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Arran's Weekly Newspaper

SATURDAY, 17 DECEMBER, 2011

No 1837 57p



## FREE inside your 2012 calendar

# Battered by winter storms

One of the stormiest periods the UK has seen for several years is set to continue

Arran is once again bracing itself for further gale force winds and snowstorms after more than a week of turbulent weather.

Winds of 80mph were recorded in Sannox last Thursday while an abnormally high tide on Tuesday resulted in The Scottish Environment Protection Agency issuing a flood warning for Arran.

Following a Red Alert issued by the Met Office for Arran and Central Scotland last week, islanders had prepared themselves for the worst.

However, despite very strong winds the island was left rela-

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

tively unscathed.

Police sergeant Bob MacKay said Arran had suffered very little damage.

'There were one or two trees down on the Lamlash to Brodick hill but apart from the high tide on Tuesday we saw very little damage to the island,' he said.

Electricity supplies were affected in many parts of the island - some areas of Lochranza were left in the dark for more than a day.

A spokesman for SSE (Scottish and Southern Electricity) said: 'Our engineers on Arran worked well in to the night on Thursday 8 December and all customers are now with power.'

The Met Office said one of the stormiest periods the UK has seen for several years is set to continue.

Chief forecaster Tim Hewson said: 'There is some uncertainty in the forecast for later in the week, but there is potential for a significant storm and we are keeping a close eye on the situation as it develops.'

'We'll be regularly updating our forecasts and warnings, so we advise everyone to stay up to date with the latest situation.'

Ferry passengers have also been faced with numerous disruptions because of the weather. Last Thursday the MV Caledonian Isles did not sail at all during the day.

On Tuesday only the 8.20am from Brodick and the 9.45am from Ardrossan sailed.



Stormy seas at Kildonan on Thursday. 01\_b50sea02



## It's beginning to sound a lot like Christmas

A festive musical treat greeted visitors to Brodick Castle on Sunday, as two of the island's most talented musicians entertained the crowds.

### Traditional Carols

Pianist Yvonne Brothers and singer Jean Bowden performed a series of traditional carols

at the grand piano in the drawing room of the castle. It was all part of the National Trust for Scotland property's annual Victorian Christmas that sees castle staff transported back to the mid 19th century for the day.

For the full story and all the pictures, see page 5. 01\_b50one01

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# Arran whisky helps to raise £90,000 for Japanese relief

The 'Spirit of Unity' whisky, formed from an idea by the managing director of the Isle of Arran Distillery for the relief effort in Japan following its earthquake and tsunami, has raised £90,000 to date.

The money raised has so far helped set up a market in the village of Utatsu offering local people much needed supplies following the destruction of all the shops in the village and helped house more than 300 people in temporary accommodation.

## Collaborated

It is the first time the distilleries; Arran, BenRiach, Bladnoch, GlenDronach, Mitchell's Glengyle, Kilchoman and Springbank have collaborated together.

Each donated a cask of single malt, which were then blended to create only 2,000 bottles of the one-off whisky.

Recently, four of the distillers involved visited the Tohoku region, one of the worst affected areas in Japan following the earthquake and tsunami.

Euan Mitchell, managing director of Isle of Arran Distill-

ers, who came up with the idea to produce the drink, said: 'Many in our industry, like me, travel regularly to Japan and have made friends and contacts with Japanese whisky enthusiasts.'

## Pleasure

'It has been our pleasure to create this dram and raise money for people in Japan following the recent natural disaster.'

'We are very pleased with the current progress that's taking place through Refugees International Japan and hope the auction of the last four signed boxed sets at the beginning of next year will raise even more money for this very worthy cause.'

Four boxed sets of the of the Spirit of Unity, each containing a bottle signed by the distillery manager from the seven distilleries involved, will be auctioned early in 2012 to raise further funds.

**Euan Mitchell, managing director of Isle of Arran Distillers, left, came up with the idea to produce the 'Spirit of Unity'. b50jap01NO**



## Arran livestock sales

United Auctions had forward 1,050 store cattle, suckled calves, cast cows and 8,290 cast ewes, prime lambs and 5,346 store lambs.

Cattle prices: Charolais cross bullock calves £910, 183p/kg Craigdhu, Limousin cross bullock calves £760, 212p/kg Kilpatrick, Simmental cross bullock calves £740, 184p/kg Birchburn, Simmental cross cast cows £945, 160p/kg Bellevue, Aberdeen Angus cross cast cows £975, 130p/kg Cairnhouse and £735, 117p/kg Birchburn, Limousin cross cast cows £775, 113p/kg Bellevue, Cast Bulls £705 Craigdhu, Cow & Calf £990 Tighnafraoch.

Sheep prices: Beltex lambs £90 Moor, Texel lambs £90 Craegraineach £90; Kilpatrick and Springfield £78; Drumla £77; Auchenhew £68, Suffolk cross lambs Craegraineach £85, Drumnaghinier £84.50, Dunbrea £80, Auchenhew £69.50, Balnacoolle £60.50, Cheviot lambs Cosyden £65, Mule lambs; Craegraineach £80; Springfield £74, Auchenhew £61, Cross lambs; Ceitheir Gaoithe £61.50; Sheddock £59.50, Blackface Bf lambs; Springfield £61.50, Ceitheir Gaoithe £59, Mule ewes; Balnacoolle £85.50, Springfield £76.50.

Cheviot/Mule ewes; Auchenhew £96.50, Cheviot ewes; Cosyden £72.50, Suffolk cross ewes; Dunbrea £79.50, Texel cross ewes; Sheddock £90.50, Blackface ewes; Springfield £65.50; Cosyden and Sheddock £54.50; Dunbrea £51.50, Cast Tups; Cosyden £95.50; Moor £80.50; Whin £77.50.

## Concerns that cost of caring is too high

Arran's MP has this week expressed her concern about the difficulties and pressures faced by families on the island who are caring for a sick or disabled relative.

The charity Carers UK estimate there are over six million people giving unpaid care or support to friends or family members in the UK and many of them are struggling to make ends meet.

The greatest pressures faced by carers and their families

according to the report include financial hardship, debt and stress.

The Carers Allowance, one of the few options of financial support available to carers, is just £55.55 per week, the lowest of the key benefits ratings.

## Worried

Speaking on the subject Katy Clark MP, said: 'I am extremely worried by the findings of this report which demonstrate the struggle ex-

perienced by families and individuals of all ages who are having to care for or support a loved one.'

'The costs of caring for someone who is frail, has a serious illness or a disability are inevitably going to be higher than the average cost of living.'

She added: 'The cost of living on Arran is already higher than the UK average and energy bills and general household expenses are likely to be

higher when caring for someone.'

Figures released this week show that almost 1,000 people collect Carers Allowance in North Ayrshire and Arran, amounting to around 1.6 per cent of the local working age population.

Ms Clark urged carers on Arran who are not claiming the benefits they are entitled to due to a lack of adequate information to seek guidance if necessary.



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## Christmas Gifts sent to Belarus and Serbia

Over 1,800 gift-filled shoeboxes from across Ayrshire and Arran are heading for vulnerable children in Belarus and Serbia as part of Operation Christmas Child, one of the UK's largest annual children's charity projects.

The shoeboxes have been donated by individuals, schools, businesses, churches and organisations from all over Arran.

Teams of volunteers in the Operation Christmas Child processing centre in Ayr have worked long hours collecting, checking and loading the shoeboxes for transportation.

Ayrshire and Arran Regional Manager for Operation Christmas Child, Chris Thomson, said: 'We've had lots of shoeboxes from Arran - quite fantastic! It's tremendous to see such kindness, particularly at a time when the economic downturn is hitting so many people.'

## Busy week for Coastguard

Arran Coastguard was asked to investigate a report of flares in the area close to Ailsa Craig last Thursday night.

The source was identified as being from a warship exercising in the area.

The next day MRCC Clyde received a phone call from Ardrossan Marina reporting the Fishing Vessel Lady Isle was being bashed against the sea wall.

Ardrossan Coastguard Rescue Team and the owner of the vessel proceeded to ensure she was tied securely alongside.

The vessel almost broke free again before being towed to safety.

# Top awards for two Shiskine Scouts



Ben Leslie and Luke Cannon of the Shiskine Scout Group are the first on Arran to be given this incredible award.

Two Arran Scouts have achieved the Chief Scout Gold Award - the highest award possible.

Ben Leslie and Luke Cannon of the 10<sup>th</sup> Ayrshire, Shiskine Scout Group are the first on Arran to be given this incredible award.

The Chief Scout's Award is achieved by gaining eight Challenge Badges.

A challenge badge involves accomplishing a number of more ambitious tasks within the Troop or community.

There are several challenge badges across a number of themes, from the physical and

outdoors to challenges dealing with the local community or issues connected with the Scouting world.

Alan Stout, the deputy District Commissioner for North Ayrshire and Arran Scouts

said: 'This is an excellent achievement with both boys undertaking a lot of work to accomplish their Challenges. Well done to them both.'

## Are you brave enough for Boxing Day Dook?

For the hardest of souls this Boxing Day there is another chance to take part in the annual Lamlash Dook.

Held each year on December 26, it will take place at Lamlash Pier at 2pm.

There will be mince pies and mulled wine for all as well as prizes for fancy dress. Under 16s must be accompanied by an adult.

All donations will go to the RNLI.

## Chance to see 'Arran on Film' at distillery

An exciting movie project that examines Arran's past on film is to be shown at the Isle of Arran Distillery over the festive period.

Arran Theatre and Arts Trust's 'Arran on Film' project was developed from an idea to inspire people by revealing the island's past in moving image and to create a permanent legacy for the Arran Heritage Museum to support their extensive collections.

Creator Edward O'Donnolly has worked professionally in film and video for broadcasters and within education for 25 years.

In the past eight years he has collaborated on video projects incorporating film from the National Library of Scotland's Scottish Screen Archive.

Arran on Film allows view-

ers to relive the sights and scenes of the island from the year 1900 up to the present day.

It will be screened at the Distillery Visitor Centre in Lochranza on the following days:

Monday 19 December, Tuesday 27 December, Wednesday 28 December, Thursday 29 December, Friday 30 December and Saturday 31 December.

Screenings will take place at 10.15am, 12noon, 1.30pm and 2.45pm.

### Festive opening

The Banner office will be closed on Friday and Monday of the Christmas and New Year weekends.

Any contributions of reports or results should be sent in by Tuesday of each week.

The film lasts one hour and five minutes.

There will be no charge for viewing but donations will be welcome for the Arran Theatre and Arts Trust.

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**Provost's Civic Pride Awards 2012  
Nomination Form**

**Who are you nominating?**  
Name of Individual or Group: \_\_\_\_\_  
If a group please give a contact name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please tick which category your nomination applies to:**

North Ayrshire Community Group Award   
North Ayrshire Citizen of the Year Award   
North Ayrshire Young Citizen of the Year (Under 25 years)   
North Ayrshire Arts & Culture Award   
North Ayrshire Sports Award

The nominee has agreed to this submission and to any publicity arising from the nomination   
I agree to my name being used in any publicity material arising from this submission

**Your details:**  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Your Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please attach a separate sheet of paper and tell us in 500 words or less why you feel this individual/group should receive an award and return with this nomination form to:  
**Communications Team, Chief Executive's Service  
North Ayrshire Council, Cunninghame House, Irvine KA12 8EE**

Under the Data Protection Act 1998 we must inform you of the following:  
The information you provide to North Ayrshire Council will be used solely for the purpose of administering and promoting the Provost's Civic Pride Awards.

**Festive thanks from ArCaS**  
The volunteers at ArCaS, the island's cancer charity, would like to wish everyone associated with them a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

They would like to say particular thanks to all on Arran and the mainland who generously gave donations of clothing and goods throughout the year.

A big thank you also to all the shop volunteers and mainland drivers for their continuous hard work and support – it is very much appreciated.

Please note that ArCaS will be closed from 4pm on Wednesday 21 December and will reopen at 11am on Wednesday 4 January.

It would be greatly appreciated if people would not leave goods outside the shop during this holiday period.

# Nominate your local champion

Members of the public are being urged to get their nominations in quick for the people they believe deserve to receive a North Ayrshire Council Civic pride Award.

Local heroes, active community groups, young citizens, aspiring sportsmen and women, talented local artists and inspirational volunteers are all worthy of nomination.

How to Nominate: Simply fill in the nomination form on this page giving the reasons (in 500 words or less) why you think the person/group should be considered for an award.

Nomination forms are also available online, at your local school and from a variety of North Ayrshire Council offices including libraries, community centres and local area offices.

The closing date for nominations is 12noon on Friday 3 February.

Provost Pat McPhee said: 'Now is the time for members of North Ayrshire's public to tell us about the dedicated groups and selfless individuals who make a difference to their communities by nominating them for one of the five Civic Pride Awards.'



**Provost Pat McPhee is urging people to get their nominations in quick for the Civic Pride Awards.**

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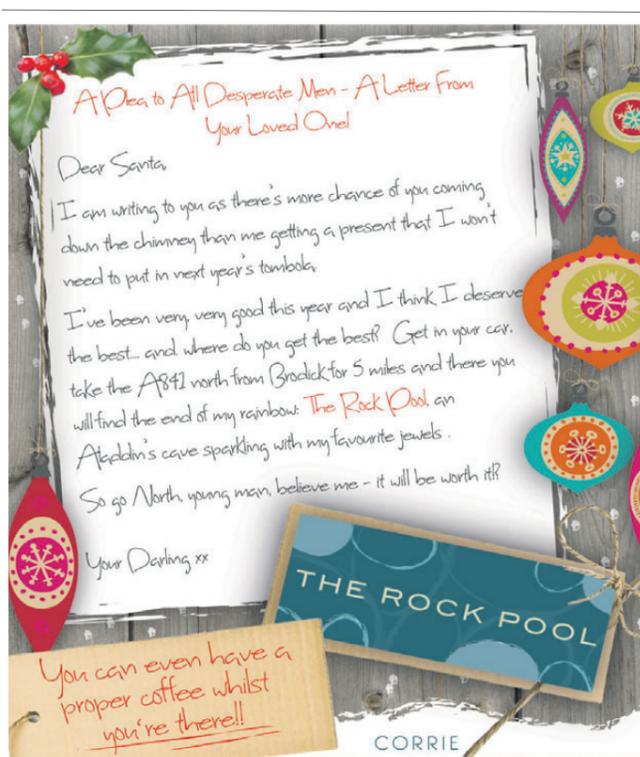
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## Freya is Young Naturalist of the Year



The Young Naturalists at Brodick Castle ranger Centre with Freya Campbell, far left, holding her trophy.



For more than 20 years the National Trust for Scotland has been running a Young Naturalist Club that culminates in a presentation to the Young Naturalist of the Year each Christmas.

This year, the Young Naturalist is Freya Campbell for her enthusiasm and love of wildlife.

The runners up were Hannah McCartney and Charlie Bonnar.

Head Ranger, Kate Sampson, said: 'Each year the award is given to the person who has shown the most commitment and enthusiasm and Freya has that in abundance.'

The Young Naturalist Club is for six to 11 year olds and meets every second Saturday of the month at the Ranger Centre. The next meeting is on Saturday 14 January.

# Brodick Castle celebrates a Victorian Christmas

'Our Victorian Christmas is always a very popular event with entertainment for visitors of all ages.'

The staff at Brodick Castle put on a wonderful festive treat for visitors on Sunday when the ancient building was transported back in time to a Victorian Christmas.

There was great excitement as families joined the Castle's Victorian inhabitants to celebrate this special time of year.

People were welcomed by the sweet singing of the

Brodick Primary School children who were performing a range of traditional carols in the entrance hall.

### Welcoming

Inside the castle staff were dressed as their Victorian counterparts for the day and could be seen throughout the castle welcoming the visitors and enjoying the festive cheer.

As always the Duchess

could be found in her bed suffering from a winter cold. But her trusty butler was never far from her side.

In the Nursery children were entertained with Festive stories while Yvonne Brothers and Jean Bowden played and sang in the drawing room.

Arran Brass could also be found performing traditional Christmas songs throughout the afternoon in the old servants hall.

And of course, it wouldn't be a proper Victorian celebration without Father Christ-

mas who was waiting to meet children in the library.

Property manager Ken Thorburn said: 'Our Victorian Christmas is always a very popular event with entertainment for visitors of all ages.'

'Young visitors can deck themselves out from the dressing up chest, try their hands at seasonal crafts and, of course, visit that very special gentleman in red!

'The Duke and Duchess, their houseguests and staff always extend a warm welcome to one and all.'



Eileen McAllister was on hand to help Father Christmas as he met with excited children. 01\_b55vic03



The ailing Duchess reclines in her bed with her trusty Butler at her side. 01\_b50vic02



Youngsters from Brodick School sang traditional Christmas carols throughout the day. 01\_b50vic01

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# THE ARRAN BANNER

## Why was last week's storm so vicious?

The question on Arran people's lips this week seems to be 'Why was last week's storm so vicious? To us it didn't seem much worse than normal!'

Well, apparently it was the result of something called explosive cyclogenesis. And before you switch off completely - I know this sounds like a complicated term - when broken down bit by bit, it all makes sense.

Explosive - violent and sudden.

Cyclo - cyclone, low pressure or storm.

Genesis - the birth of something.

Piece them together and you get the sudden, explosive birth of a violent storm - exactly what hit Arran and the rest of Scotland last week. Normally low pressure systems develop over a few days, but when explosive cyclogenesis occurs they develop rapidly in just 24 hours.

Thursday's strongest gust of wind was 165mph at Cairngorm Summit, which is certainly extremely windy.

However, it's important to point out that this weather station is at the top of a mountain.

Lower down, closer to sea level, more representative gusts of wind were generally in the range of 70-90mph.

Today (Wednesday) a much calmer day follows the further stormy weather yesterday, with sunshine and a few wintry showers.

This weekend looks much quieter. It'll be cold with sunshine and showers accompanied by frosty nights, although it will turn more unsettled again into next week.

The Scottish genius behind the 'God particle' theory had his work vindicated this week after scientists claimed to be on the verge of a huge discovery.

The retired Edinburgh University professor Peter Higgs proposed in 1964 that one particle - later named the Higgs boson - was the basic building block of the universe.

It's thought the boson is what gives every particle mass - and stops everything breaking apart at the speed of light.

Finding the Higgs boson would be one of the biggest scientific advances of the last 60 years and is crucial in helping us make sense of the universe.

But as one of the scientists at CERN in Geneva said, calling it the 'God particle' is completely inappropriate.

It does not do justice to professor Higgs and what we think his particle's role in the universe is.

Having said that, it may have nothing whatsoever to do with God but it is not hard to understand why people are drawn in by that name because the Higgs is so important to our understanding of nature.

### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord". (Luke 2:10)

## press policy

WE AT *The Arran Banner* do our utmost to make sure that all our reports are fair, accurate and balanced, but we accept that, on occasion, mistakes can occur in the hectic process of producing a local newspaper.

It is the policy of The Oban Times Group to correct any errors in print. If you find an error of fact on our pages please write to The Editor, *The Arran Banner*, Brodick, Arran giving your day-time telephone number where possible.

This statement of policy will appear on this page every week along with any corrections or clarifications.

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## your letters

THE EDITOR welcomes letters of approximately 200 words in length for publication on this page. The editor also reserves the right to shorten, to amend or to refuse to print them. Names and postal addresses must be supplied, including on e-mails, to indicate good faith. A daytime telephone number is also required for verification. Anonymous letters or those supplied without a contact telephone number will not be printed. Please write or fax to: Letters Page, The Arran Banner, Brodick, Isle of Arran. E-mail editor@arranbanner.co.uk

# Letters to the Editor



## A working woman

Sir,  
I refer to The Arran Banner of December 3, firstly your editorial about services closed due to industrial action on November 30; the library is always closed on a Wednesday so this was not the result of the strike. I certainly don't consider myself either middle or upper class and for you to insinuate that public sector workers are is offensive.

I was on strike on St Andrews day because I believe it is wrong to expect people to pay into a pension scheme for many years, the government move the goalposts, the Treasury get their sums wrong and the public sector workers are expected to pay the price.

Yes I have the opportunity to retire at age 55 but by then I will have amassed 35 years of working in the NHS.

I believe I have worked hard, I've paid my contributions every month which at times was a struggle when bringing up a young family and paying a mortgage. When I commenced working in the NHS I believe I signed up to a salary structure and pension plan that was acceptable to me.

Having parents who died at age 60 and 66, I don't have longevity genes and that is why I planned for my retirement - something that private sector workers can also do.

As to Margie Currie's letter - as a nurse I suppose there will be many out there who will condemn my actions of striking but to label public sector workers as 'executive classes' again is puzzling.

I'm not executive, upper or middle class I am and always have been a working woman. Everyone works hard in the NHS and it is a service I believe in but there is already a crisis in recruitment and to expect staff to work longer for less will only make a health service career less attractive.

The age profile of our country has changed and it makes no sense to keep young people out of jobs while older people struggle on in jobs to

reach their pension.

In 25 years time, 23 per cent of the population will be over 65 and only 18 per cent will be under 18 - this presents a scenario of an aging nation increasingly dependant on a diminishing number of adults of working age.

I'm glad I paid my superannuation, I'm glad I can retire at age 55, I have plans and aspirations for my retirement and I'm happy that I went on strike to hopefully improve prospects for others.

I'm also happy to sign my name to this letter and not hide behind a cloak of anonymity like one of your writers from last week. Yours,

**Isobel MacDonald Brodick**

## Pension's not a luxury

Sir,  
Your editorial on December 3 suggested that a decent occupational pension was a 'luxury' and few on Arran will enjoy one.

Should those who have, accept worse pensions and longer working lives?

Where would our society be if it were based on aspiring to the lowest common denominator.

One of your correspondents, Margie Currie, suggested that the present economic difficulties and unequal society is due to greedy bankers and the 'ugly side of capitalism'.

She says we should 'keep our heads down' but I believe if social movements in the past, with Trade Unions at the forefront, had kept their heads down, our lives would be much poorer.

Not only should we be 'in it together' but also for each other.

Let us applaud those who are resisting greedy bankers and capitalist attempts to undermine the hard fought gains over the centuries.

We will all benefit in the end.

Yours,  
**Jessie Clark (non-executive pensioner) Strathwillan**

## Exercise in self-interest

Sir,  
In response to the letter published in The Banner two week's ago from Colin Turbett, Chairperson, North Ayrshire UNISON - on the face of it I don't really blame public workers for being fed up with the value of their pensions and for having to pay more into their pension pot.

That's because after a working life in the private sector I feel the same way - my pension is not worth what I was told it would be, but, essentially we are all in the same boat and not because of some dark satanic plot against us but basically because the economy has been destroyed.

That is also the reason the public sector pensions are in trouble too.

At least public employees get a quantity of their tax back when they take their pensions.

Apparently though, it is not enough to live on - so who makes up the difference? We do. They get our tax money too - money paid by you and by me. So, to cut to the chase, the union bosses who organised the 'overwhelmingly successful' strike day weren't really trying to get more money out of the government - they want us to stump up, even though most of our pensions cannot be matched by their comparatively generous, protected state-administered ones. That really cheeses me off, particularly when we are faced with Mr Turbett pontificating about better pensions for all.

Who does he think he is kidding? When their pension deal is concluded do you think we will see public sector workers taking to the streets again for better private pensions or for those of the self-employed or small businesses?

I don't think so. No, the recent strike was an exercise in self-interest - look after your own and never mind the rest of you.

Please, Mr Turbett, don't try to tell us it was a glorious day for self sacrifice and altruism - get real, or do you re-

ally want to see us all in the same boat paddling with the Greeks.

Yours,  
**Name and address supplied**

## Think again

Sir,  
I would like to congratulate John Inglis for his insightful letter in response to the two letters and editorial the previous week, which were critical of the public sector strikes. I hope it may make some think again. Yours,

**Arran resident Name and address supplied**

## Unwelcome letters

Sir,  
The trend towards publishing unsigned letters in The Banner is unwelcome and does the paper very little credit.

Last week's sad contribution was personally offensive to a respected member of our community.

Previous letters in the last few months have had overtly racist overtones.

Why don't you just bin them?

**Malcolm Kerr Cairndale Brodick**

## 13<sup>th</sup> Dance Scottish Festival

Sir,  
As you correctly reported in last week's Banner the Dance Scottish Festival was initiated by Mr Alastair Aitkenhead 13 years ago as part of a National Dance Scottish Day to celebrate St Andrews Day.

In subsequent years the organisation of the event became the remit of the Active Schools Co-ordinators.

In the absence of a co-ordinator this year, it looked highly unlikely there would be a 13<sup>th</sup> Festival.

However, thanks to Fer Murchie, Senior Clerical Assistant at Brodick Primary School, who stepped in at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour to pull together the event, a hugely successful and enjoyable afternoon took place.

We are very, very grateful to Fer for organising everything from booking the hall to arranging the musicians.

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# Letters to the Editor



May I also say a huge thank you to Susan Kelly for her warm welcome, to Whiting Bay Hall committee, to both Ian Clarke (on Bagpipes) and Ian Muir (accordion), to all the teachers and helpers both before, and, on the day.

Most of all thank you to the six schools taking part, especially Pirmill, Shiskine and Kilmory whose journeys were far from straightforward.

One hundred and twenty-three children certainly made enough noise to raise the roof in our final dance 'The Flying Scotsman'.

For many school children this is their introduction not only to Scottish Dance, but also to social dancing generally and I sincerely hope that the Dance Scottish Festival continues to be a Highlight in the primary school calendar.

Thank you so much again, Fer.

Yours,  
Liz Kennedy  
Whiting Bay

## Unacceptable behaviour

Sir,  
I would like to address this letter to whoever it was that thought it was acceptable behaviour to enter my property and remove my axe from the wall for themselves!

I hope you are happy with it and your actions.

Merry Christmas.

Neil Lemmon  
Gardeners Cottage  
Cladach

## Hogmanay Hoolie

Sir,  
It is almost time for our Hog-

manay Hoolie in Whiting Bay Hall and I would just like to let people know of a few changes we will be trying this year.

Since Arran Events began we have been looking at ways to make gigs and concerts a better experience, both for those in attendance and those performing.

We also want to make the chore of stewarding as hassle-free as possible for those groups and individuals who put themselves forward.

So this year, for the first time, the Hoolie will be licensed.

As at previous events, we will be using coloured wristbands to identify those over-18 and therefore able to enter the bar, which will be in the lesser hall.

Anyone without the appropriate wristband will be refused access to this area.

However, to make this work, we need your help.

Under no circumstances will anyone be permitted to bring their own drink into the Hall.

If you are going on to a party afterwards, you can leave your 'carry out' at the door. Please be aware, though, that as soon as you collect it you will no longer be allowed re-entry to the Hall.

Also, if you feel you may be challenged over your age, please make sure to bring some form of identification with you.

If you are underage, please make sure you attend with a parent or responsible adult.

Better still, why not come as a family group?

There has been a lot of noise made recently about underage drinking, and the changes above are the best we can do, short of making all our events strictly over-18.

But that would just mean there was even less for teenagers to do.

Is it too idealistic to suggest a return to the 'family dance'?

For our part, we aim to help you party into 2012 with three live bands and a ceilidh-disco.

Posters will be going up this week and there will be more details on our facebook page. We hope to see you all there.

In the meantime, Merry Christmas!

Yours,  
Andy McCallum  
ArranEvents

## John William Hamilton 'Old Ham' 1925 - 2011

John Hamilton was born at Bridgend, Shiskine on the November 15, 1925 and brought up with his older sister Helen and younger siblings Mary and Robert.

John received all of his education at Shiskine School, and although he left at 14 many of the things he learned there, stayed with him for the rest of his life.

After some time on his Uncle John's smack the 'Princess Mayse' John gained his driving licence on his 17<sup>th</sup> birthday which allowed him to pursue his ambition to become a driver and he started work with Donald Robertson of Harbour View before volunteering for service with the Royal Army Service Corps.

Much of John's military service was spent driving ambulances in Italy, and then Palestine.

Sadly John's first wife Helen died in 1960 leaving John with the young Aileen and John.

However marriage in 1962 to Margaret, in time brought Bill, Archie, Jane and Shona to complete the family.

To many, both locals and visitors, John will be remembered as a driver with Bannatyne Motors on buses, the



mainland lorries and latterly the bin lorry accompanied by one of his many dogs and Tosh.

Retirement was not for John and after his driving days finished officially in 1990 he busied himself helping his old pal Donald Currie at Birchburn Farm and in his own garden which at one time must have produced more vegetables per square foot than any other garden in Britain.

If that wasn't enough he took his daily collection of newspapers from the village shop very seriously.

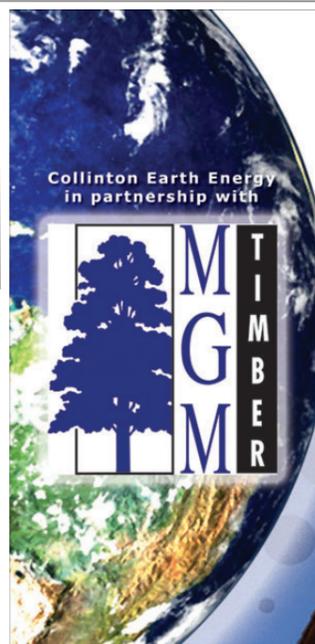
Mercifully John's final illness was a brief one and he passed away surrounded by his family.

The stories about John are legion and are better told than written. Husband, brother, father, grandfather, uncle and friend, John will be missed for he was one of Shiskine's best loved characters. NA



## Christmas market

The staff and pupils of Lamlash Primary School and Nursery Class would like to thank parents, families and friends for helping them to raise the amazing sum of £392.03 at their Christmas Market last week.



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# Christmas pantomime full of

## Snow White and the Seven Dwarves came packed with the fun factor and gave wholehearted family entertainment



**Above:**  
Allan Little and Sheila Gilmore as the wonderful Nursey and Muddles.  
01\_b50pan10

No festive season on Arran would be complete without the Pantomime in Lam-lash and this year's offering was Snow White and the Seven Dwarves with stand out performances from the local cast.

Unfortunately the premier of this year's show had to be postponed because of the stormy weather on Thursday.

But opening to a theatre full of screaming school children on Friday night, there was a sense of excitement filling the Community Theatre long before the curtain rose.

That sense of excitement didn't really disappear as the actors took to the stage for the

first of three shows in Lam-lash.

From our first glimpse of the fantastic Sheila Gilmore as Muddles, shortly followed by the welcome return of Allan Little to the stage as Nursey, the audience were hooked.

The much-admired Deborah Robertson led the cast impeccably and cut a fine figure as the beautiful Snow White.

Deborah played Snow White to perfection and captured the cuteness and naivety of the role in every scene.

Singing and dancing, she has it all. Her on stage connection with Prince Charm-

ing and Muddles is faultless and it is not hard to see why she is becoming a rising star in Arran's amateur dramatic scene.

And in classic panto style, her Prince Charming was played by Lauren Davidson who sang – and danced – beautifully.

Charlotte Hook as the wicked Queen Evilena played the crowd brilliantly, hissing at every boo and really making her presence felt on stage as she plotted against the lovely Snow White.

The comedy and jokes were left in the capable hands of Sheila Gilmore who played court jester Muddles, who

enters the stage each and every time to a rapturous cry of 'Hi Everyone!'

Along with her sidekick Nursey played by the amazing Allan Little, the crowd were treated to armfuls of sweets and a soaking from two large water pistols.

And how could we forget to mention the Dwarves who all brought something different to their roles and proved very popular with the audience, as expected, with their well-timed comedy routines and infatuation with Snow White.

A particular mention must be made of Ryan Wilson who played Dopey with magnificent aplomb and humour for someone so young.

The panto also featured the adorable youngsters of Arran Dancers choreographed by Dwarf Dawn Ulivi.

Credit must go to director Maureen Smith who has been involved in the pantomime now for 31 years.

She always manages to keep the show current with performances of up-to-date songs as well as combining use of the classics like Whistle While You Work.

Throughout, the show managed to maintain a nippy pace keeping the attention of the young audience.

As far as Christmas pantomimes go, Snow White and the Seven Dwarves came packed with the fun factor and gave wholehearted family entertainment, and that is what panto is all about.



**Right:**  
The Seven Dwarves are distraught to find Snow White has eaten a poisoned apple.  
01\_b50pan08

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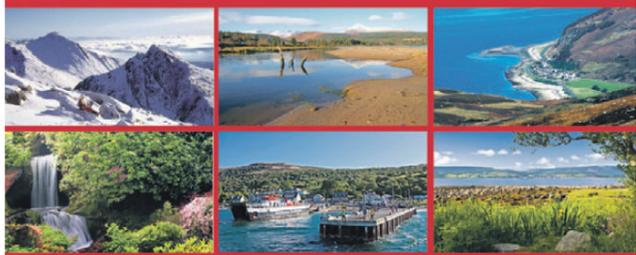
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# festive cheer



The Seven Dwarves try to hide Snow White from the Wicked Witch. 01\_b50pan07



The full cast of Snow White and the Seven Dwarves. 01\_b50pan09



Chorus members Hannah Currie, Lena Locatelli, Gabrielle Allison and Amelia Robertson. 01\_b50pan01



Queen Evilena was brilliantly played by Charlotte Hook. 01\_b50pan06



Snow White (Deborah Robertson) and her Prince Charming (Lauren Davidson) have a boogie at her birthday party. 01\_b50pan02



Left: In classic panto style, the lovely Lauren Davidson played Prince Charming. 01\_b50pan04



One of the stand-out stars of the show was young Ryan Wilson who played a magnificent Dopey much to the delight of the audience. 01\_b50pan05



Left: The terrifying Wicked Witch (Charlotte Hook) sends the Huntsman, played superbly by Robert Ingham, to kill Snow White. 01\_b50pan03

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# Santa arrives in golf buggy

## All the children were given presents

Santa has made many visits to the island in the last few weeks as he gears up for his busiest night of the year.

But on Sunday 11 December he arrived at Lamlash Golf Club in a rather unusual way, coming down the ninth hole in a golf buggy!

The 30 children inside the

clubhouse were delighted to see the buggy heading down the hill decorated in lights with jingle bells playing as Father Christmas headed to the club.

### Distribute

Santa was onboard with his two helpers - Pixie and Elfie - who had a sack

full of presents to distribute once inside the club. The children aged from just a few months to 11 years were all related to golf club members.

They were entertained with games and party food whilst waiting for Santa to arrive.

Once he ascertained that all the children had of course been 'very good' children all year he handed over the presents to eager hands. All had a thoroughly good time.

Santa would like to thank all his helpers and the Barclays for use of their buggy.



The 30 children inside the clubhouse were delighted to see the buggy heading down the hill decorated in lights with jingle bells playing as Father Christmas headed to the club.

## New Years Day Race Night!

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## Motorcycle exhibition

A very special exhibition of motorcycle road racing photographs by well-known local photographer Len Hartley opens at Bilslands in Brodick this Monday.

Running throughout the festive season, the photographs are of motorcycle racing from the Isle of Man, England, Germany and Belgium.

The Prints on Display will be on sale and all profits from all sales will be donated to [www.roadracingsupporters.com](http://www.roadracingsupporters.com) Road Racing Supporters beneficiaries are the Rob Vine Fund, The Manx Grand Prix Supporters Club Helicopter Fund and the Southern 100 Helicopter Fund.

For a Limited period a free 2012 Road Racing Supporters Fund Calendar will be supplied with every print purchased.

## Music Festival organisers prepare for historic venue change

Organisers of the Arran Music Festival have announced a change of venue for next year's event, held between March 21 and 23.

Since the Duchess of Montrose started it in 1923, the Music Festival has customarily taken place in Whiting Bay with occasional visits to Brodick or Lamlash.

The last time it was held anywhere else but Whiting Bay was in 1999 when the adjudicators and audience decamped to Lamlash Community Centre and listened to the music and verse to the accompaniment of raindrops falling on the roof!

Now in 2012 the Music festival will make history when it moves to the Community Theatre at Arran High School.

There are about 100 classes on offer, covering music, prose, poetry and dancing that present opportunities for both experienced performers and novices - as individuals or in groups.

Contact the festival secretary Tony Smith on 700203 if you would like more information or if you have difficulty in obtaining a syllabus entry form.

## Carol Singing

at Kilmory Hall  
SC028200  
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# The Arran Banner 20 years ago

## Saturday, December 21, 1991

### The lost tribe

It seems that the Arran Enumeration (1990) will never exist and, although not exactly lost, we shall go down unrecorded, many important details about Arran life list to posterity.

The Enumeration was a three yearly count begun in the 60s to record the island's falling population.

But when Chris Allen, who analyses the data left his post at Arran High earlier this year, the information disappeared with him.

### New chairman

The Reverend Elizabeth Watson is the new chairman of The Arran Council of Voluntary Service – formerly social service. She replaces Jack Murchie who is still on the executive committee.

### A new shepherd

The Roman Catholic community on Arran has a new priest.

He is Father Shonnie MacAulay who replaces Father Joe McShane who retired a few weeks ago and is now in Cumnock.

Father MacAulay comes from South Uist but has been a priest in fort William and between 1976 and 1982 in Rothesay, during which time he came over to Arran to celebrate Mass.

### Garage sold

Lamlash Garage has been sold by Mr Bill Currie to John Thomson Construction Ltd.

The new owners say they will reopen the garage in January when they will continue to service and repair private cars.

### High tide

A Christmas Day high tide of 3.8 metres at 1434 in Lamlash is due.

This compares with 3.7 metres on the day of destruction last January.

Of course it requires storm conditions and southerly winds as well as a high tide to cause any damage.

The forecast however is not promising so looks like it could be a possibility.

### Christmas dining

Anchor Hotel's Christmas Eve menu.

Choice of starter and sweets with Trout flambéed in Pernod, pheasant with port wine sauce, steak stuffed with haggis, turkey with trimmings or pork Wellington followed by coffee and mints for £13.50.



Pirnmill pupils, dressed in splendid costumes, perform their Christmas concert '25 past December'. b50twe04



A quick handshake for Ross Duncan with Santa in Brodick. b50twe02



Sally Brookes has trouble getting her champion duck to pose at the Chookie Show. b50twe03



Pupils from Shiskine Primary did particularly well with their pictures in the Chookie Show last Friday. From left to right, Peter Taylor, Donna Hamilton, Calum Gilmour, Faye Anderson, Alan Stewart and James Turnbull. b50twe01

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We must have made it far too easy for you all last week as we were inundated with correct answers. The first correct guess came from eight-year-old Leah Brown who said: 'He's outside my school - Shiskine Primary.' Well done Leah!

Can anyone guess where he is this week?

If you think you know then post your answer on the website [www.arranbanner.co.uk](http://www.arranbanner.co.uk)  
 Or email us at: [editor@arranbanner.co.uk](mailto:editor@arranbanner.co.uk)

# PRIVATE CLASSIFIED

## FREE TO UPLIFT

BAGGED MANURE. Oakbank, Lamlash Donation to Arran RDA Tel 600752

## WANTED

SINGLE fold down sofa bed Tel 810608

## HEATING

ELECTRIC wood effect stove £45 Tel 600211

## WHITE GOODS

BOSCH dishwasher. Good working condition Tel 700475

BELLING COOKER 19". Good working condition Tel 700475

## HOUSEHOLD ITEMS FOR SALE

**Craigielea Whiting Bay**  
**Saturday 17th December**  
**11am till 2pm**

**BANNER CLASSIFIEDS**  
**BANNER CLASSIFIEDS**  
**BANNER CLASSIFIEDS**  
**BANNER CLASSIFIEDS**

# RECRUITMENT

**HOUSEKEEPER REQUIRED FOR 2012 SEASON FOR SATURDAY CHANGEOVERS**

2 Cottages -south end of island.

Transport available

Tel 07875 233419 or egmond@btinternet.com.



**The Scottish Salmon Company**

**Companaidh Bhradan na h-Alba**

The Scottish Salmon Company is a leading independent producer of high quality Scottish Salmon. We are committed to high standards of animal welfare, sustainable operations and promoting a responsible environmental policy.

We are currently recruiting for Weekend Cover for our Site located at Lamlash

**ON THE ISLE OF ARRAN:**

**MARINE OPERATIVE WEEKEND COVER**

**TEMPORARY CONTRACT**

**(REF MO/A/11/12)**

**(SALARY £15,965 TO £19,570 PRO RATA)**

We are looking for someone who is available for weekend cover to work on a regular/alternate or occasional weekend basis. This will involve working alongside another Marine Operative carrying out fish welfare, security and maintenance duties.

Applicants must have good practical skills and ideally have previous aquaculture and boat handling experience; this is desirable but not essential as training will be provided.

Due to the location and working patterns applicants will ideally be residing on the Isle of Arran.

A full, clean driving licence is also essential.

For an application form and job description, please contact:

HR Department, The Scottish Salmon Company, Ardkinglas Estate, Cairndow, Argyll, PA26 8BH.

Tel. No. 01499 600 435

Email: cairndowhr@scottishsalmon.com

Closing date for applications: 5.00pm Friday, 23rd December 2011

Visit our website at www.scottishsalmon.com



## Brodick Golf Club

Sunday 11 December, Brandon and Winter Cup, 22 played. 1 D Robertson (14)62, 2 A Hume (10)63, 3 J Armit (4)65. Scratch J Armit 69.

There were six twos, C Patten got two, A Hume, T Raeside, I Macmillan and B Smith got the rest. First Class Brandon - A Hume. Second Class Brandon - D Robertson.

Fixtures: Sunday 18 December, Clochendichter, followed by Christmas lunch in the clubhouse. Monday 26 December (Boxing Day) Winter Cup, open draws at 9am and 12noon. Sunday 1 January, New Year Bottle and Hirsell Trophy, arrange own game, or draw at 12noon. Monday 2 January, Backwards Competition.

## Whiting Bay Golf Club

The AGA Winter League matches due to be played at Whiting Bay on Saturday 10 December were cancelled due to the amount of water on the greens.

Fixtures: Sunday 18 December, Friendly with Lamlash at Lamlash, tee offs from 10.30am - 11am. Monday 26 December, Christmas Bottle.

## Shiskine Golf Club

Ryder Cup table after Sunday 11 December. Torbeg 6 pts, Kilpatrick 4 pts, Blackwaterfoot 4 pts and Shiskine 2 pts. Next Ryder Cup game is this Sunday 18 December

Shiskine v Torbeg and Kilpatrick v Blackwaterfoot.

Fixtures: Boxing Day Texas Scramble, teams of four with at least one lady - please phone 860226 to book a time. Monday 2 January, DS Bannatyne Shield (mixed foursomes) 12noon shotgun start.

Ladies: Sunday 1 January, Alan Smith Plate, 10.30am shotgun start.

Gents: Saturday 31 December, Mahogany Trophy 12noon tee-off - any gent who is a member can win this time! Sunday 1 January, Colditz Quaich, 1pm shotgun start.

## Corrie Golf Club

Saturday 10 December, nine played, sweep only, CSS 61. 1 A McDonald 71-9=62, 2 A Smith 73-10=63. Magic twos from A Smith and A McDonald.

Monday 12 December, Monday Cup, 14 played. 1 A McDonald 66-8=58, 2 E I Can-

non 76-16=60 BL6, 3 B Barr 71-11=60 BIH over H Taylor and H McArthur. Magic twos from E Cannon, A McDonald and A Crawford.

Would golfers playing at Corrie please repair plug marks and divot marks.

Fixtures: Saturday 17 December, Winter Cup fourth round at 8.30am and 12noon. Monday 19 December, Monday Cup at 11.45am for 12noon.

## Arran Golfers Association

Winter league - Duncan Trophy 2011/2012

Due to the saturated course at Whiting Bay last weekend the host club had no option but to cancel the golf. There was standing water all through the week all over the course and with the forecast, which turned out to be correct, mentioning heavy rain for Saturday the decision was made. One point to all teams will now be awarded.

3The third round will be

played on Sunday 8 January at Shiskine Golf Club.

Draw: Shiskine v Machrie at 10am, Lamlash v Whiting Bay at 10.50am and Brodick v Corrie at 11.40am.

Team captains please remember team sheets with names for Dougie to collect.

All at the Arran Golfers Association would like to wish all clubs and members a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year. See you all next year for another season.

## Lamlash Golf Club

Sunday 11 December, Glenburn Cup. 1 Alan Smith 73-10=63, 2 Lee Dutton 87-24=63. Best Scratch Neil Young 70.

Fixtures: Sunday 18 December, Winter Friendly - Lamlash v W/Bay 10.30am for 11am start. Thursday 22 December, 15 Hole Medal - make up own groups. Monday 26 December, Boxing Day Game (Stableford) 11am start.

# ROUND THE RURALS

## Shiskine WRI

On Wednesday 7 December the President of Shiskine WRI, Jerry Arthur, gave the ladies a very warm welcome with a glass of mulled wine.

She then introduced the entertainment for the evening which was the singing group, Senior Moments accompanied with Diana Hamilton on keyboard.

It was a splendid evening of songs and music and even the members joined in with some seasonal carols.

The competition of three Christmas cup cakes was won by Jenny Harper and in second place was Susie Thompson.

The exhibition of Best Wrapped Christmas Parcel was won by Lally Ryder and joint second were Joan Stewart, Julie Murchie and Marion

Brambles. The raffle was won by Yvonne Randell.

Members were reminded about the Children's Christmas Party at Shiskine Hall on Christmas Eve - all help would be most welcomed.

The next meeting is on Wednesday 11 January.

## Corrie and Sannox WRI

Despite the extreme weather Sergeant Bob McKay honoured his promise to speak to Corrie and Sannox members at the December meeting last week.

High winds had prevented many from venturing out but those who were there enjoyed his informal talk on crime on Arran.

The ladies were reassured that the policing on the island is very effective, that relationships between the police and

the public are good and that there are no major problems.

Over tea many questions were asked and answered and the members left knowing that they are in good hands.

There will be two meetings in January; the Scots Night on the 12th and a craft afternoon on the 19th.

## Lamlash SWRI

The ladies of Lamlash SWRI spent a very enjoyable evening when Gillean MacLean, Minister for Lamlash and Kilmory gave a very interesting talk on 'A Weekend with the Royals'.

Fiona McGilchrist warmly thanked Gillean on behalf of the group.

The evening ended with refreshments and the competition for both a Christmas cup cake and 'something beady' was won by Kathleen Snowden.

The next meeting will take place at Lamlash Fire Station on Wednesday 1 February at 7.30pm when Jim Cassels will be giving a talk on New Zealand's Third Island.

All members and visitors are welcome.

## Lochranza and Catacol Village Hall 200 club

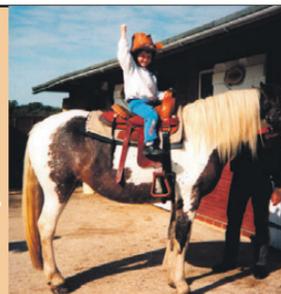
The winners of the November draw were: First prize - Jenny Warren and second prize - Jeany Boyd.

•Do you have a story for **The Arran Banner?**

Call our reporters on **01770 302142**

## PERSONAL NOTICES

**Happy 21st Cowboy!**

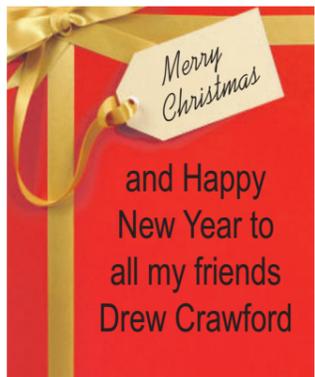


**BABYSITTING AVAILABLE**

Contact Megan/Shannon

**01770 600137**

**BANNER PERSONALS**  
**BANNER PERSONALS**  
**BANNER PERSONALS**  
**BANNER PERSONALS**



*Merry Christmas*  
and Happy  
New Year to  
all my friends  
Drew Crawford

**Charles & Sylvia O'Neill**  
wish all friends  
a merry  
Christmas and  
a happy  
New Year.

**Ella McKechnie & Nan Lowe**  
Seasons  
Greetings  
For a happy  
healthy New  
Year to all our  
friends

**Shiskine Surgery & Arran Medical Group**  
**FESTIVE SEASON HOURS**  
The island practices will be closed on  
Mon 26th and Tue 27th December  
Mon 2nd and Tue 3rd January

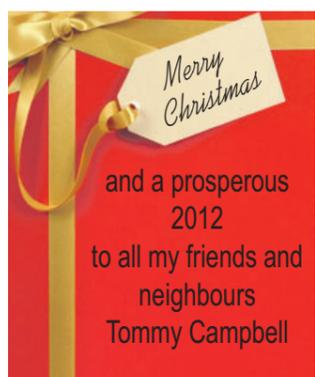
If you require a doctor urgently over this period please contact the duty doctor at Arran War Memorial Hospital on  
**01770 600777**

Please also note that Child Health Clinics will be held on the following dates:

<b>Shiskine Surgery:</b>	Fri 6th January
<b>Arran Medical Group</b>	
Whiting Bay Surgery:	Thurs 5th January
Lamlash Medical Centre:	Tue 10th January
Brodick Health Centre:	Tue 7th February (no clinic in January)

**Please ensure that you have enough supplies of medication for this period**

**Tony & Christine Hamilton, Slidery**  
Wish family  
friends &  
neighbours  
a merry Xmas  
and a happy  
New Year



*Merry Christmas*  
and a prosperous  
2012  
to all my friends and  
neighbours  
Tommy Campbell

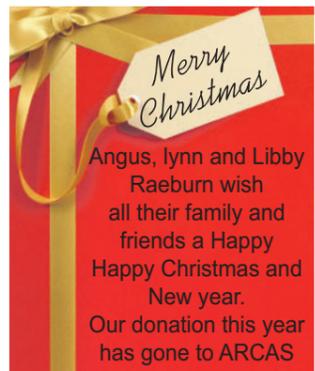
**Peter & Jeanette MacKay**  
wish all their  
friends  
on Arran a Merry  
Christmas and a  
Happy New Year  
from N.Z.



Lamlash  
01770 600249

*A very Happy Christmas & Best Wishes for 2012 from Robert & Lindsey to all our staff, customers, suppliers and friends.*  
Thank you all for your continuing support & friendship.  
We will be open every day from  
22nd December to 9th January  
Closed Christmas Day and New Years Day only.  
10th Jan 2012 until Easter – closed Tues & Wed.

**SEASONS GREETINGS**  
from Pat  
and David of  
Lamlash to  
all our Island  
Friends



*Merry Christmas*  
Angus, Lynn and Libby  
Raeburn wish  
all their family and  
friends a Happy  
Happy Christmas and  
New year.  
Our donation this year  
has gone to ARCAS

**SALON SEVEN**  
Emma and Shirley  
Would like to thank all their clients for their support during the past year and we wish you all a Merry Christmas and a fabulous New Year.  
*Hope to see you all again in the New Year.*

**John Thomson Construction Ltd**  
*We wish all our clients and customers a very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year*

**PETROL & DIESEL SALES**  
Closed Saturday 24 Dec – Monday 9 Jan 2011

**LAMLASH GARAGE**  
Closed Saturday 24 Dec – Monday 9 Jan 2011

**JEAN SHAW**  
Wishes her  
friends  
a happy  
Christmas  
and a pleasant  
New Year

**McNICOL PLUMBING & HEATING LTD**  
Wishing all our  
clients a  
**Merry Xmas  
and a Happy  
New Year**

Best Western  
**Kinloch Hotel**  
Robbie, Barbara & all the  
staff at Kinloch Hotel  
wish our friends & patrons a very Merry  
Christmas & happy New Year!

**WILLIAM BENNETT PLUMBING LTD**  
We would like to wish all  
our customers a  
**Very Merry Christmas and  
a Happy New Year.**

**POST OFFICE**  
**LAMLASH POST OFFICE**  
Andy, Irene & Ann wish  
all their customers a  
Merry Xmas and  
a New Year.

**Johann McHarg**  
Best Wishes  
and Good  
Health for  
2012

**CLADACH SAWMILL**  
would like to wish all its  
customers Merry Christmas and  
a Happy New Year.  
We will be closed from Friday 23  
December until Sunday 8 January.

*Happy Xmas and Good New year to all out family friends and customers who supported us over the last 37 years.*  
*Thank you also for all your good wishes on our retirement..*  
*Donald & Ray Galbraith*



**Trafalgar**  
LICENSED  
RESTAURANT  
Whiting Bay  
700396  
Wolfi and Gege wish a  
Merry Xmas and very Happy  
New Year to all our family,  
friends, and guests.  
The first available booking  
for Trafalgar Restaurant is on  
the 2nd January 2012.

**Sadie and Nestor Rankin**  
Clyde View Cottage,  
Whiting Bay would like  
to wish their many Island  
friends a very Happy  
Christmas and a very  
peaceful New Year.  
Sadly, Nestor has now  
had to go into care, but  
still remembers Arran  
with great affection.

**Mrs Mary McSparran**  
wishes all  
her friends &  
neighbours  
a Very Merry  
Xmas and a  
Happy New Year



*Merry Christmas*  
Merry Xmas  
and a good New  
Year to all our  
Arran friends,  
happiness to all  
Mairi and Eric

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**BANNER BANNER**  
XMAS PERSONALS XMAS PERSONALS  
**BANNER BANNER**

# Whats On

in association with Isle of Arran Brewery

[www.arranbrewery.com](http://www.arranbrewery.com) Tel: 01770 302353

## ISLE OF ARRAN BREWERY

### EVERYDAY

Arran Brewery  
Arran Brewery Tour  
Trout Fly Fishing  
Brodict Castle, Gardens open daily

Open Mon - Sat 10.am-4pm ,Closed Sunday  
2pm  
Loch Garbad,Bank  
9am - dusk

### SATURDAY 17th DECEMBER

Karate  
Family Games  
Fun In The Pool  
Over 21's Disco  
Arran Dancers (4 years and up)  
Teddy Bears Picnic  
Kids Family Quiz  
Lamlash SWRI Christmas Party  
RNLI Shop Open  
Carol Singing

Auchrannie Games Hall, 11.30am - 12.30pm  
Auchrannie Games Hall 3pm - 4pm  
Auchrannie Spa Pool 4pm - 5pm  
The Ormidale Hotel, 10pm  
Arran High School, 10am  
The Playbarn, Auchrannie, 2pm - 3pm  
The Playbarn, Auchrannie, 5pm - 6pm  
High School, 2.30pm - 4.30pm  
Lamlash Pier, 10.30am - 12.30pm  
Outside Co-Op, Brodict, 11am - 12pm

### SUNDAY 18th DECEMBER

Alcoholics Anonymous  
Live Music Folk / Rock / Blues  
Family Games  
Fun In The Pool  
Teddy Bears Picnic  
Carol Singing  
Open Mic Session

Church Hall, Brodict, 4.30pm  
Ormidale Hotel, 9pm  
Auchrannie Games Hall 3pm - 4pm  
4pm to 5pm Auchrannie Spa Pool  
The Playbarn, Auchrannie, 2pm - 3pm  
Kilmory Hall, 6.30pm  
Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay, 2pm - 5pm

### MONDAY 19th DECEMBER

Over 50's Badminton  
Badminton  
Weight Wise  
Ladies Netball  
Citizens Advice  
BreathWalk Class  
Table Tennis  
Hatha Yoga  
Lamlash Bridge  
Activity Time  
Come Dance with Me - LeRoc Modern Jive  
Scottish Country Dancing for Beginners and Improvers  
Yoga  
Arran Junior Football  
Circuit Training  
Cinderella Rockerfella

Lochranza Village Hall 2pm - 4pm  
Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm  
Hospital Bungalow, 5pm - 5.30pm  
High School Sports Hall - Seniors 7.30pm - 9pm  
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodict, 10am - 2pm  
Kinneil, Lamlash 5.15pm  
Corrie Hall, 6.30pm  
Arran High School, 6pm - 7.30pm  
Lamlash Golf Clubhouse, 7pm  
The Playbarn, Auchrannie 1pm - 2pm (toddlers) 5pm - 6pm (school kids)  
Whiting Bay Hall, 7.30pm  
Corrie Hall, 2pm - 4pm  
High School, 6pm  
Ormidale Park, 6pm - 7.30pm  
Auchrannie Spa Gym, 6pm - 7pm  
Kilmory Primary, 6.30pm

### TUESDAY 20th DECEMBER

Lochranza Swimming Club  
Army Cadets  
Pop Quiz  
Alcoholics Anonymous  
Citizens Advice  
Youth Club  
Rotary Club  
Junior Hockey Club - 8 yrs up  
Melody Movement. Ballet Class - 2½ yrs up  
Dudes & Divas Funky Dance Class - 2½ yrs up  
Youth Club  
Scottish Country Dancing  
Winter Bowls

Kinloch 11am - 12pm  
Auchrannie Road, 7.30pm - 9.30pm  
Ormidale Hotel, 9pm  
Brodict Church Hall - 2pm  
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodict, 10am - 2pm  
Kildonan Hall - 7pm - 8.30pm  
Glenclay Suite, Auchrannie 7.15pm  
Auchrannie Sports Hall, 6pm - 7pm  
Auchrannie Dance Studio, 1.30pm  
Auchrannie Dance Studio, 2pm  
Brodict Hall, 6.30pm - 8pm  
Brodict Church Hall, 7.30pm  
Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7pm - 9pm

### WEDNESDAY 21st DECEMBER

Hockey  
Tae Kwondo  
Alcoholics Anonymous  
Arran Brass Rehearsal  
Selt Making Class  
Senior Badminton  
Museum, Archives & Geneology Service  
Yogalates  
Live Coutry Music  
Aquafizz  
Musical Mayhem Class Parents & Little Ones  
Kids Games  
Circuit Training

Auchrannie Hall, 7pm - 8pm Games Hall  
KA Leisure, Kids 6.30 - 7.30pm. Adults 7.30 - 8.30pm  
Lamlash Church Hall - 7.30pm- 9pm  
Whiting Bay Hall 7.15pm  
Shipfield, Lamlash, 10am - 4pm  
High School Games Hall, 8pm - 9pm  
10.30am - 12.30pm and 1.30pm - 3.30pm  
9.30am to 10.30am Auchrannie Studio  
Ormidale Hotel, 9pm  
Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.45am - 10.30am  
Auchrannie Dance Studio, 10.45am  
The Playbarn, Auchrannie, 5pm - 6pm  
Auchrannie Spa Games Hall 6pm - 7pm

### THURSDAY 22nd DECEMBER

General Knowledge Quiz  
Lochranza Craft Club  
Coffee Morning  
Youth Club  
General Knowledge Quiz  
Brodict Embroidery Club  
Brodict Bridge Club  
Winter Bowls  
Lunchbox

Ormidale Hotel, 9pm  
Hall, 2pm  
St Molios Church 10.30am - 12pm  
Youth Cabin, Lamlash 7-9pm  
Kinloch Bar, 9pm  
Brodict Library, 7.30pm - 9.30pm  
Brodict Golf Club, 7pm  
Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7pm - 9pm  
Ormidale Pavilion, 12.30pm - 2.30pm

### FRIDAY 23rd DECEMBER

Quiz  
Aquafizz  
Yogalates  
Rock Disco  
Arran Youth Foundations  
Kids Party Games  
Darts Competition

Whiting Bay Golf Club, 9pm  
Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.45am to 10.30am  
Auchrannie Studio 10am - 11am  
The Ormidale Hotel, 10pm  
Church Hall, Brodict, 7pm - 9pm  
The Playbarn, Auchrannie, 5 - 6pm  
Kinloch Hotel, 8pm



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

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**01294 461554**

**CHURCH NOTICES**

**ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**  
**Sunday 18 December**  
 Shiskine, 11am  
 Sunday School in the Church Hall (Church is between Machrie & Blackwaterfoot)  
 Brodick 7pm  
 Rev James McIntosh  
 All welcome

**SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
 (in full communion with the Church of England)  
 St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.  
**Sunday 18 December**  
 Holy Communion, 11am.  
 Mrs Janis Gallagher  
**Saturday 24 December**  
 Midnight Mass, 11.30pm  
**Sunday 25 December**  
 Holy Communion, 11am  
 All welcome

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND (SCO15072)**  
 Kilmory linked with Lamlash  
 "A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"  
**Sunday 18 December**  
 Rev Gillean Maclean  
 Kilmory 10am  
 Lamlash 11.30am  
 In both churches  
 All welcome, including families; children's area.

**ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND (continuing)**  
**Sunday 18 December**  
 Morning Service 11am  
 Trust Housing Lounge, Glen Estate, Brodick  
 Evening Service 7pm  
 13 Glen Avenue, Brodick  
 Prayer Meeting  
 Wednesday 21st 7pm  
 5 Glen Road  
 Rev D N Macleod  
 All welcome

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**  
 North Arran: Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza, Pirmill and Shiskine.  
*Independent but working together.*  
**Minister**  
 Rev Angus Adamson.  
**Parish Asst**  
 Mrs Jean Hunter.  
 Worship will be conducted in the above churches at the following times, to which all are invited - Families, young people and children welcome

**Sunday 18 December**  
 Brodick Church, 10.30am  
 Corrie Church, 12 pm  
 Lochranza/Pirmill 10.15am at Pirmill  
 Shiskine Church 12pm  
 A service of worship will also be held in Montrose House at 1.30pm.

**WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND (SC014005)**  
**Sunday 18 December**  
 An all age service for Christmas, will be conducted by

Rev Elizabeth Watson, at 10.30am. There will be music from Vivace. Tea and Coffee will be served in the transept after the service. There will be the monthly sale of Traidcraft goods available. There will be a service in the Hospital at 1.30pm, a service in Cooriedoon at 2.30pm and in Craigielea at 3.15pm. At 7pm in the Church transept, there will be an informal evening service of praise and discussion.  
 All welcome

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

**ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**Sunday 11 December**  
 Ormidale Pavilion Brodick  
 11am - Morning Worship  
 Tea/Coffee after service  
 Home Fellowship Group meets on Wednesdays at 7.30 pm.  
 For details Tel 860232  
 Everyone very welcome

**RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)**  
**Sunday 18 December**  
 11am  
 11 Glen Estate, Brodick, short worship followed by discussion.  
 Enquiries to Jeny 302 779.  
 All welcome

**ARRAN CHURCHES TOGETHER**  
**Saturday 17 December**  
 Carol Singing outside Brodick Co-op from 11am - 12pm  
 All welcome

**DEATH**

**WATSON - MORAG**  
 Peacefully at Crosshouse Hospital on Tuesday 13th December 2011. Funeral service in St Brides Church, Brodick on Thursday 22nd December at 11.30am and thereafter to Brodick New Cemetery to which all are invited.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

**HELEN McDONALD**  
 David, Jackie and the family would like to thank friends and neighbours for the kind expressions of sympathy extended to them following the death of Helen.  
 Grateful and heartfelt thanks to the wonderful staff at Cooriedoon who looked after Helen so well. Thanks to Elizabeth Watson for conducting a most moving service and thanks to Clair and David Hendry for funeral arrangements

**IN MEMORIAM**

**COOPER - Nancy.**  
 Died December 17, 2007.  
 Miss you Mum.  
 With love from Isla, Lorna, Willie, Andy and all the family.

**PROPERTY**

**ISLE OF ARRAN HOMES**  
 An Initiative of Trust Housing Association

**Isle of Arran Homes and Arran Care & Repair office will be closed from 1.00pm on Friday 23 December 2011 and will reopen on 9.00 am on Wednesday 4 January 2012**

**If you have an emergency repair please contact 0845 434 5141**

**We would like to take this opportunity to wish all our tenants, members and contractors A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year**

**LONG LET AVAILABLE FROM FEB/MARCH 2012**

**3 bedroom semi detached cottage, 2 bathrooms, open plan lounge /dining area, up to date kitchenette, central heating, parking at house, suitable disabled as ground floor, very private garden, south end, lovely sea views, £560.00 per month excl C/T and utilities. Deposit required.**

**Tel 07875 233419 or egmond@btinternet.com**

**PERSONAL NOTICES**

**Congratulations Staff Nurse Tatts - With Love From All The Family**

**BANNER BANNER BANNER BANNER BANNER**  
 PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLIC NOTICES

**TRADE CLASSIFIED**

**CLERICAL SERVICES**

**FREELANCE ADMINISTRATION & CLERICAL SERVICES**

Need help in getting your office work organised ring Jackie on 601391 or Email Jackieonarran@btinternet.com

**CHIMNEY SWEEPING**

**Andrew Ross-Bain**  
 Chimney Sweeping ALL AREAS COVERED FROM NORTH TO SOUTH

**GET READY FOR SANTA**

Tel: 01770 870214  
 Mobile 07810820374  
 andyrossbain@live.co.uk

**DECORATORS**

**CARTSIDE DECORATORS**  
 Ames Taping  
 Coving  
 New Build  
 Painting  
 Est1980

**M 07531 729 767**

**Happy 30th Birthday to a special person who has grown up and turned "tears to laughter...and everyone to everyone to everyone's neighbour"!**

**BANNER BANNER BANNER BANNER BANNER**  
 PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLIC NOTICES

**LOGS**

**Barran Log Supplies**  
 Supplier of Seasoned Firewood  
 Delivered Island Wide  
 Call 07827 777 875  
 Evening Call 302 987

If unavailable leave a message and ill get back to you

**MAINTENANCE**

**THE ARRAN TEAM**

**ALL ASPECTS OF PROPERTY MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS UNDERTAKEN**  
 No job too small  
 Free Quotes Available

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 Email: info@thearranteam.co.uk  
 www.thearranteam.co.uk

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 Interior and Exterior  
 Free Estimates

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 Mobile 07901592922

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# Sport

Arran's Weekly Newspaper

## Sweet success for young rugby team

Arran 24 Bishopston 0 may have fielded one of the Arran's senior rugby boys youngest teams ever on Satur-

day but that didn't stop them storming ahead and grasping a 24 - 0 win against Bishopston RFC.

The average age of the team playing on the Ormidale Park on Saturday was around 17 - although the presence of 50-year-old Addie for the first 20 minutes almost cancelled that average out completely!

### Brilliant

The island team played exceptionally well in both attack and defence, which allowed them to make some brilliant breaks that led to four superb tries.

Frazer Barr's kicking also continues to improve as he slotted through two conversions. Frustratingly for Arran, despite a run of fantastic results, Lanark RFC still hold the top spot in Division Four with 38 points. But the island's team have played fewer matches and are not far behind with 31 points so the league title is still well within reach.



Jack Barbour makes a brilliant break down the wing to score Arran's first try of the game. 01\_b50rug01

## Drift Inn top Arran Pool League

The Drift Inn is topping the Arran pool league this week after a 6-4 win over Bar Eden.

In second place is Whiting Bay Golf Club despite a 4-6 defeat at the hands of Mac's Bar on Thursday night.

The full results from the league on Thursday 8 December were as follows: Bar Eden (G) 4 Drift Inn 6, PHT 5 PT134 5 (G), Whiting Bay Golf Club 4 Mac's Bar 6 (G). The Catacol/ Kildonan game was postponed due to the stormy weather.

The draw for the first round

of the singles tournament has now been completed. All games should be played on or by Sunday 8 January.

### Singles Draw

K Jackson (Eden) v A McLaren (Mac's) at PHT, N Lemmon (Mac's) v S Weir (Cat) at Drift, B Tattersfield (Drift) v J Copperwheat (Drift) at Drift, J Ferguson (Drift) v D Thomson (Eden) at PHT, D Prescott (W/Bay) v L Wilson (Drift) at PHT, R Buchan (Mac's)/B McCallum (Cat) v C Cunningham (Drift) at PHT, F Barr (W/Bay) v T Dolan/I Mac-

Donald (Mac's) at the Drift, J McEnaney (PHT) v D Bell (Cat) at Mac's, J Ainsworth (W/Bay) and F Dunn (Mac's) at Drift, J Picken (1934) v D Head (W/Bay) at Bar Eden, P Stewart (PHT) v B Lewis (Cat)/D Heaney (Drift) at Mac's, M Worthington (1934) v A Jeffrey (Cat) at Mac's, A McDonald (1934) and A Picken (1934) at Kildonan, P McKinnon (Cat) v S Logan (Cat) at Catacol, A Nimmo (PHT) v E Picken (1934) at Bar Eden, N McMaster (1934) v J Duncan (Drift) at Bar Eden.



## Bowlers celebrate season's end

The members of Lamlash Bowling Club celebrated the end of another fantastic season with a prizegiving dinner earlier this month.

They enjoyed a delicious meal at The Drift Inn on Saturday 3 December, after which trophies were presented to all the winners.

The full list of prizewinners was as follows: **Laidlaw Gardner** - Colin Haggarty, Charlie Weir, Margaret Murchie, John Sloss, Marion Spence, Duncan Graham and Steve Pritchard. **Drift Inn Cup** - Tony Butcher, Gill Butcher, Ian Heron and Lilian Thomson. **Round**

**Robin** - Margaret Murchie. **Triples** - John Sloss, Charlie Weir and Andy Martin. **Blenheim Fours** - Ian Tainsh, Charlie Weir, Margaret Murchie and Alistair Wallace. **Ladies Pairs** - Aileen Graham and Lilian Thomson. **Co-op Wappanshaw** - Margaret Murchie. **Nominated Pairs** - Charlie Weir and Colin Haggarty. **Balloted Pairs** - Charlie Weir and John Sloss. **Mixed Pairs** - Charlie Weir and Margaret Murchie. **Open Singles** - John Sloss. **Ladies Singles** - Margaret Murchie. **Gents Singles** - Charlie Weir.

## Bridge results

### Brodict Bridge Club

The results for Thursday 8 December were as follows: N/S 1 Trisha Martin and Douglas Hamilton +3830, 2 Liz Paul and Helen Boyd +2720, 3 Jean Barclay and Morag Gardner +2560.

E/W 1 Roddie Thompson and Eendy McNiven -700, 2 Brenda Livingstone and Jean Murchie -1300, 3 Douglas and Margaret Bruce -1810.

### Lamlash Bridge Club

The results from Monday 12 December were as follows: N/S 1 H Boyd and J Murchie +1520, 2 J and M Dick +1240, 3 J McLure and A McKelvie +540.

E/W 1 J McArthur and J Beattie -120, 2 T Martin and A Bilsland -370, 3 E McConnell and P Adamson -480.

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