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*Special Christmas Shopping feature inside*  
Your pullout guide to Christmas Shopping on Arran starts on page 11

# Arran is the launch pad for new housing hope

'Mighty oaks from little acorns grow and that is particularly apt in the case of this development'

A new charity has chosen Arran as the place to acquire its first ever house, and it hopes to use the island as a launch pad for the rest Scotland. Whitebeam Homes, which aims to provide affordable homes where they are needed, is already offering the three-bedroomed property for rent in Hillview Place, Brodick. Arran was chosen as the inaugural site because of the

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

chronic need for social housing on the island. The charity, which was only established in January, held a reception at the Ormidale Pavilion on Monday to mark the acquisition. Whitebeam Homes chairman Brian Graham told in-

ited guests: 'Whitebeam Homes has been established to provide an alternative form of housing on the island. The housing association offers affordable rents, but demand outstrips supply, even with the new development at Lamlash. Private sector rents are unaffordable to many, particularly those on low wages, so we are seeking to fill that gap.'



Whitebeam chairman Brian Graham holds the key to the Arran house flanked by community council chairman John Inglis, left, and MSP Kenneth Gibson.



The property for rent in Hillview Place.

The funds to set up the new initiative came from the United Reformed Church, which recently sold the former Congregational Church at Sannox and gave the charity £100,000 to help launch the initiative. Recognising the high level of housing need on the island, the church invited Scottish Churches Housing Action to use the funds creatively, and Whitebeam Homes was set up as a subsidiary. The charity will expand its activities further, on Arran and elsewhere in Scotland, as

funds become available. The charity, which has been established to address problems of empty houses and the shortage of affordable homes across Scotland, is named after a tree endemic to Arran, the Whitebeam. A spokesman said: 'For us it is a symbol of the scarcity of affordable homes, but at the same time, of the possibility of growth. It reflects our origins in the

island, with the initial capital coming from a generous donation by the Scottish Synod, United Reformed Church, raised through the sale of the former Congregational Church at Sannox.' Speaking at the Arran launch Cunningham North MSP Kenneth Gibson said: 'Mighty oaks from little acorns grow and that is particularly apt in the case of this development. It may only be

one house, but it is the seed corn of a much bigger idea.' Arran Community Council chairman John Inglis said Arran was 'awash' with houses for sale and said he supported the use of existing homes for social housing as the residents are not segregated in housing schemes and he believed there were one or two houses on Arran that fell within the charity's purchase means.

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## Santa's set to sparkle

There is only one place to be on the island this weekend and that is Lamlash.

The annual Santa's Sparkle event is set to be one of the biggest and best yet.

Arran's Christmas Fair is shaping up to be a wonderful weekend-long party for children and adults alike.

And the weather looks promising too with no rain forecast and temperatures around 8 to 10C - but we know how quickly the weather can change on Arran.

There will be a whole host of competitions, quizzes, treasure hunts, prizes and activities starting from 1pm today (Saturday). There will be a big Christmas market with more stalls than ever as well as great food and drink throughout the day.

But the main event starts at 5pm with the lighting of the community Christmas tree followed an hour later by the Glenisle Christmas Tree Spectacular followed by the after fireworks party.

Tomorrow (Sunday) will see the first ever performances on Arran of the acclaimed Charles Chipperfield Circus in the Big Top on Lamlash Green as well as a host of events throughout the day. The fun starts at 12noon.

## Quiz winner

The winner of the 2013 RNLI Quiz was Mrs V Hutchinson of Pickering, North Yorkshire. Thank you to all who took part to help raise vital funds.

# Brewery opens Lamlash pub in time for Christmas

## £80 will get you a share of island beer company

A Lamlash pub has reopened in time for Santa's Sparkle.

The Arran Brewery has temporarily taken over the Pierhead Tavern in Shore Road while the owners look for a new tenant.

The pub, which closed several weeks ago, faced being sold off by owners Punch Taverns until the brewery stepped in.

It was due to open yesterday (Friday) and will be open Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays throughout the festive season.

It plans to stock the bar with its own range of beer and Isle of Arran whisky, including the Hofbrau lager from Germany which it distributes in Scotland as well as Isle of Arran whisky. A limited food range will also be on offer including stovies and hot dogs and there will hopefully be some folk music.

Gerald Michaluk, managing director of Arran Brewery, said: 'With so many community pubs closing and being lost forever, we decided to step in.

'However, after seeing firsthand the impact that the closure of the Cameronia had on the tourist business in Whiting Bay, we were determined not to see this happen in Lamlash, so as no one else has come forward we had to step in and ensure we keep this one open.

'We will run it until Punch can find someone to take it over, probably in the summer.

A spokeswoman for Punch Taverns said: 'We are delighted to be working with Arran Brewery and protecting local jobs.'

The brewery is pressing ahead with plans to open a pub in Glasgow, to be called Arran on Hope Street by February, but in a new premises after they ran into planning difficulties with the original site, and the pub at the Loch Earn development will be open next week.

Meanwhile, in a busy week for Mr Michaluk, the brewery has launched its crowd-funding initiative which it hopes will raise £4 million.



The Pierhead Tavern in Lamlash which has been taken over by Arran Brewery. 20\_b48brew01

For as little as £80, the cost of a single share, anyone can be part of what the brewery is calling 'the craft brewing revolution'.

The company hopes the people of Arran will get behind the share issue. Mr Michaluk said: 'These are ambitious plans from an ambitious company and we hope the people of Arran will get behind us in large numbers. Anyone who drinks our beer could make their money back in a year in discount vouchers.'

Mr Michaluk will issue up to 50,000 new 'B' shares in his company, representing 4.76 per cent of its share capital and valuing the business at about £80 million.

He will use the cash to upgrade the brewery on Arran,

develop two new breweries on the mainland - the Forth & Clyde Brewery and the Loch Earn Brewery, open Scotland's first sake brewery, set up a micro-distillery and bottling plant on the site of the former Rosebank distillery in Falkirk, create a brewing school and a chain of beer bistros and craft beer bars.

In return, shareholders will receive discount vouchers for the firm's beer and for accommodation at its guesthouse on Arran and the Drummond Hotel on Loch Earn.

Arran Brewery is following in the footsteps of Brewdog, which used crowdfunding to shift its brewery from Fraserburgh to Ellon and open an international chain of bars.

## Funding boost for Arran

### Resilience team

Arran Resilience has received funding from the Scottish Salmon Company (SSC) via the Sandpiper Trust (SP) which has received £2,500 to help provide vital medical equipment throughout Scotland's most remote regions.

The funds have been raised through sponsorship and donations gathered from SSC's recent 'Salmon Run', a 207 mile challenge which saw teams run, cycle and row from Lochboisdale to Stornoway.

The Sandpiper Trust is one of four charities chosen by SSC staff to benefit from the money raised. Part of the money it received is coming to Arran.

The aim of the Trust is to help save lives in Scotland by improving emergency medical care, especially in rural areas. It provides appropriate standardised medical equipment, known as Sandpiper Bags, for use by specially trained GPs, community nurses, paramedics and A&E consultants, all of whom operate on a voluntary basis.

Arran Resilience co-ordinator Dr David Hogg said: 'It is difficult to describe just how important and useful it is for me to have access to the standard 'Sandpiper bag' and all the life-saving equipment contained within it.

'The SP Trust is an amazing organisation, and it is now difficult to find a rural practice in Scotland that has not benefited from the generosity of its work.'

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## New website will help with cancer support

The Arran Cancer Support Trust (ArCas) has a new website where members of the public can get up to the minute information about the services it offers.

The charity has been helping cancer patients on the island since 1989 with transport to and from the ferry to hospitals on Arran and the mainland.

The trust can also assist with ferry tickets, for non ferry passholders, counselling and complementary therapy. All of the services are free and in strict confidentiality.

Now anyone wishing to find out more about its work can do so in the comfort of their own home via the website, which has been produced on the island.

It gives a brief history of the organisation, the services the trust can offer, details of the popular charity shop at Brodick Pier and useful contact numbers.

ArCas was brought into being 25 years ago by Mrs Harwood, Mrs Goldsbrough and Mrs Cook, after two of the ladies, through personal experience, discovered that getting to and from mainland treatment centres was very difficult and expensive. The website is at: www.arrancancersupport.org.

# Millennium whisky boost for Arran Trust projects

**'We are delighted to receive such a large donation from the distillery'**

The Arran Trust has received a £6,000 boost from the success of a special charity whisky made at the turn of the Millennium by Isle of Arran Distillers.

The Lochranza distillery produced a limited 7,800 bottles of the Millennium Casks which were a hit with whisky fans across the world and sold out before they even went on sale.

Produced on 31 December 1999, the Millennium Casks edition captured a landmark moment in time and is a memorable mix of 35 bourbon barrels and 10 Sherry Hogsheads.

### Pledged

Sold at £64.99, a donation from every bottle sold was pledged to the Arran Trust, a conservation charity which funds projects that look after the beautiful landscapes and environment of Arran.

One such project is the footpaths on the island which lead to Loch na Davie – the

pure water source which is an essential ingredient in the Arran Single Malt.

Managing director Euan Mitchell said: 'We want to help maintain the island for future generations and the Millennium release has helped us to raise money for charity. We always work closely with the Arran Trust as we have a shared interest and passion for looking after our beautiful corner of Scotland.'

### Confirmed

Trust development manager Sheila Gilmore confirmed that £1,000 of the donation would be going to the Arran Access Trust to improve paths in the north of the island.

She added: 'We are delighted to receive such a large donation from the distillery and the money will be put to good use in our future projects.'

The master distiller behind the Millennium release, James MacTaggart, said: 'With this spirit we tried to create some-



Managing director Euan Mitchell, left, and distillery manager James MacTaggart hand over the cheque to Sheila Gilmore from the Arran Trust. 20\_b48dist01

thing really unique to reflect upon the importance of a period of time that none of us will experience again.

'Bottled without chill-filtration, the malt has a zesty nose with an edge of spice. Arran fans will be able to detect our hallmark flavours of orchard fruits and baked apples, which are complement-

ed by a sprinkling of vanilla and cinnamon. This whisky is delicious served with a splash of water, which helps to expose the layers of creaminess in this unique dram. As with most of our malts, this whisky is unpeated.'

## Watch found

A ladies' or girls' watch has been found at Coire Fhionn Lochan. It has a pink face with brown leather strap. If anyone thinks it may be theirs they can call 01770 600590.

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# MP gives her backing to Shop Arran weekend

Arran's MP Katy Clark has joined the Shadow Business Secretary Chuka Umunna MP in celebrating the contribution of small businesses in Arran as part of the UK's first ever Small Business Saturday taking place on 7 December which so happens to coincide with the new annual Shop Arran weekend.

## Grass-roots

Small Business Saturday is a grass-roots campaign that encourages people to shop locally and support small businesses in the local community. It is set to be the biggest celebration of small businesses in the UK.

The MP has written to a number of local businesses to promote the Small Business Saturday campaign as well

as asking both North Ayrshire Council and the Ayrshire Chamber of Commerce to offer support and organise local events.

Shop Arran was launched three years ago to encourage islanders to shop on the island rather than travel to the mainland. This year around 17 island shops are taking part and are offering a range of discounts to encourage islanders to do their Christmas shopping on the island.

## Support

Ms Clark said: 'I know how much the people of Arran love their island and the support they give to local businesses. The Shop Arran campaign is exactly the sort of thing that is needed to boost local businesses and the island's

economy and I am pleased that this year's coincides with the UK's first Small Business Saturday.'

'This year the shops involved in Shop Arran will be offering a range of discounts and I hope that local people will support them and grasp the opportunity to do their Christmas shopping on the island.'

Shadow Business Secretary Chuka Umunna MP said: 'We need to do more to celebrate entrepreneurs and support our small businesses. That is why I wanted to see a British version of Small Business Saturday - which has been such a huge success in the US. We brought together a grass roots coalition including business organisations and local authorities to make Small Business Saturday in the UK happen and, as a result, 7 December will see the biggest celebration of small business the country has ever seen.'

## Spotlight

'Small Business Saturday will shine a spotlight on the huge contribution small businesses make and it seeks to encourage people to buy from small local firms and independent shops on one of the busiest shopping days of the year, giving them a much-needed boost when high streets are struggling.'



Pupils from Kilmory Primary School make use of the new path.

## New path will make walking safer

Kilmory is a whole lot safer for children and adults alike as a new path has been created to link the village with the hall and school.

It runs behind the hedge, alongside the main road from Torrylinn Farm road end. This means, once the path has been approved by North Ayrshire Council, the children will be able to walk to school safely, instead of having to travel such a short distance by bus.

Many thanks must be given for the hard work and generous support from the community and local businesses. Special mentions go to Charles Fford for allowing the use of his land, the Forestry Commission for donating the rock, John Thomsons Ltd for delivery and John Picken and Duncan Mulholland for the construction of the path.

## Get your Christmas cards posted and help charity too

Islanders can again help a local charity this Christmas - and save themselves money - by using the Arran Youth Foundations postal service for cards intended for Brodick addresses.

At just 30p a card, locals can pop their cards into the AYF postbox in Bilslands and help the charity's young people raise money for their group in the process.

The scheme ran successfully last year, raising £215, and youth work project manager Graeme Johnston hopes for a repeat of that next month.

He said: 'The local community is always incredibly supportive of our youth group so I'm sure this will again be a great way of raising funds.'

'We run at least three sessions a week with the young folk and in the coming year we have loads planned, including a two-month block of cooking, a debate on the Scottish independence referendum, more film-making and IT education, all the usual fun and games, and some more trips to the mainland. That's just some of the work we provide with funds raised by schemes like this, with the young people taking pride in the knowledge that it is their hard work that has helped cover these costs.'

'It must be said again how incredibly grateful we are to Alistair and Alison Bilsland for offering to help us. They have been great supporters of AYF and we are thankful to them.'

The postbox in Bilslands, where staff will collect the postage costs, will be available from Monday 2 December onwards. Young people will meet up to make deliveries at least once a week. The last date for posting will be Friday 20 December, with the final delivery session taking place that evening. Please bear in mind that the Bilslands postbox is only for cards going to Brodick addresses and that young people will be delivering on foot, often in the dark, so addresses on the very outskirts of the village, such as Glen Rosa, are not practical.



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# Beach ramps repaired but long term solution costs more than £500,000

Repair work has been carried out on Brodick Beach after two new access ramps were nearly washed away in early winter storms.

The storms washed away the sand round the base of the platforms exposing the foundations and leaving them vulnerable to further damage.

But now contractors hired by North Ayrshire Council have tried to strengthen the foundations and have brought in fresh sand.

The ramps have been installed to make access to the beach easier over the controversial geotextile bags which were installed to shore up a former coup behind the beach.

However, the long term future of the beach remains a real issue.

And it was the main topic of debate at the recent annual meeting of the Brodick Improvements Committee.

Chairman Harry Davidson said that it had been a very high tide and a slightly easterly wind, the first of the winter, on 5 November which had almost washed away the ramps.

He said the council had commissioned another consultant's report on what should be done to restore the beach in the long term. The engineering study by the worldwide AECOM group is still awaited by the council.

But members wanted to know why the council needed another survey, since a comprehensive report was compiled three years ago, which

led to the geotextile bags being installed.

Tommy Gilmore asked if the improvements committee could get involved with financial support.

But Mr Davidson explained that the costs were prohibitive. He said: 'It would cost half a million [pounds] at least to bring the beach back up to a reasonable standard. That is way out of our reach.'

Mr Gilmore asked who owned the land and the meeting heard that it was Arran Estate ground and it owned the mineral rights.

Bill Calderwood asked if the committee could be kept informed of the progress of the consultant's report so they could pass the information on to residents.

Mr Davidson agreed: 'I get asked three times a week what is going on. We are just not a priority.'

Secretary Bryce Walker said the situation was 'extremely frustrating' and the committee agreed to continue discussions with the council in the hope of finding a solution.

A North Ayrshire Council



Contractors have used rocks to try to hold the ramp foundations in place. 20\_b48beach02

spokeswoman said: 'While recognising that full protection from the forces of the sea is challenging, the contractor has carried out work to stabilise this section of Brodick beach using heavier, more dense material to provide greater protection for the structures and areas of landfill that had become exposed.'

'This work will maintain stability while we look at options in the longer term.'



The damage caused to the beach and ramp foundations by the storm.

## Successful year for committee

Two Christmas trees are planned this year by Brodick Improvements Committee.

A new site is being prepared at the village slipway and there will be the usual tree outside the Post Office.

But there will be no Christmas lights in the village because of a problem with the poles to hang them.

The money to help pay for the trees comes after a series of successful community events which have boosted the coffers of the committee.

At the annual meeting of the committee treasurer Ken Morrison reported that the popular summer ceilidh had made a profit of £1,135, the beach barbeque £697 and the New Year ceilidh £535.

And the 200 Club memberships raised £1,022 for the organisation.

Harry Davidson was re-elected chairman, Bryce Walker is the secretary and Ken Morrison remains the treasurer and the committee has 17 members.

## CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Published on 14th December

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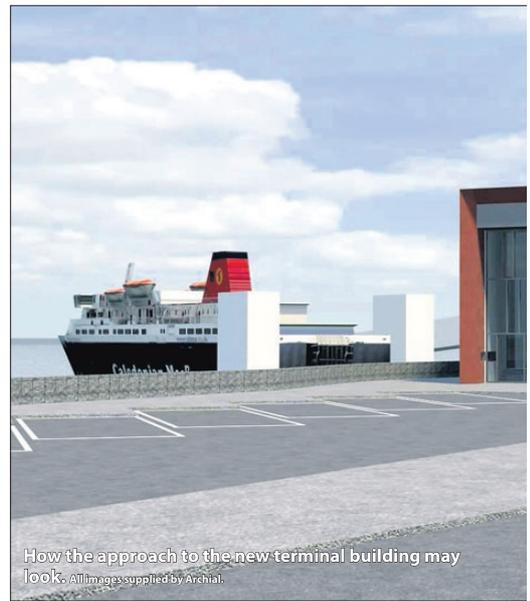
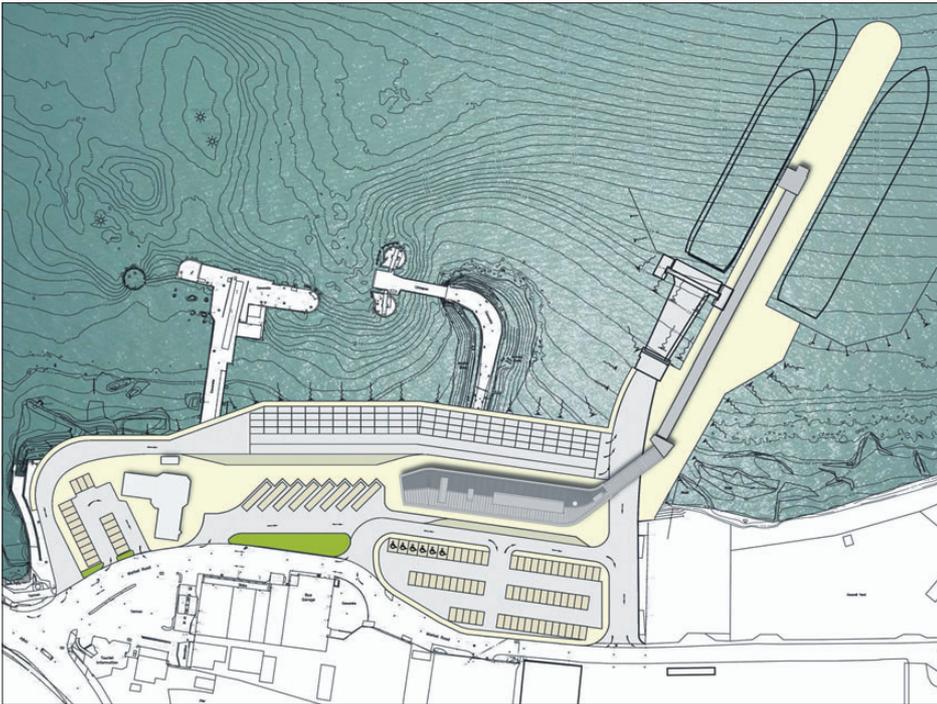
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How the approach to the new terminal building may look. All images supplied by Archial.

Above: An overall plan of the new pier development which will be to the east of the existing pier on reclaimed land.



Left: How the interior of the new terminal building may look.

# Redevelopment work will start in the new

## £18 million scheme to

The first works on the site of the new ferry terminal in Brodick will start early in the new year.

Ground investigation works will begin in January which will involve digging trial pits on land and drilling boreholes from 'Jack-Up' barges offshore.

Tenders for the work are due to be confirmed by the end of the month on what will be the first visible signs of the £18 million redevelopment getting underway.

Pier operator Caledonian Marine Assets Ltd (CMAL) is to reclaim land to the east of the existing pier to create a new two-berth pier and terminal fit for the 21st century.

More details of how the new two-storey terminal building, with its covered linked walkway to the ferry, will look emerged at a public meeting in Brodick.

Residents packed Brodick Hall to hear an update on the progress of the redevelopment so vital for the future of the island.

And CMAL remains determined to carry out the construction as a single development, and a one-phase approach is supported by the Brodick Pier

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

Redevelopment Group. But project manager Ramsay Muirhead admitted there was still a 'bit of a gap' in funding.

Tenders for the detailed design of the project will be sought in the spring of next year to be followed by tenders for the main works and a separate tender for the passenger access walkway, because of the specialist nature of the work.

This is expected to take around seven months with the contract being awarded around this time next year.

As well as a new pier and terminal building the development will have an increased marshalling area, more parking areas, relocated and enlarged bus stances and a formal drop off area as well as numerous other measures to improve the facilities at the port.

Work is expected to start on site in December 2014 or January 2015 with completion currently estimated by January/February 2016.

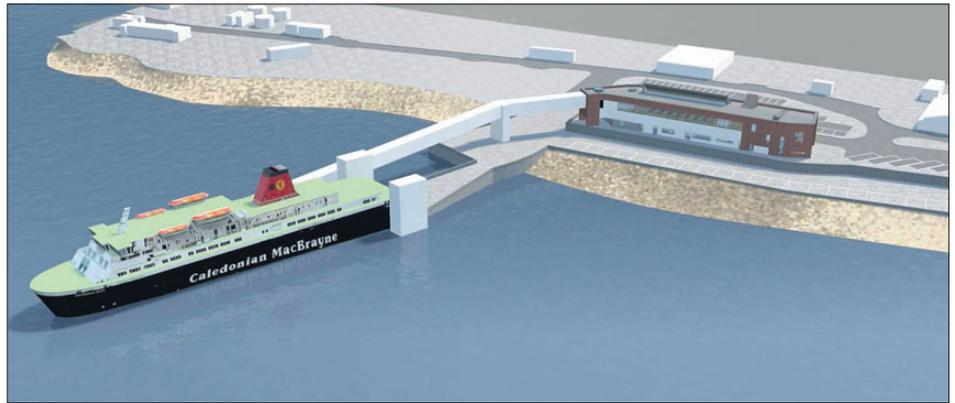
The terminal building is being

**Christmas Concert in Corrie Parish Church**  
on  
**Saturday 7th December, 2013**  
at 7.30  
**Peter Wilson and Friends**  
**Graham McCusker**  
**Heather Lowe**  
**Katy Connor**  
**Lorna Buchanan**  
**Lucy Cartledge**  
**Heather Gough**  
**Stuart Gough**  
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Tickets £10.00 from Book and Card and 810210  
SC005030



**Fred Morrison - amazing piper and whistle player in Concert in Corrie Parish Church on Friday 6th December 2013 at 8pm**  
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**£5.00 - Children and Concessions**  
**Tickets available from Book and Card Shop Brodick**  
SC005030

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The new terminal building and the covered passenger walkway to the ferry.



The proposed design for the new two-storey terminal building.

# Development will start new year

be complete by 2016

designed by leading architect firm Archial. Director Kevin Cooper spoke of the design of the ferry terminal which will now be finished in sandstone to make it more 'castle like'.

He said it would be quite a Scottish building, contemporary but appropriate to its context. And he added that while they wanted it to look like a civic building they also wanted to allow passengers to feel a real sense of arrival and departure.

He confirmed the main passenger lounge, which will have somewhere between 150 to 200 seats, would be on the first floor with access by stairs or two high-capacity lifts.

There was still concern expressed at the meeting over the fact that getting on or off the ferry will require passengers to use the stairs or the lifts, but Mr Muirhead said that the feedback they had received over the use of ramps instead was that people did want to walk another 90 metres or more.

He said: 'The vastly overwhelming response was that a ramp was not favoured.'

He also said escalators had been ruled out as they were very

expensive to put in and expensive to maintain along with safety issues.

An new access road will be created on the site of the present bus station for cars to enter the new marshalling area but there was concern that this was going to cause a serious bottleneck at the entrance to the new terminal, but Mr Muirhead said he was confident this would not happen. There was also concern from one haulage contractor of the space for articulated lorries to turn into the new road, which Mr Muirhead said would be examined.

It was the fourth meeting CMAL has held on the island since the proposals were first mooted and it proposes to continue to hold public sessions as the work progresses.

Afterwards Mr Muirhead said: 'As noted at our public meeting, these are the latest plans, but by no means the final. While we are getting closer to the final plans, there is still a lot of work to do.'

'Based on our current programme, the expected completion date is now early 2016,' he added.

## Timeline of works

\*Detailed design - Halcrow/Archial - until spring 2014.

\*Ground investigation - complete by March 2014.

\*Harbour revision order - ongoing.

\*Tender main works - start process spring 2014.

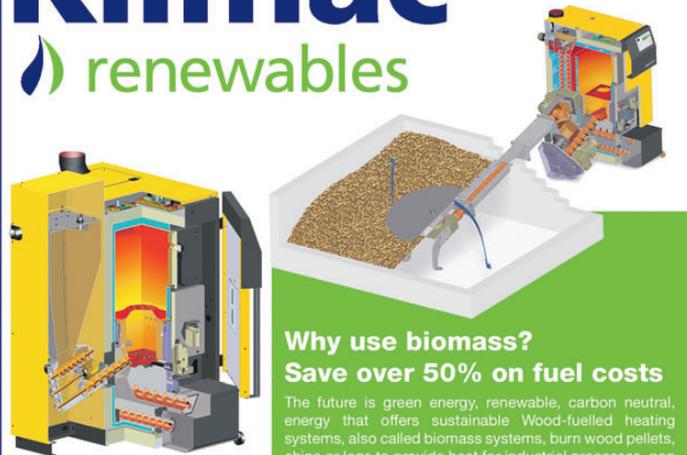
\*Tender PAS - start process spring 2014.

\*Award contracts/site start - late autumn 2014.

\*Construction completion - January/February 2016.

The later dates are subject to funding.

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## THE ARRAN BANNER

### A fresh look at an old problem

A new housing charity is taking a fresh look at Arran's chronic shortage of affordable homes.

Instead of building, it plans to purchase houses on the open market and make them available for rent or sale to local people in need.

Already the first house ever purchased by Whitebeam Homes is available for rent in Brodick and more are planned on Arran and across Scotland when the charity can raise more money.

It is a refreshing new approach to an old problem and it is good to see a new venture choosing Arran as a launch pad for future projects.

It may only be one house, but it is a house which is now available at an affordable rent which will give a family a secure future.

The property market is currently slack, if improving slightly, and the island, as has been said, is 'awash' with houses for sale.

Even so, local people, particularly on low or insecure wages, are unable to secure mortgages to buy.

As well as buying homes the charity is looking at the possibility of people 'gifting' their homes for a year or longer to provide housing, and while there are a few legal pitfalls, this is actively being considered.

If Whitebeam can acquire more houses in different locations across the island, by whatever means, affordable homes will be available in communities where families are needed to bolster flagging numbers.

A survey in 2007 identified a need for 150 new units of affordable housing in the period 2008-2013.

Yes, the new St Molios development in Lamlash is a welcome boost to social housing on the island, but all the houses available are already let, and there will always be more need.

So the Whitebeam approach from a different angle may be just a 'little acorn' as Arran MSP Kenneth Gibson said this week, but there is no doubt with the right funding it could indeed become a 'mighty oak'.

And that could mean a new hope for the future for young families trying to get on the housing ladder.

#### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'To us a Child is born, to us a Son is given and He will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting father, Prince of Peace.' (Isaiah 9:6)

#### 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 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



### Ignore call a disgrace

Sir,  
I am somewhat baffled as to why John Inglis, the Arran Community Council chairman, should be baffled at Jackson Carlaw's interest in the Dyemill biomass plant. (Arran Banner 23 November 2013) Jackson is an MSP representing West Scotland.

With the number of objections to the planning application in the hundreds it would seem that it is the community council's support for the plant that is baffling. Any politician, be they councillor, MP, MEP or MSP, whatever party they belong to, who shows an interest in island matters should be applauded.

Incidentally, two years ago, when there was a battle to prevent Craigielea Residential Home in Whiting Bay from closure, Jackson Carlaw was the only politician who visited the home to meet residents, relatives and staff. Katy Clark MP was also hugely supportive.

For the chairman of the community council to urge people to ignore the survey that Jackson has sent out which seeks islanders' opinion is a disgrace.

Perhaps John Inglis should question his position on the community council - a council that I thought existed to represent the community.

Yours,  
**Fran Hadden**  
Whiting Bay

### Height of arrogance

Sir,  
Contrary to John Inglis' assertion, Jackson Carlaw is not 'wading in...' at this late stage'. Mr Carlaw visited Arran and the proposed site during the summer and then expressed his concerns (as did other parliamentary representatives).

Within the community council, only one member voted unreservedly for the scheme; I leave you to deduce who that might have been.

It is the height of arrogance for John Inglis to try to dissuade people from responding to a request from an elected

parliamentary representative. The least people can do if they have any doubts regarding a response to Mr Carlaw's survey is to look at the application which can be found online at www.eplanning.north-ayrshire.gov.uk, application number 13/00313/PP.

Here you will find around 400 objections to the current proposal (listed under comments) and in excess of 100 documents also expressing opposition. The latter includes a Minority Report written by myself and dated 16 July 2013 (quick link to this can be found at www.aranenergy.org).

North Ayrshire Planning Committee has still to determine the outcome of the application from NEDL, and my understanding is that the Planning Department is awaiting satisfactory responses from the applicant to concerns that have already been raised.

I represent Whiting Bay on the community council, but I write this as a concerned individual.

Yours,  
**John Lamont**  
Burlington  
Whiting Bay

### Opinion counts

Sir,  
I am writing to express my anger at being 'urged to ignore' the biomass survey being carried out on the island. Apparently the view of the islanders is not important. I personally was glad that an MSP has taken interest in our island. It may be that he is after votes, but so what if he helps folk sit up and take notice of the biomass issue. Please fill in your form and send it off if you wish to; whatever your opinion, it counts.

Yours,  
**N Summer**  
Whiting Bay

### Secret ballots

Sir,  
With his secret ballots ignoring the expressed wishes of those he is supposed to represent, why am I not surprised at the leader of the community council's reaction to the letter of Jackson Carlaw MSP.

At least Mr Carlaw is inter-

ested in the views, whether in objection or support for the project, of the electorate on Arran on this matter. I believe the word is democracy.

Yours,  
**P W Yates**  
Bedale  
North Yorkshire

### Hotel praised

Sir,  
In these days when people seem to find it much easier to complain about things, I wish to sing the praises of The Douglas Hotel.

During an event held there in July, I won first prize entitling me to 'two nights' bed & breakfast for two in a deluxe suite' in the hotel.

I have just returned home after two wonderful nights in the hotel - Monday/Tuesday, 18/19 November.

I cannot praise their staff highly enough for their warmth and friendliness from the moment of arrival at reception, to the attention and care shown in the Bistro and elsewhere during our stay: nothing was ever too much trouble.

The culinary skills of the chef were fantastic and the presentation of our meals was excellent. Well done to The

Douglas Hotel.

Of course, because of adverse weather conditions on 20 November, we had the pleasure of staying another night.

Yours,  
**Irene Brown**  
Dog fouling  
disgrace

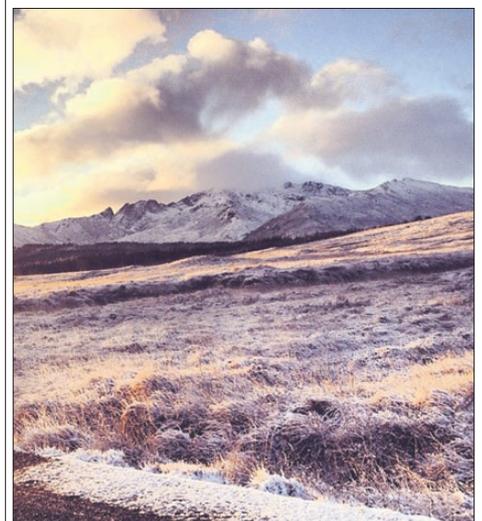
Sir,  
I would like to express my disgust through your paper, at the disgrace of the dog fouling in Lamlash Cemetery.

There is a notice at the gate that clearly says 'no dog fouling'. What ignorant dog owners would even let there dog do that on families' loved ones' resting places? Such a disgrace.

I have already contacted the council about the over use of their weedkiller destroying the grass around the headstones, making a mess and never even got a reply out of courtesy. I guess they are as ignorant as the dog owners.

I come over to my parents' graveside at least twice a month and I am angry every time I visit at the state of the cemetery. Surely I am not the only one to complain?

Yours,  
**Name and address supplied**



This beautiful photograph of Arran's snowy hills was taken by our chief reporter Jenny Lyon on her way to work last week. Winter is definitely here!

# Arran Deliveries

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# Take to the hills with the Arran Mountain Festival

The Arran Mountain Festival is an exciting four-day event with a huge variety of guided walks and scrambles offered throughout the island's stunning hills and mountains.

This year's festival was a massive success and now the dates and programme have been confirmed for next year when the event will be held from 16-19 May 2014.

From wildlife-watching walks along the island's coastline to airy scrambles on towering granite ridges, it is Scottish hillwalking at its best.

The event is one of Scotland's premier hillwalking and mountaineering events, and it offers an opportunity to

meet like-minded people, discover a fascinating island and have unforgettable days in the safe hands of experienced local guides.

With names to inspire the imagination, such as Ceum na Caillich (Witch's Step) Caisteal Abhail (Castles) and the Sleeping Warrior, the mountains of Arran are some of Scotland's most amazing landscapes.

### Exhilarating

At the end of an exhilarating day in the outdoors, there are plenty of hostels, hotels, cottages and campsites for comfort and relaxation. The festival gives each walk a technical rating, which deals with the actual difficul-



Walkers enjoy a well earned rest on the way through the glens during the 2013 festival. Photo Jose Navarro

ty of the walk, and an endurance rating, which deals with

the stamina requirement and physical strength needed for the walk.

For example, a 10km walk along a straight flat path would be given a technical rating of easy, but the endurance rating might be three as stamina would be needed.

The 2014 programme is now online at [www.arranmountainfestival.co.uk](http://www.arranmountainfestival.co.uk) and the booking lines will be open shortly.

Meanwhile, the annual meeting of the mountain festival will take place at 6.30pm on Monday 2 December in the Rangers' Centre at Brodick Castle and members of the public are invited to attend to help plan the 2014 festival.



Walkers make the ascent of Casteal Abhail during the festival earlier this year. Photo Jose Navarro

## Satellite broadband explained

An Ayrshire-based company has visited Arran to demonstrate how satellite broadband could help boost communications on the island.

The award-winning Internet Anywhere tested out its state-of-the-art technology at the Business Gateway event 'The Importance of Branding and Social Media for your Business' held in the Douglas Hotel in Brodick on Wednesday.

Despite the Scottish Government's pledge to get everyone connected by 2020, Internet Anywhere's owner John Fitzgerald is warning islanders that thousands of homes and businesses across Scotland will still be left without fast and reliable broadband.

'The Scottish Government has committed to delivering a world class digital infrastructure across Scotland by 2020 and that's a long time for people to wait,' he said.

'While that might sound good, the reality is that it will only ever reach 85 per cent - 95 per cent of the popula-

tion. That means thousands of homes and businesses in rural and remote Scotland won't get connected, simply because fibre optic cables simply won't reach everywhere.'

John says there is a growing number of people who are turning to alternative satellite technology to ensure that they don't miss out on the digital revolution.

### High-speed

Set up in 2011, Internet Anywhere provides high-speed satellite broadband to remote parts of Scotland, mobile sites and any place where access to the internet is otherwise unavailable.

'People shouldn't be penalised because they choose to live and work in our remote communities. This really is the only technology that can connect anyone, anywhere and it's available now,' said John.

He added: 'It's quick, cheap to deploy and the performance is the same regardless of location.'

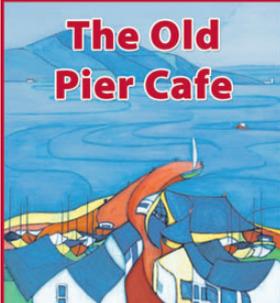
Lamlash Drama Club and Friends present



**PINOCCHIO**  
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SAT 7th December @ 7.30pm  
also SATURDAY MATINEE @ 2pm

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thereafter at the door before performances.  
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N.B. Payment required at time of Booking.



**The Old Pier Cafe**

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**Christmas timetables**

The festive season bus timetables will be available from Monday 2nd December, or view them online at - [www.stagecoachbus.com](http://www.stagecoachbus.com)

Stagecoach WEST SCOTLAND

## Island carol concert to kick-off festive season

The Island Carol Concert, often referred to as the John Dick Concert, will take place on December 2 in Lamlash Church at 7.30pm.

In the early 1980s, as head of music at Arran High School, John Dick held an annual school carol concert and when he retired in the mid 1990s he continued to organise the concert to include other island choirs and the Arran Brass Band.

It continues in that format today and is always held on the first Monday in December signalling the start of the festive season.

David Oakes, one of the organisers, said: 'Money raised at these concerts has always been donated to charity and when a promising young student at school sadly died of leukaemia, John arranged for the money to go to the Sir Malcolm Sargent Cancer Fund for Children (now CLIC Sargent).

'Over the years these concerts have been responsible for donating several thousand pounds to this charity which was close to John's heart - what a legacy.

'The concert continues in John's memory and is an opportunity for people from all over the island to hear enjoyable music, sing carols and support a good cause.

'We hope to see you on December 2.'

Arran  
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01770  
302142

# The Rowan Singers take final bow

The Rowan Singers will give their last ever performance next month after a history spanning 34 years.

The final performance of the Lamlash-based singers will be on Sunday 15 December at 2pm in the Arran Community Theatre.

But it won't be the final curtain, as they will be amalgamating with Lochranza Choir to form a new all-island choir from January next year.

This will be similar to the old-established Arran Chorus which many people took part in.

The Rowan Singers started life as a ladies' choir in 1979, giving concerts, performing regularly in music festivals and entertaining clubs and church groups on the island. They even made an appearance on STV, in a programme filmed on Arran.

In 1997, the choir began to sing in four-part harmony, with the introduction of male voices, performing their first concert abroad, visiting Italy, Austria and Germany.

The choir last performed 'abroad' on a visit to Wales in 2006.

### Two concerts

The choir continued to present two concerts every year on the island, one at Christmas and one in the summer season.

All this happened under the direction of Maureen Oakes, who retired in 2009, passing the baton of conducting to Diana Hamilton, who will also lead the new all-island choir.

The Rowan Singers are looking forward to performing and hope that their many loyal supporters will come along, not only to the last



The way they were ... The Rowan Singers at their Christmas concert in 1980.

concert as The Rowan Singers, but also to support the new venture, either as singers

or audience members.

The full programme has an eclectic mix, with sacred

songs, Christmas songs and popular songs from the shows - something for everyone.

## Wonderful final performance for Lochranza Choir

The final performance of Lochranza Choir as an individual group has taken place. Carol Burge has sent The Banner this review:

'We were promised a highly enjoyable concert, with a mixture of composers and styles that should have something for everyone - and this was exactly what we received on Sunday 17 November in Lochranza Hall.

The variety in the programme ensured that all tastes were catered for and the dynamics within the performance of the songs ensured a most enjoyable experience.

The programme began with chorals dedicated to the Life

of Christ, demonstrating that the choir has great lyrical ability.

In this section, we were treated to a solo performance by Ian Buchanan in his clear, pure tenor voice.

Following this was British Choral music, which began with a new setting of Burns' poem, My Love is like a Red, Red Rose, which was such a beautiful, haunting piece that I did not want it to come to an end.

This section ended with Aileen Wright's rendition of Jerusalem, the combination of singer and song providing a deeply emotional experience.

The first part of the concert finished with rousing Choruses from Opera, with many

of the audience wishing they could participate.

Fortified with mulled wine, shortbread and mince pies during the interval, we returned to a Swing Medley and were invited to Come Follow the Bands, which had the audience tapping their feet.

We then marvelled at the speed at which the choir sang the tongue-twisting Rhythm of Life!

### Straight face

Aileen Wright again proved herself the consummate professional, by keeping a straight face while the audience laughed at her version of The Rowan Tree!

After three Choral Classics by Schubert, Mozart and Bruckner, the choir gave a superb version of Hymn to Freedom, and the concert concluded with some audience participation in the rous-

ing American Classics, Battle Hymn of the Republic and Oh, When the Saints.

The singers and conductor and pianist Diana and Douglas Hamilton should be very proud of their final perform-

ance as Lochranza Choir.

Thank you, Lochranza Choir, for all the pleasure you have given audiences over the last 12 years. We wish you well with the venture of the new all-island choir.'

## Tackling the challenges of helping youths find work

Over the last few years North Ayrshire Council has dedicated itself to tackling the challenges faced by young people right across its area. At the moment the number one priority for thousands of young people is the creation of jobs and provision of the right training and education to make the most of any opportunities which become available.

The vital role played by the council's youth work team in supporting these efforts was highlighted during National Youth Work Week.

Councillor Ruth Maguire, supporting the week for the first time as local youth champion, was keen to stress the importance of young people and youth work.

She said: 'It is really important that we support all of the young people who need our help - and not only in jobs and training, but also the other areas which link them.'

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Charity number: SC024915

# Christmas Shopping on the Isle of Arran

**Christmas shopping weekend**

**Friday 6 December  
to Sunday 8 December**

**Buy locally this Christmas  
during ShopArran's  
big weekend**

In the coming weeks the Isle of Arran will get well and truly into the festive spirit from nativity plays and Christmas markets to special shopping events and festive gatherings.

If you are looking for somewhere to do your shopping in style, Arran has it covered.

It may be hard to think of shopping for Christmas gifts when we're only in November but how many times have you gone looking for that perfect gift only to find out it was sold out two days before? Arran is the perfect destination for the Christmas shopper as the island has some superb stores, boutiques and gift shops. In all of the villages there are shops packed with beautiful, original gifts that are a delight to give to your loved ones. Coming up with something different each

year can be a challenge but Christmas shopping should always be fun!

From 9am on Friday 6 December to closing on Sunday 8 December a cooperative of island shops will be offering massive savings and special offers to encourage people to buy locally this Christmas.

We often overlook the fabulous selection of shops on our doorstep so why not get out and about next weekend and do all your shopping on Arran.

All ShopArran members are offering fantastic reductions and it is an ideal opportunity to get your Christmas shopping done.

In the following pages is a list of all the stores taking part and what discounts and special offers can be found during the ShopArran weekend.

**Santa's Sparkle**  
Arran's Christmas Fair

- Santa's Parade
- Meet Santa
- Christmas Tree Spectacular
- After-Fireworks Party
- Santa's Circus
- Christmas Market
- Fun, games & great prizes all weekend

Full schedule and lots of info at:  
[www.glenislehotel.com/santa](http://www.glenislehotel.com/santa)

**This Weekend**  
Saturday & Sunday on Lamlash Green  
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## friday's child

6th - 8th Dec. Christmas is coming and so are our

# BIG BARGAIN BUNDLES

We've spent weeks picking the perfect bundles of gifts for all your loved ones.

Do you need kids stocking fillers all in one bundle, a quirky bundle for the odd teenager in your house, or a perfect bundle of gifts for dad?

We'll keep our Facebook page updated with bundles all weekend!

[facebook.com/FridaysChildArran](https://www.facebook.com/FridaysChildArran)

9.30am - 5.30pm · Home Farm · Brodick · KA27 8DD · 01770 303987

**Friday's Child**  
 With its contemporary collection of goods for the home, Friday's Child at Home Farm is a great place for Christmas shopping. Throughout the ShopArran weekend they will be offering 'big bargain bundles' of goodies to save you a lot of money. There are creative and crafty kits for keen young minds and kitchenware that will see you fighting to cook the Christmas dinner on December 25.

Friday's Child



Brilliant kitchenware, beautiful glasses and funky barware make entertaining a doddle. And for those looking for something really unusual take a look at the selection of wood watches, a really quirky gift. There are also gifts with a Scottish twist as well as brand new natural cake mixes, puzzles, games stationary, and sweets to fill even the biggest stocking.

**Arran Active**

Also taking part in this Christmas shopping extravaganza is the Arran Active store at Cladach which is full of great gifts for all lovers of the great outdoors. With winters getting longer and colder, warm clothing is a must and Arran Active have lots of luxuriant gear to keep you warm from head to toe. Hats come in all shapes and sizes, with a range of kids' and adults' fleecelined animal hats from £9.99, produced by fair trade Pachamama in Nepal.

Icebreaker merino base-

Arran Active



layers are simply the best thermal underwear – if you have never tried them, now is the time! And if you have had them before, try a new style or colour.

Then there are down bodywarmers, fluffy fleeces, lined trousers, waterproof gloves & hats. And don't forget everyone's favourite Christmas gift – socks! But it's not all about clothing. For the (difficult) man

in your life, how about a Leatherman multi-tool? Or, for charging your iPhone on the hill, have a look at their range of power packs. This year Arran Active have a wide range of quality binoculars. In short lots of practical gifts for everyone. And if you were tempted to buy any outdoor gear online, talk to Arran Active and they will price-match where possible. Don't be afraid to ask – come and have a chat over a glass of their excellent mulled wine.

Bilslands



**Bilslands**

Throughout the ShopArran extravaganza some of the most exciting offers are available at Bilslands in Brodick.

They are offering special discounts on all Berghaus, Musto and Animal clothing throughout the store. Bilslands is the largest independent retail outlet on Arran and is well known to both locals and regular visitors to the island.

With competitive prices on all items, the stock ranges from established outdoor and walking gear to the very latest casual fashion collections. There is also a super range of traditional souvenirs that make excellent presents.

**The Rock Pool**

With its idyllic location by the sea in Corrie, The Rock Pool is one of Arran's most beautiful gift shops and it is definitely worth a visit when you do your Christmas

### WORLD'S BEST BASE LAYERS

Discover our Winter collection of soft, warm and highly breathable base layers now.

Available at  
Arran Active Outdoor Shop

[icebreaker.com](http://icebreaker.com)  
Icebreaker is sustainable, renewable, pure merino clothing from the Southern Alps of New Zealand

## Christmas Gifts

**10% off all purchases over £25 from 6 - 9 December**

Mulled Wine & Mince Pies while you browse our range of gifts for all the family!

Down Bodywarmers & Jackets  
 Winter Boots for Men & Women  
 Fleeces, Hats, Gloves, Socks  
 Merino Baselayers  
 Gadgets – Headtorches, Binoculars

Vouchers  
 Great Brands – The North Face, Jack Wolfskin, Berghaus, Craghoppers – at Great Prices.

If you see it cheaper elsewhere, talk to us! We will try and match!

Open 7 Days:  
 Mon-Sat 9.30 – 5.00;  
 Sun 10.00 – 5.00  
 Cladach Visitor Centre, Brodick, Isle of Arran, KA27 8DE.  
 Tel 01770 302416  
 Email: [Andrew@arranactive.co.uk](mailto:Andrew@arranactive.co.uk)  
 Follow us on facebook

## STAY WARM THIS WINTER.

Mens Kaname Jacket  
 RRP £70  
 NOW £50

**CRAGHOPPERS**  
World Travel Clothing

Available to buy at

**Arran Active Outdoor Shop**

# Shopping Weekend



The Rock Pool



shopping this year. It is run by two long-standing local Arran craftspeople, Margo McLellan and Ailsa McNicol, who sell their jewellery and mirrors plus many other local products and those from further afield. For the duration of the ShopArran weekend they will be opening a 'pop-up shop' at Taste of Arran next to Bilslands in Brodick. During the ShopArran event there will be special offers and discounts available on everything on sale. The store will be mainly showcasing Alias's beautiful jewellery, but there will also be mirrors by Margo, jewellery by Ann Hume and frames by up-and-coming young designer Eilidh Rhead of Rock the Custard. So come along and have a look around!

**Old Byre Showroom and Byre at Brodick**

The much-loved Old Byre Showroom has two outlets. The main one at Auchencar, Machrie is where the shop and restaurant Café Thyme were rebuilt and completely revamped last year, and the other is the popular Byre at Brodick in the centre of the village. Both shops stock a large range of Barbour jackets in all the latest styles, all below RRP so you're better buying one here than anywhere else - (there's also a great Barbour sale on!) and gorgeous Seasalt and Mistral clothing and accessories, Eribe Scottish

knitwear and a lovely selection of Fair Trade clothing for children. For Christmas gifts there are contemporary sheepskin boots and gloves, Bertie Girl Harris Tweed bags, 'Aye phone' and 'aye pad' covers, doggie poo bag holders, 'handy hingies', boxes of socks, scarves, trendy leather satchels and lots more interesting items. The Old Byre Showroom and Byre at Brodick are offering lots of fantastic savings instore and 10 per cent off (excluding other

Old Byre Showroom



offers). And **\*\*STOP PRESS\*\*** spend £10pp on food at Cafe Thyme and receive a whopping 15 per cent off at the Old Byre Showroom! Remember there's a lunch-time meal deal of 2 courses and a glass of wine or can of juice for only £12.95. Whether you choose the Byre at Brodick or the Old Byre Showroom (or both!) you're sure to find the solution to your Christmas gift dilemma. There's complimentary Christmas punch and shortbread to boot too!

**Inspirations of Arran**

Brodick's premier giftshop, situated in the centre of the village, is offering a fantastic 10 per cent off everything in store during the ShopArran weekend. With an extensive range of lovely gifts, jewellery and collectables, there are beautiful presents for everyone this Christmas. There are beautiful gifts for

the home - ornate vases, candleholders, mugs and designer pottery. Bring the magic of the festive season in to your home with beautiful Christmas Candle Carousels that are brought to life when you light them. And why not stock up on Arran Fine Foods' jams and mustards and Walkers Shortbread, biscuits and cakes to make your festive entertaining go with a bang. So come along and enjoy a nibble in store as you shop the latest items which include 'Snoozies' (snuggly slippers for all the family) and 'Nuzzles' (children's cosy little hat and mitten sets). Brand new in store this month are the 'Heart and Home' range of candles from an established UK company, the candles are made from soy wax, so no smoky flames, and with many favourite fragrances there's going to be something to suit all tastes.

Inspirations of Arran



**The Boathouse**

There is a treat in store for shoppers during the event as the Boathouse in Brodick is not only offering a 10 per cent discount on all purchases over £30 but there will be lots of other special offers too. Specialising in the most sought after children's Christmas gifts - many of which can't be found on the mainland due to the huge demand - the Boathouse stocks them all. Tracy also makes her very

The Boathouse



own beautiful cards and tree decorations that will have pride of place in any home. The Boathouse has so much to offer that it is a one-stop shop for all your children's gifts this festive season.



**Cafe Thyme, Machrie**  
Open every day  
10am - 5pm

Serving teas, coffees, homebaking, delicious lunches, homemade bread and pides (Turkish style pizzas) baked in the wood burning oven, wines, beers, a large selection of loose leaf teas, a cosy place to sit with stunning views and a very warm welcome.

**WINTER SPECIAL**  
Nov & Dec - 2 course lunch and a glass of wine only  
**£12.95**

Look out for the sign half a mile north of Machrie golf course. Tel 01770 840608/227  
e-mail: lorna@oldbyre.co.uk



## Old Byre Showroom, Machrie and the Byre at Brodick

For SHOPARRAN weekend come and enjoy a glass of Christmas punch and some shortbread while benefitting from lots of fantastic savings instore and 10% off (excluding other offers).

Barbour sale, quality knitwear, sheepskin and leather products, clothing and accessories for all the family, Christmas gifts galore.



**\*\* STOP PRESS \*\***  
Spend £10pp on food at Cafe Thyme and receive a whopping 15% off at the Old Byre Showroom!

[www.oldbyre.co.uk](http://www.oldbyre.co.uk)  
Tel: 01770 840227 lorna@oldbyre.co.uk

**Inspirations of Arran**

**10% off all purchases in store**

**Nuzzles now in stock! Cosy little hat & mitten sets**

**Shore Road, Brodick, Isle of Arran KA27 8AL 01770 302990**

[www.inspirations-of-arran.co.uk](http://www.inspirations-of-arran.co.uk)



**ARRAN AROMATICS SCOTLAND**

Christmas Special **20% OFF**  
6th, 7th & 8th December  
Home Farm, Brodick

Warm your home this winter with our fantastic home fragrance selection

Brand new range of gift boxes for her or for him.

Perfect Christmas gifts...



**Jolly Molly**

**10% off**  
For the weekend of 6th, 7th, 8th December

Check out our website for a full range of Christmas ideas

*Brodick, Isle of Arran*  
01770 302162 [www.jollymolly.co.uk](http://www.jollymolly.co.uk)



**The Boathouse**

Loads of more great offers in store  
Cards, decorations  
Children's toys

**Spend £30 and get 10% off for the Shop Arran Weekend Fri 6th - Sun 8th Dec**

**THE BEACH, BRODICK**  
Tel/ Fax 01770 302 868



# Christmas Shop

**Arran Aromatics**  
For nearly 25 years Arran Aromatics have been making specialist body care products on the island and they continue to be one of the most popular places to buy gifts, all year round. All the toiletries and candles are made on the island, using only the finest and most natural ingredients where possible.

Their luxurious body lotions, shampoos and bath foams all make ideal gifts and the unique fragrances all developed on the island are a perfect reminder of the beautiful isle of Arran. Throughout the ShopArran weekend there will be a 20 per cent discount on all Arran Aromatics products. So why not visit Home Farm and explore the deluxe, heavenly scented world of Arran Aromatics and find your favourite fragranced products for the ones you love.

**The Curtain House**  
Offering a fresh escape from the norm, The Curtain House has many stylish ideas to help create a home that is beautiful and practical. This lovely Lamash boutique is another island store taking part in the brilliant ShopArran weekend and they will be offering a 10 per cent discount throughout the three days on all purchases over £20 and many special bargains. There are decorative accessories, sumptuous cushions from voyage decoration and lots of fabulous and unusual

Christmas decorations and gifts just arrived in store to kick-start your festive cheer. The Curtain House sells some of the most unique decorations you will ever see, many with a seaside twist which is perfect for an island celebration this Christmas. It is difficult to leave empty handed!

**Jolly Molly**  
As part of the ShopArran weekend Jolly Molly in Brodick, which sells truly gorgeous gifts and accessories for the home, will be offering a 10 per cent discount on everything in store.

With a huge range of items from quirky doggy clocks, soft cushions, unique glassware, clothes, lamps and silverware, there is always something lovely to buy to make your home or a friend's look really special this Christmas. The shop also has many unusual gift items not found on the high street that make idea presents - keepsakes, decorations, accessories, scarves, bags and gorgeous souvenirs of Arran. Pop in and enjoy a glass of bubbly while you browse in this amazing store.

**Buntys**  
Taking part in the ShopArran event is the wonderful Buntys in Brodick, which will be offering a 10 per cent discount to all customers throughout the weekend on purchases over £30 as well as a free glass of bubbly for all shoppers.

Lynn from Buntys imaginatively sources all her beautiful gifts for the home as well as rescuing unwanted pieces of furniture and giving them a new lease of life. Offering a great selection of home accessories, Buntys has delightful stocking fillers and Christmas decorations as well as hand painted furniture that looks amazing in any home. From small items like mugs and candle holders to beautiful mirrors and large pieces of furniture there is just so much on offer. Buntys is just how a contemporary Christmas ought to look and you are certain to find plenty of gifts for friends and family.

**Isle of Arran Distillery**  
Visit the fantastic Isle of Arran Distillery in Lochranza during the ShopArran weekend and get 10 per cent off all purchases in their fabulous gift shop. For the whisky lover in your life the shop has everything to make their Christmas wishes come true. From the new limited edition Millennium Cask to the much-loved Arran malt, there are whiskies to suit every palate. Beautiful glassware, branded clothing, gift packs, hampers and miniatures all make excellent presents. Throughout the weekend there will be lots of special Christmas

offers, whisky tasting and tours, and lots of delicious treats to tantalise the taste buds in Casks cafe bar open from 11am - 4pm. Enjoy some mulled wine and some mince pies on Sunday 3.30pm as the incredible Christmas cask tree is lit up for the festive season. Santa Claus is also making a guest appearance from 2pm and would be delighted to see all the little and big girls and boys. A perfect way to round off the Shop Arran weekend.

Pooch Boutique



Arran Aromatics



Red



**The Curtain House**  
Lamash, Isle of Arran [www.arrancurtainhouse.com](http://www.arrancurtainhouse.com) Tel: 01770 600723

**10% OFF**  
on purchases made over £20 plus lots of great offers

Discount applies from Friday 6th to Sunday 8th December



**BUNTYS**  
Shabby Chic Hand Painted Furniture Home Accessories

**10% discount when you spend £30 or over**  
Friday 6th December - Sunday 8th December

Please call or email for more details  
Email: [bunty@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:bunty@hotmail.co.uk)  
Tel: 01770 302680



# Shopping Weekend



Jolly Molly



Buntys



Arran Art Gallery

This wonderful gallery in Whiting Bay has a clear aim to promote the island's artists to visiting tourists from the British mainland and to all those people all over the world that have an affinity with the beautiful island of Arran. In addition to local artists, the gallery exhibits many of Scotland's established contemporary artists. They also pride themselves in the discovery of exciting new talents, especially those

Arran Art Gallery



artists living on or linked to Arran. Arran Art Gallery holds the largest stock of original art to be found on the island and one of the largest in west Scotland.

If the pieces you wish to view are not actually exhibited on our walls they will be delighted to display them from our extensive stock.

At present approximately 40 Scottish artists are represented at the gallery and online and during ShopArran there will be a 10 per cent discount on all prints and Nick Giles originals.

So why not treat your loved one to something which they can enjoy for many years to come and make this a really special Christmas.

Red Door

The Red Door girls have been busy beavering away getting the shop ready for the festive season and there is a huge array of lovely items now in stock including great new ranges

of jewellery, scarves, snoods, handbags and gifts – perfect for those looking for inspiration this Christmas. The trusty favourites are still there too, from luxurious leather handbags and fingerless gloves, to

timeless wooden toys. There is something for the whole family in Red Door, so pop in for some gift ideas or to start getting your list ready for Santa. Just in case you needed another reason to visit, pop in over the ShopArran weekend and receive £5 off all purchases over £35, £10 off purchases over £75 and a free gift so it's an ideal time to get shopping.

Pooch Boutique

Forming part of the fantastic ShopArran experience at Cladach that weekend is Pooch Boutique. This beautiful boutique style shop and studio is where Nici Boni, Assja Baumgartner and Carol Atkinson create all their unique handmade products. The iconic leather handbags and cushions made by Nici are fantastic gift ideas, as are the striking glass and ceramics made by Kez and Assja's stunning jewellery.

Throughout the ShopArran event these three exceptionally talented artists will be offering something a little different for shoppers. There will be a chance to barter for discounts on all purchases over £25, along with some other little surprises throughout the weekend. Everything in store is made on the island, so come along and enjoy a piece of Christstollen and a warming glass of glühwein whilst you shop. Glühwein helps you barter...

**Pooch Boutique**  
Leather Handbags - Ceramics - Fused Glass - Jewellery  
An Extravaganza of the Handmade

Visit us at Cladach.  
Have a chat, Glühwein and Stollen.  
Browse and find prezzies and stocking fillers for your loved ones.

Shop Arran Weekend  
6th - 8th December  
between 10 am and 5pm

Visit us in Lochranza on the Shop Arran Weekend at the **Isle of Arran Distillery**

**10% OFF in the Shop**  
Plus: Xmas Offers, Tours, Whisky Tasting and Casks Cafe Bar

Mulled Wine and Mince Pies on Sunday to celebrate lighting our Christmas Cask Tree at 3.30pm

01770 830264 - info & bookings  
www.arranwhisky.com

*Pure by nature.*

**RED DOOR**

**Christmas Shopping Weekend**  
**£5 off when you spend £35**  
**£10 off when over £75**

6th - 8th Dec  
Open everyday from 2nd December until Christmas  
One Stop Christmas Gift Shop

Red Door, Brodick, Isle of Arran KA27 8BU  
Tel 01770 303549 www.reddoorarran.co.uk  
**GIFT VOUCHERS AVAILABLE**

Door



The Curtain House



Arran Distillery



**Arran Art Gallery**

www.arranartgallery.com  
PAINTINGS • PRINTS • GIFTS

10% off  
all prints and Nick Giles originals

Open every Thurs, Fri, Sat in December (& Sun 8th)  
10am - 5pm

WHITING BAY next to County Carpets *Nick Giles*

**THE ROCK POOL**

We're popping up again!  
Find us at the Taste of Arran site beside Bilslands on Friday 6th - Sunday 8th December

Great deals over the weekend

**Bilslands AND THE BOOT STORE**

**OPEN 7 DAYS**  
9AM - 5PM MON - SAT  
10AM - 5PM SUNDAYS

**Special Offers for the SHOP ARRAN WEEKEND**  
6th December - 8th December

Berghaus - Musto - Animal  
Ladies - Gents - Children's

**LICENSED CAFE / BAR AND MINI GOLF**

# Arran is a Christmas

**THE HARBOUR SHOP**  
BLACKWATERFOOT  
TOYS, GIFTS, DECORATIONS,  
GIFT VOUCHERS & MUCH MORE

**10% DISCOUNT ON YOUR GIFTS**  
EVERY SATURDAY TILL XMAS (exclusions apply)

Shop will open late till 6pm  
on SATURDAY 14th & 21st December  
Monday - Saturday 9am -5pm. Sunday 12pm -5pm  
01770 860 215



**CHRISTMAS SHOPPING AT SADDLE UP**  
*We have the perfect gift for everyone!*

Diamante Stirrup Irons from £18.00  
Half Chaps from £12.00  
Complete Grooming Kits from £9.00  
Riding Hat Bags from £10.00  
Riding Socks from £3.00  
Headcollars from £5.00

We also have great offers on Horse Rugs!

Why Not Pay Us A Visit!  
Or Shop Online At  
[www.saddlery-online.co.uk](http://www.saddlery-online.co.uk)



**JAMES CHOCOLATE SHOP**  
OPEN 7 DAYS - 10AM - 5PM

Located in the heart of Brodick, where you can see our range of luxury chocolates and fresh cream truffles being made by our skilled staff

*Everyone's Favourite Gift*

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

Open 7 Days  
Tel 01770 302873 and ask about our mail order service

**In the coming weeks the Isle of Arran will get well and truly into the festive spirit from nativity plays and Christmas markets to special shopping events and festive gatherings.**

If you are looking for somewhere to do your shopping in style Arran has it covered as the island has some superb stores, boutiques and gift shops. In all of the villages there are shops packed with beautiful, original gifts that are a delight to give

to your loved ones. The first stop for me is usually Brodick – I like to wander along the seafront popping into the village shops to see what is on offer.

**James of Arran**, the island's answer to Willie Wonka's Chocolate Factory is the ideal place to stock up on mouth-wateringly delicious handmade chocolates and delicate festive treats to give as fun stocking fillers on Christmas day.

There are more tasty treats on offer at the **Isle of Arran Cheese**

**Company** at Home Farm in Brodick. Hampers bursting with cheese, oatcakes and chocolates are their speciality and they make the perfect gift for all ages.

And no Christmas dinner would be complete with their delicious selection of cheeses made here on the island - brie, camembert and blue.

Food and drink forms such an important part of the festive season and **The Co-operative** store in Brodick has everything you need for Christmas. Much of the emphasis in-store is on top-quality, local produce and they sell everything from Arran meat and locally smoked fish to homemade jams and locally reared eggs to make your festive meals really special.

From here I always go on to Lamlash where I can stock up on delicious festive food treats as well as picking up unusual gifts for friends and family.



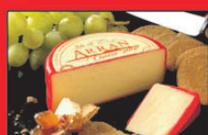
Christmas is definitely a time to indulge and the **Arran Fine Foods** factory shop in Lamlash is home to a whole host of delicious produce.



**CHRISTMAS TREES FOR SALE**  
Forest Office,  
Auchrannie Road,  
Brodick  
Friday 6th – 23rd Dec  
and Sat 7th Dec.  
Open Midday – 4.30pm




**Christmas Gift?**  
Fantastic Arran Hampers  
Delivered anywhere in the UK  
Call in and order or go online at  
[www.ARRANCHEESE.com](http://www.ARRANCHEESE.com)  
Orders being taken NOW for Christmas




**Machrie Bay**  
Golf - Tennis - Play Area & Home of Great Cakes



Open 7 days 01770 840329

# shoppers' delight



With preserves, mustards, chutneys and salad dressings all made on the island, as well as tasty oatcakes and shortbreads, this is truly the taste of Arran in a jar.

Even Arran's smaller villages have lots on offer.

Next door is **The Arran Butcher** - the only place to buy your meat this Christmas.

Priding themselves on using only the finest local meat and produce, they have everything you need for entertaining this festive season.

Nearby is the **Shiskine Pro Shop** and there is no better gift for the golfer in your family this Christmas than a lesson with PGA professional Dougie Bell.

The Pro Shop also stocks a large range of clubs, balls, shoes, bags and clothing from all major brands at very competitive prices that make excellent Christmas presents.

**Slidderly Supplies** is another great place to pick up unusual and useful gifts for the home this Christmas.

This Aladdin's cave of supplies has everything from cosy winter clothing to bits and pieces for the home.

For those with a passion for our larger four-legged friend, **Saddle Up** in Ayr is a one-stop shop for everything equine this Christmas.

**Creelers'** Arran smoked salmon would make a fantastic gift this Christmas. Hampers can be made up for you

to give as presents but with lots of fishy delights on offer (both fresh and smoked) why not just treat yourself and your family this festive season.

**Machrie Bay Tearoom** may offer the best buns on the beach, but in winter you may prefer their big steamy bowls of homemade

soup. But whatever your fancy remember the tearoom is open seven days a week all winter. Depending the time of day you'll find amazing breakfasts, lunches, snacks, lush cakes, milkshake bar, combos and daily specials. All served with amazing views, free Wi-Fi and great chat.



**The Harbour Shop** in Blackwaterfoot has beautiful handmade cards, unique gifts and jewellery as well as a great selection of local products including Arran Aromatics toiletries. There are also lovely toys and games to keep any youngster happy.





Last Turkey order date Wed 18th Dec

## Buy now for the Festive Season

**A FESTIVE FEAST FOR ALL THE FAMILY**

Christmas Turkeys & all the trimmings  
Succulent Roasting Joints  
Delicious Full Sides Scottish Farmed Fresh Salmon  
Tasty Gammon  
Rich Steak Pies

**OPENING HOURS OVER THE FESTIVE SEASON**

Mon 23rd Dec 9-5pm and Tues 24th Dec 9-5pm  
Wed 25th, Thur 26th - Closed  
Fri 27th Dec 9-5pm and Sat 28th Dec 9-5pm  
Sun 29th Dec - Closed  
Mon 30th Dec 9-5pm and Tues 31st Dec 9-4pm  
Wed 1st-Fri 3rd Jan - Closed  
Sat 4th Jan 9-4pm

**CALL US ON 860354**

## SLIDDERLY SUPPLIES

**Stockists and Suppliers of Agricultural and General Hardware**

USEFUL PRESENTS FOR PRACTICAL PEOPLE... AND A FEW FRIPPERIES TOO!

**Tel: 870 225**

**We close at 12 noon on Saturdays and are closed every Sunday.**

**Opening hours may vary over the next few weeks**

Visit our Gift Shop & Factory Outlet

# ARRAN

FINE FOODS

## FREE GIFT

if you spend more than £20 from 16th - 24th December

The Kitchen Shop  
Arran Fine Foods, The Old Mill, Lamlash  
Tel: 01770 600118

Open 7 days 10.00-4.00pm

## Shiskine Pro Shop

Open 7 days a week  
9am - 2pm  
Ideal for Christmas Gifts  
Golf lessons  
Ladies and Gents Clothing  
Clubs and Repairs  
Gift vouchers

SPEND OVER £20 AND GET 20% OFF

SHISKINE ISLE OF ARRAN KA27 8HA SCOTLAND  
EMAIL: dougie@shiskinegolf.com TEL: 01770 860226 M: 07789558556  
www.dougiebellgolf.com

# CREELERS



## The Island's Seafood Specialist Shop and Smokehouse

Enjoy Creelers Scottish Smoked Salmon, produced in our Smokehouse, using the finest Scottish Salmon smoked in local woodland oak and Lochranza whisky barrels. Order a hamper or choose from a selection of our smoked products in our smokehouse shop or visit us online where you can send a gourmet gift for Christmas.

Home Farm, Brodick, Isle of Arran, KA27 8DD  
Telephone: 01770 302797  
email: smokehouse@creelers.co.uk  
www.creelers.co.uk

# Christmas shoppers' delight

## The co-operative

Making sure our customers have a Truly Irresistible Christmas

From the 18th November - 15th December you'll receive vouchers that are 10% off your purchases over £5 - These can be used until 24th December either singly or why not save them all and use towards your Christmas shop?

Fantastic offers in store

- £5 off any £25 iTunes gift card from 27th November until 10th December
- 3 for 2 on Christmas wrapping paper
- Delicious frozen party food from £1
- 34" Digihome smart TVs for 279.99 saving £120
- Lenovo tablet PCs for £74.44 saving £30
- Venus dual core touch tablets for £69.44
- Toshiba smart Blu ray players for £64.99 saving £20



Huge supporter of Arran's Local produce. All shops open 7 days a week: 7am-10pm.



Also taking place in the coming weeks is the much-loved Victorian Christmas at **Brodick Castle**. This unique event allows you to travel back in time to the castle's heyday to witness what life during the festive season was like for the castle occupants. Why not pop in to the **Auchrannie** during

the ShopArran weekend to enjoy some lunch or a mug of something warming as you rest your feet from a busy day of shopping. And of course the festive season wouldn't be complete with a beautiful real tree grown on the island which once again can be bought from the **Forestry Commission**

office in Brodick. There is no doubt about it, the perfect Christmas gift can certainly be found on the island for every single person on your Christmas list. I hope you have as much fun doing your festive shopping as I did and that you have a wonderful Christmas and fantastic New Year.



## Brodick Castle's Christmas Carol

Sun 8 Dec, 12-3pm

Enjoy a magical Christmas with your family at Brodick Castle ... Dickensian-style! Meet Scrooge and others from A Christmas Carol and browse the Christmas Market for gift ideas as you enjoy music from the Arran Brass Band and school choir. Children can get creative with crafting fun and there'll be lots of tasty treats in our Tearoom - from soup and mince pies to home baking, mulled wine and more! Lots of family fun!

£15 family, £8 adult, £4 child/concession



For Christmas events across Scotland and the chance to win a **FAMILY HOLIDAY IN A CASTLE** visit [www.nts.org.uk/christmas](http://www.nts.org.uk/christmas)

the National Trust for Scotland  
a place for christmas

The National Trust for Scotland for Places of Historic Interest or Natural Beauty is a charity registered in Scotland, Charity Number SC 007410

THE **Aspa**  
AUCHRANNIE  
ARRAN ADDICTIVE

TREAT SOMEONE SPECIAL TO THE PERFECT CHRISTMAS GIFT

ASPA VOUCHERS

AVAILABLE FOR A WIDE RANGE OF PACKAGES AND IN ANY CASH DENOMINATION.

TO PURCHASE:

VISIT US IN PERSON,  
CALL US ON 01770 302234  
OR BUY ONLINE

[WWW.AUCHRANNIE.CO.UK/GIFTVOUCHERS](http://WWW.AUCHRANNIE.CO.UK/GIFTVOUCHERS)



# Antiquarians hear of a life at sea from Arran to Antarctica

The November meeting of the Arran Antiquarians was addressed by Capt. James Murchie of Torbeg on his life at sea.

The 75 members and visitors present were enthralled and entertained by his experiences and more than 140 photographs.

James was born on a farm in the Shiskine Valley and when he left Arran High School aged 16 the alternatives seemed to be either work on the land or a life at sea. The sea won and after 40 years he left the sea in 2012 with the rank of captain.

In 1971 he joined the Royal Fleet Auxiliary after visiting his Uncle Archie (of Glaister) on his ship, Wave Baron, when she came into Brodick Bay in 1967. The Royal Fleet Auxiliary (RFA) has civilian crew and its function is to refuel, re-arm, re-stock and escort Royal Navy ships.

His first ship, a training ship, was the Olmeida with a speed of 22 knots. Her job was to support the aircraft carrier Ark Royal, which required three support vessels with her at all times. His second ship, Retainer was an ex-passenger vessel, on which he experienced his worst storm at sea, when bombs broke free from their storage points and the Officers' bar was completely wrecked. He didn't quite clarify which was regarded as the worse tragedy!

After getting his 2nd Mate's certificate he was summoned to Greenock to oversee the fitting out of the Fort Austin, which was to be used in anti-submarine warfare and equipped with Sea King helicopters. She was an ammunition and store ship. When transferring supplies to another ship they had to be 42 metres apart, moving at the same speed, a tension wire running between the two ships and trolley blocks delivering the goods or fuel pipes from ship to ship. On one occasion this method even transported the Duke of Edinburgh from the

Royal Yacht to James' ship.

In 1988, after gaining his Master's certificate, he became First Officer on the Gold Rover, which acted as support vessel for RY Britannia, which incidentally had to have a frigate escort at all times. He was invited on board Britannia to meet HM The Queen when Britannia was tied up in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, something he eventually managed to do despite complications with drunken Australian crewmen!

In 1984 he was on the Olna at South Georgia as part of a Falklands deterrent force to prevent further Argentine aggression. The audience saw pictures of deserted whaling communities, penguins and elephant seals. The very simple grave of Sir Ernest Shackleton is also there. Amusingly, his mother sent his copy of the Arran Banner to him in South Georgia. The mail arrived after his departure, and it followed him around the world and was eventually delivered to him when his ship was anchored in Brodick Bay within sight of the Banner office!

In 1988 during a spell while seconded to the Royal New Zealand Navy, he attended the 200th anniversary of the Royal Australian Navy review in Sydney Harbour. Following spells in the Gulf after the first invasion of Kuwait he joined Bayleaf as Chief Officer. She was a very hard working ship and supported Naval ships day and night.

Three years ashore at the Royal Naval Staff College, Greenwich, working on budgeting and accountancy were a break from a life at sea, but in 1995 he gained his first command as Captain on the Sir Tristram. The Sir Gallahad and Sir Tristram were both bombed in Bluff Cove during the Falklands War, and while the Sir Gallahad was sunk and is a designated war grave, the Sir Tristram was rebuilt and modernised, and became a

troopship.

A new Sir Gallahad was built, which was his next command, working with the Royal Marines in Norway and the West of Scotland. After spells on the Grey Rover in the Falklands and the Argus in the Balkans, it was back to the UK and Faslane and the Olna, one of the three last steamships in the Navy. She was decommissioned in Plymouth in 2000.

From 2002 to 2011 his command was the Fort George, a multi-tasking vessel, ammunition carrier, tanker, hospital ship, disaster relief and aircraft carrier with five Merlin helicopters. He sailed it to New York, the Baltic and attended the Spithead Review in 2005, the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar. His ship on that occasion carried the Duke of Westminster and Prince and Princess Michael of Kent. Among the grand ships present there was the old Shieldhall, well known to folk of the Clyde. Perhaps she smelled a little sweeter that day!

Sadly, the Fort George was listed for disposal and sailed from Loch Striven in 2010 and was finally broken up in Turkey in 2013.

Finally, 2011 was Capt Murchie's last command, the Orange Leaf, in Portland, Dorset, and we were shown a poignant picture of his first ship and his final ship together. James left the RFA in 2012 at a time when the Navy was being restructured, and his last picture was one of the Fort George anchored in Brodick Bay with the Caledonian Isles in the background alongside Brodick Pier.

It was a wonderful afternoon on the oceans of the world with Capt Murchie and we wish him a well-earned retirement. That was the final meeting in 2013 of Arran Antiquarians. The next is on 20 January when the AGM will be followed by a glass of wine and a slide show of the events of 2013. ND



Capt James Murchie flanked by two Antiquarians, Norval Murray, left, and Iain Hendry, right.

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# Pupils learn what it is like for Postman Pat

The children thoroughly enjoyed their visit

Youngsters from Brodick Primary School recently enjoyed a visit to the main island Post Office and sorting office.

**Guided tour**

The pupils from primary one and two were given a guided tour and gained a lot of knowledge about how a letter travels from the Post Office to the recipient.

They also found out all the other services

the Post Office can offer including what is available to buy.

This has allowed them to set up their own Post Office back in school as part of their Katie Morag topic.

The children would like to thank all the staff involved for all their help. They thoroughly enjoyed their visit and are looking forward to returning to post their letters to Santa soon!



The children learn how the post is sorted.



The children help with sorting the mail.



The youngsters hear about the counter services on offer.



Pupils post their letters.

## Our guide to where to stay on the mainland

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

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



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# Arran cattle and sheep prices show a welcome uplift

Messrs Craig Wilson Ltd, sold 339 cattle and 1,292 sheep consigned from Arran farmers to Ayr Auction Market throughout their autumn sales.

As a result of greatly improved weather both cattle and sheep were generally shown to best advantage this reflected in prices obtained showing a most welcome uplift, following the island's inclement weather earlier in the year, resulting in considerably less stock especially sheep being available for sale.

Leading prices (per head) cattle bullocks: Lim: £1,330 £1,170 East Mayish £1,040 Belleview £1,000 Cairnhouse £880 Glenree Hfd: £1,155 Altgolath £980 £950 £930 Clachaig Char: £1,030 £1,000 £970 £950 Creagraineach Luing: £1,185 £985 £900 Altgolath AA: £1,200 £1,040 £995 £965 Cairnhouse £1,160 £1,120 Belleview £990 £930 Braehead £860 Bridge B/Blue: £1,150 Belleview Sim: £1,190 Belleview (D&AC) £1,150 £1,120 Belleview Short: £1,175 Belleview B&W: £1,030 £1,010 Belleview £735 Tigheanfraoch.

Leading prices (per head) cattle heifers: Lim: £1,190, East Mayish Sim: £1,040, Belleview £840, Bridge AA: £1130 Belleview £730 Bridge Char: £920 £895 £885 £850 Creagraineach Luing: £830 Altgolath

Leading prices (per head) suckled calves bullocks: Char: £905 £900 Creagraineach £740 £660 £655 Ceithier Gaoithe Lim: £880 £725 Glenree £820 £740 Springfield £800 Creagraineach Sim: £720 Bridge £710 Torglen Hfd: £750 Altgolath Saler: £605 (x2) Lenamhor AA: £645 £590 Belleview (D&AC)

Leading prices (per head) suckled calves heifers: Hfd:

£770 Altgolath Lim: £750 Creagraineach £688 £650 Glenree Sim: £640 Bridge £580 Torylin.

Leading prices (per kilo) suckled calves bullocks: Char: 314.3p 308.3p 305p 304.7p Ceithier Gaoithe Saler: 277.5p 263p Lenamhor 270.7p Ceithier Gaoithe Lim: 264.2p 257.1p 255.5p Springfield Sim: 255.5p Torylin

Leading prices breed-

ing stock: Luing Hfirs with calf at foot: £1,050 £1,000 (x3) Ceithier Gaoithe Luing cows with calf at foot: £850 Ceithier Gaoithe £850 Ceithier Gaoithe Cast cows: £1,060 £1,040 £880 £790 Glenree £1,000 Clachaig £1,000 £980 £920 £890 Lavencorrach £950 Braehead £890 £780 Heathcote £780 £730 Altgolath £770 Springfield £720 Ceithier Gaoithe Cast Bulls: Saler:

£1,570 Ceithier Gaoithe. Leading Prices (per head) sheep store lambs: Texel: £74 £66 £65 £61 £60 Brandon £72.50 £71 £68 £66.80 Auchenhew £67 £61 Glenree £63 (x2) £62 £61 (x2) Bridge £63 Arran Estate Suffolk: £74 £70 £66 £64.20 £63.50 £62.50 Auchenhew £66.50 Altgolath £66 Brodick Home Farm Greyface: £59.20 Brandon Beltex: £65.20 Seaview Blackface:

£54.50 £49.50 Altgolath £45 £40 Glenree.

Leading Prices (per head) sheep hoggets: Blackface: £69 £62 Springfield Texel: £66.50 Springfield Greyface: £66.50 Springfield Billy goats: £73 Bridge Croft Cast Ewes Cross: £80 Springfield £70 Auchenhew Blackface: £55 Springfield £45 Brandon Cast Rams Blackface: £55 Springfield breeding sheep cross gim-

mers: £128 £122 Baelmargadh Texel gimmers: £122 £116 Baelmargadh £122 West Knowe Beltex gimmers: £110 Baelmargadh Cheviot gimmers: £92 £88 £87 Seaview Texel shearling rams: £300 (x2) £240 (x2) Springfield Suffolk shearling rams: £260 Bellvue Blue Leicester rams: £200 Creagraineach.

If you need a repeat prescription over Christmas and New Year, **order only what you'll need** and pick it up in plenty of time.

For winter health advice visit [www.nhsinform.co.uk](http://www.nhsinform.co.uk)

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# Birds can change their sleeping habits to suit

Each year after the autumn equinox in late September we begin to notice that there are more hours of darkness than there is of daylight. At the end of October when the UK 'puts the clocks back' moving from British Summer Time to Greenwich Meantime, it becomes more obvious.

For some people this change can upset sleeping patterns, as can long distance flights, where jet lag, for some, can be a problem. This led me to think about birds, some of which are long distance travellers, and their sleeping habits.

Research on caged birds, during their natural migration period, reports that their sleep pattern is reversed. That is, they are awake at night when they would be migrating and resting during the day. The rest that was taken was unusual as instead of long periods of sleep, there were many short periods lasting about 10 seconds. Power naps? In addition, it was noted that they would sleep with one eye open, half asleep, or partially shutting both eyes.

On the other hand, research on Lapland buntings in the 24 hour daylight of Arctic summer showed the birds maintained a schedule of resting for several hours each day between about midnight and

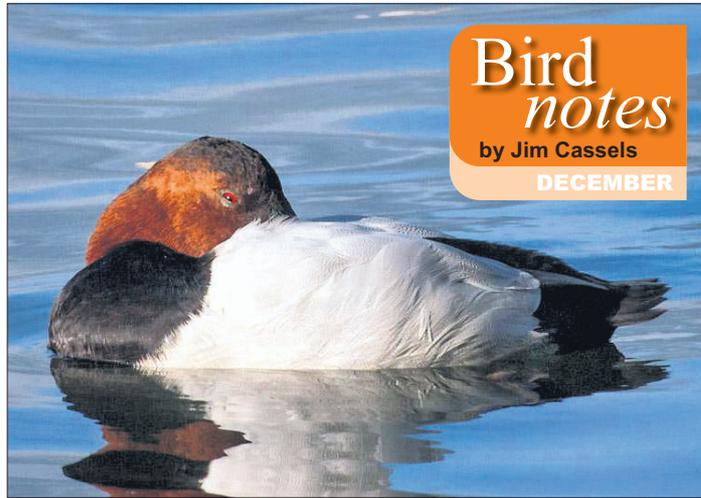
4.00am. Other studies have shown that mammals and birds have similar types of sleep. The rapid eye movement sleep lasts about a quarter of the time. It is during this period that humans dream. In the deeper non-rapid eye movement sleep muscle tone is maintained and some humans sleep walk.

Some birds like swifts are able to fly while asleep. How can they do that? It has been shown that birds, like swifts, and some aquatic mammals can rest one half of the brain while the other half is awake. Unihemispheric sleep or half asleep. If the right hemisphere of the brain is awake, the left eye is open and vice versa. This ability enables some birds to sleep and fly.

## Half asleep

Half asleep is also useful to birds like ducks that sleep in groups. The ones on the edge of the group can be half asleep keeping watch while those in the centre can have both eyes shut and can be fully asleep.

A final thought on sleep, think of all the little birds perched in the dark in sheltered spots in bushes and trees. How can they do that? Why don't they fall off? The words used to explain it are 'flexor reflex'. The pressure of the branch on the sole of the foot and the bending of



A half asleep pochard.

the legs cause the foot to curl round and grip the branch without any conscious effort. Enjoy your birding.

Please send any bird notes with 'what, when, where' to me at Kilpatrick Kennels, Kilpatrick, Blackwaterfoot, KA27 8EY, or e-mail me at james.cassels@virgin.net. I look forward to hearing from you. For more information on birding on Arran purchase the 'Arran Bird Report 2012' and visit this website [www.arranbirding.co.uk](http://www.arranbirding.co.uk)

## New apps to fight invasive species

Two new mobile phone apps, which allow people to quickly and easily record sightings of non-native species, are now available.

The apps are helping in the fight against invasive species, as well as helping to discover more about the effects of climate change.

Invasive non-native species – such as killer shrimp and zebra mussels – are the second most serious threat to global biodiversity after habitat loss, with non-native species costing the Scottish economy around £246 million each year.

The news apps include the AquInvaders app which allows people to report freshwater invasive species, and the Sealife Tracker which covers marine invasives, as well as a number of native species which indicate climate change.

Both apps are now available to download for both iPhone and Android. With the apps, users are able to look at ID

guides and information to identify and confirm a sighting, then upload a picture, add notes, and use GPS or a map to show their location.

## Record

The two apps join Plant-Tracker, which was the first app to allow the public to easily record what, where and

when they see invasive non-native species in Scotland and throughout the UK.

Arran has a particular problem with the invasive Japanese knotweed and Himalayan balsam.

The apps are available on the Scottish Natural Heritage website.

**The Hospital Supporters League  
Coffee Morning on  
Thursday 5 December**

**Whiting Bay Hall  
10.30am to 12.30pm**

**Win your Christmas cake**

Tackle the quiz while enjoying company and chat over coffee and mince pies at the same time as supporting your hospital.

## Muck in for a free holiday

The National Trust for Scotland (NTS) is to offer families free holiday accommodation in return for helping to protect the country's heritage.

The charity aims to capitalise on the 'staycation' trend by offering conservation get-aways on its historic properties.

Trust officials are drawing up plans to launch the family-friendly holidays at Brodick Castle next year.

Families will have the opportunity to stay on some of Scotland's finest estates free of charge if they muck in with tasks such as repairing dry-stane dykes, making footpaths and documenting wildlife.

Although Brodick Castle has only limited facilities for guests, camping areas in the grounds will provide comfortable accommodation.

If the idea proves successful, it is likely that free accommodation will be made available at other locations such as Mar Lodge in the Cairngorms and Culzean Castle in Ayrshire.

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# THE ARRAN BANNER

# TWENTY YEARS AGO

**Saturday 4 December, 1993**

## Rover returns

There was a tearful reunion for the Faulkner family of Torbeg when their faithful 14-year-old collie Shelley turned up after going missing.

The elderly dog, equivalent to 98 in human years, wandered around Machrie Moor without any food for 10 days.

The family put a 'lost' notice in last week's Banner but had resigned themselves to losing their much loved pet.

Then 10 days after Shelley had gone missing a visiting couple was walking on Machrie Moor and they found an old sad looking dog.

They went back to their hotel in Whiting Bay where two friends, who had stayed behind and read The Banner, contacted the family and Shelley was returned home.

## Raising the roof

Some of the strongest winds for many years, measuring up to 86mph, blew the roof off the extension at Pimmill School, just after the children had gone home.

Head teacher Wilma Morton said: 'I was standing in the middle classroom and the roof floated past the window. It was really quite frightening.'

After a night of rain she spent the following morning mopping up water, although fortunately she had been able to move most of the books from the classroom the previous evening.

The school was closed for a day while temporary plastic sheeting was fitted over the flat-roofed extension.

**Below: Head teacher Wilma Morton holds up a piece of the school roof which was blown off.** b48twe02



## Petrol probe

The price of petrol on Arran is to be put before the Office of Fair Trading.

Normally around six pence per litre above mainland prices, two approaches have been made to them, the first from Bob Haddow of Arran Transport and the second from Strathclyde trading standards department.

Petrol prices are higher on Arran, not because of delivery charges to the island, but so that smaller outlets can survive and continue selling petrol.

Trading standards officer Robert Watson said they may be prepared to consider Arran as a special case. He said: 'They are more concerned with practices than with price, but if it is kept artificially high by restrictive practices they may do something.'

## No change

Arran Provisions is to amalgamate with its sister company Paterson Bronte of Livingston to become Paterson Arran Ltd.

The biggest change will be that the administration centre will move from Hillington to Livingston with the loss of 10 jobs.

At present there are around 45 staff in Lam-lash, having recently slimmed down after the rush to produce before Christmas, but there are no plans to scale down operations on Arran.

## Comedy concert

Comedian Billy Connolly will give a performance in Brodick Hall as part of a massive British tour which will see him take in venues of all shapes and sizes ranging from 3,000 capacity to Brodick's modest 215. The concert will take place on 28 January and tickets go on sale from Monday.



**Shelley back at home with Jane and Neil Faulkner, Donald Bannatyne and Gavin Faulkner.** b48twe01



**Above: Pupils at Corrie Primary School look on as Councillor Tom Knox of CDC plants a rowan tree given to two schools on Arran as part of National Tree Week. Head teacher Angie Fisher also gave a short talk on trees.** b48twe04



**Right: Alastair Bilson of Curries of Brodick presents a new bike to seven-year-old Rosalie Turbett of Shiskine which she won in a competition run jointly by Curries and Berol pens. Also in the picture is her brother Liam.** b48twe03

# What's on

in association with Isle of Arran Brewery

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



## Everyday

Trout Fly Fishing  
 Brodick Castle, Garden Open  
 Arran Brewery  
 Arran Brewery tour

Loch Garbad, Bank fishing  
 Daily 9am-Dusk  
 Open Mon-Fri 12.30-5pm, Sat 10-5pm Closed Sunday 2pm

## Saturday 30th November

Army Cadets  
 Over 21s Disco  
 Karate  
 Family Games  
 Arran Dancers (4yrs & up)  
 Junior Football  
 RNLI Shop  
 Arran's Gaelic Heritage  
 Arran Labour Party Meeting  
 Live music from Joe & Ian  
 Santa Sparkle  
 Lighting the Lamlash Christmas tree  
 Glenisle Christmas Tree Spectacular  
 Live music from Matt Johnston  
 DJ

Auchrannie Road 11am - 1pm  
 Ormidale Hotel, 10pm  
 Auchrannie Games Hall, 11.30am-12.30pm  
 Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm  
 Arran High School, 10am  
 P4s and upwards, Arran High School, 11am-12.30pm  
 Lamlash Pier 10.30-12.30pm  
 Ormidale Pavilion 7.30pm  
 Ormidale Sports Pavilion, 2pm  
 Douglas Hotel Bar 9pm  
 Lamlash front green from 1pm  
 Lamlash front green, 5pm  
 Lamlash, 6pm  
 Lamlash Golf Club, 9pm  
 Drift Inn, Lamlash, 9pm

## Sunday 1st December

Family Games  
 Fun in the pool  
 Cocaine Anonymous (& all other drugs)  
 AA Meeting  
 Santa Sparkle

Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm  
 Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm-5pm  
 Ormidale sports pavilion, 2pm - 3.30pm  
 Brodick Church Hall, 4pm - 6pm  
 Lamlash Front Green all day

## Monday 2nd December

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

Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay, 8.30pm  
 Lochranza Village Hall, 2-4pm  
 Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm  
 Ormidale Pavilion, 9.30-1.30pm  
 Auchrannie Gym, 9.30-10.30am  
 Corrie Hall, 6.30pm  
 Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7-9pm  
 Ormidale Park, 6-7.30pm  
 Corrie Village Hall, 11am - 12noon  
 Brodick Sheltered Housing, 12.30pm  
 Kinneil, Lamlash, 3.4-3.30pm  
 Lamlash High School, 6.30-7.30pm  
 Whiting Bay Hall, 11.30-1.30pm  
 Beginners & improvers Corrie Hall, 2-4pm  
 Lamlash Golf Clubhouse 7pm  
 Shiskine Hall, 5.15 -5.45pm  
 Rangers Centre 6.30pm  
 Lamlash Church, 7.30pm

## Tuesday 3rd December

Pop Quiz  
 Alcoholics Anonymous  
 Youth Club  
 Rotary club  
 Streetly Dance pre school  
 Streetly Dancing minis P1-3  
 Streetly Dancing Juniors P4-7  
 Streetly Dancing Seniors

Ormidale Hotel, 9pm  
 Brodick Church Hall, 2pm  
 Kildonan Hall, 7pm  
 Glencloy Suite, Auchrannie, 7.15pm  
 Auchrannie Dance Studio, 1.45-2.30pm  
 Auchrannie Gym Hall, 4-4.45pm  
 Auchrannie Gym Hall, 4.45-5.30pm  
 Auchrannie Gym Hall, 5.30-6.15pm

Weight Watchers  
 Junior Hockey Club  
 Healthy Outdoors  
 Lawn Bowls (weather permitting)  
 Food and craft market  
 Winter bowls  
 Scottish Country Dancing  
 SFA Early Touch Football  
 Metafit  
 Christmas Food & Craft Market

St Molios Church Hall, 7pm  
 Auchrannie Sports Hall, 6-7pm  
 10am-1pm NTS Ranger Centre  
 Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, 1.45pm  
 Ormidale Pavilion, 11am - 4pm  
 Auchrannie sports hall, 7pm  
 Brodick Church Hall, 7.30-9.30pm  
 P1-P4s, Arran High School, 6-7pm  
 Arran High School, 6pm - 6.30pm  
 Ormidale Sports Pavilion, 10.30am-3pm

## Wednesday 4th December

Hockey  
 Tae Kwondo  
 Alcoholics Anonymous  
 Arran Brass Rehearsal  
 Yogalates  
 Aquafizz  
 Music Mayhem Class Parents & Little Ones  
 Arran Heritage Museum Archives & Genealogy service  
 RunArran mixed ability  
 Yoga-Arran  
 Sports Club  
 Quiz  
 Coffee Morning  
 Roots of Arran Christmas Coffee Morning

Auchrannie Games Hall, 6.30-7.30pm  
 Arran High School Kids-6.30-7.30pm Adults-7.30-8.30pm  
 Lamlash Church Hall, 8pm  
 Brodick Church Hall, 7-9pm  
 Auchrannie Studio, 9.30-10.30am  
 Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.45-10.30am  
 Auchrannie Dance Studio, 10.45am  
 10.30-12.30 & 1.30-3.30  
 Auchrannie car park, 5.30pm  
 Kinneil, Lamlash, 7-8.30pm  
 P4-S2s, Arran High School, 6-7.30pm  
 Drift Inn, Lamlash 9pm  
 Lamlash church Hall 10.15am-12noon  
 Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick 10am

## Thursday 5th December

Senior Fitness  
 General Knowledge Quiz  
 Lochranza Craft Club  
 Live music  
 Weight Watchers  
 Yoga  
 Shirley & Sarah fitness class  
 Brodick Embroidery Group  
 Winter bowls  
 Metafit  
 Bridge Club  
 Hospital Supports League Coffee Morning  
 Arran Yacht Club AGM  
 Pinocchio The Panto

Auchrannie Gym, 9.30-10.30am  
 Ormidale Hotel, 9pm  
 Lochranza Hall, 2pm  
 Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay 8.30-11.00pm  
 Ormidale Pavilion, 5.30pm  
 Corrie Village Hall, 6pm - 7pm  
 Lamlash High School, 6.30-7.30pm  
 Brodick Library, 7.30pm  
 Auchrannie sports hall, 7pm  
 Auchrannie sports hall, 6pm - 6.30pm  
 Brodick Golf Clubhouse, 7pm  
 Whiting Bay Hall, 10.30-12.30pm  
 Ormidale Hotel, 7.30pm  
 Community Theatre Lamlash, 7.30pm

## Friday 6th December

Aqua Fizz  
 Yogalates  
 Arran Youth Foundations  
 Lochranza Kids Badminton  
 Lochranza Adults Badminton  
 Disco  
 Brodick Farmers Christmas Market  
 RunArran Coaching  
 Active Buggies  
 Arran Ceilidh Dance Group  
 Overeaters Anonymous  
 Fred Morrison in concert  
 Pinocchio The Panto

Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.45-10.30am  
 Auchrannie Studio, 9.30-10.30am  
 Church Hall, Brodick 7pm-9pm  
 Lochranza Hall, 6-8pm  
 Lochranza Hall, 8pm  
 Ormidale Hotel, 10pm  
 Auchrannie Road, 8am - 6pm  
 Ormidale Park 9.30am  
 Ormidale Park, 10am  
 Lamlash Church Hall, 8-10pm  
 Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick 11.30-1pm  
 Corrie Parish Church, 8pm  
 Community Theatre Lamlash, 7.30pm

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**Recruitment**

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 or phone: 01770 303 335

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**Public Notices**

**Arran Yacht Club  
 AGM**

**Ormidale Hotel**  
 Thursday 5th December 7.30pm

**PUBLIC MEETING**

**Arran Labour Party invites you to a meeting on Welfare Reform with Katy Clark MP**

Ormidale Sports Pavilion, Brodick  
 Saturday 30th November at 2pm  
*All Welcome*

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# Drive Times

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# Classifieds

## FREE TO UPLIFT

Bagged Manure at Oakbank, Lamlash. £1 per bag donation to Arran RDA Tel 600752

Darley 'Genesis' aluminium treatment couch - adjustable height. Dark willow green - with side extensions, full cradle carry case and covers (comes with original paperwork). Free with a donation to ArCaS Tel: 302208

## UNDER £30

12 litre Halogen oven unwanted gift. Never used still in box £25.00 Tel:302150

ITF official Taekwon-do suit with white belt, 160cm, only worn twice £20 Tel. 700 224

Hedge trimmers x2 electric £15 each, Lawnmower Bosch electric - metal blade and wheels £30, Electric flymo metal blade £25 Tel: 700542

Reclaimed velux windows, various sizes £20 each Tel: 700497  
Mothercare travel cot £10 TEL: 870314

## OVER £30

Onza Rip trials bike, white and red, hydraulic brakes, very good condition £150 ono. Tel 700 224  
2 carpets, 7 metres x 4 metres, cream & beige. New, never used. Cost £1,450 will accept £270 for both. Tel: 07879 983 800

Cosatto cot bed with mattress & bedding £40 Tel:870314

## WANTED

Canoe wanted any condition considered to suit a 14 year old tel:302272 or 303505

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**Whiting Bay Golf Club**  
 Sunday 24 November: 16 played in the Taylor Trophy, a Greensome competition.

Conditions were excellent for the time of year and scoring was very tight with a countback being needed to split the first second and third and fourth pairs.

Usually if you score an 11 at the third hole you would think your chances of winning were over - but not for Tam Young and Malcolm Pennycott.

Having started with a 4 and then a three the wheels seemed to come off after whacking the ball 11 times at the third, but inspired golf saw them record a final score of 60.2, beating John Pennycott and Jamie MacPherson who had an identical score (without shooting an 11!) on the countback.

In third place were Dav-

id Brookens and Graeme Crichton with 60.2, beating Michel Augier and Wolfi Kroner on countback. There were Magic twos by Malcolm and Tam, Michel and Wolfi, and David and Graeme. Jamie and John won scratch with 68.

Fixtures: Sunday 1 December, AGA Winter League at Corrie. Whiting Bay vs Brodick at 11.50am.

Saturday 7 December, mixed fours at 11.00am. Sunday 8 December, Winter Cup.

**Shiskine Golf Club**

Sunday 24 November, Jim Allison Trophy (Missionaries V Natives), 25 gents played on a beautifully still day out on the links.

Colin Allison was on hand to assist with the prize giving. Gator was captain for the natives and was delighted to defeat Joe Faulkner and his missionaries by a convincing 4 1/2 to 1 1/2.

Nearest the pin at the fourth and longest drive at the ninth both won by Hamish Bannatyne. Alistair Liddell won nearest the pin at the 10th.

Thursday 21 November Ladies Stableford, 11 played in lovely sunny weather!

Silver 1 J Turnbull 24 pts, 2 K Genda 23 pts. Bronze 1 E Henderson 22 pts, 2 P Johnston 20 pts (BIH).

**Lamlash Golf Club**

Thursday 21 November, Yellow Medal, SS 61. 1 Alan Smith 66 - 10 = 56, 2 Adam Burke 70 - 13 = 57, 3 Billy O'Connor 83

**Who's who in golf picture**

It didn't take long. In last week's Banner there was a photograph of Arran golfers at Lochranza taking part in a competition in 1969 and we asked if anyone could name them.

Beth Paterson, with the help of her dad Willie Innes, who was in the picture, named most of the golfers with Janice Small filling in the blanks.

We think they are back row left to right: Fraser Robinson, Ian McMillan, Willie Macmillan (Bucket), Charlie Napier, Angus Macmillan, Willie Innes, Jock McKinnie and Stewart Dickie.

Front row left to right: Bob Buchanan, Duncan McAlister, Sandy Speirs, John Kerr, Roddy Campbell and Rab Hume.

- 20 = 63. Twos Adam Burke at 13th + 16th, Billy O'Connor at seventh, Graeme Andrew at 8th. Sunday 24 November, Winter Stableford, CSS 64. 1 Billy O'Connor 44 - 20 = 17.3 pts, 2 Dougie Macfarlane 36 - 0 = 0.0pts, Andy Smith 35 - 15 = 15.3. Best Scratch - Dougie Macfarlane 36pts, twos - Graeme Andrew at fourth.

Fixtures: Sunday 1 December - Winter League [Team Game] V Machrie. Thursday 5 December Yellow Medal 11.00am ballot.

**Machrie Bay Golf Club**

No game due to the weather on Tuesday. Fixtures: Tuesday 3 December Winter Cup tee off 12noon. Saturday 7 December Lochranza Hotel Cup tee off 12noon.

**Arran Golfers Association**  
 Winter League/Duncan Trophy Second round, Sunday 1 December at Corrie Golf Club. Corrie v Shiskine at 8:30am, Machrie v Lamlash at 9:20am, Whiting Bay v Brodick at 11:50am.

**CHURCH NOTICES**

**SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH** (in full communion with the Church of England) St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.  
 SUNDAY, 1st December: Holy Communion, 11.00 am. Mrs Janis Gallagher. Coffee after service.  
 WEDNESDAY, 4th December: Holy Communion, 12.15 pm. ALL WELCOME

**ARRAN CHURCHES TOGETHER**  
 There will be Taizé worship on THURSDAY, 5th DECEMBER, at 7.30 pm, in St Molios' Church, Shiskine. ALL WELCOME

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**  
 Parishes of North Arran: Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza, Pimmill and Shiskine Independent but working together  
 Minister: Rev Angus Adamson, Parish assistant: Mrs Jean hunter:  
 Worship will be conducted in the above churches at the following times to which all are invited.  
 Sunday 1st December Brodick Church, 10.30am, Morning Worship led by string group ARCO.  
 Corrie Church, 12noon, Morning Worship led by string group ARCO.  
 A Service of Worship will also be held in Montrose House at 1.30pm  
 Lochranza and Pimmill Churches, 10.15am, Morning Worship at Lochranza.  
 Shiskine Church, 12noon, Morning Worship.

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**  
 Kilmory linked with Lamlash "A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"  
 Sunday 1st December Kilmory 10am Lamlash 11.30 am  
 In both Churches: Mrs. Liz Clarke  
 All welcome, including families; children's area Scottish Charity SC015072

**WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND** (Charity Number: SC014005) Sunday 1st December 2013 Worship for 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. All most welcome.  
 There will be a service in Cooriedoon at 2.30pm. All welcome. The Church Christmas Card, to be sent to all members, will be available to be signed, and all proceeds will go to The Glasgow City Mission.

Holy Cross Catholic Church Sunday morning masses 11am

**ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH**  
 Minister: Rev Vince Jennings  
 Sunday 1st December 11 a.m. Morning Worship in The Ormisdale Sports Pavilion, Brodick  
 Tea & coffee after the service. Wednesday at 7.30 p.m. Home Fellowship Group for Bible Study and Prayer. Contact phone no. 600222. Everyone warmly invited.

**ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**  
 Sunday 1st December Shiskine 11am (Church on road between Blackwaterfoot and Machrie)  
 Brodick 7pm (Church behind post office)  
 Rev J Dusendury

**ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND** (continuing)  
 Sunday 1st December Morning Service 11am  
 Trust Housing Lounge Glen Estate, Brodick  
 Evening Service 6-30 pm  
 5 Glen Road, Brodick  
 Wednesday 4th December Prayer Meeting 7pm  
 5 Glen Road  
 All welcome

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

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

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**DEATH**  
**LOGAN** - Anna. Suddenly but peacefully at Arran War Memorial Hospital, Lamlash, Isle of Arran on Wednesday, 20th November 2013. Beloved Wife of the late Jack, much loved mother, Grandmother and sister. Sadly missed. Funeral took place on Wednesday 27th November.

**DEATH**  
**MCKINNON** - John. Peacefully at Crosshouse Hospital on Sunday 24th November 2013. John, of Hillhead Farm, West Bannan, aged 81 years. Beloved Uncle, Great Uncle and Brother. Funeral Service in Kilmory church on Monday 2nd December at 12 noon to which all relatives and friends are respectfully invited.

**Sarah & David's Wedding Dance**  
**7th December at the Kinloch**  
 Bus leaving Bridge Farm at 7.30pm.  
 For anyone that needs a lift in the Shiskine and Torbeg area please call Clark on **07866 335435** to book  
*Bus returning at 1am*

**DIAMOND WEDDING**

**HAPPY DIAMOND WEDDING ANNIVERSARY**  
**John and Grace**

Love from all the family

**Arran Bridge Club results**  
 The results of the Arran Bridge Club held on Thursday 21 November were: N/S 1 Tricia Martin and Douglas Hamilton, 2 John and Mary Dick, 3 John and Jan Beattie. E/W 1 Helen Boyd and Jean Murchie, 2 Janie Maclure and Anne McKelvie, 3 Maureen Cumming and Jennifer McArthur.  
 The results from Monday 25 November were: N/S 1 John and Jan Beattie, 2 Tricia Martin and Alison Bilsland, 3 John Baraclough and Janette McBride. E/W 1 Brenda Livingstone and Morag Gardner, 2 Jessamy and Jim Peacock, 3 Jennifer McArthur and Jean Barclay.

**GRADUATION**

**DANIEL GOODCHILD**  
 Graduated from Glasgow Caledonian University. Congratulations, we are very proud of you on graduating with a BA in Business Law.  
 Love Mum, Dad, Matthew and Clare.

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## Junior hockey team in tournament action

Coaches took 34 children from Arran Junior Hockey Club to play in a mini tournament on Sunday 17 November.

Six teams from the club took part in the tournament and had mixed fortunes throughout the day against teams from Hamilton College and Uddingston.

Coach Victoria McNicol said: 'All in all, it was a very rewarding and fun day.

The children behaved amazingly which made our day as coaches much easier. The drive through McDonalds on the way home for 27 happy meals finished a wonderful day away.'

Lorraine Hewie, Martin Kemp, Cat Galbraith and Victoria are the four coaches for the club who train outdoors at Ormidale Park in Brodick every Tuesday night from 6 to 7pm.



**Vicky and the under 10 B team - Megan McCartney, Harry Gilmore, Isabella Reid, Jack Popplewell, Sam Reid, Innes McNicol, Oliver Ulivi and Kyle Farquar.**



**Vicky and the under 10 A team - Isla McKelvie, Hannah Kemp, Harris McNicol, Alfie Robinson, Aidan Hewie, Fraser McKinnon.**



**Martin Kemp and the under 12 B team - Charlie Aitken, Freya McNicol, Jemima Currie, Harvey Kemp and Jessica Reid**



**Lorraine Hewie and Cat Gilbraith with the under 14 team- Evie Campbell, Abbie McKelvie (Captain), Megan McNicol, Ellie Wood, Hannah McCartney, Bethany Walsh, Elyse Aitken and Darren Hewie.**



**The under 12 A team - Kyle McNicol, Thomas Gilmore, Lachlan Campbell, James Reid (Captain), Mia Walker and Amelia Kemp.**

## RunArran seeks new members

RunArran is keen to attract new members of all abilities to its classes.

This year more than 40 people have passed through their JogScotland beginners courses and Active Buggies runs for mums.

Many of them continue to run and have joined the mixed ability group which meets on a Wednesday night. At the moment members are building up their training in preparation for spring running events.

Organiser Laura Aitchison said: 'I am now a qualified UK Athletics Coach so we now provide coaching and help with running plans and training for events.

'In the new year we are starting a beginners' group for men, so get in touch. Don't put it off - get fit, lose weight and make new friends today.'

Heather, who is a member of RunArran, said: 'I was a 40 something couch potato who had never stuck to an exercise programme. I joined the group with the goal to jog for 15 mins three times per week to try to improve my fitness.

'One year later I completed a 10k and regularly jog for between 30 to 60 minutes. And love it.'

Classes meet as follows: Wednesday 5:30pm RunArran mixed ability group meet at Auchrannie car park; Friday 9:30am RunArran coaching meet at Ormidale Park; Friday 10am RunArran Active Buggies meets at Ormidale Park; Sunday 10am RunArran trail run.

## Free bus to final

Arran Rugby Club play in the club's first ever final next weekend.

The club will take on Uddingston in the RBS Regional Final on Saturday 7 December.

A free supporters' bus is running to Uddingston on the day. It will leave on the 8.20am ferry and returning on 6pm sailing.

If you wish to book a seat text or phone Stuart 07516299138.

## NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING



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The Arran Banner will continue to be independently audited.