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Arran's Weekly Newspaper

SATURDAY, 29th JULY, 2006

No 1554

In this week's
Banner

Sand plant to be new linkspan?

The old sand plant buildings at Brodict pier are being demolished this week.

Proprietor Bob Haddow told *The Banner*: 'There was enough contention about building it; now there's contention about pulling it down.'

Mr Haddow believes that Cal-Edonian MacBrayne, CalMac, plans to buy it for a new linkspan.

'But nobody will tell me anything,' he said.

'I've spoken to area manager Robbie Brown and managing director Lawrie Sinclair but they say they don't know.'

'I have been in negotiations with CalMac for two years and a condition of the sale is that we have to knock down the old buildings so I engaged a contractor from Irvine.'

Hitch

'Then there was a hitch with the demolition warrant from North Ayrshire Council but they are going ahead now.'

The original filtration tower and sand plant was built in 1971 amid some public objections. Over the years Arran sand from this com-

pany has been used in water filtration works from Iraq to the Falklands. It stopped production six years ago and the site was used by Scottish Water in 2003 as a base for the sewerage pipeline contractors GMJV.

Since then the site has been at the centre of proposals for a new ferry linkspan and extended car marshalling area for CalMac.

Now Mr Haddow says he is puzzled as to why no-one at CalMac seems to know whether the ferry company is planning to buy the site.

A spokesman for CalMac said: 'We would not comment on any commercially confidential discussions which might be happening. I will make a statement if and when there is anything to report.'

As *The Banner* went to press four demolition men had knocked down one-half of the old sand plant.

'I'm still none the wiser whether CalMac are going to buy it,' said Mr Haddow. He added that part of the site was still available as a public car park for ferry travellers.

New police sergeant

Arran is about to have a new police sergeant who will take up her duties next month.

Sergeant Helen Murison begins work in Lamlash on Friday 25 August. She comes from Irvine where she has worked in the community safety department. After a changeover period of a week, current sergeant Colin Young will leave the Island for mainland duties.

Sergeant Murison will join a permanent staff of four constables which is increased by another four every summer season because of the huge influx of visitors to the Island.



Gardens open for
charity



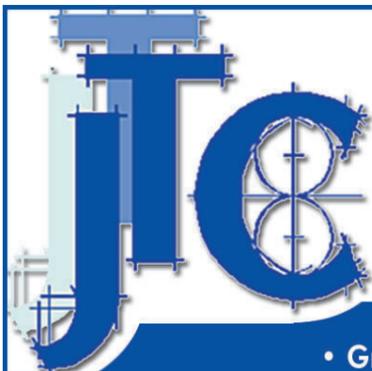
Birds of prey in
Whiting Bay



Reigning dog
scurry champion



What's new pussycat? Friends Eilidh McDonald of Glasgow and Carly McGovern of Whiting Bay had a 'grrrrreat' time at the Whiting Bay fun day last Saturday and even got their faces painted as very realistic pussycats. For full coverage of the event see the centre pages. b30fun6b



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Jim sets record round-Arran bike time

Cycling champion Jim Cusick has set an official time for a complete 56 mile circuit of the Island for the first time.

Forty-one year old Jim of Uplawmoor set the time of two hours and 30 minutes under wet conditions.

Jim's parents live at Silverhill in Whiting Bay and he set off from the Eden Lodge Hotel at 4.30pm.

He headed south towards Kildonan and continued round in a clockwise direction with a target average speed of 25 miles per hour.

Jim's mother Jeanette said: 'The conditions were dreadful with a strong wind but he is fa-

'This is the first official cycling record around Arran since 1909.'
Source: League of International Cycling (Scotland).

miliar with the road having raced it many times.

'This was the first official attempt and was overseen by the Scottish Road Records.'

The Banner asked Jeanette how her son had coped with the road surfaces which have come in for much criticism recently.

'If you didn't know the roads you would be in trouble,' she said.

'There was a lot of loose gravel in High Kildonan and he had to really slow right down on the corners. He had to stop and change a wheel coming up out of Lagg as well.'

Having reached the northend, the conditions improved and his time from Lochranza up over the Boguille and back to Whiting Bay was just 58 minutes.

Jim's father is also an experi-

enced cyclist and followed his son round in a back-up vehicle.

He said: 'Jim will do it again when the conditions are better. He could knock 10 to 15 minutes off the time.'

Now that an official time has been posted Jim and his parents hope that it will encourage other cyclists to have a go.

A spokesman for the League of International Cycling (Scotland) said: 'This is the first official cycling record around Arran since 1909.'

Jim is a member of Glasgow Couriers racing cyclists group and works in Glasgow for pharmaceutical company SmithKline Beecham.



Jim Cusick prepares to set off from the Eden Lodge Hotel with rain already pouring down. b30jim1

Brodick house turned down

An application to build a house to the east of Genista at West Mayish, Brodick was refused by the North Ayrshire Council, NAC, planning committee at its meeting on Monday 17 July in Cunninghame House.

The application for the site in the side garden of a detached bungalow was refused on the grounds that it would be contrary to the Local Plan and be detrimental to the character and amenity of the area and give rise to congestion and parking difficulties within the cul-de-sac.

Arran grant approvals for June

Two Arran applications for Highland and Islands Enterprise network financial assistance were approved in June.

John and Ian Paterson of Glenree, Sliderry were approved for a grant of £3,500 for Arran Falcons. Paul Jameson of Lamash was approved for a grant of £4,500 as a bespoke kitchen and bedroom fitter.

The approval shows that funds

have been made available by Argyll and the Islands Enterprise but they will not be released until evidence is received that the project or activity has gone ahead.

Financial support was also approved for the community-based project of Arran Junior Sailing Club. Funding of £2,866 was awarded towards a total project cost of £9,554 for providing hard standing.

What happened to the Clyde?

A programme on BBC 1 at 8 p.m. on Wednesday evening, 2 August, will feature scenes filmed on Arran.

Called Seawatch, it is the first of a series which according to presenter Kate Humble examines sealife 'from rock pools in Devon to sea corals off Scotland.'

COAST

Don McNeish of the Community of Arran Seabed Trust (COAST) told *The Banner*:

'They were here recording a few months ago. There was some underwater filming and interviews with fishermen and politicians to get their story of what happened to the Clyde, once one of the most productive fishing grounds in the world.'

The programme aims to examine the effects of fishing, pollution and climate change on UK marine life and looks at how viewers can help protect it.

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Sunday 12.30 - 5 p.m. This will be effective week commencing July 24, 2006, to week ending August 20, 2006, only
We apologise for any inconvenience caused

Schools Brass summer school concert in Brodick



Arran Schools Brass Band held a summer school last week in the grounds of Brodick Castle. Under the tutelage of conductor Craig Masterton the children played a selection of well known tunes, entertaining the crowds for a half an hour. The group played in a marquee on the lawn and thanks to some skin lotions they managed to keep the midges at bay. b30bnd1

Royal couple in 'Isle of Arran'

HM the Queen and Prince Phillip have apparently been relaxing in the Isle of Arran all week.

This year the royal family has returned to the tradition of cruising off the west coast of Scotland and set sail from Port Ellen on Islay last Friday on board the small luxury cruise ship *Hebridean Princess*. For the eight-day cruise the Queen and Prince Phillip are said to be staying in the Isle of Arran suite on the port side of deck three.

All suites and cabins are named

after Scottish islands or places and the Isle of Arran is understandably the finest suite on board. The former Caledonian MacBrayne car ferry *Columba* was converted in 1989 to a 30-cabin vessel with a crew of 38. She is due back in Oban next Monday 31 July.

The royal party is in the hands of Captain Michael Hepburn who appeared in *The Banner* two years ago with tour guide Gillian Bussell of Lamlash when the vessel was berthed at Brodick pier.

Summer Serenade in Corrie Church

Elma Stevenson of Sannox was among a happy and appreciative audience in Corrie Church for one of the two performances of *Summer Serenade* last week. Here she writes about the evening.

For the eleventh season the strains of flute, piano and voice charmed us all again at Corrie.

It is wonderful that professional artists should give their time and talents freely to Corrie Church and it is greatly appreciated. Each year a different programme, rehearsed and planned to the minute enralls the audience and their expectations are never disappointed.

Despite battling against a severe cold, John Forgie, one-time administrator at Brodick Castle, compered in the manner reflecting his skills on National Trust for Scotland cruises.

Soprano Jean Bowden sang many classic popular and Scottish songs to the delight of the audience which joined in for the second half.

David Inglis, principal bass of the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, accompanied instruments and voice on the Corrie Church's recently acquired electric piano and on the church organ.

The highlight of his performance was his composition *Over the String*, played on double bass using the church organ and piano to echo and emphasise the theme.

George Macilwham, as ever note perfect and without reference to sheet music, played classic and modern with panache. His skilful performance reflected years of experience as principal flautist with some of the major orchestras of the country.

Summer Serenade would not be complete without George and David's arrangement of *Highland Cathedral* on bagpipes and organ.

The four performers marched off to *The Black Bear*, where at the front door they received the acclamation of their many fans who hope for a repeat performance in 2007.

Beached on Blackwaterfoot

A teddy bear was found on Blackwaterfoot beach on Wednesday night. The bear was found by 11-year-old Calum Stewart, propped up against rocks looking very sad and lonely. If this is your teddy please contact Calum's mum at 20 Hamilton Terrace, Lamlash.

Final day for hen harriers project in Kilmory

The hen harrier nest camera at Kilmory is being turned off on Sunday 30 July which will be the day of the final guided walk.

Members of the public have been able to sit in Kilmory Hall

and see live television coverage of the activities at a hen harrier's nest in a secret Arran location since May. Hen harrier information assistant Hazel White said:

'We had a great start with hun-

dreds of folk at the wildlife festival events in May.

'Guided walks have run every week with only one cancelled by bad weather.

'During the first walks there

were food-passes between adult hen harriers which very few people will have seen before.

'Then sadly there were few sightings once we knew the eggs had failed to hatch which was possibly due to the cold wet weather in May.

'I'm glad to add that we have seen adult birds again on the last few walks so hopefully they will breed successfully next year.

'The final day of the season is this Sunday 30 July in Kilmory Hall and we would welcome anyone to come along for a last visit and a free glass of wine.'

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'Rescue at sea' thrills gala crowd

A joint emergency services rescue exercise was one of the highlights of Lamlash Gala Week last Thursday evening.

Police, coastguards and a search and rescue helicopter were involved in the dramatic demonstration in Lamlash Bay and on the front green.

Two weeks ago *The Banner* carried a story about a 14-year-old boy being rescued from the water at Sandbraes when his inflatable dinghy began drifting out to sea. The boy was rescued by local lifeboat crew and coastguards.

Chief coastguard Peter Drymond said: 'One of our biggest problems over the summer

is children being swept out to sea on inflatables. One minute they can be in a few feet of water and then find themselves a long way out.'

For the purposes of Thursday's exercise coastguards Laura Gilmore and Martin Ross were a mum and son having a picnic on the beach.

Martin went out for a paddle on his dinghy but soon got into difficulties and could not get back to shore.

All the time local second-in-command coastguard Billy Currie was giving a running commentary to the large crowd which had assembled.

He explained what was happening and kept asking the children what the mum should do next. After a 999 call the police arrived and PC Bob McKay pulled up outside the Co-op, jumped out of his van and promptly fell head over heels over a boundary rope.

PC McKay picked himself up, adjusted his dress and raced to the rescue.

As Billy Currie pointed out to the crowd, the police have limited capabilities for water operations and PC McKay's attempts at throwing a line got nowhere near the dinghy.

Next on scene were the coastguards driving along the beach in their 4 x 4 vehicle. One coastguard waded out towards the victim whilst holding onto a shore line. Even this could not get near to the stricken boy.

For the purposes of the exercise it was assumed that the lifeboat was occupied elsewhere and a call went out for a search and rescue helicopter from Prestwick. Within minutes the red and grey Sea King of SAR 177 roared into the bay and hovered over the dinghy.

Winchman Taff Ashman was lowered down by navigator Mark Brosnan and picked up Martin Ross.

Both were hauled back into the helicopter and after a circuit of the bay the Sea King landed safely in front of Lamlash Co-op.

Pilot and commanding officer Roger Stringer and Lieutenant Lars Brazier jumped out and as soon as the blades had stopped rotating members of the public were allowed to have a closer look.

This is one of two Sea Kings

based at Prestwick and both are over 25 years old.

A spokesman quipped that neither helicopters had any original parts left.

He said: 'The two machines responded to 264 callouts last year.'

'Our latest big job was the cable car accident on Aonach Mor near Fort William on 13 July when the aircraft rescued injured

from the hillside and evacuated 100 people from the cable car station.'

This time it was just an exercise but coastguard Billy Currie said: 'It was a valuable education for children and families on what to do in a crisis.'

'And it was great fun, too, particularly Bob tripping over the rope.'



PC Bob McKay finds that his line is too short to reach the drifting dinghy. b30coa2



The mighty Sea King helicopter of 177 SAR lands gently on Lamlash front green. b30coa5



Winchman Taff Ashman lifts Martin Ross to the safety of the helicopter. b30coa1

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First Island-wide open gardens weekend



The Lady Jean Fforde with a *Cardiocrinum giganteum* in the area of her walled garden. b30grd3

Green-fingered Islanders have raised £2,500 for local charities after 26 gardens opened to visitors last weekend.

And the event has proved such a success that the organisers, Arran Horticultural Society's Garden Club, hope to do it all again next year.

Former chairwoman Carol Vella

Boyle said: 'There has been a lot of interest in doing it again, so hopefully we will.'

The RNLI, Red Cross, ARCAS, cancer support group, and Hospital Supporters league will all benefit from the event.

Many visitors travelled to Arran specifically for the open gardens weekend with one visitor

travelling from as far afield as Aberdeen.

Visitor numbers were high with some gardens recording over one hundred through their gates each day. However the committee feels that owing to last weekend being such a busy one, numbers could have been higher.

Continued next page



Mairi and Eric Thompson's 'Stable'. The garden has two ponds, many plants and views up goatfell. b30grd6



Janet and John Barraclough in their garden at Crimond B & B in Brodick with magnificent views up Goatfell. b30grd4

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Continued from previous page

Carol said: 'The event was well taken up but with so much happening on the island people were trying to get to a lot of things so this resulted in less numbers.'

'Many people who went along were keen to get advice on gardening and it was such a friendly event. Everyone was happy to chat all sharing in a common interest.'

Kathy Sayer, contributor of the regular *Arran Banner* gardening column said of the event: 'Three days was hardly long enough to get around Arran and enjoy all the stunning gardens that were open to visitors.'

'A rare opportunity to go through the garden gate and wander in the peaceful tranquility that pervaded each lovingly tended garden. And what an amazing range of style, character and situation to appreciate, with their hardworking owners there to share their knowledge and skills so eagerly.'

'From windswept hillside to shoreline, from the perfectly manicured to the informally natural, from a wee patch to the rambling expanse, from the well established to the very recently planted - each was a gem in its own right.'

'Some even had garden features that were unique - a ruined castle, a geological creation from millions of years ago or a model railway, in fact something for everyone.'



Marion and Wren Gentleman in their leisure garden at Larkspur in Lochranza. b30grd7

'They all had their own charm and beauty. Everyone I chatted to was amazed at all the hidden gardens of Arran.'

'Having been thoroughly inspired many were also carrying plant purchases to improve their own gardens - a lasting reminder

of a very enjoyable few days.'

Carol concluded: 'We had to rely on sponsorship for the event.'

'We haven't worked it out yet but we think we will be able to split £2,000 between the charities and use what is left to cover the costs for the event.'



Nan and Mike Meteyard in their garden at Glenn House in Brodick. b30grd1



Lady Jean Fforde in one of her gardens at Strabane in Brodick. b30gra2

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Dochas exhibition in aid of 'hope'

Auchrannie Spa Resort in Brodick will host an exhibition of cards and reproductions in aid of the Dochas Fund charity this weekend.

John and Catherine Paterson founded the Dochas Fund, whose name is Gaelic for hope, after John was diagnosed with two incurable neurological conditions, Guillain Barre syndrome, GBS, and motor neurone disease, MND.

Although John worked mostly as a psychiatric nurse, he was a graduate of Glasgow School of Art and after the diagnoses, he asked his wife to use his art to help others.

This is the third occasion the Dochas Fund has exhibited at the Auchrannie Spa Resort and Catherine is looking forward to coming back to John's favourite island.

Just three months before he died, the Scottish MND Association loaned the family a specially adapted car that could take John out and about.

When asked where he wanted to go, he immediately replied: 'Arran'.

Catherine said: 'We got off the ferry at Lochranza, turned left and kept going until we arrived back at the ferry several hours later. We stopped at all the golf courses where John used to play and some of the beaches and the hills he used to climb.'

All the profits from the sales and the donations are used to help those living with these pernicious conditions.

Catherine visits families in their home and offers support by giving information, guidance through the maze of services available and emotional support.

'It's amazing what a hand of friendship can offer to families who often feel very frightened and isolated,' Catherine said.

'I've come to realise just what an effect long-term or terminal illness can have on those who take on the caring role.'

The Dochas Fund has spent the last three years raising the money to build a gallery and carers centre in mid-Argyll.

This centre will open at the end of August having secured all the funding required to open debt free.

Catherine said: 'Ninety percent of the money has come from ordinary people doing extraordinary things to help us help others.'

'It's a wonderful testimony of kindness that gives carers reassurance that people are so willing to help.'

During one exhibition, a little boy listened earnestly while Catherine explained to a lady what the Dochas Fund was about, then when she left, he told Catherine that he knew what it was like to have problems. 'I have eczema,' he said, 'and when it's bad, my friends make fun of me.'

With that, he went into his purse and put a 20 pence piece into the collecting can. 'That was definitely one of the most moving donations I've ever received for the fund,' said Catherine.

The exhibition will open on Friday evening, 28 July, and will be open Saturday and Sunday from 10am until 9pm.

Catherine Paterson will be there with local helper Veronica Halstead of Kings Cross, whose daughter Sue researches the causes of GBS.



Brownies Isla Sillars, guider Sheena Miller, Amy Wedge, Ceile Swinton Boyle, Asha Le May Simpson, Hannah McKay and Sarah McNeil. b30she1 (Photo Jim McCrae.)



Finlay Sillars, Eilidh Black Ceitidh Anderson, guider Vicki Dillon, Tom Griffith, Jessica Demazeux, Abbie Jackson, Bethan and Lisa Griffith with Roddy Wallwork and Andy Cook of Arran Adventure. b30she2 (Photo Jim McCrae.)

Making the museum fun for children

Remember childhood games such as peevers? Children don't seem to have the same games handed down from generation to generation any more, but the Arran Heritage Museum is doing something about that on Sunday.

Children up to the age of 12 have free entry to the museum on that afternoon and providing they

are accompanied by an adult there is a full programme for them starting at 1.30pm.

Among the many free entertainments will be Arran fairy stories, a model railway layout, peevers, demonstrations of basket making, spinning and weaving, and Gaelic waulking songs, face painting, a toddlers soft play area, traditional

games, horseshoe throwing and any children who bring along unusual stones will have them identified by Dr Gordon MacLeod, a professional geologist. At 3.15pm local musician Jim Arnold will be leading a singalong.

There will be a small charge for the childrens tomobola which will have lots of prizes specially chosen for children. All are invited to come along and enjoy a fun filled afternoon - the more the merrier!

As usual on this season's special Sundays everyone is free to browse around the museum store-room and workshop where volunteer staff will be on duty to show you some of the many items space does not permit to be on normal display.

Brownies take to the water

The Brodick Brownies had a fun night for the last meeting of the season recently.

As a treat they took to the waves for an exciting ride on a rigid inflatable boat courtesy of

the Arran Adventure centre. they had a great time, and so did Guider Sheena Miller said: 'As I!' you can see by their wee faces

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Bird Notes - Ringing by Jim Cassels

In the first installment of the Bird Notes for June, mention was made of the white starling.

In this case, the bird could be identified as an individual. When birds are identified as individuals, more can be learned about them, including how long they live and when and where they move.

Placing a uniquely numbered metal ring around a bird's leg, provides a reliable and harmless method of identifying birds as individuals. Around 800,000 birds are ringed in Britain and Ireland each year by just over 2,000 trained 'ringers', most of whom are volunteers. On average, fewer than one out of every 50 ringed birds is subsequently reported to the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO), so every report of a ringed bird is of value.

Each ring bears an address, so that anyone finding a ringed bird can help by reporting its whereabouts and fate. Some ringing projects also use colour rings to allow individual birds to be identified at a distance.

How are birds caught for ringing?



The first wheatear of the year reported in Arran.

b30nat1

Birds are caught for ringing in a variety of ways. About 20 per cent are ringed as chicks in the nest; this is valuable because their precise age and origin are then known. The method most frequently used to catch fully-grown birds is the mist-net. This is a fine net erected between poles and is designed to trap birds in flight.

The skills necessary to become a ringer can only be learned by undertaking a period of training under the close supervision of experienced ringers. Essential skills include the safe and efficient trapping and handling of birds, identification, ageing, sexing, measuring, record keeping and reporting to the Ringing Unit. Progress through a permit system is assessed by an independent ringer, whose own ability has been judged to a high standard. In this way, the BTO Ringing Scheme maintains very high standards of bird welfare and scientific data. A BTO ringing permit is also a legal requirement and is, in many ways, similar to a driving licence, but has to be renewed annually.

At present we are fortunate to have two licenced ringers living on Arran. In future notes I hope to share some of the information that they have gained from their ringing.

If you would like more information about bird ringing, or are interested in training to become a bird ringer, please contact: The Ringing Unit, BTO, The Nunnery, Thetford, Norfolk IP24 2PU; Tel: 01842 750050; Fax: 01842 750030; E-mail: ringing@bto.org.

Aerial work gets underway at The Saddle

As reported in *The Banner* edition 1551 the path leading from Glen Rosa to Glen Sannox via *The Saddle* is now out of bounds.

This is the final path project in the three year programme of works under Arran Access Project involving improvements to 13 paths throughout Arran and provision of signing and information on Arran's Network of paths.

However, Arran Access Trust hope that the stretch will re-open by Friday 25 August.

Work began two weeks ago to repair erosion damage and a helicopter is being used to airlift materials to the site. The idea is to make the area much safer as it is very popular with dog walkers and hikers.

Malcolm Whitmore, the Arran Access Trust Project Officer said: 'While there are no restrictions in Glen Rosa and Sannox the short section know as *'The Saddle'* is out of action.



Upland Contracts with the PDG *Lama* Helicopter from Inverness. b30san1

'There is a lot of work going on and the workers will not be aware of people so in the interests of

safety it is closed. 'The project is taking place with the co-operation of the land owner The Lady Jean Fforde.'

The work is being carried out by Upland Contracts, a specialist upland footpath management firm based in Carrbridge. They have been staying in Corrie while the work is going on.

Local stone has already been airlifted to the site some 450 meters up the hill.

Malcolm explained that the path from one glen to the other involves a rock scramble with the path above it already badly eroded. Multiple paths can lead the unwary to dangerous rock edges with long drops.

The aim of the work is to de-

fine a safe route from the Glen Rosa side to the rock scramble down into Glen Sannox. This is being carried out by upland path construction techniques of pitching the safe route, revegetating the misleading paths, and restoring the eroded ground.

Malcolm concluded: 'The work ties in with improvements made in both glens in the last 10 years which provides a spectacular trek through some of Arrans most dramatic scenery.'



Materials being airlifted to *The Saddle*. b30san3

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Lamlash Heather Queen 2006

The committee would like to give a big thank you to everyone involved in making the Crowning of Queen Sofie such a success. Congratulations to Queen Sofie, her attendants, Megan, Kimberley and Debra. The pages and flower girls and Shauna, they all did brilliantly. Special thanks to Robbie the piper, Harry the Herald and to Armitage Grounworks and Ian.

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THE ARRAN BANNER

ARRAN'S WEEKLY PAPER Saturday 29 JUL, 2006

A once stylish building with every window boarded up and in front of it a sign directing car drivers to the Arran ferry. This is what all visitors to Arran see. First-time visitors, still navigating their way to the harbour, see it even more clearly than those who have become inured to it.

It is not just one building, it is not just Ardrossan, the whole approach to the ferry is one of dereliction and decay. Part of this is empty and boarded up buildings, part brown-field sites littered with rubbish, part is occupied homes, many of which look as if their owners have lost the will to maintain them. That Ardrossan has more than once been nominated for a 'carbuncle' award shows just how many people see it as an example of a most unappealing place to visit or live in.

Now the area from Ardrossan to Irvine has been given urban regeneration status. Working with North Ayrshire Council, the Irvine Bay Urban Regeneration Company, backed by millions of Scottish Executive money, aims to be a catalyst for transforming the area.

Great, but where to begin? Early noises suggest that derelict land and buildings should be bought by compulsory purchase. What next? Empty words about delivering for local communities? The dead hands of local authorities have a poor record in trying to create regeneration while it is many of their policies which have allowed areas to sit and rot. Private developers have not always been for the best either, building flats, or supermarkets, which have the effect of undercutting individual enterprise and leaving town centres high and dry.

Like so many things the cause of the problems is complex and defies any simple cure. It is excellent that these problems are at last being recognised and are being addressed. If even a little successful it will be excellent for Ardrossan. As the gateway to the Island it will be good too for Arran. But I'm not holding my breath.

Every action has a reaction. Trouble is that the reaction sometimes happens so long afterwards that few people see the connection between cause and effect.

Post offices are one area where this is the case. For years, as the government has made changes which mean less and less business for them, there have been reassurances that it would make no difference. Other life-style changes, like the decline in letter writing, and more payments going automatically into bank accounts must have steadily chipped away at post office business. Now it is reckoned that over 1,100 in Scotland are under threat of closure.

Many on Arran have closed over the years. We do not know how near the edge some may be. Brodick has an excellent, and given the praise some local services get, much under-rated, post office service. Corrie has managed to keep going after several hiccups through village help. Kildonan looks secure through the tremendous efforts being put into the shop. Each village post office provides an invaluable service. Hopefully, no more will disappear.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

The everlasting God gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.

Isaiah 40:29,31

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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



Rescue at sea

Sir,

It was my son Ryan who featured in *The Banner* after being rescued from a dinghy by the coastguard and lifeboat.

Yes, I'm the idiot who let go of the rope.

I'd like to thank the coastguard team and the lifeboat crew, David McKinnon, Crawford Duncan and their partners (whose names I didn't get - sorry) who came so quickly and dealt with the situation calmly and professionally.

The sight of the lifeboat rounding the point at Kings Cross was an enormous relief to me and it must have been to Ryan as well, although he would never say so, according to him he wasn't scared for a minute. The time from me phoning 999 and Ryan being rescued was just over 10 minutes which is fantastic. So thanks again and I hope that anybody reading the article last week will be reminded how dangerous the sea can be.

Enjoy it but be very careful. I've relearned a lesson that I thought I knew.

Yours,
John McAndrew, Troon

20 years ago

Sir,

Further to your recent 20 years ago column showing me with a female bus guard in a bygone museum.

I have always held the view that if you don't want people to write about what you are doing don't do it, however I'm glad that *The Banner* does not go back beyond 20 years or south of Kildonan.

For instance a reprint of the story concerning me, three ladies, two Royal Marines and five members of what was then the Devon County Police could be the most unedifying article your subscribers would ever have the pleasure of reading.

One or two people have been unkind enough to suggest that I still have the lady bus conductor in a cupboard. Alas this is not so; she left me years ago and ran off with a statue of Robbie Burns.

Yours,
Berni Mitchell-Luker
Phairstaidge, Lamlash

Machrie moor

Sir,

Ten years is perhaps a long time

to wait for the new Kings' Cave path, but thanks to some enthusiastic and committed people it is now finished and the efforts of everyone involved should be applauded.

The existing Kings' Cave path and car park has been a fantastic success, not only because it is a fine walk, but because it also removed a car parking and traffic congestion problem from the hamlet of Tormore just down the road.

Before, the main road would be lined with parked cars and pedestrians posing a constant traffic hazard in that confined area.

This is still much the same situation at the start of the Machrie Moor Standing Stones walk, just 500 yards along the road.

Despite this being a tremendously popular walk, there have never been any proper parking facilities provided. During some days in the height of the season, the traffic parking and congestion can be quite serious, not to mention dangerous.

I would suggest that this could be easily avoided by moving the start of the Standing Stones walk over to the existing Kings' Cave car park.

A new path from here, across the moor, to link with the existing Moss Farm road would not pose too large a challenge and would in fact not be much longer than the existing path.

This would also consolidate the parking for the two walks and possibly promote both facilities at the same time.

So, there is the suggestion, all it needs now is the enthusiasm and endeavour of those who might be able to make it a reality, as has been shown with this new Kings' Cave path.

Lets just hope it doesn't take another 10 years to be a reality.

Yours,
Angus Smith
Stavanger, Norway

Screen Machine

Sir,

Following the editorial comment in issue 1551 (8 July 06) with regard to the new location of the Screen Machine, I would like to clarify the position of the Arran Sports Association, ASA, committee in relation to the proposed charges for the use of the pavilion facilities as a site for the Screen Machine.

The Hi-Arts company which operates the Screen Machine have been using the Ormidale Pavilion car park and toilet facilities without charge for a considerable length of time now.

As this is in contrast to all other users it was felt that it is somewhat unjust to expect users such as the rugby and junior football clubs who rely on voluntary input for funding to pay the required charges whilst allowing a company which is charging up to £5.50 a ticket to use the facility without charge.

The proposed charge for the Screen Machine to continue to use the facility was in fact £12 per hour during showing times only and not the £400 as suggested in your editorial.

Based on this method of charging it would be totally dependent on the number of films shown and the duration of each film to ascertain a total charge for each visit.

The charge of £12 per hour is the cost of hire of the meeting room within the pavilion and it was felt by committee that this would be a fair charge given that we are providing parking for the unit along with parking for their customers as well and also providing toilet facilities throughout the duration of their visits.

This in turn incurs costs for the association by way of electricity and water charges along with charges for the caretaker to open and close the pavilion each day and also cleaning of toilets after use.

The association relies solely on income from lets of the pavilion and hire of the pitches etc. Since we have little or no financial input from local authority to help with general upkeep and day-to-day running we have no alternative but to ensure that we generate enough income during the year to meet the ever increasing costs of maintenance.

When you are faced with annual overheads such as grass cutting in excess of £2,500 water and waste water charges in excess of £2000 not to mention all other day-to-day running costs and maintenance it becomes very clear that it is paramount that we as a committee ensure that we run the facility in such a way that we can generate the income required to keep this much needed commu-

nity asset running.

Yours,
Andy Ingham
Association Secretary, Torbeg

Welcome the Poles

Sir,

Your leading article in last week's *Banner* dealt with the influx of young Polish workers into Arran.

You suggested that we should give them a warm welcome. It is to be hoped your readers will heed this.

After their country was overrun by Germany in 1939, Polish servicemen in their thousands made their way to this country to fight in our cause.

This was at a time when Britain needed all the friends it could get. Individually the Poles were blythe and gay chaps (I use the second adjective in its real meaning).

When working in groups they were wont to sing patriotic songs which reminded me of the Welsh.

We Brits were often envious of the way in which our Polish friends would charm themselves into the affections of the fair sex.

Some of the new immigrants will be descended from these servicemen. It is our duty as well as our pleasure to welcome them.

Yours,
George Lyle, 2 Fen Place
Sandbraes, Whiting Bay

Horticultural show and Open Gardens

Sir,

The Arran gardens are looking splendid at the moment; they must be appreciating the beautiful weather.

Once again the Horticultural Society's summer exhibition is almost on us and is in its 98th year.

It will be held in Lamlash Community Centre on Wednesday 16 August from 2.30pm to 4pm and there are plenty of car parking spaces.

This delightful community event needs your support, so please have a good look around your gardens at the flowers and vegetables to gather together some entries. There are also many sections for the creative, from floral displays to photography, handicrafts, baking and children's entries. Schedules are available in post offices and the library.

Letters continued next page

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Fun for all the family

Amy Wedge was officially declared the new Bay Queen at Whiting Bay's annual fun day last Saturday.

Stepping down was 12-year-old Fiona Macleod who placed the crown on Amy's head and wished

her all the best in her new role heralding the start of the event.

At this time of the year it's hard to escape the village fun days around the Island and Whiting Bay entertained the crowds last Saturday well into the wee hours.

Upwards of 600 people passed through the gates in the afternoon with the fun kicking off at 2pm in Sandbraes. There were plenty of events to keep the crowds enthralled and good weather was an added bonus for everyone who

had gone along.

All money raised from the event is used by Whiting Bay Improvements Committee to improve amenities throughout the village.

Amy and Fiona paraded along the front from the village centre to Sandbraes Park and in keeping with last year they arrived in style travelling in Diane Armstrong's BMW cabriolet.

Several stallholders had stands set up in the field selling various

goods and the local coastguard team were on hand giving advice on safety in and around the water. Janis Murchie gave visitors the chance to enjoy a scenic view of the area aboard her horse-drawn carriage.

An area in the middle of Sandbraes was cordoned off and housed a birds of prey exhibit that generated a lot of interest among both locals and tourists. Murray Boal, Iain Struthers and Danny

Currie were on-hand to answer questions about the birds.

In the afternoon Murray entertained the crowds with his ever popular dog scurry. As Murray expertly wheeled a 'rat' back and forwards along a rope, the dogs looked on eagerly trying to grab it, much to the delight of the gathered audience.

The overall winner was reigning champion Gus, a border terrier belonging to 11-year-old Hattie Ford of Brodick. Gus had already won the dog scurry the week before at Lamlash Gala Week.

Arran Schools Brass provided some musical entertainment under the leadership of Craig Masterton. They played a variety of tunes from Scotland the Brave through to a James Bond medley complete with one of the musicians effectively firing a cap gun during the musical breaks.

The Arran Angels provided a colourful and energetic dance routine for a gathered crowd and the Arran Highland Dancers performed atop their new stage. The stage doubles as a trailer than can be towed behind a vehicle and unfolds to provide a level dancing surface. It was purchased with the help of a grant and has proved invaluable to the group since they obtained it last year.

The group leaders Susan Marriott and Liz Clarke said they are really keen for new dancers to sign up. The five girls danced along to well known Scottish tunes. They will be competing at the Brodick Highland Games next Saturday along with an American team.

Continued on page 12



New Bay Queen Amy Wedge, right, with last years Bay Queen Fiona Macleod. b30fun5



Brodick's Hattie Ford with reigning dog scurry champion border terrier Gus. She is seen with Murray Boal who set up the event about 10 years ago and has continued to run it much to the delight of the ever growing crowds. b30fun2



Arran Highland Dancers on their stage at Sandbraes. b30fun6

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in Whiting Bay

Continued from page 12

During the summer months they can also be found dancing at Brodick Castle on the last Sunday of every month.

For many the highlight of the event was the *Three In the Park* event in the evening and this year upwards of 1,000 people went along to listen to the bands.

Unlike last year when the groups performed on the back of two flatbed articulated lorries, a marquee had been set up to house the bands and merry revellers.

But contrary to name there were in fact five bands performing. Cover versions and some own material was belted out by the Spandex Monkeys, Johnny & The Jet-Patchers, Junk, The Queeves and Deep Joy.

The evening officially came to a close at midnight, with many still partying well into the small early hours.

Dog show results

Class 1 Best Groomed Dog: 1 Julie with Otis, 2 Hannah with Poppy, 3 Andrew with Abby and Special to Bev with Midge.

Class 2 Happiest Dog: 1 Holly with Lewis, 2 Lauren with Benson, 3 Hannah with Poppy.

Class 3 Best Behaved Dog: 1 Pauline with otis, 2 Cara with Gypsy, 3 Megan with Benson, and Special to Chloe with Tess.

Class 4 Dog Most Like Owner: 1 Alexa with Rags, 2 Victoria with Spider, 3 Lauren with Skye.

Overall Champion was awarded to Spider, an 18 month old Saluki



Danny Currie of Lamlash with common buzzard Zac. This was the sixth year birds of prey have been exhibited at the event. b30fun4

cross who came from Dumfries & Galloway Canine Rescue Centre and is now owned by Victoria Williams from Glasgow. Victoria has owned Spider for about five months. Reserve champion was Poppy, owned by Hannah Cromwell from Blackwood in

Lanarkshire. Poppy, owned by Hannah since a puppy, is an eight year-old wire haired fox terrier.

The committee would like to thank Mrs Wiseman for judging, and to Kelvinhaugh Kennels and Whiting Bay Post Office for championship prizes.



Arran Angels dance group entertained the crowds with a colourful workout. b30fun3



Collie Jake tries to get to grips with the 'rat' in Murray Boal's ever popular crowd pleasing dog scurry. b30fun1

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Wedding bells Wedding bells Wedding bells



Married at Gracehill Vineyard, Auckland, New Zealand on 2 April 2006 were Andrew, son of Hamish and Anne Mitchell of Brodick and Christine, daughter of Tony and Maura Miller of Auckland. b30wed1



Married on Saturday 15 July in the drawing room of Brodick castle by registrar Susan Barr were Dawn Ogden and Martin Duffy who are frequent visitors to Arran. Martin is a drummer in an Oasis tribute band and Dawn is in the car trade. The couple will live in Whitworth. b30wed3



Married at Achnashee, Glen Rosa, Brodick on Saturday 1 July by Reverend Angus Adamson were Kirsty, younger daughter of Russell and Jan Duncan and Lee, elder son of Chris and Margo Popplewell of Balmichael House, Balmichael. The couple will live in Brodick. Thanks go to all friends and relations for helping to make such a happy day. b30wed4

The Rowan Singers Summer Concert

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 From 10.30am to 5.00pm
 Saturday 29th July to
 Thursday 3rd August 2006

The Coffee Pot

Golf Course Rd
 Whiting Bay
 Tel 700382

Paintings & Prints
 by Sheila Findlay
 on display

~ Eat alfresco in our
 seafront garden ~

Delicious Snacks & Light Meals
Homebaking always available

OPEN DAILY



Married in Brodick on Saturday 8 July were Kirsty, youngest daughter of Sandy and Johnnie McGovern of Whiting Bay and Gary, youngest son of Joan and Roy Lewis of Cannock. The couple will live in Kilbarchan. b30wed2

**JOHN ALEXANDER
 KNOX**
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**THE GREEN HARPER
 GALLERY**
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 JULY 17th - AUGUST 7th
 VIEWING BY
APPOINTMENT ONLY
 Telephone 01770830202
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Sannox Cricket Club 6-ASIDE TOURNAMENT

Sunday 13th August
 Midday
 Sannox Cricket Ground
All welcome
Burger Bar, Music
Kids Kwik Cricket
 Details/entries telephone
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Sunday Buffet Every Week
 12 noon - 4 p.m.
Adults £9.75
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Kildonan Village
 Hall Auction

Special Item

Hand Crafted Bedspread
 in aid of ARCAS and the
 Brain and Spine Foundation
 Preview August 1st,
 2 - 4 pm
 Auction, August 2nd,
 7pm sharp

Family Ceilidh with the Boguillie Band

Every Thursday Lochranza Hall
 27th July - 7th September • 8pm - 11.30pm • Licensed
Adults £5 • Kids £3 • Family (4) £15

STOP PRESS

Buy a meal at Catacol Bay Hotel (min £6.50 adults, £3.50 kids) on Thursday night 5pm - 9pm
 and claim your free entry ticket to that night's ceilidh

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CATACOL in association with **LOCHRANZA**
PROMOTIONS with **FIELD CENTRE**

Ferry passengers watch the birdie

Ferry travellers on *MV Caledonian Isles* now have the chance to learn more about the feathered friends flying around them.

On most Saturdays until the end of August, volunteers from North Ayrshire RSPB will be on board the ferry going between Ardrossan and Brodick showing people seabirds.

When onboard they are on the outside back deck manning a stall which also contains information about the RSPB, local events and sightings.

Press officer Jim McDill told the *Banner*: 'We will be able to help with interpretation of birds seen on the crossing.'

'Often over 30 species can be seen from the ferry.'

'A daily list is displayed on the outer aft deck of the ferry when the RSPB volunteers are on board.'

One of the most common birds to be seen is the gannet. This large white bird has black tips at the end of its wings and is often seen diving from great heights into the sea.

Over 26,000 pairs of gannets nest on the RSPB's newest reserve, Ailsa Craig, in the lower Clyde.

Ailsa Craig is also a haven and breeding site for various other seabirds including guillemot, razorbill and between 10 to 20 pairs of puffin where once there were tens of thousands.

Black guillemots may also be seen around Ardrossan and Brodick harbours.

These are small duck-like birds that are members of the auk family. They are black with a white



Volunteers give information on seabirds to interested members of the public on the aft deck of *MV Caledonian Isles*.

patch on the side of the body and often nest in holes in harbour walls.

Other auks that can be seen frequently include the common guillemot and razorbill.

These two birds are very similar to the black guillemot but they have more white about them and the razorbill's beak is very sturdy.

On a lucky day travellers may see the most well-known auk – the puffin.

Some puffins from Ailsa Craig occasionally fly up the Clyde.

One of the most exciting birds to see on the crossing is the Manx shearwater. This is a member of the petrel family and is the size

of a medium gull, but is totally black on top and white below.

In calm weather large groups of up to 300 shearwaters can sometimes be seen feeding on the water, or more commonly, groups of birds may fly together in a line, zig-zagging between the waves.

Several thousand shearwaters can easily be seen in a very short space in time if conditions are

right.

During late summer the occasional great or Arctic skua may sometimes be seen as can the odd storm petrel.

More common birds that are easy to see from the ferry are the shag and cormorant. Brodick Bay

also often has several pairs of red breasted merganser and great black-backed gulls.

Dolphins and porpoises are being seen more frequently from the crossings.

Basking sharks and minke whales often frequent Brodick

Bay and the shores near Corrie. Identification charts for cetaceans are usually available when the RSPB volunteers are on board the ferry.

The University Marine Biological Station at Millport is currently surveying basking sharks by tagging them.

Anyone spotting a basking shark on the Clyde should call the Marine Station on 01475 530581 as soon as possible, noting the location of the sighting, direction the shark was travelling and approximate size.

The North Ayrshire group has been 'Showing People Seabirds' on the Ardrossan to Arran ferry for almost 10 years.

In 2004 and again in 2005 they held a highly successful cruise in the process raising over £2,300 for conservation projects.

Jim McDill said: 'There are normally four volunteers on the ferry to answer any questions.'

'People take away leaflets and forms and a couple have joined the RSPB there and then.'

'I'm just an amateur but some of these volunteers are really good.'

Shiskine Hall Quiz Night
Junior & Senior
Thursday 10th August
7.30pm
£2 per person, includes Cheese & Wine/Juice
All Welcome

family ceiliòh
Shiskine Village Hall
Friday 4th August
7.30 - 10.30 pm
Dance to
KILBRANNAN SOUND
CEILIOH BANO
Tickets: Adult £4, Child £2,
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Tel 600349 or 600998
Mobile 07932 786524
The Old Pier Lamlash

The National Trust for Scotland
Brodick Castle, Garden & Country Park
Tours of the Castle - Booking essential
Normal entry rates apply All tours start at 2.00pm
Tues 1st August Secrets Tour for 7-11 year olds
'The Forgetful Princess' A tour for tots 3-6 year olds
Wed 2nd August 'The Vile Victorians' A tour for 7-11 year olds
Fri 4th August Castle Secrets for Adults
Normal entry plus £2 per person
Please phone 302202 to book and for information
Garden and Country Park
Every Tues 2pm - Guided Garden Walk
Adults £2.00, meet at Reception
Wed 2nd August Wildlife on Beinn A'Chliabhain 10am - 5pm
£10/£5 per person
Booking essential - tel 302462
Thur 3rd August Seashore Scramble 2-3.30pm Free with entrance

Live Music at the Pierhead Tavern, Lamlash
with the
Junkyard Dawgs
Rock and Blues
Friday 28 July from 9 p.m.
Strictly Over 18s
Sunday 30 July from 1.30 p.m.

ARGYLL COLLEGE UHI Millennium Institute
University-level study in the Highlands and Islands
Construction Courses
CITB Health and Safety Tests
The CITB Health and Safety Test is designed to ensure construction industry workers have a minimum level of health and safety awareness. The test is now available at Argyll College learning centres marked 'T' below and costs £30 per person.
HNC Construction Management
HNC Construction Management will be available from late August 2006 at Argyll College learning centres.
The course will run over two years and is based on two three-hour evenings each week.
This unique and successful course is aimed at construction managers, site agents, etc.
For more information contact your nearest learning centre.
Arran^T - 01770 600 152
Campbeltown^T - 01586 559 310
Dunstaffnage^T - 01631 559 500
Islay^T - 01496 810 130
Rothesay^T - 01700 501 000
Tobermory - 01688 302 801
Cairndow - 01499 600 141
Dunoon^T - 01369 707 182
Fionnphort^T - 01681 700 377
Lochgilthead^T - 01546 600 070
Tiree^T - 01879 220 520

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Sales Executive

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Established business magazines and directories.
Ideal position to progress career or for the ambitious to start a career in media sales.
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Full cv to Ref: OT, Karen Wallace, Office Manager,
Special Publications, Craigmillar Castle,
Craigmillar Road, Edinburgh, EH4 3PE
or Karen@specialpublications.co.uk

Journalist

An experienced journalist is needed to work on our marine titles and websites FISHupdate and Fish Farmer.

The successful candidate will be an experienced self-starter, capable of tackling the fast moving challenges involved in covering the commercial fishing, processing and aquaculture sectors in the UK and overseas.

This position is demanding and will call for a high level of commitment to both sustain and develop our role as a leading marine publisher.

In return, the job will offer an excellent salary and the opportunity for significant career development in a dynamic industry sector.

Candidates should have proven general reporting experience and hold a driving licence.

Full cv detailing current salary to:

karen@specialpublications.co.uk

or to ref: OT2 Karen Wallace, Office Manager,
Special Publications, Craigmillar Castle,
Craigmillar Road, Edinburgh, EH4 3PE

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The Pier, Brodick
Isle of Arran
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What's on...What's on...What's on...What's on...

EVERYDAY

Brodick Castle Gardens & Country Park
11am - 4pm
Arran Heritage Museum, 10.30am - 4.30pm
Trout fishing, boat and bank fishing, Loch Garbad, Arran Angling Association.
Hen harrier room open, Kilmory hall

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
Lamlash Bowling Club, Rink Game 7pm
Brodick Bowling Club rink game 6.30pm
Whiting Bay Bowling, Rink Game, 7pm
Coffee morning, Whiting Bay church hall 10.30am
Lamlash Improvements Association, ACVS room, 7.30pm

Open folk session, Pierhead Tavern 9pm
Family Dance Whiting Bay Hall, 7.30pm
Family Quiz night, Kilmory hall, 7pm
Auction, Kildonan hall, 7pm
PS Waverley. Cruise to Largs, Dunoon & Carrick Castle, Brodick Pier, 11.30am

SATURDAY 29th July

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
Over 21's disco, 10pm, The Ormidale Hotel, Brodick
Football Lamlash v Shiskine 6pm
Football Northend v Brodick 2pm
Linda Muirhead, Live at The Drift Inn
Karaoke/ Disco, Aldersyde Hotel, 9pm
Junkyard Dawgs, Live at Cameronia, 9.30pm
Rockafella, McAlpine Hotel, 9pm

TUESDAY 1st August

Senior Fitness, Auchrannie Spa, 9.30am & 10.45am
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
British Red Cross, open garden, Dougarie boathouse, 2pm
Coastal work party, meet Brodick school, 8.30am

THURSDAY 3rd August

Senior Fitness, Auchrannie Spa, 9.30am & 10.45am
Pilates, Auchrannie Studio, 6pm
General Knowledge Quiz, Ormidale, Brodick, 10pm
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
Lochranza Craft Club, Hall 2pm
Senior Fitness, Auchrannie Gym, 9.30am & 1.45pm
Only abs, Auchrannie Studio, 5.30pm
Outdoor run, Auchrannie, 6pm
Cricket Practice, Sannox Oval 6pm
Spinning & Weaving, Museum 11am - 4pm
PS Waverley, Cruise to Pladda & Holy Isle - Brodick pier 3pm
Whiting Bay craft market, village hall, 10am

SUNDAY 30th July

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
Music on the lawn at the Kildonan Hotel 2pm with McRasta
RNLI Lifeboat shop open, Lamlash Pier 2 - 4pm
RNLI Lifeboat Station open day, 11am -4pm.
Junkyard Dawgs, PHT, 1.30pm
PS Waverley, Cruise to Skipness & Loch Fyne from Lochranza pier.
3.40pm
Junkyard Dawgs, McAlpine hotel, 4pm

FRIDAY 4th August

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
Whiting Bay Golf Club Quiz nights 9pm
Aquafizz, Auchrannie Pool, 9.45am
Water Polo, Auchrannie Pool, 7.30pm
Over 21's disco, 10pm, Ormidale Hotel
Sale of Work, Kilmory Hall, 8pm
Family Ceilidh, Shiskine Hall, 7.30pm
Scottish music, Kildonan hotel, 9pm

WEDNESDAY 2nd August

Advocacy service, drop in session, ACVS office, Lamlash 11am-1pm
Coffee morning, Lamlash Church Hall, 1030am-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
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

SATURDAY 5th August (non regulars)

Mountain Rescue Disco, Brodick Hall, 9pm
Honda Sports cars, Shorehouse, Brodick, 10.30am
Brodick Highland games, Ormidale pavillion, All day.

MONDAY 31st July

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

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Sale of Work
In Aid of Kilmory Church
Restoration Fund
Friday 4th August
Kilmory Hall 8pm

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The DRIFT INN
FRIDAY 28TH JULY
"EARTHWORKS"
SATURDAY 29TH JULY
"LINDA MUIRHEAD"
Over 18's only

Brodick Highland Games
Saturday 5th August 2006
Ormidale park, Brodick @ 1.30pm
Isle of Arran Pipe Band
Maybole Pipe Band
Kirkintilloch Pipe Band
RBL Millport Pipe Band
Drop-in by the Red Devils Free Fall Team
(weather permitting)
at the commencement of the Games
Athletic Events. Heavy Events. Numerous Sideshows & Stalls. Children's Fancy Dress Competition. Highland Dancing Competition at 11.30am
Numbered Programmes cost 50p with prizes given to the lucky number holders
Admission: adults £2 children under 14 £1



DVLA Personalised Registrations Wants Bikers' 'Views'



Where is Britain's best combination of road and landscape to be found? Bikers are being invited to put forward their suggestions in a poll being conducted on the DVLA Personalised Registrations website; www.dvlaregistrations.co.uk, to discover Britain's top 'Bike Vistas'.

All bikers taking part in the survey will be able to enter a free prize draw for

one of five pairs of tickets to this year's International Motorcycle and Scooter Show at the NEC and the first person to be chosen will also receive a signed limited edition series of 12 photographic prints of the locations.

Louise Pierpoint, publicity manager for DVLA Personalised Registrations, explained: "We are developing new images for our website and will commis-

sion shots of the leading locations. Bikers, probably more than any other motorists, appreciate the sense of freedom and enjoyment a great road vista can create, so we want their opinions on which locations are the most dramatic."

The results of the 'Bike Vistas' survey will be announced at the International Motorcycle and Scooter Show at the NEC where all 12 scenes will be displayed.

SUBARU LAUNCHES USED CAR INITIATIVE

Buying a used Subaru is about to become considerably easier thanks to the launch of a used car initiative called 'Subaru Direct' – which goes live on 14 August.

Subaru dealers throughout the UK now have access to over 100 extra cars at any one time – worth more than £1m.

And with at least 80 authorised UK Subaru dealers operating the scheme, customers will enjoy access to the very best used Subarus available – most being ex-management cars with less than 15,000 miles and under one year old.

Potential buyers can access the stock on the official Subaru website (subaru.co.uk) where they will be shown three images of each car accompanied by a short description.

They can view either stock from their local dealer or vehicles held nationally at Subaru's dedicated compound in Quedgeley, Gloucestershire.



All cars are professionally prepared by Subaru (UK) Limited's own staff at Quedgeley, headed by a newly-appointed Used Car Manager, Tom Vause.

Subaru hopes to sell over 1,000 used cars annually through the scheme which will be accompanied by point-of-sale material and backed by compulsory dealer training.

£0 DEPOSIT £0 INTEREST £0 INSURANCE**



Brand New Corsa SXi with

- Sports Front Seats • Alloy Wheels
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Brand New Astra SXi Sport with

- Sports Front Seats
- Sports Suspension
- Air Conditioning • Front Fog Lights
- Curtain Airbags • CD Player

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FREE INSURANCE** 25-80 Years Old **0% APR**



Brand New Astra 5 Door SXi with

- Air Conditioning
- Power Steering
- 6 Airbags
- Remote Control Locking
- Electric Mirrors
- Alloy Wheels
- Sports Front Seats

Car shown for illustration purposes only.

FREE INSURANCE** 25-80 Years Old **0% APR**

Reg Vardy Ardrossan will be supporting the



Brodick Highland Games
on 5th August 2006

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The official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100 km) for the Vauxhall range shown are; urban 34.4 (8.2) - 44.8 (6.3); extra urban 54.3 (5.2) - 72.4 (3.9) and combined 44.8 (6.3) - 58.8 (4.8). The official CO2 emission is 115g/km - 151g/km.

** Subject to age & status. Terms & Conditions apply.



DRIVE TIMES

BANNER

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SAAB 9.3 2.0T



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REMEMBER DEADLINE FOR DRIVE TIMES MONDAY 4PM

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PUBLIC NOTICES



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/06/00668/PP Address: Kilbrannan, Slidery, Brodick, Isle Of Arran KA27 8PB Proposed Development: Alterations and conversion of barn and former outhouses to form dwelling house

(ROSS ROAD, ISLE OF ARRAN) (TEMPORARY CLOSURE) ORDER 2006

On the 24th July 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 widening works) on the Ross Road, Isle Of Arran (adjacent to Hawthorn Quarry Access Road) by reason of works proposed to be executed on or near that road.

The Order will come into operation at 0001 hours on 31st July 2006 and will remain in operation until 2400 hours on 24th September 2006 or until such date as the works are completed, whichever is the earlier.

The Order will be implemented only when appropriate diversion signs are displayed.

Alternative Route:-

Diverted traffic should proceed on route A841 via Whiting Bay, Kilmory and Lagg and vice versa

ROADS AND LIGHTING FAULTS

From 9am on the 1st August 2006 North Ayrshire Council will no longer be using the Glasgow City call centre (RALF) for the reporting of emergency Road and Lighting Faults.

Members of the public wishing to report an emergency Road or Lighting fault should phone the following number:- 0845 603 0594 (24 hour service)

Ian Snodgrass
Chief Executive
Cunninghame House
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rear is storage and circulation of 14.31m² (154sf) plus toilet, store room 12.77m² (137.50sf) and tiled preparation room of 10.92m² (117.58sf). Rear access door to shared driveway. The shop is presently offered to rent on the basis of a minimum one year lease at a rental of £9,000 per annum. Included with the heritable subjects are all the refrigerated display counters within the premises.



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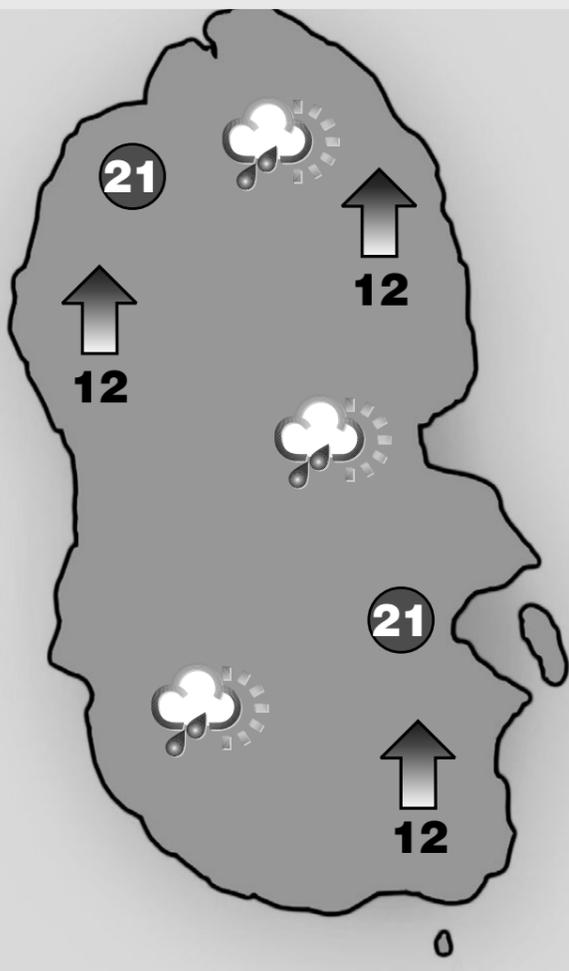
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Tides

Tide tables for Lamlash during the week from **Saturday, 29 July 2006** are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am				pm			
Sat	0216	3.3	0800	0.5	1502	2.8	2024	0.7
Sun	0246	3.3	0833	0.6	1532	2.9	2058	0.7
Mon	0318	3.2	0908	0.7	1603	2.8	2134	0.8
Tues	0352	3.1	0946	0.8	1636	2.8	2215	0.9
Wed	0429	3.0	1031	0.9	1715	2.7	2302	1.0
Thur	0514	2.8	1125	1.0	1805	2.6	****	**
Fri	0000	1.2	0613	2.7	1231	1.1	1909	2.5

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



Saturday, July 29

Mainly sunny with light rain showers.
Light breeze. Maximum temp 20°C.

Sunday, July 30

Sunny intervals throughout the day
Temperatures around 19°C.

Monday and Tuesday

A settled few days though it will feel cooler with the possibility of some light rain.s Temperatures around 18°C

Ferry Crossings / Sea States

Ardrossan / Brodick - Moderate

Claonaig / Lochranza - Moderate

ANNOUNCEMENTS



CHURCH NEWS

Arran Free Church of Scotland

Sunday 30 July,
Shiskine 11am.
Brodick 7pm.
Reverend David Karoon.
All welcome.

Lamlash Church

Sunday 30 July
You are invited to worship in Lamlash Church at 11 am.
Mr Allan Saunderson
Depute Clerk, Ardrossan
Presbytery.

Tea and Coffee served in the Hall after the service.
All welcome.

Please note - service time will be 11am until futher notice.

Church of Scotland

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

Sunday 30 July.
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.
All welcome.

Whiting Bay and Kildonan Church

Sunday 30 July.
Family Worship will be conducted by the minister, Rev Elizabeth Watson, at 10.30am. During worship, we will celebrate the baptism of Cailean Robert, son of Robert and Caroline Stewart of Hillhouse, Craigdhu, Kildonan. Crèche facilities will be available in the Church Hall. All welcome. Tea and coffee will be served in the Hall immediately after the service - please stay and enjoy more fellowship.

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 30 July, 10am. Public worship
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.

Holy Cross Catholic Church

Vigil Mass 7.30pm.
Sunday morning masses 9.30 and 11am.

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

St Margaret's, Whiting Bay,
Sunday 30 July: Holy Communion, 11.00am. Revd. Adrian Fallows, Canterbury, Diocese.
Coffee after service.
Wednesday 2 August, noon, Holy Communion.
All Welcome.

Arran Baptist Church

Sunday 30 July at 11 a.m. in the Free Church building, Brodick (beside the Post Office) Tom Hutchison
'The Young Church in Action'
Evidence of God's Power
Acts 8: 4 - 25
Everyone warmly invited

Arran Free Church of Scotland (continuing)

Sunday 30 July, 11am.
Trust Housing Lounge, Glen Estate, Glen Cloy Rd. Brodick
Mr.G.Furzer
Evening Service, 7pm.
Mr.D.McAlister.
All Welcome.

Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

Meeting for Worship on Sunday 30 July will be held in Skipness Hall with Argyll Friends at 1145. Ferry from Lochranza at 1045.
Please bring your sandwiches for shared lunch afterwards, tea and coffee provided.
Please phone Jeny 302779 for details.

PERSONALS

The Pillar Box

Whiting Bay Post Office

Alan & Jill (& Spencer) would like to thank all our friends and customers who have given us such tremendous support over the last 7+ years. You've made it so easy for us with your friendliness and patience. You can't beat running a Post Office for getting to know a lot of people in a short space of time!

Now the time has come to hand over the reins to someone younger. We would both like to wish every success to John & Louise who are taking over on the 3rd of August.

We are staying on the Island and look forward to visiting The Pillar Box to get our dog food!

Jill and Reg would like to thank all their friends and neighbours who joined them at their going away party.

For all the lovely cards and presents and to Malcolm, Tom and Sam for piping.

We have spent a wonderful 12 years on Arran with many special memories and hope to spend many happy holidays in the future.

THANK YOU

Shiskine W.R.I. Committee wish to thank everyone who contributed to our Sale of Work held last Wednesday evening. The grand total of £630 was raised.

The proceeds of this event go to give the children of Machrie, Shiskine and Blackwaterfoot the popular Christmas Party.
Many thanks to all.

To our Uncle Don
Congratulations on your **90th Birthday on 1st August 2006**
We hope you have a great time with much love from the Campbell-Leggs, the Lairds and the Roberts
(Love, also, to Shona, Jennifer, Mario & Scott)

I wish to give my sincere thanks to everyone, family and friends who helped to make my 80th Birthday such a memorable occasion. It was a wonderful day.
With love and gratitude.
Muriel Park

Happy 16th Birthday Kelly



Lots of love from Uncle Charlie, Mum, Richard, Daniel and all the family

Found and needing a loving home!



This Black and White cat has been found in the Sliderry area. She is very friendly and affectionate. She has white socks and is about three years old.
If this is your cat or you know whose cat it is please contact Linda Hartley at Cats Protection on (01770) 820388.
If you think you could provide a loving home please call Linda on the number above.

McCABE

Mr Robert Benton would like to thank all staff at Montrose House, Brodick, for the loving care of his Aunt Ena. Also Rev Angus Adamson for spiritual comfort, A. W. Blair & Sons for the funeral arrangements and all those who attended the services.

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Golf...golf...golf...golf...golf...golf...golf...golf...golf

Brodick Golf Club

Ladies Tuesday 18 July, second July medal, SSS 67, CSS 66, 28 played.

1 Silver I MacDonald (17) 60, 2 P Adamson (16) 62. 1 Bronze P Holmes (36) 63, 2 Bronze B Hendry (24) 65. Scratch: I MacDonald 77 bih.

Gents Results: Summer cup, Wednesday 19 July, css 64, 54 played. First: Bruce Jenkins 10 59, second Kenny Mcmillan 13 61 bih, third Stevie Bunyan 3 61 bih. Scratch Stevie Bunyan 64 there were 19 twos Gus Robertson and Ross Duncan getting 2 each.

Navy shield, stableford, Sun 23 July, css 64, 30 played. First: Greg McCrae 6 41 points, second Jimmy Armit 6 39 points, third Ian Mcdermid 11 38 points there were 7 twos: Ian Mcdermid

Lamlash Golf Club

Ladies Open: Wednesday 19 July. Well done to all who took part in the Ladies Open on one of the hottest days of the year and to all those who helped to organise it and make it such a success. Congratulations to the main prize winners.

Overall winner Christina Milroy from Loudoun 71-14=57.

First silver Ann Prior 78-15=63, second silver Jean Barclay 78-16=63 BIH, third silver Valerie McDougall 80-17=63, fourth Silver Helen Guthrie 82-18=64. First bronze Jenny Syme 82-24=58, second bronze Alison Spearman 84-25=59, third bronze Janette Smith 87-27=60, fourth bronze Shonagh Murchie 91-29=63. Scratch Brenda

Livingstone 74. Fewest putts, Christina Milroy 27 putts. Golden Girl Alison Spearman. Best net score front nine Jenny Syme 28 nett. Best net score Back nine Christina Milroy 25 nett. Best net score Arran Lady Carole Arthur Shiskine. Following the prize giving Sheila Gilmour entertained the company with a very witty poem about her own golf game and then Liz Robertson challenged our brains with a short quiz for charity, won by Morag Gardner, for which the ladies give thanks.

Gents. Summer cup played Thursday 20 July, 34 played, CSS64. Best scratch Jamie Murchie 66. Sweep 1 Maurice Appleby 78-18=60, 2 Ken Barclay 81-20=61, 3 Stuart Campbell 77-15=62, 4 Allan Hart 81-18=63 bih over D Glen, Ian Murchie and Donald McKillop. Magic twos: 1 at 5th Ian Murchie and 1 at 16th Euan Evans.

Friday 21 July, Neil Young defeated John O' Sullivan in final - well done Neil.

Sunday 23 July, 18 played, CSS63. Scratch sweep Peter Steel 87. Best scratch of the day John McGovern 70. Sweep 1 Jonathan Glen 71-11=60, 2 Graeme Tinto 83-21=62, 3 David Ross 80-18=62 bih over Jim Henderson. Magic twos: 1 at 16th Andy Pattison, 1 at 16th Jim Henderson and 1 at 16th Stephen Barker.

Juniors: 9 holes, 1 Andrew Goudie, 52-14=38. Five played. 18 holes, 1 S Cameron, 77-24=58. Again five played.

Ladies: Sweep, 30 played. 1 Joan McCall 92-34=58, 2 Allison Spearman 84-25=59, 3 Val

McDougall 77-17=60, 4 Liz Calder 89-28=61. bih over Alison Heron and Eileen Layburn. No twos recorded.

Gents: Sweep, 52 played. 1 Tim Roulston 74-19=55, 2 John Brown 72-16=56 bih, 3 Lennie Herd 78-22=56, 4 Gavin Lowe 72-15=57 bih over Ian Heron.

Magic twos: J McDougall 1 at 17th, D Cameron 1 at 4th and 7th, G Greir 1 at 7th, D Hamilton 1 at 13th, J McMillan 1 at 16th, P McQuillan 1 at 16th, D Robertson 1 at 7th, R W Tait 1 at 16th, T Roulston 1 at 10th and 1 at 16th, A Crawford 1 at 8th.

Ladies entertainment cup winner Joan McCall, gents entertainment cup winner Tim Roulston and junior entertainment cup winner S Cameron.

Fixtures: Friday 28 July, Frank Crum final 5.30pm. Saturday 29 July, Dan Crawford slaver, pick own threes and see starters for times. Sunday 30 July, Hastings cup final day, 9.30am and 1pm.

Shiskine Golf Club

Gents: Charlie Sym Rosebowl, Saturday 22 July. First class: 1 J Faulkner 26points, 2 G Brown 25points bih over K McKinlay 25points. Gents open, Sunday 23 July. First class: 1 G Brown 44-6=38, 2 D Tod 43-3=40, 3 W Kelso 45-4=41bih. Second class: 1 DM Brown 51-10=41, 2 M Sherwood 54-12=42, 3 C Pettitt 57-14=43. Scratch D Tod 43, best senior W Kelso 41bih. **Ladies:** July medal, Thursday 20 July. Sliver: 1 P Adamson 53-7=46, 2 A Anderson 59-12=47, 3 L Kerr 59-



Prizewinners at the Lamlash Ladies Open golf championship. They are, from left, back, Ann Prior, Alison Spearman, Shonagh Murchie and Jean Barclay; front, Christina Milroy and Brenda Livingstone. Photo Jenni Turnbull

8=51, scratch P Adamson 53 Bronze: 1 S Brookes 61-21=40, 2 M Bannatyne 70-24=46, 3 J Rankin 68-18=50. **Fixtures:** RNLI open competition Monday 31 July. Wednesday 2 August, 18 hole-medal. Saturday 5 August, McCutcheon Trophy. Sunday 6 August, Red Cross Texas Scramble all welcome phone 860226 for times.

Whiting Bay Golf Club

Wednesday 19 July, 36 played in

the McLintock Cup. 1 Ron McKelvie 70-13=57, 2 Mike Buchan 76-17=59, 3 Nicol Auld 64-3=61. Scratch Nicol Auld 64. Well done to Malcolm Pennycott on equalling the course record of 58 in the junior medal. **Fixtures:** Wednesday 2 August, Betty Black trophy. Thursday 3 August, visitors v locals, 5pm. Sunday 6 August, lifeboat open competition.

Corrie Golf Club

Wednesday 19 July. 1 E McKinnon

60-2=58, 2 A Napier 65-6=59. Saturday 22 July, fairs cup, second round. 1 A Henderson 80-23=57, 2 G McKinnon 58-0=58, 3 S Beardsley 70-11=59. Congratulations to Alastair on winning his first trophy. Fairs cup winner: A Henderson 115, runner up M G Crisp 120. **Fixtures:** Saturday 29 and Sunday 30 July, Corrie Open. Course closed to the public on these days. Wednesday 2 August, Wednesday night medal, tee off from 5pm.



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Easy to enter
Cut out your completed coupon and put your entry plus £1 (note not coin) per 10 attempts into a sealed envelope and post it to reach "Spot the Ball" Competition, Arran Banner, Brodick, Isle of Arran, KA27 8AJ by 4pm on Wednesday. You may hand it into The Arran Banner Office in Brodick by the same time. Otherwise all entries must be posted.

Competition Rules
No responsibility will be accepted for entries which are delayed, mislaid or lost, and proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery. The company's decision will be final on all matters relating to the competition and no correspondence will be entered into. The final decision rests with the Company. In the event of more than one correct entry, the jackpot will be shared equally between all winning entries. Any decision regarding the awarding of a prize is entirely at the discretion of the Company. The Company reserves the right to declare the competition null and void at any time, subject to its discretion and to make full refund of the price of the coupon to any person who has entered the competition at that time. Employees of The Oban Times Limited, their immediate relatives and any persons otherwise connected with the competition are ineligible to enter.

LAST WEEK'S BALL WAS HERE . . .



This week's two near misses who each receive £25 are: Jane Collie, Newton Cottage, Elderslie and Ann Baird, 11 Maryborough Avenue, Prestwick

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First for Bute's *Big Blue* in Tom Sorbie memorial race

Big Blue of Bute was this year's champion in the annual Tom Sorbie memorial Yacht Race. This marks the first time a non-

Island team has won the event that first started 11 years ago. Not a bad result for a team who only got together the night be-

fore in a pub. As an added spectacle on the day the *PS Waverley* arrived at Lochranza pier during the race obscuring the judges' view of the race.

The Tom Sorbie race is organised by Lochranza mooring owners association and committee member Doreen Swain, who describes herself as the 'dogsbody and picker up of the pieces' said: 'It must have been quite a spectacle for the passengers on the *Waverley* as four old ladies rushed across the boat to get to the starboard side to see the race.'

'The staff and passengers thought it was hilarious and believed it was part of some comic scene being acted out.'

'We dashed across the deck clutching a clipboard, hooter and a camera while a bemused crowd looked on.'

Owners of *Big Blue*, a Beneteau 411 yacht, are Chris and Viv Shelley of Rothesay who had won a previous round-Bute yacht race earning them an invitation to the Arran race. They generally race as a pair.

The other team members, Andrew Mawston of Glasgow and

David Horne from Cumbernauld had met Chris and Viv in the Lochranza Hotel the night before and decided to pair up, a move which greatly paid off.

Not only did they win the first-over-the-line prize but also claimed the overall winner prize earning them the Tom Sorbie Memorial Trophy and Filtec Yacht model.

Both Andrew and David are non-sailors and have never been on a yacht before. The race is all about fun and the committee are very keen to have non-sailors participating.

Eight miles

The race takes in eight miles following a triangular shape from Lochranza pierhead to the Skipness buoy, down to Catacol Bay where the yachts round a marker and then back to the Newton Shore and Kilbrannan house in Lochranza.

Tom Sorbie was a frequent visitor to the Island until his untimely death in 1995. During his time on the Island he became interested in the sailing scene on Arran.

Unfortunately on his last trip in 1995 Tom suffered a heart attack after swimming back to his

friends' boat in Loch Fyne.

The family wanted to make a positive contribution in Tom's name and decided on the option of an annual fun yacht race with a perpetual trophy and prizes. Tom was a fun-loving man and they saw this as appropriate.

Over the years the numbers have varied with the best ever number of entrants in the first race in 1996. Last year only six entered but this year nine took part.

Doreen concluded: 'Numbers are rising and we hope more people will take part every year.'

'We want everyone who competes to have fun while at the same time promoting the message of caring and safety.'

'Everyone who takes part in the race is rewarded with a prize, no-one goes away empty handed.'

Results

1 C Shelley *Big Blue*, 2 V Pierce *Paper Moon*, 3 D Furze *Leumadair*, 4 S Morrison *Popinjay*, 5 Smudger Smith *Dream Hunter*, 6 J Graham *Firefly*, 7 R Cumming *Avanti Avanti*, 8 I Murchie *Neoenean*. 9 E O'Donnolly *Fidesta*.

Football action

The football action continued on Monday with a dominant Brodick putting seven goals past visiting Southend.

The Southend team worked hard but were unable to put one away against the current top of the league side.

Last Saturday Lamlash met Northend in a tough game but they did enough to secure a 4 - 3 victory.

Results

Lamlash v Northend, Saturday 22 July, 4 - 3.

Lamlash scorers: Donald Addi Adamson, Martin Ross, Euan Evans, own goal.

Northend scorers: Matt Milne (2), Jamie White.

Lamlash player of the match, Bobby Sloss. Northend player of the match, John Ferguson.

Brodick v Southend, Monday 24 July, 7 - 0. Brodick scorers: Archie McNicol (4), Greg McCrae (2), Euan Smith (1).

Brodick player of the match, Archie Nicol. Southend player of the match, Elliot Smith. Shiskine Bye

Fixtures

Next match Lamlash v's Shiskine 6pm.

Northend v's Brodick 2pm. Both games kick-off Saturday 29 July.



Prize winning team *Big Blue*: David Horne, Viv and Chris Shelley, Andrew Mawston and boxer dog Jaz. They are seen with the Tom Sorbie Memorial Trophy and the Filtec Yacht model. b30win1



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PARKING
at
Balmichael
Visitor Centre



A resounding cheer from all the competitors in this year's Tom Sorbie Memorial Yacht race at the Lochranza Hotel. b30win2

Brodick bowling club

Winning rinks:

Wednesday 12 July: Skip, A Hollingworth, N Thomson, P Milligan.

Saturday 15 July: Skip, A Hollingworth, J McConnachie.

Monday 17 July: Skip, J Lauder, N Thomson.

Wednesday 19 July: J McConnachie, R Peacock, A Hollingworth.

Thursday 27 July: A Hollingworth, N Thomson.



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