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Arran's Weekly Newspaper

SATURDAY, 4 JUNE, 2011

No 1808 55p

Southend wind turbines threaten to split the community

'I absolutely have no hidden agenda to desecrate Arran'

'This has caused distress, anger and ill-feeling within the community. We are being treated by some people as nimby because we stood up and objected.'

Coral Smith was speaking at a public meeting in Kilmory Hall last Friday night about windcrofting on Arran. She was referring to the recent refusal of planning permission for three wind turbines near the village.

Coral added: 'We are not against renewable energy, but some of us would be impacted (by wind turbines) in a way

REPORT
by HOWARD DRIVER
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

that we don't feel is acceptable.'

The meeting had been arranged by Vigor Renewables, a company that has three possible sites in the Southend under consideration for windcrofting, including the one that has just been turned down.

Uncomfortable

There was a clear and uncomfortable divide in the audience, between those who saw this as a way of improving their farm income and those who felt that the turbines would be visually intrusive and inefficient.

Oliver Hughes, chief executive of the company, gave a 20-minute presentation to the 35-strong audience. He said: 'We are fully aware of a vocal group of islanders who are strongly against this. Windcrofting has not been designed to make farmers rich. The key driver is to lower our use of finite fossil fuels.'

He explained that the company plans to work in partnership

with landowners. Two other sites on the drawing board, both for six turbines, are at Bridge Farm, Shiskine and Auchenthe, Kildonan.

Once a site has been agreed, the landowner receives an immediate cash payment, then a regular annual lease payment for each turbine and a share in the profit of sales of electricity into the grid.

Mr Hughes said: 'I absolutely have no hidden agenda to desecrate Arran. These are small-scale developments that will have a limited effect on the environment. Farms will remain more financially viable with an indirect benefit to the community.'

The proposed turbines would be mounted on either a 15m or 25m tower, and the company undertakes to take the project through planning and construction. After 20 years Vigor is required to remove the turbines and restore the site to its original state.

Councillor Margie Currie outlined that NAC would consider six turbines to be a wind farm and that any devel-



Visitors raise a glass to distillery success

Enjoying a wee complimentary dram at the Isle of Arran Distillery's Open Day on Sunday were John Logan from Pirnmill and Angus MacAlister of Blackwaterfoot. The pair were just two of the many locals and visitors from around the world that gathered in Lochranza to celebrate the continuing success of the company.

For the full report and all the pictures, see page six. Photo by C.Hogge

opment would not generally be supported within 700m of a house.

Dave and Carol Furze installed a wind turbine on their land at Cloined four years ago. Dave pointed out: 'Our turbine is battleship grey and from 400m it is quite hard to see it. Visitors who come up to the craft workshop show a great

interest in it.'

After the meeting, Mr Hughes said: 'We are preparing

planning applications and continuing to talk to interested parties who have made themselves known to us.'

But Coral Smith told the Community Council at their meeting on Tuesday night: 'They (Vigor) are not be-

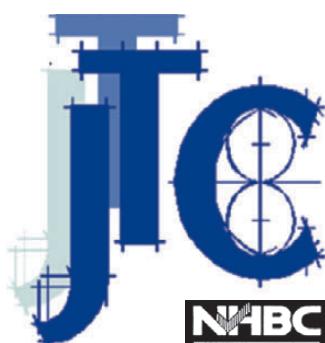
ing upfront about this. They don't give a high degree of confidence.'

Community councillor Willie Kelso added: 'There must be sites on Arran that are suitable.'

'The community council has to come up with a policy rather than just object to wind turbines.'



Oliver Hughes of Vigor Renewables. b22win01



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Citizens Advice Bureau moves to Brodick

Arran's Citizens Advice Service will move to its new premises at the Ormidale Pavilion on Monday (June 6).

The bureau services will be available from 10am until 2pm on a Monday and Tuesday although it is hoped the hours of opening will be increased in the future.

A spokesman from North Ayrshire Citizens Advice Service (NACAS) said: 'At this time we would like to express our thanks to Arran Community and Voluntary Services who shared their accommodation in Lamlash with us and who have been so supportive to NACAS over a number of years.'

'Without their help and support it would have been difficult to maintain our service which we know has helped many island residents.'

The service is always looking for more helpers and if you are interested please contact Sarah Hammond, Service Manager for NACAS at 87, Dockhead Street, Saltcoats or by telephone on 01294 467848.

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Josephine Broekhuizen with MSP Kenneth Gibson at the Edinburgh exhibition.
b22jos01

Arran art exhibition celebrates Queen Beatrice's birthday

Arran artist Josephine Broekhuizen had a private view of her exhibition at the Dutch Consulate in George Street, Edinburgh, last week.

Josephine lives in Lamlash and had been invited to show her work by the honorary Dutch Consul Frank Gill.

The exhibition celebrates the Dutch Queen Beatrice's birthday on 30 April and was mounted to coincide with such a big event in the life of the Dutch community in Scotland.

Among friends and family, invited guests included other artists and influential members of the Edinburgh art community, local MSP Kenneth Gibson and his parliamentary researcher Colin Wilson.

The show, which includes 17 recent works in oil and on paper continues until 10 June and members of the public can gain access by appointment, office hours.

Members of the public can phone 0131 510 0323 for admittance.

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Bus driver to face trial

A bus driver has been charged with running over a woman's leg at Brodick ferry terminal in February.

William Paterson, 47, allegedly knocked down Christine Pottle, 49, and injured her severely.

Paterson, of Mount Pleasant, Stevenston, denied driving without due care and attention. At Kilmarnock Sheriff Court he was ordered to face trial in September.

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Arran roots for new Lake District whisky distillery

A former managing director of the Lochranza distillery and a distiller from Arran are claimed to be launching a new malt whisky distillery in England.

Paul Currie has lodged plans for a 9,000 sq ft site for a new whisky distillery near Cockermouth in Cumbria.

Harold Currie left whisky giant Chivas Regal in 1991 to establish Arran Distillers Ltd in a joint venture with his sons Andrew and Paul.

The new Lochranza distillery went into production in 1995.

Paul then went on to become managing director of Arran Distillers Ltd based at 1 The Cross, Mauchline, Ayrshire. He later established Cumbria Distillers Ltd as managing director, now based at the same offices in Mauchline.

The Lochranza distillery continues to trade as Isle of Arran Distillers Ltd with a head office in Stirling.

In a statement to local press

Paul Currie said: 'The Lake District, with its similarities to Scotland, is considered ideal for making malt whisky.'

'With abundant water, local barley and ideal conditions for maturing the whisky, we're confident of producing world-class malt.'

'We aim to be open by this time next year, producing around 20,000 cases, each of 12 bottles, a year.'

He added that a distiller from Arran would be involved in setting up the operation.

Application

A planning application was lodged with the Lake District National Park Authority by Cumbria Distillers on March 30 for a distillery with ancillary refreshments room and retail shop in derelict farm buildings at Low Barkhouse Farm, Setmurthy, Cockermouth, Cumbria.

The application is due to be considered by the Lake District development control committee.

Police files

Missing person detained

taken to the mainland the following day.'

Public drinking

An 18-year-old Lamlash man was stopped on Shore Road, Brodick on Saturday 28 May and given a fixed penalty for drinking in public.

Drug possession

A local man was stopped in Shore Road, Brodick on Saturday night and charged with alleged possession of cannabis resin.

No tax disc

On Sunday 29 May a vehicle was stopped in Shore Road, Lamlash and the driver was issued with a ticket for not displaying a valid excise licence.



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Arran apples wanted for new island cider

Do you have an apple tree or two in your garden?

If so, you could contribute towards the first commercial Arran-produced cider.

Gerald Michaluk of the Isle of Arran Brewery is keen to branch out into the cider market and benefit from the current popularity of chilled bottled ciders. He said: 'We have tried making an experimental cider at around 5 percent ABV (alcohol percent by volume). We've been selling other people's ciders, but in order for us to make a real Arran cider we need to include a proportion, about 20 percent, of Arran apples. The variety doesn't matter at the moment; anything from dessert to eaters.'

Gerald added that the company would be compiling a list of preferred varieties, so that in two to three years time, island growers would be able to plan their apple harvest for the Arran cider market. The brewery already has a small apple press and shredder, and will upgrade as demand grows. There are over 1,200 native British apple varieties and National Apple Day is celebrated on October 21 each year.



Two buses trapped on Lamlash hill by two fallen trees. b22bus01

Buses trapped on Lamlash hill by fallen trees

Vehicles were held up for half-an-hour when two trees fell across the road on Lamlash hill in high winds last Sunday afternoon.

The first tree fell just after 1pm, holding up cars and a bus heading for the ferry. Another Stagecoach bus was dispatched to collect the passengers and after it had reversed to the Brodick side of the blockage it also became trapped as another tree fell in front of it.

Police and local council workers attended

the scene and with the help of members of the public removed the obstructions.

Sergeant Bob MacKay said: 'In situations like this we would request that motorists be patient and do not attempt to negotiate the blockage themselves. This would prevent any further obstruction and risk to life.'

One vehicle did try to force a way through on Sunday and became stuck in the ditch, creating more of an obstacle.

Widespread relief as threat to Arran's doctors is lifted

The immediate threat to Arran's health service provision appears to have been lifted.

Speaking for the Arran Health Group, Dr Malcolm Kerr of Brodick said: 'My interpretation is that NHS Ayrshire and Arran has lifted the threat to the three salaried GPs for the time being. And Dr Hogg's appointment is guaranteed to June 1, 2012.'

On Wednesday 1 June, Jim Crichton, director of primary care and mental health services, told the Banner: 'We have received a response from Arran Health Group to our offer to maintain funding for their level of medical staffing, including the salaried GPs, until we have completed the service redesign process together.'

Local papers have played an important role in holding a public agency to account in respect of plans that would have been damaging to this community.'

More detailed discussions about contractual issues and funding were continuing between the parties on Wednesday afternoon.

Health Group said that they had been given less than two months to make Drs Gruszecka and Saleh redundant and rescind a letter of appointment made to Dr Hogg.

Dr Kerr added: 'There will now be a process of service redesign before any further consideration is made to changes in the service that we provide here. The Arran GPs will be involved with this, but there should be full consultation with the community as well. I wish to put on record our thanks to the Arran Banner for having highlighted this issue, and drawn it so clearly to the community's attention. Without your involvement I fear that the outcome would have been very different.'

'Local papers have played an important role in holding a public agency to account in respect of plans that would have been damaging to this community.'

More detailed discussions about contractual issues and funding were continuing between the parties on Wednesday afternoon.

Corrie spring fair success

Corrie Primary School would like to say a huge thank you to all who made the Spring Fair such a success.

Many thanks must go to staff, parents, friends and visitors.

We hope you all enjoyed it as much as we did, and you have all helped us to raise the fantastic total of £978.

We would also especially like to thank everyone who donated prizes to the raffle. Hope to see you all again next year.

Lauren L drops in to Brodick

One of the world's largest yachts available for charter was at anchor in Brodick Bay on Sunday afternoon.

The Lauren L is a 90 metre luxury yacht with a crew of 32 and accommodation for up to 40 passengers in 20 well-appointed suites. She comes complete with library, cinema and helicopter landing pad and is only a few metres shorter than MV Caledonian Isles. b22lau01no

Entries for Arran Triathlon fall well short of 2,000 target

The Arran Triathlon may not quite measure up to expectations.

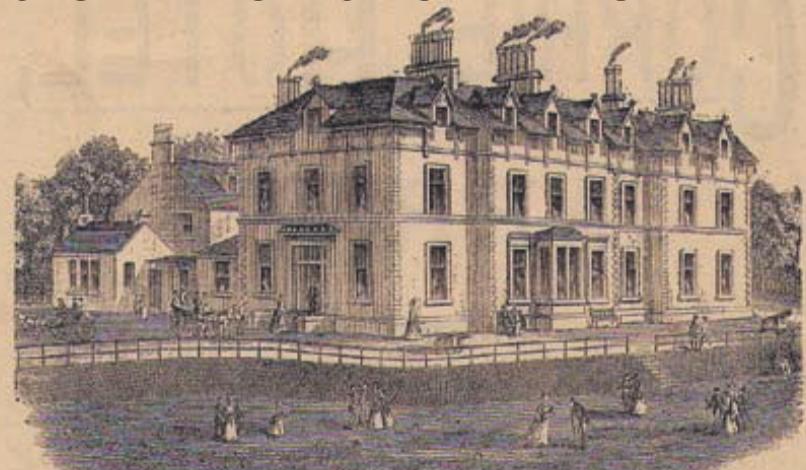
When it was announced in February, the organisers said that they were planning for 2,000 athletes in what would be the biggest event of its kind in Scotland, to be held on September 10.

On Tuesday night, Sergeant Bob MacKay told the Community Council that there were

just 250 entries so far. He said: 'There are only 250 entries, but the organisers are still asking for road closures. That won't happen because it would be too much of an impact on the local community. The manpower required would be huge.'

'We are much happier with 250 athletes; we can comfortably deal with that and ensure their safety.'

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Paul to re-enact escape to freedom over the Pyrenees

A humbling experience and a tribute to the brave



Paul Waters in training for the arduous climb over the Pyrenees.

Former soldier Paul Waters of Lamlash is going to trek over the Pyrenees on July 5.

This is no simple walk, but a five-day struggle covering 50 miles and climbing to heights of 2,600 metres in snow-covered mountains.

He is one of 15 volunteers chosen to re-enact the hazardous escape to freedom route taken by 18,000 Allied servicemen and 38,000 civilians to pass from German-occupied France to Spain during the Second World War. This challenge is being organised by the Royal British Legion as part of its 90th anniversary celebrations.

Paul and his wife Gerry have a house in Lamlash and return to the island regularly to visit family.

Gerry's father Dave works at Montrose House and both her sisters and their families live on the island in Lamlash and Corrie.

Escapees

Paul will be following in the footsteps of wartime escapees as he walks the hardest escape route across the Pyrenees known as The Freedom Trail or Le Chemin de la Liberte.

It is a gruelling climb and one of the few secret escape routes taken by downed Al-

lied aircrew and abandoned soldiers as they struggled on the notoriously dangerous mountain paths, many ill prepared for the treacherous conditions and appalling weather.

As part of his preparations Paul is keen to get in contact with any war veterans who survived the 'Long Walk Home'. 'I'm appealing to your readers,' says Paul. 'Please contact me if you know of friends or family who fled occupied France and completed the deadly route to freedom. To be able to speak to them would be an honour and it would bring the history to life.'

Motivated

The five-day walk is motivated by his 30-year military service and the knowledge that he is raising money for such a good cause. It will be a humbling experience and a tribute to the brave, not only the allied servicemen but those who gave their lives helping them to freedom.

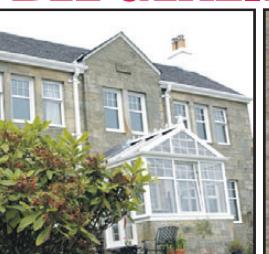
Paul and Gerry are Second World War enthusiasts and attend memorial services and 1940s weekends.

If you want to sponsor Paul click on <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/team/h2outd> or if you feel you can offer support please call during the day on 01258 482937.



Paul and Gerry Waters in an American jeep at the 65th anniversary of the liberation of South Limburg.

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Arran's Art in Mind group needs your vote

There's just one full week left before voting closes in the first North Ayrshire Provost's Civic Pride Awards.

Brodick-based Art in Mind is the only Arran group up for an award and they desperately need your vote.

Thousands of residents have already cast their vote for the 15 finalists in the hope that their community champions will scoop one of the five coveted Civic Pride Awards.

The winners will be announced by West Sound DJ Jen McGinlay at a Charity Dinner on Friday 17 June.

Provost Pat McPhee said: 'We have some amazing individuals and dedicated community groups in North Ayrshire and I am thrilled that the Provost's Civic Pride Awards will recognise their talents, skills and successes.'

Arran's Art in Mind was established in 2004, and it aims to support those with mental ill health issues through creative arts and crafts and artistic education.



West Sound DJ Jen McGinlay will announce the Civic Pride winners.

Volunteers come from all over the island to share their ideas and bring together local people who have or are at risk of experiencing mental health problems.

The group, which relies on community donations and fundraising, offers support, gives inspiration and encourages artistic expression in a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere.

Last chance for church centenary celebration tickets

Tickets are selling fast for the Brodick Church Centenary Gathering on Sunday 3 July in Brodick Public Hall and there are only a few left.

As a result anyone not in possession of a ticket will not be able to come along at the time.

Anyone still requiring a ticket, priced £10, is advised to contact Alex Lawrie, session clerk of the church on 302782 without delay.

All those baptised in the church in the last 100 years, and still able to be contacted, have been sent an invitation to come to Brodick that weekend.

The Moderator of the Church of Scotland will preach the sermon and re-dedicate the church at morning service on July 3 at 10.45am (note changed time).

The Gathering will take place immediately thereafter in the public hall where a substantial buffet lunch will be served. In the afternoon an informal get-together will take place. This is the culmination of a year's programme of events and the service is preceded by a Flower Festival in the church from Friday 1 to

Sunday 3 July from 10am to 4pm daily – yet another not-to-missed occasion.

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Doggy summer school resumes

Arran's very own Doggy Summer School and Agility Classes will begin again for the season at Sandbraes Park in Whiting Bay this Wednesday (June 8). The classes will run throughout June, July and August for 13 weeks and will cost £40 for all 13 classes or £5 per session.

There will be two separate classes – one between 1pm and 2pm for beginners and children and then another between 2.30pm and 3.30pm for more advanced dogs. Organiser Margaret Kay said: 'The classes were hugely successful last year and brought local and holidaymakers into the park to join in the fun.'

'The dog training classes have been running all winter and with the surplus funds from those we have managed to purchase more equipment - a doggy see-saw and



Ruby, one of Margaret's tiny Yorkshire Terriers jumping over the bars.

some lightweight fencing to contain the dogs during the classes ensuring no escapees.' Dogs with both adult and children owners of any size can participate.

Margaret added that her tiny

Yorkshire Terriers love going over the jumps.

'I swear I think Ruby is saying 'weeeee' every time she comes over the jump,' said Margaret.

'She loves it so much. She also has the added advantage that if she doesn't like the look of a jump - she is wee enough to jok under it!'

If anyone is interested they should either phone Margaret on 600725 for more information or come along on the day to enrol.

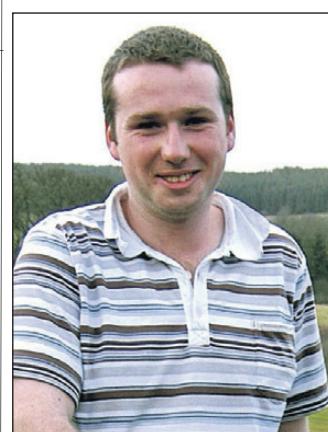


Margaret Kay's six Yorkshire Terriers get ready to work on the contact trainer.

Arran green keepers at top German golf club

Two young Arran men are making a name for themselves in the international world of golf green keeping.

Russell Adams and Gareth Bremner, both of Lamlash,



Russell Adams on the first tee at Lamlash Golf Club.

02_b15rus01

cut their green keeping teeth here on the island. And they are now plying their trade in Westphalia, Germany.

Gareth is head green keeper and course manager at the prestigious Hummelbachaue golf club, some five kilometres west of Dusseldorf.

The club has two courses and nine professionals and a large golf academy with a 150-tee driving range.

Enjoyed

Gareth enjoyed his early training at Whiting Bay Golf Club, under the tutelage of Raymond Burke.

Russell also works as a green keeper at Hummelbachaue. After leaving Arran High School, he worked at Lamlash Golf Club as a trainee under head green keeper Jim

McKenzie before moving on to be assistant green keeper at Turnberry.

Denis Tweddell, formerly assistant head green keeper at Turnberry, moved to another German golf club at Schmalenberg last March and said:

'Gareth Bremner has helped me on numerous occasions to settle into my new job and new country, while my friend and ex-workmate at Turnberry,

Russell Adams, travels up to visit us in the mountains.'

When Russell moved to Turnberry, he paid tribute to Eddie Cannon, a Lamlash member for over 60 years who encouraged him to take up the career.

Jim McKenzie added: 'Whenever Russell comes home he comes up to see us at Lamlash. He was a great servant to the club.'

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Arran Distillery staff celebrate success of open day

People from all over Europe and the wider world joined locals on Sunday as they celebrated the Isle of Arran Distillery's annual open day.

Despite the heavy rain and gale force winds, the day was a major success for the company that have been producing whisky in Lochranza for 16 years.

Inside the visitor centre there was a wonderful selection of stalls selling jewellery, crafts, books and homebaking as well as the usual fundraising stalls.

The Arran Banner even had a stall this year and we ran a special 'Where's Archie?' competition throughout the day.

Young Lucy Harding from Barnsley, Yorkshire correctly guessed that the Banner dog was in Lamlash Bay and she won a limited edition print drawn especially for the open day.

Tastings

Outside in the marquee, visitors were treated to special malt tastings and there were whisky master classes held throughout the day.

The evening ceilidh held in Lochranza Village Hall was the perfect way to round off the day.

Al rock band 'The Queeves' and internationally acclaimed folk band 'Callanish' had the crowds dancing until the wee hours.



People travelled from far and wide to enjoy the distillery's annual open day. Inset young piper Iain Clark from Torbeg.



Managing director Ewan Mitchell giving one of the whisky master classes inside the distillery.



Lucy Harding from Barnsley in South Yorkshire was the winner of The Banner's special 'Where's Archie?' competition. She was presented with her very own framed Archie print by distillery visitor centre manager Faye Black. 01_b22dis01



Despite the strong winds, Highland Dancer Heather Snowdon of Shiskine impressed the crowds with her performance.

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Janice Christison with Valdete, the young Albanian girl that has been helped to walk again by a couple from Whiting Bay.

Janice gives readers an update on Valdete

She faithfully goes to physio and continues to improve slowly

Janice Christison of Whiting Bay is the latest Arran resident to travel to Albania to visit a young girl helped to walk again by a couple from the island.

touch with Vale, as we call her, and have travelled to her home in a suburb of Tirana, the capital, to see her and her family.

Last week it was my turn to fly out and see for myself.

'Albania?' I hear some of you say, 'whatever can it be like?'

Well, I fell in love with the country straight away. It is a land of great contrasts.

Only 20 years after the end of the very oppressive communist regime that left it the poorest country in Europe, Albania is slowly emerging into the modern world.

Yes there is some crime, but there is crime in our own backyard.

It is a beautiful country of mountains and valleys and at Durres you reach the Adriatic Sea.

I found the people warm and friendly. Money had been coming into Albania recently with improved roads and some very modern buildings.

All in all, I can't wait to go back.

Now to Valdete. She continues to charm everyone who comes into contact with her.

She faithfully goes twice a week to physio and continues to improve slowly.

But – and it is a very big but – there is so much disability in Albania, a lot of muscular dystrophy but cerebral palsy as well.

Usually disabled people are kept hidden away, as any kind of disability is a real stigma there.

Charity

That is why a number of us have set up The Valdete Trust, a registered charity, to provide a centre near Tirana where disabled people can come to receive medical treatment, support and information as to how they can help themselves.

If, on reading this, you feel you could offer some financial help, it would be most gratefully received.

Donations can be left at the Royal Bank of Scotland marked for 'The Valdete Trust'. JC

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THE ARRAN BANNER

Environmental and economical ravaging

I think we've all been feeling a little under the weather recently.

It's so depressing when you walk or drive around the island to see the trees hanging limp with their horrible brown leaves.

Between the dead leaves, brown flowers and hillsides scattered with debris it looks more like November out there than May.

These intense weather patterns that last for months at a time are becoming the norm – which is worrying.

In November and December we had icy cold weather followed by a wet and mild January and February.

We then had a lovely warm, sunny April before the wet and windy month of May set in.

In the past people would joke that you could get all four seasons in one day on Arran but in actual fact nowadays it seems we get a whole month of the same weather.

For the past month the island has literally been battered by the weather – the unseasonable temperatures and gale force winds have seen not only the plants ravaged by the cold but the people too.

The island has been strangely quiet – pubs and restaurants have been empty and the roads have been free of camper vans and the familiar groups of cyclists.

May is usually the month when we can all be seen sunning ourselves in our gardens and enjoying the midge-free light nights.

But this year we have been wrapped up in scarves and gloves and sitting by roaring fires in an attempt to keep warm.

As well as the distressing environmental effect this weather has had, the economic consequences are even more worrying.

In these difficult economic times we've been trying to market Arran as the perfect 'staycation' destination – why head off to the Mediterranean when you can enjoy a cheaper more environmentally friendly holiday in Britain.

On a hot summer's day when the sun is shining and the skies are blue – I know where I'd rather be.

Why head off to a busy beach in Spain when I can sit in my own garden by the sea listening to the waves crash on the shore. But with weather like this it's no wonder people are heading off to the sun.

All we can do is pray that June sees a return of our usual summer temperatures and the return of our summer visitors.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

There is nothing in all creation that can separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8:39)

press policy

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

It is the policy of The Oban Times Group to correct any errors in print.

If you find an error of fact on our pages please write to The Editor, *The Arran Banner*, Brodick, Arran giving your day-time telephone number where possible.

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

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your letters

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

Letters to the Editor

Save our doctors

Sirs,

I was shocked to read that the jobs of three Arran doctors are due to be axed.

As the doctors on the island are already overstretched, it is ludicrous to imagine that effective health care can still be provided once these three doctors have lost their jobs.

Doctors used to be highly respected for devoting their lives to the benefit of others.

It is tragic that they are now treated as disposable commodities and the respect and appreciation that they deserve is being shamelessly eroded, leaving them all too often overworked, exhausted and demoralised.

If we are to believe that these cuts are due to lack of cash then it is truly insulting that the government continues to pump billions of pounds into the nuclear submarines that are stationed at the Faslane naval base just up the coast.

Our leaders demonstrate an extraordinary lack of moral fibre by willingly spending vast sums on totally unnecessary weapons that could cause death and unimaginable suffering, while mercilessly cutting essential health services that will save and improve life.

We are told that we live in a democracy so let's use our democratic rights by signing petitions and voicing our opinions to the health board and our MPs in order to protect the health of Arran dwellers and its tourists – and save our doctors.

Yours,
Alice Maxwell
Holy Isle

Arran in the Square

Sir,

Having offered to volunteer in my previous letter to *The Banner*, I was under the impression from phone calls made and received that my help would be most welcome.

I thought I would be most likely handing out the new VisitArran booklet and providing information about Arran.

I therefore promised that I would come along late afternoon on the Saturday after my work and I would also be available on the Sunday

from 10am onwards to help promote Arran.

However on my arrival at the event at around 4.40pm I was informed that I would not be required as the event was simply not busy enough – which was true!

I then offered to come along on Sunday at 10am which was at first accepted but then changed to why not come along on Sunday at 4pm after the event had ended to help load vans.

I did not give a proper answer instead stating that I would have a look around the event.

I picked up a few brochures, bought an Arran Dairies ice cream and a gift or two, then left.

I did not return on the Sunday; to be honest I felt somewhat slighted.

I had made a great effort, giving up my weekend, to help promote my favourite island.

That said, I am sure everyone working at the event would also have made a great effort.

However I could see immediately that there was a problem and possibly the most important was the complete lack of advertising.

Where were the signs, the colourful flags and banners that said this is an Arran event and it is free entry?

The event was far too enclosed with tiny entrance areas and an overabundance of security fencing.

Most Glaswegians knew nothing about this event.

For any future events I would suggest a mail shot to selected parts of Glasgow and Glasgow newspaper advertisements.

I hope my letter will be viewed as constructive criticism and yes, I would still be interested in volunteering for any future events.

Yours,
Colin Thomson
350 Ruchazie Road
Glasgow

Looking for a camera

Sir,

I am writing this email in what is definitely something of a longshot.

I spent the weekend in Arran with my wife, our first trip, and despite Saturday's weather we

thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. I ended up taking a lot of photos of the weekend and was looking forward to getting home on Sunday to load them on to the computer.

Much to my disappointment when unpacking, I realised that my camera had gone. I assume that I have left the camera somewhere silly, dropped it or it fell out of my pocket.

I contacted COAST cafe as I wondered if I might have left it there but no luck. Likewise I spoke with CalMac to find out if a camera had been found or handed in on the return ferry to Ardrossan from Brodick at 4.30pm on Sunday.

Again, this drew a blank. The purpose of the email is to flag up the lost camera, a Canon Digital in a small black leather case should by any stroke of good fortune someone have found it and tried to match it to its owner.

There was no identifying information aside from the photos on it. Thus, if it turned up on the waterfront at Brodick or left somewhere and you hear anything, just let me know.

Apologies for the random nature of the message but I would love to get it back for the photos more than the actual device itself.

Obviously, I would be pleased to pay for any postage.

Yours,
David Orr
7b Wellington Place
Edinburgh EH7 6QA
Phone 0131 454 3642
By email
daveboyorr@hotmail.com

Not independent or impartial

Sir,
Who on Arran has the Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) manager Ms Hammond been listening to I wonder?

None of the 800 plus petition signers who wanted to save the CAB has mentioned a wee blether?

It wasn't the volunteers either, by the way. Nor Arran Council for Voluntary Service.

Whoever it was should surely have pointed out that an Advice Service which claims to be independent and



impartial, but actually works in 'partnership' with the Jobcentre and CEIS is likely to appear anything but.

As it turns out, Sheridan was lucky to get made redundant - she would have had to resign on principle otherwise.

Then face suspension from benefits -by the Jobcentre.

Yours,
Dave Patterson
Save Arran Advice Centre
Campaign
Lamlash

Appalled by association

Sir,
As a regular visitor to Arran and an avid reader online of *The Banner* I am appalled to read that the Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) service is to be delivered in connection with Jobcentre Plus.

The whole point of the CAB is to offer independent advice, and where necessary, to challenge decisions made by Jobcentre Plus. Any association between CAB and Jobcentre Plus diminishes the very idea of impartiality. I am surprised that Councillor Currie thinks this is a good idea.

Yours,
Albert Edward
10 Wheatway
Gloucester

Coffee morning thanks

Three Arran women that will be completing the Edinburgh Moon Walk next week held a fantastic coffee morning in Whiting Bay on Saturday.

Ann Rhead, Janette Head and Marie Park would like to thank everyone that came to support the event and helped them further towards their total.

Marie said: 'We'd like to say a big thank you to everyone who came, baked, helped, donated etc.'

'We raised the amazing amount of £650 and couldn't believe how generous everyone was.'

'Thank you so much we will let you know our final total when we are finished collecting...now for the Moon Walk.'

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High school pupils shine in Shakespeare

'We hope our audiences will laugh out loud at this fantastic production'

Lysander loves Hermia, and Hermia loves Lysander.

Helena loves Demetrius; Demetrius used to love Helena but now loves Hermia.

It might sound like the latest plot in a television soap opera but this is actually Arran High School's summer production of Shakespeare's much-loved comedy, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Starring Donald McEachern

and Katharine O'Donnell as the two lovers Lysander and Hermia, and Michael Jenks and Iona Flewitt as the second set of lovers, Demetrius and Helena, this is a play not to be missed.

Teacher and producer Heather Gough said: 'Shakespeare is fun! Sometimes people forget just how enjoyable it is to watch a Shakespeare comedy.'

'And we hope that our audiences will laugh out loud at this fantastic production.'

More than in any other Shakespeare play, the primary action of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* serves to both confound and entertain the audience.

Looking to make a little mischief, Oberon casts spells on paramour Titania and on the four Athenian lovers who

flee to the woods to pursue the object of their affection.

Shakespeare sends several sets of lovers into fairy-filled woods, where magic spells cast in the moonlight cause havoc before all is set right at dawn.

A play-within-the-play performed by a group of bumbling actors adds an element of broad comedy.

In the spell-casting, the Bard implicitly suggests that a director must cast his own spell for the play to achieve maxi-

mum effect, which Heather Gough does with this feisty *Midsummer* in the school's community theatre.

Tickets are now on sale for the three nights starting on Tuesday 21 June until Thursday 23 June.

The cast of the Arran High School's summer production of Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. 01_b22mid04



Two lovers, Lysander and Hermia, played by Donald McEachern and Katharine O'Donnell. 01_b22mid01

Oberon, the King of the Fairies is played by Cameron Flewitt and his consort Titania, the Fairy Queen, Katy Simmons. 01_b22mid03

Michael Jenks and Iona Flewitt play the second set of lovers, Demetrius and Helena. 01_b22mid02

Families urged to complete childcare survey

Childcare is a big issue for families all across Britain and the Arran branch of the Save the Children charity is urging parents to complete a short survey on the subject.

Aiming to be the biggest consultation of parents across Britain, the survey focuses on the issues they face in finding suitable childcare and how the cost of childcare impacts on families.

The results of the survey will be used to produce reports for the UK and Scottish govern-

ments and will include recommendations for how governments can support families to access high quality affordable childcare.

Filled In

The survey can be filled in online at www.savethechildren.org.uk/childcare

• The local branch of the Save the Children raised £2,820 during their collection week recently.

Thanks to collectors and all who contributed so generously.

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Arran Music and Drama Club's show 'Bad Girls' sets stage alight

'Bad Girls' is unlike anything the club has ever done before with its raunchy depiction of life behind bars

Arran Music and Drama Club's hotly anticipated 'Bad Girls: The Musical' opened in Brodick Village Hall on Monday night and is believed to be the Scottish premiere. And what a spectacular show it was!

'Bad Girls' is unlike anything the club has ever done before with its straight-talking depiction of life behind bars in a Scottish female prison.

Colourful

The setting and characters will be familiar to addicts of the TV series. The language is described in the programme



Denny Blood (Deborah Robertson) is serving seven years for arson after burning down her children's home. 01_b22bad04

as risqué and colourful, and it certainly is.

Written by Arran visitor Ann McManus, we are introduced to Jim Fenner (Campbell Seaton) a disillusioned old school senior prison officer who feels he was overlooked when Wing Governor Helen Stewart (Alison Howie) was appointed.

Throughout the show the sexually predatory Jim is engaged in a power battle with the liberalising governor, Helen.

But Helen has her own problems in that she is besotted with prisoner Nikki Wade (Sheila Gilmore), doing time for killing a cop who raped her girlfriend.

Dastardly

Fenner's dastardly plan to make Helen carry the can for a suicide for which he is responsible is only foiled when the prisoners expose his wicked ways through a closed-circuit camera.

The cast of this production is predominantly female – as the title suggests.

There were star turns by Linda Davidson and Rosie



This all-singing, all-dancing portrayal of life behind bars is not to be missed. 01_b22bad02

Cook as the two Julies, banged up for prostitution. Their 'Life of Grime' number on G Wing landing was a tour de force.

And Fiona Rodriguez is superb as the tough-as-nails Yvonne Atkins.

Heather Johnston portrays the disillusioned prison officer, Sylvia 'Body Bags' Hollamby, who along with her colleague Jim Fenner (Campbell Seaton) believes in the

more old-fashioned approach to jail craft.

Alison Howie's wing governor, Helen Stewart, is the one beacon of shining light throughout the play for the inmates.

Approach

But her modern approach to the prisoners' welfare is not liked by Number One (Bob McLaren) the prison governor.

Prison officers Mark Sherwood and Iain Small vie for the attention of the prisoners but most only have eyes for their fellow female inmates.

In many respects, the musical numbers, particularly the chorus ones, are the highlights of this production. The Baddest and the Best by Nikki, Denny and Shell was superb.

Musical director Dave Payn and director Maureen Smith

are to be congratulated on successfully bringing all the elements of this very different and challenging production together.

Remarkable

If you have still to see this remarkable show, there are two further performances of 'Bad Girls' tonight (Friday) and tomorrow.

This is a show not to be missed!



Campbell Seaton's cruel and disturbing portrayal of prison officer Jim Fenner has the audience on the edge of their seats. 01_b22bad08



First-time offender Rachel Hicks (Nicola Swinton) is searched by Sylvia 'Body Bags' Hollamby, senior prison officer played by Heather Johnston. 01_b22bad01

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The girls all look up to tough-as-nails Yvonne Atkins played by Fiona Rodriguez. 01_b22bad14



Jim Fenner (Campbell Seaton) the disillusioned old-school senior prison officer comes to blows with **Shell Dockley (Janie MacIntyre)** the most cunning and ruthless inmate. 01_b22bad05



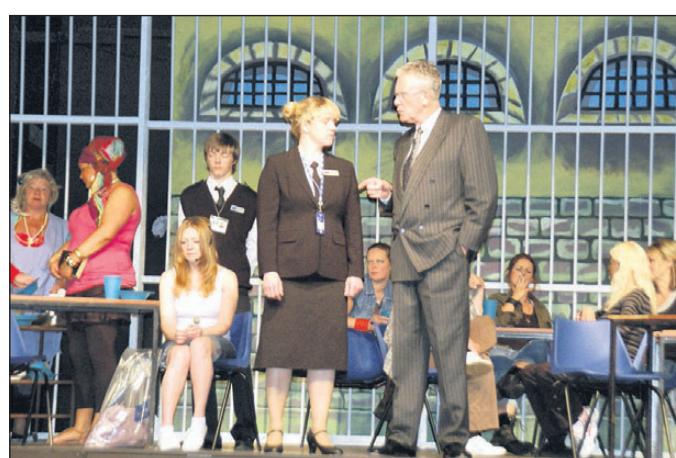
Junior prison officer Justin Mattison (Mark Sherwood) and Wing Governor Helen Stewart (Alison Howie) with new inmate Rachel Hicks (Nicola Swinton). 01_b22bad06



Prison officers Sylvia Hollamby (Heather Johnston) and Jim Fenner (Campbell Seaton) apply old-school methods of jail craft to their work. 01_b22bad10



The two Julies - Rosie Cook playing Julie Johnston and Linda Davidson as Julie Saunders - are doing time for prostitution. 01_b22bad12



'Number One', the Governor, played by Bob McLaren, doesn't like Helen Stewart's (Alison Howie) new way of managing the prison. 01_b22bad07



Murderess Shell Dockley (Janie MacIntyre) and her side-kick Denny Blood make new inmate Rachel's life a living hell. 01_b22bad09



Lauren Davidson as the 'god-fearing' inmate Crystal Gordon. 01_b22bad03



Murderer Nikki Wade (Sheila Gilmore) is used as a pawn to get the new wing governor sacked. 01_b22bad11

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Roll up for the 17th Arran Folk Festival

Next week sees the start of the 17th Arran Folk Festival.

The feast of music begins on Thursday 9 June and runs for four days over the weekend.

Jon Hollingworth of Arran Events said: 'Tickets are selling, but we need to encourage people to buy tickets sooner rather than later, if for no other reason than to help me have fewer sleepless nights leading up to the event!'

'We have committed a lot of time, effort and money to ensure that the Folk Festival continues on Arran and it would be reassuring for the locals to come and support it – there should be something to suit all tastes.'

'Lorne MacDougall who is performing in Brodick Hall on Friday 10 June is fast becoming an international star, so it will be a great opportunity to experience the three-times BBC Radio Scotland Young Musician of the Year finalist, and one of Scotland's leading young pipers.'

Jon added: 'The open sessions are a chance to come along and participate or just listen.'

'For the Saturday and Sunday afternoon sessions in Ormidale Park we have organised a fringe festival.'

'We have arranged a tie-in with Taste of Arran, so as well as Robin Gray's famous burgers and home-made soft drinks there will be various tastings and a licensed bar on site.'

Bird Notes - Kestrel

Are Kestrels in decline on Arran? By Jim Cassels

The Kestrel or windhover, star of Ken Loach's 1969 film 'Kes' is one of our most familiar birds.

Hovering, moving on, hovering, wings and tail moving, head staying perfectly still is its classic hunting style. On the lookout for small rodents, it is one of our most well-known birds of prey.

However, all is not well with this hunter. The latest Breeding Bird Survey report reveals a significant decline of 20 percent, in the population between 1995 and 2008, and a further fall of 36 percent between 2008 and 2009.

Linked

Kestrel declines between the 1970s and 1990s have been linked to agricultural intensification on farmland and the effect this has had on populations of small mammals, but the reasons for more recent declines are not clear.

Did this decline also happen on Arran?

There is information on Kestrel on Arran from 1985. Gordon Riddle, chairman of the South West Scotland Raptor Study Group, wrote an article that year *The Kestrel on Arran*, in the Arran Naturalist 9: pages 4-12. In this article he acknowledged the informa-

tion and help given by local observers Margaret Dunn, John Rhead, Howard Walker and Derrick Warner.

He stated: 'The Kestrel population on Arran is relatively stable occupying a niche mainly on the lower ground round the coastline.' But is that still the case 25 years on?

To get as accurate a picture as possible please share any sightings, particularly where you see adults carrying food

or young birds on the wing.

A comparison with the 1985 records should help to answer the question about whether or not the national decline in Kestrel is reflected in the Arran population.

Finally, to get an insight into the world of the Kestrel let me recommend Gordon Riddle's new book *Kestrels for Company* published by Whittles Publishing. It is based upon almost 40 years' observation

of Kestrel in Britain.

Enjoy your birding. Please send any bird notes with 'what, when, where' to me at Kilpatrick Kennels, Kilpatrick, Blackwaterfoot, KA27 8EY, or email me at james.cassels@virgin.net.

I look forward to hearing from you. For more information on birding on Arran purchase the Arran Bird Report 2010 and visit this website www.arranbirding.co.uk



A kestrel on the wing. b22kes01 photo Gordon Riddle

Parent Councils to discuss education challenges

Representatives from Arran's parent councils have been invited to a meeting to discuss the impact of financial challenges on local education budgets.

North Ayrshire Council Leader, David O'Neill, is keen to impress upon local parents that the council is doing 'everything possible' to limit the impact of effi-

cency savings on education budgets.

Councillor O'Neill reassured parents that the council's priority is to protect education in spite of the significant budgetary pressures currently facing local authorities.

At the briefing in Greenwood Resource Centre on June 2, council leader and spokesman for Children's Services,

Councillor John Bell, was due to give a presentation on the challenges facing the public sector.

Mr O'Neill said: 'I am very keen to set the record straight in light of some misinformation which has been circulated recently and hope that each one of the 63 parent councils will be represented at the event.'

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Open Triples Competition in Memory of Angus Cook
to be held on Sunday June 19th at 2.30pm at the Bowling Green.
All Welcome

If you think you know then post your answer on the website
www.arranbanner.co.uk
Or email us at:
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Last week Archie was at the adventure playground at Brodick Castle. Correct answers came from Katherine in Australia, Calum and Eilidh in France, Jill in Cramlington and Archie's doggie pals Spring in Kirkintilloch, Samnox in Holmfirth and Shep in Crewe. This week he is in a graveyard, but whose is that tomb behind him? 02_b22arc01



Moonwalking with Marion



Marion McNicol.

Marion McNicol of Brodick has been pounding the roads again.

On Sunday 22 May she ran the Brathay Windermere Marathon, raising funds for the Brathay Trust.

Marion said: 'It is a small field of just under 700 runners, but it is one of the most scenic and challenging marathon courses in Europe. My thanks go to all who made donations.'

The Brathay Trust looks after vulnerable and disadvantaged young people in the UK.

On Saturday 11 June Marion will be joining hundreds of women and men for the sixth annual Moonwalk Marathon in Inverleith Park, Edinburgh, in aid of breast cancer charity.

She said: 'Hopefully I'll be able to cope with the lack of sleep again, but the support and atmosphere with the other Moonwalkers makes this not a problem. Lets hope I don't get too many blisters.'

Donations can be made on www.walkthe walkfundraising.org/marion_mcnicol_9

Roots of Arran meeting

The community woodland group Roots of Arran next meeting is on Sunday 12 June from 12pm at View Point car park. Please meet at Beech Grove off the Lamlash to Brodick footpath. Kids of all ages and families are particularly welcome. Suitable footwear and clothing is advised.

Where's Archie?

ATTENTION ALL BUSINESSES

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For more information call Fiona on 01631 568018 Email: fmacinnes@obantimes.co.uk

Distributed through the Oban Times, Argyllshire Advertiser, Campbeltown Courier and Arran Banner we can offer our customers highly competitive print prices and unique discounts on distribution. Coupled with the facility to target specific areas, we can ensure you reach your maximum potential.

Car club weekend a roaring success

Arran Car Club held a very successful annual autotest weekend of activities on the island last Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Among the events were hill climbs at the Fish Farm in Kings Cross and at the water station at The Letter, Lamlash. Handling and manoeuvrability tests were held in the car park of the Ormidale Pavilion. The weekend came to a wild and windy climax in a windswept field at Bennecarrigan on Sunday.

Club chairman Colin Cameron said: 'It has been a great weekend and our thanks go to all the venues that have been so co-operative.'

'The field at Bennecarrigan was perfect and we would love it if the Pattersons didn't reseed it so we could use it next year!'

Some 35 competitors took part over the three days, with 31 being local drivers.

Junior winner was Scott Rankin, and in Class One, Gavin Faulkner came first, Liam I'Anson second and Stephen Lammie third.

Chris Haw won Class Two, with Andrew Yates second and Alastair Rankin third.

Andrew Yates won the Gavin Robertson memorial trophy.



Fun in the mud at Bennecarrigan. 02_b22car02



The psychedelic Peugeot ploughs through the field. 02_b22car03



This customised mini made short work of the Southend mud. 02_b22car05

17th ARRAN FOLK festival

9 - 12 June 2011
A weekend of Sessions, Concerts & Ceilidhs.

Open Sessions (free entry & all welcome):
Fri. 10th June : Ormidale Hotel. 1:30pm
Sat. 11th & Sun 12th June : Ormidale Park. 12-5pm.
Sun. 12th June : Ormidale Hotel. 9pm

Thurs. 9th June : Concert & Ceilidh, Brodick Hall. 7:30pm. £10
Anvil Ceilidh Band, Pauline Alexander, & Arran Brew.

Friday 10th June : Concert, Brodick Hall. 7:30pm. £12.50
Robyn & Amie, The Average Folk Band, Lorne MacDougall.

Saturday 11th June : Concert, Brodick Hall. 7:30pm. £15.00
Morgan Lee Band and The Picts.

We are also offering access to all the concerts for just £32 (3 Day Pass)

Tickets available on-line at www.arranevents.com or from Brodick Post Office



Mark West negotiating the obstacles at the Ormidale pavilion car park course.

01_b22car07



Above: 2011 trophy winners Andrew Yates, Gavin Faulkner, Chris Haw and Scott Rankin. 02_b22car01



Left: Burning rubber at Ormidale Park b22car04 Photo Kirsten Nicholson.

Lochranza Choir Anniversary Concert
Sunday 5th June At 7.30 pm
Lochranza Village Hall
Admission £5.00 (Children £1.00)
Supporting Beatson Cancer Research
OSCR Registered Scottish Charity SC006106

LAMLASH BURNS CLUB
are planning a visit to the new Burns Museum at Alloway on Saturday 11th June.
Entry to the museum is £8.00 (free to National Trust Members) and we anticipate the coach from Ardrossan will cost £10.00.
Members and non-members are welcome.
If you are interested in joining us, we will be leaving on the 8.20am ferry returning at 6.00pm.
Please contact Bob Brass at 302310, 860376 or bob@arranestateagents.co.uk

Summer bridge

The results of the tournament on May 30 were as follows:

N/S 1 Jan Beattie and Janette McBride, 2 Tricia Martin and Alison Bilsland, 3 Linda Trickett and Jennifer Wales.

E/W 1 Roddie Thompson and Eendie McNiven, 2 Mel Jones and Ellie Jones, 3 Margaret McGill and Evelyn Sillars.

Brodick beach clean

Brodick Improvements Committee would like to thank everyone who turned out on what promised to be a very wet and windy morning last Saturday to pick up rubbish.

In the end the sun shone so the dedicated dozen were able to remove every last blot on the landscape along the whole of Fisherman's Walk - no small feat! The winner of a free lunch at Arran on a Plate was Colin Guthrie, who not only excelled himself on Saturday by filling an entire trailer, but who continually collects rubbish on his sorties around Arran's coast.

Village hall draw

Lochranza and Catacol Village Hall 200 club draw

First prize No 57 Mavis MacTaggart, second prize No 92 Bill Scott.


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ARRAN MUSIC & DRAMA CLUB

Scottish Charity No. SC032386

PRESENT

BAD GIRLS
THE MUSICAL

in Brodick Hall

Mon. 30th May – Sat 4th June
At 8pm (doors open 7.30pm)

Tickets: Stalls £8, Balcony £12,
Seniors £6 (Mon/Tue only; stalls only)

Available from The Book and Card Shop, Brodick
Saturday 21st May to Saturday 4th June
and at the door on performance nights
(No phone booking; cash with order, please)

Shiskine WRI enjoy annual dinner

Shiskine WRI held their annual dinner at the Kinloch Hotel, Blackwaterfoot on Wednesday 23 May.

A good night was had by all with a lovely two-course meal, followed by coffee and mints.

Our president Jerry Arthur welcomed all who had come out on one of the stormiest night we have had in a long time. When dinner was finished Jerry presented Marilyn Woods with the Ferguson Trophy for the most points gained in the winter competitions.

This is the first time that Marilyn has won the competition and was absolutely delighted to take her little cup home. After this we had a hilarious competition to see which team could make the best hat out of modelling balloons.

It was great fun and everyone joined in with gusto.

A 'clap-o-meter' decided that the ladies modelling the hats, were all equal winners.

A few good yarns were then spun by Alice Anderson and the evening finished off with a quick game of stand-up bingo won by Mary Betley.

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Duke and Duchess honeymoon in cowshed

'They were both absolutely charming and wholly unassuming'

Kilmichael House in Glencloy has a long and fascinating association with the Dukes of Hamilton.

And two weeks ago it was the venue for the honeymoon of the Duke and Duchess of Hamilton. Alexander Douglas Hamilton, the 16th Duke of Hamilton, married interior designer Sophie Ann Rutherford in Canongate Kirk, Edinburgh on 12 May and they honeymooned here on Arran.

The couple, who also enjoy the titles of Earl and Countess of Cambridge, stayed in the luxurious honeymoon suite that used to be a former byre or cowshed at Kilmichael House.

Significant

Ironically, Kilmichael was the only significant part of Arran never to belong to the Dukes of Hamilton, it being the property of the Fullarton family, who held their lands from an original grant by Robert the Bruce right until the middle of the 20th century.

For nearly all that time, the Fullartons were the 'Hereditary Coroners' for the island,

a royal office confirmed in a royal charter which had made it irrefutably clear that this was an unchallengeable position to be held for all time.

In 1750 the Fullartons entered into an agreement with the Duke of Hamilton to lease from him lands in Glencloy, adjacent to their own. The tack permitted subletting, but with one proviso: on no account was one James Fullarton of Glencloy to be permitted a sub-tenancy.

Geoffrey Botterill, one of the current owners of Kilmichael, said: 'For years we were intrigued as to what the unfortunate James had done to upset the Duke, until we discovered that a certain James Fullarton of Arran had appeared in court in Edinburgh a year or two earlier charged with offences in connection with the Jacobite uprising of 1745.'

'As the Duke of Hamilton is the Hereditary Bearer of the Scottish Crown and Hereditary Keeper of the Palace of Holyroodhouse (both functions still extant today), we can probably guess why James



Kilmichael House in Glencloy. 02_b22duk01

was considered *persona non grata*.

'By 1848, Major Archibald Fullarton had decided not to live in Kilmichael House, and leased it, with hunting rights, to the Duke for 19 years.

Animatedly

'During this period, the Major was once talking animatedly with the Duchess of Kent (Queen Victoria's mother), who had been a guest at Brodick Castle. When he failed to show any evident recognition of the Duke, she asked if he did not know who it was.'

He replied: 'Oh, yes, your Grace, that's one of my tenants!'

In 1950, the Fullartons sold 'the mansion house' (as it is described in various historical documents), and the new owner opened it as a boarding house. Kilmichael's current owners, while still living in it, open it up each summer as an award-winning Country House Hotel. Its lovely honeymoon suite has been created out of a former byre and in recent years has accommodated many distinguished guests in

the fields of politics and the arts as well as the aristocracy and meritocracy.

It was rather ironic that the present Duke and Duchess of Hamilton returned to Kilmichael House to spend a part of their honeymoon there.

Geoffrey added: 'They were both absolutely charming and wholly unassuming.'

'We couldn't help wondering, though, what Major Archibald would have thought about having the Duke as a houseguest – and sending him to sleep in the cowshed!'



James and Maureen celebrate Diamond wedding

James and Maureen McKenna of Whiting Bay celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary yesterday (June 2) after 60 years of married life. The couple were married in St Patrick's Church in Belfast on 2 June 1951. They set up home originally in Glasgow and then in East Kilbride where they brought up their daughter Margaret Kay who also lives in Whiting Bay and her younger brother and sister. They have lived in Fen Place since 'retiring' to Arran in 1998. b22wed01NO

The Arran Banner 20 years ago

Saturday, June 1, 1991

'Wild' campers?

Arran's reputation as a clean and tidy island could be at risk from the increasing number of 'wild' campers.

Today we had a phone call to inform us that an old bus was parked in Murray Estate with a number of 'hippies' living in it.

And yesterday a single tent was seen pitched on the green in Lamlash.



Sign of the times, this new sign is attached to the railings at Brodick School. b22twe02

We are certain none of these campers mean any harm but when they leave rubbish behind littering the villages, how do the ratepayers feel about it?

Episcopalian priest

Arran will shortly have a resident Episcopalian priest when the Reverend Tom Pringle is instituted at Sandbraes, Whiting Bay in July.

Mr Pringle has been preparing for the priesthood (the Anglican term he tells us) for four years.

A chief officer with Ellerman Lines he left the Merchant Navy to join the RAF before becoming a hovercraft pilot between Dover and Calais.

Postmistress to minister

Strangely enough, as we welcome one new priest to the island we wave goodbye to Lamlash's postmistress who is off to study divinity at Edinburgh University.

Morag McCormack will leave the island this week after three years in Lamlash.

Although she will study divinity she told us she has not yet decided if she will go in to the ministry.

Katie's seat

Nothing can ever compensate for the death of a daughter, but a small public reminder perhaps helps just a little.

An attractive wooden seat has been placed beside the clearances memorial in Lamlash in memory of Katie Hamilton.

Katie was brought up in one of the houses behind the seat.

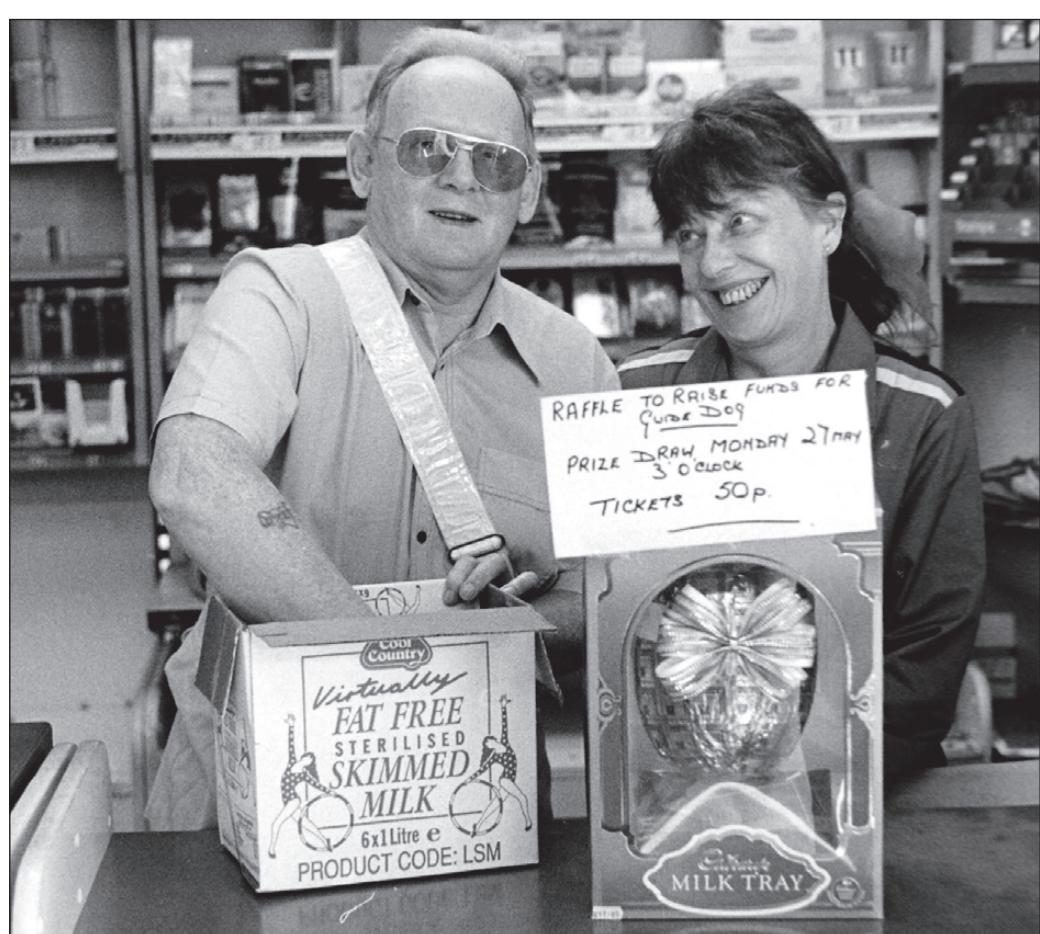
A cheerful, clever, popular girl she sadly died last September aged 33 after a long fight with cancer.



With lots of new regulations being introduced, staff from the Kinloch Hotel in Blackwaterfoot and Mr and Mrs Hughes of the Grange House Hotel, Whiting Bay all completed their Craft Trainer awards last week to allow them to supervise the training of the remaining staff. b22twe04



Tony and Chris Green are the entrepreneurial couple behind the big pink hotel on Brodick front. Known to everyone as the Ennismore, it will reopen in two weeks as The Arran Hotel. b22twe01



Curries of Brodick last week pushed the Jackie Cooper Appeal Fund up a little in its aim for a guide dog for the blind. Jack is seen here picking the winning ticket to find the winner of the giant chocolate egg. b22twe03

No titillation here

Those in search of a titillating night out need not wend their way to Lochranza Village Hall.

In reprinting the halls' 'Standard Conditions for Hire' we note that a new condition has been added.

It read: 'The premises shall not be used for the purpose of a striptease or nude show.'

New manager

The Bank of Scotland has a new manager in Mr Jim Hill who replaces Mr Robert Armour this week.

Mr Hill has come from the Sanquhar branch and most of his experience has been in rural areas, including a stint on Lewis. Brought up in Oban he comes to Arran with his wife Rosemary and two sons aged 15 and 12.

ARRAN HERITAGE MUSEUM
SCOTTISH CHARITY NUMBER SC002089
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What's On ARRAN

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EVERYDAY

Arran Brewery
Arran Brewery Tour
Trout Fly Fishing
Brodick Castle, Gardens open daily
Arran Heritage Museum

Open Mon - Sat 10.30am-4.30pm ,Sun 12.30pm - 4.30pm
2pm
Loch Garbad, Boat or Bank
9am - dusk
Rosaburn Brodick, 10.30am - 4.30pm

Rink Game
Rink Game
Rink Game
Zumba Fitness
Quiz

Brodick Bowling Club, 6.45pm
Whiting Bay Bowling Club 7pm
Lamlash Bowling Club 7pm
Brodick Hall, 6pm - 7pm
Bar Eden, 9pm - 10.30pm

SATURDAY 4th JUNE

Karate
Family Games
Fun In The Pool
Over 21's Disco
Arran Dancers (4 years and up)
Rink Game
Rink Game
Rink Game
Rink Game
RNLI Shop Open
Arts & Crafts Exhibition
Bad Girls
Hillbilly Golf
Rugby Arran Under 18's v Greenock Wanderers

Auchrannie Games Hall, 11.30am - 12.30pm
3pm to 4pm Auchrannie Games Hall
4pm to 5pm Auchrannie Spa Pool
The Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Arran High School, 10am
Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, 2pm
Brodick Bowling Club, 2pm
Whiting Bay Bowling Club 2.30pm
Lamlash Bowling Club 2pm
Lamlash Pier, 2pm - 4pm
Brodick Church Hall, 11am - 4pm
Brodick Hall, 8pm
Butterhill, Kilmory, From 1.30pm
Ormidale Park, 2pm

TUESDAY 7th JUNE

Lochranza Swimming Club
Army Cadets
Pop Quiz
Alcoholics Anonymous
Citizens Advice
Youth Club
Rotary Club
Junior Hockey Club
Melody Movemenet. Ballet Class - 2½ yrs up
Dudes & Divas Funky Dance Class - 2½ yrs up
Youth Club
Rink Game
Zumba Fitness
Music Session, Chalk and Cheese

Kinloch 11am - 12pm
Auchrannie Road, 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
Brodick Church Hall - 2pm
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 10am - 2pm
Kildonan Hall - 6.30pm
Glencloy Suite, Auchrannie 7.15pm
Ormidale Pavillion, 6pm-7pm
Auchrannie Dance Studio, 1.30pm
Auchrannie Dance Studio, 2pm
Brodick Hall, 6.30pm - 8pm
Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, 2pm
High School, 6pm - 7pm
Bar Eden, 9pm - 12am

SUNDAY 5th JUNE

Alcoholics Anonymous
Arran Fiddle Club- Childrens Classes
Family Games
Fun In The Pool
Quiz
Open Music Session
RNLI Shop Open
Arts & Crafts Exhibition
Lochranza Choir Anniversary Concert

Church Hall, Brodick, 4.30pm
Library Annexe, 1.45pm
3pm to 4pm Auchrannie Games Hall
4pm to 5pm Auchrannie Spa Pool
PHT, Lamlash, 9pm
Bar Eden, 3pm - 5pm
Lamlash Pier, 2pm - 4pm
Brodick Church Hall, 11.30am - 4pm
Lochranza Village Hall, 7.30pm

WEDNESDAY 8th JUNE

Hockey
Tae Kwonko
Alcoholics Anonymous
Arran Brass Rehearsal
Selt Making Class
Musical Mayhem Class Parents & Little Ones
Yoga for Every Body
Senior Badminton
Museum, Archives & Geneology Service
Aquafizz
Yogalates
Circuit Training
Rink Game
Coffee Morning
Rink Game
Rink Game
Arran Open Duke of Edinburgh's Award Group
Dog Agility Classes

Auchrannie Hall, 7pm - 8pm Games Hall
KA Leisure, Kids 6.30 - 7.30pm. Adults 7.30 - 8.30pm
Lamlash Church Hall - 7.30pm- 9pm
Whiting Bay Hall 7.15pm
Shipfield, Lamlash, 10am - 4pm
Auchrannie Dance Studio, 10.45am
10am -11.30am
High School Games Hall, 8pm - 9pm
10.30am - 12.30pm and 1.30pm - 3.30pm
9.45am to 10.30am Auchrannie Hotel Pool
9.30am to 10.30am Auchrannie Studio
Auchrannie Games Hall, 6pm - 7pm
Brodick Bowling Club, 6.45pm
Lamlash Curch Hall, 10.15am - 12pm
Whiting Bay Bowling Club 7pm
Lamlash Bowling Club 7pm
High School, 3.45pm
Sandbraes, Whiting Bay. 1pm - 2pm and 3.30pm

MONDAY 6th JUNE

Over 50's Badminton
Badminton
Weight Wise
Ladies Netball
Arran Junior Football Club Coaching & Games
Citizens Advice
Senior Fitness
BreathWalk Class
Circuit Training
Table Tennis
Badminton
Mums and Tots Swimming Lessons
Hatha Yoga
Summer Bridge

Lochranza Village Hall 2pm - 4pm
Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm
Hospital Bungalow, 5pm - 5.30pm
High School Sports Hall - Seniors 7.30pm - 9pm
Ormidale Park, 6pm
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 10am - 2pm
9.30am to 10.30am Auchrannie Gym
Kinneil, Lamlash 5.15pm
Auchrannie Gym, 6pm - 7pm
Corrie Hall, 6.30pm
Auchrannie Gym, 7pm - 9pm
Auchrannie Spa Pool, 11am
Arran High School, 6pm - 7.30pm
High School Cafe, 6.30pm

THURSDAY 9th JUNE

General Knowledge Quiz
Lochranza Craft Club
Coffee Morning
Table Tennis
Youth Club
Senior Fitness
Pilates
Pub Quiz
Arran Folk Festival
General Knowledge Quiz

Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
Hall, 2pm
St Molios Church 10.30am - 12pm
Kildonan Hall, 3pm - 5pm
Youth Cabin, Lamlash 7-9pm
9.30am to 11.30am Auchrannie Spa Gym
6 pm to 7pm Auchrannie Studio
Kinloch Hotel, 9pm
See ad page 13
Kinloch Bar, 9pm

FRIDAY 10th JUNE

Arran Pipe Band Practice
Quiz
Aquafizz
Yogalates
Over 21's Disco
Arran Youth Foundations
Live music with DJ
Arran Folk Festival
Jazz Cafe

Brodick Hall, 7.30pm
Whiting Bay Golf Club, 9pm
9.45am to 10.30am Auchrannie Hotel Pool
10am to 11am Auchrannie Studio
The Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Behind Library, 7pm - 9pm
Bar Eden, 9pm - 1am
See ad page 13
Corrie Hall, 8pm - 10pm

SATURDAY 11th JUNE

Arran Folk Festival

See ad page 13

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9 – 12 JUNE 2011

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Boat handling and forklift certificates would be desirable.

A full, clean driving licence is also essential for this position.

In return, the Company offers a comprehensive pay and benefits package.

For an application form and job description, please contact:

The Scottish Salmon Company, HR Department, Ardkinglas Estate, Cairndow, Argyll, PA26 8BH. Tel. No. 01499 600 435 / 600 415

Email: cairndowhr@scottishsalmon.com

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Pirnmill, 10.45am
Shiskine Church, 12pm
A Service of Worship will also be held in Montrose House at 1.30pm.

WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(SC014005)

Sunday 5 June

Worship will be led by the minister, Rev Elizabeth Watson at 10.30am. Tea and coffee will be served after the service.

All most welcome.

There will be service in Cooriedoon at 2.30pm and Craigielea at 3.15pm.

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Vigil Mass 7.30pm

Morning Mass 11am

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

Sunday 5 June

2 The Lodge, North Newton, Lochranza

11am

Enquiries to Steph 830210

All are welcome

DEATHS

BALFOUR,-DAVID NEILL RALSTON.

11/11/1954 – 23/05/2011
Peacefully, on Monday 23rd May 2011, at Victoria Hospice, Kirkcaldy, Fife. Much loved son of Rosemary and the late David Balfour Snr. Father to Jack. Soul mate and husband to Mel. David will be dearly missed by sisters Claire, Fiona, brother Scott, and his much loved family and friends. Burial on Friday 3rd June at 11.30am, Lamlash Cemetery, Isle of Arran. All family and friends are cordially invited. Thereafter, a memorial and celebration of his life at Kildonan Hotel. Donations to Victoria Hospice, Kirkcaldy.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

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

Applications listed below together with the plans and other documents submitted with them may be examined at Corporate Services, Cunningham House, Irvine* between the hours of 9am and 4.45pm on weekdays (4.30pm Fridays) excepting Saturdays and Public Holidays or at www.eplanning.north-ayrshire.gov.uk

Written representations may be made to the Solicitor to the Council (Corporate Services) at the address below by 24 June 2011.

Any representations received will be open to public view.

*and at The Council Offices, Lamlash

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

Notice of application to be published under regulation 20(1)

Application No: 10/00780/PP Address: Site To East Of Ceol Na Mara, Kings Cross, Brodick, Isle Of Arran. Proposed Development: Erection of 2 one and a half storey dwelling houses.

Elma Murray
Chief Executive
Cunningham House
IRVINE KA12 8EE



NORTH AYRSHIRE
COUNCIL

**Brodick Primary
School
Parent
Council
AGM**

13th June at 7.30pm
All parents welcome

**ArCaS
AGM
Wednesday 15th
June
7.00pm**

Ormidale
Pavilion

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND (continuing)

Sunday 5 June

Morning Service 11am
Trust Housing Lounge
Glen Estate, Brodick
Evening Service 7pm
13 Glen Avenue, Brodick

Prayer Meeting
Wednesday 8 June 7pm
5 Glen Road, Brodick
All welcome

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH.

Sunday 29 May

Tea and Coffee from 10.40am
11.00am - Morning Worship
Speaker: Rev Foster Wright
Everyone very welcome

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

North Arran: Brodick,
Corrie, Lochranza,

Pirnmill and Shiskine.

Independent but working together.

Minister

Rev Angus Adamson.

Parish Asst

Mrs Jean Hunter.

Worship will be conducted in the above churches at the following times. to which all are invited - Families, young people and children welcome

Sunday 5 June

Brodick Church, 10.30am,
Corrie Church, 12pm
Lochranza, 9.30am,

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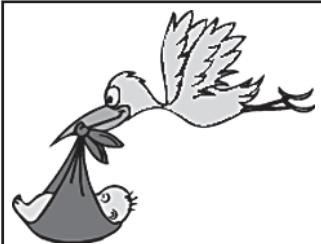


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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**Earle, Gladys**

Gladys's family would like to thank everyone for sharing the celebration of her life on Monday at Kilmory Church. Our heartfelt thanks go to all the wonderful nurses and doctors who cared for Gladys and allowed her to die peacefully with the dignity that she deserved. Special thanks to Rev. Gillean MacLean for a truly inspirational service and for all her support, especially in the last few weeks. Many thanks to Jim Arnold and Ian Clarke for playing Gladys's choice of music. Thanks also to the staff and residents of McElvie Road for the support and friendship shown to Gladys in the last year. We are very grateful to Mary and staff at the Lagg Hotel for the excellent hospitality and to David and Claire Hendry for their care and organisation. Retiring collection totalled £200 for Hospital Supporters League.

BIRTHS**McKinnon-Williamson**

Jamie and Michelle are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter, Isla Jaye, on Wednesday 25th May, 2011 (7lbs 4). Sister for Zara, Granddaughter for Lyn and Barrie (NZ), Sine and the late James (Sannox). Great-Granddaughter for Dick (NZ), Peter and Jean (Lamlash). Born on 25 May 2011.

PERSONAL**HAPPY 1ST ANNIVERSARY PAUL,**

All my love, Hannah

Guess Who's 18

Lots of Love
Mum, James and all the
family xxx

Happy 21st birthday Katy

Lots of love from all the family
xxx

DIAMOND WEDDING

Married on 2nd June 1951
Jean & Peter Allan of Lamlash



with much love and best
wishes from Robert, Sine,
Lesley & Midge, their
families, many grandchildren
and great grandchildren at
home and abroad.

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**Whiting Bay Golf Club**

Ladies: Sunday 22 May, blustery was the word of the day at Sunday's Ladies Crystal Qualifier!

Seven ladies came along and as the top eight go through to the knockout we knew at the start we had all 'qualified' and it would just be a case of determining who would play who!

Due to the conditions, not one of us played in our buffer zone and in fact only one of the 23 men in their equivalent qualifying competition did! It was therefore 'reductions only' for all! - phew.

The final result was very tight and it went to the better inward half results. Susan Butchard and Lynn Walker were equal with a net 72. Lynn however took first place on the better inward half. Susan won scratch with an 87 - well done.

Gents: Wednesday 25 May. 16 played in the latest round of the Summer Trophy on a day when blustery showers made scoring very tricky and the CSS was again up two strokes to 65.

Graeme Crichton (13) 62, Malcolm Pennycott (1) 65, Peter Smith (20) 66. Malcolm also won scratch with 66 and there were 2 magic twos from Malcolm and one from Graeme.

Sunday 29 May. 18 played in the second round of the McKelvie Cup and qualifier for the Club Championship, CSS 63. Once again the tricky wind and wet underfoot conditions made scoring difficult, although there were some excellent scores.

Jamie MacPherson (5) 61 bih, Kevin Jackson (11) 61, Malcolm Pennycott (1) 62. Malcolm also won scratch with 63 and had the only magic two of the day at the 15th.

The overall winner of the McKelvie Cup was Malcolm Pennycott with a total of 125. Draw for the Club Championship: Malcolm Pennycott v John Pennycott, Gus MacLeod v Kevin Jackson, Nicol Auld v John Simmons, Jamie MacPherson v David Morrison.

Fixtures: Sunday 5 June - Gents Medal, Monday 6 Tuesday 7, Seniors Open. Wednesday 8 June, Summer Trophy.

Brodick Golf Club

Results: Wednesday 25 May, Summer Cup, 27 played, CSS 65. 1 Iain Sillars (13) 63, 2 Jimmy Armit (5) 63, 3 Alistair Hume (9) 65. Scratch Jimmy Armit 68. There were seven twos and Alan McNicol managed two.

Sunday 29 May, Navy Shield (Stableford), 27 played, CSS 65. 1 Henry Tait (20) 39 pts, 2 David Hendry (10) 38 pts, 3

**Lochranza Golf Club hold Texas Scramble**

The Texas Scramble at Lochranza golf course was played on one of the brightest and sunniest of May days last Monday. The event was sponsored by the Isle of Arran Distillery and overall winners were the White family from Harrogate.

Report in next week's Banner. b22tex02

Lindsay Keir (11) 35 pts. There was only one two, from David Hendry.

Fixtures: Saturday 4 June Duncan Sillars Trophy and second round of the Gents Club Championship tee off 1pm.

Monday 6 June quarter-finals of the Gents Club Championship 5.30pm tee off. Tuesday 7 June 2nd round of the Ladies Championship and Peter Sutton tee off 12.30/5.30pm.

Thursday 9 June Presidents Cup, tee off 5.30pm.

Corrie Golf Club

Results: Saturday 28 May Summer cup, 19 played. Sweep 1 A Napier 66-5=61, 2 E Cannon 80-17=63 bih, 3 J Smith 81-18=63. Best scratch E McKinon 64, magic twos A Napier

2, D Logan, A Cumming, D Crawford, C Pattenden, M Sherwood.

Friday 3 June semi final Club championship, Saturday 4 June Summer cup, 8.30am, 1pm and 1.45pm.

Arran Golfers Association

Fixtures: Thomson Matchplay second round ties to be played by Sunday 5 June, semi and finals day at Shiskine Golf Club on Saturday 11 June at 1pm and 6pm. Junior Kelso Cup Semi Finals at Whiting Bay Golf Club on Friday 3 June at 5pm. Draw: Brodick v Lamlash, Whiting Bay v Shiskine, final Friday 10 June at 5pm.



Golf professional Bill Lockie, coming to coach at Whiting Bay b22loc01

Golf coaching at Whiting Bay

Whiting Bay Golf Club is holding a special golf academy weekend of coaching with top professional Bill Lockie.

The club has an active gents membership, but is having a drive to increase membership, particularly among ladies and youngsters.

The two days of coaching are on Monday and Tuesday, 4 and 5 July.

Committee member Viv Parks said: 'All at Whiting Bay Golf Club are very excited at the prospect of Bill coaching for two days and would like to share these days with folk who would like to improve their golf.'

Bill Lockie is currently coaching professional at North Gailes, Irvine and was the professional at Barassie for 22 years.

The two days courses are limited to 15 people and there is a buffet supper and talk in the clubhouse by Bill on the Monday night.

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Sport

Arran's Weekly Newspaper

Bay FC notch first win in the north as Southend march on at Lamlash

Southend enjoyed a relatively comfortable away victory by five goals to one against a hard-working Lamlash team at the Recreation Park last Monday night.

A cool breeze kept the midges at bay, but Iain Bayne in

the Lamlash goal could not stop Southend's goal scoring machine Euan Ingram from notching another fine pair.

Bundled

Danny Head opened the scoring as he bundled the ball over the line in an early goalmouth

melee following a Frazer Barr corner. Euan Ingram added to the lead almost on half time as he connected with a long free kick by Danny from inside his own half and headed over Iain Bayne.

Grant Adamson pulled one back for Lamlash, but goals from Lewis Kennedy, Sandy Kelso and a second from Euan Ingram sealed the victory.

At the Lochranza Ewe Camp stadium, Arran's new boys, Bay FC, just managed to overcome a spirited Northend side by four goals to three. Northend were three down after only 25 minutes but fought back to almost clinch a draw.

At the Ormidale Pavilion, in yet another goal-filled match, Brodick beat Shiskine 6-2.

On Monday night (June 6) Brodick play Southend, Bay FC take on Lamlash and Shiskine are up against Northend.



Keeper Craig Black has his eye on the ball in this Lamlash attack. 02_b22soc02



Southend's Danny Head bundles the ball into the net after it had ricocheted round the Lamlash six-yard box. 02_b22soc01

Award winning players pick up prizes



The Arran Rugby Club's under-18s prize winners, from left to right, Liam Boal, Charlie Boal, Shauna Jameson and Liusaidh McMaster.

Arran's young rugby playing boys and girls celebrated the end of a fantastic season recently when they held their annual dinner at the Sannox Bay Hotel.

The youngsters enjoyed a three-course dinner before the prizegiving.

Sixteen-year-old Liam Boal from Brodick was named player of the year for his outstanding feats on the field throughout the season.

Another Boal of Brodick, Charlie this time, was given the most improved player award for working hard all year.

Young rugby star Shauna Jameson, aged 17, from Lamlash was given the girls player of the year award.

While most improved girls player went to fifteen-year-old Liusaidh McMaster of Shannochie.

Lamlash win Laidler-Gardiner Trophy after poor start

After making a very poor start by losing three of their first four games to Brodick, Lamlash have won the Laidler-Gardiner Trophy for 2011.

Although the weather was against them, all games were played in a spirit of friendship.

The bowlers were dogged throughout by bad weather, which made a mockery of the theory that bowls is a game played on warm summer evenings.

Rain or High Winds

Every match was played in cold weather with either rain or high wind as accompaniments, however no game had to be rescheduled because of the conditions, mostly due to the fortitude of the players.

The next event in the Federation programme is the Federation Tournament to be held at Blackwaterfoot on June 6, 7, 8 and 9. All matches begin at 7pm, spectators are welcome.

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING

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