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Arran's Weekly Newspaper

SATURDAY, 17th JUNE, 2006

No 1548

In this week's
Banner

Arran coastguard in 'major' rescue

Arran Coastguard team played its part in the rescue of a stricken 500-tonne French fishing vessel with nine crew on board on Sunday night.

And it has been described as a 'major one' by the local coastguard team with the full 15 crew in attendance.

The distress call resulted in an all vessels alert being put out.

The *Mariette Le Rock* reported loss of power to Clyde Coastguard at 8.50pm. It was drifting fast toward the iron rocks just off Cleats Shore in the Southend.

Deputy Coastguard team leader, Billy Currie said: 'It was a major one for us involving a full group page meaning the entire crew attended the incident.'

The French vessel had been making its way to Troon loaded with freshly-caught fish.

Quickly on the scene was Campbeltown's all-weather lifeboat crew who averted potential disaster. They ascertained they could hold the vessel until support arrived and tied a slip.

Billy said: 'They could barely hold it but did just enough to keep it off the rocks until 9.30pm when support arrived. The wind was a force six south easterly.'

The Red Empress Tug from

Troon was next on the scene skippered by Gordon Murray. This tug is a familiar site to islanders as it takes the timber barge from the island.

It took over from the lifeboat and hooked-up to the French vessel.

Owner of the tug, Robin Taylor said: 'We were the closest and made our way out when the call arrived. We are used to towing 500-tonnes so dealing with this was normal for us but we don't go to the aid of many broken down vessels.'

Local coastguard leader David McKinnon said: 'We set up generators and lamps on the shore and were prepared for the crew if they had to evacuate from the boat. We would have had to perform a cliff rescue to get the guys onto land.'

When the *Mariette Le Rock* arrived at the Wee Hurry quay in Troon at 1.40am, the sister tug of the *Red Empress* became involved. Robin explained: 'We needed both tugs to manoeuvre the vessel into the quay and help it to stop.'

On Tuesday another French fishing vessel arrived at Troon and towed the *Mariette Le Rock* back to France.

'They could barely hold it but did just enough to keep it off the rocks . . '

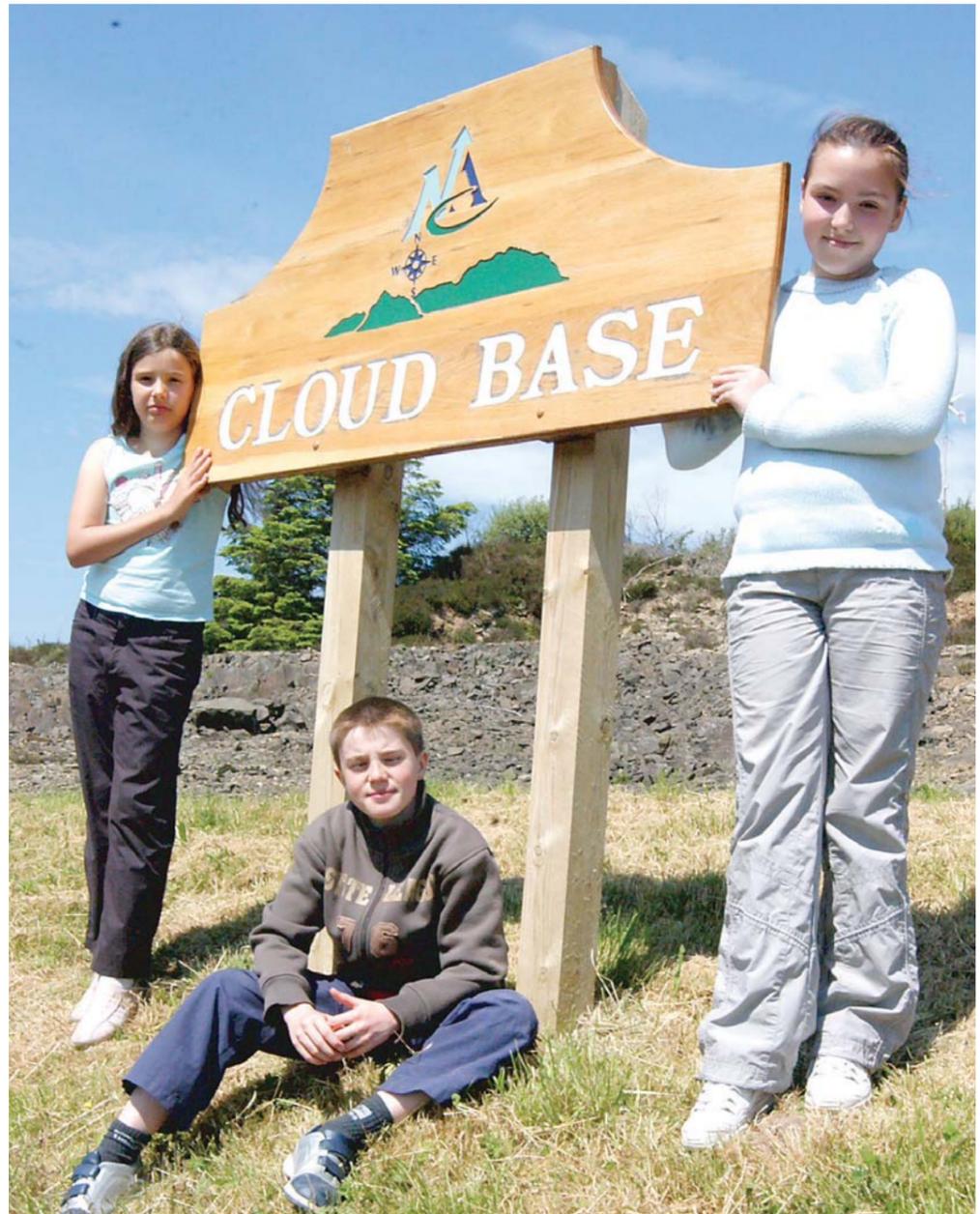
Teachers and pupils
on cloud nine



Arran High School
presents . . .



COAST speaks
out



Cloudbase was officially opened last Thursday at a special ceremony held at the eco-friendly camp 600 feet above Whiting Bay. Children from Whiting Bay primary, Skelmorlie primary and the James Macfarlane School for youngsters with additional needs joined representatives from North Ayrshire Council and Forestry Commission Scotland for the event. Primary children Nicola Kay, Ross Macdonald and Laura Paton are pictured at the Cloudbase sign. For the full story see pages 10 and 11. b24ed5b

Rescue teams battle to save hillwalker

A MAN has died after suffering a suspected heart attack while hill walking at The Saddle between Glen Rosa and Glen Sannox.

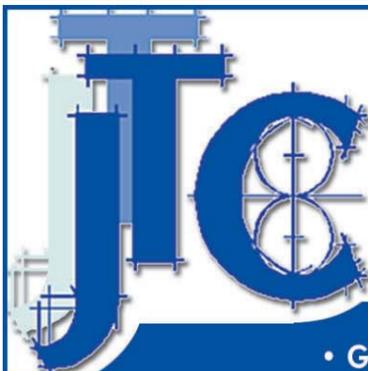
The 61-year-old from Edinburgh was with his wife when he became ill around 3.15pm on Sat-

urday. Members of the Arran Mountain Rescue Team were monitoring the Horse Shoe Race nearby and were called away to help the casualty.

On arrival a team member administered CPR and a helicopter

was requested from HMS Gannet.

The rescue team continued their attempt to revive the man using a defibrillator until the arrival of the helicopter but he died on the hill.



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Brodick to run its own hall

Brodick Hall will be run locally from Monday meaning two-thirds of all income raised from bookings will be put back it.

All management and bookings will now be handled by the newly established Brodick Hall Community Association (BHCA).

Headed up by BHCA chairman John Sillars, the group have been pursuing this option since September last year.

John said: 'We will be able to facilitate the whole procedure and it will be easier for people to make contact and stay in contact with us.'

Mr Sillars will be handling the hall bookings.

BHCA member Ian Small believes it to be a great thing for the community. He said: 'This is a return to the way it used to be run.'

'If people wish to book the hall they will now be able to do so in Brodick making the whole thing much easier.'

'It should also eliminate the risk of double bookings.'

North Ayrshire Council will still own Brodick Hall and will continue to supply caretaking, cleaning and maintenance services.

NAC will take one-third of all income generated from hall bookings. A spokesperson for North Ayrshire Council said: 'On a practical basis this means that from Monday anyone wishing to book Brodick Hall should contact John Sillars.'

'Do not phone the Council Contact Centre in Irvine.'

John concluded: 'Hopefully in a couple of years we will have generated enough income to re-invest into the hall and improve any areas that need work.'



Hall committee chairman John Sillars outside Brodick Hall. t24hal1

Disruption ahead

Arran road users are in for disruptions next week as surface dressing work gets underway.

On Monday the Kildonan high road will be closed for most of the day as work on a 3km stretch gets underway. With bitumen coming over from the mainland a spokesperson for the roads department explained that work could last until Tuesday.

Road users will be diverted onto the Kildonan low road.

Those travelling north on Tuesday will be affected by a lengthy detour as a 1k stretch of surface dressing at Kings Caves gets underway. A detour will be in place through Shiskine and the Machrie Moor road.

Head of roads on Arran for North Ayrshire Council, Richard Wright said: 'We apologise for any inconvenience caused by these roadworks. However, it is essential maintenance work for the upgrade of Arran's roads.'

Mine found in Brodick Bay

A mine was discovered in Brodick Bay on Wednesday when it was trawled by fishing boat *Nancy Glen*.

The vessel dropped the device 100 metres off the Brodick shore and marked it before contacting the coastguard which, in turn, called out the Navy Ordnance Explosives Disposal (OED) Unit which removed the mine.

A spokesperson for Arran coastguard said it was discovered the device was a practice mine but the *Nancy Glen* crew had done the right thing by not carrying it any long distance.

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Police Files

Indecent assault

On Wednesday 7 June a 46-year-old Brodick man was charged with alleged indecent assault on two 10-year-old girls.

A police spokesman said that the charge related to an incident or incidents eight years ago.

Toilets incident

A 60-year-old man from Cheshire has been charged with an alleged breach of the peace after an incident at the public toilets in Brodick at 2pm last Friday, June 9.

A report has been sent to the procurator fiscal.

Window smashed

A window at the back of Arran High School was smashed when a drain cover was removed and thrown through it over last weekend.

Another drain cover was broken.

Lamlash Police are appealing to any witnesses who may have seen anything to contact them.

Breach of peace

A man has been arrested for an alleged breach of the peace at 3.40am on Tuesday.

The 23-year-old was apprehended following an incident at a Brodick hotel.

Brigade Bulletin

Heath fire

Brodick and Lamlash appliances from Strathclyde Fire and Rescue tackled a heath fire at Dundhu for three hours last Saturday, June 10.

A call from Corriegills Farm was received at 7.40pm and fire crews were mobilised within six minutes.

The crews arrived at the fire at 8pm and the blaze was dealt with by 11pm.

Lack of signs could cost Island lives

An Arran ambulance driver says islanders who are not showing house name signs are causing delays to response times and could endanger lives.

Paramedic Neil Gillies has stressed the importance of putting up a sign and has warned islanders that emergency services are finding it increasingly difficult to keep track of new houses or changes to house names.

Mr Gillies said: 'A sign costing a few pounds could save minutes, which could save your, or a member of your family's, life.'

'We estimate that there are literally hundreds of properties not signed adequately, if at all.'

'All houses and work places should have sufficient signage and adequate access to enable emergency services and health care providers to reach people safely and quickly in all weath-

ers, day and night.'

Mr Gillies said people also need to consider whether their house could be seen clearly from the road.

'If people feel their property or workplace do not meet this criteria, they should consider rectifying the situation immediately.'

'This may be as simple as putting up a sign on your house, gate, or at your track end, or trimming back hedgerows, or cutting down low-lying tree branches.'

First Responders mapping may provide the answer

Mr Gillies used the low lying branches near houses in Whiting Bay as an example.

However, despite these problems in the south, the north end of the island seems to have come up with an effective solution.

Arran's voluntary medical response group, First Responders, has developed a way of mapping the north end of the island specifically for emergency services.

The group's chairwoman Fiona Laing spent a week mapping and cross referencing all the houses in the area of Pirnmill, Catacol and Lochranza.

The map is used by the First Responders but also by the ambulance service when it gets a call to the north end of the island.

First Responder and fire engine driver Norman Bond agreed signage on many houses was poor.

He told *The Arran Banner*: 'Until we got the map we were relying on local knowledge which

made it quite difficult if we didn't have someone local on duty.'

'It can be difficult if they don't display their signs.'

'There are so many new houses being built and others changing name so we need to constantly update our list.'

Miss Laing said: 'The mapping means people are more confident of finding places and it is easier than driving up and down looking for somewhere.'

'I think the ambulance service would like the other villages to do the same thing.'

Miss Laing said the maps needed to be drawn up by locals as they knew their area the best.

The Scottish Ambulance Service will visit premises to offer advice on any signage and access improvements. To arrange a visit contact Lamlash Ambulance Station on 01770 600356.

Child protection meeting held in Brodick



Representatives from schools, pre schools and other social care professionals at the Ormidale Pavilion. b24epc1

Protect our children was the message sent out at a practitioners forum held in the Ormidale Sports Pavilion on Tuesday.

They were trying to convey the message that child protection is everyone's business.

North Ayrshire Council child protection committee brought together professionals and people involved in the health, social and volunteer sectors.

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At a meeting of the Scottish Coastal Forum at Auchrannie Spa on Wednesday, members of COAST gave a presentation to the forum which included its proposal for a 'No Take Zone' in Lamlash Bay. Pictured are, from left, Scottish Coastal Forum project officer Stephen Midgley, Don McNeish of COAST, Scottish Coastal Forum chairman Jim Simpson and Howard Wood of COAST. b24scf01

COAST throws down the gauntlet

Members of the community of the Isle of Arran have accused the Scottish Executive's Environment and Rural Affairs Department (SEERAD) of ignorance and intransigence, claiming their community is being ignored and treated with disrespect.

However SEERAD has said there is 'no spat' between itself and the Community of Arran Seabed Trust (COAST).

COAST represents around 1,500 members of the community on Arran and has proposed to establish a small 'No Take Zone' for fish and shellfish fisheries to help marine regeneration in Lamlash Bay.

Representatives from COAST have been in contact with officials from SEERAD and its pre-devolution predecessor since 1995.

The COAST representatives met with Scottish Environment Minister, Ross Finnie MSP, in May last year when the minister promised to seriously consider COAST's proposal (which he received in February 2005) and write to them with his decision.

Over a year later, the COAST representatives are still waiting to hear back from the minister or SEERAD, despite having regularly contacted the department and involved local politicians.

On Wednesday COAST gave a presentation at Auchrannie Spa to members of the Scottish Coastal Forum, which includes SEERAD, in a bid to put their point across.

Don MacNeish from COAST said: 'It seems that SEERAD officials just won't engage with us. They don't reply to our correspondence and fail to respond to

cross-party MSPs. The relevant SEERAD officials are behaving disgracefully by ignoring our island community.'

COAST's campaign enjoys the support of a number of high-profile and key politicians, including Scotland's First Minister, Jack McConnell MSP, a native of the Isle of Arran; local MSP and former deputy environment minister Allan Wilson; local North Ayrshire councillor, Margie Currie and a number of West of Scotland list MSPs.

Howard Wood from COAST continued said: 'We have been left with no other option but to embarrass SEERAD into action. We will not give up on our community campaign, one which stands to benefit everyone, just because we're being ignored by some unelected, faceless suits.'

Regardless of its difficulties with SEERAD, COAST has been successful in taking forward its campaign through a petition to the Scottish Parliament's Public Petitions Committee.

The petition made such an impact with the committee it will be heard by the Scottish Parliament's Environment and Rural Affairs Committee over the coming months. The Committee has the power to compel SEERAD officials to re-engage.

A Scottish Executive spokeswoman said: 'We are writing to COAST to set out the way forward and will make an announcement once we have informed COAST directly.'

'There is no spat. The First Minister is entirely satisfied for this matter to be dealt with by environment and rural development colleagues.'

Village events could suffer

Annual events in Lamlash could suffer this year following more vandalism in the village.

Residents were dismayed to find seven flower tubs in the village had been vandalised over the weekend.

This follows an incident at the end of April when numerous properties in the village were spray painted with obscene slogans.

As a result Lamlash Improve-

ments Association is now having to dip into its 50/50 club fund and replace the plants meaning events such as the popular Lamlash Gala week, Guy Fawkes night, and the Christmas parade will all be affected.

North Ayrshire Council's budget is already spent, further compounding the vandalism.

'We are saddened and disappointed,' said Carol Mitchell of the Lamlash Improvements Association (LIA).

'What do we need to do to get people to take a pride in their village?'

Seven cordyline palms were ripped from the pots and left

strewn on the grass in the area across from Lamlash Co-op.

Carol continued: 'I have spoken with our chairman Jock Kane and he is of the same opinion.'

'Yes, we will pay for replacements, but we feel that the money could be far better spent on village events than sorting out vandalism.'

Stevie Bunyan, contract supervisor, grounds maintenance for North Ayrshire Council on Arran, has told the committee that while this is no new thing in Lamlash it is the only area that it happens in.

Carol concluded: 'What message does this send out to folk about Lamlash?'

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Clyde Coastguard's watersports warning

As temperatures have risen so to have leisure activities and Clyde Coastguard have issued a stern reminder to all those using the sea and coast.

And the message is simple: 'Take care in and around the water.'

A spokesperson for Clyde Coastguard said: 'The good weather has resulted in a big increase in persons using the Firth of Clyde for recreational activities.'

'When going out in the sea always check the weather before hand and get information on tides.'

Those using jet-skis and other small craft have also come under scrutiny.

Ferries

The spokesperson continued:

'Don't play near big ferries, tankers or other vessels as they can't stop as quick and are not as manoeuvrable.'

Concrete

'Helmets should always be worn - hitting the water is like hitting concrete and buoyancy aids should also be a standard piece of kit.'

'When using small craft close to residential areas the aspect of noise should also be taken into consideration as the sound from the engines can travel far.'

'It is also a good idea to carry mini flares and a VHF radio if possible, tuned to the emergency channel 16.'

The general message is to apply common sense to activities when going out in the sea and walking around cliff edges.

'Let someone know where you are going, how long you intend to be and importantly what you are wearing.'

'This makes you much more identifiable from the air if a helicopter is tasked it greatly helps with the search.'

'Always keep children close by and be particularly careful when using small inflatables, we had several calls with incidents involving them last weekend.'

Alcohol

'Alcohol should not be consumed before going in the water - the two can be a lethal combination'

'We would rather be called out early to a false alarm - it is always better to be safe than sorry.'

Information on tides can be seen each week in *The Arran Banner*.

Lifeboat crew saves Swedish couple from reef

Arran lifeboat *The Boys Brigade* went to the aid of a yacht that had run aground last Thursday evening.

The seven metre *Bridan II* got into difficulties on a reef between Pladda and Kildonan.

The crew's press officer Allan Little said: 'We were able to tow the yacht from the reef and back to Lamlash.'

'It had sustained no damage.'

'The water in the area does become very shallow very quickly but it is well charted on maps.'

The only persons aboard were a Swedish couple who were uninjured.

The lifeboat and crew returned to the Lamlash station shortly before 7pm after having been out for an hour.

Local heroes up for award

Arran Mountain Rescue Team has been shortlisted for a voluntary award which recognises local heroes.

As *The Arran Banner* went to press, representatives of the team were attending the Nationwide Awards for Voluntary Endeavour at the Marriot Hotel, Edinburgh.

According to sponsors of the awards, Nationwide, the group has been nominated because: 'This group of people risk life and limb, night and day, whatever the conditions, to assist anyone lost or injured on the Isle of Arran.'

'They give up every weekend in order to train and keep up to date with the latest rescue technology and are always alert, ready and willing to jump into action without knowing when they will return, sometimes risking their own lives for others.'

In the Adult - Group category Arran Mountain Rescue Team is up against Opportunites in Retirement, Ayr.

This group is made up of 1,700 retired members, many of whom have been widowed, who get together and organise various activities. There are three other sections: Young People Under-18 - Individual; Young People Under-18 - Group; and Adult - Individual.



Arran's Argyll College students of the year, from left, Shiela Gilmore, Catriona McIntyre and Laura Blythe. b24eer01

Arran's students of the year

Three Arran women who have recently completed distance learning courses have been awarded for their effort and named as students of the year.

Shiela Gilmore, Catriona McIntyre and Laura Blythe have each taken on courses with Argyll College which has a centre on Arran.

They were presented with their certificates by Michael Breslin of Argyll College at a prizegiving at the Arran Learning Centre, Lamlash. Learning centre manager Liz Sloan congratulated all three and

said they were given the awards for their performance and commitment on their courses.

Shiela is the first student on Arran to study at degree level through the college.



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Rehearsals for this year's high school show *West Side Story* are well underway. Our photograph shows lead Paul Tinto who plays Tony and Sabrina Beaton who plays Maria. They are members of rival gangs, Tony is in the Jets and Maria is in the Sharks and eventually they become lovers. b24lov1

High school news

Alton Towers trip

On Wednesday 24 May no fewer than 87 S1 to S3 pupils and nine teachers embarked on what was to be a fantastic two day trip to Alton Towers, organised by Mr Barr.

After a full day at school, the group departed on the 6.40pm ferry and by 9.45pm they were scoffing popcorn and wondering at the mystery that had made them squander their money to watch the Da-Vinci Code. Some pupils then managed to catch some sleep during the bus journey to Alton Towers which arrived at 7am.

Good weather prevailed and the group were able to enjoy such rides as the exhilarating Oblivion, which in the words of Scott Innes: 'Involves going right above the park the being released down a vertical drop.' Other white knuckle rides included Air, Rita and Nemesis. The River Rapids also proved popular with Scott adding: 'They involved sitting in a round boat and being thrown about in a river and getting absolutely soaked by waves and waterfalls.'

After a thrilling six hours at the park, the group departed for the Splash Landings Hotel at which the group had a delicious buffet dinner and finished the day with a disco till 10pm.

Yet, even though all the Arran pupils were tucked up in bed, the excitement didn't stop there, as the fire alarm went off at 1am and the bleary eyed pupils and staff emerged in the main lobby only to be told it was a false alarm!

Before leaving the hotel at 12.00, the pupils spent one last hour at the Cariba Creek Water Park where Mr Barr's favourite ride turned out to be the Master Blaster (which is not unlike the River Rapids).

The group arrived in Ardrossan only to see the ferry just leaving.

So after a quick excursion to the local chip shop the group set about keeping themselves entertained until the next boat arrived.

The staff on the trip commented on the pupils' excellent behaviour both on the buses and in the hotel. The hotel staff also congratulated pupils on their outstanding conduct.

All pupils interviewed wished to express their thanks to Mr Barr and all the other teachers involved in the very enjoyable and successful trip.

Patrick McMaster

High school heaven for primary seven

Long bus rides and bustling corridors were some of the terrors P7 pupils faced on their introduction to Arran High School last week.

The new S1 pupils arrived on Wednesday 9 June, and started to adjust to high school life over the following two days.

Each pupil was assigned a buddy who will assist them over the coming year. The buddies also helped to make them feel at home and showed them around the school complex during the three days.

Even though at first they were rather nervous, tended to get lost quite easily in this small school, and usually showed many signs of being petrified, by the end of the three day trial, we are assured that they will stop hiding in the corners of the playground and start to blossom.

Some have already shown signs of settling in, thanks to the other pupils and teachers - who may have appeared scary at first but turned out to be helpful, kind and good to have around.

We are looking forward to seeing all the bright-eyed, bushy tailed S1 students after the holidays and we hope that they have enjoyed a fun-filled high school experience this week, which will

hopefully continue for the rest of their school life.

Rebecca Coulthard and Eilidh Kerr, S4

Best side story

Bad puns aside, the whole school is gearing up for what looks set to be one of the greatest theatrical performances of all time.

No, not the World Cup, but in fact the Arran High School production of *West Side Story*.

The show will be running for five nights at the Auchrannie Games Hall, from Tuesday 20 to the grand finale on Saturday 24 June.

Tickets are available from the school office and the Book and Card Centre. They are on sale now, with tickets said to be selling out fast so make sure you get yours quickly.

This is surely an experience not to be missed, with not only fantastic actors, a phenomenal set and professional musicians, but we have been promised that half time refreshments will be on sale! Rumours that ice creams will also be available have yet to be confirmed.

Despite characters becoming pre-occupied in their roles, gang violence has not yet surfaced at Arran High School. Jets gang member Jamie Cleland, a.k.a. Action, has this to say: 'We're all very excited about this show. All the performances are going to be amazing and Mrs Gough and Mrs Hamilton are certainly working us hard.'

Eilidh Kerr, a talented dancer in the show, told High School News that the *West Side Story* will surely be a triumph and should be very entertaining, especially when Calum starts singing.

You should all go out and buy tickets for *West Side Story*, or the Sharks and Jets will come and look intimidating outside your house!

Liam Turbett and Calum Johnston, S5.

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Report from Brussels

by Elspeth Attwooll

I mentioned last month that the Parliament was working to get various improvements in the rules about the spending of European funding from 2007 on.

I'm delighted to report that greater emphasis on accessibility for disabled people and on protecting the environment have been agreed by the governments, as has a stronger input into the decision making process at local level.

We plan to vote the final version of the rules at the beginning of July and the Scottish MEPs are currently talking with MSPs, local authorities, educational bodies and voluntary groups about priorities and mechanisms for delivering the funding here at home.

I can also report success for the Parliament on the issue of providing services from one part of the EU to the other, as the govern-

ments have largely agreed with the compromise we reached. Of course, we shall have to look at the detail when it comes back but so far the news is good.

Things have remained busy on the fisheries front, including two days in Greece looking at fish farming there and one down in the South West of England meeting with recreational sea anglers.

Otherwise business outside the Parliament has, as usual, taken me to different parts of Scotland. Two particularly interesting events were a Youth Forum in Edinburgh and a Pensioners Forum in Inverness.

The first was organised by the Scottish Parliament as part of its wider consultation on European issues. Eight schools from around Scotland (drawn by lot) provided participants. Their contributions to the discussion were

impressive and the MSPs and MEPs involved came away with a great deal of food for thought.

The pensions discussion in Inverness was a much more informal occasion, following on from the recent plans for change announced by the UK government. Although the EU deals directly with pensions only from the point of view of making sure that they can be moved from one member country to another, they have an important role in its wider goal of combating social exclusion. So I found the points made, particularly about how women are affected, really helpful ones.

On these or any other issues please feel free to contact me at: Parliamentary Office, 2nd Floor, 142 Queen Street, Glasgow. G1 3BU. Telephone: 0141 243 2421 Email: info@elspethattwoollmep.org.uk

SWRI Arran Federation meeting

At a meeting held in the Auchrannie Spa on Thursday 1 June, Mrs Dale welcomed all delegates and noted an apology from the Lochranza Institute.

Delegates expressed concern on hearing Mrs Margaret Marriot was in hospital and agreed a card be sent to her expressing good wishes for a speedy recovery.

Trophies: A suitable competition for the Lady Jean Trophy was discussed, after which delegates were asked to bring suggestions to the September meeting. With regard to the Bracken Trophy, it was agreed to ask the Heritage Museum to hold it in safe keeping.

Annual Show: Delegates were asked to note Mrs Margaret Stewart will convene this year's show and not Mrs Margaret Wood as shown in the schedule. A sub-committee was formed to finalise arrangement.

Central Council: In the absence of Mrs Anne Pringle this report was circulated, arising

from which the Morgan Trophy competition next year will be for a Dundee cake baked in a Heinz pudding tin.

The Matter of Opinion competition will be held in Wigtown on 21 October, details of which can be obtained from Mrs Duff by 7 July.

Annual Conference: The theme for this year is 'The Way Ahead'.

Levy: Treasurers take note that the levy for 2007 will be £5 -50, payable in November.

Celebrations: It was noted all federations will make plans for the joint fundraising to celebrate the SWRI's 90th birthday in June next year.

Before closing the meeting the president thanked Mrs Gill Edmonds for her very considerable contribution to the rural as secretary and vice president.

Gill and her husband Reg are returning to Yorkshire after nearly thirteen years on Arran. They leave with the group's best

wishes. **AGM:** At the AGM following the meeting Mrs Liz Dale retired as president. The new office bearers are: President, Mrs Eunice Williamson. Vice President, Mrs Gerry Arthur. Secretary, Mrs Mairi Duff. Treasurer, Mrs Alice Raily. Press secretary, Mrs Grace Sillars. H&H secretary, Mrs Elma Stevenson. Central councillor, Mrs Anne Pringle. Proxy, Mrs E.McCormack.

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From left: Alan McGregor, Programme Director, of Impact Communications and John Urquhart, Business Development Officer, North Ayrshire Council (Right) present recent Arran-based Customer Care workshop delegates (from left to right) William MacLean of Arran Hideaways, Catriona Bell and Anne Tattersfield, both of Arran Aromatics and Julie Millar, Marie Park and Kirsty Evans all of Arran Hideaways with completion certificates.

Customer care skills boosted

A dozen delegates from businesses across North Ayrshire and Arran had a real opportunity to learn how to give their customers the royal treatment.

More than half were from Arran and the course held last month has boosted their customer care skills.

By taking part in this training workshop provided by local training providers Impact Communications in association with North Ayrshire Council and the European Social Fund they all

left with certificates of achievement.

Stevenston-based Impact Communications, a National Training Award winner, have a track record in providing business training.

The latest Customer Care workshop was held at the APL Centre on Wednesday, 24 May. The workshop was fully subscribed.

As over half the delegates on the programme were attending from Arran-based businesses,

the group have announced that they are now looking at organising another Customer Care workshop on Arran later this year.

Kirsty Evans from Arran Hideaways said: 'The training was very informative.

'I'm looking forward to putting into practice all the points I learned at the workshop.'

To enquire about a place on a future customer care workshop visit www.impactscotland.com

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THE ARRAN

BANNER

ARRAN'S WEEKLY PAPER

Saturday 17 JUN, 2006

Obituaries make interesting reading. They can cover aspects of a person's life you did not know. You may never even have heard of a person until their death, but still find interest in their life.

The other day I read a lady's obituary. Brief details are often listed, their profession or any reason for eminence they may have had, politician, adventurer, actor. This lady was listed as a mother. My first thought was why not? The writer had the same surname as the deceased, probably a relative. Again, why not? Humble lives can be just as interesting as the famous, and much more interesting than actors. Then it mentioned buses and I realised that the Brian Souter who had written it was the wealthy bus entrepreneur. He was writing about his own mother.

Again I thought why not. It was rather a nice filial thing to do. But how very few do it. Among the most frequent comments to The Banner has always been, I thought there would have been a piece when so and so died? But there wasn't and at least I was not surprised. Experience has shown us that almost everybody shirks this task. They expect it, they want someone to do it, but they will not tackle it themselves. It is too fraught with the risk of criticism.

I have one cringe making obituary experience. A lady telephoned and asked me to write an obituary about an ancient lady from Lochranza. Not only had I never met the deceased, I had not even heard of her. Stupidly, I gave in to the pleadings and got as much information as I could and put some words together. It wasn't the best, but there it was. On the Saturday a Brodick man approached me and angrily referred to the obituary, adding that it read as if the writer had not known the lady. He hadn't, I said, but should have added, why didn't you write it yourself if you knew her so well?

Had I added that, he would not have understood. He was one of those who always expects that somebody else will do it. However, it did make me vow never to write another obituary unless I had been acquainted with the deceased. Even then one gets criticised. Only last year I wrote one and the man's son kept phoning to complain. When I asked what was wrong he said it was totally accurate, but still grumbled.

You don't write an obituary to get praise. You do it because it marks an ending, as does a funeral. One kenspeckle figure in Lam-lash asks, whenever I meet him, if I have his obituary regularly updated. There is another man who would write obituaries which were mere lists of the committees the deceased had been a member of. There was a lady in Lam-lash who died last year who, when younger, had written obituaries yet more than one person had asked me not to publish anything she wrote about them after their death.

Obviously some hit the mark better than others but all mark something significant and are well intended. What a pity more people do not have the courage to write something about those whom they knew. After all, there is no such thing as a bad obituary, even if the deceased was simply a mother.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

*Ephesians 4:32***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.net

Letters to the Editor**A wild evening**

Sir,
The poster said 'Rock, Blues and Soul' and your writer can certainly confirm the 'Rock' was solid, the 'Blues' were beautifully melancholy, and the 'Soul' had a heart and warmth you could almost touch.

Nikki Surridge's singing style was as broad as a boulevard and the trio of Andy Surridge, lead guitar, Andy McCallum, bass guitar and drummer Robin Fisher were totally together with Nikki in every number they played.

At times their rock numbers were like the old football cliché 'simmit and drawers' as they really put everything into it.

Their first number *I'm Ready*, laid out their stall in no uncertain manner and made everyone sit up and take notice - just what was needed to get things going.

A notable highlight of the first half was the Nina Simone track *Feeling Good* which was quite outstanding. *Fingerprints* featured brilliant solo work from Andy Surridge and *Take Another Piece of my Heart* was great soul singing from Nikki which brought the first half to an end.

Black Dog got the second half off to a flying start and a really fun number *I've Seen You Naked* composed by Andy Surridge featured another strident solo as did *Wishing Well* - two virtuoso guitar performances to remember.

I have to say that throughout the evening although the band have only played together for two years, they were really playing as a unit and Nikki was leading them in a most professional manner.

A medley in the second half, including *Staying Alive*, *Lady Marmalade* and *Think*, went down a storm with the punters, but for this writer *Take Me to the River* was really wild and summed up the whole evening.

Things can only take off!

Yours,
Harry Ross,
Whiting Bay

Dirty dogs

Sir,
This letter is for the couple who visited Balmichael Visitor Centre around lunchtime on Friday 9 June with the two Border Collies who very kindly let them defecate on the grass by the footpath entrance whilst I was cutting it then

decided to drive off without cleaning up after their dogs.

Firstly: It's people like you that give responsible dog owners a bad name.

Secondly: Please don't come back, you won't be welcome.
Yours,
Darryl and Lucy Urquhart-Dixon,
proprietors
Balmichael Visitor Centre,
Arran.

Accent and ancestry

Sir,
I refer to the letter from B.Michell-Luker in Saturday 10 June's edition of *The Banner*.

Obviously he is making the all-too-common mistake of confusing accent with ancestry.

Once a Scot, always a Scot, no matter what accent develops over the years. As someone born and bred in Arran, I have never spoken like Mollie Weir's Supergrannie (nor do any other Arranites) - despite six happy years living in Glasgow - and have no trouble in being instantly recognised as a Scot.

I have many English friends, both on and off the island (even some relatives!) and any so-called 'Scots chips on the shoulder against the English' are caused by the likes of Mr Mitchell-Luker making such inane statements.

Yours,
E Clarke
Windsong
Shiskine
PS: At least the poor lady he accosted would never have mistaken him for a Scot - thank goodness!

Alive and Kicking

Sir,
To the Pirnmill residents who this may concern we are still alive and kicking, our owner did not shoot us.
Yours,
Spot and Beavis,
Birchwood Cottage,
Pirnmill

School Fayre

Sir
May I through your columns take the opportunity to say a huge thank you to parents, friends,

staff and the fundraising group, all of whom played a most valued part in making Brodick Primary School Fayre such a success.

Special thanks go to the following who generously donated star prizes: Arran Adventure, ACS, Arran Aromatics, Arran Asia, Arran Provisions, Auchrannie Country House Hotel, Bilislands, Brodick Bar, Brodick Castle and Country Park, Brodick Golf Club shop, Brodick Nursery Gardens, Corrie Tearoom, Sarah's Salon, UK Resort Exchange.

Winners were: highest golf score, Harry Anderson; guess Teddy's birthday, Isla Sillars; buried treasure, Jordan Rodger; guess the number of sweets, Abbie Jackson.

We are delighted to announce that £1,252.73 was raised.
Yours sincerely
Angela Fisher
Head Teacher
Brodick Primamry School

Arran's Environment

Sir
As most of us appreciate, the Island has a beauty that is unique, occasionally ethereal - depending on the weather.

In some circumstances, as with an artistic masterpiece, the beauty is in the detail like, for example, the delightful beauty spot just above Whiting Bay to the right of the road to Lam-lash.

Here, behind the lay-by, is a little path leading over a foot-bridge either up the slope to the left of the path to Kings Cross or, to the right a vantage point overlooking the burn.

The sun paints the leaves divers shades of green, sparkles the tumbling chuckling water and the birds add music to what is an idyll.

Idyll that is until one realises the oddly shaped rock in the burn is in fact a complete internal combustion engine slowly leaching silent death to the aquatic creatures downstream as its chemical contents are progressively flushed out.

The neanderthals - and there must have been more than one - who dumped this obscenity must have the intellectual at-

tributes of pond life.

They must have used the car park, off-loaded the engine, manhandled it down the path and apparently heaved it over the bridge handrail since this, a substantial piece of tubular steel, is now bent, and so into the burn.

The easy way of course would have been to have the engine collected by the council or to have taken it themselves to the coup.

One can only hope that the perpetrators of this environmental vandalism have damaged their backs to such an extent they have permanent painful reminders of their crass behaviour.

Sadly, with the forthcoming closure of the coup, one can foresee such actions becoming commonplace and Arran becoming a huge dump.

Yours faithfully
Keith Cheshire
Herons Cliff
Kildonan

Honest finder

Sir
I was in Arran last week visiting my aunt in King's Cross and cousin in Brodick. We had a wonderful stay at the Invercloy in Brodick.

Sadly, I managed to lose my handbag and camera in my travels but managed to report the loss to a wonderful policeman at the ferry before departing. He seemed quite optimistic that a local person would hand it in. Imagine my delight, a couple of days after we arrived home, when I was contacted and told that my bag and camera had been handed in.

May I, through your newspaper, thank the very kind and honest person for retrieving my bag and camera. May I also thank everyone on the island for making our stay so enjoyable. Finally, may I say good luck to Iain McFadzean, the proprietor of the Brodick Bar, where we had a superb meal, who has a £40 bet on England to win the World Cup!!!

Yours sincerely,
Pat English
Riverside Grange
Tanyard Lane
North Wootton
Wells, Somerset.

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Microsoft event proves no challenge for Arran

Last Friday over 800 individuals arrived on Arran to take part in stage three of the Microsoft Challenge.

Fears that the sheer volume of competitors, their equipment - 500 bikes and 65 canoes would put a strain on the islands transport infrastructure passed quickly.

There were two reported injuries on the day with a marshal suffering from sun stroke and a competitor having to stay on the island longer than intended after breaking a wrist and checking into Arran War Memorial Hospital. Microsoft challenge is described as Europe's largest team building exercise and it is expected to raise £500,000 for the NSPCC.

One hundred and twenty five teams gathered at the Ormidale Park in Brodick. None of them knew they were coming to Arran until few hours before. They lined up and ran along the park to collect an envelope containing the days task.

Kate Bickford, PR manager for Challenger World explained it is a bit like mission impossible. Once each team opens their envelope with the maps and tasks inside they must work out how to

go about it rather than rush off.

'They must sort out a strategy and arrange a time and place to meet, because there are no mobile phones allowed,' she said.

Leader of one of the 125 teams was Lee Mitchell of Peterborough with the NSPCC team, area children's service manager with the NSPCC which is also the charity benefiting from this event.

Before the start in Ormidale Park, Lee told the *Banner*: 'It's more than just taking part. These guys are raising almost £500,000, that's a significant amount.'

'This is a tough competition but for us it all ends at 3pm. For a lot of youngsters cared for by the NSPCC the struggle never stops.'

'The people on this challenge will find new depths and heights within themselves.'

'As team leader it is my job to make sure our strategies for these tasks today are in line with our physical and mental abilities.'

'In other words, we pick the best team members for each challenge.'

A spokesperson for Microsoft said: 'One of the week's highlights was stage three on the stunning Isle of Arran where we were duly greeted with impeccable



The first team come ashore at Lamlash after rounding a buoy in the bay in one of the £2,000 APS canoes. One team member must dip in the water to earn a bonus.

weather, breathtaking scenery and a very warm welcome.

'Despite the 3am start required for this stage, competitors relished the 'Visit Scotland' theme of this day, taking part in activities such as canoeing in the harbour. The end of this stage was met with much jubilation in the mid afternoon sun, as competitors

sampled the delicious local fare, including a complimentary Arran ice cream.' Lucy Gibbons from The Arran Adventure Company

in Brodick had arranged for all competitors to leave Arran with a goody bag containing island produce.



The teams gather at the Ormidale Park in Brodick and plan their strategy for the challenges ahead.

Dogs missing

A Catacol man has appealed to islanders for any information about his two dogs which have been missing for more than a week.

Norman Bond believes the dogs Murphy, black, and Scunner, black and white, have not been shot as he would probably have been informed.

He said it is more likely someone has taken them in or they are lost on a hill since they ran away last Tuesday.

Anyone who may have spotted the dogs can contact Norman on 01770 830 231.

Raffle Winner

Fraser and John would like to thank all those generous people who supported the raffle to raise money for their charity work in Africa. The raffle raised £520 pounds and the lucky winner of the dinner for 2 at Auchrannie Garden Restaurant is Anne Pringle of Corrie with the winning number 777.

Borrowed bike

Can whoever borrowed the bike from outside the PHT on Saturday night please return it to David McAllister, Cordon.

Contact: 01770 600137 or 07712 678104.

Arran Antiquarians

Next Monday 19 June, Stuart Gough of Brodick will show us and talk about 'Arran postcards'.

The meeting is in Brodick Hall at 2pm. Non-members and visitors are very welcome.

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The DRIFT INN

Saturday 17 June

'Newsband'

From 9.30pm

Cameronia Hotel
Whiting Bay
Tel 700254

Live Music

Friday 16th June
Aran-B

Saturday 17th June
Earthworks
9-30pm

Bring ID as it will be requested

Cloudbase reaches for the

Arran's newest outdoor education resource centre dubbed Cloudbase is now officially open for business.

A special ceremony was held last Thursday at the eco-friendly camp 600 feet above Whiting Bay.



Nigel Marshall with John Reid, deputy leader of North Ayrshire Council, and Councillor Peter McNamara. b24eld1

And one of the many people responsible for getting it together, Jill Law of North Ayrshire Council (NAC) Estates, said it really has the 'wow' factor.

'As you walk up to the camp it looks amazing,' she said.

NAC believe the camp will offer a new residential experience for North Ayrshire pupils of all abilities. Almost, 1,500 have already passed through since it first opened last year.

Cloudbase is a world without the internet, an iPod or an Xbox where children can enjoy fresh air, exercise and interaction with their fellow pupils.

It can house 24 pupils plus staff

at any one time and the project cost £36,000 of which £29,000 came from the Big Lottery Fund.

Currently Arran children in first year at the high school are able to use Cloudbase for residential purposes. It is open to all schools across Arran as part of the outdoor education provision service.

Already more than 50 Arran children have already enjoyed a night at the camp.

Pupils from Skelmorlie primary and the James Macfarlane School for youngsters with additional needs were there for the official opening.

Many children with additional needs have been able to use the

camp owing to disabled access ramps and has been built very much with the purpose of having no restrictions on who can visit it.

The camp is situated in an old quarry several miles along a steep gravel track in the Glenashdale area and it was developed with the help of the Forestry Commission.

Consisting of five sturdy attractive timber cabins referred to as 'wigwams' this eco-friendly camp is described by the council as: 'Delivering a little of the famous 'Arran wilderness experience' to young people.'

Named after clouds, the wig-

wams Stratus, Nimbus, Cirrus and Alto provide basic accommodation and have been designed with wheelchair users in mind. The fifth cabin, Cumulus, is at the very heart of the camp and has a cast iron stove to provide heat and cooking facilities and also has water and lighting. Power is generated by a small windmill close to the site. Solar panels are also used.

The camp is the perfect way for the children to spend a night under the stars while enjoying a little creature comforts, but the emphasis remains firmly on an outdoor experience.

It is surrounded by trees on three sides and a purpose built picnic area has commanding views over the forested valley, down to Whiting Bay and beyond.

The cabins were built on the mainland and put into situ early last year. Joiner Jim Henderson of Lamlash had the task of laying the foundations and creating the access ramps.

He said: 'I think it's a great thing for the island and it brings loads of children here.'

'Many of them have such a great time they don't want to leave.'

'It was a pleasure to be involved with the project.'

The timber used on the project was sourced locally.

There to cut the ribbon on the day was Councillor Peter McNamara, chair of NAC's Educational Services Committee.



Neil Hamilton, Laura Paton, Nicola Kay, Ross Macdonald, Debbie Armstrong and Rory Satterley inside one of the wigwams at Cloudbase. b24eld3

Continued page 11

SCOTTISH FIELD June 2006 £3.50
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IN AID OF LAMLASH PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA FUNDRAISER

BANNER LEISURE BANNER LEISURE

Arran skies

Continued from page 10

Cllr McNamara said: 'Cloudbase adds a very special dimension to the already extensive programme offered by the Arran outdoor Education Service.

'The comments from young people who have been at Cloudbase are all extremely positive and plainly it's a winner with them.

'Our staff have worked very hard to bring Cloudbase about.'

Michael Wall, Forest District Manager, Forestry Commission Scotland was also at Cloudbase. He said: 'We are particularly pleased that the national forests on Arran are helping pupils learn in a fun and exciting way.

'It's good to know that the youngsters are enjoying the wilderness experience and are making the connection to the importance of the environment.'

The camp is very much a permanent fixture.

The number using the camp looks set to rise and many more children from across North Ayrshire will be able to reap the benefits of what Arran's great outdoors has to offer.



Above: Ross McDonald, P1 teacher Miss Henry, Nicola Kay and Laura Paton at the picnic area kitted out for a walk. b24cld2



Laura Paton, Ross Macdonald and Nicola Kay in the Cumulus wigwam. b24cld4



Councillor McNamara cuts the ribbon. Whiting Bay P5 children Neil Hamilton and Rory Satterley hold the plaque. b24cld6



Left: A timber wigwam arrives at Cloudbase early last year. b24cld7

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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

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EVERYDAY

Arran Art Gallery 11am - 5pm
 Brodick Castle Gardens & Country Park
 11am - 4pm
 Arran Heritage Museum, 10.30am - 4.30pm

Lamlash Bowling Club, Rink Game 7pm
 Brodick Bowling Club rink game 6.30pm
 Whiting Bay Bowling, Rink Game, 7pm
 Arran Justice, Peace environment group, Ormidale, 7.30pm

Open folk session, Pierhead Tavern 9pm
 Guided Harrier Walk, Kilmory Hall, 2pm
 West Side Story, Auchrannie Games Hall, 7.30pm

SATURDAY 17th June

Arran Art Gallery Whiting Bay 11am - 5pm
 Blackwaterfoot Junior Football coaching, 10.30am - 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 & 12.30pm
 Lamlash Bowling Club, Rink Game 7pm
 Brodick Bowling Club rink game 2pm
 RNLI Lifeboat shop open, Lamlash Pier 2 - 4pm
 Whiting Bay Bowling, Rink Game, 7pm
 Football Shiskine V Lamlash 6pm
 Football Brodick V Northend 6pm
 Newsband, Live at The Drift Inn, 9.30pm
 Earthworks, Live, Cameronia, 9.30pm

TUESDAY 20th June

Arran Art Gallery Whiting Bay 11am-5pm
 Shiskine Brownies, shiskine primary 6.45-8.15pm
 Shiskine Playgroup, Shiskine Hall, 9.25am-12.05pm
 Senior Fitness, Auchrannie Spa, 9.30am & 10.45am
 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
 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
 Loch & Cat Coffee morning, hall 10am - 12pm
 Alcoholics Anonymous, Brodick Church Hall, 2pm
 Alcoholics Anonymous 'drop-in' Hospital Bungalow 6.30pm - 8pm
 Rotary Club 7.15pm Auchrannie Spa
 Senior Fitness 9.30am & 10.45am, Auchrannie Gym
 Guided walk, Castle Gardens, 2pm, meet at reception
 West Side Story, Auchrannie Games Hall, 7.30pm

THURSDAY 22nd June

Arran Art Gallery Whiting Bay 11am-5pm
 Shiskine Playgroup, Shiskine Hall, 9.25am-12.05pm
 Senior Fitness, Auchrannie Spa, 9.30am & 10.45am
 Brodick Toddler Group, Church Hall, 10.30am
 Pilates, Auchrannie Studio, 6pm
 General Knowledge Quiz, Ormidale, Brodick, 10pm
 Spinning Demonstration Whiting Bay Hall 11am-2pm
 Rock school, youth centre. Lamlash 7 - 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
 Lochranza Craft Club, Hall 2pm
 Senior Fitness, Auchrannie Gym, 9.30am & 1.45pm
 Only abs, Auchrannie Studio, 5.30pm
 Outdoor run, Auchrannie, 6pm
 Lamlash Beavers 6-7pm Cubs 6.15-8pm Scouts 7.30-9pm
 West Side Story, Auchrannie Games Hall, 7.30pm

SUNDAY 18th June

Arran Art Gallery Whiting Bay 11am-5pm
 Open Folk session night, Ormidale, 9pm
 Asthma Breathing Workshop, Ormidale, 3pm
 Alcoholics Anonymous, St Margarets Church, Whiting Bay, 4.30pm
 Family Games Kids & Adults. Auchrannie Games Hall 2 - 3pm
 RNLI Lifeboat shop open, Lamlash Pier 2 - 4pm

WEDNESDAY 21st June

Arran Art Gallery Whiting Bay 11am-5pm
 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 Gym, Brodick, 6-7.15pm
 Mixed Indoor Hockey, Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7-8pm
 Arran Runners, meet NTS Castle Car Park, 7.15pm
 Youth Club, youth centre Lamlash 7-9pm
 Aerobics class, High School 8pm - 9pm
 Jnr Rugby Training, S1-U18s, Ormidale Park, 7pm
 Shiskine Beavers, Shiskine Hall 6pm-7.15pm
 Aquafizz, Auchrannie Hotel, 9.45am
 Hockey, Auchrannie Hall, 7pm
 Lamlash Bowling Club, Rink Game 7pm
 Brodick Bowling Club rink game 6.30pm
 Whiting Bay Bowling, Rink Game, 7pm

FRIDAY 23rd June

Arran Art Gallery Whiting Bay 11am-5pm
 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
 Buteyko Asthma Course. Ormidale Hotel. 7pm
 Whiting Bay Golf Club Quiz nights 9pm
 Aquafizz, Auchrannie Pool, 9.45am
 Water Polo, Auchrannie Pool, 7.30pm
 Bob Barton's Old School, MCalpine Hotel.
 West Side Story, Auchrannie Games Hall, 7.30pm

MONDAY 19th June

Arran Art Gallery Whiting Bay 11am-5pm
 Shiskine Playgroup, Shiskine Hall, 9.25am to 12.05pm
 Senior Fitness, Auchrannie, 9.30am & 1.45pm
 Over 50s Badminton, Lochranza Village Hall, 2-4pm
 Football coaching, Ormidale Park, 6 7.30pm (8-15yrs)
 Circuit Training, Auchrannie Spa, Brodick, 6pm
 Badminton, Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm
 Pilates, Auchrannie 7.30pm
 Citizens Advice open 10am-2pm
 Quiz, Cameronia 9.30pm
 Weightwise, Hospital bungalow 6.30pm-7pm
 Open folk session, Kildonan Hotel, 9pm
 Belly Dancing, Lamlash Church Hall, 7.30pm

SATURDAY 24th June (non regulars)

Bob Barton's Old School, MCalpine Hotel.
 West Side Story, Auchrannie Games Hall, 7.30pm

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McDonald sees red but four-goal Brodick win again

Brodick continued last week's impressive form with a commanding 4-1 win over Northend.

Robbie McDonald had an eventful game scoring one of the goals before being sent off.

In the day's other game Lamlash knocked five past Northend who only had one goal to their name courtesy of John Wilkinson.

Results of matches played, Saturday 10 June: Northend 1, Lamlash 5. Goalscorer for Northend: John Wilkinson.

Goalscorers for Lamlash: Lee Little, Adi Adamson (2), Ali Lockhart, Jamie Duncan.

Northend player of the match: John Wilkinson.

Lamlash player of the match: Jamie Sillars.

Brodick 4, Southend 1. Goalscorers for Brodick: John Drummond (2), Stewart Cameron, Robbie McDonald. Goalscorer for Southend: Malcolm Pennycott. Red card, Robbie McDonald (Brodick). Shiskine - Bye. Fixtures: Saturday 17 June: Shiskine v Lamlash. Brodick v Northend. Both matches kickoff at 6pm.

There will be a meeting of the football committee, Thursday 22 June at 8pm in the Drift Inn.



Ian Keen of Brodick gets airborne during the match against Southend. Picture courtesy of Len Hartley.



John Drummond fires in a goal. Picture courtesy of Len Hartley.

Arran youngsters fall at semi-final stage

Arran Junior Football Club took part in a 7-a-side football tournament at Ropework Park, Lochgilphead on Sunday.

The tournament featured teams from Lochgilphead, Tarbert, Arran and Campbeltown.

The team played very well throughout the day and got to the semi final where they lost 2-1 to Lochgilphead Red Star.

Arran had beaten Star earlier in the day but the Lochgilphead

goalkeeper had an inspired match to thwart Arran's numerous shots at goal.

Arran played six games in the tournament, winning four and losing two including the semi final.

The Arran team for the competition was Sam Tattersfield, Euan Smith, Tony McDowall, Archie McNicol, Grant Adamson, Michael Jenks, Alexander

MacNeil, Christopher MacNeil, Matthew Evans.

The popular Saturday morning coaching will restart after the Summer Holidays.

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We are in "Scotland The Best" 2006 Book.

ARRAN HERITAGE MUSEUM

Sunday 18th June is Traditional Skills and Crafts Day from 1.30pm

Sheep shearing (with real sheep), Spinning and weaving demonstrations, Traditional Gaelic 'waulking' songs, Bone and horn crook making, Basket making, Baking and butter making (taste delicious warm scones and fresh butter)

See this season's fascinating new range of expanded displays
Museum and Tearoom open all day 10.30am to 4.30pm

Kilmory Hall

Friday 30th June
'the queeves'
+ Glasgow DJ
Demon Dave
8.30pm
Licensed Bar
Tickets £5.
proceeds in aid of Hall funds

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THIS WEEKEND
Friday
Saturday Free Entry Mini bus back to Whiting Bay
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Bob Cheevers Finn McArdle
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9pm
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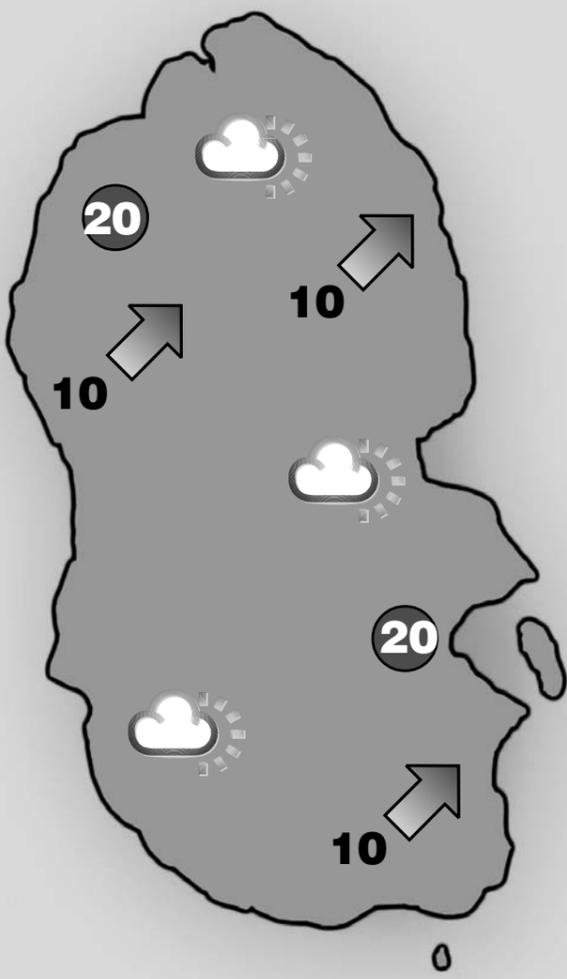
Telephone: 01770 302 014/07760126894

Tides

Tide tables for Lamlash during the week from **Saturday, June 17 2006** are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am			pm		
Sat	03.31	3.1	09.48	0.2	16.23	2.7
Sun	04.21	3.0	10.46	0.3	17.17	2.7
Mon	05.21	2.9	11.48	0.3	18.17	2.7
Tues	06.34	2.8	12.54	0.3	19.19	2.6
Wed	01.08	0.8	07.55	2.8	13.58	0.3
Fri	03.25	0.6	10.12	2.9	15.52	0.4

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



Saturday, June 17

Sunny day with a light breeze. 20°C.

Sunday, June 18

Light rain with a moderate breeze

Temperatures around 17°C.

Monday and Tuesday

A mixture of sunshine and showers with dark low level

clouds. Temperatures near normal at

16°C

Ferry Crossings / Sea States

Ardrossan / Brodick - Moderate

Claonaig / Lochranza - Moderate

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH NEWS

Arran Free Church of Scotland

Sunday 18 June
Shiskine 11am.
Brodick 7pm.
Reverend David Karoon.
All welcome.

Lamlash Church

Sunday 18 June
You are invited to worship in Lamlash Church at 10.30am. Service by Rev. Kenneth Fisher
Tea and Coffee served in the Hall after the service.
All welcome

Church of Scotland

The parish of North Arran: Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza, Pirmill and Shiskine
Independent but working together.

Sunday 18 June.
Worship will be conducted in the above churches at the following times.

All welcome.
Brodick Church, 10.30am, Mrs Jean Hunter.
Corrie Church, noon, Mrs Jean Hunter
Lochranza Church, 9.30am Revd. Angus Adamson.
Pirmill Church, 10.45am, Revd. Angus Adamson.
Shiskine Church, noon, Revd. Angus Adamson.

Whiting Bay and Kildonan Church

Sunday 18 June.
Worship will be conducted by the minister, Rev Elizabeth Watson, at 10.30am. Tea and Coffee will be served after service and there will be a sale of Traidcraft goods and cards of the Church. There will also be a Wesley Owen Bookstall to browse in.

All most welcome.
The Young People's Group for all in S2 and upwards will meet in the Manse at 7pm.
All welcome.

Holy Cross Catholic Church

Vigil Mass 7.30pm.
Sunday morning mass 11am.

Arran Baptist Church

Sunday 18 June at 11am, in the Free Church building, Brodick (beside the Post Office)
Peter Lee
'The Young Church in Action'
Using God's Resources
Acts 3: 1 - 26
Everyone warmly invited

Arran Free Church of Scotland (continuing)

Sunday 18 June
Trust Housing
Lounge, Brodick 11am.
Evening Service, 7pm.
5 Glen Road.
Prayer Meeting
Wednesday 21 May, 7pm.
Rev. D. Macleod.
All Welcome.

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

Sunday, 18 June: Holy Communion, 11.00 am.
Mr J. Roberts.
Coffee after service.
Wednesday, 21 June: 12.00 noon, Holy Communion.
All Welcome

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

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

Kilmory Church

'A faith to proclaim. A fellowship to share'.
Sunday 18 June, 10am.
Public worship and Sunday school.
All are invited.
Kilmory Church dates back to the mid 16th century. It is situated at the Southend of the island in a charming rural setting and is well worth finding. Look for the road side signs in Kilmory near the creamery. Holiday visitors of all faiths or none will be especially welcome.
Rev John Webster, locum.

Corrie and Sannox SWRI

Would members please send entry forms for the Show to Elma Stevenson by Friday 23 June.

PERSONALS



Married at St Molio's Church, Shiskine on Saturday 3 June were Abigail, daughter of John and Mary Betley of Torbeg and Fernando, son of Fernando and Gemma Lucini from Madrid, Spain. b24wed2

BIRTH



Eamonn and Sarah (nee Green) are delighted to announce the birth of their son, Lewis James, on Sunday 4th June 2006 at the Southern General Hospital. A brother for Marc. Fourth grandson for Ralston and Margaret

BIRTH



Blair and Gloria are delighted to announce the birth of their son David Alejandro at Simpson Edinburgh Royal Infirmary on May 24th. All well



DEATH

MCARTHUR - Audrey. Peacefully at Whitefield Lodge Nursing Home, Lennoxton on Saturday 10th June 2006 aged 85. Audrey (nee Newell) beloved wife of the late George and much loved mother of Duncan (deceased) Hamish, Ella and Moyra and dear granny of Duncan, Jennifer, Stuart and Douglas. Funeral service at Whiting Bay church on Monday 19th June at 11.30 and thereafter at Lamlash cemetery. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired to the R.N.L.I



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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/06/00511/PP Address: Arran High School, Lamlash, Brodick, Isle Of Arran KA27 8NG Proposed Development: Siting of prefabricated building and relocation of environmental garden

(A841 KILDONAN, KING'S CAVE AND TORBEG, ISLE OF ARRAN) (TEMPORARY CLOSURE) ORDER 2006

On the 12th June 2006 North Ayrshire Council made the above-named Order under Section 14 (1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, which will make it unlawful for any person to drive or cause or permit to be driven any motor vehicle (with the exception of vehicles engaged on carriageway surfacing works) on A841 Kildonan, King's Cave and Torbeg by reason of works proposed to be executed on or near that road.

The Order will come into operation at 0001 hours on 19th June 2006 and will remain in operation until 2400 hours on 2nd July 2006 or until such date as the works are completed, whichever is the earlier.

The Order will be implemented in sections as the works progress and only when appropriate signs are displayed.

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Roots of Arran AGM

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Interviews will be held during the week of 10th July 2006

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The Captain, Shiskine Golf & Tennis Club, Sanda, Blackwaterfoot, Isle of Arran, KA27 8EU to arrive by no later than Friday 30 June 2006.

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

Brodict Golf

Tuesday 6 June, June Medal (20 Played) SSS 67 CSS 67.

Sliver: 1 S Anderson (16) 68 BIH 2 M Bryce (15) 68 Bronze: 1 G McNicol (21) 63, 2 B Hendry (24) 67. Scratch M Bryce 83. **Gents section:** Summer cup played Wednesday 7 June, 49 played, css 64. 1 Donald Mckinnie 11 60, 2 Angus Raeburn 14 61, 3 Robert Waine 13 62bih. Scratch three people tied on 69 Peter Mccalla, Calum Mcfadzean and Jamie Duncan. There were 11 twos Gus Robertson getting 2. Brandon played Sunday 11 June, 23 played, css 64. 1 Iain Macmillan 10 58, 2 David Hendry 9 61, 3 Donald Mckinnie 10 65. Scratch Iain Macmillan 68. There were 12 twos, Ewan Mckinnon getting 3 and 2 each for Peter Mccalla

and Donald Mckinnie. 1st class Brandon winner Iain Macmillan 10 58, 2nd class Brandon winner Iain Sillars 14 69.

Whiting Bay

Gents section: Wednesday 7 June, 17 played in the Summer Trophy, producing some excellent scores.

1 Neil McKechnie 64-7=57, 2 Gordon Provan 76-16=60 (bih), 3 Colin Wannop 78-18=60. Magic 2s by Alan Dillon, Jamie MacPherson and Neil McKechnie, who also won scratch with 64.

Sunday 11 June. 18 competed for the Eric Wood Memorial, played as a stableford. The runaway winner was Gus McLeod with 39 points, second Ronnie Mann with 36 points and third David Morrison with 34 points. Magic 2s by David

and Gus and scratch was won by David Morrison with 70.

The junior competition was won by Sandy Kelso with 39 points. Thanks to Howard and Lesley for the lovely prizes. **Fixtures:** Saturday 17 June - Hope Cup, against Lamlash at Machrie, 4pm. Sunday 18 June - Medal. Wednesday 21 June - Summer Trophy. **Ladies:** Eric Wood Memorial, Sunday 11 June. The Eric Wood Memorial stableford competition was held on Sunday 11 June. 13 ladies played in glorious sunshine with a strong wind so no midges! It was great to see such a good turn out. 1 Fionna McPherson 43 points (36), 2 Marjorie Brown 39 points (31), 3 Margaret Stewart 35 points(35).

Well done ladies and a special congratulations to Fionna - a good start to the resumption of her golfing career! Congratulations also to Margaret Auld who had 2 magic twos on the 4th and 17th.

Next Sunday 18 June is the Alice Toomey Trophy. Tee off at noon.

Lamlash Golf

Gents: Thursday 8 June, summer cup, 26 played, CSS64.

Sweep: 1 Robbie McGunnigle 66-6=60, 2 Keith Wall Bank 72-11=61, 3 Ian Grant 87-23=64. Best scratch: Robbie McGunnigle 1 at 4th, Scott Campbell 1 at 13th, Jack Thomson 1 at 16th, Russel Adams 1 at 16th.

Sunday 11 June, Jamieson Cup, 16 played, CSS65. Sweep: 1 Euan Evans 73-9=64, 2 Gary Adams 78-13=65, 3 Russell Adams 76-8=68.

Best scratch Euan Evans 73. Magic Twos 1 at second Russell Adams.

Fixtures:

Hope Cup, first round at Machrie at 4pm. Sunday 18 June, Fleet Cup at 8am, 1pm and 5 pm. (36 holes). Please note sheet in locker room for names for draw. 8am start. No medal at 9.30am. **Ladies:** Monday 5 June, Arran Ladies Golf Union Josie Sanderson competition. 21 played, CSS 65. 1 J. Arthur 42 points, 2 J. Turnbull 36 points, 3 P. McDonald 35 points. Glorious weather and excellent playing conditions. Delicious cakes provided after by ladies committee.

Arran Golfers Association

Result of the Arran Golfers Association Centenary Thomson Match Play cup.

Venue Lamlash Golf Club. 16 gents qualified from the Island Spring handicap held on Sunday 14 May at Lamlash Golf Club.

The final stages of the competition played in superb conditions with the course in great nick. Three lamlash members and one from Brodict reached the semi-finals held in the afternoon of Saturday 10 June. In the first game Euan Evans beat Russell Adams by 3 & 1.

The second match was between John McGovern and Captain of Brodict Kerr Robertson through 9 John was 5 holes up, Kerr won the next four and squared the match at the 18th. Without interval the game continued and Kerr won the first



Finalists in the Ladies Crystal Competition at Whiting Bay Golf Club Margaret Auld, left of flag, and this year's winner Lesley Woods, right of flag, with caddies and supporters.



Jerry Arthur is presented with the Josie Sanderson crystal trophy by ladies' captain Kate MacAdam. b24gol1

Machrie Bay

Tuesday 6 June, Ladies Championship Qualifier: 1 Elizabeth Ross, 2 Mary Wilkinson.

Tuesday 6 June Medal: 1 Moira Martin 61, 2 Donald Campbell 66 BIH, 3 Brian Sherwood 66. Scratch Brian Sherwood 75.

Fixtures

Ladies and Gents Championship finals and Gents President's Cup to be played on Monday 19 June at 5.30pm. Ladies Final on Monday 19 June at 5.30pm.

The Medals continue to be played every Tuesday at 12.30 and 5.30pm.

extra hole with a bogey to compete in his second final in three years. The Final youth v experience played Saturday 10 June from 5pm. Euan, aged 15, with a handicap of 9 v Kerr aged 60+ with handicap of 12.

The final attracted a few spectators who witnessed a quality display of golf from both the finalists.

Kerr was level fours for the last 7 holes played, but this was not enough to answer the lead created by Euan in the front nine when he was 3 up to record a win by 5 + 3 to be 1 under fours for the 15 holes completed.



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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, Brodict, Isle of

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You may hand it into The Arran Banner Office in Brodict 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: Chris Bunyan, The Unit, Willowdale, Auchrannie Road, Brodict and Mrs A Allsop, Glenside, Sannox.

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.

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Nicole Bunyan with her bronze medal. b24nic2

A first for Brodick's Nicole

Brodick runner Nicole Bunyan came home from Edinburgh's Meadowbank Stadium last month with a bronze medal.

The scottishathletics medal is the first one she has won at national level and is also the first time she has run Edinburgh.

She narrowly missed out on a bronze medal in the 300m - the first time she had run that distance.

Nicole was competing with runners from all over Scotland and took part in four events on Saturday 13 May and four on Sunday 14 May involving a three night stay on the mainland.

There was a lot of hanging about for the runner as the races were very spread out, but Nicole said she was able to cheer on fellow runners whom she is friends with. Each race had ten entrants and she has only been running in the under 17's category since earlier this year. Her first team is Arran Runners and she was fully kitted out in her team's colours.

To be able to take part in mainland events she is also a member of Irvine Athletics.

Nicole told *The Banner* her favourite event is the 100m and 200m.

Brodict Bowling Club rinks results

Winning rinks: Monday 5 June: Hollingworth, skip. A Hunter.
R Peacock, skip. L Hendry. Saturday 10 June: B Hendry,
Wednesday 7 June: A skip. P Milligan, N Thomson.

**For the Arran
Football League
round-up
see page 13**

Memorial cricket match

On June 26 last year, Bryan Allsop died. He died immediately after bowling a ball to a Mid Argyll player on the Sannox Oval he helped to nurture as Sannox Cricket Club's home turf.

He died on a sunny day doing what he so enjoyed.

A year later Bryan's family Audrey, David and Gordon with the help of the club, have organised a memorial match against Chevin Cricket Club from Bryan's native Derbyshire.

Chevin who have, among their members, Bryan's nephew Ian, are travelling up to the island for the weekend to play for the prize of Bryan's bat which son David has had made into a trophy.

This trophy will be played for every year on the weekend nearest to the anniversary of his death.

The two clubs will try for a match on Saturday, June 24, but will meet on the Sunday if bad weather prevents play.

Bryan who was 68 when he died, was one of the founder members in 1998 of Sannox Cricket Club and lived to see the fortunes of the club prosper into the new Argyll league with the promise of a pavilion not too far on the horizon. The other three founder members, Rod Smith of Brodick, Jim Marsden of Lam-lash and Steven Beardsley of Sannox will all be playing on the day as will Bryan's son Gordon who works at the Auchrannie. Bryan's wife Audrey and other son David along with Sannox Cricket Club will be managing the event.

This includes a raffle with prizes donated by many island

businesses. Isle of Arran Distillers, Arran Brewery, Island Cheese company, Bar Eden and Torrylinn Creamery are only some of the benefactors of the event. All monies from the event will be going to the British Heart Foundation.

Although Bryan's memorial will be at the heart of the match it is hoped that the event will be fun, as much a celebration of his life as a memory of his passing. The general public and club lay-members are warmly invited to attend and be part of this day of cricket and memory. A commemorative programme is being produced for the event and will be available to all who come along. For further information phone 01236 824459 or 01770 810202 .TP

Near miss for Arran side

Arran High School's S1/S2 football team lost away to Irvine side Greenwood High in the final and decisive game of the season.

Arran's season had started with a nervy 4-4 draw against another Irvine team, Irvine Royal Academy, last September.

This had been the start of an unbeaten run of seven games comprising five victories and two draws.

Greenwood, however, had been equally effective throughout the season losing only one game.

The first 15 minutes of the game saw Arran come under tremendous pressure and it took two tremendous saves from Sam

Tattersfield to keep the scores level. Although Greenwood continued to press for the rest of the half, the back four of Robert Taylor, Thomas Drummond, Ali Brown and David Heenan managed to snuff out any danger. On the few occasions when Arran got the ball forward they looked very dangerous with top scorer Archie McNicol unlucky not to add to his 20 goal tally for the season.

The second half began with Arran again under pressure and for once Greenwood managed to get the ball past the defence and the keeper only to see the crossbar deny them the opening goal.

Arran then enjoyed their best

spell of the game and from a rare corner were unlucky when an excellent cross goal header from captain Michael Jenks just eluded several Arran players. A few minutes later a lapse of concentration in the Greenwood defence presented Arran with their best chance of the game but Alexander MacNeil's shot skimmed past the wrong side of the post.

Greenwood were soon back in the ascendancy and with 7 minutes left in the game scored what proved to be the only goal of the game with a fine header from a well taken corner. Greenwood's 1-0 victory saw them become the North Ayrshire league champions, pipping Arran by one point.

Arran High School headteacher Douglas Auld said 'It is a credit to the pupils to see them competing so successfully against the large mainland schools.'



Arran High's S1/S2 football team. b24soc1



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