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Arran's Weekly Newspaper

SATURDAY, 6 SEPTEMBER, 2008

No 1664

Up the Clyde with a paddle – in kid's inflatable dinghy!

- Man covers 13 miles at sea during 15-hour overnight fishing trip
- Stunned rescue crew member says he is 'lucky to be alive'

A MAN rescued from a child's inflatable dinghy three miles off the coast of Arran was this week described as 'very lucky to be alive'.

Incredibly, the man had set out on a fishing trip from Prestwick 15 hours earlier.

Thirteen miles and a cold night at sea later, he was picked up by a flabbergasted lifeboat crew east of Clauchlands Point.

The man, a Slovakian who spoke little English, was rescued on Sunday morning.

Despite being very cold, he insisted he was not in any danger.

But local lifeboat operations manager Geoff Norris told the *Banner* this week: 'It was a child's inflatable, about one-and-a-half metres long with no seat and single skin. If he had caught it with his hook he would have sunk straight away.'

'A passing yacht had reported the man drifting to the coastguard. We were alerted at 10.34am and the lifeboat got to the man who was three miles east of Clauchlands Point. He was rowing quite

Report by HOWARD DRIVER

happily and was not very keen on coming on board. Although he had been out all night he hadn't caught a single fish.

'He was very cold, so when he came ashore at Lamlash the coastguards gave him a warm blanket and we gave him a hot drink.'

The man was taken to Arran War Memorial Hospital by ambulance to be checked over and returned to the mainland on the ferry later that day.

Warning

Mr Norris added: 'This tiny child's dinghy is the sort of thing the coastguards and ourselves are always warning people about. They are not seaworthy and this man is very lucky to be alive.'

'The dinghy went back with him, deflated, and hopefully never to be inflated again.'

Lifeboat press officer Allan Little said: 'The man was Slovakian and had very little English. He had left Prestwick about 8pm the night before to go fishing. He was quite happy and didn't think he was in any danger.'



Depute head Mark McEachern, parent council chairman Jim McMaster, head teacher Douglas Auld and depute head Ian McLaren above the commemorative photograph of the old school. b36pic01

Old high school remembered

The old Arran High School is gone but not forgotten.

Children and teachers are now enjoying the first-class facilities in the new school but a commemorative photograph and plaque of the old school will have pride of place in the new building. The large photograph is of the cherry trees in full blossom on the green in front of the old school and was taken by the *Arran Banner* in April 2007.

The *Banner* arranged to have it enlarged and it was framed by David and Clare Hendry. Just the day before last Thursday's annual prizegiving it was hung in the corridor outside the assembly hall and community theatre.

High school parent council chairman Jim McMaster is also arranging for a commemorative fundraising plaque to be placed on the wall next to it. For a small donation all former pupils will have the chance to have their name on the plaque. Jim said: 'The money raised can help towards travelling expenses for pupils going to mainland events. It may take a couple of years to compile but anyone wishing their name recorded on the plaque can telephone me on 860423.'

Woman cyclist killed in Brodick road accident

A woman cyclist has died following an accident at Merkland shore north of Brodick last Saturday night.

Police report that they received a call at 6.05pm and attended the scene within five

minutes. Sergeant Bob MacKay confirmed that a van travelling north driven by an Arran man was in collision with two cyclists travelling south.

One of the cyclists, a 59-year-old Clydebank woman, was

pronounced dead at the scene. Another cyclist, a 67-year-old man, was taken by air ambulance to the Southern General Hospital in Glasgow with serious head and leg injuries.

Sergeant MacKay said: 'We

flew in a crash investigation team followed by a second flight of traffic officers. A marine unit that had been on duty at the Cowal Games came by sea and brought scenes-of-crime officers and forensics personnel.

'There were more than 20 people in the cycling party and they were here doing a memorial ride for the dead woman's late husband who had died in 1994.

'The driver of the van pro-

vided a negative roadside breath test and was taken to Arran War Memorial Hospital where he was treated for a minor head injury and later released.'

Sgt MacKay said police inquiries were continuing.



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Mamma Mia - it's the busiest screen machine visit ever

The 'screen machine' had its busiest visit to Arran last week when it showed the musical Mamma Mia.

Ian McColl, who transports the mobile cinema around the highlands and islands of Scotland, told *The Banner* that he had 786 people through the doors to see the film centred on music from the iconic 1970s band, Abba.

He said: 'It was great to see the cinema so busy, but we had to turn away a lot of people. Lots of Arran folk got into the spirit of things by dressing up in Abba inspired costumes. I've never seen it so busy.'



Isobel MacDonald from Brodick and the Screen Machine's Ian McColl dressed in Abba inspired costumes to mark the coming of the film Mamma Mia to Arran.



The Foden truck which rolled down an embankment at Corriecravie.

Police files

Truck off road

An eight-wheel Foden truck came off the road at Corriecravie at 3pm last Saturday.

The driver got out safely before it rolled down the embankment. The truck was recovered on Tuesday and taken away by low loader.

Road closed

A young Bannan man was airlifted to Crosshouse Hospital with facial injuries after a road accident north of Whiting Bay at 11.20pm last Saturday. The

road was closed for two hours to allow for an evaluation of the crash scene. No other vehicles were involved and police enquiries are continuing.

Driving charge

A Kilmory teenager was charged with alleged driving without due care and attention after a car went into the ditch at Glenarry south of Lamlash at 3pm last Sunday. No other vehicles were involved.

Vandalism

A car was vandalised outside the Aldersyde Hotel, Lamlash last Friday afternoon. In another act of vandalism a

window was broken at a house in Benlister Place between 9pm and 10pm last Sunday. Police are appealing for witnesses.

Missing man found

A 44-year-old Irvine man described as vulnerable was reported missing by his support group after arriving on Arran on the 9.45am ferry last Tuesday. Air support and local mountain rescue team members were alerted but the man was located in forestry up the Goat Fell path by police.

Three speeders

Three drivers were reported for speeding in Shiskine on Friday afternoon. Police say that all were travelling in excess of

40mph in a 30 mph limit.

Traffic offences

An unmarked Strathclyde traffic police car was on the island from 3pm last Friday until 4pm on Saturday.

During that time, two car drivers were given conditional offers for having faulty lights and a noisy exhaust, two were reported for not wearing seat belts, one was reported for double parking in Brodick and four drivers spoken to about their driving behaviour.

Twenty vehicles were also stopped and the drivers given routine breath tests.

Four had consumed alcohol but were under the drink driving limit.



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MSP's wife injured by angler

Patricia Gibson, the wife of Arran MSP Kenneth Gibson, had a nasty experience last week. While walking through Kilbirnie she was hooked in the left ear by a careless fisherman casting his line in the River Garnock.

Kenneth said: 'I picked up this week's *Banner* and read your front page story about Hollie Anderson being hooked while on board the deck of the MV Saturn ferry.

'Then this happened to my wife. The man was pulling on his line while the hook was in her ear. The two-inch hook was so embedded that she had to be taken by ambulance to Crosshouse Hospital to have it removed.'

Mrs Gibson was treated for the wound and released later that day. Kenneth Gibson tells the tale in a letter on page 8 of this week's *Banner*.

Delays expected

Delays are expected for drivers in Corrie during the next three weeks as extensive road resurfacing is carried out.

Traffic controls will be set up in the village between Monday September 8 and Monday September 29.

Preparatory work begins this Monday when traffic will be controlled by stop-go boards or temporary signals.

The road resurfacing will begin on the 17th through to the evening of the 29th.

A convoy system for traffic will be introduced and the speed limit will be 10mph.

Throughout the entire period work will begin at 9am and finish at 3.30pm each day so minimal delays are expected during the working day.



Troon lifeboat with the fast rescue craft from HMS Daring alongside and fishing boat Palermo heading for Troon under her own steam.

Sinking fishing boat sparks large-scale rescue operation

A large-scale maritime rescue operation was launched in the Firth of Clyde last Thursday morning.

The Palermo fishing boat had issued a Mayday call to say that she was taking in water and in danger of sinking. The call went out to local lifeboatmen at 6.56am and Arran lifeboat The Boys Brigade was launched at 7.03am with Iain Hunter,

Craig Black and Martin Ferris on board.

Senior Arran coastguard David McKinnon said: 'The fishing boat was five miles east of Holy Isle and had two men on board. They thought she might sink. The new navy warship HMS Daring was in the area doing her trials and went to the scene. She launched her fast rescue craft and went alongside. Crew

members went on board and managed to stem the flow of water leaking from the fishing boat.'

Troon lifeboat had launched and a Sea King search and rescue helicopter from HMS Gannet, Prestwick was also on scene. Arran ferry MV Saturn diverted towards the area and stood by.

A RNLI spokesman said: 'A

RIB from HMS Daring had been alongside Palermo and passed information to Arran lifeboat. On the arrival of Troon lifeboat the Arran boat was released back to station and was ready for service again by 8.30am.'

David McKinnon said: 'The Palermo made her way back to Troon under her own power, escorted by the Troon lifeboat.'

Arran hosts planning aid seminar

Arran is to host a Planning Aid for Scotland seminar to show how people can more effectively participate in planning matters that will affect them for years to come.

Following numerous, often contentious, planning issues brought to his attention, local MSP Kenneth Gibson has arranged for the group to hold a 'Planning for the People' one-

day workshop.

Planning Aid for Scotland is a unique and independent national organisation that helps people to engage in the planning process and is the leading voice for community engagement in planning matters.

The all day seminar from 11am to 4pm will be held in the Ormidale Pavilion in Brodick on Friday September 12.

There is no cost to participants and refreshments will be provided.

Kenneth Gibson said: 'I am delighted that Planning Aid for Scotland has agreed to hold a workshop for the people of Arran, their first ever on the island, to better understand the planning process, a process that impacts on every single islander.'

'The workshop explains in easy terms, how the planning system works, the role of the community in planning, what needs planning permission and how to make informed choices when it comes to planning.'

Places are strictly limited so if anyone wishes to attend they should e-mail Kenneth.Gibson.msp@scottishparliament.uk or call 01294 833687.

Last chance for Banner photograph competition

The 2008 Arran Banner Photo Competition is coming to a climax.

Final closing date for entries is next Tuesday September 9. The competition is now in its 28th year and as usual it has attracted a large number of entries, some local and some from all corners of the world. So if you have any snaps that you think could be of interest now is the time to send them in. The final entry form is on page 11.

Tornado spotted off the coast of Arran

A tornado was seen off the south-west coast of Arran on Tuesday evening.

Local resident Jeanie Smith of Corriecravie said: 'It was between 5pm and 6pm when my son Kyle called me to the door to see this strange tornado-like thing in the sky.'

Spinning

'You could see it spinning in the clouds and down to the surface of the sea.'

'It kept moving and we hoped it wouldn't come our way. Kyle went along the road on his bike and took a photograph.'

'It was whipping the water up and the circle must have been 100 metres across. It was fascinating and a once-in-a-lifetime experience.'

Kyle's photo clearly shows the tornado effect on the surface of the water but it was not possible to reproduce well in the *Banner*.

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Former Labour MSP supports Kerr

Former Arran MSP Allan Wilson is supporting Andy Kerr to be the new leader of the Scottish Labour Party.

Mr Wilson said that a discussion last Monday night by the North Ayrshire and Arran Constituency Labour party had decided that Mr Kerr was most suitable contender.

'They concluded by a large margin that Andy was the best candidate and I'm confident that ordinary members on Arran will agree,' Mr Wilson said.

He added: 'I would urge everyone who has a vote to take part in this process and I will be using my vote to back Andy Kerr for leader.'

Mr Kerr is MSP for East Kilbride and the former health minister in the last Scottish Labour government.

The other two candidates for the leadership are acting party



Former Arran MSP Allan Wilson. b35wil01

leader Cathy Jamieson and finance spokesman Iain Gray.

Mr Gray is the front-runner with Mr Kerr lagging behind in the ratings, partly due to having little union support.

Arran Labour party chairman John Sillars of Brodick said: 'It's very much an individual vote. Arran members will be making up their own minds

before casting their vote. Letters asking for support are still coming out to members from all three candidates. Andy Kerr may be lagging behind but there will be swings and roundabouts before this is all over.'

Mr Wilson said: 'The SNP has abandoned this area since the election, stopping Labour's proposed 40 per cent discounted ferry fare scheme for island residents and ending Labour's school building programme which gave us the new Arran High School in Lamlash. The prospects for a new hospital for Arran have also vanished.'

'I believe Andy Kerr has both the experience and confidence to take on the government and hold it to account for its decisions. As a minister he was instrumental in implementing the successful smoking ban.'

The new leader will be an-

Psychic gift runs in the family

Arran is going to be visited by a clairvoyant and psychic who will be offering her services to the public.

She will be here on Wednesday September 10 at the Ormidale Pavilion between 1pm and 6pm.

Julieann comes from Doncaster in Yorkshire and says her gift runs in the family; both her mother and grandmother were talented psychics.

She first began to realise that she had also inherited it as early

as seven years old when she began to pick up things about her friends at school; by the age of 14 it was becoming strong and from the age of 16 she has been actively involved in clairvoyant and psychic work.

People in Arran may make appointments to see her and for her initial fee her work includes tarot cards and palm readings; from there, if people wish, she will give a crystal ball

reading. The results are better when people come to consult me when they are relaxed and open,' she said.

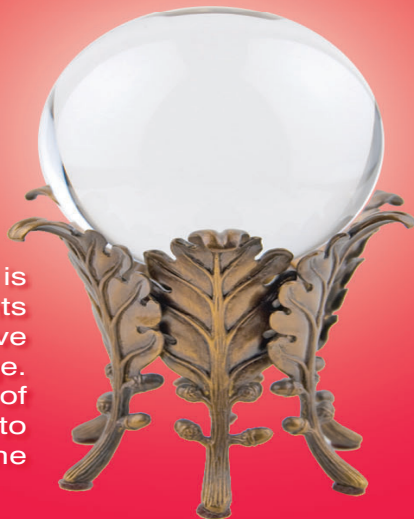
Julieann says her work with her gift has been international and she has helped many famous people but her services are available to anyone from all walks of life and everyone can benefit.

'I have given advice to loads of different people, I like to help,' she said.

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Clairvoyant Julieann visits Arran for the first time

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ONE TO ONE READINGS ONLY



The Arran children having a break from going bananas at the Ormidale Pavilion last Saturday.

b36ban0

Thirty-one Arran children went bananas last Saturday.

The youngsters had gathered at the Ormidale Pavilion in Brodick on Saturday afternoon for two hours of fun with a Christian theme. A weekend of activities had been organised by Ayr Baptist Church in conjunction with most of the Arran churches.

On Friday night the children enjoyed a beach barbecue behind the Boathouse in Brodick. Afterwards they were entertained by musicians Heather Nelson and Paul Woods from the Worship Band of Ayr Baptist Church.

We asked the organisers, why the banana theme? Sara Christie of Ayr explained: 'Yellow is bright, colourful and fresh. We are telling the children about Noah.'

'God told Noah to build an ark to survive the floods but there was no sign of wet weather. All the people thought he had gone bananas, so we are going bananas for God!'

Local church members were helping the children to make paper bananas while Tim Loach from Ayr was being wrapped in yellow toilet tissue to resemble a banana.

The Arran children were all members of the Lamlash Cool Club, Corrie Sunday School or Arran Free Church Sunday School and they seemed to have had a great time.

Youngsters love going bananas!



Tim Loach is wrapped in yellow toilet tissue to resemble a banana.

b36ban02

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Arran says summer farewell to Waverley and Saturn

Arran waved goodbye to two familiar vessels last week amid hopes that they would return to these shores next summer.

On Thursday the Caledonian MacBrayne ferry MV Saturn and the paddle steamer Waverley both made their last calls this year at Brodick. The famous old steamer is now on the south coast of England and will be doing tours out of Weymouth and Southampton, followed by a spell at Tower Pier on the Thames in London then returning to the Glasgow



MV Saturn leaving Brodick for the last time this year last Thursday. b36sat01

Science Centre on the Clyde on October 18.

MV Saturn was heading up

the Clyde to do shuttle duty from Gourock to Dunoon for the Cowal Games last weekend

and then be a fleet relief ship.

Arran Ferry Committee chairman Ken Thorburn said: 'We cannot automatically assume that Saturn will be back. She was once again a great summer addition to our main ferry, MV Caledonian Isles.'

Busy

'Early morning sailings were particularly busy and she was well-used by commercial traffic. There is no guarantee that she will be back next summer but we are very hopeful.'

'An extra summer vessel

was never put into the original ferry services tender document but CalMac may have some latitude.'

'Company managing director Lawrie Sinclair has said that Government ministers are trying to get an extra vessel like Saturn to run next year from the beginning of May to the end of September.'

Mr Thorburn explained that the ferry committee is also negotiating with CalMac for an enhanced service on the Ardrossan to Brodick and Lo-

chranza to Tarbert crossings.

Sailing

He said: 'The ferry committee is asking for an 8.20am sailing from Brodick on a Sunday but we may have to agree to drop the midday or 3.15pm sailing to get it. That would allow visitors to come here for the day.'

'We are also hoping to get two return sailings a day in winter from Tarbert to Lochranza. Travellers could go to Argyll and get back the same day, but this is not likely to happen until winter 2009.'

Fun way of seeing island from the sea powers ahead



Some of the best views of Arran and the surrounding area are from the sea and one of the fastest ways to see this scenery is on a powerboat.

Arran Power and Sail have been taking visitors and locals on trips aboard their powerboats for more than five years. Not only is it now one of Arran's most popular visitor attractions it is also an exhilarating experience.

Tom Tracey, owner of the company said: 'The boats travel between 25 and 30 knots and it's a really fun way of seeing Arran. You can choose from many different trips of varying lengths to many locations on Arran and the Clyde.'

'We arrange power boat trips for anyone including stag and hen groups or nature enthusi-

asts looking to see some of Arran's most beautiful wildlife.'

Eleven-year-old Hamish Hamilton from Shiskine jumped aboard one Friday afternoon for the trip around Brodick bay. He could barely speak afterwards because of the excitement. 'That was brilliant fun,' he said. 'It was great to go out at this time because the ferry was just coming in. We went flying over the waves. It was fantastic.'

Hamish had never been on the powerboat before but he is already planning to take all his friends for a trip.

Another passenger was Robin Lyon from Catacol. 'It's a really great way to see the bay from different angles,' he said. 'I've only ever seen it from the ferry before so it was great to

veer off down towards Clauchlands and then right back up to the Castle shore.'

Arran Power and Sail have two boats, which travel, around the Clyde area. They do trips to Ailsa Craig to see the wonderful bird life, they travel north past the Kyles of Bute, and they frequently travel to different locations around Arran.

Tom said: 'If anyone wants to start their Arran adventure early, we can even pick them up at the marina in Ardrossan and take them across to Brodick. We will ensure they get the best trip possible to see the best the Clyde has to offer.'

Jet ski sparks full scale search

The Arran Lifeboat was called out last Wednesday to search for the owner of a jet ski found washed up on Torylinn beach, Kilmory.

'The Boy's Brigade' lifeboat was launched at 12pm with Crawford Duncan, David Watson, Anthony Robson and the RNLI divisional training inspector who had just arrived on Arran, on board.

David McKinnon of Arran Coastguard said: 'At about 10am the coastguard were called by the police to a possible upturned boat at Kilmory. We found an upturned and badly damaged jet ski and we pulled it ashore.'

It appears that the jet ski came from the Drumore area close to Stranraer. It had apparently been rammed onto some rocks and abandoned. David said that it was unlikely that anyone was missing, but a full search was carried out.

Carol Hamilton and her 11-year-old son Hamish from Shiskine on board the Arran Power and Sail RIB with Robin Lyon of Catacol. b36rib01

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Quiz results

Whiting Bay Bowling Club have had seven correct quiz sheets returned.

The first winner to be drawn from the hat was Mrs Irene Dickson, Wyke Cottage, in Whiting Bay.

Answers: 1 Alligator pear, 2 Cranberry, 3 Paw paw, 4 Pineapple, 5 Prickly pear, 6 Artichoke, 7 Asparagus, 8 Brussels sprouts, 9 Gumbo, 10 Lettuce, 11 Maize, 12 Mushroom, 13 Pumpkin, 14 Rhubarb, 15 Rutabaga, 16 Scarlet runners, 17 sweet corn or corn on the cob, 18 Tomato, 19 Yam, 20 mandrake, 21 Catmint, 22 Arrowroot, 23 Basil, 24 Balm.

Summer bridge

The results of the tournament on Monday September 1 were: N/S 1 T Martin and D Hamilton, 2 L McKellar and I McArthur, 3 H Boyd and L Paul. E/W 1 J Barclay and J McArthur, 2 A Cattanach and D Cattanach, 3 E Sillars and M McGill.

Firefighters get into a lather

Local firefighters will be getting into a lather at Lamash Fire Station on Saturday September 13 to raise money for charity.

They will be holding their annual car wash to raise money for the National Firefighter's Charity established to help men and women injured in the line of duty.

All islanders and visitors are urged to go along to help such a worthy cause.

Between 10am and 2pm bring your car to the station to be washed for a small donation.

Crew members will also be handing out free advice on fire safety.

Slurry system for hire

Contractor Billy Irving of Lamash points out that the slurry dispersal system referred to in last week's *Banner* story about Clauchlands farm is actually owned by him and leased out to farmers. He said: 'I bought the umbilical slurry system in 2002 and a number of farmers here on Arran and in Campbeltown hire me to spread their slurry on the land.'

Corriegills man completes one of the world's most gruelling walks

An Arran man has tackled one of the most gruelling long distance walks in Europe to raise money for two island charities.

Tim Keen, of Corriegills, ascended 41,000 feet in total as he scaled the rugged mountains on the Mediterranean island of Corsica.

Tim started at Calenzana in the northwest part of Corsica, and travelled 190 kilometres through the mountains and finished at Conca in the south-east.

Tim said: 'If you like Munro bagging, would you enjoy the equivalent of climbing Ben Nevis every day carrying 14 kilograms on your back, in the hottest summer you can remember, and you don't mind camping every day, then this is definitely the trip for you.'

Tim was away for three weeks and he raised a total of £1,536 of which £831.50 is to be given to Arran Mountain Rescue and £704.50 to the Arran Hospice fund.

Tim said: 'Thank you so much to all those people who sponsored me on this walk, which made a great trip even more special.'

'The landscape is astounding,' he said. 'When you spot Corsica for the first time from the aeroplane window, all you can see is an endless mass of mountain peaks rising straight out of the sea. The route is described as the toughest long distance hill walk in Europe and it definitely deserves its reputation.'

Apart from the heights ascended and descended every day, Tim said there was a lot of full on scrambling involved, especially during the first half of the walk.

He stayed in campsites centred on mountain refuges, where he was able to get evening meals and basic provisions for the next day.

'One thing the refuges were never short of was beer or wine, which was surprising as many of them were supplied



Tim Keen tackled one of the most gruelling long distance walks in Europe to raise money for two island charities.

only by what could be carried on the back of a donkey,' said Tim. 'Fortunately Pietra, the local beer made from chestnut flour, was delicious and at six per cent proof you didn't need very much of it before it was wise to think about pitching your tent.'

He added that drinking water was not a problem in June as the seasonal streams were yet to dry up so they never had to

carry more than two litres at a time.

Most people started walking at around 7am every day to get a few hours walking in before the sun got too hot and to secure the best camp sites for the next night, as good camp spaces were hard to find.

Sleep was not a problem as after a full days hike and a good plateful of food Tim said he went out like a light, no matter how hard the ground was or at what angle.

For him the highlight of the trip was climbing the two highest mountains, Monte Cinto and Monte Ritundu.

'We left all our camping gear behind for these trips and just took light day sacks, he said. 'Swimming in the rock pools was a great treat too as often the showers at the campsites were little more than a hose pipe in a ramshackle wooden shed.'



Tim ascended 41,000 ft when he scaled the rugged mountains on the Mediterranean island of Corsica.



Tim stayed in campsites centred on mountain refuges, where he was able to get evening meals and basic provisions for the next day.

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from Sunday 21st September
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Beginners welcome

Adult classes from 26th October

For more info contact
Alistair on 302881



Arran Fairtrade committee members from left to right: Graham Tinto, Mary Bowers, Janet Redfearn and Keith Robertson. b36fai01

Arran celebrates achieving Fairtrade Island status

Arran's achievement in gaining Fairtrade Island status was celebrated at a special event in the Burnside Gallery in Brodick on Tuesday night.

The evening was organised by the Fairtrade Arran committee to thank the people of Arran who helped to achieve the designation as a Fairtrade island in early July. Committee member Keith Robertson said:

'It is so important to support the Fairtrade movement. It is fantastic that so many businesses on Arran have helped us to achieve this.'

Variety

The purpose of the evening was to show just what a wide variety of Fairtrade items can be bought on the island.

Graham Tinto, another committee member proudly showed

visitors the official certificate proclaiming Arran's new status.

Arran is one of only six Scottish Fairtrade islands, the others being Shetland, Fair Isle, Westray, Papa Westray and Iona.

In all there are now 52 premises on the island where Fairtrade produce can either be obtained or where it is in use.

Hope in right of way wrangle

A dispute over plans to block a right of way in Whiting Bay may have been resolved this week after intervention by North Ayrshire Council.

The owners of Silverburn Farmhouse were apparently preparing to dig up a section of the path that runs alongside their property to incorporate it into their garden.

Last Tuesday, Howard Wood who owns two properties neighbouring the farm put up posters to warn those using the path that it was to be blocked.

He was made aware of plans to fence off the route last year and had it confirmed this summer.

'I put up the signs last Tuesday

to warn people who use the path that there are plans to close it,' he said. 'It is used by a large number of people, it is a busy road.'

He added that he was still hopeful that he would be able to carry on discussions with the owners of Silverburn to find a solution to the problem.

A spokesman from North Ayrshire Council said: 'No application has been made to the council to close this route. We are currently investigating the situation. However, it meets all the criteria as a public right of way.'

Mike Koral who lives at the bottom end of the path uses it

frequently to get the golf club from the village centre.

'As far as I am aware that track was used by villagers a long time before we came to Arran in 1987,' said Mike. 'It is an important right of way because it is a direct route from the centre of the village to the golf club. Every day I see golfers getting off the bus here and walking up the hill straight to the course. If that road is blocked they won't even bother coming to Whiting Bay, they'll just get off at Lamlash instead.'

Councillor Margie Currie is chairman of the Arran Access Trust that aims to improve and maintain paths and tracks on

the island.

She said: 'Louise Kirk, North Ayrshire Access Officer, is hoping to persuade the owners of Silverburn not to close this track. Ian Mackay, NAC legal officer states that the recently implemented Right of Access legislation would dictate that even as owners of the land this does not allow a landowner to prevent access.'

'Hopefully, a friendly compromise will be reached. I haven't met the people involved. Maybe they were unaware of the consequence of their proposal.'

The Arran Banner was unable to contact the owners of Silverburn Farmhouse.



Notices were put up by Howard Wood to warn walkers of the plans. b36path01

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THE ARRAN BANNER

ARRAN'S WEEKLY PAPER Saturday 6 September, 2008

An extreme example of reckless behaviour

So a grown man thinks it is a reasonable idea to plonk himself in a child's small, inflatable dinghy and go deep-sea fishing at night. Could there be a more extreme example of the human capacity to undertake reckless and thoughtless behaviour? There is no indication that this man was mentally disturbed or distressed – it appears he simply fancied a spot of fishing. No thought of the consequences of the dinghy being punctured or overturned by a heavy swell. He would have lasted only minutes in the freezing water, regardless of his swimming ability (he was clearly strong enough to paddle for 15 hours).

Like many walkers who set off into the hills inadequately prepared for worsening conditions, he possibly owes his life to the rescue services – in his case a lifeboat crew who must have thought they have finally seen it all. We will all laugh with disbelief at this Slovakian 'sailor' but there is a more serious side to such escapades since they require others to come to their aid, often at vast expense. Police, coastguards, lifeboats, helicopters, medical crew and mountain rescue teams can all be involved in a single event. But what is the answer? It has been suggested that the thoughtless and reckless should be billed, to some degree at least, for the consequences of their actions. They could even be ordered to undertake community service. Sounds not unreasonable until you realise that the thought of such penalties would discourage the same people from accepting they are in serious difficulty and calling for help. And that delay could cost them their lives.

Like swallows departing at the end of summer, two familiar ships left Arran this week.

For the last four years MV Saturn has performed an invaluable service as an extra vessel on the summer runs of the Caledonian Isles ferry between Brodick and Ardrossan. Last Thursday she made her final Arran sailing for 2008.

The 30-year-old CalMac staker has done three return crossings a day for three months, mostly carrying commercial traffic, but enabling the ferry company to bring extra summer visitors to the island. These visitors are the very lifeblood of the Arran economy. Last Sunday the celebrated paddle steamer Waverley made her final Arran 2008 sailing from Lochranza. Now owned and operated by a registered charity, the grand old lady was built on the Clyde in 1947 to sail as a ferry between Arrochar and Craigendorrán, but for the past 34 years she has carried tourists on day trips around the west coast of Scotland.

The Waverley is a popular and welcome summer visitor to our shores, and we must hope that she and the Saturn will return to Arran for the 2009 season.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

And Jesus began to teach them, saying: 'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.' (Matthew 5:6)

press policy

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

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

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

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your letters

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

Letters to the Editor



MSP's wife hooked

Sir,
I picked up this week's *Banner* and read your front-page story about Hollie Anderson being 'hooked' while on the deck of the MV Saturn ferry.

An hour or so later, while at the opening ceremony of Largs Viking Festival, I was told by the local police inspector that my wife Patricia had been taken to Crosshouse Hospital in Kilmarnock following an 'incident'.

It turned out that while my wife was walking through Kilbirmie, an elderly gentleman had decided to start fishing the River Garnock, just behind the main street.

He then thoughtlessly cast his line and caught my wife in the left ear.

The two-inch hook was so embedded she had to go to Crosshouse to have it removed, a very unpleasant and painful experience.

Patricia was deeply upset and shaken by the incident. Despite the fact that this accident took place just outside Kilbirmie Police Station, the man responsible, who did not even apologise, was not even spoken to by the on-duty police, regarding the reckless endangerment of passers-by walking on an urban thoroughfare.

I am pleased that, with regard to the incident at Ardrossan this matter was taken more seriously and Clydeport are taking action to minimise any possibility of re-occurrence.

**Yours,
Kenneth Gibson MSP
Cunninghame North
Parliamentary Office
Main Street
Dalry**

Not fit for purpose

After a weekend of accidents, one fatal and others just lucky, it is a case that our roads are not fit for the purpose any more.

Having been on the community council for several years I know it is the one subject that is at the forefront all the time.

I have also been part of several sub committees over the past few years trying to bring Arran roads to the forefront of funding. It has to be said that

these committees start full of gusto but once you have to wait for one report or another from the council or government bodies and this drags on and on, you feel as though you are just wasting your time.

You feel that the councillors and government departments are just paying you lip service and that after a short time the subject will just fade away, which is what I think they want.

But it is now time that we as the community of Arran all make our voices heard. The government is all too good at taxing the motorist through fuel duty, road tax and even insurance premium tax.

They take plenty but give very little back, so now we reap the benefits; roads not fit for purpose.

**Yours,
Alistair Yates
Driftwood
Kildonan**

Drama club?

Sir,
Re: Last week's *Banner* headline 'Drama Club in jeopardy'.

We were surprised that you should refer to this as a 'Drama Club' in the headline, when it is first and foremost a club performing musicals.

Arran already has a wealth of excellent drama clubs with such extremely talented actors, some of whom are also members of our club as well as their own local drama groups.

We, 'Arran Music and Drama Club', are unique, in that we produce a musical every year – and have done since 1978.

Surely with all the musical talent on this island, some folks must be interested enough to join us as musical director/ pianist and ensure that the annual tradition started by the Gilbert and Sullivan Society must be continued.

By the way, our club was born in 1975 at the Kinloch Hotel, where the late Forbes Johnson and I were the two singers at the 'Burns Supper'.

Since I didn't mind which type of musicals we'd perform Forbes, being an ex-member of the Glasgow Savoy Club, for which, his brother Ian Johnson was their accompanist, it was

decided to make it Gilbert and Sullivan.

This proved to be a very popular choice and the rest is history.

Now we look to our future, so phone secretary Lynda Davidson (601225) or producer Maureen Smith (600488) if you're free on Thursday evenings.

**Yours,
Jean Bowden
Mid Mayish
Brodick**

Summer ceilidhs

Sir,
We have come to the end of the summer family ceilidhs in Brodick Hall which have been running every Wednesday throughout July and August.

These would not have been possible without the great band, The String Road Pot Holes (where did they get that name from, I wonder).

The band had a great sound, a wonderful variety of instruments and voices, and kept the dancers bouncing up and down the hall and the others tapping their feet all the time.

What would we have done without the multi-talented Clarke family?

The families who attended were mainly visitors to the island on holiday, who came to the hall to get out of the rain and away from the midges, perhaps wondering what the evening would be like.

But at the end of the evening they all appeared to have had the most wonderful experience, something to remember when they get back to the mainland and to look forward to next summer.

Thanks to the band, the bar from Catacol Bay Hotel, Brodick Improvements Committee and all those volunteers who turned up early on a Wednesday and stayed late.

We may not have made a lot of money but we feel we provided a bonus of traditional Scottish entertainment for the holidaymakers in this summer of disappointing weather.

**Yours,
Harry Davidson
Secretary
Brodick Improvements
Committee**

Pirnmill roll of honour

Sir,
On April 12 this year the Arran Heritage Museum in Brodick was the venue for a service to mark the end of the First World War, at which the island's roll of honour was re-dedicated.

This listed everyone from Arran who had served in the armed forces in the Great War.

Within the last few weeks the Museum was delighted to be presented with the Pirnmill roll of honour.

The museum committee is therefore keen to make a feature of as many as possible of the island's rolls of honour and to that end appeals for anyone who knows of the whereabouts of any other Arran village rolls of honour to contact the manager/secretary of the museum, Tom MacLeod on 302185.

If it is not possible to donate a roll, the museum would be willing to accept it on loan, or to have a copy made so that the exhibit can be as complete as possible.

**Yours,
John Lauder
Cora Linn Court
Brodick**

Football fan from Canada

Sir,
Hello from way across the water! I am hoping you can pass along my most heartfelt congratulations to the Northend Thistle Football Club on their stunning victory over Southend. From the comfort of my home in Canada, I watched with a Cheshire cat-like grin at the heroics of the boys on the sky-sports web site.

A well-deserved victory to be sure.

Should I ever be so fortunate as to visit the area, I will drop in for a match and a shirt and hopefully another victory. Onwards towards greatness.

**Yours,
Phillip Moane
Stayner
Ontario
Canada**

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Riders jump for breast cancer charity

Jennifer Gilmour, one of Arran's talented young horse riders, managed to raise more than £500 for the Breast Cancer Campaign by hosting a special gymkhana at Ashlar Farm in Machrie on Saturday.

Twenty-one horses and 23 riders took part in the event which proved to be a very wet but extremely fun day.

Jennifer's mother, Fiona Gilmour, said: 'It was clear to all who turned up that the senior classes were going to be the most trouble. The junior jumping brought out some great rounds with Lauren and Fudge taking their first win of the day. The next class upped the pace with Lynn and Katie finishing in the lead.'

In the senior jumping Jen Gilroy came home first on Hardie and next came the test of nerves with the Chase me Charlie. Each time the jump was cleared by the riders it was put up higher until eventually Lauren cleared a fantastic three feet three inches.

In the next class it came down

to Hannah Bone and her new horse Lily and Lynn Ramage on Katie.

However, due to the mother's intervening and a very deep sigh from the judges, the girls finished on joint first place with the height at over three feet.

After this it was the turn of the senior riders with a few great jumps and as the teacher took on pupils it fell to a cliff-hanger with Jen and Hardie, Jennifer and Bob, and Megan and Ali all equal.

Fantastic

There was a fantastic show of jumping from Megan and Ali who beat Jennifer and Bob to come first with a height of around three feet nine inches.

Despite the weather turning for the worst the supporters cheered on as the riders took part in the games.

After the juniors and intermediates, the seniors entered the ring and the crowd went wild as Eilidh and Mo made it to the finish line with the rider doubled up laughing.

Fiona Gilmour said: 'Unfor-

tunately by the time the next set of classes had taken place the rain was so bad that we decided to call it a day. However, it was a great sight to see all who took part having so much fun.

'Lots of people made a fantastic effort to dress up and support our fundraising appeal. It was a great day.'

After the final points tally Jen Gilroy was crowned the overall champion and the winner of the Arran Woodfuel Cup.

Both Jennifer and Fiona would like to thank everyone who helped to make the day such a great success. They hope to make this the first of many events promoting the charity.

Winners: Junior champion: Isla Yuill, reserve: Eilidh McNeil. Intermediate champion: Nicola MacAllister, reserve, Hannah Bone. Senior champion: Jen Gilroy, reserve: Jennifer Gilmour. Arran Woodfuels Cup: Jen Gilroy. Junior jumping: Lauren and Fudge. Intermediate jumping: Lynn and Katie. Senior jumping: Jen and Hardie.

SWRI fete success

Whiting Bay SWRI recently held its annual fete in aid of Yorkhill Children's Foundation.

Secretary Marion Devine said: 'One of the aims of the day was to attract children to the fete and to this end it was very successful. Activities for the children included 'bat the rat', face painting, badge making, fishing for ducks and karaoke. Parents were catered for with a well stocked baking stall, a very successful tearoom, a plant stall, raffles, tombola and games. Altogether the fete was one of the most successful of our fundraising ventures.'

Marion added that thanks are due to the sub-committee who planned and organised the arrangements, to all members who took part and to the many local businesses that donated goods and services.

On December 3 of this year, a member of staff from the Yorkhill Children's Foundation will be visiting Whiting Bay to talk about their work.

This will be an open meeting and everyone will be made very welcome. More details will be provided nearer the time. An introductory meeting of the Whiting Bay SWRI for all members and visitors will be held on September 17 at 7.30 pm in the Lesser Hall, Whiting Bay.



Reserve champion and organiser of the gymkhana, Jennifer Gilmour.



Jen Gilroy accepts the senior champion trophy and Arran Woodfuels Cup from Fiona Gilmour.

ADVERTISING FEATURE

A unique event coming to us!!!

A family owned business which travels around the country with high quality oriental rugs are coming to Arran with a massive range of floor coverings.

Doncaster based specialists, Rugs 4-U are due in Arran on September 10.

Company owner, James Douglas, said that the company import directly from the major weaving areas from various coun-

tries including Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan.

He explained: "Every rug is hand made and is 100%

wool, 100% silk or a mixture of the two.

He added: "Our niche is coming to places like Arran with a range of rugs that you would not see anywhere else outside of London. We have a huge selection of over 500 rugs of various sizes. This is why we need large venues so people can see our full range.

"They are all hand made and are of beautiful quality. Included in the range are investment pieces, old pieces and tribal rugs as well."

As well as just supplying the rugs, the company also offer a try at home service, where you can decide if you are happy with them in your own surroundings.

Rugs 4-U also offer part exchange on rugs already owned by customers.

So, for a massive range of high quality rugs, Arran is the place to be on Wednesday September 10.

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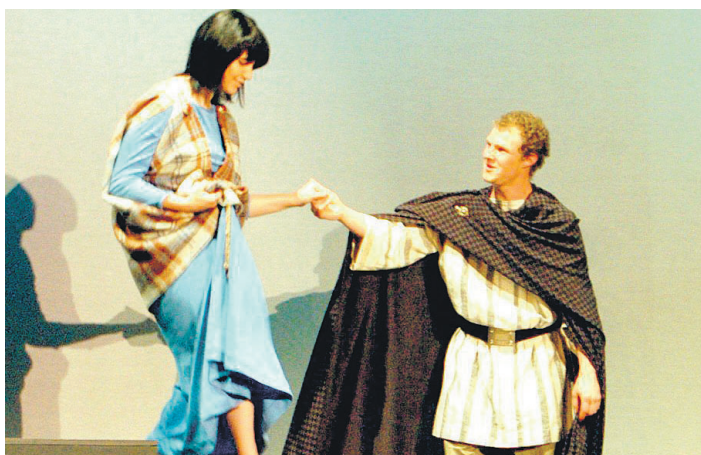
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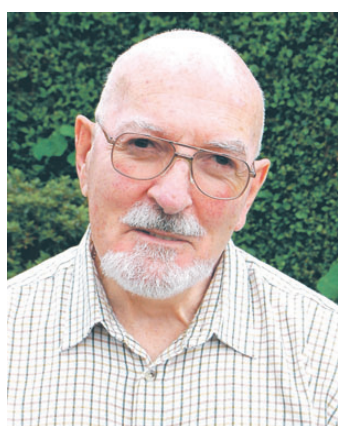
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Molaise, Paul Tinto, is visited by Fionn and Brige, Donald Gray and Ile Morrison, at his cave on Holy Isle. b36mol04



Una, Sabrina Beatan, meets Molaise played by Paul Tinto. b36mol02



Author of 'The Sleeping Warrior', Bill McLaughlin. b36bil01

The Sleeping Warrior is a touching, gem of a play

The Sleeping Warrior is a little gem of a play, written, directed and performed by the people of Arran.

This brand new production, written by Bill McLaughlin of Whiting Bay, was enacted for the first time last Friday and Saturday night in the community theatre at Arran High School. The cast of eight played out a fictional adaptation of historical fact based on the romantic story of Molaise, the saint of Holy Isle, played by Paul Tinto, and Una, princess of the O'Neils of Ireland, played by Sabrina Beatan.

In 590AD the three main tribes in Ireland, the O'Neils, the Dal Fiatach and the Dalriada were warring about the amount of land each owned. Alan Nicol as King of the Dal Fiatach realised that it was important to have a strong and peaceful Ireland. Mark McEachern was Hugh, King of the O'Neils and was advised by his counsel, Fergus, played by

Graham Tinto.

Fergus appeared to be sycophantic but always managed to somehow persuade Hugh round to his way and make him think it was his idea in the first place. Author Bill McLaughlin revealed later: 'I told Graham to play the part in the style of Sir Humphrey in Yes, Minister.'

In the 1980s satirical Westminster comedy, Yes, Minister, permanent secretary Sir Humphrey, played by Nigel Hawthorne, usually managed to get his own way with Jim Hacker MP played by the late Paul Eddington.

Meanwhile, the plotters attempted to arrange a meeting between the beautiful 17-year-old Una and Molaise who is the grandson of the King of the Dalriada. The couple duly meet and fall in love.

Fergus said: 'It would be a great advantage to all Ireland to have an alliance.' Hugh pointed out that Molaise had dedicated his life to the Church but Una

said: 'Surely a girl is entitled to marry the man she loves.'

Columba of Iona, played by Stuart Gough, declared: 'I have already found Molaise a place - Arran, the Arran of many stags.'

Molaise followed the line of his duty and he and Columba travelled from Ireland to arrive on Arran at Sliderry, from where Molaise walked across the island to get to Holy Isle.

For 12 years he lived in a humble cave with support from his friend, Fionn, a simple fisherman, played by Donald Gray, and his wife Brige, played by Ile Morrison.

One restless night Molaise had a graphic dream in which Una appeared and spoke to him. She said: 'Deep in your sleep, are your dreams touched by pain? How I need you but I know that you cannot see or hear me.'

Molaise wakes with a start. He said: 'The last time I had thoughts like this Columba

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The Lagg Hotel

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puree or seared scallops with chilli cous cous and mango chutney to start followed by Butternut squash and pea risotto with parmesan crisps or roast pigeon with dauphinoise potatoes and blackcurrant jus are just a few of the choices available on this sophisticated menu.

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Bearing in mind The Lagg Hotel closes at the end of October for the season it is good idea to plan your visit soon, it could be a long winter and who would want to miss out on this superb culinary experience.



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The cast of 'The Sleeping Warrior'. b36mol01

saved me from myself.' Fionn returned and said: 'He has never failed to answer the call of the people of Arran. He heals and settles disputes.' Molaise was called to help a woman in Lochranza in distress and when he came back he told Fionn about his troubled dream.

He said: 'The woman in Lochranza was called Una as well. In my dream Una gave me her blessing with her last breath.'

Columba arrived and gave him a scroll from Brige of Kildare which told him that Una O'Neil had been called to be with God.

Columba also told the tormented Molaise that he has been chosen to make a journey to Rome as the emissary of the Celtic Church. 'You have a close relationship with the islanders and that marks you

out for this task.'

Molaise reluctantly agreed and declared: 'I love this island and these people more than I can say.'

The fictional love between Molaise and Una was never consummated but Bill McLaughlin's gentle story touched the hearts of the Arran audiences.

John Baraclough's lighting for this production was atmospheric but once again had to be co-ordinated from the floor of the auditorium because the lighting booth in the new theatre is not yet functional.

Direction by the combined trio of Heather Gough, Zoe McGovern and Julie Nelson brought out the best in the players and accompaniment on clarsach by Mandy Hunter and song Eilean M' Araich by Mairi MacInnes added to the perfect atmosphere.



Una and Molaise fall in love. b36mol05



Molaise, Paul Tinto, is advised by his father, Cairell, King of the Dal Fiatach, Alan Nicol. b36mol07



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Photo Competition 2008

It's that time of year again, when we ask Banner readers, locals and visitors, to share with us their photographic gems from the last year.

As in previous years, whether your pictures are magnificent Arran's views, make us roar with laughter or bring tears to a glass eye, we will enjoy seeing them all.

Now in its 28th year the 2008 photo competition will follow the usual highly successful format. It is open to both residents of and visitors to Arran, and entries should be in one of two classes: People (and/or animals) and Places. The only proviso is that all entries MUST have been taken on, or around, Arran after August 2007

Each year, after the competition has closed, we select as many entries as possible to show in The Banner prior to announcing the winners in early October. The Banner therefore reserves the right to publish entries.

The closing date is Tuesday 9 September and the decision of the judges is final.

Send your entries to: editorial@arranbanner.co.uk, or, if technology is not your thing you can still send us prints of your favourite photos by filling in the address form. Please send a SAE if you would like your pictures returned.

Maximum of 6 photos per entry.

Name.....
Address.....
.....
.....
Title of picture.....

Please send all entries to **The Arran Banner, Brodick, Isle of Arran, KA27 8AJ** and enclose a SAE if photographs are to be returned.
Email: editorial@arranbanner.co.uk



Arran High School awards ceremony 2008



High School Dux for 2008, Patrick McMaster, with his parents Jim and Ellen. b36prz02

The awards ceremony for school year 2007/2008 took place in the community theatre and assembly hall at Arran High School last Thursday evening in front of an invited audience of parents and children.

Head teacher Douglas Auld told the audience: 'I am delighted that former pupil Mrs Janice McGunnigle who is head teacher of Lamlash Primary School has accepted our invitation to present the prizes tonight. We have an excellent relationship with all our feeder primary schools but a special one with Lamlash.

'Mrs McGunnigle's own three children have been through the high school and she was high school dux in 1966.'

Depute head Ian McLaren went on to announce all the prizewinners. He explained that for a variety of reasons there had been no school sports this year but highlighted the mainland sporting achievements of many youngsters:

Cameron Paul, gold medal in North Ayrshire crosscountry league, bronze in Ayrshire crosscountry championships and bronze in 1,500 metres at Ayrshire athletics championships.

Also at Ayrshire athletics championships, Shauna Jame-



Head teacher Douglas Auld and depute head Ian McLaren with the original sandstone block which used to sit over the entrance to the old Arran High School, now installed in the new grounds. b36sch01

son, bronze at 300 metres and javelin, silver for Robert Taylor in long jump, Danni Gill in long jump and Kal Masia in triple jump and bronze for Andrew Earle in discus.

The First Minister's trophy, presented by Jack McConnell MSP, was won by Mark Sherwood in the school golf championship held at Lamlash Golf Club.

Achievements

Under literary achievements Fiona Clarke won first prize at the S3/4 Burns verse speaking secondary competition while Peter Johnston came second in the S5/6 section.

Calum Johnston scooped three Burns prizes. He came first in the S5/6 section of Burns verse speaking secondary and won the certificate of achievement and silver medal for the Ayrshire Association of Burns Clubs Schools competition. He also won a certificate of achievement for excellence in the National Burns Festival

for Scottish Schoolchildren.

Special awards and prizes were given as follows – James S Scott award as Dux 2008, Patrick McMaster. Patrick plans to do a degree course in Chemical Engineering. Duais Feis Arran trophy for contribution to Scottish Culture, Calum Johnston. Nicola McConnell trophy for contribution to the Music Department, Eilidh Kerr. Charles Russell memorial trophy for contribution to Technology Department, Timothy Crockett. Buchanan prize for essay writing in S4, Zoe Tomalin. A R Humphreys prize for English in S5, Scott McMurray. Isle of Arran Rotary Club Youth Speaks competition: Lisa Duncan, Stephanie Jenkins, Zoe Tomalin. Admiral Group award for S5/6 business education, Steven Gill. Andrew Johnston prize for Maths in S2, Ealana Swinton-Boyle. Andrew Johnston prize for Maths in S5, Patrick McMaster. John D McKinnon awards for students

going into further education or apprenticeship: Ben Gruber, Grant McKechnie, Euan Stout, Vicky Wetton. Arran Society endeavour prizes for special effort: Nikki Lennox S1, Amy Latona S2, Hannah McMurray S3, Archie McNicol S4, Grant Irving S5. James Watt medal for student with highest achievement in S4 exams, Zoe Tomalin. University of Strathclyde Business School Young Enterprise Scotland exam: pass for Grant Irving, Patrick McMaster, Claire Taylor, Vicky Wetton: credit for Eilidh Kerr, Katrina McDonald, Megan McEachern, Ailsa Yuill: distinction for Helen Sell and Steven Gill. Helen Sell also won the Majik award for Young Enterprise.

Certificates

School captains Calum Johnston and Kirsty MacBain were presented with certificates from Stagecoach to mark their year of service.

Prefects elected for 2008/2009: Alice Aries, Matthew Blake, Hannah Dobson, Lisa Duncan, Steven Gill, Stephanie Jenkins, Michael Judge, Katrina McDonald, Archie McNicol, Anthony Tetlow, Sophie Rennick, John Tilbury, Zoe Tomalin and Ben Young.

Musical interludes were provided by a duet of Smoke Gets in Your Eyes from Scott McMurray and Grace Reeve, and a saxophone solo of Czardas by Eilidh Kerr.

After presenting the prizes, Mrs McGunnigle gave an address to the pupils. She said:

ON SALE NOW

- Coastguards to the rescue on Arran
- Alastair is representative of The Queen
- The Rural ladies of Arran
- Arran Antiquarians look back on the past
- Garden birds on Arran in autumn
- Images of the past in Kildonan
- Proud tradition of Corrie Primary School
- Lamlash – a village with community spirit
- Brodick Castle, Gardens and Country Park
- Italian job for schools brass band
- A Flavour of Arran
- Life through the lens
- Shiskine shine on the soccer field in 2007



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08p

Autumn 2008

Issue 1

52p

ARRAN Life

This Month:

Coastguards to the rescue on Arran

The Rural ladies of Arran

Images of the past in Kildonan

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Arran High School awards ceremony 2008



Head teacher Douglas Auld addressing the audience of parents and pupils. b36prz03



School Dux Patrick McMaster comes forward to receive his award from Janice McGunnigle watched by deputy heads Ian McLaren and Mark McEachern. b36prz04



The line-up of pupils receiving special prizes and awards for 2008. b36prz01

'I have been a pupil, a teacher and a parent at Arran High. My achievements in sport extended to third place in the discuss in 1960-something.

'However, you know you have got to a certain age as a teacher when you are asked to sit on the results table at the swimming gala.

'Some of us were literally in tears when the old high school was demolished so quickly a few months ago. But it's the teachers who make the school. This splendid new Arran High must be unique in having a nursery, a primary, secondary and community input.'

Head teacher Douglas Auld took the lectern and said: 'I would pay tribute to the time, energy, enthusiasm and dedication of my teaching staff. In my experience of nearly 35

years in teaching, every year group is different. This year nine pupils have attained the marvellous benchmark of five higher passes.

The new project of Curricu-

lum for Excellence is probably the most ambitious programme in my experience. I want to thank my team for preparing and managing this evening so well.



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Puffins' welcome return to the Clyde

Bird Notes
by Jim Cassels

In a previous bird notes, mention was made of the increasing puffin colony on Ailsa Craig. At the same time another puffin colony in the Clyde has also increased in size, that on the island of Sanda, at the Mull of Kintyre.

From the records held by the Arran Natural History Society there are signs that the number of sightings in Arran waters has increased in recent years. From 1990 to 1999 there were, in those ten years, only 22 records of puffin sightings.

At the start of this century from 2002 to 2004 there were only two records. More recently there are signs that the sightings are increasing. In 2005 there were three records, in 2006 four records, in 2007 five records and already in 2008 there have been four records.

There is no doubt in my mind that a big factor contributing to this was the outstanding work of Dr Bernard Zonfrillo and his team in eradicating rats from Ailsa Craig.



A puffin feeding on Ailsa Craig. (Photograph by B Zonfrillo).

In 1871, the puffin colony on Ailsa Craig was described as in 'bewildering numbers... so great that they darkened the sky'. But by 1934 they were 'practically extinct'.

What happened in between was that rats from ships had been introduced. The first rat was recorded in 1889, and a year later the light-keepers killed more than 900 rats.

'They are all over the island, from the very top down to the water's edge'.

Puffins nest in burrows and once the egg is hatched both adults go regularly to sea for fish for the young chick. This makes the young particularly vulnerable to rats.

Attempts to eradicate the Ailsa Craig rats were carried out in the 1920's, but they

failed due to the poisons used being ineffective. Rats infested Ailsa Craig until 1990 when Dr Zonfrillo and his team got involved. On 15 April 1991 the last live rat was seen on Ailsa Craig.

To find out how this was done, with the aid of over five tons of lethal Warfarin rodenticide, a Sea King helicopter, a lot of hard work and a system-

atic monitoring program over years, I recommend this article by Dr Zonfrillo 'Before and After the Eradication of Rats' on the Ayrshire Birding Website http://www.ayrshire-birding.org.uk/ABR/2000/ailsa_craig.htm.

As regards the puffin, which had formerly bred in vast numbers on Ailsa, one was seen ashore entering a suitable cliff crevice in 1991. In 1992, none was ashore, but at sea numbers of prospecting birds in regular groups of five or six were evident just offshore.

Over the next ten years the numbers built up and in 2002 Dr Zonfrillo said: 'Twenty birds were seen on the island over the summer, of which four paired up and were seen carrying fish, a sure sign that they are breeding.' Finding individual nests among the fallen rocks and broken granite is virtually impossible. After more than ten years of monitoring work, it was success at last. Non-breeding puffins always outnumber breeding pairs but the increase continues. This year (2008) on occasions there have been more than 200

puffins around Ailsa Craig, all potential future breeders. The future looks bright for puffins in the Clyde.

As Dr Zonfrillo said: 'It's not just the puffins that are benefiting since the rats were exterminated. Other sea-birds on Ailsa Craig are successfully producing more chicks, plus rare plants, other mammal species such as pygmy shrews and even the island's reptiles, slow worm and common lizard are flourishing again, now the rats have gone.'

Based on the experience of Ailsa Craig, it is interesting to speculate if the rats and mink could be exterminated on Pladda or Holy Island would the puffins be attracted to these islands as well. Something to think about.

Enjoy your birding. Please send any bird notes with 'what, when, where' to me at Kilpatrick Kennels, Kilpatrick, Blackwaterfoot, KA27 8EY, or e mail me at james.cassels@virgin.net. I look forward to hearing from you. For more information on birding on Arran visit this website www.arranbirding.co.uk.

Grave subject for antiquarians' talk

At the August meeting of the Arran Antiquarians Society, David Harvey from Glasgow spoke about 'The Resurrectionists - A Necessary Evil'.

A witty and very amusing speaker, he told the group that as an engineer he was educated at the Royal Academy of Science and technology, which is now Strathclyde University.

He explained that Dr Anderson, a surgeon who required bodies for dissection to learn how the body functioned so he could teach the students, founded the academy.

The college acquired Ramschurch and Barony Church and the graveyards yielded a lot of information about burials and exhumations.

Some graveyards had fences around them and railings surrounded some of the more wealthy graves.

These were not for aesthetic reasons but for the practical purpose of trying to prevent grave robbing.

Teaching hospitals needed cadavers to teach anatomy and the 'resurrectionists' had a ready market.

Originally, the dearth of bodies was a religious thing - all religions regarded the body as sacred and had to be perfect for entry into heaven.

For 1500 years bodies could not to be cut up and surgery was crude and painful.

For example, amputations without anaesthetic resulted in 25 per cent fatalities but Dr Anderson was an exception. His mortality rate was only 10 per cent.

In 1506 each surgeon was allowed one hanged criminal a year to research.

Scotland was very advanced with surgery and many bodies were brought from Ireland and London.

In 1825 a law was passed allowing the study of anatomy but very few people were willing to provide bodies so the body snatchers or resurrectionists came into their own.

It is interesting to note that the infamous Edinburgh duo of Burke and Hare were not resurrectionists, as they claimed, but purely murderers.

David Harvey made what could have been a very sombre and serious subject into a very interesting, and at times, hilarious story.

The next meeting of the Antiquarians will be on Monday September 15 at 2pm in Brodick Village Hall. Professor Elaine McFarland of Caledonian University, will speak about 'Scottish War Memorials - from the Picts to the Present'.

Non-members and visitors are very welcome.



Kenny's badge of honour

Kenny Bone, outgoing president of the Isle of Arran Rotary Club, being somewhat on the tall side, had to kneel down for new president Gillean Bussell to pin on his past president's badge at a recent club meeting. b35rot01

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Sun - Open Folk Session - 9.30pm
Tues - Pop Music Quiz - 10pm
Thur - General Knowledge Quiz - 10pm

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CLOSED SUNDAYS

The Arran Banner 20 years ago

Saturday September 10, 1988

No harvest for farmers

This summer is turning out as badly for the Arran farmers as the very wet one in 1985.

If there isn't a decent few days of dry weather soon not only will the harvest of silage and barley be reduced but farmers will be faced with buying in large quantities of winter feed and, like three years ago, this is already at an inflated price.

Kenny Bone, president of the Arran NFU, said: 'It's been a struggle, but as far as barley's concerned, it's serious.'

Figures back up the general feeling that its been really wet.

After the long dry spell through May and June the first really wet day was July 10 with 26mm of rainfall.

Since then it has hardly stopped raining.

July of this year had six almost dry days against 19 last year.

August of this year again had almost six dry days against 15 last year, but it's not only the dry days that matter.

'Rainfall's only part of it,' said farmer Jim Climie of Clachaig, Kilmory who is among the worst affected. 'A lot depends on the drouth.'

He said this on Wednesday, a day when the rains had stopped but the fields were sodden and there was no wind or sun to dry them out.

Hall's well at last

Villagers had begun to think that Pirmill Hall would never become a reality but now seven years after it first began it is nearing completion.

Situated behind Pirmill Primary School is a building, which confounds the doubters, and is a tribute to perseverance.

It was in 1982 that the villagers decided to raise money and campaign for a hall. After some time a wooden hall was acquired and stored behind the Post Office but with no where to put it up it lay there rotting.

About every month it was a topic on the agenda at the Arran Community Council meeting when a progress report was called for and there was no progress.

Then when Arran High School was discarding its 'huts' one of these was acquired. A site behind the school had been earmarked but no permission was granted.

So the dismantled hut was stored north of Pirmill where it remained as a bit of an eyesore.

At last, this summer, local builder Donald Logan was given the go ahead to put the hall in place.

So now it looks like Pirmill will very soon have a hall as good as any other on the island.

Electricity off

Much of the island was without electricity on Thursday morning following thunderstorms with spectacular displays of lightning during Wednesday night.

TV naturalist visits Arran

TV Naturalist David Attenborough was on Arran last week with a small film crew.

They were working around Laggan and the Cock of Arran for three days where their interest was in filming traces of *Arthropleura*, a six-foot long slater-like dinosaur which lived 250 million years ago.

Their work will appear in a new series entitled 'Tracks'.

Two Sylvias retire

Over the last nine and a half years the 'Two Sylvias' have become an important part of life in Lamlash.

Together they have manned the post office in their own special way – a way that made a cosy and friendly office beyond the call of duty.

The dish of freshwater by the door is an example of this. Beside it is a notice announcing 'For dogs – and lady dogs'.



The over 23s beat the under 23s in a good-natured football tussle, 8-3, on Saturday. The remnants of the winning team including Steve Garraway, Charles Currie, Ian Small and Alan Johnston, are pictured with their trophy. b36twe02

Now Sylvia Paul, the postmistress, and Sylvia Lansdale are planning to retire and at the end of the month they will leave the jobs that they have so loved.

In fact they always meant to retire to Arran from their work in post office telephones in Leeds, so to come almost 10 years early and be so much a part of the community has been a bonus to them.

Postal strike bites

Despite local deliveries continuing, the postal strike has begun to bite on Arran.

Two people from the benefits office will be coming to the island to issue girocheques to residents on benefits. Brodick Post Office has been holding all mainland mail posted on the island and there is little for local postmen to do.

Sandeman at the castle

Mary Sandeman, the well-known singer and television personality will be paying a return visit to Brodick Castle on Wednesday evening. The

evening is part of the National Trust for Scotland's country-wide programme of events organised by John Forgie, former administrator of Brodick Castle. Tickets at £4 include a glass of wine at the interval.



The Douglas Hotel may be receivership but that has not prevented the staff from going about their work. b36twe01



Jim Climie shows his limp barley, the effect of a very wet weather. b36twe03

Arran Garden Club learns about cacti and succulents

'Cacti and Succulents' was the topic for the August meeting of the Arran Garden Club. Hamish McKelvie of Houston had travelled to Arran, together with a large number of his own cacti and succulents, to provide members with a thoroughly entertaining and informative evening.

Hamish is a member of the British Cactus and Succulent Society, and has been collecting and growing cacti and succulents for many years.

He talked about the countries and environment in which the plants flourish, and covered both keeping and propagating cacti and succulents.

Members enjoyed his range of plants, and particularly the photographs of the plants showing them in flower; a spectacular sight. Hamish's enthusiasm encouraged many of the audience to purchase plants from a selection he had brought with him.



A beautiful cactus in flower.

The next meeting of the Arran Garden Club will be on Thursday September 25, at the Ranger Centre in Brodick Country Park.

The topic will be 'Bees in the Garden', with guest speakers Maggie Rand, Robert Smith and Pat McMillan. Please come along.

Lone walker saved by device

A lone-walker saved from a night in the wilderness on one of Arran's most dangerous mountains has attributed his rescue to an innovative rescue device called SPOT.

Andrew Randle, 42, from Morecambe, Lancashire broke his ankle in two places when he fell down a rocky embankment while hiking near Goat Fell two weeks ago.

With darkness setting in, Andrew found himself alone on

a remote trail and had to depend on his recently purchased emergency satellite messenger system.

Andrew said: 'I have nothing but praise for SPOT. I have only owned the device for two weeks and it has already saved me from being stranded all night in the wild.'

Andrew alerted the global emergency response call centre using the direct call to action function on his SPOT. He also

notified a close friend in Lancashire using the help function.

On receiving the message both parties acted promptly to alert HMS Gannet search and rescue team who were able to locate and rescue the stranded walker within two hours of the initial distress call.

Andrew, who is on leave from the army, added: 'I recommended that adventurers of all levels own a satellite messenger device.'

Sannox cricketers slump in the mud

Sannox Cricket Club played in some of the worst conditions ever on Sunday as they took on Kilmarnock in the torrential rain.

Kilmarnock's Saheed and Hamilton looked determined from the off until, with the score on 54, the former misjudged the speed of a well-aimed return and was run out.

With conditions dictating accuracy rather than speed, Hamilton's succeeding partners fell to a cocktail of sound bowling from Dunn and Brookes both coming off unaccustomed two pace run-ups.

Hamilton, by this time plainly the danger man, fell to a running catch by Pomeroy off Brookes' bowling.

Play was halted for 20 minutes during a particularly heavy bout of rain, and with the score over 100, Kilmarnock captain and friend of Sannox CC, Jim Hill came to the crease in steadily worsening weather.

He rode his luck, sending several shots skyward before being caught behind off Brookes. Both creases were quickly becoming a mire with the white



Tim Pomeroy of Sannox Cricket Club was run out in the second over against Kilmarnock on Sunday.

b36tim01

lines gone, and the first bag of sawdust exhausted.

Bowlers were slipping on the follow-through, fielders were skidding on their bottoms and more than once a bat was seen to fly to mid on as it slipped from the hands of the batsmen. It was cricket Jim, but not as we know it. Kilmarnock finished their 30 overs on 119 for seven.

Deciding against a lunch break and the prospect of sod-

den sandwiches, Sannox went straight in to bat.

Pomeroy was run out in the second over. Mason fell LBW shortly afterwards. Beardsley looked determined at the shot but weak in running between the stumps and tried to make a fight of it, but he too was LBW Doss for nine.

When Brookes came and went for one and Dunn slogged out and back for four a rout seemed on the cards. However Jonathan May coming in at number six dug in (in a Paschendale sort of a way) and set about restoring some Sannox dignity.

Singles

He achieved this by making 25 all in singles. Indeed, of the final Arran total of 54 all out, all were singles except two twos and one four, the four courtesy of captain Marriott whose partnership with May seemed to make the seemingly impossible, briefly possible. The final overs descended into farce with most of Kilmarnock looking more as if they had played rugby than cricket, all the players being drenched through and muddy. Sannox's Colin Haggarty returned after dismissal looking as if he had been trials racing. The Sannox tail failed to wag with Jenks, Carey and Gourlay all paddling home for one run. Rain did not stop play but perhaps should have.

The Ormidale at four o'clock was a warm and welcome refuge for two plucky teams who for a few hours redefined what it is to be committed to cricket.

Thanks to Arran Property for continued sponsorship and special thanks to Catherine Jenks for braving the elements to score for the home side.

Next Saturday the Arran lads take part in the Oban six-a-sides away in Oban. The next home match is on Sunday September 7 against Ardrossan.

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Brodick Castle Gardens & Country Park 11am - 4pm
Trout fishing Loch Garbad, Boat or Bank
Hawk Walks Lamlash
Arran Heritage Museum Brodick, 10.30am - 4.30pm

SATURDAY 6th SEPTEMBER

Blackwaterfoot Junior Football coaching, 10.30am - noon
Arran Dancers Arran High School 11am - 4.15pm
Machrie Table Tennis & Games Club Machrie Hall 7.30pm - 9pm
Disco Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Karate Auchrannie Games Hall, 11.30am - 12.30pm
Learn to Salsa KA Campus, 9.30am - 10.30am
Family Games Kids & Adults Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
Fun in the Spa Pool Auchrannie Pool, 4pm - 5pm
Rink Game Whiting Bay Bowling Club, 7pm
Rink Game Lamlash Bowling Club, 2pm
Rink Game Brodick Bowling Club, 2pm
Youth Cafe for all High School Pupils Brodick Church Hall, 7pm - 10pm
Grand Jumble Sale Whiting Bay Village Hall, 2pm - 3.30pm
Cllr. Currie Surgery Brodick Library, 1pm - 2pm

SUNDAY 7th SEPTEMBER

Alcoholics Anonymous St Margarets Church, Whiting Bay, 4.30pm
Family Games Kids & Adults Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
Open Folk Session Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
Fun in the Spa Pool Auchrannie Pool, 4pm - 5pm
Curry Night Blackwaterfoot Lodge, From 6.30pm

MONDAY 8th SEPTEMBER

Senior Fitness Auchrannie 9.30am & 10.45am
Over 50's Badminton Lochranza Village Hall 2pm - 4pm
Quiz Cameronia 9.30pm
Citizens Advice Open 10am - 2pm
Badminton Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm
Cardiac Rehab Auchrannie Gym 12.30pm - 2pm
Circuit Training Auchrannie Spa, 12.30pm - 2pm
Citizens Advice Open 10am - 2pm
Summer Bridge Arran High School, 6.45pm
Weight Wise Hospital Bungalow 5pm - 5.30pm
ABS Class KA Leisure, fitness suite 6.30pm - 6.50pm
Aerobics Class KA Leisure, dance studio, 7pm - 8pm
Rink Game Whiting Bay Bowling Club, 7pm
Rink Game Brodick Bowling Club, 6.45pm
Rink Game Lamlash Bowling Club, 6.30pm
Open Folk Session Kildonan

TUESDAY 9th SEPTEMBER

Senior Fitness Auchrannie 9.30am & 10.45am
Lochranza Swimming Club Kinloch 11am - 12pm
Legs Bums & Tums Auchrannie Spa 6pm - 6.45pm
Army Cadets Auchrannie Road, 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Pop Quiz Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Alcoholics Anonymous Brodick Church Hall - 2pm
Arran Rotary Auchrannie 7.15pm
Citizens Advice Open 10am - 2pm 4 - 6pm (Appointment Only)
Pulmonary Rehab Auchrannie Gym 12.30pm - 2pm

Open Music Session
Body Conditioning Class
Guided Garden walks
Arran Advocafe

Catacol Bay Hotel, 8.30pm
 KA Leisure, dance studio 6pm - 7pm
 Brodick Castle, 2pm
 Lamlash Fire Station, 2pm - 4pm

WEDNESDAY 10th SEPTEMBER

Mixed Hockey
Jnr Rugby Training
Aquafizz
Circuit Training
Yogalates
Arran Heritage Museum Archives & Genealogy
Rink Game
Rink Game
Rink Game
Kickboxing
Open Folk Session
Alcoholics Anonymous
Arran Rugby Club Seniors Training
Whiting Bay Toddler Group
Arran Brass Rehearsal
Outreach CAB & Aims Advocacy

Auchrannie Hall, 7pm
 S1 - U18, Ormidale Park, 7pm
 Auchrannie Hotel, 9.45am - 10.30am
 Auchrannie, 6pm
 Auchrannie Studio, 10am - 11am
 10.30 - 12.30pm & 1.30 - 3.30pm
 Whiting Bay Bowling Club, 7pm
 Brodick Bowling Club, 2pm
 Lamlash Bowling Club, 6.30pm
 KA Leisure, dance studio, 6pm - 7pm
 Lamlash 9pm
 Lamlash Church Hall - 7.30pm - 9pm
 Ormidale Park, 7.30pm
 Village Hall, 10am - 12pm
 Whiting Bay Hall, 7.15pm
 Corrie Hall, 11am - 2pm

THURSDAY 11th SEPTEMBER

Senior Fitness
Citizens Advice
Badminton
Lochranza Craft Club
Outdoor Run
Pilates
Aerobics
Coffee Morning
Cardiac Rehab
Keep Fit
Table Tennis
KA Jog
Legs, Bums & Tums Class
Cricket Practice
Arran Junior Singers Practise

Auchrannie 9.30am & 10.45am
 Open 10am - 2pm
 Kilmory Hall, Juniors 6.30 - 7.30pm, Adults 7.30 - 9pm
 Hall, 2pm
 Auchrannie, 6pm
 Auchrannie Studio, 6pm
 Auchrannie Games Hall, 6pm
 St Molios Church 10.30am - 12pm
 Auchrannie Gym 12.30pm - 2pm
 Kildonan Hall, 7pm - 9pm
 Kildonan Hall, 3pm - 5pm
 KA Leisure, front reception 5.30pm
 KA Leisure, gameshall, 6.30pm - 7.15pm
 Sannox Oval, 6pm
 Whiting Bay School 6.45pm

FRIDAY 12th SEPTEMBER

Arran Pipe Band Practice
Lochranza & Catacol Coffee Morning
Aquafizz
Citizens Advice
Whiting Bay Golf Club
Circuit Training

Brodick Hall, 7.30pm
 10am - 12pm
 Auchrannie Pool, 9.45am
 Open 10am - 2pm
 Quiz Night, 9pm
 Auchrannie, 6pm - 7.15pm

SATURDAY 13th SEPTEMBER

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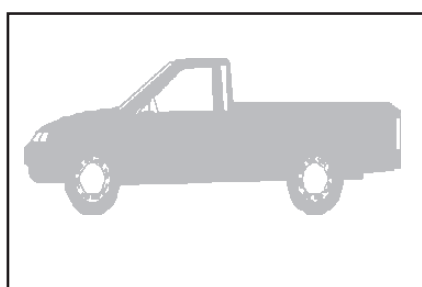
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**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997
PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION
AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997**

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/08/00688/PP Address: Rhanna, Cordon, Lamlash, Brodick, Isle Of Arran KA27 8NQ Proposed Development: Alterations to attached garage to form additional living accommodation and erection of extension to rear of detached dwelling house

Ian Snodgrass
Chief Executive
Cunninghame House
IRVINE KA12 8EE



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**For an application form please contact Ann-Marie Kelly, Community Services Office, Pavilion 8,
Ayrshire Central Hospital, Kilwinning Road, Irvine, KA12 8SS, Tel: 01294 322018.**

Closing date: 19th September 2008.

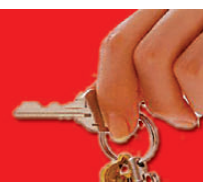
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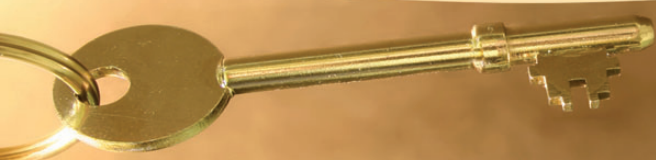
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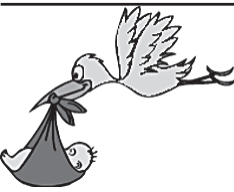
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BIRTHS



FLETT - Dougie and Diane(Monteith) are delighted to announce the safe arrival of their son Finlay on 27th August 2008, at Edinburgh Royal Infirmary. A wee brother for Lachlan.

DEATHS

SCOTT - John
 Peacefully at Crosshouse Hospital on Friday 29th August 2008. John, Isle of Arran, formerly of Coatbridge, beloved husband of the late Hope Scott, much loved and loving father to Shiona, Morag and Iain, father-in-law to David, Ian and Jan and grandfather to Calum, Fiona, Andrew, Fraser, Sarah and Hannah. Funeral service at Lamlash Church on Friday 5th September at 11.30am and thereafter to Lamlash cemetery to which all family and friends are warmly invited.

CHURCH NOTICES

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
 North Arran: Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza, Pirmill and Shiskine.
Independent but working together.
Minister
 Rev Angus Adamson.
Parish Asst
 Mrs Jean Hunter.
 Worship will be conducted in

the above churches at the following times.
Sunday 7 September
 Brodick Church 10.30am
 Corrie Church 12pm.
 Lochranza 9.30am
 Pirmill 10.45am.
 Shiskine 12pm
 A service of Worship will be held in Montrose House at 1.30pm

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Sunday 7 September
 Shiskine 11am (Church is on the road between Machrie & Blackwaterfoot)
 Sunday School meets in the Church Hall
 Brodick 7pm Communion Service
 Rev David Karoon
 All welcome. Tel 860426

ARRAN OPEN GATE MINISTRIES
 We are a small group of like minded Christians meeting together to minister to each other and the wider community in spiritual and practical ways.
 Visitor or local your are welcome to join us.
 Telephone:
 700424 or 600663.

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH
 Sunday Morning Mass 9.30am & 11am
 Vigil Mass, 7.30pm

WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH
Sunday 7 September
 Worship will be conducted by the minister, Rev Elizabeth Watson at 10.30am. Everyone most welcome. Tea and coffee will be served after the service. Please stay and enjoy more fellowship. There will be a service on Cooriedoon

at 2.30pm, and Crigielea at 3.15pm

KILMORY PARISH CHURCH
Sunday 7 September
 Public worship 10am
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.

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH
(in full communion with the Church of England)
 St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.
Sunday 7 September
 Holy Communion, 11am.
 Revd Paul Fletcher. Coffee after service.
Wednesday 10 September
 Holy Communion, 12.15 pm.
 All Welcome.

LAMLASH CHURCH
Sunday 7 September
 You are invited to worship in Lamlash Church at 11 am
 Mr Findlay Turner
 All welcome

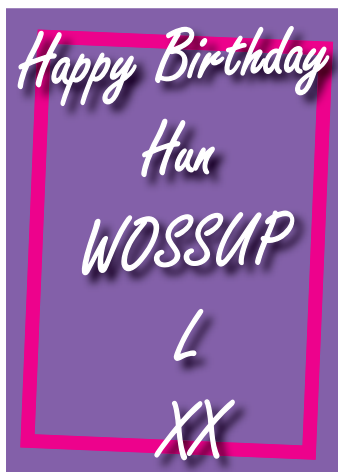
ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
(continuing)
Sunday 7 September
 11am Trust Housing Lounge
 Glen Estate
 Brodick
 Evening Service, 7pm
 5 Glen Road
Wednesday 10 September
 Prayer Meeting, 7pm
 Rev.D.Macleod
 All welcome

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday 7 September

Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick
 10.45 Communion
 Tea and coffee from 11.10
 11.30 Service for All th
 Family led by Rev Bill Slack
 All very welcome

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)
Sunday 7 September
 Meeting for worship 11am.
 11 Glen Estate (Trust House- ing) Glenclay Road, Brodick.
 Enquiries to Jeny 302779
 All very welcome

PERSONALS



BEST FOR NEWS, VIEWS & PHOTOS
 THE ARRAN BANNER
 Tel: 01770 302142
 www.arranbanner.co.uk

GRADUATION



Pinny Neill from Aberdeen, formerly of Whiting Bay, graduated from the Robert Gordon University on July 18 with a master of architecture with distinction. She also won the year prize. Pinny is now working for Simpson and Brown Architects in Edinburgh. b36gra01NO

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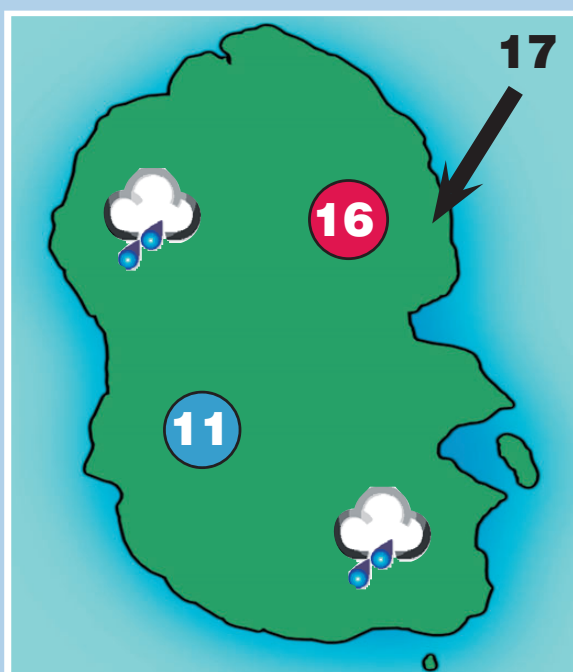
Tides

Tide tables for Lamlash during the week from **Saturday, September 6, 2008** are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am			pm			
Sat	0321	3.2	0900	0.7	1549	2.9	2130 0.7
Sun	0356	2.9	0940	0.9	1627	2.8	2218 1.0
Mon	0437	2.7	1030	1.2	1713	2.6	2332 1.2
Tues	0531	2.4	1201	1.4	1819	2.5	**** **
Wed	0136	1.2	0646	2.3	1400	1.3	2007 2.6
Thur	0244	0.9	0902	2.4	1501	1.1	2136 2.8
Fri	0333	0.7	1006	2.6	1545	0.9	2225 3.0

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

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



Saturday, May 27

Weather

Saturday, September 6

Rain, heavy at times throughout most of the day. Moderate to strong north easterly winds. Temperatures around 16°C dropping to 11 in the evening.

Sunday, September 7

More rain forecast light to moderate north westerly winds Temperature average 13°C.

Monday and Tuesday

Sunny spells, light s/e wind, Temp. 16°C

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



Brodie Golf Club

Wednesday August 27, Summer Cup, 41 played, CSS 65.

1 G Robertson (8)61, 2 G Hendry (9)62 BIH, 3 J Armit (5)62. Scratch E McKinnon 66. There were 14 magic twos, Ewan McKinnon got two.

Sunday August 31, Sweep 12 played CSS 65.

1 R McCrae (7)64 BIH, 2 C Russell (19)64, 3 J Armit (5)67. Scratch P McCalla 68. There were seven magic twos; Gordon Hendry got two.

Ladies: Tuesday August 26, 14 played, CSS 67.

Centenary Quaich, Silver: 1 Ann MacVicar (16)66, 2 Liz Robertson (20)68, 3 Shirley Anderson (13)73.

Bronze: 1 Kate Sizer (32)71, 2 Mairi Thompson (35)75, 3 Kay Kitson (22)76.

Scratch Ann MacVicar (16)82.

Brodie Ladies outing: 18 ladies went to Machrie on Thursday August 28 to play an 18 hole Tri-am.

The weather stayed dry and we would like to thank David Jeffrey for the great condition of the course and Hilary and her staff for a very enjoyable lunch.

1 Pat Adamson, Celia Butler, Maureen Cuthbert 60, 2 Mairi Thompson, Moira Martin, Carole Arthur 65, 3 Margaret

Roxburgh, Kate Sizer, Pam Holmes 66 BIH.

Longest Drive at the 6th hole, Fiona Crawford.

Whiting Bay Golf

Whiting Bay hosted Milngavie in the annual match between the two clubs.

Saturday's six matches left Whiting Bay in a strong position, 13 holes up, and this was extended by another two holes overall in Sunday's six games.

As always the social side was at least as important as the golf as old acquaintances were renewed and new ones made.

Everyone enjoyed the hospitality and the midges REALLY enjoyed the golfers on Sunday! Sunday Medal, August 24, 15 played, SSS 63, CSS63.

John Bennet (22)57, Nicol Auld (1)61 BIH, Ronnie Mann (12)61. Nicol won scratch with 62 and there were two magic twos from Jamie MacPherson and one by Nicol Auld. Wednesday August 27 was the 12th and final round of the Summer Cup.

SSS 63, CSS 63. John Pennycott (12)58, David Morrison (6)61 BIH, Ronnie Mann (12)61.

Nicol won scratch and there were two magic twos by Nicol and two by David Morrison.

The overall results of the summer cup, with the best six scores for each player counting, were first Nicol Auld, second (a long way back!) John Pennycott and third Gus MacLeod. Fixtures: Sunday September 7, Autumn Handicap at Shiskine.

Wednesday September 10, Medal.

Sunday September 14, Captain's Prize, one draw only at 11am.

Ladies: Rescheduled date for Glenashdale Cup is Sunday September 14 at 12pm.

Machrie Bay Golf

Tuesday August 26, Medal. 1 Alastair MacDonald 65, 2 Alan Jeffrey 69, 3 Brian Sherwood 72. Scratch and magic two Alan Jeffrey 75. Fixtures: Tuesday September 9, Medal 12.30pm tee-off.

Lamlash Golf Club

Ladies: Wednesday August 27, Fleet 5 and Thistle Brooch CSS 64.

1 Grace Wallbank with 93(27) giving a net 66, 2 Elizabeth Sinclair with 80(14) giving a net 66, 3 Ellie Jones with 80(13) giving a net 67.

Three people shared lowest gross Mrs BJ Livingstone, Mrs Ellie Jones, Mrs Elizabeth Sinclair all with 80.

Magic twos from Mrs BJ Livingstone.

Arran Golfers Association

Saturday August 30, Ken Western Greensome at Lamlash Golf Club.

Unfortunately it was a very poor turnout of only 12 couples in what turned out to be a lovely day.

Arran members need to be aware that the longevity of the Association competitions depends on the entry figures and more members are needed to show support if they are to continue into the future.

Compliments to Lamlash for the condition of the course, which was as always superb.

First place and winners of the trophy were Jim Henderson and Derek Roxburgh 68-9.2=58.8.

Runners up were Keith Wallbank and Alan Smith 72-11.4=60.6.

Scratch winners were E McKinnon and S Beardsley with a 68 BIH over Jim and Derek.

There were four magic twos: E McKinnon and S Beardsley at the 16th, D Ross and I Murchie at the 16th, j Henderson and Derek Roxburgh at the 16th and A Winship and B Hastings at the 17th.

Fixtures: Autumn meeting in Brodie Clubhouse on Thursday September 4 at 8pm.

Autumn Handicap at Shiskine Golf Club, Sunday September 7, the draw will be made at the Autumn meeting on the Thursday before and posted on club notice boards from Friday.



Whiting Bay Golf Club captain Pete Rawlin receives the Winners Quaich from Brian Adair of Milngavie Golf Club.

Please check sheets for times.

Seniors Handicap at Brodie Golf Club on Saturday September 20, 1pm ballot

off the yellow tees, Qualifying age 55+.

Shiskine Golf Club

Hole in one – Sandy Myles at

the 4th hole, The Shelf.

Sunday August 24, 18 hole medal. 1 Jimmy Morrison 74-11=63, 2 Brian Sherwood 76-9=67, 3 Donald Logan 76-8=68. Best Scratch Jimmy Morrison 74. Magic Twos from Jimmy Morrison (12th) Donald Logan (10th) Alan

Napier (4th and 11th).

Wednesday August 27, 12 hole Medal. 1 Willie Kelso 47-4=43, 2 Brian Sherwood 48-4=44, 3 Daryl Urquart-Dixon 56-8=48.

Best Scratch Willie Kelso 47. Magic Twos from Willie Kelso (12th) and Donald Turner (7th).

Thursday August 28, Ladies 12 hole Medal. Silver: 1 Liz Kerr 57-9=48, 2 Elizabeth Kelso 60-11=49, 3 Elizabeth Ross 61-10=51. Bronze: 1 Sally Brookes 60-14=46, 2 Sylvia Money 73-24=49, 3 Jessie Hutton 67-17=50 BIH. Best Scratch Liz Kerr 57.

Fixtures: Saturday September 6, 18 hole Medal.

Wednesday September 10, 12 hole Medal.

Thursday September 11, 12 hole Medal Winners Competition.

Sunday September 14, Club Outing (any more names please).

Corrie Golf Club

Fixtures: Saturday September 6, First round of the Whisky Cup, tee-off at 9.30am – 1pm Wednesday September 10, last round of the Wednesday Night Medal, tee-off from 5pm.



The annual John Lowe, Willie McNeil and Walter Gillan Memorial Quaichs golf competition was played across 36 holes at Brodie Golf Course on Friday August 8.

Alex Stoddart from Hamilton won the Walter Gillan, Campbell Laing from Pirmill the John Lowe and John Lowe of Lochranza the Willie McNeil Quaich. The three winners are pictured with Mrs Nan Lowe.

Matt's hat-trick of wins

The Ayrshire Kestrels under-15s rugby team won their third game in two weeks with Arran lad Matthew Evans as captain.

On Wednesday the Kestrels travelled to Clarkston to take on the Renfrewshire Rhinos in the third of their four matches under the Pathway scheme.

Having successfully negotiated their first two matches, it was with high expectations that the Kestrels made the short journey to GHA.

Postage stamp

Coach Steve Edwards said: 'The heavy rain in the 24 hours leading up to the match meant a greasy surface and a slippery ball and this coupled with a park the size of a postage stamp was not conducive to the open attacking game the Kestrels were used to playing.'

However, the Kestrels took the lead through

some slick handling by their backs to send full-back Gregor Scott (Marr) off on a scintillating run for the opening score. Danny McCluskey slotted the conversion.

Rhinos were first to strike in the second half with a converted try following a good drive by their pack and some decent interplay from their centres.

The Kestrels raised their game under the leadership of captain Evans, from Lamlash, who constantly cajoled and encouraged his players to better effort and this was rewarded with an outstanding score, again from Scott, and the match ended 14 – 7 to the Kestrels.

Steve Edwards added: 'This result ensured the Kestrels' 100 per cent winning record and they have now scored 105 points with only 12 against in the three matches.'



Margaret Bryce and Harry Davidson are presented with the Dorothy Rudge Memorial mixed foursomes cup at Brodie Golf Club by Don Rudge. This cup has been played as a knockout competition for the last four years and this is the second time Margaret and Harry have won.

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Last-minute try ruins league debut

**Division Two West
Paisley RFC 14
Isle of Arran RFC 13**

A last-minute try denied Isle of Arran Rugby Club a winning start to the new season in the second division.

After being promoted from the third division last season, many of the players were nervous that it would be a whole different ball game this year.

But the team need not have worried as the players proved against Paisley, away from home on Saturday, that they

deserve a place in the upper division. The first five minutes of the game were extremely exciting as Arran started to find their pace as a team again.

Within minutes Paisley's number five was injured and Graeme Dobson was overheard to comment at the sidelines: 'He'll no' be leaping like a salmon anymore.'

Both teams spent the game very evenly matched but Arran had more chances to carry the ball over the line. Craig Black earned the number five shirt for

Arran by winning the regular ball in the line-outs. Quick passes to stand-off Frazer Barr saw a number of opportunities to score but Arran were stopped before the line.

There was scare amongst the players and fans when 17-year-old Kal Masia received a nasty cut above his left eye but his determination to get back on the field and prove Arran were the better side was quite astonishing.

In the 25th minute, after a prolonged attack on the line,

Paisley scored the first try of the game and converted. 7-0

Minutes later Paisley's 'Stamping Steve' was given a yellow card for rolling through the ruck and injuring Kal's head deliberately.

Arran used this to their advantage when Mark Wetton pounded down the field to score. Frazer Barr converted to make the score all even as the half time whistle went.

In the second half a number of mistakes from the opposition rewarded Arran with another penalty and Frazer Barr kicked it from the half way line straight through the posts.

Arran increased their pressure on the try line and Craig Black thought he had scored but much to the dismay of the team it was a disallowed try.

Frazer Barr came to the rescue once again to take Arran six points into the lead.

The Arran fans were going wild, as the island boys appeared to be cruising to victory.

Paisley increased the pressure on the line and despite Arran defending extremely well they scored and converted a try to win the game as the final whistle was blown. Final score 14-13 to Paisley.

Speaking on the bus afterwards Arran's captain, Murray Picken, said: 'This was our first game in the second division and we proved that we deserved that promotion. It's going to be an exciting season.'

The Arran Banner's man of the match on Saturday was Kal Masia as he played an incredibly passionate game of rugby despite a nasty injury to his head.

This Saturday (September 6) Arran play Carrick RFC at the Ormidale Park in Brodick. Please come along and support the team.



Arran's battling performance proved they can compete in Division Two. b36rug02



British legion's Morag is first lady

The Arran branch of the Royal British Legion held its annual golf competition at Brodick Golf Club last Thursday. The picture shows Willie Innes, David Allen, Alan Milligan, Sid Allen, Morag Gardner and Spud Taylor before the match. Morag Gardner from Lamlash is the first female member of the branch to win the trophy.

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Riding club to host training day

Arran Riding Club has organised an adult training weekend this Saturday and Sunday (September 6/7) at Cairnhouse Stables in Blackwaterfoot with Yvonne McFarlane of BHSI. Telephone Dawn Murchie on 860466 to book a place.

This year's junior pony club championship will be held over the weekend of September 19 to 21 at the Greannan, Blackwaterfoot. Spaces are limited so please telephone Liz Kennedy on 700552 to book your place.

SPORTSDESK
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