolling and rattling around roads all over the island, sometimes creating a hazard for traffic and pedestrians.

Being at the mercy of the elements and the disruption it causes can be enough to make some people decide that island life is not for them. But for the majority the uncertainty can be endured with fortitude and might even be stimulating. At least we can be thankful that we are not living in Cockermonth.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'The prophet of the Most High will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for Him, and to give His people the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins.' (Luke 1: 76-77)

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.

The Arran Banner adheres to the Press Complaints' Commission's Code of Conduct. The views expressed in *The Arran Banner* are not necessarily those of the The Oban Times Group.

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



Campaign politicised

Sir
Policing Lamlash Bay against illegal fishing will depend on wide support and information from the community.

It is therefore a shame that COAST is now seeking to politicise a campaign which until now has enjoyed almost universal backing on Arran.

Let's not forget that the present SNP administration delivered the 'No Take Zone' within months of coming to office after a decade of dithering by their predecessors.

Yours,
**Malcolm Kerr
Brodick**

Perceived intransigence

Sir,
I am writing in response to your front-page article in last week's Banner 'Scottish government failing no take zone'.

The chairman of COAST rails against the perceived 'intransigence' of Richard Lochhead. This would be the same SNP cabinet secretary who after 14 years of intransigence from previous administrations actually introduced the Statutory Instrument establishing the no-take zone. He can hardly be accused of unpicking 15 years of hard work when for the first 14 of those the no-take zone did not exist. Reference is also made to Richard Lochhead and his 'fishermen friends'. As cabinet secretary with responsibility for fishing in a country where just under £400 million worth of fish was landed by Scottish vessels in 2008 it is his job to speak to them and represent their interests as well, especially with regard to the totally discredited Common Fisheries Policy in Europe.

The SNP government moved within 16 months of coming to power to establish the no-take zone as a first in Scotland. As with all firsts, however, it can take a while for everything to fall into place.

Yours,
**Fiona Laing
Convener Isle of Arran SNP
Pirnmill**

Brodick's iconic bathing boxes

Sir,
Friends sent me the article from The Banner of October 31 and I was intrigued to hear of the revived interest in Brodick's bathing boxes.

I have written a short account of what happened when they became rather a headache to their impoverished owner.

In 1979 the Arran Sea Angling Centre was formed with three directors – Allen Edward, Michael Pritchard and my husband Dennis Burgess.

They bought the boatyard at Low Glen Cloy and the existing boat hire business with boats, tractors and tackle shop which was housed in three buildings on the beach.

The beach huts, probably not more than 12 useable huts were stored off-season up Glen Cloy and put out each year on the beach.

In 1979, Mr Atfield (from Farnham Common, Buckinghamshire) was the only long-term hirer remaining.

He used to take a hut for one month between July and August but I don't know where the family stayed in Brodick.

The huts were a target for overnight campers and were frequently vandalised.

Deckchairs were also hired out. An attempt to interest Cunninghame District Council to take them over came to nothing.

These, like the huts, were costly to replace and repair.

The huts did not stand the rigours of being lifted and transported to Glen Cloy every year and so were abandoned by the early 1980s.

By late 1988, the lack of fish in Brodick Bay and the high capital costs of the business forced ASAC to be sold.

Mr Moss bought it in 1989 and replaced the old white buildings with the existing Boat House.

I look forward to finding out what happens and maybe to seeing a brightly coloured row of huts on a future visit to Brodick.

Yours,
**Gillis Burgess
Milverton
Somerset**

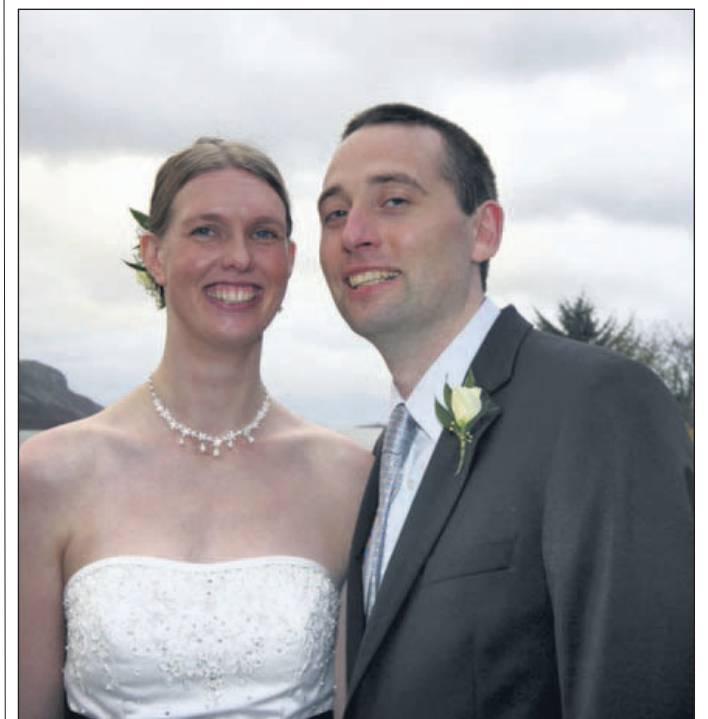
Amateur cine film wanted

Sir,
Next year, BBC Two is launching a new series that will travel the country in a hunt for the nation's home movie archive. This is the nation's story through the eyes of its most important historians: the British people. We are looking for any amateur-filmed footage that reflects the events of the last 70 years. It might be footage of the summer of 1976, or the great storm of 1987. It might be street parties celebrating the coronation, jubilee or the royal weddings.

We're interested in footage of people's hobbies or the big events in their life – perhaps an important wedding or birthday party. We would love to see any footage of

local festivals, or people who perhaps went on to be famous. We are interested in finding any footage of royalty, or the building or opening of important buildings in the area. We are throwing the net very wide, and we are interested to hear from individuals or organisations about what they think is important and what deserves to be seen on the small screen. If you have old cine, video or film footage we would love to hear from you. We are happy to take it on any format. If any clips are used in the series, then a fee will be paid. Please contact the production team at samia.murphy@diverse.tv or on 0203 189 3228.

Yours,
**Samia Murphy
Diverse TV
London**



Wedding at Altachorvie

Claire Wilson and Steven Backhouse were married on Sunday October 25 by registrar Loretta Adamson in front of their friends and family at Altachorvie Hotel. Claire is the daughter of Dennis and the late Connie Wilson from Stockton, Middlesbrough and Steven is the son of Ian and Elizabeth Wilson from Gosport, Portsmouth. The couple chose to marry on Arran as they spend many holidays here as well as bringing the scouts here every year; they both love the outdoor life so Arran was the perfect choice for them. Steve and friends even managed to go kayaking on the morning of the wedding. Sherie at Altachorvie is also a very good friend and colleague.

Photograph supplied by Amanda Trotter
www.amandatrotter.com

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Bag pack success for Arrran Cubs

The Arran Cub Scouts raised the amazing sum of £368 for their annual camp fund last week with a bag pack in the Co-op store in Brodick.

Ninna Crisp, the assistant cub leader (Baloo), said: A huge thank you to the Co-op and all there very generous shoppers who gave us money.

'We are going on camp at the end of November at Lochranza field centre and this amount

has made a huge difference to the cost of the camp, so thank you to everyone for their amazing generosity.

Pictured are just some of the Arran Cub Scouts who took part in a bag pack at the Co-op last week. They are Emily and Joel Armitage, Ben Leslie, Joley Allison, Summer Kane and Anna Crisp. b48cub01NO



Leah Brown, Kirsty Crawford and Eilidh Hamill with Pudsey the Children in Need bear.

Shiskine youngsters raise vital funds for Children in Need

Three generous youngsters hosted an afternoon tea at their home in Shiskine last Monday to raise money for Children in Need.

Megan, Eilidh and Julie Hamill invited all their friends around to enjoy fun and games, and a lovely selection of home baked cakes.

They then played games including guess Pudsey the bear's birthday and Spot the Ball.

Faye Hamill, the girls' mum, said: 'Thanks to everyone who supported us and for all the lovely homebaking. We raised an amazing £165.31 for Children in Need.'

Helpers sought for island digital library project

North Ayrshire Libraries is embarking on an ambitious digitisation project and they are looking for enthusiastic volunteers from Arran to help.

The scheme has been called 'North Ayrshire's Yesterd@ys', and the library service is planning to build a legacy of accessible digitised resources for communities to access from a range of locations.

Local history librarian Jill McColl said: 'We plan to achieve this by scanning images held in the photograph collection at The Vennel Local and Family History Centre in Irvine and have them displayed via the Flickr website, along with detailed information about the history portrayed in each image.

'We are asking groups, museums and individuals to become involved through sharing your own images and adding them to the collection.

'Do you have a drawer of scenic pictures of Arran that you took 20 years ago, or even yesterday?'

By scanning your images, you would be improving your IT skills, as well as participating in a very worthwhile community project. North Ayrshire Libraries will supply all the tools needed and we would have staff available to provide training and offer sup-

port throughout the project.

Photographs that are included would be credited to the owner on the Flickr website and, where appropriate, a link would be created either to an individual's website or to a group that they are a member of, to generate publicity.

Exciting

This is an exciting venture and a great opportunity for the Library Service to work together with as many local groups and individuals as possible to help create an outstanding pictorial history of North Ayrshire's images to be shared with other enthusiasts around the world. The project is supported by the Scottish Government Libraries Improvement Fund.

If you would like more information on the project, then please do not hesitate to contact Jill McColl or Norma Cullen at The Vennel Local and Family History Centre on 01294 275059 or email jmccoll@north-ayrshire.gov.uk.

Arran Antiquarians and the Heritage Museum are also involved in the project and you can contact either Tom Macleod from the Heritage Museum on tom.k.macleod@btinternet.com or Harry Davidson from Arran Antiquarians at captainh@tiscali.co.uk for more information.



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Whiting Bay WRI

On Monday November 9 the ladies of the Whiting Bay SWRI were treated to a demonstration of portrait drawing by Patsy Keen.

All present were amazed by the portraits. Patsy seems to be able to depict not just the physical likeness of her subjects but also their spirit. Members then tried their hand at wax painting and surprised themselves by being pleased with their creations.

All ladies over the age of 16 are invited to the next meeting on Wednesday December 2, 7.30pm in the Whiting Bay lesser hall.

Liz Jardine will be presenting 'A Swan Lake for the 21st century'.

Competition is for a handmade Christmas decoration. Exhibition is your favourite Christmas dessert.

Lamlash WRI

The next meeting of Lamlash WRI will be on Wednesday December 2 when Judy McAllister will demonstrate her love of quilting.

The competition is an embroidered Christmas card and the exhibition is a Christmas fairy. Please note that this meeting will be held in Lamlash Church Hall at 2pm.

The children's Christmas party will be held on Saturday December 19 at 2.30pm in Arran High School when all children from babies to primary five are invited.

Lamlash Bridge club results

N/S 1 E McNiven and E Paul +140, 2 J MacLure and A McKelvie -1010, 3 H Boyd and J Murchie -1710.

E/W 1 A and M Gee +4310, 2 D and M Bruce +3340, 3 T Martin and A Bilisland +2580.



The keen bridge players assemble for the afternoon session last Saturday in the four-day bridge congress at the Kinloch Hotel. 02_b48brd01

Bridge on the menu for four days

Seventy keen bridge players gathered at the Kinloch Hotel last weekend for a four-day feast of card-playing.

They were here for the 32nd annual Ogilvie Bridge Congress, organised by Ian Muir, president of the Ogilvie club based in Paisley.

He said: 'This is the first time we have come to Arran for our congress. There are 20 Ogilvie members here, and other players have come from such places as Montrose, Stranraer, Oban, Kilsyth and Edinburgh.'

'We normally play club matches every Thursday night. Bridge is seen as an older person's game and many clubs are struggling but we are just about treading water at the moment.'

'I'm grateful for the assistance given by congress managers Tom Workman and Jack Melville and my congress committee of Janice Perry and Leslie Kydd.'

'We have nine local Arran players competing and Trisha Martin of Lamlash has been very helpful with arrange-

ments. The management and staff at the Kinloch Hotel have been top notch. The accommodation, food and service have all been superb.'

'I'd be very surprised if we are not back next year.'

Results of the bridge congress were:

Pairs competition 1 Bobby Moore and Joan Fulton, 2 Malcolm and Wang Ying Hill.

Teams of four: 1 Tom Workman, Jack Melville, Lena McCulloch, Helen McEwing, 2 Tom Stewart, Max Blodwell, Ian Maxwell, Colin Dunsmore.

Bidding competition: Jean

Wilson and Anita McMillan. Two-board knock-out: Ian Maxwell, Malcolm Hill, Margaret Morton, Anita McMillan.

Balloted teams: winning teams; Trish Martin and Betty Bell, Jim and Ruth Fisher, Tom Workman and Lena McCulloch.

• Lamlash Bridge Club results, Monday November 23.

N/S 1 E McNiven and E Paul +140, 2 J MacLure and A McKelvie -1010, 3 H Boyd and J Murchie -1710.

E/W 1 A and M Gee +4310, 2 D and M Bruce +3340, 3 T Martin and A Bilisland +2580.

Arran Ceramics and Glass

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Russell and Jan Duncan, centre left, with their family, catching up on Arran news in Florida. b48ban01no

Gardening notes for Christmas

Now that Christmas is almost upon us, we are all racking our brains to think of unique and unusual gifts for our friends and relatives.

It may be necessary to look outside, especially if they are keen gardeners or if they have just bought their first house with a garden. They may require new secateurs, fork, spade, or kneeling pads. Good gloves don't usually go amiss either, or some replacement plants. From now until the end of February bare rooted trees and shrubs are usually available from nurseries.

For the unsure, a gift voucher from the local garden centre may suit them.

If you are going to visit friends and want to take a gift, why not purchase a colourful poinsettia or cyclamen persicum.

Poinsettias are extremely popular and every year thousands are imported from Canada. Their botanical name is euphorbia pulcherrima and their natural habitat is Mexico. The original colour of the top leaves or bracts is flame red, but through cultivation they are available in white and various shades of red and pink.

Clusters

They also have clusters of yellow flowers but they are insignificant. In the wild they can grow to a height of three metres.

Poinsettias like indirect sunlight so keeping them next or near to a window is fine as long as there are no draughts. Watering is done as and when required, but do not let them dry out.

Unfortunately it is best if they are purchased every year, as it is a year-long process usually with poor results, if you try getting them to flower the following year.

Also available at this time of year are lovely flowering cyclamen persicum, a native of Turkey, Israel and some Greek islands.

The marbled dark green foliage grows to a height of 15 cm, and the brightly coloured flowers in individual shades of reds, pinks and white look down upon it. Cyclamen are best watered from the bottom. This prevents water damage to the crown and foliage. Cyclamen can flower for many months if looked after properly, Remember that they do not like full sunlight, and yes they can be kept for the following year.

Once they have finished flowering reduce watering and place the pot on its side to keep it dry. Come May and June pot them up in fresh compost and start watering.

Bob McCaw.

Warmth for The Banner shines through

The Arran Banner on holiday feature has become one of the most popular sections in the newspaper. It is a fun feature and we appreciate the warm feeling that Arran folk have for the Banner.

Wherever they are from, the effort is much appreciated. But this week we have received a photograph that just about left us speechless.

The sender has clearly gone to a great deal of trouble to set up a photograph of he and his family reading the Banner.

However, it is not just one

copy; the family members are lounging around a pool in the Florida sunshine, reading eight different issues of the Arran Banner between them!

Russell and Jan Duncan of Brodick were enjoying a family holiday at Fort Myers Beach, Florida and clearly took the opportunity to catch up on all the recent news on

Arran. We presume that they all passed their copies round to each other after they had finished with them.

Delighted

We are delighted to receive photographs of people reading the Banner at all manner of exotic locations. Equally, it is just as good to get photos from more commonplace spots and nearer to home.

The Banner is on sale at Glasgow airport and we have heard of people buying another copy as they are heading for the departure lounge, just to take a photograph on holiday. There are a considerable number of 'Banner on holiday' photos now in our files but keep sending them in; they will help to brighten the winter weeks ahead.

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 and during the week when advanced bookings are sufficient
Lamb
Halibut
 Lamlash 01770 600559



From one village to another

John Craig, formerly of Shiskine and Brodick, laid a wreath in honour of the fallen heroes of his adopted village of Waterloo in North Lanarkshire.

Arran Rotary Club holds an open meeting

Isle of Arran Rotary Club does a great deal of work for the people of Arran through fundraising and other means. Often this is not obvious to the general public because of the confidential nature of much of the work.

Rotary president Mairi

Christie said: 'On Tuesday December 1 in the Glencloy Suite at Auchrannie, Rotary will be providing a more public service.

Charges

'At 7.15pm there will be a discussion and meeting with Rotarian and Brodick

pharmacist, Sarah McSorley about the NHS Minor Ailment Service, provided free to those who do not pay prescription charges. Many people do not know or do not take advantage of the service.

'On Tuesday night you

will be able to ask questions and obtain literature on the service.

All are welcome whether or not they fall into the above category.'

Tea or coffee and biscuits will be available and there is no charge for the evening.

Island's amateur artists enjoy an embroidery masterclass

Some of Arran's budding amateur artists enjoyed an embroidery masterclass with one of Scotland's greatest fashion designers last week.

Laura Lees who had been nominated for both Scottish Style and Fashion Designer of the year taught members of the Arran Visual Arts group at the Rangers Centre in Brodick.

For those who attended her workshop two years ago this was an eagerly awaited return of a designer who challenged and inspired in equal measure.

Design

Sarah Hay, one of the group taking part, said: 'Forget the image of genteel ladies hand stitching dainty samplers, Laura's approach is anything but genteel, as she firmly coaxed us into exploring and experimenting with colour and design, pushing us beyond our personal comfort



Members of the Arran Visual Arts group with fashion designer Laura Lees (centre) at her embroidery workshop last week.

zones and stretching our creativity.

'The pace was fast as she encouraged us to stop think-

ing about it and get on with it.' Using layers of fabric and machine stitching to build texture and depth, with decorative hand stitched embellishment, Laura gave just the right amount of support and help when creative block threatened to overwhelm.

Striking

The end products were all striking expressions of artistic individuality, which had evolved through Laura's infectious enthusiasm, and gift of self-belief that she instilled in the group over

just two days.

'It was a privilege to have the opportunity to work with a designer of Laura's calibre,' said Sarah, 'and I hope she will return to Arran for further workshops in the not too distant future. I know my name will be at the top of the list.'

No previous experience is required, and beginners are most welcome at Arran Visual Arts meetings. For more information, contact workshop organiser Alison Armstrong on 600724.



Our Winter Warmer Special continues for the winter months
2 Course Lunch plus any soft drink, 1/2 beer or 125ml wine.

Evening Meals between 6pm - 7pm only.
Choice of 2 courses for £13.50
Both available Monday - Saturday

Pre Christmas Lunch and Dinner bookings **now being taken**
Tel 01770 302169.

Please note there will be no lunches or evening meals on
Monday 30th Nov and Monday 7th Dec ONLY
Sorry for any inconvenience.

(Opposite Post Office), Brodick,
Isle of Arran Tel: 01770 302169

Festive Fun

Dates for your Diary

Christmas Party Nights

5th December 12th December
A glass of bubbly on arrival - £19.95
Booking essential

Each Sunday in December
Family Quiz in the restaurant 3-5pm

Thursday 24th December
Lounge Bar & Restaurant open as usual - all welcome!!

Friday 25th December
Closed - Happy Christmas!

Saturday 26th December
Family Karaoke & Buffet in the restaurant - 3pm till 7pm

Thurs 31st December
Hogmanay Party Night
Ticket Only 8.30 till late £14.95 Booking essential

- Bar snacks served 12 - 5 Tues - Sun in the bar
- Pizza deals 5 - 7.30 2 pizzas & a bottle of house wine £19.95
- School kids Friday special slice of pizza and a can of juice £2.50

Lamlash Bay Hotel, Arran. Tel: 600844

LAMLASH DRAMA CLUB PRESENTS
ARRAN'S OWN CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME
"CINDERELLA"
In The Community Theatre, Lamlash

Thursday 10th December @ 7.30pm
Friday 11th December @ 7.30pm
Saturday 12th December @ 2pm and 7.30pm
Doors open 6pm for evenings and 1.30pm for Matinee

Tickets on sale @ KA Campus Office in the High School
Saturday 28th Nov from 10am - 4pm
Monday 30th - Wednesday 2nd Dec from 6pm - 8pm
And Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th Dec 10am-4pm
Thereafter at the door prior to performances

Adults £7.00 Under 16's and over 60's £5.00
Family 'Saver' (2 adults and 2 children) £20.00

BOOK EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT

Isle of Arran Annual Carol Concert

Lamlash Church
7.30pm Monday December 7th 2009

Come and join us for this concert of readings,
carols and songs.

Leading into the festive season of Christmas
Those taking part include
Brodick Primary School Choir
The Rowan singers
The Arran Brass Band
Lochranza Choir
And Others
plus yourselves

Proceeds in aid of CLIC SARGENT
Cancer Fund

Scottish Charity No SC015072

Avoid a financial hangover in the New year with CAB

The Arran Citizens Advice Bureau has issued a list of ten advice points for people to bear in mind when they are shopping for Christmas.

CAB manager, Sheridan Waldon said: We all know that this time of year means. Christmas is looming once again and there's a whole load of things to be done - and most of them involve spending money!

'The temptation is to put it all on plastic, but that is never a good idea because it will always come back to haunt you, and things won't seem so festive when it does.

'Here at the CAB we know very well that January sees a stream of people through our doors who have over-spent at Christmas and are in severe financial difficulty as a result. We all want to enjoy ourselves at this time of year but it's so sad to see the misery that hits people when they have paid too high a price - particularly when it is so easily avoidable.'

Sheridan told *The Banner* that it is extremely important that people are sensible and plan ahead to make sure they are not left completely out of pocket and even in debt.

So for the people of Arran here are CAB's 'Top 10 Rules for how to have not just a

happy Christmas but one which doesn't leave you with a severe financial hangover in the New Year'.

- 1 Be realistic about what you can afford.
- 2 If you can afford to pay for goods outright, Do It!
- 3 If you are using credit, shop around for the best deal.
- 4 Read the terms and conditions of any credit agreement closely.
- 5 Beware of store cards.
- 6 Don't just run up an overdraft without talking first to your bank.
- 7 Remember the New Year Utility bills that need to be paid.
- 8 When it does come to paying those bills, prioritise.
- 9 Have you maximised your income? There may be benefits available to you.
- 10 If you do think you've over-spent, Get Help Immediately!

For help and advice from the CAB, contact their local helpline on 600210, or visit them at their office on Park Terrace, Lamlash.

The opening hours are 10am - 2pm on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday.

Save the Children Christmas Fayre

The total amount raised at the Save the Children Christmas Fayre on Saturday November 7 in Brodick Hall was a fantastic £1,788.92.

Over and above that amount £1,200 was made from the raffle of Judy McAllister's quilt which was won by Maureen Oakes of Lamlash.

A further £736.76 was raised from the Save the Children quiz. The winner was Sue Rowe of Peebles.

Winners of the Christmas hampers were David and Mary Parker of Corriegills and Biff Simpson of Brodick.

Quiz answers were: 1 A little on the large side, 2 Rock around the clock, 3 No-one understands, 4 The good, the bad and the ugly, 5 Beating about the bush, 6 No two ways about it, 7 All for one and one for all, 8 Long time, no see, 9 Making ends meet, 10 An eye for an eye, 11 Kiss and make up, 12 Parting of the ways, 13 Undercover cop, 14 One foot in the grave, 15 Circles under the eyes. 16 A clerical error.

Special thanks go to the young piper Iain Clarke and to all who supported the event.

Brodick Bridge Club

Brodick Bridge Club results for November 12.

N/S: 1 T Martin and D Hamilton +1410, 2 J McClure and A McKelvie -110, 3 H Boyd and L Paul -290.

E/W: 1 J Barclay and E McNiven +1780, 2 E Sillars and M McGill, 3 P Adamson and J McBride +1080.

Results for November 19.

N/S: 1 J McBride and E McConnell +1130, 2 T Martin and D Hamilton -80, 3 J McClure and A McKelvie -930.

E/W: 1 D Scobie and D Bruce +2750, 2 M Gardner and E McNiven +2500, 3 L Trickett and M Jones -340.



Robyn Keen and Amie Hume played to a full house at Brodick Hall last Saturday night.

Debut Arran concert for Robyn and Amie

Harry Ross, *The Arran Banner's music correspondent*, sends us a report from Brodick Hall last Saturday night where he thoroughly enjoyed Robyn Keen and Amie Hume's debut concert on the island. Octogenarian Harry joined the legions of loyal fans for the concert, which also featured support band Acoustic Butterfly.

This was Robyn and Amie's debut concert and I immediately heard and saw what I think was the beginning of something unique and sensational.

With the two voices blending in lovely harmony with balanced tone and an uncanny awareness of each other's harmonic variations, the sound was truly magnificent.

Their songs were all written by them - both the lyrics and music - and they already had an informality which I found most interesting and very attractive to listen to.

The lyrics were close and

personal and I felt they were to some extent reflecting their feelings about life and questioning their thoughts about it.

'My Room' and 'Where do you go?' were full of emotion and feeling and later in the concert 'Volcano' with its unusual bass guitar backing.

'Nan Innes', which was written as a tribute to a close relative, was full of personal thoughts on an emotive subject.

Throughout the concert they were supported by Ian Murray on subtle percussion and the whole concert was a success.

I felt however that they need to expand out of the close personal mood and introduce some up-tempo pieces to add just a little variety.

This was most evident when they were joined by Phil Campbell and 'Long Live Each One of Us' provided a lively rush to an excellent debut. HR



Robyn and Amie in Brodick before their concert.

BANNERFORUM
Share your experiences at
WWW.ARRANBANNER.CO.UK

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Marvin Elliott, William Lees, Bob Lees, Graham
McArthur, Marion Logan, Sandra Graham, Janette
MacLeod, Richard Leclerc, Ronnie McNeice
Opening, 11.30 am to 4.00pm Thurs, Fri, Sat, Sun
www.corriearran.com

Hospital Supporters League Christmas Fayre
SUNDAY 6TH DECEMBER
Whiting Bay Hall 2pm - 4pm
All the usual stalls. Tombola and Raffle
Table Tops available (£6 donation)
Please phone May McLellan 600506 to book.
Admission Adults £1 Children 50p.
Under school age Free
Includes Teas, Coffees and Mince Pies
Come and enjoy Dr Tinto's quiz, meet friends
and support your hospital at the same time.
Donations of Home Baking, Raffle Prizes or
Tombola can be left at the hall from 11am on
the day and would be much appreciated.

THE GOLDEN DRAGON CHINESE RESTAURANT
at The McLaren Hotel, Brodick
Jason & his team look forward to welcoming you to his new restaurant
Book Now for Christmas Parties
fantastic festive packages available
Full take-away menu also available
Heading home on the 6 o'clock ferry? Give us a call and we will have your meal ready for your arrival in Brodick!
Open 6 days 5pm till 10pm - closed Mondays
Last orders for takeaway and sit down meals 10pm
Tel: 01770 302226

Bird Notes - Merlin

The smallest of the falcons is a truly magic addition to any day's birding and on Arran this is a good time of year to look out for the merlin.

In Scotland, merlin is a scarce resident breeder on upland heather moors. In addition, passage and winter visitors are mainly to coastal and low-lying areas.

It is a holarctic species breeding across northern Europe, Asia and North America. It is a migrant across most of its range with some European birds travelling to North Africa and the Middle East for the winter.

Having said that, studies have shown that around three quarters of Scotland's merlins remain within 60 miles of their breeding area. As well as this

By Jim Cassels

resident population, the winter population is enhanced by birds from Iceland.

From ringing returns, it is estimated that about a third of the British population in winter are from Iceland. These Iceland birds are mainly found on the west of Britain.

This may help to explain why most of the Arran sightings are from the winter. There are no confirmed breeding records for Arran.

This small thrush sized, dynamic, chunky falcon hunts in a distinctive way. Over open country it will fly relatively slowly towards its prey, small birds or large insects, rapidly accelerating into the final chase.

In fast flight it has rapid wing beats followed by short glides, often with wings closed, which give it a thrush-like flight that may help to fool its prey. It is relentless in pursuit until the prey is exhausted.

Much of its time is spent on low posts, rocks and even clods of earth scanning the landscape.

Enjoy your birding.

Please send all sightings, giving "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 2008" and visit this website www.arranbirding.co.uk



A merlin.



Young rider Danielle Mutch puts her best feet forward on horse Tilly while her mum leads the way at the annual Riding Club Showing Show.

Arran Riding Club celebrate a busy season finale

The Arran Riding Club held their final training event of the year recently with two fascinating teaching days with Aileen Craig of Stewarton.

Aileen is a highly accomplished show jumper and has represented both Scotland and the UK.

She has been ranked in the top three riders in Scotland for nine years but it was Aileen's first teaching visit to Arran.

Liz Kennedy, secretary of Arran Riding Club, said: 'We'd like to thank Mr and Mrs Thomson and Dawn Murchie for use of their riding schools.'

Other successful events this year have included the Pony Club Camp in September which saw the younger riders being put through their paces by Jen Tod.

It was a weekend of thorough teaching covering all aspects of horse care, stable management, feeding, grooming as well as flat and jumping lessons.

'The improvement in each youngster was very evident by Sunday afternoon,' said Liz. 'Thanks Jen and thanks also to the Murchie family at the Greannan for providing accommodation for horses and riders.'

The Adult Training (aka big girls camp) in September was oversubscribed as always and this is a testament to the excellent teaching provided by Yvonne MacFarlane over the two days.

Yvonne has the amazing ability to analyse not only what each rider is capable of, but also what each horse is capable of, and at the same time have a beady eye on every rider in the lesson.

Unfortunately the weather in October denied the club of their final 'Doreen Day', where Doreen Mathie, another regular instructor, comes to teach once a month between April and October.

It will be a long winter – but the club look forward to welcoming Doreen back in April.

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Available from all good retailers or call us on 01631 568000

The Arran Banner 20 years ago

Saturday, November 25, 1989

Sporting chance for Arran

A 'custom built outdoor sports facility' may be built on Arran if a suitable site can be found.

This was the message from MP Brian Wilson at a public meeting of the Council of Social Services last week.

With a consultant from the Scottish Sports Council he explained that funds could be made available in the next year.

Sites for the stadium under consideration are the ground adjacent to the Lamlash playing field and the present Shiskine football pitch.

Hall future doubted

The future of Shiskine Public Hall is in doubt through lack of support from local people.

The three remaining committee members met the trustees this week to discuss whether or not it can stay open as a village hall.

It has been decided to hold a public meeting in January as a final attempt to enlist sufficient local enthusiasts to keep it running as a place for meetings, playgroups and community activities.

Goodbye to a well known face

A man well known to every person over the age of 30 who went to school on the island has died this week.

John Blair Petrie passed away on Thursday at Stirling Royal Infirmary.

Mr Petrie first came to Arran in 1939 as a schoolteacher in charge of evacuee children and for a year taught at Altachorvie in Lamlash.

He became the first headmaster of Arran High School in 1946 and was there for 26 years until his retirement in 1972.

Yesterday's mail?

Late deliveries of island mail could soon be a thing of the past.

Although, should it arrive at an early hour, it will in fact be the previous day's mail.

Delivery of mail as late as 8pm has been the source of complaints for both householders and postmen during the winter ferry timetable for years.

With the extra mail at Christmas this has been circumvented by delivering the previous days mail with an early start.

But while this has been allowed for just 10 days prior to Christmas, it may become regular throughout the winter.

Vital equipment for doctors

The mother of a young girl from Arran who died of meningitis two years ago presented local GPs with foetal heart detectors this week.

When Ann Miller died unexpectedly of the virus aged 22 in March 1987, the whole family felt sadness for the tragedy.

Anne is not forgotten however and the main thing, which keeps her name alive, is the memorial fund run by her mother Sheena.

On Wednesday Sheena Miller presented Drs Kerr and Campbell with foetal heart detectors to monitor babies for as young as 10 weeks old.

Retirement thanks

David Gair of the MV Isle of Arran would like to thank the community of Arran for their expression of good wishes and gifts on his retirement from CalMac.

Many thanks for your friendship during my years on the Brodick to Ardrossan route.



Judy MacAllister of Park House, Corriecravie can't stop making quilts and this eight-foot square beauty in greens and yellows is soon to be raffled to raise money for Leukaemia research. b48twe04

Right: Arran's contemporary music will soon get a severe jolt with the arrival of the inimitable musician Charlie Fraser. His debut will be on Saturday night in the downstairs bar of The Douglas Hotel, where guests will be introduced to a new kind of disco music. b48twe02



Eleanor Harrison of Brodick demonstrates how she creates her beautiful animal portraits which have gone on sale in Tom Mundy's Arran Fine Art gallery at the Douglas Centre this week. b48twe01



Janet Russell of Arran Provisions had a lucky escape when her car left the road above Lamlash on Tuesday morning and ploughed into the bushes. b48twe03



RED DOOR

Brodick

December Opening Hours

Monday – Saturday
10am – 5pm

Sunday
12pm – 4pm

GIFTS FOR ALL

Tel 303549

The Ormidale

Brodick 01770 302293

HOME COOKED BAR MEALS

Served Daily from 6pm – 9pm Saturdays and Sundays from 12.30pm till 2pm
Malt Whiskies Children Welcome

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Tuesday - Pop Quiz (suits all ages) - 10pm
Wednesday - Country/ Blues Session - 9.30pm
Thursday - General Knowledge quiz - 10pm
Saturday - Over 21s Disco - 10pm

Real Ale (Recommended CAMRA Good Beer Guide)

Whats On

in association with Isle of Arran Brewery

www.arranbrewery.com Tel: 01770 302353

ISLE OF
ARRAN
BREWERY

EVERYDAY

Trout fishing
Hawk Walks
Fitness Assessments, Gym Induction, Personal Training

Loch Garbad, Bank
Lamlash
Auchrannie Spa & Gym

SATURDAY 28th NOVEMBER

Blackwaterfoot Junior Football
Karate
Family Games Kids & Adults
Fun in the Spa Pool
Over 21's Disco
Arran Dancers (4 years and up)
Youth Cafe (High School Pupils)
Folk session
Saturday Social
Folk Music
RNLI shop open
Farmers market
Quiz
Friends of Lochranza Kirk Sale of Work

Coaching, 10.30am - noon
Auchrannie Games Hall, 11.30am - 12.30pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
Auchrannie Pool, 4pm - 5pm
The Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Arran High School, 10am
Brodict Church Hall, 7pm - 9pm
Kildonan Hotel, 9pm
Whiting Bay Golf Club, 6pm - Late
Kildonan Hotel, 9pm
Lamlash Pier 10.30 till 12.30
Kilmory Hall, 10.30am - 2pm
Catacol Bay Hotel, 8.30pm
Lochranza Hall, 2pm - 4pm

SUNDAY 29th NOVEMBER

Alcoholics Anonymous
Family Games Kids & Adults
Folk Session
Fun in the Spa Pool
Arran Fiddle Club- Childrens Classes
Folk Session
Motocross Practice (Weather Permitting)
Open Pool Tournament
Christmas Lights Switch On

Church Hall, Brodict, 4.30pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
Auchrannie Pool, 4pm - 5pm
Library Annexe, 1.45pm
Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
Southbank Farm track, 6pm - 7.30pm
Kinloch Public Bar, 3pm
Brodict Hall, 3.30pm - 4.30pm

MONDAY 30th NOVEMBER

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

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

TUESDAY 1st DECEMBER

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

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

Junior Hockey Club
Brodict Toddler Group
Body Conditioning Class
Youth Club
Senior Fitness
Step Aerobics
Rotary Club
Scottish Country Dancing
Winter Bowling
Indoor Bowling
Cricket Indoor Nets

Ormidale Pavillion, 6-7pm
Church Hall, 10am - 12pm
KA Leisure, dance studio 6pm - 7pm
Kildonan Hall - 6.30pm
Auchrannie, 10am - 11am
Auchrannie Gym, 7pm - 8pm
Glencloy Suite, Auchrannie 7.15pm
Brodict Church Hall, 7.30pm
Auchrannie, 7pm
Corrie & Sannox Hall, 2pm - 4pm
High School Gym, 6.30pm - 8.30pm

WEDNESDAY 2nd DECEMBER

Hockey
Jnr Rugby Training
AquaFizz
Circuit Training
Arran Heritage Museum Archives & Genealogy
Kickboxing
Arran Healing Rooms
Alcoholics Anonymous
Arran Rugby Club Seniors Training
Arran Brass Rehearsal
Selt Making Class
Beavers
Yogalates
Pre school Music & Drama Classes
Quiz Night
Learn to Salza
Coffee Morning

Auchrannie Hall, 7pm - 8pm (Games Hall)
P4 - S4 Ormidale Park, 6pm - 7.15pm
Auchrannie Hotel, 9.45am - 10.30am (Hotel Pool)
Auchrannie, 6pm - 7.15pm (Gym)
10.30 - 12.30pm & 1.30 - 3.30pm
KA Leisure, dance studio, 7pm - 8.30pm
High School, 7.30pm - 9pm
Lamlash Church Hall - 7.30pm - 9pm
Ormidale Park, 7.30pm
Whiting Bay Hall 7.15pm
Shipfield, Lamlash, 10am - 4pm
High School, Lamlash 6.15pm - 7.15pm
Auchrannie Gym, 10am - 11am
Auchrannie Dance Studio, Various Times
Eden Lodge Hotel Whiting Bay, 8.30pm
Auchrannie Cruize Bar, 7pm - 8.30pm
Lamlash Church Hall, 10.15am - 12pm

THURSDAY 3rd DECEMBER

Senior Fitness
General Knowledge Quiz
Citizens Advice
Lochranza Craft Club
Coffee Morning
Cardiac Rehab
Table Tennis
Legs, Bums & Tums Class
Indoor Bowling
Smoking Cessation Group
Brodict Embroidery Group
Youth Club
Cubs
The Wee Blether
Winter Bowling
Scouts
Guys & Dolls rehearsals

Auchrannie 9.30am - 10.30am
The Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Open 10am - 2pm
Hall, 2pm
St Molios Church 10.30am - 12pm
Auchrannie Gym 2pm - 3pm
Kildonan Hall, 3pm - 5pm
KA Leisure, gameshall, 6.30pm - 7.15pm
Auchrannie Hall 7pm
Ormidale Pavillion, 11am - 12pm
Brodict Library 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Youth Cabin, Lamlash 7-9pm
Shiskine Hall 6.30-8pm
Whiting Bay Hall, 11.30am - 1.30pm
Auchrannie, 7pm
Shiskine Hall 8-9.30pm
Brodict Hall, 7.30pm

FRIDAY 4th DECEMBER

Arran Pipe Band Practice
AquaFizz
Citizens Advice
Quiz
Over 21's Disco
Yogalates
Street Dance
Seniors Badminton (Over 50s)
Arran Ceilidh Dance Group
Lamlash Friday Club
Foundations at The Cabin
Open Folk Night
Prizegiving

Brodict Hall, 7.30pm
Auchrannie Pool, 9.45am - 10.30am
Open 10am - 2pm
Whiting Bay Golf Club, 9pm
The Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Auchrannie Gym, 10am - 11am
Auchrannie Gym, 7pm - 8pm
Auchrannie Sports Hall, 2pm
Lamlash Church Hall, 8pm - 10pm
Lamlash Church Hall, 2pm - 3.30pm
The Cabin, 7pm - 9pm
Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay, 9.30pm
Whiting Bay Bowling Club, 7pm

SATURDAY 5th DECEMBER



Christmas Fayre
Christmas Market

Shiskine Primary, 10.30am
Whiting Bay Hall, 11am - 3pm



To appear in Whats On telephone the Arran Banner 01770 302142

PUBLIC NOTICES

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2008

Notice of Pre-Application Consultation (PAC)
to be published in a local newspaper under regulation 7(2)

Airtricity (SSE Renewables) the prospective applicant, hereby gives notice of a Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) to be undertaken in advance of the submission of a planning application to Argyll and Bute Council for a prospective development comprising: Construction & operation of a windfarm comprising ten wind generating turbines (upto max 25MW capacity) & associated infrastructure, including: construction of turbine foundations & associated hardstandings; upgrading & formation of new access tracks & junction; extraction of rock from borrow pits; construction of sub-station & control building; erection of one anemometer mast & formation of temporary construction compound and laydown area at Land at Cour (south west of Cour Bay) Kintyre Peninsula, Argyll & Bute, PA28 6 (central grid reference: 178931/ 647526).

Further information in respect of the prospective development may be obtained by contacting:
Gillian Craig (Development Project Manager),
Airtricity Developments (UK) Ltd, 16 Robertson Street, Glasgow, G2 8DS
T: 0141 225 4563 E: gillian.craig@airtricity.com W: www.scottish-southern.co.uk

A public event which will include an exhibition of the prospective development and opportunity for discussion with the prospective applicant is to be held at: Tarbert Village Hall, Campbeltown Road, Tarbert, PA29 6TX on 7th December 2009 between the hours of 2pm until 8pm.

Any persons wishing to submit comments should submit these to the prospective applicant at the Airtricity Developments (UK) Ltd (address as above) no later than 8th January 2010.

Airtricity would welcome the submission of comments in respect of the proposal, however please note that persons submitting comments in response to Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) are advised that comments submitted to the prospective applicant at this time are not representations to the planning authority; in the event that the prospective applicant submits a formal application for planning permission then there would be an opportunity to submit representations to Argyll & Bute Council as the planning authority at that time.

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SURGERY NOTICE

Councillor Anthony Gurney
(Ward 5 - Ardrossan & Arran)



will NOT be available for consultation on Wednesday 2nd December 2009 and Wednesday 6th January 2010 in the Ormidale Sports Pavilion, Brodick.

However, Councillor Gurney will be available for consultation on Thursday 3rd December 2009 in the Invercloy Hotel, Brodick, Isle of Arran from 7.30 p.m. - 8.30 p.m.

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


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

Written representations may be made to the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Protective Services) at the address below by 18th December 2009. Any representations received will be open to public view.
*and at The Council Offices, Lamslash

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2008
Notice of application to be published under regulation 20(1)

Application No: 09/00768/PP Address: Ladeside, Lochranza, Brodick, Isle Of Arran KA27 8HL Proposed Development: Amendment to planning permission N/08/00667/PP to form extension to rear and detached garage to side of detached dwelling house

Elma Murray
Chief Executive
Cunninghame House
IRVINE
KA12 8EE



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Tel: (01770) 860247

BRODICK HEALTH CENTRE
Tel: (01770) 302175

LAMLASH MEDICAL CENTRE
Tel: (01770) 600516

Seasonal Flu Vaccinations

If you are eligible for a Seasonal Flu vaccination but have not yet been vaccinated and would like to be, please phone your surgery to make an appointment with the practice nurse or healthcare assistant.

Please be advised that this is for Seasonal Flu vaccinations only.
Patients will be invited by their practice for a Swine Flu vaccination.

SCOTTISH TENANT FARMERS ASSOCIATION
FIRST ARRAN MEETING
Wednesday 9th December
High School 7.30pm
Open To All

Come and join us at our meeting and keep abreast of latest developments in the tenanted sector. Topics to be covered include CAP and the impact that changes to SFP may have on tenanted farms. It is vital that you express your views on the future of agricultural support.

Arran Angling Association


AGM
Tuesday 8th December
Arran High School
7.30pm

Shiskine Valley Trust

AGM
Wednesday 16th December
Shiskine Hall
7.30pm
SC037111

ARRAN MOTOCROSS

AGM
Tuesday 8th December
Ormidale Pavilion
At 7.30pm
All welcome.



Arran Yacht Club
AGM
7.30pm
Thursday 10th December
Lamlash Golf Club

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FRIDGE/FREEZER was built-in. Would make useful utility one £25 Tel 700636

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ELECTRICIANS ten x 3m lengths of cable tray. Tel 600287

EQUESTRIAN

PONY RUG for winter turnout, cleaned and excellent condition, fit 14.2hh. £30. Tel 870295

FURNITURE

SHAKER style pine topped kitchen table with 4 Marilyn chairs from John Lewis £80 ono Tel 810615

PUPS

JACK RUSSELL bitch. 12 weeks. Born 5th September. Worth seeing Tel 700665

MISCELLANEOUS

WHITE AGA cooker, vgc. Tel 860276

BANDSAW BLADES various sizes. Tel 600238

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RECRUITMENT



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The ideal candidate will be:

- Confident & comfortable dealing with a variety of customers and have an excellent telephone manner.
- IT literate including Microsoft Word, Excel, and Outlook
- Sales focused with the ability to work under pressure and to deadlines in a busy environment.
- A self-starter with excellent organisational skills.

Benefits of this post include access to our company pension and healthcare schemes, and the opportunity to advance in a rapidly growing company.

Salary is negotiable depending on experience and full or part time, and job share applicants will be considered. This post will require occasional Saturday shifts.

Written enquiries including your current CV should be sent to:

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Must have own transport

Tel 07901 666482

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

www.arranbanner.co.uk

Or email us at:

editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Last week Archie was on the beach at Sandbraes with Seawinds in the background. Judith and Stuart were first correct and said: 'Tell Archie to wait for Shep; he will be there in May.' Fiss was also quick off the mark and said: 'What a lovely picture.' This week he is on a forest track on a wet day, but where? 02_b48arc01



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CHURCH NOTICES**ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

Sunday 29 November
(Church is on the road between Machrie & Blackwaterfoot)
Shiskine 11am
Sunday School meets in the Church Hall
Brodict 7pm (Church is behind Post Office)
Rev David Karoon
All welcome

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Vigil Mass: 7.30pm
Sunday Morning Mass 11am

WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH

Sunday 29 November
Worship for the first Sunday in Advent will be conducted by the minister, Rev Elizabeth Watson at 10.30am.
Tea and coffee will be served in the Transept after the service. The Church Christmas Card, to be sent to all members, will be available to be signed, and all proceeds will go to Al Shurooq School nr Bethlehem.
All welcome.

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(in full communion with the Church of England)
St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.
Sunday 29 November
Holy Communion, 11am
Revd Paul Fletcher
Coffee and Annual Church Meeting after service.
Wednesday, 2 December
Holy Communion
12.15 pm.
All Welcome..

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Kilmory linked with Lamlash
"A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"
Sunday 29 November
Rev Gillian Maclean
Kilmory 10am
Lamlash 11.30am
In both churches
Bible Sunday
All welcome, including families; children's area

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND (continuing)

Sunday 29 November
11am
Trust Housing Lounge, Glen Estate, Brodict
Evening Service
5 Glen Road, 7pm
Wednesday 2 December
Prayer Meeting
7pm
Rev I MacLeod
All welcome

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH.

Ormidale Pavilion
Brodict.
Sunday 29 November

10.45am Communion
Tea and coffee from 11.10am
11.30am For all the family
Speaker: Rev Willie Wright
Everyone very welcome

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

North Arran: Brodict, Corrie, Lochranza, Pirmill and Shiskine.
Independent but working together.
Minister
Rev Angus Adamson.
Parish Asst
Mrs Jean Hunter.
Worship will be conducted in the above churches at the following times, to which all are invited - Families, young people and children welcome
Sunday 29 November
Brodict 10.30am
Corrie. 12pm
Lochranza 10.15am. Family Service
Shiskine 12pm Family Service
A service of Worship will be held in Montrose House at 1.30pm
A service for health and healing will be held in Lamlash Church at 7pm

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

Meeting for Worship
Sunday 29 November
11am
Dippen House, Dippen.
Enquiries to Judith 820223.
All are welcome.

ARRAN CHURCHES TOGETHER

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE
Thursday, 3rd December, 7 pm
Brodict Church (NB. Children assemble to make Christingles at 6.30)
All welcome - Especially Children
In view of the Christingle Service, there will be no Taizé worship at St Margaret's Episcopal Church at 8.00 pm on Thursday, 3rd December]

DEATHS**CAMPBELL SYBIL LILLIAN**

On 20th November, suddenly on holiday in the Caribbean, Sybil Lillian (nee Peach) much loved wife of the late Frank, devoted mother of Susan and Philip. Also, she was a dear mother-in-law to Michael and Frances and much loved grandmother and great grandmother to Sarah and Simon, Jane and David, Jenny, Robin and Emily. A loving sister to Dorothy, aunt and great aunt. Sybil will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. Funeral arrangements will be announced in the Banner next week.

MEMORIALS**MACKENZIE JAMES**

Time passes, memories stay, loved and remembered every day.
Love Liz, Andy, Susan & Ross xx

MACKENZIE

In loving memory of James. Much loved son, brother and uncle.
Taken away from us on 28th November 2004.
Deep are the memories Special they stay
No passing of years Will take them away.
Mum, Donald, John and families.

MACKENZIE JAMES

Five years have passed But memories last
We try not to be sad and think of all the good times we have had.
Miss you every day.
All our love June and James

BIRTHS**STURGEON**

To Billy and Vicky (nee Dillon) a daughter,
Niamh Violet born 13th November in Ayrshire Maternity Unit.
First grandchild for Billy and Alison, third grandchild for Alan and Janet
Thanking all in attendance.
Thankyou for all the lovely cards and gifts.

Always ahead of fashion**Happy 50th****Lamlash Golf Club**

Thursday 19 and Sunday 22 November no golf due to adverse weather conditions.

Fixtures: Every Thursday 15 hole medal. Sunday 29 November Stableford at 11am.

Whiting Bay Golf Club

Sunday 22 November. 18 brave souls faced the wild and windy elements and played in the Wolfi Kroner Stableford, and despite the weather scoring was steady enough to allow the CSS to remain at 36 points. Many thanks go to Wolfi and family for the refreshments during the round, the welcome hot soup afterwards and the generous prizes for the lucky winners. First John Pennycott 36 pts, 2nd Sandy Pringle 35 pts, 3rd Nicol Auld 34 pts, (bih) Nicol also won scratch with 66 and the only magic 2 by Dan Bremner.

Fixtures - Sunday 29th, Taylor Trophy Greensome. One draw for partners at 11am.

Brodict Golf Club

Wednesday winter cup. With a bad weather forecast only seven hardy souls turned up to play which gave a three ball and a fourball for the draw. As usual this was fairly supervised and all down to luck.

The rain stayed off for most of the round with the threeball getting in almost dry alas the fourball were not as lucky. There was one magic 2 by Charlie O'Neill.

The sweep was won by Dougie Robertson 77-11=66 Jim Green was second 83-16=67. Hopefully the weather will be kinder next week. Sun 22 Nov, Winter Cup, 12 played. 1 A Robertson(18) 38 pts, 2 D Robertson(18) 35 pts, 3 D Hendry(10) 35 pts. There were two 2s, Bobby McCrae and Chris Pattenden.

Fixtures - Sun 29 Nov - Clochender. Every Friday from now through to Christmas - pool competition from 7pm (note time change) members and their guests welcome.

Saturday 28 November, St Andrew's night social evening. Scottish menu available from 6.30pm to 8.30pm, followed by entertainment and quiz. All members, their partners and guests most welcome.

Arran Golfers Association

Winter league/Duncan trophy 2009/2010.

Second round at Shiskine Golf Club, Sunday December 6. Draw: Shiskine v Brodict at 10am, Machrie v Whiting Bay at 10.50am, Corrie v Lamlash at 11.40am. Keep the fingers crossed for dry weather.

Corrie Golf Club

Fixtures: Saturday November 28, Winter Cup 12pm start. Saturday December 5, Sweep, 12pm start. Sunday December 6, AGA Winter league at Shiskine.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Tues 17 Nov Winter Cup Tee Off 12pm. 1 Brian Sherwood 33 BIH, 2 David Price 33, 3 Hugh McClelland 31. Scratch Brian Sherwood 79. Fixtures : Tues 1 Dec Winter Cup tee off 12pm. Sat 5 Dec Lochranza Hotel Cup and Freebie final tee off 12pm.

Shiskine Golf Club

Results: Sunday 22 Nov - 12-hole Medal. 1 Donald Logan 56-6 50(bih), 2 Graham Martlew 58-8 50, 3 Brian Sherwood 57-5 52(bih). Best scratch D Logan 56, magic twos Brian Sherwood (4th).

Apologies for six-club Texas Scramble omissions last week:

Nearest the pin-4th hole - Hannah Johnston, 10th hole-Drew Samuel, 12th hole-J Knox

Fixtures: Saturday 28 Nov - Alan C Bannatyne Memorial Quaich and Lochranza match, Sunday 29 Nov - 18-hole



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Cairnhouse winners last Sunday; Lynn Ramage on Molly, Emma Hill on Dynah, Katy Bannatyne on Owen, Hannah Bone on Lilly, Laura Tulloch on Summer and Hazel Ramage on Fran. 02_b48hor01

Cairnhouse riders brave the storm in winter points competition

It was touch and go for the second show of the winter points at Cairnhouse Riding Centre, Blackwaterfoot last Sunday. But with a window in the weather and the wind blowing a good old hoolie the rain stayed away for the best part of the competition.

Twenty-two riders turned up and there were 14 forward for the Wobble classes. Ten jumped clear in the first class, 11 in the second round and nine rode a double clear for three points on the leader board; Charity May, Eilidh McNeil, Katie Morrison, Ailsa McNicol, Bethany Walsh, Lauren MacAlister, Nicola MacAlister and Isla Yuill. Hannah Bone did it again on the fabulous Lilly, she rode the fastest double clear in 32.35 seconds to win the class and pick up the five points.

Exchanged

The Duster badges were exchanged a few times with the first recipient of the junior one being Sarah MacNeil who came off Promise after crossing the finishing line and riding a super clear round.

Gemma Bennet also did well at her first winter points, and went clear in the second round for a point.

The Novice class had 13 entered and ten went round to a jump off against the clock. It was great to see Joolie taking part again; she was drawn first and came home clear in 43.56 seconds riding Storm.

Lynn Ramage was in next and turned Malakye into a flying machine. Getting round clear in 29.28 seconds. She held the lead until Hannah, who turned several really tight turns and clipped the time by a margin to win the class in 28.66 seconds.

Valuable

Eilidh and Sullivan went into third place in 32 seconds. Hazel Ramage was hot on her heels with Sally Hunter's Fran, earning the green ribbon and picking up three valuable points in a time of 33.87 seconds.

Lauren was fifth on her own Fudge and Laura Tulloch, who was the best turn out of the day, collected a point with Summer in sixth place. The senior Duster was

collected in fine style by a smiley Katie Thomson who parted company with Mancha who was taking part in his first winter points.

Entertaining

The Mini Challenge got under way with 14 entered. The first rider to jump the 100 fence both ways successfully was Hannah, who came back with a top score of 305. Katie Bannatyne came in with her beloved Owen and rode a super, entertaining round jumping eight fences to go into the lead with a top score of 340.

Her lead was short lived as two riders later it was taken away by Lynn who rode a fabulous round and scored 355 with Malakye. Emma Hill has really got the measure of Dynah, and they equalled Lynn, coming home also on 355 to share the top spot. Laura scored 230 for fifth place and Hazel earned herself a point scoring 225.

The fifth class of the day was the Clear Round and out of the 12 entered just five made it round unscathed to gain three points; Hannah, Hazel, Katie

B, Emma and Lynn. The last class of the day, which is always the Cairnhouse Challenge with 100 fence at 3 feet 3 inches saw a few withdraw as weather conditions went rapidly downhill. Poor Katie parted company with bucking bronco Owen for the second time as did Emma, both in spectacular fashion and fortunately both unhurt and able to walk away with points to ease the bruises.

Rosette

It was Lynn who got the red rosette and a super top score of 215. Big sister Hazel was just five points adrift on a score of 210. Katie collected the yellow ribbon despite her gymnastics, scoring 170. Hannah finished on 115. Laura collected two points with a top score of 110 and Emma hobbled away with a hard earned point plus the Duster badge scoring 60.

The next show is the Christmas edition on Sunday 13 December where it will be double points on offer and Mum's mince pies and mulled wine. All welcome and as usual weather permitting.



Joolie Graham clears a fence in style on Storm.

02_b48hor02

**ARRAN
POOL
LEAGUE**

The preliminary round of the Arran pool doubles is to be played on or by Sunday December 6.

S Scott and J Copperwheat (Drift) v A and L Little (PHT) at Bar Eden, G Lowe and P Stewart (PHT) v S Kidston and R Butchard (team Goil) at the Drift Inn.

The first round proper will be played on or by Sunday December 27.

Singles and doubles ties are drawn by a member of the pool league committee.

Players are given a day and a venue to play the tie by and the winner must phone in the results to the PHT (600418).

If you or your opponent don't turn up on the given date you are eliminated from the competition.

You may arrange to play your tie earlier than the date given and at a venue you both agree on.

If you cannot manage to play by the given Sunday date, but play after it, you must let a member of the committee know this before the Sunday date so that you are not eliminated from the next round draw.

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