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Arran's Weekly Newspaper

SATURDAY, 1st APRIL, 2006

No 1537

In this week's
Banner

Arran's own giant killers

The team behind Arran's musical, *Balloons*, has been described as 'giant killers' after being selected as one of the finalists in a national drama competition.

They have beaten off 127 entrants from around the globe to be one of the five finalists.

For the next stage of the competition they will have to choose the key scenes and moments from their musical and perform for 30 minutes at the Macphail Centre in Ullapool over two nights in July.

The overall concept of the competition 'Highland Quest' is to find a new modern Scottish musical, partly because there are so few around.

For their efforts so far they have received a cheque for £1,000.

Victoria Stuart, press officer for Highland Quest said: 'The Arran team have done really well, we are delighted they are through.'

'Having beaten both professional and long-term writing teams to come this far they truly are giant killers.'

The Arran team of Alison Prince, Jon Hollingworth, David Boni and Heather Gough found out the good news last Thursday when a television crew from Endemol

Productions arrived on Alison's doorstep to film the team as they opened an envelope containing the decision.

The writer behind the words of the musical, Alison Prince, said: 'We are naturally very chuffed that we are through to the final.'

'It is a relief to find out as there has been a long process in waiting to hear.'

'We now have a lot of work ahead of us.'

The team are now just one step away from the overall prize of having their entire musical professionally produced for a three-week run at the Eden Court Theatre, Inverness, before embarking on a four-week tour of the Highlands.

Mrs Gough said: 'The original idea when we began writing was to create a musical for Arran - we didn't think of entering it for a competition. Alison is such a strong writer, and we all enjoy working together.'

The team will be heading to the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama in Glasgow for a training day later this month.

Among the judges at Highland Quest will be Sir Cameron MacKintosh.

Clauchlands path closed for Easter

The path over Clauchlands Hill, which is popular with walkers in Lamlash and Brodick will be closed for four weeks.

The path will be closed for the construction of a spur road to Dunanbearg Cairn for timber ex-

traction. A temporary path will be opened for the busy Easter period.

A spokesperson for Forestry Commission Scotland said: 'We apologise for any inconvenience caused.'



Top tip from
flower show
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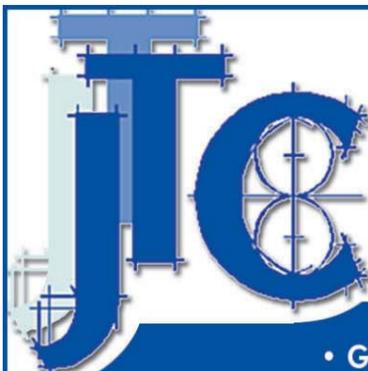
Musical
maestros



Trip of a lifetime
for cadet



Arran High School S4 students Kelly Donnelly, Jessica Gillson and Calum Johnston are Scottish runners-up in the Rotary Club's Youth Speaks competition. This was their first year of entering and came up against very stiff competition from seasoned mainland schools. The adjudicator on the night told them they were within a hair's breadth of winning. Kelly, Jessica and Calum all thoroughly enjoyed the experience and look forward to competing in future speaking competitions. For more on this story see page 6. b13spk1



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Arran remembers HMS Dasher crew



Sons of crewmen from HMS Dasher with Mr. Angus Adamson and piper Robbie Adamson. b13mem1

The annual Dasher Memorial took place last Saturday at Brodick Pier to pay tribute to those who lost their lives when the aircraft carrier HMS Dasher sank in the Clyde 62 years ago.

David Hodkinson of the 1943 Dasher Association led the service on Arran.

His father Percy Charles Hodkinson lost his life on the Dasher.

David said: 'The support we are given by the people of Arran, the three towns, the police and Calendonian MacBrayne is helpful and very comforting.'

'It is very important to mark and

remember the event.'

Three survivors from the Dasher stayed aboard the ferry to watch the service from the deck.

Detour

The ferry had detoured 200 yards from its route for a wreath to be thrown over to mark the site where the Dasher sank on March 27, 1943 at 4.30pm.

On Sunday morning a short service was held in Ardrossan led by the Priest of St. Peters-in-Chains Church. The main road was closed off while the service took place.

Services have been held in the area for the last 11 years and, over time, sons of crewmen who lost their lives have been leading the ceremony.

David continued: 'It has taken us 50 years to find out what happened to this vessel and her crew, it will be 2012 before we will find out all the facts - we hope.'

Islanders accept smoking ban

Smokers across Scotland woke on Sunday morning in the knowledge they could no longer light up in a public place - but islanders seem to have taken it in their stride.

Smokers in public bars have complied with new laws and smoked outside in all weathers, despite some opposition.

Joy Riddell, manager at The Aldersyde Hotel in Lamlash, told The Arran Banner her customers had adhered to the new laws but many were unhappy with the change.

'Everyone has been tolerant and has gone outside to light up,' she said. 'But we have a function on Saturday night so I'll not hold my breath.'

'A lot of people don't like it because they feel their rights have been taken away. They got on with it because they have to.'

'I have to enforce it but it doesn't mean I agree with it. I've never smoked but I have been in this trade since I was 16 so any damage to my lungs has been done.' However, the majority have wholeheartedly welcomed the changes.

Jenni Turnbull, Human Resources Manager at the Kinloch Hotel, said: 'So far we haven't had any adverse reactions. People are standing outside in the rain to smoke.'

Pierhead Tavern barman, PJ Dutton said: 'Everyone is behaving. We have quite a lot of smok-

ers in here but most have jobs where there are smoking restrictions so they are used to it.'

'The real test will be when we hit the tourist season.'

Gillian McFadzean of the Brodick Bar said staff would benefit from the new laws.

'Non-smokers are loving the change but a few of the regulars who smoke are not happy about going outside. They go along with it though,' said Gillian. 'It benefits the staff because they don't have to breathe in smoke all the time.'

There are some exemptions to the ban, namely adult hospices, residential accommodation and designated rooms in adult care homes.

Cooriedoon Care Home manager Sandra Bunyan said: 'We have a designated smoking room but I have all my 'no smoking' signs up. My staff can no longer assist a smoker because of the risk of passive smoking.'

North Ayrshire Council (NAC) deployed 10 staff from its Environmental Health Department to police the ban over the first two days. The council will employ two enforcement officers to take over the role.

A spokesperson for NAC said: 'We have had 100 per cent compliance. No penalties have been imposed but we have given one publican on the mainland a reminder.'

Found

Have you lost a pair of binoculars? They have been found at a waterfall on the island.

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Police Files

Assault

A 21-year-old man was detained in custody after an alleged assault in Lamlash on Sunday afternoon. He appeared in Kilmarnock Sheriff Court on Monday and was released on bail.

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New school deal sealed

Construction on the new Arran High School building can begin after North Ayrshire Council (NAC) signed and sealed the £84 million Public Private Partnership (PPP) deal on four new schools.

NAC has contracted PPP Services (North Ayrshire) Ltd to build and maintain four schools; Arran High School, Greenwood Academy, St Matthew's Academy and Stanley Primary School.

The contract, signed on March 15, is to last 30 years and it is planned to have the schools ready for use in August 2007.

However, North Ayrshire MSP Campbell Martin, who has opposed the PPP deal from the beginning, said: 'Now people can see the real cost of the project.'

'For a contract that will provide buildings with a capital value of

£80 million, the people of North Ayrshire, through general and local taxation, will fork out around £380 million over a 30-year period.

'That works out at around £10 million-per-year for 30 years that will be paid to a private company to operate and maintain four schools.'

'Of course, there is actually nothing to stop the private company from selling-on the maintenance contract to anyone, at any time over the next 30 years, which could result in major problems for North Ayrshire Council and pupils attending the four schools.'

In response to Mr Martin's view, a spokesperson for NAC said: 'NAC has responded many times to the issues raised by Mr

Martin. He has raised nothing new so we have no further comment to make.'

The deal will provide state-of-the-art schools for almost 4,000 pupils with extensive community sport and leisure facilities.

The project will be partially funded by an annual grant of £5.72 million for the 30-year period from the Scottish Executive.

In reaching a financial agreement 23 months after initially advertising the project, the scheme is the quickest ever school procurement by a Scottish council undertaking its first PPP project.

Councillor Peter McNamara, Educational Services Committee chairman, said: 'This is a major milestone in providing outstanding new schools throughout North Ayrshire.'

'They will impact on one third of our school pupils and I emphasise they will be community schools, providing sports and cultural facilities for their wider communities'.

Band brings home trophy haul



Arran Schools Brass Band with the haul of trophies it won in the Ayrshire Music Festival held in Ayr and at the Arran Music Festival. The band's musical director Craig Masterton, left, said: 'The children did really well'. b13bnd01

Strike action affects pupils and parents

Parents of high school children were some of the worst affected by Tuesday's public service strike action on Arran.

The nationwide strike by local authority employees was a demonstration against government plans to scrap a rule allowing some people to retire at 60-years-old on a full pension.

It was business as usual for the primary schools with children taking in packed lunches.

However, parents of S1-S3 pupils at Arran High School had to make alternative arrangements for their children who were given the day off.

Stephanie Herd at North Ayrshire's UNISON office said: 'There was a commitment from all 11 unions and it is continuing. We have a joint trade union overseeing negotiations with the gov-

ernment. Life-line services were exempt from the strike, like care workers, and we made sure the gritters could be out if the roads got icy.

'We sympathise with people who were affected but striking is a last resort. It is a stressful time for our members.'

A spokesperson for North Ayrshire Council said: 'There was severe disruption throughout the area.'

'Anyone who didn't have their bins collected should leave them out and the refuse collectors will catch up.'

'Education services thank parents who provided their children with school meals.'

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Stewart Maxwell MSP - Working for You

If you have a problem or issue you wish to discuss with Stewart please contact him using one of the contact details below. Alternatively you could visit him at his constituency office between 10am-noon on the 1st Friday of every month.

Contact Details

Paisley Constituency Office:
14 William Street, Paisley, PA1 2LZ
Paisley Phone No:-0141 887 2185
Fax No:-0141 887 2183
Parliamentary Headquarters:-0131 348 5669
Fax No:-0131 348 6479
Email address:-Stewart.Maxwell.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

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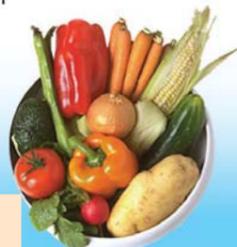
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An Information Meeting explaining the requirements and registration process will be held on Monday 24 April At 9.30 am - 11.30 am St Andrews Training Centre, Saltcoats
For further information and to book a place please call Helen or Andrea on 01294 472971.

As a follow-up to the above, a free, 4½ day Training Course will be held on the following dates Thursday and Friday 4 & 5 May; Monday 8 May; Thursday 11 May 9.30am - 4.00pm and Friday 12 May 9.30am - 12.30pm.

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Bike stolen?

The owner of a black ridgeback push bike was alarmed to find it missing from Windy Pines, Kings Cross on Friday 10 March.

The residents of the house the bike was taken from have requested for it to be returned to the address above or handed it in to the police station in Lamlash.



Elspeth Cheshire, Ann Hollingworth and Ruth Thompson with the bed-spread. b13mat1

Team effort will benefit charity

A handmade cotton bed-spread will go under the hammer for charity later this year at the Kildonan summer auction.

After spending six months knitting 190 cotton squares, Elspeth Cheshire of Kildonan Stores decided enough was enough and passed them to the ARCAS charity shop in Brodick to see what they could do with them.

'I couldn't face them altogether,' said Elspeth.

Her mother-in-law, Anne

Cheshire is a voluntary worker in the shop and passed the knitted squares to Ruth Thompson. Along with Fiona Brown, Ruth knitted the 32 more sections that were needed to make a double bed sized quilt.

Ruth said: 'The squares Elspeth had knitted were really lovely, incorporating a raised-leaf pattern.'

'We were only too happy to add more to it.'

Brodick embroidery group took

over the challenge of sewing it all together and with this done Ruth worked five rows of crochet round the edges and added on 240 tassels.

Ruth continued: 'This lovely bedspread is the result of clever knitting, sewing and crochet.'

'It is amazing what can be accomplished when folk work together, it was a real team effort.'

Elspeth is delighted with the end product. She said: 'It has turned out beautifully, I am glad I passed it to ARCAS.'

Indeed, those having already seem the finished article are already commenting on how attractive it is.

The money raised from the auction later in the year will go to a named charity that will be decided nearer the time.

Crackdown on domestic abuse

North Ayrshire has the highest number of recorded incidents of domestic abuse in the Strathclyde Police area.

This is according to a new survey published by the force.

Now a campaign against domestic abuse is set to be launched throughout North Ayrshire on Monday 3 April.

However there are those who believe methods used in the campaign will fall on deaf ears.

A spokesperson for Strathclyde Police said: 'We will be focusing on men who frequent licensed premises, in the sincere hope that we can change the attitudes of those who have a tendency to abuse their partners, particularly after a night out.'

Local police will be distributing flyers and literature highlight-

ing the campaign around various licensed premises on the island.

One Brodick publican told *The Arran Banner* they didn't feel the scheme would work and believe the pub is the wrong place to target the campaign.

The survey has also highlighted the man can also be the victim.

The spokesperson continued: 'One victim of domestic abuse is one victim too many.'

'Can any of us really appreciate what a child is thinking when their dad is either battering their mother, shouting insults at her or wrecking the house? In that respect the children are every bit as much a victim as their mother.'

'We will evaluate and monitor statistics to allow a greater understanding of the effectiveness of our campaign.'

New malt proving popular

Isle of Arran Distillery's new 10-year-old malt could win a gold medal award at this year International Wines and Spirits Organisation (IWSC) exhibition.

IWSC, now in its 36th year, aims to promote the quality and excellence of the world's best wines and spirits.

Distillery visitor centre manager Robin Bell said: 'All of us at the distillery believe it could gain a gold medal award on the strength of our previous experiences.'

The distillery is no stranger to awards. The 10-year-old's predecessor, the seven-year-old was awarded a silver medal and the distillery's standard malt had similar success.

Currently a rebranding drive is taking place across the entire range. February saw the bottling of the 10-year-old single malt whisky at the company's distillery in Lochranza.

Robin said: 'For a while the shop in the distillery on Arran was the only place in the world to have the new malt.'

More and more premises around Arran now have the malt in stock and this increasing almost every day.'

The Kinloch, Auchrannie, Lochranza and Kildonan hotels are just some of the places stocking the tippie.

Robin concluded: 'A lot of people around the world have waited on an aged whisky from us and now we are in the position to supply.'

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New bus link to Glasgow

On the 1st of April Stagecoach West Scotland is launching a new link between Arran and Glasgow.



The new X15 service will operate from Ardrossan Harbour to Glasgow Buchanan Street bus station and has been timed to meet the Arran ferry.

Colin McCort, Stagecoach Operations Manager in Arran said,

"This service will provide a fantastic link between Arran and Glasgow and will provide Islanders with the only dedicated bus service to meet the ferry"

"It will be ideal for residents of the Island to go shopping, visiting or sightseeing in Glasgow and also an easy way for day trippers from Glasgow to experience the beauty of Arran."

Starts 1st April

new service

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1040 1900

child single £1.50

child return £3

This service will await delayed ferry arrivals by up to one hour

Stagecoach in Glasgow 

High School news

New Majik from Young Enterprise

Arran High School's Young Enterprise group has been busy once again. After the success of the Pasta Angels project, and with the Healthy Tuck shop still going strong, they are now working hard on selling their latest ingenious product, the Trolley Coin Keyring.

According to the head of the Young Enterprise group, they decided to run with the idea because 'We all love to go to the Co-op.'

The Trolley Coin Keyring comes in 20 stylish designs. Some are photographs of animals, whilst others are beautifully captured landscapes, ensuring there is something for everyone.

The group of pupils behind the keyring is called Majik, and their members recently sat their Young Enterprise Scotland Exam, where they wrote about their experiences of selling items of the aforementioned projects. They will find out their results sometime in April this year.

The Trolley Coin Keyrings are being sold for one pound each and are available from the High School and various retail outlets.

These beautiful keyrings would make a perfect gift- especially if you're on a tight budget!

Gemma MacDonald, S5
John Tilbury, S2

Arran red hot at Burns

There was success all round for the Arran High School students who took part in the Burns Speaking competition on Tuesday 21 March.

Hosted at the Irvine Burns Club in, you guessed it, Irvine, pupils recited some of Robert Burns best work competing with students

from other mainland schools. Five Arran students were given places.

Fiona Clarke in S1, one of the youngest of the Arran group, won gold in her group, while Head Girl Claire Johnston won gold in her category for giving an entertaining rendition of 'What A Woman Can Dae With an Old Man'.

Arran dominated the senior class with Guy Sloan, also in S6, taking second place for an animated rendition of old favourite, 'Willie Wastle'.

Also collecting mentions were Calum Johnston and Liam Turbett in S4, performing 'Address tae a Haggis' and 'Why Should We Idly Waste Our Prime' respectively. Although the top prize eluded them - Calum won silver and Liam was highly commended - they both did very well and the many people in their group gave the judges a hard time trying to decide on a winner.

Well done to Claire and Fiona, and to the boys we say: gold next year! **Gemma MacDonald, S5**

Youth Speaks ends in tears for Arran

Last Tuesday saw the Rotary Club Scottish Youth Speaks finals in Glasgow, where the Arran High S4 team were competing.

The team, consisting of Calum Johnston, Kelly Donnelly and Jessica Gillson did not progress to the UK finals, but walked away feeling proud that they had done so well in just getting there.

The Arran team were competing against Craigholme and Lomond Schools. Both are independent schools. The topic of Craigholme's talk was 'single sex schools'. They entertained the Rotary Club audience with their humorous, but thought-provoking talk, which

unsurprisingly came out hugely in favour of single sex schools.

Next up were the odds-on favourites to win, the Arran team, who captivated the audience with their hilarious talk, on the subject of 'Gossip.'

Last on were Lomond school, Helensburgh, who gave, in our opinion, a sleep-provoking and clearly spoken talk on the subject of 'Art: necessity or luxury?'

In her talk, the main speaker told us how the team had benefited from honing their other talents, both musically and academically, and mentioned her membership of the school chess club.

The main speaker then went on to say how important she thought the arts were in the world. This may sound difficult to disagree with, but the effect of the talk for many was to remind us that we do not all have the opportunity to pursue artistic pastimes.

When questioned by a Rotary Club member on whether someone who is struggling to make ends meet would consider the arts so important, she said 'these people' could get more involved in the arts, and maybe even 'work themselves out of poverty.'

High School News reporter Liam Turbett, who was there as the action unfolded, commented, 'Whilst I did not agree with everything Craigholme had to say, their talk was very well put across. Lomond on the other hand were less convincing.' After-school P.E. students Jenna Wood and Euan Evans had this to say about Arran's performance: 'Well we were at Brodick pier this morning and we couldn't get very close to the team, due to the size of the crowds there to greet them.'

Despite missing out on first prize, the team are currently enjoying minor celebrity status and would like to thank the Rotary Club and Mrs MacLean for all their support and enthusiasm.

Liam Turbett and Calum Johnston S4

Arran Cadet Crawford's 'trip of a lifetime' to Lapland

Local Army Cadet Scott Crawford has been selected to take part in an adventurous trip of a lifetime to Lapland later in the year.

Scott, who attends the Arran Detachment, will undertake the challenge together with 13 other cadets from the West Lowland Battalion Army Cadet Force region.

The expedition is self funded and Scott will be out and about in his local area taking part in all sorts of fund raising ventures to ensure that his outward bound ambition will become a reality in July of this year.

The expedition is organised by the Royal Star and Garter Home which is at the forefront of caring for disabled ex-service personnel. Ex-Falkland veteran Simon Weston is Vice President of the home which will benefit from the fund raising efforts of the whole of the battalion, part of which will go to the charity, to ensure that the veterans continue to enjoy the high quality of life which the organisation provides.

The young explorers will trek and canoe in the Oulanka National Park close to the Russian border and the Arctic Circle and will be able to credit their Duke



Scott Crawford with ex-Falkland veteran Simon Weston at the Ayr training centre. b13cad2

of Edinburgh logbooks with their achievement. One Officer and two Adult Instructors will accompany the cadets together with other experienced guides.

Overseas expeditions are an important part of the West Lowland Battalion's activities and every young person joining the Army Cadets has the opportunity to

broaden their horizon with a variety of courses, cultural exchanges expeditions such as this Lapland adventure. The battalion are always interested in hearing from adults who would like to join them in pursuit of offering young people in the area the opportunity to experience a bigger world.

St Brides Ladies

On Monday 6 March any preconceived ideas about Ethiopia were quickly dispelled by Mrs Ruth Yates with her marvellous slides of that country (a point made by Dorothy Cross in her vote of thanks).

It turns out to be a land of magnificent mountain scenery, fascinating architecture (some very ancient) and with a friendly and helpful population.

It sounds like Utopia but the twin spectres of poverty and famine are always there.

The very word 'trek' has a tiring sound to it and this particular one, organised by the Red Cross, sounded very exhausting but Ruth found it interesting and exciting and seemed to enjoy it. Hats off to a very intrepid lady.

Arran Antiquarians

The final field trip of the group takes place on Saturday 1 April, 10.30am meeting at the top of the String Road. They will be led along the Old String Road by Stewart Lambie. Take along stout footwear and lunch. Non-members are very welcome to join.

Arran Natural History Society

Annual General Meeting, Thursday 6 April, 8pm Ranger Centre. Guest Speaker: Jo Totty on Garden Birds.



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Papier-mache workshop for AVA

Anyone who tried to make something in papier-mache at school will remember the fun involved.

Arran Visual Arts, AVA, will be trying to satisfy this craving and will be hosting another workshop using this material in May.

Regular *Banner* readers may remember of Mhairi Corr, who transported a group last year over three fun-filled days in a fantasy world of wire and pulp.

All budding students who attended that workshop at the time went home with an animal or figure nearing completion. Both she and AVA are looking forward to her return in May.

Mhairi's own work depicts some unusual and eccentric characters, some of whom appear to have been people encountered in daily life, and all of whom are so real that the need to include them in conversation is overwhelming.

Mhairi admits that she speaks to them as they develop from chicken wire, plaster of paris and old copies of newspapers into colourful characters. She sometimes sheds a tear when she sells them, having grown so close to them in their creation.

If anyone fancy's hearing about her work and learning how to make their own figures, Arran Visual Arts is running a papier-mache figures workshop at the Ranger Centre in Brodick Castle on Saturday 27 and Sunday 28



Mhairi Corr with one of her papier-mache creations at an Arran Visual Art workshop. ^{b13ava1}

May from 11 am to 4pm each day. Those attending can be sure of a fun weekend, and of the satisfaction of producing something tangible to carry home. For details please phone Marjorie McDougall on 600211 or Viv Parks on 870342

Where Does All Your Glass Go?

Jo Totty of Arran Recycling Community Organisation, (ACRO) has produced this article to explain what happens to glass that goes into bottle banks. She also talks of the history of glass recycling on Arran and of the aims of ARCO.

What happens to the glass you put into the bottle banks and bells around Arran? A question you must surely frequently ponder!

Did you know that until 1989 there were no bottle banks on Arran? A small group of volunteers persuaded the Council (then Cunninghame District) that glass collection on the island would be economically viable, so the Council provided a couple of bells and the Co-op sponsored a bottle bank.

So began Arran Recycling Community Organisation (ARCO). Towards the end of the 1990s ARCO became a victim of their own success as so many businesses wanted glass to be collected that it became too much to be continued by volunteers alone. And in 2000 the price of glass began to drop so the cost of collection and shipping was no longer viable.

An important part of ARCO's general philosophy is, where possible, to keep reclaimed materials on the island. So today, full bottle banks and bells are delivered to a site at the south end of the island for crushing, and it is now possible for ARCO to offer this versatile material to the public to be sold as pipe bedding, landscap-



A decorative and practical use for recycled glass. ^{b12are1} ing, paths, mulching, for use in flower arrangements and decorating plant pots. The glass is available in 3 grades where Grade 1 (mixed sizes) is most suitable for mulching and decorative use. Grade 2 is the finest grade which is best used for paths, concrete mix and as a sand substitute, and the coarsest grade (grade 3) is good for decorative purposes, for flower arranging and to aid drainage. If there is a bottle bank or bell near you that is full, contact the NAC Office in Lamlash.

To date, all glass has been reused within the community and 120 tonnes of glass has been diverted from the landfill, so please keep (or start) using the bottle banks and bells dotted about the island. An illustrated leaflet showing the many different uses of the crushed glass is available from outlets around the island. The crushed glass itself can be bought from Sliderry Supplies, MBS Building Supplies and Brodick Nursery Gardens. However, for quantities over 1/2 tonne, please contact Duncan Mulholland (870207/12) directly. For a copy of the leaflet, please contact Jo at ARCO (303753).

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February Draw 3rd Prize, Ian Kerr, Number 155.
1st Prize, Alistair Bilsland Number 123. 2nd Prize, Katherine Bailey Number 75,

March Draw 1st Prize, Maggie Beaton, Number 44, 2nd Prize, Eddie

Rankin, Number 148, 3rd Prize, Fiona Hamilton, Number 53.



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THE ARRAN BANNER

ARRAN'S WEEKLY PAPER Saturday 1 APR, 2006

Having snatched a small part of this year's music festival, and having more fully sampled many more over past years, it continues to amaze me that so many young people have the courage to perform publicly with such apparent confidence.

Of course that is only partly true. Many will be quivering inside. Not all, for some are born with a self-confidence that stays with them throughout life. Good luck to them. But others, most one might say, find few things more terrifying than facing an audience.

This may get even worse as they grow older and their inhibitions, and small failures, and experiences of embarrassment increase. Relatively few high school pupils perform in the festival. This has something to do with the school's attitude to putting pupils in, but it has as much to do with them being teenagers. As adults, who among us is not terrified of standing up? I am, I know. Even announcing my name at a meeting makes my chest pump and my face turn red, and worse, makes me forget what I want to say. Not so everyone though. There are those who revel in interrupting at every stage and playing to the gallery.

But it is the majority, those less self-confident, that getting up on stage at a young age helps so much. Perhaps a poem is indifferently recited, perhaps the musical instrument is indifferently played. But what an experience, what a lesson for life. Many of these young people would be surprised to know that, of their own parents, who have urged them on before the festival and who are sitting proudly in the audience with their fingers crossed, relatively few will have ever had to perform in public themselves. It is a lesson that will stick with them, even if they do it only once.

Yet there are other aspects of the festival which reflect changing attitudes to life and responsibility. The shifting audience cannot be ignored. Rather than people attending for a session, an afternoon, or a morning, many sit only as long as their child performs. As soon as that class is over and they have seen him or her collect the trophy, or not, the seats all shuffle around and off they go. Others then bustle in for the next class. This is in the day and some may have stolen a hour off work. It is less common in the evening. But one lady beside me whispered as parents shuffled out, 'people are so selfish nowadays, it's a festival for goodness sake'.

Another is commitment. The programme lists the names though sometimes one or two are unable to turn up on the day. But surely they put every effort into turning up. In one poetry class which I attended there were six entrants. After the first had performed there was an embarrassed request from the front for any others who had arrived. No response. One out of six had turned up. Surely not all the other five were sick. I asked later if parents of these five had let the organisers know that they would not be present. The answer was inconclusive.

What a wonderful lesson the musical festival gives to young people. Yet honouring a commitment is even more important. That is a lesson not always being given now. Cold feet is no excuse. Indeed that is the very thing that facing an audience can cure.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever.
Psalms 118:1

press policy

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

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

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

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

your letters

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

Letters to the Editor

ARCO Questionnaire

Sir,
Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to answer ARCO's composting questionnaire, it's great to hear so many people are keenly using their bins.

A request that often came up was about how to get more biodegradable bags for the kitchen caddy. ARCO will shortly have a small supply of these, so if you need a new roll, please could you give me a ring on 830227.

Yours,
Joyce MacLean C/O:
Arran Recycling Community Organisation

Knotweed

Sir,
May I reply to Stephen Mason's article on Plant Invaders, Banner edition 1535.

To say we don't have masses of Japanese knotweed on the island is completely wrong and misleading.

One of the reasons we don't appear to have masses of knotweed is for the last eight years North Ayrshire Council have employed me to spray the weed on the roadsides.

Brodick, Lamash and Whiting Bay are completely out of control. From the Gaery up the west side there are bad areas such as High Clachaig, Rodden Bridge, Auchencar Burn and Pirnmill Burn. As those areas stretch well into farmland they are not the council's responsibility but the clumps on the roadside are and where found have been sprayed and recorded for follow up treatment in the following year.

When the String Road was widened the soil was taken from the new car park behind Whiting Bay Primary School.

This resulted in continuous knotweed from the bottom bridge to the foot of the hill and clumps as far as the pillar-box. A distance of over a mile.

Last year there was only the occasional small stalk.

If this is checked in future it can be eliminated from a large area (new area).

The only method of control is by strong chemical weed control (at recommended strength) as to dig it out is almost impossible and

then it has to go somewhere else.

Initially the chemical used was Roundup Biactate or Roundup Ultra. This works but it kills all the other vegetation and leaves bare patches, which are colonised with other weeds. NuShot is much better although more expensive as it does not kill nontarget species but does set them back.

In some cases knotweed sprayed with NuShot appears to be killed with one application but will require to be checked for several years.

It is a criminal offence to move knotweed roots from one place to another and if any machine is working in an area where knotweed is present it should be sterilised before moving to another site.

Yours, Jack Murchie,
Bailemargaidh,
Blackwaterfoot

Bus Travel

Sir,
I refer to your editorial in last week's *Banner* regarding train/bus travel especially your last line 'and bus travel is very pleasant'.

As a regular bus user between Ardrossan and Crosshouse for the last year I would generally agree but on Sunday 21 February we encountered the following experience.

On returning from Crosshouse only a double decker was available and it was extremely busy so we were obliged to use the top deck.

It reeked of tobacco smoke but we were trapped and had to thole the smell. At Kilwinning a lady boarded and started to light a cigarette in the seat in front of us despite each window having a no smoking sign. We pointed out the signs and there followed a torrent of abuse. 'I am illiterate and can't read.' 'It's my body and I'll do what I like with it.' 'Smoking is all I have to live for.' 'If you don't like it go downstairs.' And so on and on. A man behind her took her part but offered to open a window!

This was very uncomfortable for us until she departed at Stevenston so she was only on the bus for 15 minutes. We are off to Crosshouse today and will be on the bottom platform. No top deck for us.

I pity the enforcers having to try to stop smoking if it can't be stopped on a bus.

Over to you Jack McConnell!

Yours
Sandy Mutch
Gushet Neuk
Brodick

PS. The upper deck was a giant ashtray covered in fag butts.

Advocacy Project

Sir,
Thank you for the support given to the Islands Advocacy Project in the article you printed in *Banner* issue number 1535.

However, there was one point made that we feel may be confusing for people with regard to what support our service can provide.

We do not act 'as an independent advice service'. Advocacy is about supporting people to express their point of view, to seek answers to questions that they may have about the issues affecting their lives, and to communicate in ways in which they feel confident.

Again, if there is anything further anyone wishes to ask about what we do, please feel free to contact us on 0800 652 2986.

Yours, Jamie Smith, (AIMS Advocacy Service)

Fundraiser

Sir,
Whiting Bay Hall is having a coffee morning fundraiser on Monday 17 April.

If you can give any donations for the raffle and tombola please hand them in to Julie Nelson or any committee member and please support us on the day. There are some tables for a table top sale - contact Julie.

The £6,000 to resurface the drive has been raised with a grant of £5,000 from the Scottish Caledonian walkers' fund through the Scottish Community Foundation and £1,000 from the hidden trust.

We owe them a very big thank you.

Yours,
Whiting Bay Hall Committee

Strabane open day

Sir,
As Honorary President of Arran

Conservative and Unionist Association I am proposing to have an open day in the gardens of Strabane on Thursday 6 April in order to introduce the prospective Conservative candidate for the Scottish Parliament in 2007, Philip Lardner on this his first official visit to the island to members of the local community (whether conservative or not).

Philip has an Ayrshire background but was educated in Renfrew and at Glasgow University from where he graduated in law. Rather than practice law Philip has had some business experience and is now a teacher.

I hope that anyone with an interest in local politics will take this opportunity to enjoy an informal occasion and to come along even if your interest is only in visiting the gardens in spring. Parking will be available within the grounds of Strabane.

Yours,
Lady Jean Fforde,
Strabane House, Brodick

Nostalgia

Sir,
In response to 'John' of Kilmarnock, Banner edition 1536. Yes, my brother Douglas and myself were involved in running dances on Arran in the last few years of the 60's.

However that was only a tiny period in time compared to the huge number of years that excellent entertainment has been promoted here. Nostalgia is generally deemed relative to the time in ones life that is to be remembered as 'the good old days'.

Judging by the bands that were lovingly reminisced by John, I suspect he is in the same age group as myself. I wonder if he also went to the Ormidale for an excellent bar lunch and a pint, both for 4/3d (the food is still just as good - the prices have moved on a bit!) If John goes down to Brodick Pier - there is a gentleman there who is much older than me - he can remember much further back than I can, John should ask him all about the Electric Henhut!

Yours,
Alastair Bilisland, West Winds,
Brodick

Correction

In last week's *Banner* a letter headed 'Plant Sale' had the wrong date printed. It should have read: Sunday 21 May.

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Twentieth annual spring bulb show success

The winner of the best exhibit at this year's spring flower and bulb show has exclusively revealed to *The Banner* her tip for creating award winning daffodils

Anne McLean who scooped the coveted award said: 'I give them a good feed of chicken pellets once the flower dies down.'

In spite of the cold weather the number of entries to the 20th Arran Horticultural Society annual

spring flower and bulb show were high with many stunning exhibits for the judges to choose from.

President John Sillars said: 'Shows like this are always subject to the weather. The gardens on Arran this year have been two weeks later but in spite of this the standard of entries remained high.'

Judges on the day were Colin Totty, head gardener at Brodick Castle Gardens and Tom Armstrong head of the horticultural section for NAC.

Colin said: 'Entries were of a very good standard. It was tricky to judge the best in show category owing to the high standard.'

'Considering the cold weather it was good to see so many people entering.'

Three cups were awarded to the overall winners on the day. First time entrant Judy McAllister won the R.W. McKelvie Cup awarded for the best exhibit in section one. Her display of cyclamen impressed the judges. She said: 'I have never won anything like this before.'

'This is the first time I have entered and my win has encouraged me to try again.'

Another first time entrant, Mairi Thompson of Brodick had double success taking two firsts. Mairi also helped the children of Pirmill Primary School with their entry of amaryllis. All of the children at the school took a turn in watering the flower.

Teacher Mairi Farquhar said: 'The kids are over the moon, they all worked so hard and are really delighted with their trophy.'

Mairi Thompson said: 'I really wanted to see how the school one would turn out so we put off our holiday, I didn't think for a minute I would win anything - I'm delighted with my two firsts.'

Seasoned entrant Anne McLean scooped the coveted Royal Bank of Scotland Cup for best in show. This is the fourth time she has won the cup having previously succeeded in 2000, 2004 and 2005. Her arrangement of *Golden Harvest* daffodils greatly impressed the judges. The daffodils came from her own garden in Lamlash where they had some shelter behind a wall - something that seems to have helped them along.

Anne continued: 'I am delighted to have won. I have always lived by the rule that there is no show without entries.'

Full results in next week's *Banner*.



Pirmill primary school teacher Mairi Farquhar collects the Neil McLean cup on behalf of the pupils awarded for the best exhibit entered by a school. b13shw2



Anne McLean with the Royal Bank of Scotland cup for best exhibit in show. b13shw3



Mairi Thompson first in section one class 4 and first in section two class 9c and Judy McAllister with the R.W. McKelvie Cup awarded to her for best exhibit in section 1. b13shw1

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The busiest week of the year for Arran's



Billy Currie of Arran Coastguard with the 10th Ayrshire cubs. b13acc1

Arran's rescue services were all in action last week as the fifth Arran Avoids Accidents event got underway across the island.

Island police sergeant Colin Young has hailed the week-long event, 'a resounding success'.

He added: 'It highlights what the rescue agencies have to do.'

The week is organised by Strathclyde Fire and Rescue (SFR) to demonstrate the different rescue services that exist on Arran.

This was the event's biggest turnout of emergency services to

date. Tam Stewart, community safety officer for SFR has been heavily involved in the event since its inception.

He said: 'The event continues to get more popular every year and is gathering more momentum.'

'It was a fantastic week with 10 sets of services being involved.'

The fire brigade, coastguard, lifeboat, mountain rescue team (MRT), first responders, heart start, police, headway, road safety, ambulance, PGL and the rangers centre all put on displays.

The primary schools and Arran High School made up much of the audience at each of the events.

On Tuesday night many went along to Lochranza fire station and the village hall where demonstrations were taking place. These were conducted by the coastguard, MRT and fire brigade.

The 10th Ayrshire Cubs went along to the event to see first-hand the work of these rescue services. Cubs were also involved in the practical side of demonstrations.

Continued on page 11

The Scottish Jazz All Stars

There are just two weeks to go until the arrival of the Scottish Jazz all stars for their two dates on Arran at easter weekend.

In a slight change to the line up, John Rae will not be playing due to prior commitments. Occupying the drummers throne in his

place will be Alyn Cosker. Alyn is a regular on the Scottish music scene having played with a plethora of renowned artists, among them Carol Kidd, Paul Toundrow, Fraser Speirs, and with saxophonist Tommy Smith in the junior scottish national jazz orchestra. He and trumpeter Lennie Herd first played together a couple of years back on the radio programme "From bebop to hip hop" in a live broadcast from Montrose. He has also found the time to be the drummer for celtic band Wolfstone. They're a busy lot these musicians but it was ever thus. Back in the days when the clyde valley stompers were playing to a packed whiting bay hall it was for seven nights a week

for the whole of July and August. Incidentally, there must have been at least one Arran resident at at least one of those nights with a camera in their hands. It would be interesting to see any surviving photos.

Back in the here and now, the all stars are working just as hard in the run up to the Arran gigs, notably at the jazz centre in Edinburgh where they play with special guest trumpeter Duke Heitger on the 18th April. Duke Heitger came all the way from New Orleans to play with the scottish jazz all stars. Tickets are on sale from the Book and Card Centre, Tourist Office and Whiting Bay Post office fo you haven't got your tickets yet.

editorial@arranbanner.net

The Drift Inn
Lamlash
A Little Disco/
Karaoke
Saturday
1 April
from 9.30 p.m.



First Responders Norman Bond and Andrea Bond discuss resuscitation techniques with the children of Shiskine Primary School (in blue) and Kilmory Primary School (in purple). b13acc6

ST BRIDES LADIES
 invite you to an
EASTER FAYRE
 in
BRODICK CHURCH HALL
 on
SATURDAY 8 APRIL
 2-4 p.m.

Home-Baking, Plants, Books, Soft Goods, A Special Spring Stall, Teas and a Hamper Raffle
 ALL WELCOME

Ardshiel Gallery
EXHIBITION

FROM Sun 19th march
 TO 1st MAY

OPEN WED TO SUNDAY
 11.30 TO 5 pm

Ardshielgallery.com
 01770 700249

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 Lochranza, Isle of Arran

Tel: 01770 830264 • www.arranwhisky.com



The Scottish Jazz All Stars- Easter Weekend

Sat 15th April W/Bay Hall
 Sun 16th April Brodick Hall

Forrie Cairns (Clarinet)
 Fionna Duncan (Vocals)
 Brian Kellock (Piano)
 Ronnie Rae (Bass)
 Alan Cosker (Drums)
 Lennie Herd (Trumpet)
 Dave Batchelor (Trombone)

Concert seating with dancing space
 for the energetic

Licensed Bar



Tickets £15 (£12 conc)

Tourist Office, Pier; Book & Card Centre, Brodick; Post Office, Whiting Bay
 also available at : www.scottishjazzallstars.com or email: scottishjazz@aol.com

emergency services

Continued from page 10

On Wednesday primary school children from around the island were at Lamlash fire station to see a variety of displays including a spectacular chip pan fire demonstration. The children were given lessons on how to deal with a fire like this and they were told about the importance of having and maintaining smoke detectors.

The event closed on Thursday with a big demonstration at Lamlash Pier involving many of the rescue services.

Tam said: 'Sixty children from Arran High School came along to this big event.'

The students stood on Lamlash pier and watched as a boat burned in the bay and casualties had to be rescued from the water.

Tam continued: 'The Sea King Search and Rescue Helicopter from Prestwick happened to be on the scene.'

'This was great as it wasn't planned and the crew lowered and winched a crew man into the bay - this made for quite a spectacle.'

While this was going on Tam stood in the crowds and then as part of the demonstration he collapsed in amongst them on the pier.

Tam said: 'This is just a wee surprise we throw in.'

'It shows what can happen when the emergency services are stretched to the limit.'

'I hit the ground like a ton of bricks and many people around me were concerned.'

'Even Allan Little of the Lifeboat crew who knew it was a mock exercise was concerned for me - I must have been convincing.'

'It was encouraging to find so many children from around the various island schools being able to take part in our demonstrations.'

'All in all it was a great week and we are looking forward to many more to come.'

Geoff Norris, operations manager for Arran Lifeboat said: 'We are pleased to be a part of the event and it went very well.'

'I'm sure the event will continue to go from strength to strength.'



10th Ayshire cubs with mountain rescue dog Briar. b13acc3



Primary school pupils get to grips with hill rescue equipment. b13acc5



Paramedic Emma Giering with Corrie primary school pupil Corrie McGloin secured to the spinal board. b13acc4



Allan Little, left, and Geoff Norris of the Arran Lifeboat crew with Morag Young. b13acc2



Chip pan fire demonstration at Lochranza. b13acc7

Lagg Hotel

Re-opens Friday 31st March

Teas/Coffee/Homebaking
Lunches
Lounge Bar Meals
Restaurant
Open from 10 am

Tel. 01770 870 255 for Restaurant reservations

Evenings at Copperwheats

Brodick Pier

Come and join us for a relaxing evening meal in our fully licensed restaurant.

Open Wednesday to Sunday 5.30pm. Last orders 8.30pm

For bookings please call 303522

COPPERWHEATS COFFEE HOUSE
Open Monday - Saturday 7.30am - 5pm
Sunday 10.30am - 5pm
Serving a selection of coffees, homebaking, light meals and snacks

OLD PIER TEAROOM

LAMLASH

Telephone 600249

We are now open six days a week

10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Last kitchen orders 4.45 p.m.

CLOSED WEDNESDAYS

ARRAN HERITAGE MUSEUM

Containing displays of Geology, Archaeology, Farm Implements, Arran at War, Original Smiddy, 19th Century Cottage, Beach Hut, 1920s Schoolroom, Coastguard Rocket Wagon, Children's Quiz and Play House, Spinning and Weaving, and much, much more besides

NEW THIS YEAR

150 Years of Brodick School, Pirnmill Through The Years, Clearances and Emigration, Arran Post Offices and Telephones Archives and Genealogy Service (Wednesdays, only, or by appointment)

Delicious meals and snacks at Cafe Rosaburn (closed Tuesdays)

Rosaburn, Brodick Open daily 10.30 a.m.-4.30 p.m.

The Coffee Pot

Golf Course Rd
Whiting Bay
Tel 700382

~ Eat alfresco in our seafront garden ~

Delicious Snacks & Light Meals
Homebaking always available

Closed Sundays and Mondays

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)

GOLDEN DRAGON

Chinese Restaurant
Shore Road, Whiting Bay
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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



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

Brodick Castle Gardens & Country Park 11am - 4pm
 Arran Heritage Museum, 10.30am - 4.30pm

SATURDAY 1st April

Gymnastics, Auchrannie Games Hall 5yrs plus, 10am
 Blackwaterfoot Junior Football coaching, 10.30am- noon
 Football coaching, Ormidale park, boys & girls 5-15, 10-11.30am
 Lamlash Church Hall- Cool Club coffee morning 10.15am - noon.
 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
 Arran Art Gallery Whiting Bay 11am-6pm
 Over 21's Disco, Ormidale 9pm
 Ardshiel Gallery Whiting Bay 11.30am to 5pm
 Arran Pool League Buffet & Disco 8pm
 Karaoke/Disco, Drift Inn, Lamlash, 9.30pm
 Dance, Brodick Hall 9pm - 1am, Licensed
 Councillor Currie, Surgery, Brodick library 1pm-2pm

SUNDAY 2nd April

Arran Art Gallery Whiting Bay 11am-6pm
 Lochranza Choir, village hall 2.30pm
 Open Folk session night, Ormidale, 9pm
 Asthma Breathing Workshop, Ormidale, 3pm Alcoholics Anonymous, St
 Margarets Church, Whiting Bay, 4.30pm
 Community Tree Planting, Lag a bheith, 12pm

MONDAY 3rd April

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)
 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
 St Brides Ladies meeting, Brodick Church Hall 7.30pm

Citizens Advice open 10am-2pm
 Quiz, Cameronia 9.30pm
 Weightwise, Hospital bungalow 6.30pm-7pm
 Indoor Cricket Auchrannie Games Hall 7-9pm
 Open folk session, Kildonan Hotel, 9pm
 Belly Dancing at Lamlash Church Hall, 7.30pm

TUESDAY 4th April

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
 Pirmill Guild meeting - village hall 2pm
 Legs, Bums & Tums, Auchrannie Spa, 6-6.45pm
 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
 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
 Loch & Cat Coffee morning, hall 10am - 12pm
 Alcoholics Anonymous, Brodick Church Hall, 2pm
 Alcoholics Anonymous 'drop-in' Hospital Bungalow 6.30pm - 8pm

WEDNESDAY 5th April

Advocacy service, drop in session, ACVS office, Lamlash 11am-1pm
 Shiskine Playgroup, Shiskine Hall, 9.25am-12.05pm
 W Bay Parents & Toddlers, Church Hall, 10.30am-noon
 Coffee morning, Lamlash Church Hall, 10.30am-noon. All welcome.
 Circuit Training, Auchrannie Spa, Brodick, 6-7.15pm
 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
 Gymnastics Auchrannie 6pm and 7.30pm 5yrs plus
 Youth Club, youth centre Lamlash 7-9pm

Aerobics class, High School 8pm - 9pm
 Sound of Music rehearsal, Brodick hall 7.30pm
 Jnr Rugby Training, S1-U18s, Ormidale Park, 7pm

THURSDAY 6th April

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
 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
 Badminton, Kilmory Hall, Juniors 6.30 - 7.30pm Adults 7.30 - 9pm
 Arran Junior Singers choir practice, W/Bay school 6.45pm
 Sound of Music rehearsal Brodick hall 7.30pm
 Lochranza Craft Club, Hall 2pm
 Arran Natural history society talk, ranger centre, 8pm
 Bar Eden Open Folk Session 9pm

FRIDAY 7th April March

Shiskine Toddlers, Shiskine Hall, 10am-noon
 Arran Pipe Band practice, Brodick Hall, 7.30pm
 Quiz night, Whiting Bay Golf Club, 9.00pm
 Citizens Advice open 10am - 2pm
 Loch & Cat Coffee morning 10am - 12pm
 Asthma breathing workshop, Ormidale Hotel, Kids 4pm, Adults 7pm
 Slides and Supper, Lamlash Church Hall, 7pm

SATURDAY 8th April (non regulars)

St Brides Ladies Easter Fayre 2pm - 4pm
 Clamjamfrie & Pirmill Players, Lochranza Hall, 7.30pm

SHISKINE GOLF & TENNIS CLUB
The Tearoom

OPENING
FRIDAY 31 MARCH
 Opening Hours:
 9.30 a.m. to 8.30 p.m.
 Telephone: 01770 860226
 E-mail: coco@queenclyff.fsnet.co.uk

Aldersyde Hotel
Saturday 1 April
Arran Pool League Buffet and Disco
 Tickets £10 (can be purchased from the Hotel)
 Strictly no admittance to non-ticket holders
Easter Weekend Disco
Saturday 15 April
 with Mark and Vez
 Free entry as usual


 The National Trust
 for Scotland
**BRODICK CASTLE, GARDENS
 and COUNTRY PARK**
Open for the 2006 season
Saturday 1 April
OPEN EVERY DAY
 Castle 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 Shop 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 Tearoom 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 Come and enjoy the Adventure Playground
 80 acres of woodland gardens
 Country park trails, Plant sales
Friends of Brodick Castle
 SPECIAL EVENTS FOR EASTER SUNDAY
 Start planning your Easter bonnet now!
 More details next week

Learn to enjoy life without Asthma
 Hay Fever, Snoring, Sinus problems
 and other breathing-related symptoms
 Come find out more and meet
Savio D'Souza, D.O
 Breathing Therapist
Free Talk
Sunday 2 April 2006
 at the
Ormidale Hotel, Brodick
 3 p.m. - 4 p.m.
 There is no charge for this event. Please call to reserve a place
 to avoid disappointment, as space is limited.
Now enrolling for next course, due to commence 5-7 May 2006.
 For more information call now Breathing Helpline
0800 096 44 96

Pirmill Sailing & Angling Association
 Lucky number 9, winner, J Ferguson, Brodick
Arran Salmon Fisheries Board
 Lucky number 9, winner J Knox, Machrie

editorial@arranbanner.net

The Arran Banner 20 years ago

Saturday 29 March 1986

Farewell Boyda

Norman Milton died in the small hours of Friday morning.

The Banner paid tribute to Boyda who the Banner described as someone who readers, 'loved to hate, yet if they had met him, they would have liked and respected him.'

Boyda enjoyed ruffling a few feathers in his time with his frequent letters.

MEP visit

Mr Hugh McMahon, MEP for Strathclyde West, visited Arran High School on Monday morning to look at the existing swimming pool. Mr McMahon also

spoke with the senior pupils who have been asking for action to be taken on the widespread smoking on school buses.

Ferry change

The Caledonia will replace the Isle of Arran for three weeks from Monday, April 7 while the regular ferry has her annual overhaul.

During this time the number of sailings will be increased (because of smaller capacity) to five return sailings a day.

New ranger

New seasonal ranger at Brodick Country Park is John Collie who begins this week with the task of leading parties around the Trust land and helping with the improvements scheduled for the park.

Len Smith retires

Retiring from the Hydro Board this week after 13 years as electricity chief on the island is Mr Len Smith.

At a function held in the Moorings last Friday, friends and colleagues gathered to mark his departure, to reminisce over good times and bad and to present him and his wife, Joan, with gifts.

Audrey McArthur retires

When Mrs Audrey McArthur retired yesterday from teaching infants of Whiting Bay, more than a few tears were shed at her going.

For Mrs McArthur has been the infant teacher for more than 25 years, the lynch-pin of the school, and has been in recent years teaching children of her own former pupils.

Music Festival results

Overall prizes: The Margaret Laidler Trophy (best vocal solo); Victoria Mitchell-Luker.



Mary Margaret Brown of Corrie cravie with the George D McArthur cup for best verse speaking at the 1986 Music Festival. b13twe2

The JK Cameron Morrison Memorial up (best choir); Lamlash Primary School.

The George D McArthur Cup (best performance in verse speaking); Mary Margaret Brown, Corrie cravie.

The Dorothy Lees Challenge Cup (pianoforte solo); Kym Robson, Brodick.

ARC Darts

After two marathon sessions of darts in the Kinloch Hotel the re-

sults were as follows: Mens Doubles; 1 Quentin McMaster and David Jeffrey, 2 Raymond Jeffrey and Peter McAlister.

Ladies singles; 1 Kay Lan, 2 Karen Rankin. £175 was raised (clear of expenses).

NEWSDESK

01770

302 142



Victoria Mitchell-Luker of Lamlash with a host of trophies won for vocal and musical performances at the 1986 Arran Music Festival. b13twe1

Corrie and Sannox WRI meeting

At the AGM on Thursday 9 March the committee for 2006/2007 was elected.

President- Brenda England, Vice President and points - Eleanor Bulger, Treasurer - Seona McLaren, Secretary - Elma Stevenson, Press Secretary - Anne Pringle, Tea Convener - Margaret Logan, Raffle convener - Elma Bayne.

Service Certificates were presented to four long-serving members, Jennie Martin, Elsie Kelso, Margaret Logan and Sheila Roberts. The Friendship Quaich

was won by Anne Pringle.

On Thursday 23 March the annual 'afternoon tea' visit to Montrose House was a great success thanks to the pupils of Corrie Pri-

mary School who entertained with poems, songs and country dancing to the delight of residents, staff and visitors. What a great school!

FOR ONE NIGHT ONLY . . .

Brian Miller, Nicki Surrudge, Gregory Cameron, Andy Surrudge, Andy McCallum, Douglas I'Anson and Fionn Patrick

all performing as one act for a

DANCE

(in aid of Fraser and John's voluntary charity work in Africa)

**BRODICK HALL
SATURDAY 1 APRIL**

9 p.m. - 1 a.m.

LICENSED BAR

featuring
Pagan Champagne and DJ

Mike the Knife

For sharpening & Sales and a call at your home or business

Phone

0800074605 I

before 3rd April or mobile **07979236677** whilst he is on the island 3rd - 8th April

**Roots of Arran
COMMUNITY
TREE PLANTING
Sunday, 12 noon
Lag a Bheith,
near Brodick**
Waterproofs and stout footwear
Telephone **Russell 700794**

The award winning Clanjamfrie presents
Hallowe'en
and **Pirnmill Players** present
Tryst

**Lochranza Hall
Saturday 8 April**

7.30 p.m. £5 adults £2.50 kids

Tea and home baking included
Tickets from **Rosie at Stalkers
Pirnmill Shop** and at the door

Auchrannie

GYMNASTICS AT EASTER

3 day session for ages 5-15yrs

at Spa Leisure

10th, 12th & 14th April 2pm-3.30pm £12 per child

Call to book on Ext4755

Adult Gymnastics starts after Easter Holidays - call to register

**AUCHRANNIE RESORT -
Brodick (01770) 302234**

BANNER

RECRUITMENT



Island Cheese Co.

Arran's Cheese Shop

Home Farm, Brodick Tel: 302788

New Team Members Required

A permanent positions exists for a **Good Retail Assistant** to work in our busy shop.

This can be on a full or part time basis, but will include Saturdays.

The successful applicants will be hard working, trustworthy, have an excellent manner with the public and the ability to work as part of a team.

We offer an excellent working environment and good rates of pay.

Reply in confidence to: Gordon Kinniburgh
Tel: 302788



Vacancies

The Kinloch Hotel has vacancies for the following key positions:

Experienced Sous Chef and Chef de Partie

These full time, permanent positions within our busy kitchen are available immediately and applicants should be passionate about food and have the ability to work well under pressure.

The attractive pay package includes free use of the hotel leisure facilities.

Night Caretaker

The successful candidate will be a reliable, trustworthy person with a strong background in cleaning, who is able to work on own initiative and who will maintain the high standards of the Kinloch Hotel.

Areas of responsibility will predominantly be night cleaning the public areas of the hotel and acting as first point of contact for hotel guests who require assistance overnight.

Bar and Waiting Staff

We are looking for dynamic, enthusiastic personnel to work in our Food & Beverage Department in both the bar and restaurant sections. Applicants should have an excellent sense of humour and the desire to work with the public. Experience is preferred but not essential as full training will be given.

Housekeeping Assistants

We are looking to add to our strong housekeeping team. To join this team you must be hard working with a healthy sense of humour and the ability to work to the high housekeeping standards of the Hotel.

**All positions - Five shifts per week.
Exact hours, rate of pay and duties can be discussed at interview.**

For any of the above positions please contact:

Jenni Turnbull, Human Resources

Best Western Kinloch Hotel, Blackwaterfoot, Isle of Arran, KA27 8ET.

Tel 01770 860444 : email: hr@kinlochhotel.eclipse.co.uk

Cooriedoon Care Home Care Home Manager

£24,000 to £30,000 pa (depending on experience & qualifications)
Essential: An RN or Diploma in Social Work or level 4 Care or equivalents* And/Or (But see below) Management Award or Level 4 in Management or equivalents*

- Can run a Home/Business in absence of owner/partner
- Can give total commitment
- Dynamic, energetic and motivated
- Able to work well under pressure and be resilient
- Innovative, resourceful and forward thinking
- Experienced and able to lead, supervise and develop staff
- Can network with Health & Social Services Professionals
- A decision maker/ problem solver who works on initiative and can be accountable
- Excellent communication skills

*Please phone for list of equivalents

Both qualifications are required for this post but one of them can be worked towards while in the post.

Desirable: Experience of running a Care Home Assessors Award (D32, D33, D34) IT Skills

Objective: The provision and maintenance of the highest quality care for the clients, with all staff motivated and trained as a team to continuously support this, to maintain high occupancy levels and maintain excellent Inspection reports from authorities.

Please telephone or write to Sandra Bunyan, Cooriedoon Care Home, Shore Road, Whiting Bay, Isle of Arran KA27 8QH. Tel 01770 700247. email:coorie.doon@virgin.net



Field Service Engineer

Arran
£18,895 + overtime
+ Sharesave Scheme after qualifying period
+ Pension + 5 weeks annual leave

This role involves:

- The provision and repair of telephone lines within customers' premises and BT's underground/overhead cable network
- Working outdoors and at heights
- Opportunities to work throughout the UK, often at short notice
- Excellent customer service skills

The role will sit within Openreach, the new part of BT created to install and maintain the connections, fibres and wiring linking millions of homes and businesses in Britain to their communications providers' networks.

BT is an 'Investors in People' company and we strive to ensure that our workforce reflects our customer base, BT welcomes applications from all sections of the community.

For more information and to apply, visit www.haysopenreach.com quoting ref ADX151942CS or call Hays Construction & Property on 020 7259 8764.

Working on behalf of **BT**

GENERAL OFFICE WORKER REQUIRED

This is a permanent part-time position. Hours negotiable.

Responsibilities include answering the telephone, invoicing and some computer work. Knowledge of Sage accounts/payroll would be useful but not essential as training will be given.

Clean driving licence is required.

Please apply in writing with CV to CM Weir & Sons, Machrie Garage, Isle of Arran KA27 8DZ

VACANCIES AT COORIEDOON

Cleaner/ Laundry Person

required
18-24 hours per week
as per rota
Immediate start

Maintenance Person

Must be good at DIY
Able to work on own
initiative
Clean driver's licence
30 hours per week,
approximately

Tel: **Sandra at Cooriedoon 01770 700247**

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

Temporary Part Time Nursery Nurse (2 Posts)

£15,063 - £19,545
17.5 hours per week

Corrie Primary School

Maternity Cover - Initially 6 Months

You will assist in the provision of a quality education and care service for young children and their families. You will be an enthusiastic team worker with a caring, supporting and courteous manner, have the ability to communicate effectively with children, parents, colleagues and other agencies and be aware of the importance of parental participation. NNEB, HNC Childcare and Education or SCCEB qualification, recent experience in working with groups of nursery children aged 3-5 years and knowledge of and commitment to NAC policies and SEED guidance, eg Curriculum Framework for Children in their Pre-school Year are essential. Evidence of further study/training, evidence of ability to demonstrate good practice and initiative in carrying out developments are desirable as is the flexibility in approach and ability to form excellent working relationships. The grade and salary of this post will be subject to job evaluation when the scheme is introduced within the Council. Ref: 20/584/AB

The successful candidate will be subject to vetting by Disclosure Scotland. This is a childcare position under the Protection of Children (Scotland) Act 2003, which makes it an offence to apply if the applicant is on the Disqualified from Working with Children List.

To Apply

Application forms and recruitment packs are available on the Council's Corporate Website (www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/jobs) or by telephoning (01294) 324773 (24 hours answering service).

Completed application forms must be submitted by close of business on 7th April 2006.

WE ARE AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER, SO PLEASE INFORM US OF ANY SPECIAL NEEDS THAT YOU MAY HAVE



NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

ANGEL WANTED

To help with housekeeping at Belvedere Guest House.

Weekends and occasional evening dishwashing.

GOOD HOURLY RATE

Call Chris or Jan Atkins

302 397

WHITING BAY GOLF CLUB

Part - time bar person required for the coming season.

To commence A.S.A.P.

Apply in writing to the Secretary, Whiting Bay Golf Club or phone 820 208

CLEANERS

required for four holiday properties.

Own transport desirable but not essential.

For further details phone 810218.

THE DRIFT INN LAMLASH

VACANCY (seasonal)

Chef/Cook

Contact

Sharlene/Steve on 01770 600270



Auchrannie Job Vacancies

We are currently seeking staff for the following position:

Full time

Receptionist

to join our busy front office team
Salary: £10.5k to £12k
Computer skills are essential & hotel front office experience is preferred

We offer competitive salary packages with attractive terms & conditions including membership of the Health Club

Contact Debra Kirk

auchrannie
Tel: 01770 302234

WANTED

Reliable person/people to cook breakfast and for housekeeping

Accommodation available
Nice working environment and good wages.

Ring Neil for details at Glendoy Farmhouse

302351

BANNER RECRUITMENT
BANNER RECRUITMENT



DRIVE TIMES

BANNER



MITSUBISHI SHOGUN 2.8 GLS



M reg, lwb turbo diesel intercooler, dark navy over silver, manual, radio/cassette taxed and mot good condition, good spec a very attractive vehicle at a realistic price

£5495

Marina Trade Centre, Ardrossan
01294 607777
Courtesy pick up from pier

LAND ROVER DISCOVERY TD5XS



2000, auto, dark blue metallic, half leather high spec, private plate included. Luxury with versatility, marina trade centre

£10,750

Marina Trade Centre, Ardrossan
01294 607777
Courtesy pick up from pier

MITSUBISHI FTO 2.0L V6 GR COUPE



outstanding looking sports coupe in black, 2 door, auto/triptronic box very low miles for year cd player alloys long mot superb condition and looker stylish motoring only

£ 4495

Marina Trade Centre, Ardrossan
01294 607777
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FORD ESCORT VAN TD



2001 Y, fully lined long mot very clean white ready for work just had full service low miles for year

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2004 red, 17,500 miles excellent condition superb driver with diesel economy

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TOPLESS MODEL

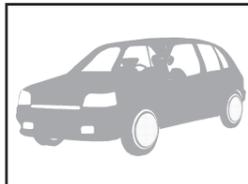


Beautiful figure and terrific shape suzuki vitara jx4u soft top low miles for year limited edition colour summer yellow over silver stunning combination. An Arran special for this summer real fun motoring only

£3495

Marina Trade Centre, Ardrossan
01294 607777
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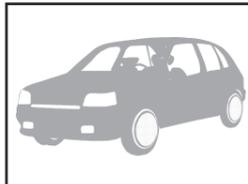
HONDA CIVIC 1.4 16V



H Reg, Mot till July 6 months tax Alloy wheels Cd Player, Low mileage Telephone 01770 860484 07920 804114

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NISSAN MICRA



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£550

SUBARU FORESTER S TURBO AWD



Metalic Silver 1999

Telephone 01770 302625

£6100 o.n.o.

CITROEN ZX 1.9R

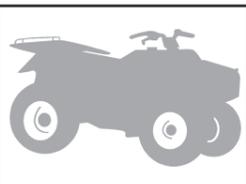


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01770 601321

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BANNER

PROPERTY



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Very attractive semi-detached bungalow in unique location having elevated views across Lamlash Bay. Accommodation comprises: Entrance to small Hallway, Bathroom, Two Bedrooms and large Living Area which is open plan to the Dining and Kitchen areas with patio doors to the front. Quiet location approximately one mile from the village centre. Electric central heating, double-glazing.



TAIGH-MOR, SHISKINE OFFERS OVER £310,000



Substantial modern detached villa located in the centre of Shiskine enjoying uninterrupted views across the Shiskine valley. Accommodation comprises: Lounge, dining kitchen, five bedrooms, family bathroom, shower room and utility room. The property is double-glazed throughout and benefits from a pleasant garden. There is also an integrated garage and parking for a further two cars and the attic is designed to accommodate several more rooms with windows already in place.

Invercloy House, Brodick, KA27 8AJ

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HOUSE SWAP for one week in July

Former Arranite and young family (and possibly dog, if that is OK!) would love to swap our house (a four-bed converted Victorian school opposite the pub in a pretty and rural village in Warwickshire). Close to Stratford upon Avon (picturesque and history-filled), Warwick (massive mediaeval castle), short drive to Birmingham (sea-life centre, designer shopping in Harvey Nicholls, balti belt - curry area!, excellent comedy club if you are partial), one and a half hours to Alton Towers or London and great walking/cycling locally. Would be great to swap for a family friendly house for one week from July 19, give or take a week. E-mail: walshMVB@aol.com

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with Outline Planning
Permission for five houses
For more information
please telephone
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(01770) 870368 (day)
or **(01770) 700760**
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Cottage To Let LAMLASH

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Sleeps six
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New Smoking Laws!



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BANNER PROPERTY

PUBLIC NOTICES

BANNER

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the applications listed below together with the plans and other documents submitted with them may be examined at Legal and Protective Services, Cunninghame House, Irvine* between the hours of 9.00am and 4.45pm on weekdays (4.30pm Fridays) excepting Saturdays and Public Holidays.

Written representations may be made to the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Protective Services) at the address below within the specified time from the date of publication of this notice. Any representations received will be open to public view.

*and at The Council Offices, Lamlash

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PROCEDURE) (SCOTLAND) ORDER 1992

Applications for planning permission - Notice to be published in accordance with Article 12(5) Written comments to be made within 14 days.

Application No: N/06/00280/PP Address: Site To North East Of Mill Cottage Blackwaterfoot Brodick Isle Of Arran Proposed Development: Erection of detached dwelling house with associated parking and installation of septic tank

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL REFUSE COLLECTION SERVICE

Please note that with effect from Monday 3 April 2006 all bins on Arran will be collected one hour earlier due to cleansing staff moving to summer hours.

TRANSPORTATION OF WASTE - DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Contractors on the Island of Arran who are interested in transporting municipal solid waste off the Island are invited to express their interest within 21 days of publication of this notice by contacting the Island Officer, Angus MacLeod, at North Ayrshire Council Offices, Shore Road, Lamlash, Isle of Arran, KA27 8JY

Ian Snodgrass
Chief Executive
Cunninghame House
IRVINE KA12 8EE



STRABANE GARDENS

Will be open to the public on Thursday 6th April
from 2pm till 4pm by kind permission of
Lady Jean Fforde.

This will be an opportunity to meet Philip Lardner, prospective Conservative candidate for the Scottish Parliament. Entry to the gardens is by the main driveway and parking will be available.

Whiting Bay Bowling Club AGM

to be held in
Club House
on Wednesday 12th
April at 7pm
All welcome

DON'T BE LEFT OUT OF YOUR LOCAL PUBLIC NOTICE BOARD



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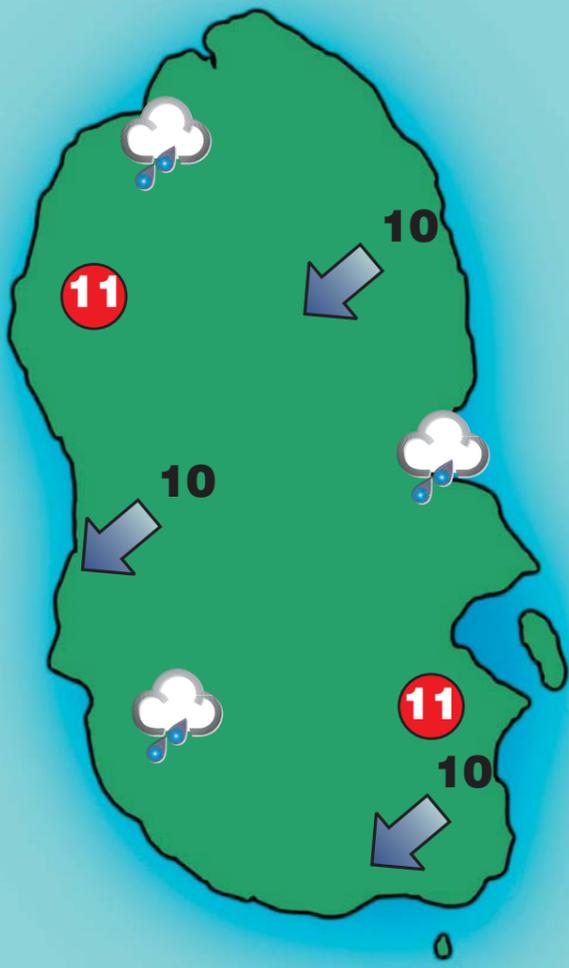
Tides

Tide tables for Lamlash during the week from **Saturday, April 1 2006** are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

| Date | am | pm |
|------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Sat | 01.47 3.2 07.18 0.1 | 14.09 3.5 19.45 0.1 |
| Sun | 02.21 3.3 07.58 0.2 | 14.46 3.4 20.27 0.4 |
| Mon | 02.54 3.3 08.38 0.3 | 15.22 3.2 21.12 0.6 |
| Tues | 03.29 3.2 09.22 0.6 | 16.01 2.9 22.02 0.9 |
| Wed | 04.06 3.0 10.18 0.8 | 16.46 2.6 23.19 1.2 |
| Thur | 04.53 2.8 11.59 1.0 | 17.49 2.3 *** ** |
| Fri | 00.51 1.3 05.56 2.6 | 13.32 1.0 20.49 2.3 |

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

Saturday, April 1

Cloud with outbreaks of rain, easing later. Light NE wind Max temp 11°C.

Sunday, April 2

Wet day, turning showery later. Feeling mild Temperatures around 14°C.

Monday and Tuesday

Mostly dry with sunny spells. Temperatures near normal at around 10°C

Ferry Crossings/Sea States

Ardrossan/ Brodick - Moderate
Claonaig/ Lochranza - Moderate

BANNER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH NEWS

Arran Free Church of Scotland

Sunday 2 April
Shiskine 11am.
Brodick 7pm.
Reverend David Karoon.
All welcome.

Lamlash, Shiskine, Lochranza and Pirnmill

Sunday 2 April
Lamlash Church 11.45am;
Service by
Mrs Jean Hunter.
St Molios, Shiskine 12 noon for congregations of Shiskine, Lochranza & Pirnmill. Service by Angus Adamson preaching as sole nominee for vacant linked charge.
Note change of time.
No service at Lochranza or Pirnmill this Sunday.

Brodick and Corrie Churches

Sunday 2 April Corrie Church will join with Brodick Church in worship when Mr Angus Adamson B.D. will preach as the sole nominee. This service

will begin at 10.30am and after the service all members will be asked to cast their vote. Tea and coffee will be available in the church hall after the service and both congregations are invited.

Whiting Bay and Kildonan Church

Sunday 2 April.
A Songs of Praise will be conducted by the minister, Rev Elizabeth Watson at 10.30am, in celebration of Miss Watson's 25th anniversary of ordination. All most welcome. Tea and coffee will be served in the transept after the service. There will be a service in Cooriedoon at 2.30pm and in Craigielea at 3.15pm. All welcome. There will be no meeting of the Young People's Group.

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 2 April
Public worship and Sunday school at 10am
Visitors especially invited.
Rev John Webster, locum.

Holy Cross Catholic Church

Sunday morning mass 11am.

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

Sunday 2 April: 11.00 am, Holy Communion. Rt Revd Martin Shaw, Bishop of Argyll and the Isles. Coffee and buffet lunch after service.
Wednesday 5 April: 12.00 noon.
Holy Communion.
All Welcome.

Arran Baptist Church

Sunday 2 April at 11 a.m. in the Free Church building, Brodick (beside the Post Office)
Rev Noel McCullins
'The Christian Living for God'
1 Peter 4: 1-11
Everyone warmly invited

Arran Free Church of Scotland (continuing)

Sunday 2 April
Trust housing lounge, Brodick, 11am.
Evening service, Anwoth, 15 Glen Avenue, Brodick 7pm.
Rev J Gracie,
Edinburgh. All welcome.

Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

Meeting for Worship at 11, Glen Estate (Trust Housing), Brodick on Sunday 2 April at 2.30 pm, followed by themed discussion. Enquiries to 302779.
All are welcome

Arran churches together for Good Friday

Once again Arran Churches Together is to hold a Procession of Witness on the holiest day of the Christian calendar, Good Friday, which this year falls on 14 April.

On that day, Christians of all denominations will walk through the centre of Brodick from Holy Cross Catholic Church to the Church of Scotland in Knowe Road. A short service will be held

in each of those churches before and after the walk.

The Good Friday Procession, though established so recently, is already well on its way to becoming an island tradition. It bears witness not only to the Faith of the participants, but also to the rejection of the sometimes acrimonious divisions of the past as Christians of differing back-

grounds and traditions share in proclaiming what they have in common.

The event begins with the short service at Holy Cross, beginning at 2.00 pm; participants will leave from there at 2.15 and walk behind a simple wooden cross to Brodick Church of Scotland, arriving in time for the service there to begin at 2.45. The proceedings will end at 3.00, after which tea

and coffee and an opportunity for fellowship will follow.

If you share in the Christian Faith, however infrequently you usually go to church, try to be there if you can - if you cannot for any reason manage the whole event, you are welcome to join in any part of it.

Please help to support this very special way to mark a very special day.

PERSONALS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

JACKIE PREST LAMLASH

I would like to thank the staff at Arran War memorial, Ayrshire Central and Crosshouse Hospitals for the care shown to Jacqueline in her four months of illness. Also the crew of Cal-Mac for their friendliness towards me on my many visits to the mainland and finally to Jean Hunter for the Church Service at Lamlash. Peter McArthur for the help and funeral service and all the neighbours and friends for comfort and support at a difficult time.

Ron Prest

THANKYOU

THANKS

Doctors Grassie would like to thank all those who have given them overwhelming kindness and good wishes in their retirement.

The village hall concerts were great fun.

We particularly enjoyed the children's contribution which will live long in our memories.

We have had great fortune to work here and retire among so many friends.

BANNER
PERSONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
BANNER
PERSONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Conservatives' afternoon tea



Arran Conservatives held their afternoon tea at the Kinloch Hotel, Blackwaterfoot on Friday 17 March. There were several speeches made by those in attendance and discussions were held on current affairs. Back row from left: Ian Birss, association treasurer, Councillor Ian Richardson, Arran chairman Colin Siddle. Front from left: Councillor Margie Currie, Lady Jean Fforde and Phil Gallie MSP.

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

Whiting Bay Golf Club - Ladies section

April medal, Sunday 2, tee-off noon.

Whiting Bay Golf Club - Gents section

Sunday 26 March. Hunter Buidael (Old uns v Young Guns).

The Old Uns recorded their best result to date against the Young Uns when the competition was called off due to the rain. This fixture will now be played on Sunday 23 April.

Further Fixtures: Sunday 2 April - Roy Ure Tankard (Stableford) Draws at 9.30 and 11.00. Saturday 8 April - Mixed Fours, Poole Trophy - 12 noon start. Sunday 9 April - Arran Foursomes (Greensome) Choose own partners or join the draw for a 'lucky dip'. 11.00.

Brodick Golf Club

The last match of the Wednesday Winter Cup, on 22 March resulted in a 3 way tie, and had no effect on the overall scores. This year the winner is Charles O'Neill, 293 points, 2 Wolfi Kroner, 299, 3 Bryce

Walker, 301. That same evening we celebrated with a superb dinner and prize giving at the clubhouse, for which our thanks go to Jan and Russel Duncan. 36 hold medal British Legion, 22 played. First round: 1 Bryce Walker (16) 61bih, 2 Jamie Duncan (5) 61, 3 Iain Sillars (13) 63. Scratch Jamie Duncan 66, CSS64, there were 5 twos, Jamie getting two. Second round: 1 Donald McKinnie (13) 62, 2 Sam McCalla (14) 63, 3 Bryce Walker (16) 64. Scratch Steven Bunyan 68, CSS64, there were 6 magic twos, Stevie getting two. 36 hole: 1 Bryce Walker 125, 2 Jamie Duncan 127, 3 Kerr Robertson 129 bih.

This years British Legion attracted a bigger than usual entry and the weather was kind to us, except for Sunday morning. The 8th tee flooding gave us our usual controversy. The decision was taken to carry on with the competition and Bryce carried on his good form to see off challenges from Jamie, Kerr and Stevie.

Congratulations to Bryce, winner of the 2006 36 hole medal British Legion. The McLeland medal had to be re-drawn so please check draw sheet on board.

ALGU

The last leg of the Drumadon was held at Shiskine on Saturday 25 March. The winner was Denise Sherwood with an excellent 67 nett, 2 E Ross and scratch E Ross 87. Thanks to Shiskine for the courtesy of the course and to Colin Muir for



Brodick Golf Club prizewinners from left, Brian Boal, Donald Rudge, Charlie O'Neill, Wolfi Kroner and Hamish McArthur. b12glf1

soup and sandwiches. The presidents prize will be held at Lamlash on Friday 21 April when we will play a 15 hole stableford.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Tuesday 21 March, final day of Lochranza Hotel Cup. 1 Denise Sherwood 39, 2 Drew Crawford, 3 Donald Campbell 35. Winner of the Lochranza Hotel Cup, David Price 199points, 2 Donald Campbell. Saturday 25 March, junior handicap. First and scratch Nicky Emsley 89-21=68, Mark Sherwood 95-24=71. Well done Nicky on winning for fourth year running. **Fixtures:** Tuesday 4 April, Arran foresomes 12.30/5.30 start

Saturday 8 April Eddie Rankin, Machrie v Corrie at Machrie, shotgun start at 1pm

Tuesday, 11 April, hall of fame championship. Winner to play at Royal Musselburgh in September.

Shiskine Golf Club

Gents 18 hole medal, played on Sunday 26 March. 1 M Hesp, 90-24=66, 2 H Bannatyne 72-5=67, 3 Jane Stewart 71-3=68. Scratch Jamie Stewart 71

Fixtures - gents: Sunday 2 April, gents 12 hole medal. Sunday 9 April, gents 18 hole medal. Wednesday 12 April, D Ferguson trophy.

Ladies: Thursday 6 April, 18 hole medal. Thursday 13 April, 12 hole medal.

Corrie Golf Club

Results for Monday 20 April. 1 B Sherwood 65-8=57, 2 B Paul 72-12=60. Stableford, Saturday 25 March. 1 J McGovern 41points, 2 M Pennycotte 39points. Monday 27 March, 1 P Moran 65-13=52, 2 J McConnachie 70-7=63bih

Fixtures: Saturday 1 April, stableford, noon. Monday 3 April, monday bottle noon.

Lamlash Golf Club

Fixtures: April 2, Carpenter Cup and final round of Winter Cup. 9.30am and 1pm starts.

Thomson Cup Knockout, names to be in by April 2. April 6, Summer Cup. Lamlash Open on August 5 and 6 is fully subscribed but late entries are being taken.



Arran

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Spot The BALL Competition

All you have to do

We have removed the football from the photograph opposite. Now look carefully at the position of the players and use your skill and judgement to place a cross at the exact point where you think the centre of the ball was. You may have a maximum of 10 attempts on this coupon at a cost of £1. If you wish to have more attempts, you must enter on separate coupons. The game starts with a jackpot of £250 and will increase by £50 per week until it is won outright. To win the jackpot, the centre of your cross must be in the exact

centre of the ball. Entry will be void if crosses overlap. Prizes will be shared between those submitting correct entries.

If no correct entry is received, two 'near miss' prizes of £25 will be awarded. When the jackpot is won, no other prizes will be awarded that week.

Easy to enter

Cut out your completed coupon and put your entry plus £1 (note not coin) per 10 attempts into a sealed envelope and post it to reach "Spot the Ball" Competition, Arran Banner, Brodick, Isle of

Arran, KA27 8AJ by 4pm on Wednesday.

You may hand it into The Arran Banner Office in Brodick by the same time. Otherwise all entries must be posted.

Competition Rules

No responsibility will be accepted for entries which are delayed, mislaid or lost, and proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery.

The company's decision will be final on all matters relating to the competition and no correspondence will be entered into. The final decision rests with the Company.

In the event of more than one correct entry, the jackpot will be shared equally between all winning entries. Any decision regarding the awarding of a prize is entirely at the discretion of the Company.

The Company reserves the right to declare the competition null and void at any time, subject to its discretion and to make full refund of the price of the coupon to any person who has entered the competition at that time. Employees of The Oban Times Limited, their immediate relatives and any persons otherwise connected with the competition are ineligible to enter.



LAST WEEK'S BALL WAS HERE...



This week's two near misses who each receive £25 are: Margaret Mulholland, Lynnholme, Kilmory and Margaret Bulger, Corrie Hotel, Corrie

I enclose £1 (note) for 10 crosses (tick box) The maximum number of attempts on this coupon is 10, but you may enter on separate coupons as many times as you wish. No photocopies allowed. You agree to abide by the rules. How to enter: Mark your crosses using a ballpoint pen. Ten crosses may be put on this coupon for £1. Crosses must not overlap

Name _____
Address _____
Tel No. _____

Send to 'Spot the Ball' Competition, Arran Banner, Brodick, Isle of Arran, KA27 8AJ

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Sport

Arran's Weekly Newspaper



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New Owners join us now for 2006
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Michael Jenks, Nicky Emsley and Cameron Paul. b13run1

Runners' big finish

For most of the junior runners, the cross country season came to an end at the Scottish Schools Cross Country Championships.

The event, sponsored by Scottish Power, took place on the traditional course at the Beach Park, Irvine.

Cameron Paul and Michael Jenks ran in the first race along with 160 others from schools all over Scotland.

They finished 16th and 20th respectively. The team competition is decided by the placings of the top four runners from each school. It is a measure of how well the boys performed that, if it was decided on only the top two runners, Arran High would have finished in bronze medal position, behind Hutcheson's Grammar School and The High School of Glasgow.

Nicky Emsley was running his first race after a month off with illness and injury. Although he

beat all of his North Ayrshire rivals, he was disappointed to finish halfway down the field of 130 runners. He has a second chance in this age group next year, and a big improvement in position should be possible.

The following weekend, the Scottish Junior Road Race Championships took place on the tarmac paths round The Falkirk Stadium.

Michael Jenks (U13), coming down with a cold, started well enough and at the halfway mark was 15th. He faded over the second half to finish 22nd, at the back of a group of 11 boys separated by only nine seconds.

Nicky Emsley, still working his way back to full fitness, improved his position to 21st in the Under-15 race.

The highlight of the day was Jennifer Emsley, running in the Under-20 race. Wearing the yellow and blue colours of Central

Athletic Club, she led a group of three experienced athletes to the front of the five mile race and this group quickly pulled ahead of the rest of the field. After two miles, the three were down to two, with Jennifer making all the running. She planned to make a break at the start of the final mile but, sensing her opponent was having a bad spell, opened up a 50 metre gap with two miles to go.

The gap stayed steady for the rest of the race and Jennifer added another national title to her list.

The next race on Arran is the Ormidale 10K on Sunday, 23 April. All local runners are welcome to take part in this low-key event. The Goatfell race is on 20 May, the Glen Rosa Horseshoe is on 10 June and the half marathon is on 2 July. For details and entry forms for any of these events, please contact Paul Emsley - 01770 700689 - paul@emsley.co.uk



RANGERS TICKET PROMOTION

WIN RANGERS TICKETS!

Rangers vital clash with Motherwell takes place at Ibrox Stadium on Saturday 8 April, kick-off 3pm. Come along and raise the roof along with 50,000 other fans, for an unforgettable matchday experience!



We've teamed up with Rangers to offer readers a super chance to win a pair of tickets to see the game live at Ibrox.

For your chance to win just answer this question

who was the Light Blue goal hero at the recent home game against Dunfermline?

Fill in your answer below and send to Arran Banner, Brodick, Isle of Arran KA27 8AJ

Answer
Name Address
 Email Tel

All entries to be in by 12noon 5th April 2006. Winners will be notified by phone. Normal Oban Times rules apply.

Don't worry if you don't win tickets this time, tickets are on sale NOW priced from £22 for adults and £12 for concessions, booking fees apply.

GET YOUR TICKETS FOR THE IBROX ACTION FROM

TICKET HOTLINE - Call 0870 600 1993 (10am - 7pm Mon-Fri and 10am - 4pm Sat)
BUY ONLINE - at www.rangers.co.uk and select from a wide choice of seats
RANGERS TICKET CENTRE - open 10am - 4pm Mon-Fri & Sat 10am - 12noon
ARRIVE EARLY ON MATCHDAY SO YOU DON'T MISS KICK-OFF OR AN EARLY GOAL!

Won, lost and found in Fife

Nineteen members of the Arran Ladies' Darts League, representing two local teams took part in the Fife Open Darts Competition last weekend.

The competition, held at Berwick on Tweed, is a qualifier for the regional and national competitions run by the Scottish Darts Association.

Hundreds of darts players from all over Scotland and England compete in singles and doubles contests over two days, with the finals taking place on the Sunday evening.

Although a little nervous beforehand about the standard of competition they might meet, the Arran team acquitted themselves very well.

Gill McCormack of The Drift Inn and Margaret Quinn of The Lagg Hotel reached the quarter-finals in the doubles.

Margaret Quinn was also a quarter-finalist in the singles contest, knocked out by the winner of the ladies' singles contest two years ago.

There were dramatic moments away from the boards too.

On the journey down to Berwick an envelope containing £70 belonging to Grace McArthur was accidentally thrown away as rubbish on the coach.

When contacted, the coach driver said he had already put the rubbish out in a lay-by bin on his return drive to the depot but he promised to stop at the same lay-by to see if it could be found on the team's return to Arran.

The envelope was found, with the money intact. Grace would like to thank David the driver and the girls for reuniting her with her funds.

Brodict Bridge Club

Results for Thursday 23 March.
NS: 1 J. Maclure, A. McKelvie-250, 2 J and J Beattie-630, 3 M. Cummings, J. McArthur - 1110.

EW: 1 H. Boyd, L. Paul +1620, 2 A. Bilsland, E. Duncan+1310, 3 J and J Murchie +1240.

Lamlash Bridge Club

Results for Monday 20 March
N/S: 1 M McGill & C Bone +2290, 2 H Boyd & M Alexander + 1830, 3 J McClure & A McKelvie + 770

E/W: 1 C Mason & E

McConnell +630, 2 J & J Beattie -260, 3 J & J Murchie -1040.



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