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Arran's Weekly Newspaper

SATURDAY, 4th FEBRUARY, 2006

No 1529

'Save this historic hamlet'



'Hands off, no houses' say the Lagg objectors at the edge of the field where a development company from Dundee plans to build four large houses. Bridgend Cottage, Kilmory House and Lagg Hotel are in the background. b05lag1

'Save this historic hamlet' were the words on one sign brandished by a group of protesters at a demonstration in Lagg this week. 'Hands off, no houses', said another sign.

The community of Lagg appears to be up in arms about a proposed housing development on the field opposite Kilmory Stores.

Feelings were running high at a meeting of objectors in Lagg Hotel on Monday night, 30 January, when around 30 people gathered to express their opposition to the development.

Completely spoiled

Margaret MacKenzie of Ferdean said: 'I came to live here at Bridgend Cottage when I was six years old and I think this is going to completely spoil the whole of Lagg.'

A planning application was lodged with North Ayrshire Council (NAC) on 16 January for four houses in Lagg field.

The applicant is Arran Development Select of Dundee and the same company had an application for six houses on this site rejected by NAC in June 2005.

This new application indicates that the field is owned by Christopher Crook, son of the former owners of Lagg Hotel.

Several years ago it was included in the Isle of Arran Local Plan which means that it is classified as building land.

No need for houses

Current owner of the hotel, Peter Bowers, told the meeting of objectors: 'There have been 14 houses built up the hill over the past three years. In my opinion

there is no need for these new large houses.

'If they put street lights up here as well it will be a nightmare. It will look like suburbia.'

Plans show the houses to be four-bedroom one-and-three-quarter storey with a red brick access road to the site, wide entrance with bollards and reflectors, and two-metre wide footpath along the main road.

Ron Wallwork of Slidery said: 'With block paving this will look like Brookside.'

Gordon Mulholland of Bourtree added: 'The fundamental issue is that we don't want this at all. It must be unique for 100 percent of the local residents to object to a development.'

Viv Parks of Kilmory House said: 'The proposed houses are completely at odds with the existing houses in the hamlet.'

Tourist attraction

'Lagg Hotel, Bridgend Cottage and Laggwood Cottage are all category C listed buildings and Kilmory House dates from 1651. The hamlet is a tourist attraction and many holidaymakers take photographs of the area.'

Hotel owner Peter Bowers pointed to possible problems with sewage treatment and discharge into the burn: 'There is already an issue with smell and pollution in Kilmory Water.'

'We don't need any more discharges.'

Charlie Hunter of Bridgend Cottage closed the meeting by suggesting that the residents write individual letters of objection to NAC and attempt to change the scale and appearance of the development to look more in keeping with a picturesque village.

On Wednesday *The Banner* contacted Arran Development Select in Dundee to put the objectors' points to them. Company director Raymond Paterson said: 'We have taken credence of architects, planners and the local surroundings.'

'We are making these houses so much like the existing village.'

'These houses will have a detached garage and we have kept them to one-and-a-half storey. And there will be a lovely area at the front for grazing cattle.'

House prices

When *The Arran Banner* asked Mr Paterson what price the houses might be he answered: 'They will be under £200,000 but if we had built the six as originally planned they would have been around £160,000 each.'

'We are trying to build specific houses for the people of Arran, not incomers from mainland Scotland.'

'We do have other sites on Arran in mind for further developments. If all goes to plan these houses should be up in early 2007.'

Return of *MV Caledonian Isles*'

In next week's *Banner* we will be taking a look at the refurbishment work that has taken place aboard the *MV Caledonian Isles* ferry.

This includes new carpets, changes to the cafeteria and to the medical room which were done during the annual overhaul.

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Roads under scrutiny

The condition of Arran's roads will come under the scrutiny of Arran Community Council later this month.

Councillors will be surveying every yard of the main roads and most of the side roads in villages. Chairman Campbell Laing explained that over a specific weekend councillors would go out in pairs and cover a particular stretch of road. They will make detailed notes of each pothole, uneven surface or subsidence with the degree of severity.

He said: 'This information will be collated and a final document given to North Ayrshire Council roads

department. This is intended to help the local authority to carry out effective repairs and perhaps access the necessary extra funding.'

A similar survey was carried out by the community council in 1999.

Local police sergeant Colin Young said that an inspector and sergeant from Strathclyde Police traffic department had driven round the Island to see the condition of the roads for themselves.

He said: 'They were surprised by the general condition and highlighted four areas of actual danger. The police want to work hand in hand with NAC to help make our roads safer.'

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Police files

Drink driving

A 59-year-old Blackwaterfoot man was stopped and charged with alleged drink driving on Tuesday 31 January. A report has been sent to the Procurator Fiscal.

Shoplifting

On Friday night 27 January two Ardrossan young men were arrested and charged with alleged shoplifting in Brodick and drinking alcohol in a public place.

The men had apparently been camping in Fisherman's Walk.

Speeding fine

A Kings Cross man was stopped in Whiting Bay for speeding on Monday 23 January.

He accepted a conditional offer of a £60 fine and three penalty points.

Missing baskets

Five new gabion support baskets were reported missing from Levenorroch on Thursday 26 January.

They were being used by a local contractor in major road repairs to shore-up the A841 between Kildonan and Kilmory.

Wind farm likely for southend

Arran could potentially have its very own wind farm by early next year if proposals by Green Power Ltd get the green light.

Craig Potter, project manager

for the group, explained that if everything goes exactly to plan a completion date of 2007 could be likely.

Two consultation days were

held last weekend by the group and Lamlash farmer Kenny Bone, who has spent the last seven years trying to get a wind farm constructed on the hills above Glenkiln.

The purpose of the consultation days was to let Green Power show people what is proposed and give locals the chance to put forward their views.

A total of 144 people took the opportunity to find out more about the project.

Craig was pleased with the response: 'It does seem as though most people liked the idea; it looks as though an inland site

north of Auchenhew Hill is probably the favoured position for the turbines.

'The weather on Arran has average wind speeds of nine meters per second which is really fantastic.

'A wind farm is viable at speeds of six metres per second so the project on the island could potentially be very productive.'

The turbines will be able to produce 12 mega watts of power and with a projected six or eight considered Arran could potentially become a net exporter of electricity.

Craig has a long background in

wind farms and was involved in one of the UK's first-ever in 1993 in a project at Morecambe Bay.

He added that the company expect to lodge a planning application by June or July and would show detailed site plans in further public consultation before then.

A competition is currently being run by the group to get children involved in the project. The remit is to design a logo for the company that will be used on marketing material and their website.

The closing date is February 23 and forms are available from Brodick tourist office.



Craig Potter, wind farm project manager. b05win1

Guilty of vandalism

Following a report of vandalism to a Mitsubishi Shogun vehicle

at Lamlash pier on 4 August 2005, 29-year-old Sean Ferris, Lamlash was fined £100 last week at Irvine District Court and ordered to pay £1,800 compensation.

Damage

The man pled guilty to vandalism of a vehicle amounting to damaged paintwork, broken windows and flat tyres.

Swamped by Christmas cards

Arran Recycling Community Organisation, (ARCO) was left with a massive headache after Islanders swamped them with used Christmas cards at their recycling points.

A staggering 25,000 cards were collected leaving a logistical nightmare for the team to try and get the cards off the Island.

Originally they were going to appeal to anyone going off Arran in a car to take away a black bag full of the used cards to a collection point.

However this was not deemed to be a viable option and Donald Bannatyne of Arran Haulage came to the rescue.

At the end of January a truck loaded with half a tonne of the used cards dropped them at Tesco in Irvine.

Both WH Smith and Tesco collected the cards throughout January as part of a larger UK-wide recycling scheme.

Funds raised by this scheme are used to support the Woodland Trust's Tree For All campaign.

Over the next five years it aims to plant 12 million trees across the UK and involve one million people, especially children, in planting these trees. It hopes to encourage people to go back out into woodland and back in touch with nature

Jo Lenthall of ARCO said: 'A

huge thank you to everyone that recycled their Christmas cards, and a massive thank you to those schools, hotels, the library and shops that agreed to be collection points.'

Jo concluded: 'We may be a small Island, but every little bit makes a difference.'



Drew Raeburn of Arran Haulage with a large bag of Arran's used Christmas cards. b05erd1

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'Almost a goner' after pot-hole crash

North Ayrshire Council (NAC) roads department has been blasted this week for the condition of Arran's main A84 road after a pot-hole may have caused a Lamlash resident to write-off his car last Wednesday afternoon. Sandy McDougall was travelling south into Whiting Bay when his Suzuki car struck a hole which he says was eight inches deep, causing £2,000 worth of damage to his car.

Travelling north was former Arran roads department supervisor Archie MacPherson of Whiting Bay.

He said: 'I saw the vehicle veering towards me and I immediately stopped as I had no idea where it was going to end up.'

'If a heavy goods vehicle had been coming, he would have been a goner.'

Sandy said: 'It was thanks to Archie's presence of mind and his driving skills that he saved my life.'

Flashbacks

'I just can't stop reliving the events in my mind and thinking of what might have been - I've had a few sleepless nights because of the flashbacks.'

'My accident happened as I passed the turn-off for Kings Cross and went into the left hand bend before Knockenkelly.'

'I was following the line of the road when I saw what appeared to be a puddle in the road - I had no idea that it was a deep pot-hole.'

'As I struck it the car veered on to the verge and I completely lost control ending up coming to rest at the verge of the cliff wall on the other side of the road after spinning through 180 degrees.'

'I got out of the car and realised the extent of the damage. I was shaken up and I immediately called the police.'

'Archie's car was literally only a few inches from my own vehicle.'

At the Community Council meeting on Tuesday night Rich-



Sandy McDougall with his written-off car. b05san1

ard Wright, NAC roads officer said: 'This hole was originally filled on 20 December and again the day after the accident.'

Local police sergeant Colin Young said that the police report indicated that the pot-hole was the cause of the accident.

Craters

Speaking generally about the condition of the roads on Arran Archie said: 'It's horrendous. Some of these pot-holes are like craters. To my mind one pot-hole is one too many.'

'When you know where they are it gives you some chance of dodging them but most people have no idea. I have been avoiding the pot-hole that caused

Sandy's accident for the past three weeks.'

Sandy said: 'I was naturally shaken up after my accident but the financial situation of it all is the worst aspect.'

'Living on a pension this is a lot of money for my wife and I to try and find and it really is beyond us.'

Compensation

Sandy has been driving on Arran's roads for over 10 years and this is his first accident in his 50 years of motoring.

'I have lodged a compensation claim with NAC which I submitted that day.' The car is now at Galloways Auto Repairs in Brodick awaiting inspection.

Sand plant set to change

Arran Transport has re-acquired the former sand plant in Market Road, Brodick and proprietor Bob Haddow is now looking for a new use for the site.

The original filtration tower and plant were built in 1971 and operated by Bob and former partner the late David Warwick as Scotsand.

Over the years Arran sand from this company has been used in water filtration works from Iraq to the Falklands.

The sand plant stopped production six years ago and has stood largely idle since then. In 2003 it was bought from Arran Transport by Scottish Water with a fixed buy-back arrangement as a base for the sewerage pipeline contractors GMJV.

Now that the sewerage work is virtually finished the workmen have left and the site is vacant.

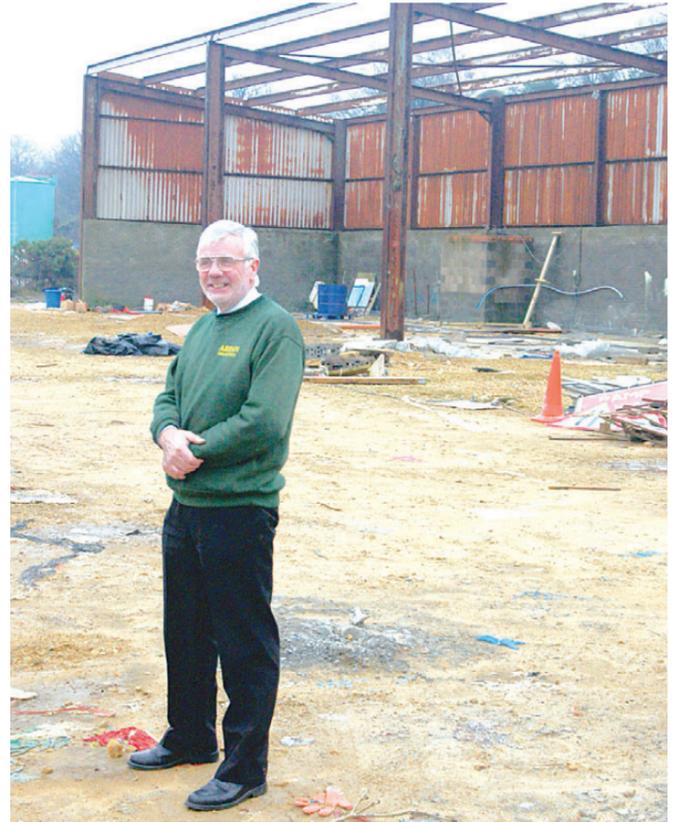
On Tuesday Bob told *The Banner*: 'I am now looking for a permanent use for the site and have applied to North Ayrshire Council (NAC) for a demolition order on the old buildings.'

'I would be delighted to hear from the public on their views for a use for this site. There have already been a number of enquiries from interested parties.'

Since the sand plant closed, the site has also been at the centre of proposals for a new ferry linkspan and extended car marshalling area for Caledonian MacBrayne (CalMac).

Bob Haddow went on to say that he is preparing a planning application for up to six small industrial units on the site.

He said: 'It is hoped to get financial assistance from Argyll and the Islands Enterprise which would ultimately be passed on to



Bob Haddow on the site of the old sand plant which may become industrial units or a ferry car-marshalling extension. b05had1

the tenants or owners.' The next stage is to clear the site, and in the short term Bob intends to offer it as a free public car park for ferry users.

Meanwhile, his ideas may encourage CalMac to decide on the location of a new linkspan.

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ARRAN'S WEEKLY PAPER

Saturday 4 FEB, 2006

I had a call the other day from a friend who told me about a great little museum south of Edinburgh. She waxed glorious about how interesting it had been and then added, much more interesting than National Trust for Scotland (NTS) properties. And half the price too.

Hmm. I admit I have had some of these heretical thoughts too. Our finest visitor asset here is Brodick Castle, and excellent it is. It looks fantastic; it has that special quality of not feeling like a museum but rather like a home from which the family has just left; it has a site without equal and a history which is sure to interest any visitor. In addition the trust presents this treasure excellently. All well displayed, the staff in every room are helpful, and there is a tearoom and a gift shop to round off the visit on the way out.

One quality is the furnishing and the feeling of a family home. Many Trust properties share this quality. In Falkland Palace it was explained that the four poster bed may not have been the one James VI slept in, but was of similar age and style. In contrast, many National Trust (England - NT) properties are unfurnished because, being more purist, they do not have the precise items that belonged to the house.

Despite this, you can go to other properties, not owned by the trust, and find them very different. Bamburgh Castle comes to mind. Still family owned, the presentation was less professional. For example the explanatory signs were handwritten. But it had more character. This too was what my friend was saying about the Newton Grange mining museum south of Edinburgh. How refreshing it was after trust properties, she said, and added, unlike them you are not just directed inexorably towards the well-stocked gift shop.

The trust undoubtedly does an excellent job and, given its size, it has to put in place standards which will obtain in every property. Yet this can diminish the experience. They are all so similar. The items for sale in the gift shops are all the same too.

It might seem curmudgeonly to complain about these minor items, especially if one could get a nice cup of tea and a cake after looking round. But unfortunately the restaurant in Brodick Castle, once excellent, appears to have gone downhill. There only twice last summer, we found the service unspeakably dozy and the food mediocre despite the high prices. On our second visit we were angry with ourselves since we remembered we had told ourselves earlier that we must not return. And, as members, it does not even cost us the entrance charge. What a pity there isn't a good place to eat at the castle my wife has said, because it is such a nice walk up there.

In last week's *Banner* the trust advertised for this year's summer staff. What a long list it is. So many people and so many wages to pay. In fact they advertise each year even though the same people will return to the task they did last year. Whoever they get, might it mean changes in the tearoom? Let us hope so for, given the wonderful building and site, Brodick Castle has the potential to be the finest visitor experience in Scotland.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Lord Jesus Christ, though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become rich.

2 Corinthians 8:9

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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.net

Letters to the Editor**Jogscotland**

Sir,

I hope to organise a Jog Leaders course on Arran but need at least 10 people to make this course viable.

The course is aimed at those people who would like to lead a small group of adults or children in power walking, jogging or running.

The cost of the course would normally be £65 but those people who aim to lead a group on a volunteer basis would have their course fee paid.

It would be great if Arran could have a Jog Leader in every village.

Please contact me at Arran High School if you require further information or would like a place on the course.

Yours

Mrs Ann K Hart
Arran High School
Lamlash

Hospital Supporters League

Sir,

In response to Mr Willie Logan's letter in last weeks *Banner* I would like to make the following points.

Whereas we are always delighted when people hold events to raise funds for the hospital we had no prior knowledge of Mr Logan's intentions.

In view of this I would ask that if anyone feels that they wish to support us they please ensure that cheques are made payable to The Hospital Supporters League and not to myself as he suggests.

Cheques should be sent direct to our treasurer Mrs Judy Waterland, at Craigelea, Whiting Bay.

We in the Hospital Supporters League are already well aware of the generosity of the people of Arran in support of their hospital and for that we thank them all.

Yours

Sheila M B MacLeod
Elleray
Whiting Bay

Windfarms

Sir,

Recent experience of so-called 'community consultation' has

been infuriating: water, sewage, the new school etc.

Each time this has amounted to little more than being told what is good for us. Little wonder consultants get a bad name.

Last week set the benchmark for the manner in which this process should be conducted.

Those involved with the proposed wind farm excelled themselves, presenting the facts clearly, then inviting individual feedback and listening carefully to what everyone had to say.

All comments from the public were carefully noted and one really did get the feeling that views expressed would be taken into consideration.

Whether they love or hate windmills, those who participated in last week's events cannot complain that this was anything other than a truly democratic process.

Yours

Chris Attkins
Belvedere
Brodick

Clachan Cemetery

Sir,

While an editor has the reserved right to reject or amend articles submitted for publication it is irritating when this actually changes the tone and content of a submission.

I had presented such an article to last weeks *Banner* with the aim of informing and assisting readers. I was disappointed with the published article, hence a letter to clarify.

It is the case that NAC has offered to re-erect displaced memorials at Clachan Cemetery thanks to an approach by Robert Smith who has agreed to co-ordinate this service.

The fee quoted for this particular job is £150 which is very reasonable compared with the alternatives other than doing nothing.

If blame is to be apportioned for the need for a safety appraisal it lies with monumental masons in the past who may not have properly erected the stones in the first place. Although local authorities administer and upkeep cemeteries I also learned recently that the memorials themselves are the property and responsibility of indi-

vidual lair owners, not councils as many people believed.

It is of interest to any lair owner on Arran to note the following procedure should they have to deal with it at subsequent safety inspections.

It is not true that the stones are leant on. A pressure measuring device is used.

No memorials can be re-erected by anyone without the prior permission of the council who require a completed application form signed by the lair owner or his/her descendents along with this proof of ownership.

Where a lair ownership certificate is lost or unavailable a copy can be had from local council offices for a small charge.

Robert Smith and I hold a supply of forms for re-erection of memorials which we will get to anyone who wishes if they contact us on 01770 860286/525.

This contact will also allow the council to have the job carried out as soon as possible when we have an appropriate number of responses.

Yours

Margie Currie
Eastlands
Shiskine

Kilmory churchyard

Sir,

We were told that the extension to Kilmory Churchyard was to be ready by April 2002, then it was to be July 2004.

After further delay the date given was August to September 2005.

It is now February 2006 and we are still waiting. Why the delay?

We are completely fed up with the many excuses put forward since we asked for this extension in 1997 and consider that we require to be told the truth by the Church of Scotland and North Ayrshire Council.

The people of Kilmory are fed up with excuses and need to know the true facts regarding this disgusting delay.

Yours

Mrs E Picken
Bruce Cottage
Kilmory

Arran Antiquarians

The annual general meeting of the Society was held last Monday in Brodick Hall where over 70 members attended.

Secretary Harry Davidson gave an excellent report of all last year's meetings, with pictures of all the speakers and a synopsis of each talk.

The treasurer, Norvel Murray, said there were sound finances and as a result subscriptions will remain the same for the year. Membership is thriving.

The committee was re-elected en bloc and two extra members were co-opted on; they are Margaret Bruce and Tom McLeod.

The meeting concluded with a slide show by Harry Davidson and Ken Curry of the Antiquarians' field trips and visit to Kitchoshie and Dungarvel Mill.

On Saturday 11 February there will be a field trip to Whiting Bay led by Grace Small.

Those wishing to attend are requested to meet in the main car park, opposite the old pier in the village centre. A packed lunch is required and stout shoes are suggested.

Feeling low? Meet the jubblys

It is refreshing to learn that at a time of year when many people are feeling low, stressed or anxious, there is a self-help group on Arran called Jubblys.

This group has been set up specifically for the purpose of helping to overcome negative feelings.

The group is informative, yet friendly, supportive and confidential. Personal experiences and knowledge are shared over a cup of tea or coffee.

Plans are being made for many activities including alternative therapy sessions and group discussions.

Jubblys meets once a week on a Monday from 11am until 1pm at Montrose Bungalow, Montrose House, Brodick.

If you would like more information please contact Sue Green on 860260.

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The Bard in print

Tommy Gilmore of the Ormidale Hotel and member of Lamlash Burns Club reviews a new book by Colin Baxter and Kenneth Simpson entitled simply Robert Burns.

One would expect a Colin Baxter book on Burns to live up to his deserved reputation for pictorial quality, and in this respect this little book (37 pages) is well up to expectations.

Photographs of portraits of the bard, his works and his times are artfully and liberally displayed throughout the volume.

However, it is the text produced by one of Scotland's foremost Burns scholars, Professor

Kenneth Simpson, organiser for over ten years of the annual Glasgow Herald Burns Conference, which more clearly illustrates the pictures.

Ken has been a lifetime visitor to Arran. Holidaying latterly in Shiskine, he has also enhanced our Island by bringing study groups to Arran with eminent writers such as Aonghas MacNeacail (Angus McNicol), William McIlvannie and the late Iain Crichton Smith making public presentations at The Kinloch and Ormidale Hotels.

The life and times of Burns, his major works and eventual death are all resumed in concise and illuminating style, together with

extensive explanations of featured pictures.

Rarely can such a rich concentration of factual material have been presented in such an enticing manner as would appeal to the novice and expert alike.

There is initially temptation when reviewing a pictorial Burns book to use his own metaphor perhaps comparing the 'farthing taper' of the photographs to the light of the sun in the writing or vice-versa.

However the true value of this volume is the exquisite balance - the superb quality of the pictures being well matched by the quality of the text.

Tommy Gilmore



Hospital Supporters League members Betty Koral and chairman Maurice Deighton receive the cheque from children of Brodick Primary School, Dominic Demazeux, Naomi Paul and Libby Raeburn. b05hos1

Children's wish is supporters gain

Thanks to the generosity of the children of Brodick Primary School, Hospital Supporters League, HSL, is now better off to the tune of £207.

After the combined carol service at Brodick church and the closing school service in December the money collected from parents who had attended these events has been given to the charity.

Head teacher at the primary school Angie Fisher said: 'The

children always decide where the money raised goes to and this time they decided it would be good to give the money to HSL.'

Chairman of HSL Maurice Deighton said: 'We are really delighted that the children considered us and are grateful for the donation.'

HSL is one of the Island's most popular charity organisations and exists ultimately to make the lives of those affected by illness on the

Island as comfortable as possible.

Listening to suggestions from the staff at the War Memorial Hospital in Lamlash and doctors around the Island they are able to make purchases of equipment that will be of direct benefit.

They also have use of a residential flat at Crosshouse Hospital which is available for relatives of Arran residents being treated at the mainland hospital.

Ferry sailing alterations

Four timetabled ferry sailings will be cancelled this weekend because of oil deliveries from a BP tanker at Brodick pier.

The 12.30pm sailing from Ardrossan and the 1.50pm from Brodick will not take place on Saturday 4 February or on Monday 6 February.

This will allow a fuel tanker to berth at the pier and discharge oil into the storage tanks at Market Road. This arrangement will continue on some weekends until the summer timetable.

Learn how to breathe better

Savio D'Souza is giving an asthma breathing workshop on Arran next week.

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Ormidale Hotel, Brodick at 2pm on Sunday 12 February.

Members of the public are invited to come along to this free seminar and workshop to see how changing breathing patterns may dramatically improve health.

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From left clockwise: Isla Sneddon, Charlie Wilkinson, Lucy Walsh, Victoria Mowatt, Jaden Lemay-simpson, Esther Jardine. b05cho1

Children celebrate Chinese New Year

Getting to grips with chop sticks last Friday were the children of Whiting Bay Playgroup.

As they tucked into noodles, fried vegetables and prawn crackers they seemed to be mastering them very quickly while quite literally getting a flavour of Chinese culture. Playleader Maggie Dawson said: 'The idea behind this was to encourage the children

to try new things and thanks to Ross at the Cameronia who supplied the utensils we did.

'As there are Chinese children in the village this gives the youngsters a chance to develop their appreciation of others who are different from them.'

The Chinese New Year was officially celebrated last Sunday and 2006 is year of the dog.

High school news

Study Classes

Next week supported study classes will be available for senior pupils from Mondays to Thursdays after school until the Easter Holidays.

This year, thanks to dedicated staff and the organisation of Mr Auld and the Senior Management Team, there will be more subjects on offer. These classes will be a chance for pupils to practise past papers and familiarise themselves with the format of the exam, as well as providing a quiet working environment in which pupils can seek help from their teachers with any part of the course that they may be struggling in.

One pupil commented that while studying for her Highers last year, she felt that these classes had 'considerably improved' her grades. So although the prospect of classes after school may not appeal to everyone, in the run up to prelims and exams they can make a huge difference!

S5 Gemma MacDonald
S6 Emily Ross

Teachers go East

On Wednesday 18 January, Mr Auld, Mrs Pattenden and Miss Wright set off on their long journey to Romania.

Every year teachers from all over Europe come together for the Comenius Conference where discussions take place and decisions are made about future international exchanges. This year was the first year that the conference had been held in Romania at the *Jean Monnet School*.

Naturally there were a number of differences between Scottish and Romanian cultural and educational ideas.

The most noticeable difference was the lack of modern technology. For example there were no computers present in classrooms and for some, the main form of transport was still horse and cart.

Already Arran High School pupils have been emailing students and eagerly await their replies!

However, Romania is not the only country the European class have links with. Very soon pupils

will be visiting Germany and both the French and German pupils are hoping to return or make their first trip to Scotland.

The teachers had a thoroughly enjoyable trip to Romania and we look forward to having some Romanian pupils visit Arran!

Sabrina Beatan and Mhairi Beggans S5

When the circus came to town...

The latest activity of the Duke of Edinburgh group at Arran High has been learning the ancient Maori art of Poi and the more well-known art of juggling for their skills section of the award.

This will involve the group learning several different forms of juggling culminating in what we hope will be a mind-blowing performance.

The group were tremendously enthusiastic at the prospect of being able to juggle a whole three balls at once.

The tutor to these lifelong skills has been none other than multi-talented English teacher Miss Gibson, who has been more than helpful to the group.

To those unfamiliar with Poi, it is basically two strings with two heavy balls on the end that can be swung around.

However, the group quickly learned there was much more to it when they were shown an amazing variety of tricks.

In an exclusive interview with amateur Poi swinger and juggler Timothy Crockett, High School News learned that although fun, men in particular should be cautious!?

'We can vouch for that.' Timothy wholeheartedly denied rumours that he was about to run away with the circus to take his skills up at a professional level.

We look forward to seeing the group and their circus skills progressing, with many an adventure along the way.

Calum Johnston and Liam Turbett S4

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Fish Farmer

At the Aquaculture Today Gala Dinner, the first Fish Farmer "Fit for the Future" award will be presented for outstanding achievement in the fish-farming sector. In addition, finalists in a new industry-backed awards scheme from the Crown Estate, which recognises innovation and best practice in salmon farming, will be announced.

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Corrie and Sannox Wednesday Club

Corrie and Sannox Wednesday Club will meet in the Village Hall on Wednesday 8 February at 2pm.

Members can look forward to a musical afternoon with David Scobie. Please bring suggestions for the summer outing. Afternoon tea will be served. All welcome.

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Wullie registers Arran for sheepdog names



Liz Robertson with the Drumadon trophy and Lillian Tod who presented the prizes at Balgowan. Also shown are sheepdog society chairman Willie McConnell and judge William Tod. b05dog1

Local dog handler Wullie Stevenson of Glenree Cottage has just registered the *Arran* prefix with the International Sheepdog Society.

Now all pups bred by Wullie will carry the *Arran* name. The highlight of Wullie's dog handling career came last March when he and his dog Molly were champions at the Scottish inter-district finals at Glenluce, Wigtownshire last March.

The third Arran nursery sheepdog trial of the winter was held recently at Bailemargaith, Blackwaterfoot, by kind permission of Jack and Laura Murchie.

Alex Miller was judge and it proved a home win for Jack and his dog Rob on 72 points. Liz Robertson was second with Joey on 57 and Wullie Stevenson third with Arran Mist on 52.

The sweepstake for older dogs was won by Wullie with Nell on 85 points with his other dog Zac coming second on 84 points.

Tony Brookes and Jill came third with 83 points. The committee thanks Jack and Laura for hospitality and Alex for judging.

The fourth trial was held at Balgowan, Shiskine and William Tod came up from Langholm to do the judging. Wullie Stevenson and Arran Mist came first with 58 points. Jack Murchie and Rob were second and Wullie and Bill third.

The sweepstake was won by Willie McConnell handling his son Iain's dog Dan on 87 points.

Tony Brookes and Jill came second with 79, Wullie and Zac were third on 78 and Liz Robertson and Wick came fourth.

Liz Robertson also won the Drumadon trophy with Wick. The committee thanks William for judging and Margie Currie for clerking. Thanks also go to George and Lillian for hospitality and good wishes for a happy 60th birthday go to George who shares his special day with the bard, Robbie Burns.

St Brides Ladies Scots night

On Monday 23 January some 90 people gathered in Brodick Church Hall for the annual St Brides Ladies Scots night.

After words of welcome from president Lavinia Hendry the haggis was piped in by Alistair Hume, carried by Brian Boal and addressed with spirit, (no, not whisky!) by Angus Adamson.

After the Selkirk Grace by Rev Dr McLeod, who had only been retired a matter of hours as 23 January was his special birthday, the haggis was devoured by all.

Thanks to the efficiency of husbands disguised as waiters, everyone was quickly served and some had second helpings. Entertainment began with a popular foot-tapping moothie selection by Stewart Lambie who was performing solo without his usual partner Alastair McKelvie.

He later gave a poem about the making of a clootie dumpling.

The works of the Bard himself are not often heard on these occasions but Sheila Gilmore gave a wonderful rendition of Tam O' Shanter. She is not only a first-class actress but also has a phenomenal memory.

There have been quite a few wizards on the accordion over the years and John Clarke is no exception. His selections of Scottish tunes and accompanying the members who joined in was greatly enjoyed.

The 'Three Fivers' who scored such a hit at Rev Dr Ian MacLeod's retiral social were re-

duced to the two half-crowns but reprised their comic song to great applause.

Dr Ian gave an excellent and humorous vote of thanks and wife Nancy was presented with a gift in recognition of all her hard work on behalf of St Brides Ladies.

We ended with Auld Lang Syne. Thanks go to everyone who contributed to the success, especially the ladies who do the lion's share.

The next meeting is on Monday 6 February when Norman Cuthbert will be giving gardening tips. Don't forget to send in your questions.

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The life and work of Robert Burns noted



Alan Nicol performs *Tam O'Shanter* at the Arran Rotary Club Burns Supper. b05rot2

Celebrations of the life and work of Scotland's national bard, Robert Burns, have been held around the Island over the last two weeks.

Isle of Arran Rotary Club held a Burns supper on Tuesday 24 January in the McLaren Hotel, Brodick.

Burns recitations were the order of the day at St Brides Ladies Scots night in Brodick Church Hall on Monday 23 January. Whiting Bay Golf Club members held their celebration the previous weekend.

On Burns night itself, Wednesday 25 January, the Aldersyde Hotel in Lamlash hosted a Burns supper and ceilidh.

Further afield, Sheila Gilmore of Shiskine was invited to perform at a fundraising celebration of the bard at the Radisson Hotel in Glasgow.

Sheila told *The Banner*: 'It was a very posh affair with everyone in evening dress. There were 400 present and about £20,000 was raised for the Prince and Princess

of Wales Hospice.' She addressed the haggis, gave recitations of Tam O'Shanter and Kate O'Shanter and admitted to being a little overawed by the company.

In the programme notes, Sheila is quoted as saying: 'I have played golf all my life but have yet to learn how to hit the ball in the right direction.'

Three nights later she was performing Tam O'Shanter to 90 ladies in Brodick Church Hall.

Lamlash Burns Club held its annual supper in Brambles Bistro, Brodick last Saturday night where they welcomed new president Colin Currie after Stuart Hannah stepped down from the role.

Burns Night was celebrated in style and traditional entertainment was order of the day.



George McCormack sets his egg timer as he prepares to give the *Immortal Memory* at Arran Rotary Club Burns Supper. b05rot1



At the top table of the Lamlash Burns Club Supper new president Colin N Currie, centre, is welcomed by, from left, Graham Kerr, Stuart Hannah, Jock Kelso and Stewart Lambie. b05bur3

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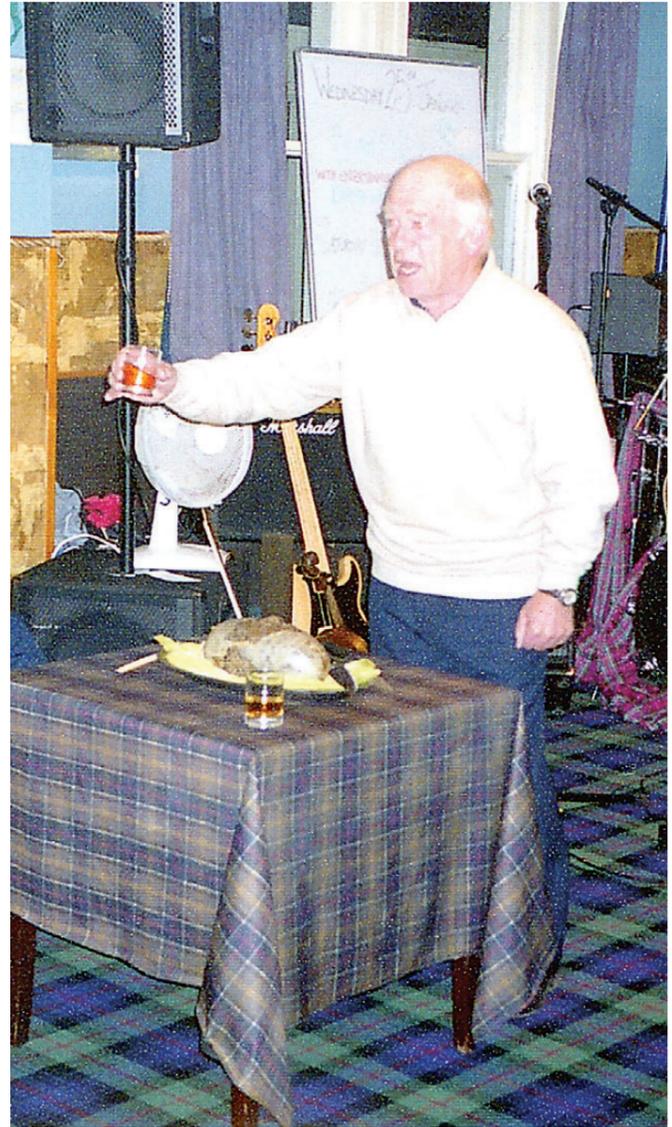
by celebrations around the Isle of Arran



Willie Robertson pipes in the haggis at the Lamlash Burns Supper in Brambles Bistro while resident second chef James Napier carries it in. b05bur1



'Weel are thee worthy o'a grace'. Andy Martin addresses the haggis in Brambles Bistro. b05bur2



At the Burns Supper in the Aldersyde Hotel in Lamlash Donald Gray makes the address to the haggis. b05gra1

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Arran Words and Music

Saturday 18 February is the date for the first big get-together for anyone interested in the project of Arran Words and Music.

Launch

Since its launch in October at the Ormidale Hotel, writers have been producing words that will form a base for what happens next.

The project is rapidly taking place and a huge thank you goes to all who have contributed.

On Saturday 18 February, workshops will be running all day at Kilmory Hall, ending with a ceilidh in the evening.

Ian McQueen, resident composer, and Virginia Rushton of Operahouse will be there.

Forget opera; nobody is at all keen on large ladies singing their heads off as they plunge to their death from battlements. That's not the idea.

Arran's production is going to encompass music of every sort, from folk to jazz, classic to rock. Players of anything from one-string bass to Chinese nose-flute

can be in there along with guitarists and saxophonists.

Existing bands and choral groups are welcome, but so are individuals who have so far only fancied the bongos or sung secretly in the bath.

Writers, of course, are essentially needed, whether already involved or not.

First workshop

The morning starts at 10am with coffee and an explanation from the team of exactly what the day hopes to achieve. The first workshop will consist of readings of words already gathered on Arran, plus some new ideas, and will discuss ways this material can develop into drama and music.

After a lunch break (tea and coffee provided, but please bring your own sandwiches), Ian takes up the musical theme, working with everyone present on ideas about how a poem called 'Ring of Stones' could be expressed musically.

This is where all tastes are needed, as there's no limit to the

ways in which such a subject could find a musical form.

The afternoon session ends at 3.30pm and the ceilidh, also in Kilmory Hall, starts at 8pm. Volunteers are already coming in to make up a scratch band for dancing, but more players and singers, story tellers and reciters of poems are needed.

Bring your own

Bring your own bottle, as there won't be a bar - and most vitally, bring whatever instrument you play or whatever words you would like to speak. This may be a ceilidh like no other.

The next workshop day will be the week before Easter, on Saturday 8 April, but a lot more things will be happening in between. This largely depends on what ideas arise during the sessions on February 18.

You don't have to be in any way expert to join in this budding production and have a thoroughly good time. All you need is a willingness to be surprised and amazed.



Local artist Bob Lees discussing acrylics with AVA members. b05art1

Arran Visual Arts keep it local

The first Arran Visual Arts, AVA, workshop of the year took place last Saturday.

Always keen to keep things fresh, a main aim by the group this year is to utilise the skills and talents of local artists thus building into the workshops a home grown feel.

And it was down to local Corrie

artist Bob Lees to lead last weekend's budding AVA members through a day of painting landscapes in acrylics at the Rangers Centre.

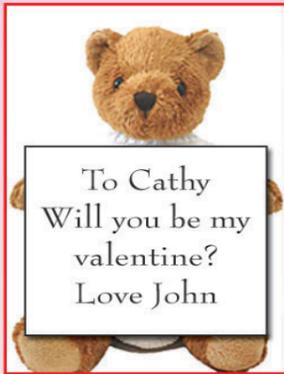
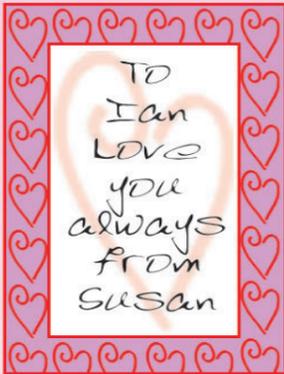
For some, this was a new experience using the material and reviews were mixed among the students but by and large most relished the challenge with some

very positive results. Photographs of landscapes, many of which were scenes of Arran, were used as images to be recreated with the acrylics.

AVA workshop co-ordinator Marjorie McDougall said: 'All of us at AVA feel that utilising the skills of local artists is both a logical and an excellent theme.'

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THE ARRAN BANNER, DOUGLAS CENTRE, BRODICK, ISLE OF ARRAN, KA27 8AJ

Only £12.50 (including VAT) Pay by cheque, P.O. or telephone in your message, quoting your Access/Visa number

Deadline Tuesday 7 February, to appear Saturday 11 February

* NAME..... A B C
 ADDRESS..... PLEASE TICK A BOX FOR THE PICTURE YOU WISH TO USE.

Tel..... *(NOT FOR PUBLICATION)

20 words maximum
PRIVATE ADVERTISERS ONLY

Arran Music & Drama Club

Jumble Sale

Saturday 4th February
in Brodick Hall at
12 noon until 3pm

Light lunches, home baking, books,
nearly new, bric-a-brac, tombola
Entrance 20p

If you have items to be uplifted, phone 600344

The Coffee Pot
Golf Course Rd
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BETTER BAR MEALS

ORMIDALE HOTEL

Brodick 01770 302293
HOME COOKED BAR MEALS
served 12.30 pm - 2.00pm (Saturday & Sunday only)
6.00 pm - 9.00pm
Children Welcome

Beer garden with Children's Outdoor Play Area
Real Ale (Recommended CAMRA Good Beer Guide)

Lochranza Village Choir

After a festive season holiday Lochranza Village Choir resumed weekly rehearsals on Sundays at 2.30pm in the village hall.

Although several new faces have already joined the ranks there is still plenty of time for others to do so and take part in the concert planned for the end of April.

For further information please telephone 830651.

The Arran Banner
01770 302142

CAMERONIA HOTEL
WHITING BAY

- telephone -
01770 700254

Saturday 4 February
DISCO DAVE

9.30 p.m. until late
Usual ID will be requested

Shiskine Playgroup presents

The Newsband
and

DJ Stevie G

Saturday 11 February
9 p.m. - 1a.m.
Shiskine Hall
Licensed - Over 18s only



SHORE ROAD WHITING BAY 01770 700250

Fine Contemporary Art Gallery

Showing the latest paintings by

Resident Artists Nick Giles and Tommy Fitchet and also Peter Howson, Graham McKean, Nicky Gill, Martin Oates, Joan Lawson, Josephine BroekHeuzen, Richard Butterworth, Lynn Scobbie, and Sculptures by Tim Pomeroy
Open Saturdays and Sundays - For no obligation private viewing please do not hesitate to call Nick Giles 07850 189747

What's On . . . What's On . . . What's On . .

EVERYDAY

Portnalochan Fishery, Kilpatrick, open all day
Brodick Country Park, 10 am-dusk
Arran Brewery, 10am-3.30pm Mon,Wed, Thur, Fri . Sat 10-4pm
Ardsheil Gallery, W. Bay 1.30-5pm (Wed - Sun)
Main Fine Art, Oakbank, Auchrannie Rd, Bro. 2-5pm
Pony Trekking, North Sannox (Closed Sunday)
Paintings by Bob & Bill Lees, Bilslands, Bro & Corrie Craft
Arran Hideaways office open daily
Trout Fly Fishing, Loch Garbad, Boat or Bank.
Power Boat round Holy Isle

SATURDAY 4 February

Gymnastics, Auchrannie Games Hall 5yrs plus, 10am
Blackwaterfoot Junior Football coaching, 10.30am- noon
Football coaching, Ormidale park, boys & girls5-15, 10-11.30am
Arran Dancers Brodick Primary School 11am - 4.15pm.
Machrie Table Tennis & Games Club, Machrie Hall, 7.30-9pm
Karate Club Auchrannie Games Hall, 11.30am
Indoor bowls. Auchrannie Hall 2-4pm
Arran Art Gallery Whiting Bay 11am-6pm
Councillors surgery Brodick library 1-2pm
Arran Music & Drama Jumble Sale, Brodick Hall, noon - 3pm
Bellydance workshop, Kinloch Hotel
Disco Dave, Cameronia Hotel, 9.30pm

SUNDAY 5 February

Bellydance workshop, Kinloch Hotel
Family Games Session, Auchrannie, 2-3pm
Alcoholics Anonymous, St Margarets Church, Whiting Bay, 4.30pm
Mixed Hockey, Ormidale Pavilion 12.30pm
Childrens Art Class, Burnside Gallery, 10.30 - 1pm
Arran Art Gallery Whiting Bay 11am-6pm
Lochranza Choir, village hall 2.30pm
Open Folk session night, Ormidale, 9pm

MONDAY 6 February

Shiskine Playgroup, Shiskine Hall, 9.25am to 12.05pm
Senior Fitness, Auchrannie, 9.30-10.30am
Over 50s Badminton, Lochranza Village Hall, 2-4pm
Football coaching, Ormidale Park, 6-7.30pm (8-15yrs)
Lamlash Tennis Club, Lamlash Pavilion, 6pm
Circuit Training, Auchrannie Spa, Brodick, 6-7.15pm
Badminton, Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm
Dancercise, Auchrannie, 6.30-7.30pm
Scottish Country Dancing, W. Bay School, 7.30pm

Pilates, Auchrannie 7.30 - 8.15pm
Adult Art Classes, Burnside Gallery, 10.30-12.30 and 1.30-3.30pm
Childrens Art Class, Burnside Gallery 4.00-5.30pm
Scottish Country Dance class. Corrie Hall, 2pm
Citizens Advice open 10am-2pm
Quiz, Cameronia 9.30pm
Weightwise, Hospital bungalow 6.30pm-7pm
Indoor Cricket Auchrannie Games Hall 7-9pm
Yoga, Kildonan Hotel, 10.30am

TUESDAY 7 February

Shiskine Brownies, shiskine primary 6.45-8.15pm
Shiskine Playgroup, Shiskine Hall, 9.25am-12.05pm
Senior Fitness, Auchrannie Spa, 9.30-10.30am & 10.45-11.45am
Brodick Toddler Group, Church Hall, 10.30am-noon
Lochranza Swimming Club, Kinloch, 11am-noon
Alcoholics Anonymous, Brodick Church Hall, 2pm
Legs, Bums & Tums, Auchrannie Spa, 6-6.45pm
Jnr Rugby Training, S1-U18s, Ormidale Park, 7pm
Indoor bowls, Auchrannie, 7-9pm
Arran Rotary Club, Auchrannie Spa Resort, 7.15 for 7.30pm
Army Cadets, Auchrannie Road, 7.30-9.30pm
Open Darts night, Kinloch Hotel, Blackwaterfoot, 8pm
Scottish Country Dancing, Brodick Church Hall, 7.30pm
Bowling Corrie & Sannox Hall, 2pm
Citizens Advice open 10am -2pm 4 - 6pm by appointment only
Indoor bowls. Auchrannie Hall 7-9pm
Carpet Bowls, Kilmory Hall 2.30pm and 7pm
Art Group, Kilmory hall 2 - 4pm
Pop quiz, Ormidale Hotel 10pm
Indoor bowling Corrie & Sannox Hall 2pm
Quiz, Drift Inn, Lamlash 8.30pm

WEDNESDAY 8 February

Advocacy service, drop in session, ACVS office, Lamlash 11am-1pm
Shiskine Playgroup, Shiskine Hall, 9.25am-12.05pm
W Bay Parents & Toddlers Grp, Church Hall, 10.30am-noon
Coffee morning 10.30 to noon, Lamlash Church Hall
Circuit Training, Auchrannie Spa, Brodick, 6-7.15pm
Mini rugby training, Ormidale Pk, 6-7pm
Mixed Indoor Hockey, Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7-8pm
Arran Runners, meet NTS Castle Car Park, 7.15pm
Life drawing workshop, Ranger Centre, Brodick Castle, 7-9pm
NAL Gymnastics Coaching High school gym 10am - noon
NAL Hockey Coaching Ormidale Park 1-3pm
Gymnastics Auchrannie 6pm and 7.30pm 5yrs plus
Youth Club, youth centre Lamlash 7-9pm

Heritage Museum, Archives & Geneology, 10.30 - 12.30pm and 1.30pm -4.30pm
Aerobics class, Brodick Hall 8pm - 9pm
Shiskine Beavers, shiskine hall 6-7pm
Corrie & Sannox Wednesday Club, Village Hall 2pm

THURSDAY 9 February

Shiskine Playgroup, Shiskine Hall, 9.25am-12.05pm
Senior Fitness, Auchrannie Spa, 9.30-10.30am & 10.45-11.45am
Brodick Toddler Group, Church Hall, 10.30am
Pilates, Auchrannie, 5.45pm & 6.30pm 6.45-7.30pm
General Knowledge Quiz, Ormidale, Brodick, 10pm
Pub Quiz, Kinloch Hotel, Blackwaterfoot, 9pm
Power Boat Tarbet and return
Spinning Demonstration Whiting Bay Hall 11am-2pm
Gymnastics Auchrannie 1pm pre-school
Rock School ,youth centre Lamlash 7-9pm
Brodick Embroidery Group. Brodick library, 7.30-9.30pm
Lamlash Beavers 6-7pm Cubs 6.15 -8pm, Scouts 7.30 - 9pm
Brodick Bridge Club, McLaren Hotel 7.15pm
Coffee Morning St Molios church, Shiskine 10.30 - noon
Citizens Advice open 10am -2pm
Indoor bowls, Auchrannie Hall 7-9pm
Badminton, Kilmory Hall, Juniors 6.30 - 7.30pm Adults 7.30 - 9pm
Arran Junior Singers choir practice, W/Bay school 6.45pm
Shiskine Cubs, shiskine hall, 6.30pm - 8pm
Shiskine Scouts, shiskine hall 8-9.30pm
Arran Music & Drama, Brodick hall 7.30pm
Corrie & Sannox WRI Valentine Party, Village Hall 7.30pm

FRIDAY 10 February

Shiskine Toddlers, Shiskine Hall, 10am-noon
Arran Pipe Band practice, Brodick Hall, 7.30pm
Quiz night, Whiting Bay Golf Club, 9.30pm
Citizens Advice open 10am - 2pm
Seniors Badminton Club, Auchrannie 2-4pm
Mothers & Toddlers, Kilmory Hall 10.30 - 12pm
Ceilidh Dance Group Lamlash Hall 8pm - 10pm
Lamlash Friday Club, Slides of Syria, Hall, 2.30pm
Antiquarians Field trip. Car park, opp pier, Whiting Bay 11am

SATURDAY 11 February (non regulars)

Donald Mackenzie Memorial Trophy, Breadalbane Hotel, 7.30pm
Supreme Robbie, Kilmory Hall 8pm
The Newsband & DJ Stevie G, Shiskine Hall. 9pm

BEST WESTERN
Kinloch Hotel

VALENTINE'S DINNER
Saturday 11 February

Four-course meal plus complimentary glass of wine
£20 per person
Booking essential
Telephone 860444

GOLDEN DRAGON

Chinese Restaurant
Shore Road, Whiting Bay
Tel 700489

THE GOLDEN DRAGON
Chinese restaurant
has re-opened at
The Old Pantry
Open seven days a week
5.30 p.m.
(last orders 10 p.m.)
WINTER SPECIAL
Monday-Thursday
Three-Course Meal
£9
Takeaway orders available

ARRAN CIVIC TRUST

Launch of new pamphlet
*Houses on Arran:
Building new or altering old?*
accompanied by
**PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION
OF SCOTTISH RURAL HOUSES**
BURNSIDE GALLERY
Sunday 5 February
2.30 p.m.
All welcome!
Exhibition open until February 26

BANNER LEISURE **BANNER LEISURE**
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BANNER LEISURE **BANNER LEISURE**

PROPERTY

The Shore, Shore Road, Lamlash

A detached Scandinavian style coastal house in a prominent location with outstanding views to the Holy Isle and the Ayrshire Coast.

Ground floor: Entrance porch, hall, 2 double bedrooms en-suite, third bedroom with separate shower room.
First floor: Living room, kitchen/dining room, double bedroom, family bathroom.



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As one of our post men or women, every time you deliver a letter you could be keeping friends in touch, helping a business run smoothly, or providing people with vital information.

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Your tasks will include sorting the mail for your route into delivery order. You'll travel by Royal Mail vehicle to your first delivery point and deliver your mail. Your mail is carried in mail pouches and you may deliver a number of pouches on your allocated route. From time-to-time you will be required to cover driving duties. This will involve transporting mail to and from mail processing centres and delivery offices. You may be required to collect mail from businesses, post boxes and post office counters. All your mail needs to be delivered within a set time, whatever the weather. A full induction and all-weather uniform is provided. A full, clean driving licence is essential. You'll be working 32 hours a week, 4 days a week, Monday to Saturday.

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Lochranza Centre, Isle of Arran

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Applicants should send CV and details of two referees

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BANNER RECRUITMENT



The National Trust for Scotland

BRODICK CASTLE SEASONAL STAFF

The Castle is open from April 1st - October 26th

Applications are invited for the following Full or Part time Posts:

Room Guides, Reception/Shop Supervisor, Reception/Shop Assistants, Plant Sales Assistant, Cook, Baker, Catering Supervisor, Catering Assistants, Kitchen Porter, Housekeeping Staff, Recruiters, and Paybox Attendant

Training in all areas will be given prior to opening. Applicants should be available to work weekends and bank holidays.

Please apply in writing to the **Property Manager, Brodick Castle**



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CD Player, towbar
Just serviced, MOT
Nov 2006
Tel Jimmi:
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or 01770 303903

£2800 o.n.o.

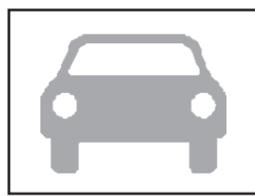
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Reg Sept 2002,
Metallic Green, FSH,
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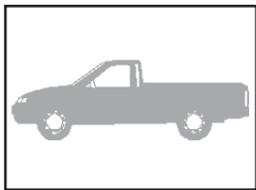


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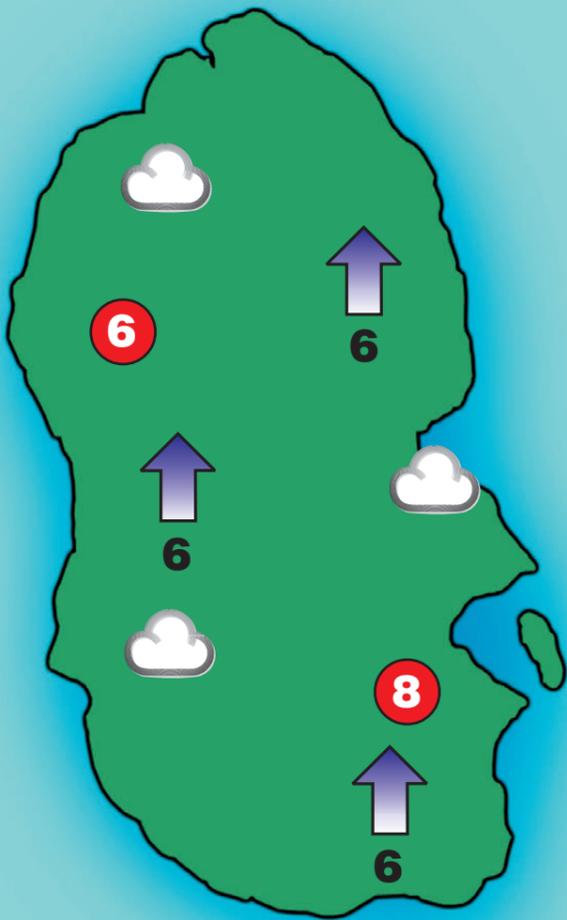
Tides

Tide tables for Lamlash during the week from **Saturday, February 4 2006** are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am				pm			
Sat	03.56	3.0	09.39	0.5	16.09	3.3	22.17	0.3
Sun	04.34	2.9	10.28	0.7	16.51	3.1	23.15	0.6
Mon	05.14	2.8	11.28	0.9	17.40	2.8	**.**	**
Tues	00.30	0.8	06.06	2.6	12.57	1.0	18.47	2.5
Wed	01.49	0.9	07.16	2.5	14.26	1.0	21.19	2.4
Thur	02.58	0.9	09.24	2.6	15.34	0.8	22.32	2.6
Fri	03.56	0.8	10.30	2.8	16.27	0.6	23.25	2.7

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Lamlash)

Blackwaterfoot	+0.25	Machrie	+0.25
Corrie	+0.20	Lochranza	+0.15
Whiting Bay	-0.02	Brodick Bay	+0.25
Kildonan	-0.05		



Saturday

the weather

Saturday, February 4

The day will be mainly cloudy but dry.
Light southerly winds.
Mild, with temperatures between 6°C and 8°C.

Sunday, February 5

Another mild but cloudy day.
Light westerly winds.
Temperatures between 6°C and 8°C.

Monday and Tuesday

Light rain on Monday.
Temperatures between 0°C and 8°C.
Light westerly winds.

Ferry Crossings/Sea States
Ardrossan/ Brodick - Moderate
Tarbert/ Lochranza - Moderate

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH NEWS

Arran Free Church of Scotland

Sunday 5 February
Shiskine 11am.
Brodick 7pm.
Reverend David Karoon.
All welcome.

Lamlash, Shiskine, Lochranza and Pirnmill

Sunday 5 February
Lamlash Church (All Age Service) 11.45am;
St Moliios Shiskine (All Age Service) 10.00am,
Both services by Jean Hunter.
St Brides, Lochranza 10.30am; Pirnmill Church 12 noon. Both services by Angus Adamson.
All Welcome.

Brodick and Corrie Churches

Worship will be conducted in Brodick Church on Sunday 5 February at 10.45am and in Corrie Church at noon. The sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated in both churches and will be conducted by the Rev Kenneth Fisher. All welcome. Tea and coffee is available in the hall at Brodick after the service.

Whiting Bay and Kildonan Church

5 February 2006
The Sacrament of Communion will be celebrated 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 and in Craigielea at 3.15pm to which all friends are invited. The Young People's Group for all in S2 and older meet in the Manse at 7pm. All welcome.

Arran Open Gate Church (Pentecostal, linked with New Life Church Prestwick)

We are a small group of people meeting in a warm, friendly environment, enjoying lively and meaningful worship in God's presence. New to Arran, or just curious you are most welcome.
Telephone: 700424

Kilmory Church

'A faith to proclaim, a fellowship to share'.
Sunday 5 February
Public worship and Sunday school at 10am
Visitors especially invited

Scottish Episcopal Church (in full communion with the Church of England)

St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.
Sunday 5 February: 11.00 am, Holy Communion. Mrs Janis Gallagher.
Coffee after service.
Wednesday 8 February: noon. Holy Communion.
All Welcome.

Arran Baptist Church

Sunday 5 February
at 11 a.m.
in the Free Church building, Brodick
(Beside the Post Office)
John Beattie
"Quality Prayer"
Visitors welcome.

Ladies Supper Club
Open night
Thursday, 9 February at 7.30
Ormidale Sports Pavilion



Claire Marie Whitehouse (formerly Holmes) graduated at Hull University with an MA in Educational Studies on 26 January. After leaving Arran High Claire achieved a degree in Chemistry at St Andrews University. She then went on to teach the subject in Nepal as a volunteer before taking her PGCE at Hull University. Claire then taught Science in a Kings Lynn school while studying for her MA. She is now assistant head of Science in a Norfolk school. b05grad1

Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

There will be no Meeting on Sunday 5 February. The next Meeting will be on 12 February details in next weeks *Banner*

Holy Cross

Catholic Church

Bishop Ian Murray is to administer the sacrament of confirmation during mass at 11am on Sunday.
There will be tea after mass.

Arran Free Church of Scotland (continuing)

Sunday 5 February
Trust housing lounge,
Brodick, 11am.
Evening service, 5 Glen Road,
7pm.
Wednesday 08 February,
prayer meeting, 7pm.
Rev D Macleod.
All welcome.

The Arran Banner

Brodick 200 Club

The January winner of Brodick 200 Club was drawn by Kenny Morrison.
Kenny has recently taken on the post of treasurer for Brodick Improvements Committee. Mary McNicol is the lucky recipient of a £50 cheque.

PERSONALS

DEATH

REID – Agnes (Nessie), died peacefully at Montrose House on 29th January in her 100th year. Loved by her family, David, Pat, Aileen, Neil and Euan; and all who knew her.

BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTH

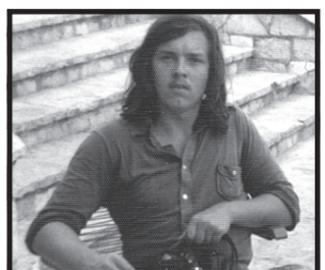
YOUNG – Neil and Sarah Jane are delighted to announce the safe arrival of their son, Jake, on Sunday, January 15. A little brother for Lori and Millie.

BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU

WILLIE STEWART
wishes to thank relatives and friends, for cards, enquiries and good wishes during his recent stay in hospital
He is now home and on the mend

BIRTHDAY



Happy 50th Birthday, Richard
Love from Elisabeth and Donald

Shiskine WRI

The first meeting of 2006 for Shiskine Rural got off to a great start by having a cookery demonstration by Mrs Margo Bannatyne.

Margo produced three interesting courses.

Starter - Tartare of salmon, main - venison casserole, and an irresistible sweet.

The ladies were then all invited to sample all these mouth watering delights.

Mrs Eunice Williamson gave Margo a very worthy vote of thanks.

Competition winners

Best use of an apple:

First, Jessie Hutton

Second, Marion Brambles

Exhibition winners

Favourite fruit bowl:

First Jenny Harper

Second Jessie Hutton

The raffle was won by Marion Brambles.

Evelyn Hamilton closed the meeting by giving everyone a vote of thanks.

Corrie and Sannox SWRI

Members are reminded to bring a husband, partner or friend and a supper dish to the meeting on Thursday 9 February at 7pm.

This is always a fun evening, so please come along.

Kilmory Rural celebrate 80 years



The ladies of Kilmory WRI celebrated the 80th birthday of their Rural Institute with a party in the village hall last Monday night 16 January. Mrs Edna Picken cut the birthday cake on behalf of herself and fellow honorary member Mary Morrison. Also shown in our picture are president Mhairi Duff in the centre and long serving members Johann McHarg and Janet Mulholland on the right. b05bir1

Murder mystery at Merkland

A riding club murder mystery hunt took place on January 22 in Merkland woods. The good day brought 15 horse riders and one or two on-foot participants.

Four teams set out, three of them

got all the clues but then the challenge was how to use the clues as evidence. The winning team by four points was Yvonne, Kirsty, Holly and Rhiannon.

Second and third only had one

point between them, the trick question about what was going on in the wood baffled all but two of them. Thanks go to everyone who took part and to the Forestry Commission and National Trust.

Golf...Golf...Golf...Golf...Golf...Golf...Golf...Golf...Golf...Golf...Golf...Golf...Golf...Golf...Golf...Golf...

Brodick Golf Club

On a clear crisp day, 18 played for the Walter Bainbridge Memorial Trophy.

The winner with 35 points was Wolfi Kroner. Sweep results; Joint 1 W.Kroner 75-13=62 and G.Jameson 83-21=62, Joint 2 L.Keir 73-8=65 and D.Rudge 75-10=65.

Sunday 29 January, sweep and winter cup, 28 played, css 64

1 Sam McCalla (15) 62bih, 3, 2 Bruce Jenkins (8) 62, 3 Greg McCrae (5) 64 bih

Scratch Peter McCalla there were only three magice twos - Bruce Jenkins, Steven Bunyan, Terry Raeside

Fixtures

Saturday 4 February, winter cup, arrange own games

Sunday 5 February, winter league and winter cup, usual draws

Corrie Golf Club

Monday 23 January, Monday competition. 1 W Paul 36+34=70-10=60, 2 S Beardsley 35+31=66 bih, 3 B Sherwood

36+32=68-7=61

Seven magic twos. Saturday 28 January, Stableford

1 R Adams 22+22=44 points, 2 A MacDonald 21+20= 41 points. Three magic twos

Fixtures

Saturday 4 February, sweep draw at noon.

Saturday 11 February, winter cup medal

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Tuesday 17 January, Lochranza Hotel Cup.

1 David Price 35 points bih, 2 Drew Crawford 35 points, 3 Alistair MacDonald 33

Tuesday 24 January, winter tees: 1 David Price 62, 2 Elizabeth Ross 64, 3 Brian Sherwood 66 bih.

Scratch Brian Sherwood 70, magic twos - David Price (2).

Fixtures

Saturday 4 February, Lochranza Hotel Cup, noon start

Tuesday 7 February, Winter cup, noon start

Shiskine Golf Club - Gents

18 hole medal, Sunday 28 January. 1 Jamie Stewart 65-4=61, 2 Bert Green 85-23=62, 3 Alan Jeffrey 74-8=66. Scratch Jamie Stewart 65

Fixtures

Saturday 11 February, 18 hole medal. Sunday 12 and 19 February, Ryder cup

Ladies: Thursday 16 February, 12 hole medal

Whiting Bay Golf Club

Sunday 19 January, 14 played on a glorious day.

1 Graeme Crichton 79-18=61, 2 Wolfi Kroner 79-15=64 (bih), 3 Keith kelsall 88-24=64. The winner of scratch was John Pennycott with 74 and Graeme Crichton had the only magic 2.

Fixtures

Sunday 5 Feb. - Winter League at Machrie. Sunday 12 February - Winter Cup, Round 5.

Sunday 19 February - Game

against Lamlash at Whiting Bay.

Arran Ladies golf union

Fifteen ladies played golf at Lamlash golf course on Sunday 29 January. Weather was beautiful, food delicious, course in great condition. Thanks to Lamlash Golf Club for the courtesy of the course.

Ann McVicar had a great score 76-13=63, Jennifer McArthur was second with net 65 having the BIH over Jean Barclay.

Ann also collected the scratch prize. Next game at Machrie on Saturday 25 February - sheet on board.

Lamlash Golf Club

Sunday 29 January winter stableford, 14 played css, 36 points

1 Neil Young 39points, 2 Robbie McGunnigle 38 points. Best scratch Neil Young 66

Fixtures

Saturday 4 February Glenburn cup, 9.30 and noon, Sunday winter league at Machrie

Arran Junior Football Club

Saturday morning coaching in Brodick restarts this Saturday 4 February, 10.00-11.30 for boys and girls aged 5-16.

Please note that there will be no Brodick coaching sessions on Saturday 11 February or Monday 13 February as this is the School Holiday weekend.

E-mail your sports results to editorial@arranbanner.net

CLASSIFIED

For Sale

DOUBLE GLAZED window 7'61/4" (2.3m) long x5' (1.53m) high. Brown outside, white inside £150. Tel 302268

3 SEATER SETTEE. Fawn. In good condition. Any reasonable offer. Tel 860344

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NISSAN BLUEBIRD estate 1989 (red) Tax May MOT June £150 ono Tel 600935

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Under £30

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Fond farwell

On Friday 13 January 150 people gathered in Brodick Hall to mark the retiral, after 32 years, of the Rev Ian McLeod, popular and highly respected minister of both Brodick and Corrie churches.

Everyone was welcomed individually at the door by Graham Watson and Elma Stevenson, representing the two congregations and collectively by Evelyn Sillars who compared the evening with her own special blend of humour and efficiency. With so many present, feeding the multitude was a bit of a problem but as in all civilised society there was no fighting. After Rev. Elizabeth Watson said grace, everyone sampled the excellent buffet provided by Catacol Bay Hotel.

Owing to the weather one or two VIP guests were 'ferry' late in arriving and that included our first artist Peter Wilson. Relief at his arrival was second only to the pleasure of hearing his glorious tenor voice Sandy McDougall accompanying on piano. Margaret Anderson, for once appearing as herself, read a poem she had written especially for the occasion and then Anne Dinwoodie introduced and accompanied *The Three Fivers* (she couldn't afford *The Three Tenors*) 'Placido Mitchell, Jose Shand

and Luciano Lauder flexed their powerful vocal chords to good effect in a new, multi-versed and very funny song, lyrics by Anne and her friend *A N Other* and set to the tune of 'Away in a Manager.'

Everyone then heard from Reverend Alex Strickland, a former minister of Whiting Bay church and a long standing friend of Ian's.

He certainly stood long to recount his memories, both serious and funny and at times downright cheeky. Duncan Cameron responded on behalf of Brodick and presentations were made to Ian and his wife Nancy, first by Jack Davies on behalf of Corrie and then Stewart Lambie for Brodick - his mother had robbed the minister 32 years before.

Ian rose to thank everyone for the presents and making his ministry in both churches such a happy one. The evening ended in time-honoured fashion with Auld Lang Syne sung with great gusto to a variety of words.

Thanks are expressed to Graham Watson for organising and preparing for the event, the ladies for the beautiful floral arrangements, Catacol Bay Hotel for catering so well, all the speakers and entertainers and hallkeeper Brian Robertson.

Bridge results

Shiskine Bridge

N/S: S Beattie & N Boyd +2120 C & M Bannatyne -1010

F Crawford & D Henderson - 1820

E/W: V Lutz & C McAlister +1540

M McGill & E Sillars +1340

S & S Murchie +1040

Brodick Bridge

Thursday 26 January

Match Points:

1 H Boyd & L Paul 59.7%

2 J & J Murchie 56.9%

3 (equal) J & J Beattie 50.7%

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Aldersyde A team retain pool knockout trophy

The Aldersyde A team won the annual Arran pool team knockout shield last Sunday 22 January to retain the trophy they won last year in Lagg Hotel.

Close match

They defeated a strong Cameronia team by five games to three in a close final match. The competition was held in the Aldersyde Hotel, Lamash with three tables in operation and first-class hospitality provided by mine hosts Joy Riddell and Norrie Gray.

Second Chance

The Second Chance plate for first round losers was won by the Bar Eden who defeated the PHT five games to three in the final.

Arran Pool League Table

League table 2005/06

Sponsored by Miller Stewart solicitors

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GOB	Pts
Aldersyde	10	9	1	0	83	37	5	28
PHT	11	8	1	2	83	49	7	25
Corrie	11	7	1	3	66	61	6	22
Cameronia	9	5	2	2	64	44	6	17
Bar Eden	11	5	1	5	64	68	5	16
Breadalbane	9	3	2	4	55	53	5	11
Lagg	10	3	0	7	53	64	9	9
Mac's Bar	10	1	2	7	42	69	2	5
Catacol	11	0	0	11	34	98	3	0

The Arran Open will be played on Sunday 12 February at Corrie Hotel at 2pm.



The victorious Aldersyde A team with the pool knockout shield. They are; John Copperwheat, Lee Little, Stevie Newall, Norrie Gray, Crawford Duncan and Arthur Duncan. b05ald1

Bowled over by machine

Sannox Cricket Club has just been loaned a state of the art bowling machine.

Thanks to cricketer Scott Weir

using his contacts at Kilmarnock Cricket Club the machine has been loaned to Sannox and will remain on the island for a month.



Sannox's new bowler is shown the ropes by Scott Weir.

b05bow1

Kilmarnock ask for nothing in return but would relish a fixture.

This device used by cricket clubs at all levels of the professional game and resembling something from outer space, can bowl balls from 20 to 90 mph.

Club captain Tim Pomeroy said: 'When we first set it up it bowled rapidly at one or two unsuspecting Sannox batsmen.'

'It can be programmed to bowl inswing, outswing, vary length, speed and more, making it an invaluable coaching asset.'

The machine is coming in particularly useful at the moment as the club continue with their Monday evening sessions - dubbed winter nets - in preparation of the coming season.

Tim joked: 'The machine was soon taken to the hearts of the Sannox regulars who in the great cricketing tradition, dubbed it A Machine for scorebook purposes, and talked about it opening the bowling for the home side early in the season.'

'This is unlikely but it is hoped that some of the lessons taught the club by A Machine might help knock the opposition for six.'

Sannox Cricket Club always welcomes new players and they meet in Auchrannie sports hall, Monday evenings, 7-9pm.



The Bar Eden team with the Second Chance plate. b05bar1

Rugby sevens called off

The Arran Rugby Sevens tournament at Easter has been postponed.

As reported in *The Banner*, the usual venue of the Ormidale Park is being treated for grass-burn and the High School field is out of bounds after the recent archaeological dig.

Arran Rugby Club captain Chris Marriott said that Lamash hall field could have been used but the hall itself was already booked by the blood transfusion service.

He said: 'We still plan to hold the sevens at Ormidale Park after it has been re-turfed and are looking at the last weekend in August.'

Arran Exiles to play Edinburgh

The Arran Exiles Rugby Football Club will be playing their next fixture in Edinburgh on Calcutta Cup weekend.

It will be a 15-a-side match against Edinburgh Northern, kicking-off at 12.30pm on Saturday 25 February.

A number of former Arran players have already confirmed they will play, including Tom Wheeler, James Primrose, Alasdair Ferguson, Jamie Murchie, Colin Tinto, Mark Whetton and Iain Ferguson.

Club president Douglas Prim-

rose said: 'With any luck we might actually manage to field 15 ex-Arran players at once this time!'

Further details can be found on the exiles website: <http://arranexiles.mysite.wanadoo-members.co.uk/> Douglas asks anyone interested in playing or supporting to contact one of the usual suspects or email Arran.Exiles@yahoo.co.uk

More sport
page 15



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