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Arran's Weekly Newspaper

SATURDAY, 13 DECEMBER, 2008

No 1678

Dedicated Brodick parking spaces to be repainted – at last

# Pier hope for disabled drivers

Caledonian MacBrayne is finally to repaint the disabled parking spaces at Brodick Pier – a year after first promising to do so.

It follows renewed complaints from Arran residents.

Last December disabled drivers appealed to the ferry operator to freshen the paint marking the spaces to stop non-disabled motorists parking there.

The yellow paint marking the spaces in the short-term car park has been gradually wearing away for more than a year and there is no way to tell that they are allocated places.

In the meantime, drivers who are not registered disabled keep using the spaces.

A CalMac spokesman said: 'Remedial work to eliminate the potholes has been carried out at a cost to CalMac in excess of £6,000 and the next stage is to re-mark the disabled parking bays which will be carried out – again at our expense – whenever the lining vehicle comes back onto the island.'

Rob Blythe, from Shiskine, who has a blue badge on his car windscreen enabling him to park in the disabled spaces, said that despite bringing this to the attention of the ferry operator more than a year ago, he still struggles to park there.

'I can't believe that after a whole year CalMac still has not done anything about this,' he said. 'As a registered disabled driver, time and again I am unable to park in the spaces allocated to me because people have just abandoned their cars. I have asked CalMac, North Ayrshire Council and the police to do something about it but nothing is happening. How many times will we have to complain before something is done about this?'

Rob said he had missed the ferry in the past

Report by JENNIFER LYON

because of having to park elsewhere.

He added: 'There are always cars parked in the spaces and the drivers aren't disabled. I was often forced to park up at the old sand quarry.'

'I've seen other disabled drivers miss the boat because they can't walk the distance fast enough.'

Since Caledonian MacBrayne owns the ground, police do not have the jurisdiction to move unauthorised vehicles along.

However, the CalMac spokesman said discussions were underway with NAC about the council adopting the land and therefore being able to enforce parking regulations on it.

'These are linked to the redevelopment plans for the site which we understand are progressing,' he said. 'We share everyone's frustration that this is proving a more lengthy process than we would all like, but would like to assure everyone that we are doing what we can to move forward.'

He added that CalMac is aware of the difficulties facing disabled motorists. 'While this work is underway we are keen to do what we can to minimise the inconvenience to them,' he said. 'We would ask non-disabled people to respect the spaces and needs of disabled drivers, and ask for everyone's continuing patience while this is resolved.'

'If disabled drivers alert us to their needs we'll do what we can to assist but they should be aware that options are limited.'

A spokesman from North Ayrshire Council said: 'We will be pleased to repaint the disabled parking spaces when CalMac approaches us but unfortunately we can't do the work without its go ahead.'



Budding young football star Jamie McLaren with his man of the match award for the seven-a-side tournament.

## Jamie is Arran's star player

One of Arran's budding young footballers was crowned man of the match at the seven-a-side junior football tournament on Sunday.

Jamie McLaren from Brodick received most nominations for the coveted award.

It is the second time the 10 year old has received the honour.

Youngsters from all of Arran's primary schools took part in the Arran Junior Football seven-a-side competition.

Ann Hart, active sports co-ordinator for North Ayrshire Council, said: 'Just like last year, the winning team was not decided until the final game but Brodick snatched

the cup by beating Pirnmill in the final minutes of the tournament.'

In a very close competition, last year's winners Shiskine were beaten into second and Lamlash came third.

Shiskine won the penalty competition, a small consolation to the team for losing out on the cup.



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# Police files

## Abandoned van

A white transit van was discovered abandoned on the Ross Road last Saturday night and police were forced to close the road.

Police said that the driver had apparently skidded and fled the scene on being unable to move the motor vehicle.

Sergeant Bob MacKay said that because of the position of the van on the single-track road combined with very icy conditions it was impossible to move the vehicle.

The road was closed at 5pm and did not reopen until the following morning when a recovery vehicle was able to reach it.

## No car tax

The vehicle of a 64-year-old Lamlash man was stopped on the Boguille Hill on Monday December 1 at about 3.10pm and was found to have no car tax or an MOT. He was reported to the procurator fiscal.

## Vehicle defects

During the week police stopped six drivers who had faulty lights.

Sergeant Bob MacKay said: 'We want drivers to ensure that their lights are working properly especially during the winter months when it gets dark much earlier in the evening.'

## Theft

Police apprehended a 62-year-old Brodick woman last Thursday after an alleged theft in the Brodick Coop store.

## Drink driving

On Friday December 5 at 11.20pm a 20-year-old Lamlash man was arrested on Shore road for allegedly driving while under the influence of alcohol. He was reported to the procurator fiscal and is due to appear at Kilmarnock Sheriff Court.

## Vandalism

Police received reports of vandalism to an area behind Jimmy the Barber's Shop, Brodick at around 9pm on Saturday and are appealing for witnesses to come forward.

## Assault

On Sunday evening a 26-year-old man from Glasgow was arrested near the Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick for an alleged assault and alleged offences under the misuse of drugs act.

At the same time a 16-year-old boy from Whiting Bay was arrested for alleged obstruction and breach of the peace.

## Burglary

Police are appealing for witnesses to a burglary, which took place sometime between 5pm last Friday and 9am on Monday at Creelers seafood shop, Brodick. A number of items were stolen from the building.

# Businesses enjoy wine tasting evening

Local members of the Ayrshire Chamber of Commerce gathered at the Auchrannie Spa last Wednesday night for a festive wine tasting evening.

Representatives from many of Arran's businesses attended the event including Arran Dairies, Catacol Bay Hotel, the Old Pier Tearoom, Arran Aromatics,



Local members of the Ayrshire Chamber of Commerce at the wine tasting evening. b50acc01

Fulton Decorators, Glenkiln Farm, Dave Campbell Site Engineering, and *The Arran Banner*. The idea behind the festive networking evening is

to promote links with businesses across the island.

ACC development manager, Helen McBride, who organised the evening said that it

was slightly disappointing that more members had not attended the event and she hoped to see more business representatives at events in the New Year.

# Arran whisky to be first minister's 'tipple of choice'

Scotland's first minister, Alex Salmond has chosen an Isle of Arran whisky to be the 'Tippie of choice' during next year's Homecoming celebration.

Mr Salmond was presented with a limited edition bottle of the 10-year-old Robert Burns Single Malt Scotch Whisky by local MSP Kenneth Gibson on behalf of Isle of Arran Distillers last week.

'I am delighted to receive this beautifully presented bottle of Robert Burns Homecoming



Arran's MSP Kenneth Gibson presents first minister Alex Salmond with a bottle of Arran whisky.

whisky from Arran,' he said. 'The Year of Homecoming is

very important to the Scottish government and Scotland. Robert Burns is the inspiration and his 250<sup>th</sup> birthday will be toasted with this specially produced Homecoming whisky from Arran.

'The bottle presented to me by Kenneth will be given pride of place in my official Bute House residence. It will be my tippie of choice for 2009 and distinguished visitors will be offered a dram.'

### 'Enjoyed'

Kenneth Gibson MSP said: 'I thoroughly enjoyed visiting the Lochranza distillery last Tuesday, where I had very positive discussions with visitor centre manager Robin Bell on how, even in these unstable times, to further enhance both the visitor experience at Lochranza and the profile of Arran's award-winning whiskies.'

'Having enjoyed sampling the products I delivered, the members restaurant has, subject to approval from the parliament's corporate body this week, agreed to stock both Arran whisky and the Arran Gold Cream Liqueur.'

'As the member's restaurant receives visitors from across the world, this and its endorsement by the first minister can only augment its growing profile and reputation for quality.'

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# Curries descended from Gaelic hero

A Canadian man with direct links to the Curries of Arran has traced the family tree back more than 800 years to one of the greatest names in Gaelic literature.

Harry Currie was born in Canada but after serving in Britain during the Second World War he became fascinated with his family history.

Harry's great-grandfather, Ronald Currie, emigrated from Arran to Canada in 1849, and he and his wife Margaret McCurdy, also from Arran, had 12 children.

After establishing links with the family of James Currie at Drumadoon Farm, Blackwaterfoot, in the late 1940s, Harry has traced the family tree back to one of the greatest ancient Irish poets.

He said: 'There is no doubt that the name Currie evolved from the Gaelic name MacMhurrigh and that the person the

Gaelic name was derived from more than 800 years ago was Muireadhach Albanach.'

Born in Ireland around 1180, Muireadhach Albanach is considered to be one of the greatest names in Gaelic literature.

In the Book of Arran it states that after the Battle of Largs in 1263, the King of Norway, who was the patron and ally of the Lord of the Isles, granted the island to one named Murdach.

### 'Tradition'

'Exactly how long Muireadhach remained in Scotland is uncertain,' said Harry. 'That he married and had children in Scotland is a certainty. How many children he had is unknown, and the probability is great that his children spread across the Western Isles of Scotland, some continuing the family tradition of poet/bard.'

According to Harry, the anglicised Murdach is without a doubt a version of Murach

or Muireadhach, so he is the progenitor of the Curries of Arran.

Harry explains: 'The change from the Gaelic MacMhurrigh to MacCurrie and Currie on Arran happened around 1700. My own direct unbroken family line back to Arran in 1680 lists our name as MacMhurrich in that year.'

In 1981 the Canadian designed a special tartan called

Currie of Arran, a tartan for everyone of the name to wear if they so wished.

'I like to feel I have carried on the tradition of warrior/poet/bard of our distant ancestor Muireadhach Albanach, and will always love Arran. It is my spiritual home,' he said.

• For more detailed information about the Currie family line please contact *The Arran Banner*.



Jessie and Spud Taylor with Sal Strachan, centre, pull crackers to get in the party spirit. b50mon01

## It's party time in Montrose House!

One of the first Christmas parties of the season took place at Montrose House home for the elderly in Brodick last Wednesday evening.

Many friends and family members joined the residents to help bring in the festive cheer.

Staff did a superb job of putting up wonderful Christmas decorations around the room.

Local musicians and schoolchildren were also on hand to entertain the crowds before enjoying a delicious dinner.

## BT finally gets southend internet message

Residents in the southern end of Arran were left with no internet connection for more than a week after British Telecom refused to believe there was a fault.

More than 20 people in Sliderry and Kilmory including the village hall, post office and Torylinn Creamery were affected.

Jean Fitzpatrick from Sliderry said that her broadband connection failed early last week and despite reporting the fault to BT they repeatedly told her there was no problem.

'I must have phoned them a dozen times,' said Jean. 'Every time you phone you get straight through to a call centre in India. They kept telling me that there was no fault. It was like they didn't believe me.'

A spokesman from British Telecom said: 'I believe customer

service was restored on Friday. One of our engineers lives there and was affected also, but his is back up and running.

'This was a complex fault, which initially when remotely tested gave our technicians the indication that there was no problem. We had specialists on the island investigating the difficulty. Ultimately the fault wasn't traced to Sliderry telephone exchange, but one of our main exchanges in Glasgow, which feeds broadband to the island. This required a reset of the electronics and a new component. We apologise to our customers for any inconvenience caused.'



Harry Currie with the Currie of Arran tartan he designed.

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John Moore as Lord Henry Merkland at last year's Victorian Christmas at Brodick Castle. b50vic01

## Brodick Castle gets festive

Festive celebrations will begin at Brodick Castle this Sunday (December 14), with the annual Christmas Fair. Castle staff will transport you back to a Victorian Christmas as they guide you through the ancient building. Other festive fun includes a very special visitor as Father Christmas has promised to drop by. There will also be carol singing and roast chestnuts

to add to the seasonal celebrations. Property manger Ken Thornburn said: 'We are all getting very excited by Santa's imminent arrival. We have been working hard to make sure the castle looks at its Christmassy best, so that Santa and our visitors have a really festive time.' The castle will be open on Sunday from 12pm to 3.30pm.

# There's hope yet for Valdete

Three weeks ago a young woman from Albania was brought to Arran by a couple from Whiting Bay who hoped that a life changing operation would enable her to walk again.

While here specialist orthopedic surgeons told Valdete Gjonpalaj that surgery would be too invasive and that they were unable to give her the treatment she had hoped for.

Valdete is now back in Albania and will return to Arran early next year.

She is very positive and is determined to walk even if it is with a walking frame. We were given an exercise programme to follow by our physiotherapist here and she will make enquiries about sending Valdete to a specialist physiotherapy department on her return to the UK. She may also be able to be fitted with special shoes to help give her support.

We had a busy couple of days in Albania. First, we went to see Dr Qemali who did the initial scan and X-rays for us in Tirana. He translated a letter from the surgeon here for Valdete's parents and told us about places to try and find a good physiotherapist.

I couldn't begin to describe the two hospitals we visited but I think our prisons are probably much more comfortable and inviting than these two places. The third place was much better, a private hospital financed partly with government aid and the Catholic Church.

Here, we met an Albanian physiotherapist who had spent seventeen years in Italy gaining experience to bring back to help his own country. This is the only centre like this in Albania and it just opened that day.

The Albanian minister of Health and the Vice President were there for the opening ceremony and asked Valdete to have her photograph taken with them because they thought she had a lovely smile.

They now have their first properly trained staff from Tirana University and they have all been to Italy for clinical experience.

She was assessed and began her rehabilitation programme the very next day. They will see her three times a week at a cost of ten Euros per hourly session.

I'm sure it is less than we would pay here but for Albanians it is a lot of money.

The next day we spent looking at what is needed in her home to help her become more independent and make life

Sue and Julian Davidson from Arran met Valdete in Tirana last summer and have been striving to help the 18 year-old to walk again after a childhood illness left her in a wheelchair.

Here Sue writes to tell Valdete's friends and supporters on Arran what the latest developments have been since she returned to Albania.



Valdete Gjonpalaj photographed two weeks ago while she was staying with the Davidsons in Whiting Bay. b50val01

easier for her parents. Thanks to the people of Arran, we will be able to provide her with everything she needs.

I was shocked when the head of this department told me he could give me the names of a thousand young people like

Valdete all needing help. This made us even more determined to go back to Albania to help set up help for these youngsters, as soon as we can. Valdete and the whole Gjonpalaj family would like to thank you all for caring and being so generous.

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Joan MacLeod, right, receives the cheque for £1,800 from the Whiting Bay Rural ladies and their friends from Kilmory. b50yor01

## Support for sick children from Whiting Bay ladies

The ladies of Whiting Bay Rural have been steadfastly raising funds for the Royal Hospital for Sick Children at Yorkhill in Glasgow for 17 years.

Last Wednesday night they handed over a cheque for £1,800 to Joan MacLeod, fundraising manager of the Yorkhill Children's Foundation. This contributes to a total of almost £18,000 over the 17 years.

Rural member Mary Robinson is head of the Yorkhill sub-committee and handed over the cheque surrounded by fellow members and friends from Kilmory Rural.

Nancy Bremner and Betty McCormack are joint presidents of Whiting Bay Rural and Betty said: 'Most of this money was raised at our fete in August but

there have been other fund-raising projects at the Village Shop, Bay News, the golf club and other local businesses.

'Seventeen years ago our SWRI honorary member and former president, Margaret Marriott, started fundraising for Yorkhill as a token of her gratitude to the hospital for the help that had been given to her family. The rural has continued to run the annual event and will carry on doing so.'

Fundraising manager Joan MacLeod said: 'The main funding for the hospital is through the NHS but donations like these help to provide the extras such as children's entertainers and large pieces of equipment but one of the greatest assets has been the medi-cinema which

is the first of its kind in a children's hospital in the UK.

'The monotony of hospital routine is difficult for children to cope with and time can move very slowly, especially for long-term patients. To be able to watch the latest film with their family is a wonderful boost.'

The new facility has been fitted into a lecture theatre that can be transformed into a cinema with retractable seating at night, much like the community theatre at Arran High School.

Joan added: 'Every year around 150,000 children from all over Scotland come to Yorkhill for treatment.'

'Extras such as those provided by donations from the Whiting Bay Rural ladies help to make their stay more comfortable.'

Lamlash Bridge Club results for Monday, December 8 - N/S: 1 I McArthur and E McKellar +5300, 2 J Barclay and J McArthur +4150, 3 M Jones and R Livingstone +3800.

E/W: 1 J Maclure and A McKelvie -1850, 2 H Boyd and J

## Bridge club results

Murchie -2090, 3 J and J Beattie -2300. Brodick Bridge Club results for Thursday, December 14 - N/S: 1 M McGill v E McConnell +1160, 2 H Boyd v L

Paul -180, 3 D Scobie v J Murchie -270. E/W: 1 T Martin v D Hamilton +1990, 2 E Duncan v A Bilsland +1680, 3 A McKelvie v J Maclure +1040.

## Christmas treat at Corrie Film Club

This Sunday Corrie Film Club will be showing two wonderful films chosen to appeal to a wide audience.

Two films will be shown - one particularly chosen for younger film buffs, but both suitable for all ages and with supper in between.

The first film, which begins at 6.30pm to suit younger audiences, is 'The Weeping Camel', a magical, touching and funny film about life in the Gobi Desert and two young boys sent on a journey in search of a musician and a miracle.

The second, at 8.30pm, is that greatest of all film comedies 'Some Like it Hot', Billy Wilder's madcap and hilarious farce with Tony Curtis and Jack Lemmon at their best. Add Marilyn Monroe and you have sheer delight.

Please come along and have a feel good evening and bring something to share.

## Financial BANNER

### Pensions and Divorce

The number of divorces granted in the UK has seen a steady increase over the decades, peaking in 2004 at 168,000, the highest recorded since 1981. Happily, since 2004, there has been a slight fall of around 2.6% although it is still a fairly alarming figure. Of interest, it seems to be the age group of men and women between 25-29 who have not made it through and the bad news for them is that statistically they have less chance of success second time around as one in five men and women divorcing in 2007 had a previous marriage (this proportion has doubled in the last 25 years).

So, what has all this to do with pensions? Quite simply, outside the family home, pensions are often the second largest marital asset, especially where an individual has been a long standing member of an Occupational Pension Scheme and it is 'final salary based' (sorry about the jargon). So what are the options? These are basically three-fold:

### Offsetting

Still the most common method used where one type of asset is offset against another, e.g. share of the home versus the value of an individual's pension.



### Earmarking

Effectively a form of deferred maintenance payment.

### Pension sharing

Available as an option within the financial settlement on divorce (must be post December 2000).

All of the above carry their own advantages and disadvantages and advice should be sought from a suitably experienced lawyer, and perhaps more especially an experienced pensions professional, who will substantially compliment the advice you choose to take from a family lawyer.

In conclusion, satisfy yourself all the options are clearly explained to you prior to making any final decision as once you have done this it may not be reconsidered at a future date.

Stay positive this month.

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# 'Listen with your eyes' on

Ann Brown of Glasgow and Corriecravie was one of 18 intrepid Arran travellers to join Rev John Webster of Kings Cross on his annual expedition to Kalimpong last month.

The group journeyed to Kalimpong in Northern India via Calcutta and the Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan setting out on Saturday November 1 and returning 19 days later.

Ann reports on a momentous journey that she says was very long in very many ways.

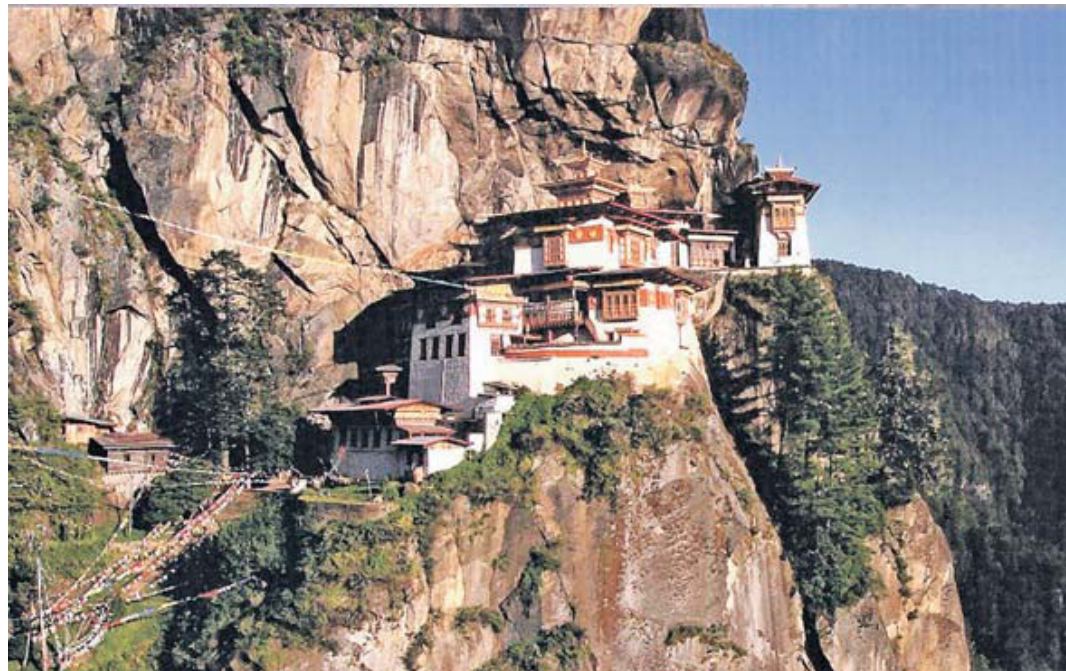
There is nothing that can prepare the Western traveller against the impact of the first sight of a city like Calcutta (Kolkata).

were exhorted by John Webster, a piece of good advice that we followed throughout our time there.

We visited Mother Teresa's Home for the Dying. Our fears of intruding were overcome by the evidence of the sheer hard work and every day attitudes of the nuns and of the many helpers from all over the world who turn up to help feed, comfort, and fold clothes and bandages for the dying.

### Personal Lives

Next was a visit to an 'area of deprivation' – a relative term for Calcutta – where the people maintained a standard of cheerfulness and cleanliness in



The Tiger's Nest; Taktshang Monastery 12,000ft high in Bhutan. b50ind01

their personal lives which was astonishing to our eyes.

On a boat trip on the Ganges we saw the Indians washing and worshipping on the banks of their most holy river.

We were then on our way to Bhutan to its only airport at Paro, an hour's drive from the capital of Thimphu.

Between these two places live most of the 700,000 people

of this small country roughly the size of Switzerland. Sandwiched between India and China, Bhutan has never been colonised.

As we arrived an amazing event was taking place in the vast, ancient white-walled palace overlooking the Thimphu valley – the 28 year old bachelor, Oxford educated Jigme Khasar Namgyel Wangchuck was becoming the youngest monarch in the world!

It took a little time for our rather cynical jaundiced Western eyes to realise what an enormous event this was in the lives of the Bhutanese people.

We had gone back in time to a world where people truly loved their King and apparently wished for his supremacy over the newly elected democratic parliament.

Bhutan's enlightened royalty promotes a programme of Gross National Happiness among its subjects which is regularly assessed by officials who try to find out how the people in the country are feeling.

There is a fear now, however, that television, the internet and tourism (though strictly controlled at the moment) may begin to chip away at this stronghold of Buddhist purity.

The group left Bhutan by road, a road that brought about some severe palpitations all the way down from the heights of Bhutan to the plain below and then not quite so far up again



Snow-covered Kanchenjunga in the distance, taken from the garden of the Himalayan Hotel in Kalimpong. b50ind03

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# the journey to Kallimpong

this time to the heights of Kalimpong, our ultimate destination.

Dr Graham's Homes was the focal point and the place that we had all heard so much about.

For several people on the trip this was a very emotional experience, meeting for the first time with the children they had been sponsoring at such a distance, and it was clear what enduring relationships were being forged.

### Democratic

Former pupils of the School have done very well and many of them are senior figures in the new democratic parliament of Bhutan. On the last day in Kalimpong Sunday service was conducted by Rev John Webster and the school choir (which has visited Arran) entertained us with a concert. It was back in the bus then and down to the plain to get the train overnight back to Calcutta.

Many suggestions were made as to the most memorable or overwhelming moments of our time in India and Bhutan that would remain after the grey skies, good plumbing

and regular rubbish collection had insulated us from the quite different world of so many millions on this planet.

Would it be the giggles of delight in the nursery section of Dr Graham's Homes when two of the younger members of our party taught the children a singing game; the amazing fact that all mobile phone signals were switched off for two days because of the coronation; the smiling man at the hotel bringing round hot water bottles for everyone in the chilly evenings; or the road up to the hotel in Thimphu which defied all laws of gravity and engineering and proved to us that the Bhutaneses are the best drivers in the world. Or the clasp of the hand of a dying man at Mother Theresa's; the spectacular view from the front of the hotel in Kalimpong of the Himalayas with snow-covered Kanchenjunga in the background; the breathtaking sight of the Taktshang monastery in Bhutan, hanging on the edge of a cliff over 12,000 feet in the sky, the Mecca for all devout Buddhists, or even the fact that on the very last night on our



Rev John Webster's group on a boat trip on the River Ganges. b50ind02

way home, in Dubai, most of the party ordered burger or fish and chips for dinner!

The tour next year will follow the same route except that instead of Bhutan it will go to

Nepal and in 2010 it will be back to Bhutan. (email enquiries to johng-

webster@talktalk.net and the website for the Homes is www.drgrahamshomes.co.uk)

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Alan McNicol has taken the business from strength to strength and now has a tremendous reputation and an ever growing client list such

as North Ayrshire Council, Arran Homes, National Trust for Scotland and the NHS.

He employs two full-time plumbers and one part-time and has also taken on an apprentice. Marion, Alan's wife, will be your first point of contact and she will organise all that is required should you be looking for a new bathroom, central heating system, or gas appliance fitted. As the company is registered to Snipef, Corgi and Oftec, the three main industry watchdogs, you can be assured of a thorough and safe installation.

Not content to stay still, Alan is always looking to the future and is currently exploring the Solar heating option, ensuring that the company will be around for generations to come.



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THE ARRAN

**BANNER**

ARRAN'S WEEKLY PAPER

Saturday 13 December 2008

**Help put an end to abuse of parking spaces for disabled**

In June of this year the Scottish government announced a crack-down on those who abuse the disabled parking badge system.

At first glance it is a relatively simple arrangement. If you have a blue badge that designates you as a disabled driver you can park in certain areas that other motorists cannot.

Apparently Tesco stores around Britain have recently been urging customers to show consideration to disabled customers amid complaints about the abuse of special parking bays.

Tesco also apologised to its customers and is considering bringing in parking attendants to issue tickets to tackle this problem.

It is sad that people even here are abusing the use of this concession for less-abled drivers on Arran, and the short-term car park at Brodick Pier is abused in many different ways.

Signs at the pier clearly state that drivers must only use the space to park for a minimum of half an hour, but vehicles are frequently abandoned for days at a time.

The spaces allocated for disabled drivers can barely be seen as the yellow paint has gradually faded away.

To this end, drivers get away with parking there because it is very difficult to see the yellow lines.

The only solution, until these bays are repainted, is for CalMac to police the land. It is outwith the police's jurisdiction, so unless the ferry operator moves drivers along people will keep abusing the scheme.

These spaces are only for those that really need them and to use them for the sake of convenience can have all kinds of complications for those unable to walk the extra distance to the boat.

So if you see someone parking in these spaces that should not please don't ignore it, report them to CalMac which will try to put an end to it.

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK**

'The Lord is good to those whose hope is in Him, to the one who seeks Him; it is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord' (Lamentations 3:25-26)

**press policy**

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

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

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

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

**your letters**

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

**Letters to the Editor****Community spirit alive on Arran**

Sir,  
Shiskine Hall will celebrate 50 years on its present site in 2009.

To this end, I wondered if any of your readers might have some memories of the move to the current premises, or if anyone has any ideas on how to mark the occasion, the committee would be delighted to hear from you.

I would also like to take this opportunity to note the recent improvements to our facility, none of which would be possible without support from island businesses.

Firstly, John Thomson Construction kindly lifted and donated the old gym floor

from the high school; Arran Haulage donated use of a lorry to transport said flooring over to Shiskine.

Colin Currie of Bridge Farm assisted the committee with a trailer to move the wood up to the hall, before the floor itself was laid and sanded by John Robertson and Sons.

Anyone who has been in the hall since will agree that the final outcome was worth every second of everyone's time!

Secondly, readers may have noticed the car park improvements, which have been ongoing for the last year.

While Murchie Sand and Gravel carried out initial drainage and groundwork, and NAC did the surfacing, the committee is especially grateful to Broombrae Grounds and Gardens for finishing the job off so

beautifully and for donating the works that BGG carried out. Many thanks.

When you are part of a voluntary committee, you can feel isolated and frustrated at times, but gestures such as those outlined above let us know that community spirit on Arran is alive and well – our appreciation to all those businesses involved.

Yours,  
**Sheila Gilmore**  
Chairman  
Shiskine Hall Committee

**Recycle used stamps for charity**

Sir,  
The season of Christmas post has come around again, bearing a harvest of used postage stamps. Please don't throw them away!

The aid organisation Oxfam can sell all our used stamps to raise funds for their charity work, and for some years past I have been their authorised local collection point on Arran.

An ever-widening group of islanders save stamps for Oxfam all year round.

Businesses and schools would be especially welcome to join in.

Any and all stamps are accepted from anywhere in the world including the most plain and ordinary British sort.

Please tear or cut them off leaving a one centimetre border of envelope and bring your hoard to my address below, or telephone me on 303912 to arrange collection.

I forward them to Oxfam's stamp specialist in Troon for sorting and sale to worldwide stamp collectors. I would just like to add a big thank you to everyone who dropped off bags and envelopes of stamps at my house during the year. Happy Christmas.

Yours,  
**Janet Barraclough,**  
Crimond  
Strathwillan  
Brodick

**Clarification of a point**

Sir,  
Thank you very much the article that appeared in last week's *Banner* about MSP Kenneth Gibson's visit to the Isle of Arran Brewery.

I think it reflects well how things are with the difficulties of consolidating production and distribution, which we and other island brewery locations face.

There is one thing I wanted to clarify with regards to what I said about duty payment impacting on cash flow.

I just wanted to have it on record that my comment was specifically referring to the previous company in its early days.

Yours,  
**Elisabeth Roberts,**  
Retail, Web Sales and Distribution Manager,  
Arran Brew Ltd  
The Arran Brewery,  
Cladich,  
Brodick

**Snow stopping their wedding!**

Ian Drain son of Beatrice Drain of Shiskine and Laura Turner daughter of Debbie Turner of Blackwaterfoot were married at the Kinloch Hotel on Saturday, November 29. The couple were due to be married at the Lamlash Register Office at 4pm but heavy snow meant they were unable to get over the String Road.

A friend volunteered to go over the hill in his four-wheel drive vehicle and collect registrars Loretta Adamson and Linda Murchie from Lamlash and bring them back to Blackwaterfoot. The ceremony was hastily re-arranged for the Kinloch Hotel where the reception was already due to take place. The couple are enjoying their honeymoon in the Lake District.

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# Arran man living the dream in Peru

Simon Ross-Gill from Brodick has wanted to go to South America since he was a child and now the 22-year-old is living his dream in the Peruvian capital of Lima.

He moved to Peru in August this year after completing a degree in history and politics at the University of Aberdeen.

'I've wanted to go to South America since I was at Arran High School and I've always had a fascination with the politics and culture of the continent,' said Simon. 'I guess this was the reason I studied the Incas at university and why I became so interested in Peruvian history.'

Working for the travel agency 'Peru for Less' based in Lima, Simon spends most days writing content for the website and planning tours to visit the vast Peruvian jungle or famous sites like Machu Picchu.

As Peru is a Spanish speaking country Simon has spent the major part of his first four months learning to speak the language.

'The best thing about living abroad is learning a foreign language every day,' he said.

Lima is the capital of Peru and also one of the largest cities in the world. Located in the valleys of the Chillón, Rímac and Lurín rivers, the city is sprawled along the Pacific coast.

Founded by the Spanish conquistador Francisco Pizarro in 1535, it became the most important city in the Spanish Viceroyalty of Peru.

The country has had a troubled relationship with its Span-



Simon Ross-Gill from Brodick is living and working in the Peruvian capital of Lima. b50sim01

ish conquerors and despite gaining independence in the 1820s many still resent this colonial past.

Today around one-third of the Peruvian population lives in the area.

For Simon the best thing about Lima is the food. Known as the Gastronomical Capital of the Americas, Peruvian cuisine is considered one of the most diverse in the world.

Thanks to its pre-Inca and Inca heritage combined with the Spanish, Basque, African, Japanese, French, Italian and British immigration throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Peruvian cuisine combines the flavours of four continents.

One of Simon's favourites

is the national dish ceviche, which is a combination of raw seafood marinated in lime juice and chilli.

'I miss so many things from home though,' said Simon. 'Irish Bru, Neighbours, Guinness, tattie scones, the list goes on. I also miss good coffee, Peru exports almost all of its coffee.'

Simon is planning to spend another six months in Peru before moving onto another South American country.

'I'm going to travel around Peru with money I save from working, and then I want to go to Bolivia and Ecuador too. Eventually I'm going to go to the USA to see my brother. After that, who knows!'

## Arran livestock sales

United Auctions had forward 862 store cattle and 9,529 store lambs at their Stirling Auction Mart at Kildean, Stirling last Wednesday.

### Cattle

Aberdeen Angus cross heifers: £760, 149p/kg Cairnhouse; £520, 130p/kg Moor.

Limousin cross heifers: £770, 149p/kg Cairnhouse.

Luing cross bullocks: £410, 124p/kg Ceither Gaither.

### Sheep

Texel cross lambs: Moor £57.50; Drumla £49.80; Kil-

patrick £38.20; Bridge £38; Balnacoolie £35.50.

Suffolk cross lambs: Bridge £42.80; Sheddock £42; Balnacoolie £36.

Mule lambs: Bridge £31.80.

Cheviot lambs: Cosyden £38.

Cross lambs: Viewbank £35.80.

Cross ewes: Sheddock £28.50.

Cheviot ewes: Cosyden £17.50.

Tups: Moor £70.

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Please come and join Shona or Debbie for a glass of ginger wine and a mince pie while you browse at your leisure and take full advantage of our Christmas sale which gives you 10% off all Christmas items!!!!

Merry Christmas and a very happy New Year!

Open Monday-Friday 10.00am - 5.00pm  
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# Your Christmas

### GIFTS FOR HER

She's very special, but what should it be, the gift that tells her so? All through the year you have had brilliant flashes of inspiration but now, when the decision has to be made, your mind is blank. All you can think of are the obvious, though when you come to think of it, the obvious takes a lot of beating. Perfume, chocolates, flowers, something beautiful to wear, are all appropriate, all very acceptable, but it has to be said, they are not original. Let's face it, originality in these sophisticated times, is a difficult concept to achieve. However, if you look at the obvious and employ a spot of lateral thinking, you may well achieve that elusive originality.

For example, perfumes don't just come in bottles. Buy her piles of pot-pourri in boxed sets, complete with bottles of scented oils and beautiful bowls to keep it in. A set of exquisite silver or crystal pomanders to hang in her wardrobe would be nice? Lace encrusted herb pillows will cure those headaches and give her sweet dreams, and a course of aromatherapy massages will totally relax her. All would surely be appreciated?

Jewellery can be just as 'original'. Have something specially made, there's still time. A silver snake that coils around her arm from wrist to elbow or beyond would be exciting. A similar silver creature coiling around her ankle could be fabulous, even

more so if you can run to gold.

A fabulous silk robe, richly hand-painted in silver or gold, a pure white cashmere sweater embroidered with pearls, a deeply fringed pashmina, a shawl hand-embroidered with pearls and rhinestones, or a pair of sheer, pure silk stockings - are all absolute luxury to look at and wear.

Chocolates are chocolates of course, and the originality lies in the selection. Go for a dark and bitter, hand-made Belgian selection but, have them professionally packed in a fabulous hand-carved wooden chest, crystal casket or brass-bound box. Or buy her a huge box of crystallized fruits, peels, chestnuts and ginger, they're not chocolate but they do carry all the flavours and scents of Christmas.

Flowers are nearly always well received as gifts, they say so much. Look for the most fabulously exotic, imported blooms you can find, or give a perfect orchid sealed in a crystal globe. A dried arrangement of the most unusual, exotic seed heads, leaves and boughs in a gilded bowl, sealed beneath a crystal dome would be a pleasure for ever. A perfect Bonsai tree on an old Delft plate could last for just as long. Or for those with less exotic tastes, a posy a week, or a bunch a month, from this Christmas to the next, would underline your feelings in no uncertain way.

### GIFTS FOR HIM

Habitually, if not traditionally, 'he' usually has to resign himself to receiving lack-lustre Christmas gifts such as soulless socks, terrible ties, hapless handkerchiefs, awful aftershave and boring old booze. Make this year the

one when you surprise him with more imaginative and exciting gifts.

A pair of cuff links, specially crafted and packed in a silver-bound, black leather box would be special. A beautifully crafted pewter or silver hip flask filled with his favourite tipple could be even more so.

Dreary days at the office could be cheered up with a gold-plated or solid brass fountain pen, and if you can run to it, a ball point pen to match. A set of those fanciful executive desk toys might help him while away the boring moments. To help him keep his papers together give a set of hand-shaped brass clips, a paper weight in the form of a beautiful natural lump of crystal quartz or brilliantly hand-polished fossil fish in their bedrock of stone.

If he travels a lot, a re-chargeable pocket torch could be useful, as could a pewter thermos or a kettle/coffee pot that runs from the car's cigar lighter. Even more useful could be an elegant travelling razor set smoothly plated in silver, silver soap box complete with a special hand-made soap, silver tooth brush box, and a soft leather sponge bag with a waterproof lining to keep it all tidily and elegantly together.

If he's in to real luxury, a crocodile leather belt will last him for years. A money belt will keep him safely in funds, and a wooden massager with fragrant muscle rub oil will help him relax after a very hard day. And if you must give him socks, get some hand-knitted in fine wool in his favourite colours - your local knitting shop will have the names of good home knitters. Knitwear is, oddly enough, always popular with men. Buy him a real cashmere pullover with matching scarf. Or if he is given to flashy statements occasionally, buy him an unusual and colourful waistcoat or a tunic-length jerkin to wear without a jacket. Or, if he really likes to be smart, get him a real waterproof canvas drover's coat and wide brimmed hat, and he'll really look the business.

If he's the practical sort of course, and a driver to boot, give him something special for the car. If he's a gardener, some unusual gadget, tool or a specimen tree. For the enthusiast, a year's subscription to his favourite magazine or membership for a year to an appro-

priate club or sports association, will keep him busy in his leisure hours. And always remember, men like chocolate too!

### GIFTS FOR THE WEE ONES

Gifts for youngsters these days are often age specific. If you buy toys from reputable sources they usually carry a recommendation to the targeted age group. This is only a guide but, it's worth considering since toys for older children may be dangerous for the very young. Safety of toys is also bound up in their construction, they mustn't come apart exposing small bits that can be swallowed, or sharp edges that can cut. Durability is also important however because if it only lasts five minutes, it is patently a waste of money. Cheap toys are no economy.

The perfect toy educates, amuses and encourages original thought. At Christmas this is especially important because children get bored very quickly. There is after all, only so much that can be done with a doll or a toy car. Look for gifts that give the youngster something to do. For the very young there are toys that hang over the cot and which the baby can touch and move. For the slightly older there are dolls with attached clothes that open in all sorts of ways - with Velcro, buttons, zips and other fasteners. For the yet older there are toys that make noises, books that make noises appropriate to the story within, construction toys, shaped blocks that can build into all sorts of things, and for children even older, the suitable blocks are smaller and more intricate but just as fascinating.

Kits of all sorts are worth considering. These include felt pictures to make, stencils to draw round, printing blocks, modelling clay with moulds and shaping tools, clock making outfits, electrical circuitry, and that old favourite, the paint box.

But children also like clothes, new furnishings for their rooms, their own clock, mobile phone, radio, TV, computer, games console, or cassette player - most of which come in age specific designs.

With an eye to the future, you could give a youngster music in the form of a musical instrument and a series of lessons, your local music shop will

### CHRISTMAS TREES FOR SALE

Forestry Office,  
Auchrannie Road,  
Every weekday 8th - 24th  
December  
Also Saturday 13th  
December.  
Open Midday - 4.30pm



Forestry Commission  
Scotland

### PARAGLIDING GIFT VOUCHERS



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### Arran Yesterprints

Give someone a present of their house as it was 100 years ago - From as little as £15.00

Tel No. 01770 302670

www.arranyesterprints.co.uk



Are you stuck for stocking fillers?  
Simply visit

The Boathouse  
in Brodick  
Beautiful & unusual Christmas decorations, crackers, tinsel, toys & games  
**In fact, everything you need for a FANTASTIC Christmas**

Indulge in Christmas this year at

## James' CHOCOLATE SHOP

Located in the heart of Brodick, where you can see our range of luxury chocolates and fresh cream truffles being made by our skilled staff



Everyone's Favourite Gift

Open 7 Days

Tel/Fax 01770 302873 and ask about our mail order service

# Gift Guide

be able to advise. Or, for a really vocal child, singing lessons would help develop that voice. A natural progression from this would be dancing lessons or coaching in some special sport which of course, would call for special clothes and equipment as well.

## GIFTS FOR THE NOT SO YOUNG

Buying for the no-so-young is no easier than buying for anyone else, though like the gifts for 'him', they can fall into those boring stereotypes. We buy what we imagine those older than ourselves would prefer. So they get things like slippers (boring ones at that), handkerchiefs (most people use tissues these days), sticky sweets (that get stuck in dentures), cheap booze (that gives indigestion), old-fashioned aftershave (that they never use) and toilet waters that more nearly resemble disinfectant.

Ageing in a healthy person is seldom accompanied by a similar ageing of the mind. Many elderly folk will say they think and feel much as they did in their teens, though their attitudes are coloured by the experience inevitably gathered over the years. It follows therefore, that they probably have similar tastes to their younger relatives. Gifts therefore, should be chosen accordingly, but with due thought given to some of the physical changes that may have taken place.

Give a superb bottle of wine, a delectably aged brandy or whisky with perhaps some beautiful glasses to drink it from. A mouth-watering selection of crystallized fruits and ginger, stem ginger in a beautiful porcelain jar, or a bottle of their favourite fruit deliciously preserved in brandy, could really 'make' their Christmas. Or why not give a hand-raised pork pie; game pie; smoked turkey, salmon or eel; exotic pickles; some traditionally cured ham; smoked

kippers straight from Aberdeen, the Isle of Man or Whitby; or a specially commissioned and decorated cake or pudding? A beautiful basket of fruit, a luxury wicker hamper, a dozen half bottles of Champagne, or a casket of handmade chocolates, would add the seal of pleasure on the day. They are all the traditional gifts those with long memories will cherish and enjoy.

Something a little more practical could include a shooting stick, pocket hand

warmer, cashmere scarf, sheepskin gloves or mitts (for the very arthritic). A portable electric fan for warmer days, a photo of the grandchildren in a solid silver frame or a framed pencil-sketch portrait of their favourite pet, would all give pleasure throughout the year. Pleasure and comfort would also be provided by a clock that speaks the time or which responds to the human voice. And for the really irascible, there is one on the market that shuts up when you shout at it.

Many elderly people like to read, a set of books by their favourite author would give pleasure, as would a year's subscription to their favourite magazine. For those who like to read but whose eyes are not as good as they were, how about a magnifying book scanner, or large print books? Even better, buy them a CD and player with a set of recordings of their favourite books professionally read. They can then just sit back and listen.

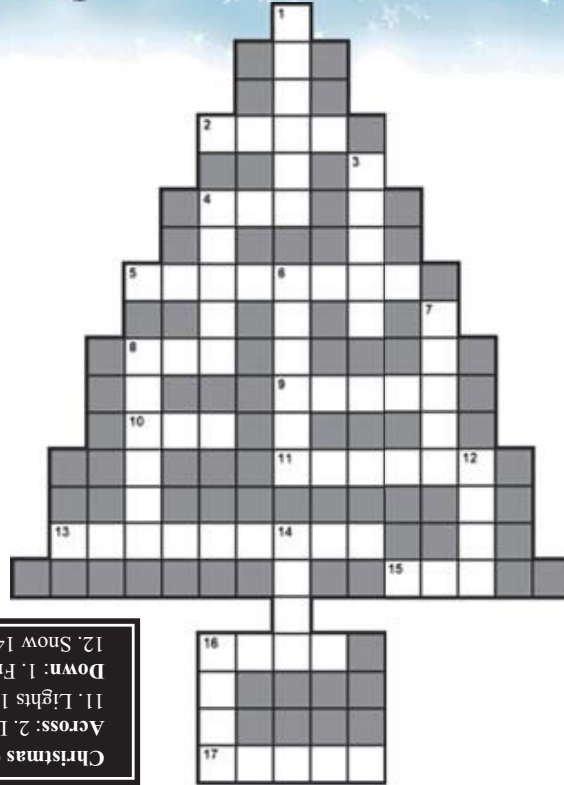
## Your Christmas Crossword

### Across

- 2 - Wishes written on paper make this.
- 4 - \_\_\_ to the world.
- 5 - The Christmas season.
- 8 - Santa will bring me a \_\_\_.
- 9 - The main Jolly Elf.
- 10 - Santa's helper.
- 11 - They twinkle and glow.
- 13 - Standing under this means a kiss.
- 15 - Wrap with paper, ribbon and a \_\_\_.
- 16 - Desire.
- 17 - Freedom from war.

### Down

- 1 - That white frozen guy.
- 3 - If you send some, you will get some.
- 4 - Full of good humor and high spirits.
- 6 - Glittering material used for decorations.
- 7 - Large, festive meal.
- 8 - Special delights or pleasures.
- 12 - Frozen flakes of it fall from the sky.
- 14 - First word of famous Christmas poem.
- 16 - What you do before giving a present.



**Christmas Crossword Solution:**  
 Across: 2. List 4. Joy 5. Yuletide 8. Toy 9. Santa 10. Elf  
 11. Lights 13. Mistletoe 15. Bow 16. Peace  
 Down: 1. Frosty 3. Cards 4. Jolly 6. Tinsel 7. Feast 8. Treats  
 12. Snow 14. T'was 16. Wrap

**Island Treasure**  
 The Balmichael Centre Tel: 860566

*Clearing for next seasons stock*

**25% off selected handbags**

*Sale jewellery cabinet*  
**40% off marked prices**

**THIS SUNDAY AT**  
**The Balmichael Centre**  
 Shiskine Tel: 860596  
**Arran Pipe Band 1pm**

**SATURDAY 13TH ARRAN CERAMICS**  
**DECORATE ONE POT AND GET ONE FREE!**  
**SALE NOW ON AT THE LEMON TREE AND ISLAND TREASURE**

<b>The Lemon Tree</b> Tel: 860201 Something for everyone	<i>Island Treasure</i> Tel: 860566 Gifts for Women
<b>MANATEE</b> Tel: 860747 Quality Gifts for Men	<b>Old Mill Coffee Shop</b> Tel: 860596 Delicious coffee & snacks
<b>Arran Ceramics</b> Tel: 860304 Paint your own Christmas presents	<b>DIPPITY DO DAMS</b> Tel: 860776 Gift Hampers Last guaranteed posting date - 17th Dec
<b>Trareoch Crafts</b> Tel: 860515 Card making & crafts	<b>Open:</b> Wed-Fri 10-4 Sat 10-5 Sun 12-5

Also try our Family Treasure Hunt throughout December

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*Quality Cuts  
 Delivered to your Door*

**Best Scottish Beef, Lamb, Chicken, Haggis & Speciality Sausages all at competitive prices.**

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 Specialist Butcher  
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**The Brodick Bar & Brasserie**

Closed Sunday's At Present  
 Bar Only open Mondays 3-6pm  
 Tuesday - Saturday  
 Lunches & Light Snacks Served from 12 - 2.30pm  
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**This December we have a little winter warmer lunch on offer - Two Course Lunch plus a glass of wine, half pint of beer or soft drink for £10.50**

Come along with a friend or neighbour for a pre Christmas treat Available Tuesday - Saturday 12 - 2.30pm  
 Pre Christmas Lunch and Dinner Menus available to pick up or call 302169 to book your table for large or small parties

Hogmany - 4 course dinner £36.00 per person - children's menu available for early sitting from 5.30pm  
 Bookings now being taken on 01770 302169

(Opposite Post Office), Brodick, Isle of Arran  
**Tel: 01770 302169**

**Christmas shopping at**  
**Old Byre Showroom, Machrie**  
 Open 7 days a week 10am-5pm

**COFFEE SHOP AT THE OLD BYRE**  
**Open 7 days**  
 serving tea, coffee, lunches and home baking.

Christmas lunch bookings being taken for parties up to 12 on any day.  
**Phone 840227**

**Fabulous NEW Autumn/ Winter Barbour range, now available in stock**  
**ALSO AT SHEEPSKIN SHOP, BRODICK Open 6 days**  
 The 1st choice for all your Christmas Shopping  
**www.oldbyre.co.uk Tel: 01770 840227**

# Arran's Social Scene

E-mail: [editor@arranbanner.co.uk](mailto:editor@arranbanner.co.uk)

Telephone: 01770 302142

Web: [www.arranbanner.co.uk](http://www.arranbanner.co.uk)To buy photos, log on to [www.arranbanner.co.uk](http://www.arranbanner.co.uk) and click on "buy a photograph" or call 01770 302142

Fiona Leslie, Natalie Muirhead, Veronica Jeffrey, and little Rhiannon Gardiner. b50soc05



Maurice Deighton encourages Vicki Talika to choose a winning ticket at the tombola. b50soc04



Maili Beatan was helping her mum Fiona on the toy stall. b50soc02

## Hospital supporters gather for annual Christmas Fayre

The Arran Hospital Supporters League held their annual Christmas Fayre in the High School on Sunday afternoon.

The league is one of Arran's most important charities as through donations and support from the public they have been able to supply Arran War Memorial Hospital in Lamlash with vital medical equipment.

Supporters of the charity flocked to the school to enjoy a warming tea or coffee after walking amongst the stalls crammed with goods.

There was bric-a-brac, toys, jewellery, a tombola and raffle.

Guess the weight of the Christmas cake helped get visitors into the Christmas spirit.

The League treasurer, Judy Waterland said that they had managed to raise just over £727.

'It wasn't as much as we have raised in previous years,' she said, 'but considering the credit crunch and the fact that there were other events on around the island on the same day as well as the brand new venue, I think we did really well. We are very grateful to all those who came along to support us.'



Raffle prizes galore with Brenda Talika. b50soc03



Assaya Baumgartner was selling her beautiful decorative jewellery. b50soc01



Betty Koral with the scrumptious Christmas cake up for grabs. b50soc06



Three sisters on the bric-a-brac stand: Sandra Hall, May MacLellan, Ena Burke. b50soc07

### SHISKINE HALL

## Hogmanay Hooley

Wed 31st Dec '08, 10pm

til 1am Thurs 1st Jan '09

Bring your own bottle/s!

Ticket £5, from Diana, 860427

-----000-----

Also The Infamous Shiskine Hall

## BURNS SUPPER

Fri 9th Jan 2009

7pm for 7.30pm start

Ticket £15 from Sheila, 860403

TICKETS LIMITED FOR BOTH  
EVENTS

**The Lighthouse Restaurant**  
Pirnmill 850240

**WINTER OPENING HOURS**  
Friday - Sunday 12pm - 8.30pm  
Open Xmas Day for Lunch  
12pm - 3pm  
New Years Day for Lunch 12 - 3pm  
Pre-Booking is essential  
Alison and Andy Pattison  
BYOB

# The Arran Banner 20 years ago

## Saturday, December 17, 1988

### Still on the menu

With all the hype going on about the danger of eating eggs, the Arran folk are unimpressed.

Well almost unimpressed because egg sales have dropped a little locally, but nothing like as much as the decrease nationally.

Sheila Dobson of Arran Dairies who brings in about 300 dozen eggs each week said: 'Our egg sales haven't dropped. Anyone I have spoken to said, ooh it's just a load of nonsense!'

Elsewhere some drop in egg sales has been noticed.

Coop manageress Claire Hyndman said they brought in about 400 dozen eggs a week.

They had not reduced their order but she had noticed two or three crates left unsold this week. 'I have noticed a drop but nothing drastic,' she said.

A number of shops around the island sell free-range eggs from local farms or Ken Vernon's Arran Fresh in Whiting Bay.

Ken said: 'All I can say is that

my flock are given only one food and I have been assured by the manufacturers that they do not use poultry carcasses or any other similar items in their food.'

**MISSING**  
One Tomcat.  
Minus one ear. Blind in left eye. Recently castrated. Answers to the name of Lucky.  
Alan Roy,  
Glencloy Cottage.

A genuine 'missing cat' notice from the Banner 20 years ago. b50twe04

### Cheap petrol!

Unleaded petrol is to come to Arran soon.

Within a few weeks it should be possible to fill up with unleaded petrol at Bannatyne Motors garage in Blackwaterfoot.

They had hoped to install it earlier, said Duncan Bannatyne, but they were waiting for the installation of a new pump and a twin compartment tank where leaded could sit side by side with unleaded.

The environmental benefits

of unleaded petrol have been well publicised but what many people do not realise is that countless cars on the road at present can run on unleaded petrol without any adjustment or modification.

### Right to reply

One garage owner has written in reply to the challenge made last week about the high price of petrol on Arran.

His letter came in on Thursday afternoon however, 20 hours after our copy deadline.

It arrived also just after page four had been printed which includes an editorial written on the basis of no response.

The garage owner's reply will be published next week.

### Folk festival

Arran is to host its own folk music festival next year.

Running for a week next June, a group of amateur musicians have got together to try and create an annual event that will put Arran on the folk music map.

The idea, explained Alistair Gold, is to have all the lo-



Heather Queen Emily Clark switches on the Lamlash Christmas lights at dusk. b50twe03

cal groups playing as well as visiting musicians plus two or three of the biggest names in the country.

### Still locked out

Pirnmill residents still do not have access to their new hall.

A position of stalemate exists as we described two weeks ago with the contractor refusing to hand over the keys until his bill has been paid.

### Microwave cooking made easy

The ladies of Kildonan WRI were given a demonstration of microwave cookery by Miss M Tod.

Miss Tod showed various uses of the microwave including Christmas pudding and meringue.

### Brodict Poultry and Pigeon Club

The club held its annual show last Friday at Brodict Village Hall.

The 1987 show was generally acknowledged as being the best in recent years, but this show was even better.

Rachel Currie of Balmichael



John Dalby is keeping his Barn Velder Hen at arms length. b50twe01

Farm, Shiskine and her pet Rouen Drake, Horatio, won the overall championship at the Chookie Show.

Soon Horatio will be lonely however because Rachel, now in her fifth year at school, is going to spend her final year in Australia under the auspices of an educational foundation for foreign exchange visits.

John Dalby won many prizes in the show but his Barn Velder hen was judged the best fowl overall.

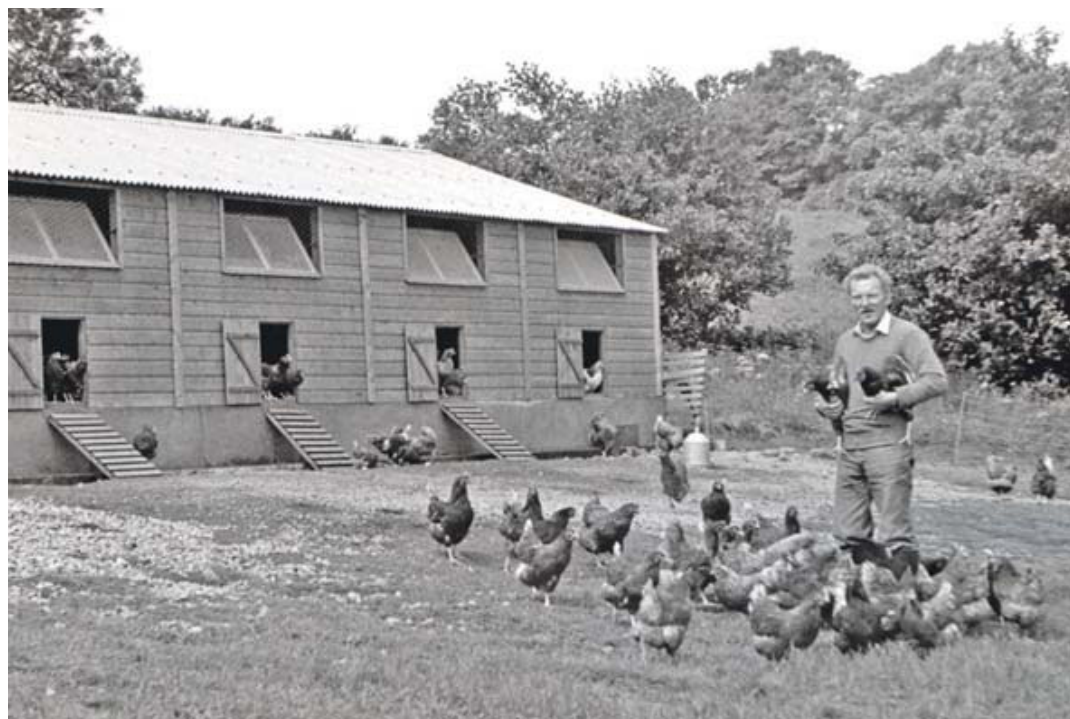
D and B Hendry's cockatiel won reserve champion in the show.

### Arran challenge

Alan Johnston from Shiskine is the first winner of the new Arran Challenge Golf trophy.

A new golf tournament, this one is unusual in that it takes place during the winter and three rounds have to be played. It is also unusual, say organisers from the Kinloch Hotel because it is played on the world's only 12-hole golf course.

Alan received the Arran Challenge Trophy from Robin Crawford and Willie Kelso got the Arran Challenge Scratch trophy from Lawrence.



Ken Vernon with his free-range happy hens at Hazelbank, Whiting Bay. b50twe02

**The Coffee Pot**  
Golf Course Rd  
Whiting Bay  
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Paintings & Prints  
by Sheila Findlay  
on display

~ Eat alfresco in our  
seafront garden ~

**Delicious Snacks & Light Meals**  
Homebaking always available

CLOSED SUNDAY & MONDAY - OPENING HOURS  
10am - 5pm. Last food orders 4pm

It pays to advertise in the  
**ARRAN BANNER**

**The Ormidale**  
Brodict 01770 302293

**HOME COOKED BAR MEALS**  
Served daily 6pm - 9pm and 12.30pm - 2pm at weekends  
Beer Garden Children Welcome

**WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK**

Sat - Over 21's Disco - 10pm (Last admittance 11pm)

Tues - Pop Music Quiz - 10pm

Thur - General Knowledge Quiz - 10pm

Real Ale (Recommended CAMRA Good Beer Guide)

**The Rowan Singers**  
Christmas Concert  
Brodict Hall  
Tuesday 16th December 2008  
8pm with Arran Brass

Tickets £6 Children £2  
(includes Tea/Coffee/ Juice and Mince Pie)  
available from Members and Book and Card Shop,  
Brodict

Profits to Arran Youth Foundation  
And Yorkhill Children's Hospital  
Scottish Charity No SCO 33994

# Arran Banner Christmas Messages 2008

**June Curtis**

To all my friends and readers of "The Banner". Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

**Margaret Green**

Would like to wish all family and friends A Very Happy Christmas and good health for 2009.

**Greetings from New Zealand**

Jessie Robb wishes all her friends and relations – both on and off the island a Happy Christmas and a Healthy and Prosperous New Year

**Peter & Jeanette Mackay**

Christmas Greetings and Best Wishes for 2009 to our friends on Arran

**Pat & David of Lamlash**

Seasons Greetings to all our friends

**Jean Shaw**

Ashlea, King's Cross  
Wishes all relatives and carers a Happy Xmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year

**Mary McSporrán**

Would like to wish all her friends and neighbours a Merry Christmas and a Happy New year

**Robert A Smith,  
Soval Lodge**

To all my good friends on Arran.  
All the best for 2009.

**Lilma Primrose  
Grahamfield, Whiting Bay**

Wishes all her friends a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

## FESTIVE DEADLINES

4pm on Tuesday 23rd December for issue dated 27th December

4pm on Tuesday 30th December for issue dated 3rd January

Please note our offices will be closed on 25th and 26th December and 1st and 2nd January

## CLADACH SAWMILL

Will be closed from 19th Dec until 4th January inclusive

*Seasons Greeting to all our friends & customers*

## LAMLASH BURNS CLUB ANNUAL SUPPER

**SATURDAY 24TH JAN 09  
@ 7.00 for 7.30**

Tickets available from  
Archie Nicol, Stewart Lambie  
Jock Kelso & Jake Kerr

## ARRAN BRASS IN CONCERT

Arran Brass Xmas Concert  
Festive Music and Carols  
Monday 15th December  
Whiting Bay Hall  
7.30pm Adults £4 Children £1  
(includes mulled wine and mince pies)

**BANNER  
LEISURE**

**BANNER  
LEISURE**

**BANNER  
LEISURE  
BANNER  
LEISURE  
BANNER  
LEISURE**



**Burgoyne Carey**  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

The partners and staff wish all our clients a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

We have been serving the business community on Arran for over 20 years and look forward to continuing this relationship in the future.

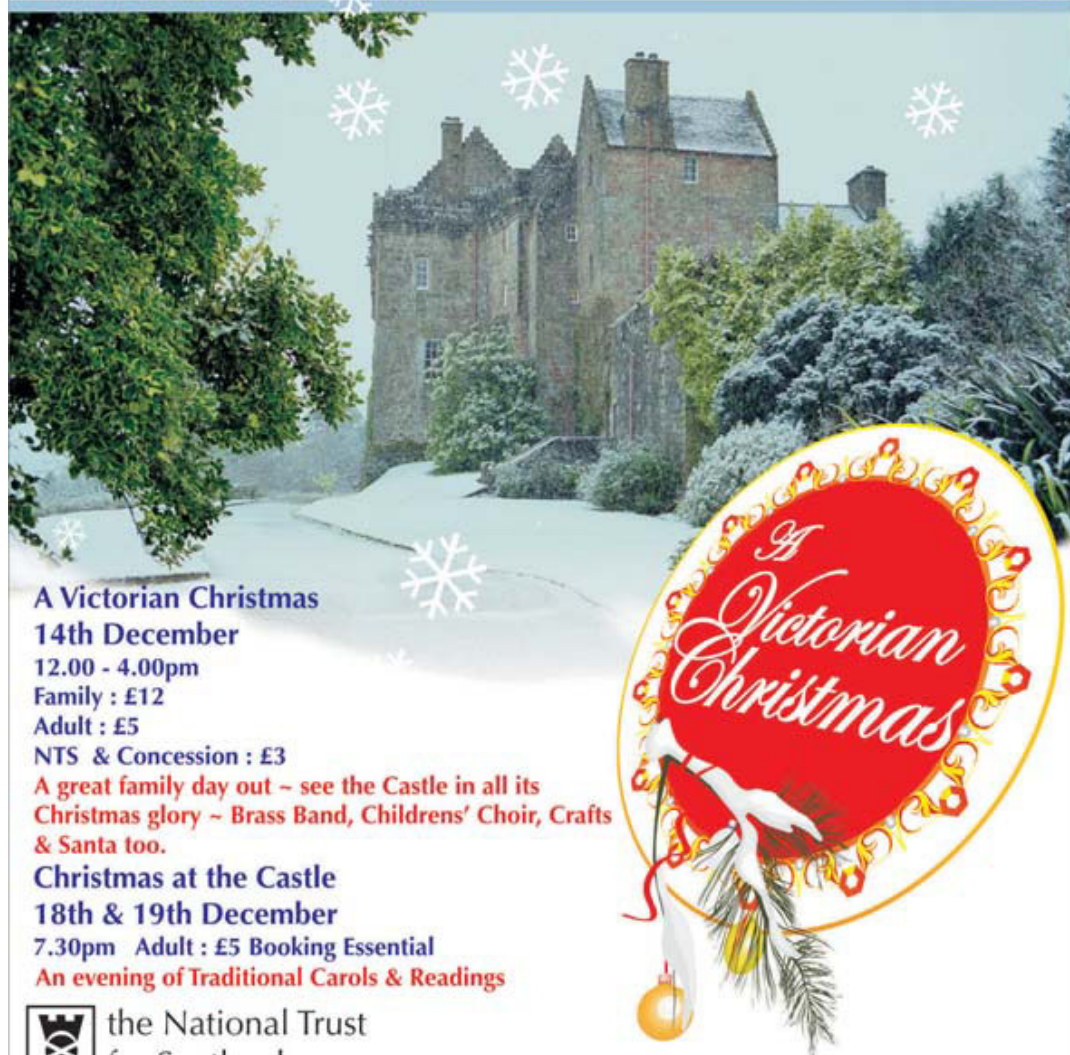
Pavilion 2, 3 Dava Street  
Glasgow  
G51 2JA

Tel: 0141 445 2244  
Fax 0141 445 2247  
Email: mail@burgoyne-carey.co.uk



## Christmas at Brodick Castle

0844 4932152 ❄️



### A Victorian Christmas

**14th December**

12.00 - 4.00pm

Family : £12

Adult : £5

NTS & Concession : £3

A great family day out – see the Castle in all its Christmas glory ~ Brass Band, Childrens' Choir, Crafts & Santa too.

### Christmas at the Castle

**18th & 19th December**

7.30pm Adult : £5 Booking Essential

An evening of Traditional Carols & Readings



the National Trust  
for Scotland

a place for Christmas

The National Trust for Scotland for Places of Historic Interest and Natural Beauty is a charity registered in Scotland. Charity Number SC 007410

For more information on events throughout Scotland, visit [www.nts.org.uk](http://www.nts.org.uk)

**BANNER****WHAT'S ON...****EVERYDAY**

**Brodick Castle Gardens & Country Park** 11am - 4pm  
**Trout fishing** Loch Garbad, Bank  
**Hawk Walks** Lamlash  
**Fitness Assesments, Gym Induction, Personal Training** Auchrannie Spa & Gym

**SATURDAY 13th DECEMBER**

**Blackwaterfoot Junior Football** Coaching, 10.30am - noon  
**Arran Dancers** Arran High School 11am - 4.15pm  
**FOLK Christmas Sale of Work** Lochranza Hall, 2pm - 4pm  
**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  
**RNLI shop Open** Lamlash Pier, 10.30am - 12.30pm  
**Fun in the Spa Pool** Auchrannie Pool, 4pm - 5pm  
**Youth Cafe for all High School Pupils** Brodick Church Hall, 7pm - 10pm  
**RNLI shop Open** Lamlash Pier, 10.30am - 12.30pm  
**Highland Dancing Lesson** Brodick Church Hall 11am - 1pm  
**Christmas Fayre** St Brides Church Hall, Brodick, 2pm  
**"Igor" Cert U** High School Theatre, 11am  
**"High School Musical" Cert U** High School Theatre, 2pm  
**Christmas Concert** Corrie Parish Church, 7pm

**SUNDAY 14th DECEMBER**

**Alcoholics Anonyous** St Margarets Church, Whiting Bay, 4.30pm  
**Family Games Kids & Adults** Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm  
**Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony** Lamlash Village from 3pm  
**Arran Pipe Band** Balmichael Visitor Centre, 1pm  
**Fun in the Spa Pool** Auchrannie Pool, 4pm - 5pm  
**Arran Fiddle Club- Childrens Classes** Library Annexe, 1.45pm  
**Arran War Games** Arran High School 1 - 4pm  
**Victorian Christmas** Brodick Castle, 12pm - 4pm

**MONDAY 15th DECEMBER**

**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  
**Core Strength** Auchrannie Gym 5.30 - 6pm  
**Circuit Training** Auchrannie Spa, 6.00 - 7.15pm  
**Citizens Advice** Open 10am - 2pm  
**Lamlash Bridge Club** Arran High School, 6.45pm  
**ABS Class** KA Leisure, fitness suite 6.30pm - 6.50pm  
**Aerobics Class** KA Leisure, dance studio, 7pm - 8pm  
**Indoor Cricket** Auchrannie Gym, 7pm - 9pm  
**Arran Brass Xmas Concert** Whiting Bay Hall, 7.30pm

**TUESDAY 16th DECEMBER**

**Senior Fitness** Auchrannie 9.30am & 10.30am  
**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  
**Rotary Club** Glencloy Suite, Auchrannie 7.15pm  
**Citizens Advice** Open 10am - 2pm 4 - 6pm (Appointment Only)  
**Pulmonary Rehab** Auchrannie Gym 12.30pm - 2pm  
**Open Music Session** Catacol Bay Hotel, 8.30pm

**Indoor Bowling**  
**Rowan Singers Christmas Concert**  
**Indoor Bowling**  
**Brodick Toddler Group**  
**Body Conditioning Class**  
**Country Dancing**  
**Shapers**

Auchrannie Hall, 7pm  
 Brodick Hall, 8pm  
 Corrie & Sannox Village Hall, 2pm - 4pm  
 Church Hall, 10am - 12pm  
 KA Leisure, dance studio 6pm - 7pm  
 Brodick Church Hall, 7.30pm  
 Auchrannie Gym 7 - 8pm

**WEDNESDAY 17th DECEMBER**

**Mixed Hockey**  
**Corrie & Sannox Wednesday Club**  
**Core Strength**  
**Jnr Rugby Training**  
**Aquafizz**  
**Circuit Training**  
**Yogalates**  
**Arran Heritage Museum Archives & Genealogy**  
**Kickboxing**  
**Alcoholics Anonymous**  
**Arran Rugby Club Seniors Training**  
**Arran Brass Rehearsal**

Auchrannie Hall, 7pm  
 Corrie Hall, 2pm  
 Auchrannie 5.30 - 6pm  
 P4 - S4 Ormidale Park, 6pm- 7.15pm  
 Auchrannie Hotel, 9.45am - 10.30am  
 Auchrannie, 6pm  
 Auchrannie Studio, 10am - 11am  
 10.30 - 12.30pm & 1.30 - 3.30pm  
 KA Leisure, dance studio, 6pm - 7pm  
 Lamlash Church Hall - 7.30pm- 9pm  
 Ormidale Park, 7.30pm  
 Whiting Bay Hall 7.15pm

**THURSDAY 18th DECEMBER**

**Senior Fitness**  
**Senior Aerobics**  
**Citizens Advice**  
**Badminton**  
**Lochranza Craft Club**  
**Outdoor Run**  
**Pilates**  
**Aerobics**  
**Coffee Morning**  
**Arran Music & Drama Club Rehearsal**  
**Cardiac Rehab**  
**Table Tennis**  
**KA Jog**  
**Legs, Bums & Tums Class**  
**Arran Junior Singers Practise**  
**Shiskine Cubs**  
**Scouts**  
**Embroidery Group**  
**Lamlash Cubs**  
**Junior Scottish Country Dancing**  
**Brodick Toddler Group**  
**Brodick Bridge Club**  
**Indoor Bowling**  
**Outdoor Boot Camp**  
**Christmas at the Castle - Traditional Carols & Readings**  
**Arran High School Christmas Concert, Lamlash**

Auchrannie 10.450am - 11.45am  
 Auchrannie 9.30 - 10.30am  
 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  
 Brodick Hall, 7.30pm  
 Auchrannie Gym 12.30pm - 2pm  
 Kildonan Hall, 3pm - 5pm  
 KA Leisure, front reception 5.30pm  
 KA Leisure, gameshall, 6.30pm - 7.15pm  
 Whiting Bay School 6.45pm  
 Shiskine Hall, 6.30pm - 8pm  
 Shiskine Hall 8pm - 9.30pm  
 Brodick Library, 7.30pm - 9.30pm  
 Arran High School, 6.15pm - 8pm  
 Lamlash Church Hall, 6pm - 7pm  
 Church Hall, 10am - 12pm  
 Ormidale Sports Pavilion, 7.15pm  
 Auchrannie Hall 7pm  
 Ormidale Park 7pm  
 7.30pm  
 7.00pm

**FRIDAY 19th DECEMBER**

**Arran Pipe Band Practice**  
**Lochranza & Catacol Coffee Morning**  
**Aquafizz**  
**Citizens Advice**  
**Circuit Training**  
**Arran Ceilidh Dancers**

Brodick Hall, 7.30pm  
 10am - 12pm  
 Auchrannie Pool, 9.45am  
 Open 10am - 2pm  
 Auchrannie, 6pm - 7.15pm  
 Lamlash Church Hall, 8pm

**To appear in Whats On telephone the  
 Arran Banner 01770 302142**



# RECRUITMENT

Chest, Heart & Stroke Scotland  
Community Services Department  
**REGIONAL MANAGER  
SOUTH WEST**

20 hours  
Salary: £26,441 - £32,776 pa pro rata  
(CHSS full time 32.5 hours per week)

Chest, Heart and Stroke Scotland aims to improve the quality of life for people affected by chest, heart and stroke illness. The Community Services Department provides services designed to improve and maintain communication skills, reduce social isolation, rebuild confidence and improve the quality of life for people who have had a stroke with particular emphasis on supporting people who have communication difficulties.

We are seeking an enthusiastic and committed Regional Manager for the Community Services Department South West Region (Dumfries and Galloway, Ayrshire and Arran). The Department operates the Volunteer Stroke Service and provides support to local stroke clubs affiliated to CHSS. The main function of the post is to maintain, monitor and evaluate the current service provision and develop new services. The successful candidate will have experience of staff management, service development, knowledge of the impact of stroke illness, and a good understanding of voluntary and statutory services.

A commitment to a person centred approach to rehabilitation, the ability to recruit and motivate a team of staff, excellent communication, interpersonal and management skills will be required to fulfil this demanding role.

This post is home-based, but requires a significant amount of travel within the region and, as part of the management team, throughout Scotland.

Post is subject to Enhanced Disclosure.

For further details and application pack, please contact:  
Kay McGregor, Chest, Heart & Stroke Scotland,  
65 North Castle Street, Edinburgh EH2 3LT.  
Email: kay.mcgregor@chss.org.uk

Closing date for applications: 5th January 2009 (Please note office closed from 24th December 2008 - 5th January 2009, applications at this time can be downloaded from our website).

CHSS aims to be an equal opportunity employer.

Chest, Heart and Stroke Scotland and CHSS are operating names of the Chest, Heart and Stroke Association Scotland, a registered Scottish charity No. SC018761.



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**Fixed Price £180,000**



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- Brodick**  
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**Arran Transport** - Pier Building, Brodick  
**The Harbour Shop** - Blackwaterfoot  
**Bilslands** - Brodick  
**Ocean Breeze** - Kildonan  
**Book and Card Centre** - Brodick  
**Pirnmill General Store** - Pirnmill  
**Post Office** - Brodick

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# BANNER

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Excellent condition.

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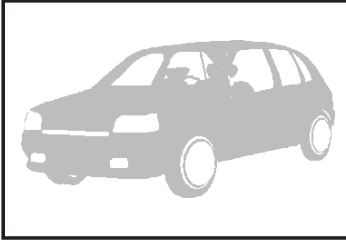
### VOLVO V40 1.8

52 Reg, 67,000 miles, leather interior,  
heated seats, towbar, met green.

Telephone:  
01586 553180

**£4,200 o.n.o.**

### PEUGEOT 206 1.1



51 Reg, Insurance group 9,  
sports body kit, silver.

Telephone:  
01586 553180

**£2,100 o.n.o.**

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Super 1995, 35 x 12, Good condition  
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DRIVE TIMES  
BANNER  
DRIVE TIMES**

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for under £20

# PUBLIC NOTICES

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

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

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

\*and at The Council Offices, Lamslash

## 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/08/00915/PP Address: The Surgery, Whiting Bay, Brodick, Isle Of Arran KA27 8PX Proposed Development: Change of use and alterations of former doctors surgery to form one and a half storey detached dwelling house

Ian Snodgrass  
Chief Executive  
Cunninghame House  
IRVINE KA12 8EE



## Arran Access Trust AGM

Wednesday  
17 December  
Ormidale Pavilion,  
Brodick  
7.30pm  
Guest Speaker Luke Borwick  
North Ayrshire Council - Access  
Forum  
All welcome

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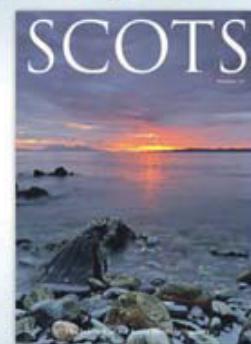


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**MATTRESSES** x 2 single. Tel 302356

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Mobile 07901592922

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CITB REG. NO. 03187178/1  
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BRODICK  
01770 302142


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Name.....

Address.....

Tel.....

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Open every morning (except Sunday)  
Contact Lucie 01770 303746  
The Douglas Centre, Brodict

**MEMORIUMS**

**NANCY COOPER**

Died 17 December 2007  
Miss you Mum  
With love from Isla, Lorna, Willie, Andy and all the family.

**BIRTHS**



**MCNICOL**

To Vicky and Calum, a son born on St Andrews Day.  
Innes Anderson Coles McNicol.  
A welcome brother for Harris



**SCREAIGH**

Paul & Lesley (nee Craig) are delighted to announce the birth of their son Cameron John on Wednesday 26th November 2008 at King Edward Memorial Hospital, Perth, Western Australia. A wee brother for Kirsty.

**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 14 December**  
Brodick Church 10.30am  
Corrie Church 12pm  
Lochranza 10.15am.  
Shiskine 12pm.

A service of Worship will also be held in Montrose House at 1.30pm.

**ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

**Sunday 14 December**  
(Church is on the road between Machrie & Blackwaterfoot)  
Shiskine 11am  
Brodick 7pm (Church is behind Post Office)  
Sunday School meets in the Church Hall  
Mr William Meney  
All welcome

**HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Sunday Morning Mass 11am  
Mass in Polish 4.30pm

**WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH**

**Sunday 14 November**  
Worship for Advent will be conducted by the minister Rev Elizabeth Watson, at 10.30am. Tea and coffee will be served in the Transept after the service. The Christmas Tree and Church will be decorated at 10am on Saturday 13th December. All welcome to help

**SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

(in full communion with the Church of England)

St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.  
**Sunday 14 December**  
Holy Communion, 11.00 am.  
Dr Hector Soga. Dollar.  
Coffee after service.  
**Wednesday, 17 December**  
Holy Communion, 12.15 pm.  
All Welcome.

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

Kilmory linked with Lamlash  
"A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"  
**Sunday 14 December**  
Rev. Gillean Maclean  
Kilmory 10am  
Lamlash 11.30am  
All welcome

**ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND (continuing)**

**Sunday 14 December**  
11am  
Trust Housing Lounge  
Glen Estate, Brodick  
Evening Service  
5 Glen Road, 7pm  
Prayer Meeting  
Wednesday 17 December, 7pm  
Rev D Macleod

**ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH**

Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick.  
**Sunday 14 December**  
10.45 Communion  
Tea and coffee from 11.10  
11.30 'Worship and Word'  
Speaker: Willie Wright  
Everyone welcome.

**RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)**

Meeting for Worship  
**Sunday, 14 December**  
Balmicheal Bridge Cottage,  
Shiskine, 11.15am  
Enquiries to Jeny 302779.  
All are welcome.

**To Stephen  
Happy  
18th Birthday  
Love from  
Mum and  
Margaret**

**Whiting Bay Golf Club**

Snow and ice on the greens caused the cancellation of last Sunday's Winter League competition.

This has meant a change to the fixtures for the rest of December.  
**Fixtures:** Sunday December 14, Winter League at Whiting Bay.

First match tees off at 10am. Sunday December 21, friendly match with Lamlash at Whiting Bay Golf Club. Tee offs from 10.30am - 11am.

**Brodick Golf Club**

Sunday December 7, Sweep. No play possible in the morning due to frost, but 13 enjoyed fine winter playing conditions in the afternoon.

Three winter greens, so it is a non-counter. 1 T Raeside 74 (8) 66, 2 J Armit 73 (5) 68 BIH, 3 T Cotton 85 (17) 68. Scratch J Armit 73.

There was only one magic two - Sam McCalla being the lucky one.

**Fixtures:** Next Sunday December 14, Brandon and Winter Cup, open draw at 9am and 12pm.

**Arran Golfers Association**

Winter League 2008 / 2009 (rescheduled date).

Winter League at Whiting Bay Golf Club which should have been played on Sunday was as predicted cancelled due to frozen greens, it will now be played this Sunday (December 14). Draw and tee times are as they were, 10am, 10.50am and 11.40am.

Whiting Bay v Machrie Bay, Brodick v Corrie, Lamlash v Shiskine.

**Arran Ladies Golfers Union**

The postponed ALGU Drumadon Competition over Machrie Bay golf course was played on November 8.

Twenty-one ladies played in reasonably good conditions and the shotgun format seemed to be popular.

The competition was won by Viv Parks with a net 68, closely followed by Jenni Turnbull on



70. The scratch was won by Sheena Murchie on 89.

Their grateful thanks are extended to Machrie Bay Golf Club for the courtesy of the course and to Hilary McMaster for the delicious soup and sandwiches.

The second Drumadon of the winter season was over Shiskine Golf Club on the November 29, the day of the snow!

The first players to arrive were from the west side of the island and they began their rounds without knowing that the east side residents were confined to their own villages as the roads had been closed! As a result only 15 people played.

Once again we are grateful to Shiskine Golf Club and to Margot Bannatyne who came to the clubhouse to provide the catering for us.

The winner was Susan Kidston with a 72. Second was Leslie Murray with 73 on a BIH. The scratch was won by Fiona Crawford on 84.

**Machrie Bay Golf Club**

Tuesday December 2, Winter Cup played from the yellow tees. 1 Marc Blair 64, 2 David Price 66, 3 Brian Sherwood 69. Scratch Marc Blair and David Price 74. Magic two's from Mark MacDonald. Saturday December 6, Lochranza Hotel Cup and Freebie Final. 1 David Wilkinson 36 pts, 2 David Price 35 pts, 3 Marc Blair 34 pts. Scratch David Price and Brian Sherwood 79. Magic

two's from Drew Crawford.

**Fixtures:** Tuesday December 16, Lochranza Hotel Cup 12pm tee off. Tuesday December 23 Winter Cup 12pm tee off. Tuesday December 30, two club Competition 1pm tee off (Please not the change of date).

**Shiskine Golf Club**

Thursday December 4, Ladies 12 hole Medal. 1 Elizabeth Kelso 56-11=45, 2 Jenni Turnbull 59-12=47, 3 Elizabeth Ross 58-10=48. Best scratch Elizabeth Kelso 56.

Saturday December 6, 12 hole Medal and Winter Cup. First class: 1 S Black 45-4=41, 2 W Kelso 51-4=47BIH, 3 B Sherwood 52-5=47. Second class: 1 J Dale 59-16=43, 2 G Martlew 58-8=50, 3 D Urquart Dixon 63-9=54. Best Scratch S Black 45.

2008 winner of Kilbrannan Cup Fiona Crawford, 2008 winner of Corriecravie Shield Viv Parks.

**Fixtures:** Thursday December 11, Ladies 18 hole Medal. Saturday December 13, 18 hole Medal. Friday December 26, Boxing Day Texas Scramble. Wednesday December 31 Mahogany Trophy.

**Corrie Golf Club**

Saturday December 6, Winter Cup. 1 C Pattenden 72-11=61, 2 E McKinnon 63-1=62, 3 E I Cannon 80-17=63. December 8, Monday Cup. 1 B Barr 68-15=53, 2 D Crawford 70-14=56, 3 D Price 65-7=58.

**Fixtures:** Saturday December 13, Winter Cup, tee-off at 12pm. Monday December 15, Monday Cup, tee-off at 12pm.

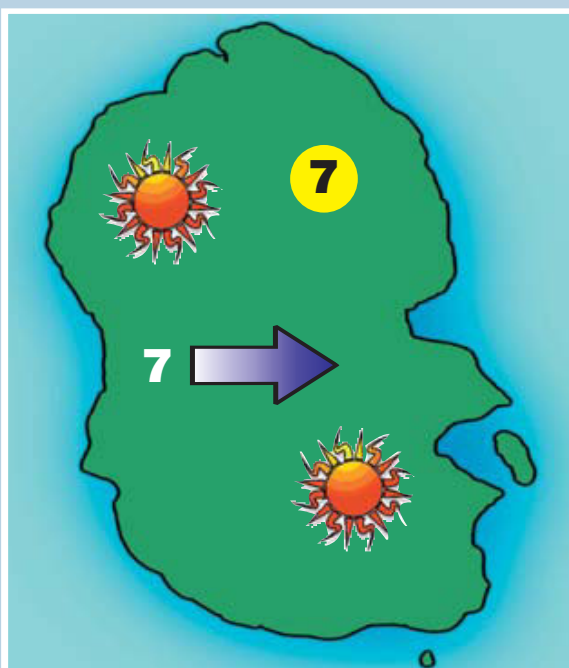
**Tides**

Tide tables for Lamlash during the week from **Saturday, December 13 2008** are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am			pm			
Sat	0526	0.3	1205	3.3	1750	0.2	**** **
Sun	0046	3.2	0616	0.3	1248	3.4	1837 0.2
Mon	0136	3.2	0705	0.4	1332	3.5	1925 0.2
Tues	0226	3.1	0754	0.4	1416	3.5	2015 0.2
Wed	0315	3.1	0843	0.5	1500	3.5	2105 0.3
Thur	0404	3.0	0933	0.6	1545	3.4	2159 0.4
Fri	0453	2.8	1025	0.7	1634	3.2	2256 0.5

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

Blackwaterfoot	<b>+0.25</b>	Machrie	<b>+0.25</b>
Corrie	<b>+0.20</b>	Lochranza	<b>+0.15</b>
Whiting Bay	<b>-0.02</b>	Brodick Bay	<b>+0.25</b>
Kildonan	<b>-0.05</b>		



**Saturday, December 13**

**Weather**

**Saturday, December 13**

Mainly dry and sunny, temperature high of 7°C getting colder at night with temperatures as low as 1°C.

**Sunday, December 14**

Wet and cold with temperatures of 4°C getting colder at night with temperatures as low as -2°C.

**Monday and Tuesday**

Mainly dry and sunny, temperature high of 7°C

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

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# Sport

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# Revenge is sweet for rugby boys

**Isle of Arran 13 Paisley 10**  
For the players on the Ormidale Park on Saturday there was clearly the sweet taste of revenge in their mouths as Arran's senior rugby team became the first side this season to defeat the seemingly unstoppable Paisley squad. Arran lost to Paisley in the first game of the season by just one point and it was clear on Saturday that the island team wanted revenge. Since September Paisley had been leading the second division without conceding a game but that all came to an end on Saturday. From the very beginning of the match Arran threw themselves into the game with real vigour.

Arran's youngest player Kyle Barbour clearly impressed the large crowd when he snaked his way past the Paisley front row to make serious ground for Arran. After 10 minutes of increased pressure on the Paisley line, Frazer Barr slotted home a penalty for Arran when the away team were penalised in the ruck. 3-0 Paisley were struggling to keep a hold of the ball as Arran continually turned the ball over from the scrum. Mark Wetton used his strength to power down the line but a pass to Murray Picken didn't find its target and Arran lost the ball just yards from the line. The first half was punctuated

by scrums on the five-yard line but Arran couldn't get the distance. Frazer Barr struggled with a second penalty leaving Arran just three points ahead. Suddenly Arran seemed to get a burst of energy as Niall McMaster crossed the line. Sadly for the fans Kyle Barbour was taken off just before half time with a broken collar bone but Arran were 8-0 ahead. Within minutes of the second half Paisley slotted through a penalty to give them their first three points of the match. A try five minutes later meant Arran were now drawn 8-8 with the visitors. Fans were hoping that a missed conversion would be



Paisley failed to make any ground against Arran on Saturday despite being the league leaders. b50rug01

a saving grace but Paisley's number 12 found his target. Paisley were in the lead. Kal Masia, one of Arran's top players was yellow carded in the 70<sup>th</sup> minute for supposedly taking out a player after he had offloaded the ball. But Paisley failed to capitalise on Arran's deficit and the fans went wild as Sam Casey

used the opportunity to score a second try for the home team. A missed conversion left the score 13-10 minutes before the end. In a contentious decision Paisley were awarded another penalty. The crowd held their breath as the visitors took the kick but he missed and Arran were given a reprieve.

As the final whistle sounded Arran were clearly shocked to realise they had just beaten the best team in the league. The Arran Banner's man of the match was Niall McMaster. This weekend Arran play their final league fixture before Christmas away to Carrick RFC.

# Whiting Bay bowling champions named

The champions of Whiting Bay Bowling Club were presented with their trophies at a special dinner in the Bar Eden on Friday night. More than 30 bowlers gathered in the restaurant to enjoy a festive end to a busy bowl-

ing season. The 2008 Ladies Singles champion was Grace Michael and the Neil Pringle took the Gents Singles prize. Husband and wife, Neil and Murette Pringle won the Ladies and Gents Federation championship and the 15 best

score trophy was won by Keith Irving. Sid Allen and Alex Williamson received the Kiscadale Pairs Trophy and Grace Michal and Ian Davidson took this year's Two Bowl Pairs award.

Johnny McGovern and Angus Cook, who also took the Drawn Pairs trophy with his partner Cathie Steed, won the Pairs Competition. The winning team of Cathie Steed, Sandy Kerr and Sid Allen were presented with the Triples Trophy and the Coop Salver was given to Sid Allen and Ian Davidson. Neil Pringle, Peter McKenzie, Murette Pringle and Don Rudge were the 2008 winners of the Fun Week Shield. The Shurig trophy this year went to Anita Hobbs, David Bland, Angus Cook and Johnny McGovern. Finally Grace Michael, Johnny McGovern and Ian Davidson won the 50th anniversary competition. Congratulations to all the winners.



The champions of Whiting Bay Bowling Club were presented with their trophies on Friday night. b50bow01

# Six of the best for Bar Eden in pool league

There was more good news this week for the pool team from the Bar Eden as they won their sixth game of the season against Catacol. The team from Whiting Bay have yet to lose a game in this year's pool league and they have a comfortable five point lead over second place Drift Out who were defeated by the PHT. Corrie have crept up the table to third place after defeating PT1934 in Kilmory and the Cameronia defeated Kildonan to retain their spot in fifth place. Arran pool league fixtures for Thursday December 18 are as follows: Cameronia v Drift Out, PT1934 v PHT, Kildonan v Bar Eden and Catacol v Corrie (rearranged venue).

**SPORTSDESK**  
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