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Arran's Weekly Newspaper

SATURDAY, 19 DECEMBER, 2009

No 1731 52p

Chips with everything

£250,000 wood burning boiler will heat Kinloch Hotel

The Kinloch Hotel has taken a major step forward by installing a large-scale renewable energy heating system.

An innovative £250,000 woodchip-burning boiler arrived on Arran on Wednesday and was carefully transported to Blackwaterfoot. The 400kw heating station, looking something like a luxury henhouse, has a boiler room and fuel store with hydraulic roof and comes from Finland.

Duncan Mulholland of Arran Wood Fuels will be supplying about 100 tonnes of woodchips a year from Arran timber to feed the boiler. He said: 'The boiler was transported from Glasgow by road to Tarbert.

'We found that it would not fit onto the Caledonian Isles ramp at Ardrossan so had to arrange for it to come around by road then squeeze onto MV Loch Tarbert. I must thank all the CalMac staff for their help.'

Robert McNeice, project manager at the hotel, said: 'It will replace six existing oil boilers for all space heating, hot water and the swimming pool.

'The heating station will be installed by Highland Wood Energy of Fort William, with the help of local plumber Wil-

Report by
 HOWARD DRIVER

liam Bennet. We are keeping the oil boilers as back-up.'

Part of the cost was met by a Scottish Biomass Heat Scheme grant with funding coming from Forestry Commission Scotland and the European Regional Development Fund.

When the ferry arrived at Lochranza on Wednesday the low loader carrying the boiler tried several times unsuccessfully to drive off but kept fouling part of the boat's superstructure.

Crew reversed MV Loch Tarbert out into the bay and turned around. With a lot of difficulty and after several attempts, the driver managed to reverse off the boat and up the ramp. With a police escort he then started the slow journey through Catacol and Pirmill to Blackwaterfoot.

Hotel owner Robbie Crawford said: 'We couldn't have done this without the grant assistance. The new boiler should be up and running by mid January and starting to give us massive savings with a projected six-year payback.'

Gary Kennedy, project manager of Highland Wood Energy, said: 'Its very exciting to have this as our first big scheme on Arran. There are



Duncan Mulholland, left, watches the low loader driver and ferry crew assess how they will manage to get the wood burner off the car deck. 02_b51fir01

a couple of other businesses interested to see how it goes. Modern woodchip boilers are fully automated and this one will be remotely monitored by the internet or text message.'

Energy Minister Jim Mather said: 'We have the forestry resource and the skills and there is a huge opportunity for Scottish businesses to use more biomass heating, especially in areas not connected to the gas grid.'

Robert McNeice said: 'The Crawfords have a long tradition of forward thinking and have been ahead of their time including being the first hotel on the island to install central

heating and double glazing. 'Solar panels were installed in the early 1970s along with a heat exchanger to heat what was only the third hotel swimming pool in Scotland.

'By using Arran timber to heat the hotel we will be helping the environment and helping to sustain another island business.'

Escort police officer Alex Ulivi watches as Duncan Mulholland explains to the low loader driver the difficulty of the switch-back road at Catacol.

02_b51fir02



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Police files

Drinking in public

A 16-year-old Whiting Bay teenager has been issued with an anti-social behaviour order (ASBO) £40 fine for drinking in public on Shore Road in Lamlash last Friday night. A 19-year-old Lamlash man was also given an ASBO £40 fine for a breach of the peace in the early hours of last Saturday morning.

Car accident

Two cars collided on the A841 outside the entrance to the Douglas Hotel in Brodick just after 9am last Friday morning. An 82-year-old man from Brodick has been reported to the procurator fiscal for driving without due care and attention.

Stolen car

A car was stolen from the car park outside Arran Transport in Brodick between 7pm last Friday night and 9am on Sunday morning. Police are appealing for witnesses who may have seen anything suspicious.

Car fire

Police are investigating an attempt to set fire to a car at St Mollo's Church in Shiskine last Saturday night. Please contact the police if you have any information regarding this incident.

Used mobile while driving

A 26-year-old woman from County Down in Northern Ireland has had three points put on her licence for driving while using her mobile phone in Brodick last Friday afternoon.

Brace yourself for dook

The annual Boxing Day Dook will take place at Lamlash Pier on Saturday December 26 at 2pm. Wet suits are permitted and there will be prizes for the swimmers in the best fancy dress outfits. To warm everyone up afterwards there will be hot showers, spare shorts, t-shirts and towels for visitors and soup, mulled wine and warm Christmas pies. Children are welcome to take part as long as an adult accompanies them. Entry costs £5 and all money raised will be donated to the RNLI.



Bernie Jackson with grandchildren Ryan, Rhys, Abbie and Sahra, and Jodie and Alyssa McGarrie. 02_b51ber01

Added glow each Christmas

Number 16 Montrose Terrace is once again aglow with the spirit of Christmas.

For the 17th consecutive year Bernie Jackson has adorned the outside of his house with a bright array of festive lights. Every year he finds something new to add to the glittering collection and this year he has a number of motorised displays supplied by a specialist electrical dealer in Lancashire.

Admire

He said: 'I try and get new lights each year. They are turned on from about 4pm to 10pm and people come by specially to stop and admire them. I'm happy that they seem to give pleasure to youngsters.'

He places a collection box at his front gate to raise money for local charities and this year he is collecting for new equipment for Whiting Bay junior badminton club.

Ainsley could be hair apprentice of the year



Ainsley Boal.

A 20-year-old girl from Brodick has been named as one of Britain's best young hairdressers after she was nominated for a special award.

Ainsley Boal, who has been working with Saks Hairdressers in Glasgow for a year and a half, has been nominated for the company's Apprentice Award 2010.

She is Scotland's only representative in the competition, which sees her up against two apprentices from England.

'It feels great to get through to the final,' said Ainsley. 'It was a big shock because the other apprentices were fantastic. I was the only Saks apprentice in Level two that got through in Scotland so I'm really chuffed.'

The winner, which will be announced in January, will be flown to a special photo shoot in Marrakech, Morocco with the Saks arts team.

After leaving Arran High School, Ainsley went straight into employment with Saks.

She said: 'I'm still training on my NVQ level two. I've qualified in my colouring and have just got a few cuts to do before I fully qualify.'

'After this I'm going straight on to do my Level three, which is basically just a higher, more advanced level of hairdressing.'

We wish Ainsley lots of luck in the competition and look forward to hearing how she gets on in the New Year.

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Abbie Jackson, young naturalist of the year, with runner-up Ross Kerr. 01_b51nat02

Abbie is best young gnat

Abbie Jackson from Brodick was presented with the young naturalist of the year award at Brodick Castle Ranger Centre on Saturday.

Along with runner up Ross Kerr, Abbie had to show good naturalist skills throughout the year and a keen interest in outdoors and nature.

Head ranger Kate Sampson said: 'The Young Gnat Club meet once a month and we

have on average 12 kids, between the ages of 6 and 11. Every year we award the cup to the best young naturalist of that year. It's always hard making the decision as a lot of the members are keen to get out there and learn more.'

Apart from learning about specific topics, like birds or archaeology, they also do some practical conservation.

'The award is given for enthusiasm, team work and development of natural history knowledge and skills throughout the year,' said Kate.

'Abbie has attended nearly every meeting and has shown great interest in nature and has also helped others develop their skills and interests. She thoroughly deserves this year's title.'

Coastal group merges with Access Trust

At the extraordinary general meeting of the Arran Coastal Way Support Group in October 2009 it was decided to wind up the activities of this group and merge its interests

with the Arran Access Trust. In accordance with the constitution of the Arran Coastal Way Support Group all money belonging to this group on ceasing activity must be given

to a like-minded organisation. Accordingly, all the funds of the Arran Coastal Way Support Group are being transferred to the Arran Access Trust.

Union concerns at council cuts

North Ayrshire UNISON branch union leaders have reacted with mounting concern to the council's letter to the workforce about proposed job losses to combat budget cuts.

Union chairman Colin Turbett said: 'We know that this council is amongst many who face grave problems as a result

of the banking crisis. While we welcome the emphasis NAC is giving to their duty to address the fact that we have Scotland's worst unemployment, it is also of little comfort to our members to know that they may be added to these figures.

'We are also concerned that they may try and save money

by outsourcing or even privatising essential council services. They need not accept that we will simply roll over and accept all this as we know from experience that putting jobs out of the council results in poorer services for the public and poorer conditions for our members.'

Tourism tax hike could devastate Arran's economy

Owners of furnished holiday properties on Arran will see their tax relief slashed next year, as part of Chancellor Alistair Darling's Budget for the 2009/2010 tax year.

The Government is to abolish Furnished Holiday Let (FHL) relief from April next year, but many are concerned that the decision will have a serious impact on Arran's tourism.

Holiday lets will be treated as a property business similar to buy-to-let portfolios, bringing to an end what was a tax-friendly earner for many island residents, although the original idea was to aid rural communities like Arran.

Local SNP Westminster candidate, Councillor Patricia Gibson, said: 'This change was buried away in the small print of the last budget and could have a devastating effect on many small Arran businesses.

'It's implementation will mean that many people will be unable to let properties, leading to an increase in the number of second homes.

'Holiday lets bring tourists to Arran and spending on other local businesses, creating direct employment and providing an income to property owners. Sadly this hasn't registered with the Treasury.'

On Arran, 206 self-catering properties contribute £3.55 million directly and £4.6 million indirectly to the island economy, providing 80 direct and 110 indirect jobs in island restaurants, attractions, pubs and shops and through maintenance and cleaning work and transport.

While some properties will be sold to islanders, there are concerns that the majority will become second homes and revenue spent in the Arran economy will decline significantly.

Statistically second homeowners spend less on local attractions and facilities than tourists.

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Christmas cake decoration at Shiskine SWRI

At the meeting in Shiskine Hall on Wednesday 2 December of Shiskine WRI, the members were treated to a demonstration by Jerry Arthur on how to decorate Christmas Cakes, of all shapes and sizes, simply, effectively and relatively easily, at least Jerry made it appear so!

There were small round and square cakes, one of which was decorated with marzipan and marzipan shapes, and then caramelised with a very nifty kitchen blowtorch. Another six-inch round cake was decorated with a mixture of nuts and finished with a ribbon.

Jerry also demonstrated how to feed the cake using a hypodermic syringe as an alternative to the skewer.

They were then shown how to decorate an oblong cake with marzipan and Regal icing.

As Jerry said, the small cakes make a particularly lovely gift, and she had some very attractive packaging to put them in.

The ladies all enjoyed the demonstration very much and Alice Anderson gave a vote of thanks.

The competition winners were: Jenny Harper came in first place for the best wrapped Christmas parcel and Marilyn Woods was second. The members then bought the parcels and the proceeds will go to CHAS.

Liz Dale came first in the favourite Christmas decoration competition and Marilyn Woods was second.

Elizabeth Kelso won the raffle with Kate Henderson second.

CalMac summer timetable open for bookings

The ferry operator Caledonian MacBrayne has announced that its summer timetable, which comes into affect on Friday March 26 next year, is now open for telephone and online bookings.

Alasdair Henderson, commercial manager for the company, said: 'We enjoyed a busy year on all of our routes last summer, with many sailings fully booked. 'Therefore, we would encourage anyone planning to travel with us during summer 2010 to book as early as possible to avoid disappointment.'

Copies of CalMac's summer timetables are now available from ports, offices and ships.

Stay safe this Christmas

Ten safety tips from Strathclyde Police



Sergeant Bob MacKay wants Arran's residents to stay safe and have a merry Christmas.

b51bob01

'Have fun, stay safe' – this is the message from the local police as they launched their annual festive safety campaign.

As the Christmas party season gets into full swing, everyone is reminded to be vigilant, to look after themselves and their property, and not to drink and drive.

'We want to reach as many people as possible to make sure that they have a good time over Christmas and New Year, and enjoy the whole festive experience,' said Sergeant Bob MacKay.

Ten safety tips issued by the police are:

1. Don't leave drinks unattended – even if just nipping to the loo.
2. Stick with friends right through until the party ends, don't wander off alone.
3. Be prepared – plan ahead, know how you're getting home and remember to keep enough cash for your journey.

4. Try and pre-book a taxi or arrange a lift home and don't get into cars with strangers.

5. Make sure your mobile phone is charged and has credit- keep it safe and don't leave it unattended.

6. Have your keys ready when approaching your car or house.

7. Think about the next morning, are you safe to drive. If you wake up bleary eyed, think what have you had to drink.

8. Don't leave bags unattended when in restaurants and bars – always keep them where they can be seen.

9. Keep valuables in your car hidden and remember to lock the doors.

10. Keep all cash cards and pins safe and when using the cash machine look after all your cards.

Keep all of these points in mind and have a safe and very merry Christmas!

Red Cross Christmas quiz answers

The answers were as follows: 1 Jelly Babies, 2 Smarties, 3 Quality Street, 4 Mars, 5 Bounty, 6 After Eight, 7 All Gold, 8 Dolly Mixtures, 9 Milkyway, 10 Minstrels, 11 Black Magic, 12 Celebrations, 13 Barley Sugar, 14 Edinburgh Rock, 15 M & Ms, 16 Weekend, 17 Topic, 18 Marathon, 19 Walnut Whip, 20 Double Decker, 21 Revels, 22 Sugar Mice, 23 Russian Toffee, 24 Heroes, 25 Humbug, 26 Polo, 27 Matchmaker, 28 All Sorts, 29 Roses and 30 Mingles.

Thanks to all who entered. Of the eleven correct entries, the winner drawn was Mrs Isabel Rankin of Pirmill.

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Editorial

Tuesday 29th 12pm

Brodick Health Centre Lamlash Medical Centre Shiskine Surgery

FESTIVE SEASON HOURS

The island practices will be closed on
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Please also note that Baby Clinics will be held on the following dates:

Brodick Health Centre
Baby Clinic on Tuesday 5th January

Lamlash Medical Centre
Whiting Bay Baby Clinic on Thursday 7th January
Lamlash Baby Clinic on Tuesday 12th January

Shiskine Surgery
Baby Clinic on Friday 8th January

Please ensure that you have enough supplies of medication for this period

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CLOSER TO HOME



Harry Ross, the Banner's regular music correspondent, catches up on the latest local news while recuperating in Crosshouse Hospital.

Greetings from Crosshouse

Well it's not the kind of 'Banner on Holiday' picture that we've become accustomed to here at *The Arran Banner*; but this week our music correspondent Harry Ross sent us a slightly unusual photograph.

Recuperating

Poor Harry is currently recuperating at Crosshouse Hospital in Kilmarnock after a sudden illness but he still managed to take time and catch up with all Arran's news.

'Hi folks,' he writes. 'Sorry I won't be able to write the music report for a while. I'm waiting for a heart operation but as soon as they sort me out I'll be back.'

'Happy Christmas to all my well wishers.'

He adds at the end that he is urgently looking for a kind soul who is able to housesit and walk his dog in Whiting Bay.

If anyone is interested please leave a message on 700673.

Refurbishment for Montrose House

Montrose House in Brodick is to undergo a complete refurbishment in the New Year that will reduce the number of beds from 24 to 13 permanent and six respite.

It has been confirmed by North Ayrshire Council that all the rooms at the residential care home will be upgraded to include a toilet and walk-in shower – but this will only be possible by cutting the total number of rooms.

Bernadette Docherty, corporate director of social services, said: 'Our community care initiatives are aimed at giving vulnerable people more choice to remain at home, while at the same time reducing long stay hospital bed use and introducing thorough assessments to ensure that all services meet the need. As a result this has also changed the direction of our older people's residential units.'

'Montrose House is no exception and in broad terms it now cares for older people with higher dependency needs than when it was built in the 1970s.'

Montrose house was built to accommodate 26 residents but in recent years reduced demand has enabled two rooms to be set aside; one for staff sleeper and one for storage of essential care equipment.

For many years a further two rooms have been designated and registered as respite rooms for older people who would normally be living at home – their use is usually given to carers with planned breaks.

Demand for bed use has fluctuated from as low as 14 permanent residents, to the

present level of 19 residents in long-term beds.

Kenneth Gibson MSP told *The Banner* that a reduction in beds does not necessarily mean reduced staff numbers.

'Although there will be a slight reduction in bed numbers, no consideration of staffing issues has taken place,' said Kenneth. 'This will be subject to an ongoing review and it is expected that, should any reduction in staffing take place, this will be dealt with through redeployment of displaced staff, where possible.'

Hospital will benefit from Christmas fayre

The Isle of Arran Hospital Supporters League held a successful Christmas Fayre last weekend.

A fantastic £820 was raised for the hospital.

Chairman of the league, Maurice Deighton, said: 'I would like to thank everyone who donated home baking and items for the raffle and tombola.'

'And everyone who came to help on the day and contributed to such a successful afternoon.'

'The hospital is very appreciative of the support that it receives from the people of the island.'

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The Rowan Singers in Brodick Hall on Tuesday night. Photo David Ingham.

Maureen hangs up baton after 30 years

The Rowan Singers held their 30th Christmas concert in Brodick Hall last Tuesday night.

The group formed as a ladies choir in December 1980 and have been serenading Arran audiences ever since.

Maureen Oakes of Lamlash has been leading and conducting the choir since its incep-

tion and has decided to hang up her baton.

She told the Banner: 'I have loved doing it for all these years but it does take loads of energy. Diana and Douglas Hamilton are taking over and I wish them all the best. Men first joined the choir in 1997 when we had a tour in Italy. While in Venice we were

invited by a local priest to sing at my daughter-in-law's church.'

There are now about 40 members of the Rowan Singers and from those initial four men it has grown to be almost one-third men.

Maureen added: 'I love singing and will probably go back as a choir member after a break.'

Corrie and Sannox WRI

At the monthly meeting of Corrie and Sannox SWRI on December 10, the president welcomed the members and introduced Liz Smith of Whiting Bay who had come to demonstrate 'spinning'.

This was a fascinating demonstration made to look simple by an expert, but a craft that would take a lot of practice and skill to learn.

There will be an informal meeting on Thursday January 7 when members can bring any

unfinished work and just enjoy a sociable afternoon.

The Corrie and Sannox WRI's 'Auld Years Nicht' will be held on Thursday January 14 at 6.30pm when there will be the usual delicious hot and cold buffet, followed by entertainment by members of the Cat Stone Collective.

Husbands, partners and friends of our members are welcome and contributions to the buffet will be appreciated.

Get into the spirit of Christmas

Come along to Brodick Village Hall and get into the spirit of Christmas tomorrow afternoon (Sunday).

Arran Brass will be playing and Mairi MacInnes will be the guest soloist at the special 'Celebrate Christmas Concert' in the hall.

The afternoon begins at 2.30pm until 3.30 pm and entrance is free.

There will be plenty of opportunity for the audience to join in and Willie Wright, recently appointed minister of the Arran Baptist Church, will compère the event.

Ferry set for annual overhaul

MV Caledonian Isles will be taken out of service on Monday January 11 for her annual two-week overhaul.

She will be replaced on the Brodick to Ardrossan route by MV Clansman.

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Sir Leslie Marr in a Formula One car in 1954.

Arran racing driver and artist sought

Robert and Lindsey Marr of Lamlash have received an unusual request through the post. And it seems to be perfectly genuine.

The airmail letter came from Germany and was addressed to Sir Leslie Marr, Isle of Arran, Firth of Clyde, West Schottland. The writer is Herr Jorg Walther and he says: 'Dear Mister Marr, I have been your fan for a long time I've always been impressed by your success in racing.'

He has enclosed two old photographs apparently showing

Sir Leslie racing in a Formula One Connaught car in the mid 1950s and goes on to ask him to sign the photos and return them in a stamped addressed envelope.

Herr Walther adds: 'I wish you health and also in the future a good relationship to motor racing,' and signs himself 'Your fan, Jorg Walther.'

Robert and Lindsey realised that the request was genuine and did a bit of delving.

Sir Leslie Marr was a racing driver in the 1950s with his best result coming fourth in

the New Zealand Grand Prix. And he did indeed live in Arran latterly.

Perhaps unusually, he was also a successful artist. He was born in 1922 and educated at Shrewsbury School and Cambridge University.

In February 1990 the Banner reported that Leslie Marr, who had dropped the title by then, lived and worked as an artist at his home between Brodick and Corrie and was to be the subject of the Observer Colour Magazine's weekly feature 'A Room of My Own' in March. The articles show the chosen person in their favourite room, and through what the room contains they discuss their life and work. At the time, Mr Marr had a solo exhibition of his paintings in London.

Robert and Lindsey are hanging on to Herr Walther's letter for the time being and ask if anyone knows the present whereabouts of Leslie Marr so that they can forward this request to him. They can be contacted at the Old Pier Tearoom.

Farmers rejoice as SFP cheques arrive early

Arran's farmers woke up to a silver lining after all the black clouds of late when they had their lifeline Single Farm Payment (SFP) paid into their bank accounts last week by the Scottish government.

There was jubilation among many when the government completed its promise to get Single Farm Payments out promptly before Christmas.

December 1 was the first day payments were permitted by European regulations and around 75 percent of claimants will have received payment by the end of the first week of December.

Arran's MSP Kenneth Gibson said: 'This injection of funds into the island's farm businesses is hugely important to the community as it helps to underpin the economic and environmental activity that farming generates.'

However, for some there was also a big black cloud attached as new EU rules on cross-compliance breaches have knocked chunks out of some business's cheques.

For sometime the EU has wanted Scotland to toughen up the one percent SFP penalty

imposed on farmers caught with recording mistakes during livestock inspections.

Last month, it finally forced the issue saying that the level of penalty for non-compliance should be three percent.

So the Scottish government has been obliged to triple its penalties – and apply them retrospectively over 2009, hitting this week's eagerly

awaited payments.

As one affected farmer noted, it was like getting a £60 parking ticket in January, then receiving a demand for £180 in December.

Acknowledging that the penalties had taken the shine off the early SFP payout, the National Farmers Union Scotland pointedly did not blame the Scottish government.

Bricks and mortar up for sale

As part of the fundraising drive at Lochranza Hall to raise £25,000 for the new kitchen, the committee are

putting special bricks up for sale.

When the hall was built in 2001, people who wanted to help by giving donations of £50, had the opportunity of signing a brick on the 'brick board' which is proudly mounted as you come into the hall, for all to see.

Hall chairman Kate Hartley said: 'We still have spaces and if any generous people would like to donate a brick or offer any other assistance to our project please call me on 830 226. Any help we can get at all will be so much appreciated.'



Kate Hartley

Get into the spirit of Christmas

Come along to Brodick Village Hall and get into the spirit of Christmas tomorrow afternoon (Sunday).

Arran Brass will be playing and Mairi MacInnes will be the guest soloist at the special 'Celebrate Christmas Concert' in the hall.

The afternoon begins at 2.30pm until 3.30 pm and entrance is free.

There will be plenty of opportunity for the audience to join in and Willie Wright, recently appointed minister of the Arran Baptist Church, will compère the event.



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THE ARRAN BANNER

Drivers must slow down

In the past year there have been a great deal of changes to the road system on Arran. Not to the road surface itself you understand, but to the general way in which drivers now navigate the island's highway system.

The island is now littered with road signs and speed warnings to a level that would have been unthinkable 10 years ago.

The first big change was in May when residents in Lamlash, Whiting Bay and Brodick were told traffic-calming measures were to be introduced in specific parts of the villages. This resulted in 'Twenty's plenty' signs being erected in some of the busier residential areas where children were often to be found playing in the street.

There are also flashing lights outside every primary school on Arran to reduce the driver's speed when passing at play times.

This was followed at the beginning of June by an advisory 30mph speed limit put in place between Brodick and Lochranza.

The speed limit was the result of a rigorous campaign to improve road safety for pedestrians and cyclists after two fatal accidents on that stretch in the past five years.

Just two weeks later the island got its first double-yellow lines in Brodick which are now policed twice a month by a visiting traffic warden.

In the past two weeks seven speed warning signs have appeared, this time on the hill as you drive into Lamlash from Brodick. The seventh sign will have an electronic feedback showing the actual speed of your vehicle. The first of their kind on Arran, they are designed to improve road safety.

This week in the national news it has been reported that local councils will be encouraged by the government to introduce 20mph speed limits in all residential areas.

Ministers also want councils to consider cutting the 60mph speed limit on the most accident-prone single-carriageway A and B roads - possibly to 50mph.

Until now, local authorities have only been able to bring in 20mph limits on roads requiring traffic-calming measures such as speed humps.

A report by a London University showed that the introduction of 20mph speed zones in London had reduced road injuries by more than 40 per cent over the period 1986 to 2006.

The government says more ambitious targets are needed for reducing deaths.

Tragically five people have died on Arran's roads in the past five years and as a result road safety measures have been stepped up several gears.

However, one cannot help but ask the question - have these traffic-calming measures really made a difference on Arran?

It remains to be seen whether they can force local drivers to slow down and be more aware that speed actually does kill.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord. (Luke 2:10')

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.co.uk

Letters to the Editor



Hospital setback frustration

Sir,
Perhaps you would be interested in publishing this copy of a letter sent to Mrs Wai Yin Hatton, the chief executive of Ayrshire and Arran Health Trust.

Yours,
Campbell Laing
Chairman
Isle of Arran Community Council

Dear Madam,
It was with great concern and dissatisfaction that we learned through our local newspaper that a new hospital for Arran would be at least 10 years away.

In 2002 the community of Arran took part in NHS Ayrshire and Arran Property Strategy.

The people taking part were both professionals from the health service and laymen.

They all gave of their time in a serious effort to further identify the need for a new hospital on Arran - a need that had been first identified as far back as 1982.

Throughout the process, which took several months, it was decided that the 'Hub and Spoke' design would be best suited to Arran - the Hub being a new hospital and the spokes being the doctor's surgeries.

Through necessity and for various other reasons it was eventually decided by Ayrshire and Arran NHS to fast track two new doctors surgeries, but, as we understood it, it was essential that a new hospital also be built in the near future for the plan to work.

It was also the understanding that the building of the new surgeries would not be detrimental to the building of a new hospital.

It is therefore very disturbing to hear that because of the new surgeries the hospital has again been put on hold.

At every meeting with Ayrshire and Arran Health Trust officers from the chairman down we have emphasised the need for a new hospital and have been led to believe

that Arran is on the list.

Therefore you can understand our anger and frustration at this announcement in the press.

At any meetings we attend Arran is held up as an example of what can be done.

The health care we get on Arran is second to none but that is only because of the dedication of the professionals and staff employed, especially at the hospital.

They carry out their duties in a truly professional manner against all the odds of working in a building that is well past its best and definitely not suited to 21st century medicine.

This decision is not only letting down the people of Arran but must be most demoralising for your staff at the hospital and to the general practitioners who also happen to be the hospital doctors.

Having a copy of your prioritisation process I find it very hard to find any area in which Arran would not score heavily in your Weighting Process and would be very interested to see how it related to other proposed developments.

Yours,
Campbell Laing
Chairman

Interesting call

Sir,
The following is a transcript of a frantic transatlantic cell phone call made last Friday evening after my sister Margaret arrived on Arran off the last boat.

-Ring, ring...

-Hullo?

-Robert! Are you dead?

-No...I've been walking a bit like an extra from 'Sean of the Dead' for the last few days because I just had a hernia fixed and my tackle is all swelled up, but apart from that I'm fine.

-Are you sure? Cousin Rosie thought you were dead as well. She nearly had a heart attack when she saw your picture in the Banner!

-Look, I'm telling you I'm not dead! I would have told you if I was dead. What picture?

-Oh it's a really old mugshot of you from the folk festival

years ago. But it's the text that scared the bejeezus out of us! It reads like an obituary!

-What text?

-Oh you know the sort of thing- bland, lifeless prose with a shopping list of life dates like apprenticeship, marriage, emigration, achievements and the like.... It's really scary! It was only when we got to the end and there is no info on funeral arrangements or donations that we started to think that it might just be a story.

Did you set this up?

-Are you kidding? You know as well as I do that our family has existed since pre-history in the sure and certain knowledge that there is a line in a big book somewhere in the Hague that lists 'blowing your own trumpet' as one of the crimes against humanity!

No. I didn't set it up. But I wonder who did?

-No idea, probably some well-meaning soul throwing out a story about you to let all your friends and family on Arran know that you are alive and well.

-Or not. Depending on your initial reaction to the picture!

-Yes, there is that I suppose. The other really strange thing is that the obit...sorry, story, says that you were a member of the Whistlebinkies!

-Well that really is strange, all they would have to do to check that out is ask any musician on the island over thirty, or better yet, take a minute to visit either the 'Binkies' or my websites for clarification. Besides, the 'Binkies would never have let me join them- these guys are real musicians, and I could never get my beard to be as magnificent as Big Mick's.

-OK. I suppose we will just have to wait until Apple and Microsoft come up with software that checks facts. At least the haven't started printing the important words in a sentence in block letters yet!

-Aye, that would be an indicator of the end of reasoned thought approaching right enough. So you're not dead?

-Nup!

-And you were never a

member of the Whistlebinkies?

-Nup!

-All right, I'll let you go Pet. I will tell the family that all is OK. Byeeeee!

-Thanks. I will give you a bell when I can walk with my knees more or less together. Love ya! Click!

Yours,
Big Rab,
Ste Cecile de Masham,
Quebec

Clarification

In last week's Banner we reported that Robert Watt was a member of the Whistlebinkies Group.

In fact he was not a member of the group but performed as a guest artiste with the band at a folk concert on Saturday April 13, 1975 at The Douglas Hotel in Brodick.

Well informed patient

Sir,

Having been out of action for the last six months due to illness, may I say a huge thank you to everyone who has offered good wishes and support (and there have been loads).

Medical staff nowadays like to keep the patient informed of their situation and although this can be helpful I would advise caution in certain cases, as I discovered that technical jargon can cause confusion.

Before surgery the consultant explained that after the operation I would be completely surrounded by tubes - I explained that as I had been teaching fourth year Arran High School pupils for many years this would not be a problem - he looked baffled.

Thanks to the many, many folk who sent cards to various locations.

Apologies to my decorating customers - I hope to be up and running in the near future, I'll be in touch.

Final thanks to the family. Maybe some people can get through these situations without a family but I certainly wouldn't like to try it.

Yours,
Marc A Head
Whiting Bay

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Children from Brodick Primary School dressed in traditional Victorian clothing sang a beautiful selection of Christmas carols. 01_b51cas04



Diana Wright and her puppy Clara with butler Roger Turner, get into the festive spirit at Brodick Castle's Victorian Christmas on Sunday afternoon. 01_b51cas01

Step back in time to Victorian Christmas

Brodick Castle celebrated Christmas with a difference on Sunday afternoon when visitors were transported back to Victorian times.

There was great excitement as families joined the building's Victorian inhabitants to celebrate this special time of year.

Before entering the building people were enticed into the grounds by the smell of Colin Totty's hot roasting chestnuts to warm them up in the cold winter air.

Inside the castle was decked with greenery and the Christmas trees were trimmed with traditional decorations.

The castle staff were dressed as their Victorian counterparts for the day and they could be

seen throughout the castle welcoming the visitors and enjoying the festive cheer.

Lord and Lady Merkland (Maureen and John Moore) were in the hallway to welcome guests while upstairs the duchess (Margaret Anderson) had taken to her bed with the vapours.

Serenading

Down in the kitchen Mrs Potts youngsters from Brodick Primary School who sang a selection of lovely Christmas carols were serenading the cook.

After wandering through the castle and meeting Santa Claus there was mulled wine and mince pies in the tearoom to get everyone in the mood for Christmas.

Motocross club plan fun training day

The Co-operative Community Fund has awarded the Arran Motocross Club £407 to host a training day in March next year to mark the start of the new season.

All ages from four upwards can take part in the event which will be organised by Andrew Russell of the Scottish Autocycle Union and bikes will be available.

Meanwhile, the club is still looking for funding after securing planning permission for a bike track to be sited in forestry land south of Brodick.

It was announced in July last year that North Ayrshire Council planners had given the go-ahead for an 800m-1km track east of Lamlash Hill.

The successful application will establish Arran's first-ever purpose-built bike track, designed as a testing circuit for bikers on the island, who have been looking for an authorised venue for getting out and about on their off-road bikes.

Chris Hogge of Brodick, one of the club members said: 'We are still waiting for the Forestry Commission to complete the lease for the proposed tack between Brodick and Lamlash and although it has taken some time in coming, we feel that we are getting close to having a draft copy soon.'



The Arran Motocross Club is hosting a special training day in March next year to mark the start of the new season.

Corrie and Sannox Wednesday Club

The December meeting of the Corrie and Sannox Wednesday Club, held in the annexe of Corrie Primary School, was very well attended as guests gathered to hear Dr Graham Tinto's inspiring talk on Fairtrade.

The group were surprised to see how many different goods were available and to learn how their support can help other communities around the world.

The next meeting will be in the usual venue at Corrie and Sannox Village Hall on Wednesday 13 January when the speaker will be Frazer Mitchell of Strathclyde Police who works on Arran.

Lost Wrangler jacket

Do you have a dark blue wrangler jacket hanging on your coat stand?

At the Southend Senior Citizens meeting last Saturday a jacket matching this description must have been taken accidentally by someone at the lunch.

In the pocket there is a set of car keys that the owner would really like returned. If you have lifted this jacket by accident please call 820225.

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Cinderella - a treat for all the family



A full cast of local amateur thespians made Cinderella truly magical. 01_151c1m02



Rose McCormick's handsome Prince Charming stole Cinderella's heart. 01_151c1m13



Prince Charming (Rose McCormick) and his manservant Dandini (Gavin Davidson) swap roles at the ball. 01_151c1m07



The crowd went wild for David Young who performed an incredible dance tribute to the late Michael Jackson. 01_151c1m15



Nellie the Gnome for the 'National Society for Prevention of cruelty to Cinderella' pricks the conscious of one of the ugly sisters for making the poor girls life a misery. 01_151c1m04

Flawless performance was outstanding

Lamlash Drama Club's performance of Cinderella last week had everything that you could ever want from a festive pantomime – grotesque ugly sisters, a truly wicked stepmother, the downtrodden heroine, a handsome prince and the graceful fairy godmother that comes to the rescue.

Considering this was the first pantomime to be performed in the new high school, the flawless production of Cinderella was truly outstanding. Producer Maureen Smith and her team of hard working volunteers pulled off an exceptional festive treat that was enjoyed by all the family.

The stars of the show were undoubtedly the ugly sisters played by the fabulous pairing of Colin MacDonald and Campbell Seaton who let loose and played up the monstrous side of the girl's natures. The costumes were superb, from Prince Charming's dashing uniform to Button's nifty blue suit and hat and of course Cinderella's wonderful ball gown.



If the shoe fits... Cinderella finally gets her prince. 01_151c1m10



The two ugly sisters, Campbell Seaton and Colin MacDonald, with wicked step-mother Sheila Gilmore. 01_151c1m09



Cinderella goes to the ball. 01_151c1m06

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Traditional Turkey Dinner
With all the Trimmings
Fillet of Scottish Salmon
Vegetarian Dish of the Day

Served with Pesto Mash & Champagne Veloute

Christmas Pudding
Drizzled with Brandy Sauce
Strawberry Frangipan
Served with Vanilla Ice Cream

The Arran Banner 20 years ago

Saturday, December 9, 1989

The devil you know

Arran is to get a Local Enterprise Company (LEC) whether it likes it or not.

And it seems most people do not like the idea.

'I think everybody would be more happy to continue with the HIBB,' said Robin Crawford, one of those present at the first Arran LEC meeting last Friday.

'I don't think it is a good idea,' said councillor Evelyn Sillars. But like it or not, the HIBB's role in Arran (and elsewhere) is to finish and Arran has to get involved or get left behind.

Who are they?

Questions were being asked this week about the identity of the ferry committee members.

We have received a number of angry letters from people wishing to know why what was supposed to be a proposed change to the summer ferry timetable has already appeared in print.

Christine Bailey of Lamlash said: 'As an un-elected body, which claims to represent the views of all island interests is there not a case for a lot more detailed accurate information being directed at the public instead.'

'This would be fairer to the public and also allow the ferry committee to truly say to CalMac these are the views of the masses.'

No return

We hear that Norman and Linda MacIver of Arran Property Developments and The Arran Property Bureau have decided not to return to Arran.

Currently they are on holiday in New Zealand visiting relatives and it is possible they may stay there.

Car smash

Three cars were involved in an accident on Pier Brae in Brodick on Thursday morning.

Two cars travelling in opposite directions collided on the

hill as they passed another car that was parked outside Brodick Nursery gardens and then a third car hit the stopped car.

Rowdy behaviour

Arran's senior rugby team's visitors from Glasgow University marred their trip last Saturday with some rowdy behaviour.

Complaints were made after glasses were broken in three separate pubs and at least one grievance has been lodged with Sid Sillars, club secretary.

Sid said there was no violence and added that they were 'just silly wee boys that can't handle their drink'.



John Dalby (pictured at the rear) was not the only prize-winner at the annual Chookie Show held by the Brodick Poultry and pigeon Club. Mrs Lavinia Gibbs presents Anna Birch with the shield for the best rabbit. b51twe03



Local postmen changed their schedule on Monday to working a 'day late'. As reported last week this change will only operate during the Christmas rush and allows an early delivery of the mail which arrived on the island the day before - and that can be quite a pile as the picture shows. b51twe02



One hundred yards of pennies - this was how the Brodick Brownies decided to raise their annual subscription of guide funds on Saturday thanks to the generous donations of shoppers. b51twe01



Last week we reported that four pigs belonging to Shiskine farmer George Kirkwood had made a break for freedom before the annual Christmas Market. This week George tried to take the pigs to market in Paisley but before he had even reached Bridge Farm one broke loose and was

away again. Along with Colin Currie Jnr and other helpers the little piggy ran rings around them for an hour but they eventually caught the ferry to market. We hear that on arrival in Paisley the pig was found to be two kilos lighter than when it set out so Mr Kirkwood is hoping for recompense from Mr Currie in the amount of 89p per kilo to cover the loss of revenue. b51twe04

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with
ARRAN BRASS
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Mairi MacInnes

Sunday 20th December
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WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Saturday - Disco - 10pm
Sunday - Folk Session - 9.30pm
Tuesday - Pop Quiz (suits all ages) - 10pm
Wednesday - Country/ Blues Session - 9.30pm
Thursday - Christmas Eve Quiz - 10pm

Real Ale (Recommended CAMRA Good Beer Guide)



Brodick Improvements Committee
NEW YEAR'S DAY CEILIDH
 The famous
String Road Potholes Band
 (followed by disco)
 Friday 1st January 2010
 Brodick Hall
 7.30pm for 8pm
 BYOB
 Tickets from Bilslands and Book & card centre
 £8 adults, children under 14 £4

Brodick Primary
Carol Concert
BRODICK CHURCH
 Monday 21st
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 7.30pm
Everybody welcome

**ARRAN CEILIDH
 DANCE GROUP**
**Annual Buffet
 Dance**
 Tuesday 29 Dec
 Corrie Hall
 7-7.30pm
 Music by Ian Muir
 £10 per couple
 All welcome
 BYOB Buffet 7.30pm

LAMLASH IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE
FAMILY CEILIDH
 Monday 28th December
 Dance with the
BOUGUILLE BAND
 at High School Lamlash
 7.30pm - 12.00
 Entry: Adult £10, Junior £5, Family £25
 Licensed Bar

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 MEALS SERVED FROM 12.30PM - 3PM AND 5.30PM - 8.30PM
CHRISTMAS DAY
 Bar open from 12.30pm - 3pm
 - no food served today
BOXING DAY
 Bar open from 11am - 1 am - Food served from
 12.30pm - 3pm and 5.30pm - 9pm
 Tel: 01770 600608 All other times open as usual

CLADACH SAWMILL
 Tel 302471
 Will be closed from
**Wednesday 23rd December -
 Tuesday 5th January 2010.**

*A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
 to all our friends and customers*


**WILLIAM
 BENNETT**
 Plumber
 Tel 860775
 Would like to wish all his
 customers and suppliers a very
 Merry Christmas and thanks them
 all for their continued support.

**The Old Byre
 Showroom** Lorna and Hamza wish all their
 MACHRIE customers and staff a very
 Happy Christmas
 Open 7 days 10am - 5pm
 Sheepskin Shop, Brodick open 6 days
 closed 25th, 26th Dec and 1st Jan

**Jimmi the Barber's
 (beside Mac's Bar)**
 Closed 24th December - 15th
 January for a small holiday!
 Jimmi wishes all
 his clients a
**Merry Christmas and a
 Happy New Year**
 Mobile 07813937259

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

 James of ARRAN
*Everyone's
 Favourite Gift*
 Open 7 Days
 Tel/Fax 01770 302873

We wish you a merry Christmas...

Our regular advertisers would like to take this opportunity to thank their customers and wish them a very merry Christmas and a happy new year

Gill and Crow at
The DRIFT INN
wish all their
customers a
Merry Christmas
and a Happy
New Year.

**ASAP
Services
(Arran) Ltd**
Wishes all
customers a
Merry Christmas
and a Happy
New Year

ARRAN HAULAGE SERVICES LTD
Home Farm, Brodick, Isle of Arran, KA27 8DD
Tel: 01770 302777 Fax: 01770 302500
Email: info@arranhaulage.co.uk

Happy to serve the
people of Arran

Merry Christmas
and Every Success
for 2010



JTC JOHN THOMSON CONSTRUCTION LTD
Lamlash, Isle of Arran

We wish all our clients and customers a very
Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year

Petrol & Diesel Sales
Closed Friday 25 Dec – Monday 11 Jan 2010

Lamlash Garage
Closed Friday 25 Dec – Monday 11 Jan 2010

BAY NEWS
Whiting Bay
Tel 700488

**WISH TO THANK ALL
CUSTOMERS FOR THEIR
SUPPORT AND WISH YOU ALL
A MERRY CHRISTMAS**

The Coffee Pot
Golf Course Rd
Whiting Bay
Tel: 700393

Paintings & Prints
by Sheila Findlay
on display

~ Eat alfresco in our
seafront garden ~

Diane and all staff Wish all their customers and friends
a Very Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year

Lamlash Post Office



Irene & Andy
Would like to wish
all their customers a
Merry Christmas and
a Prosperous New Year

The Harbour Shop
Blackwaterfoot
wishes all it's customers
a very merry Christmas
and a happy new year.



From Gillian, Aileen, Gina and Jennifer

WOOLEYS

We would like to wish
all our customers
a very Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year



Old Pier Tearoom

A very Happy Christmas and Best wishes for
2010 from Robert & Lindsey to all our staff,
customers, suppliers and friends.

Thank you all for your continuing support and friendship.
The tearoom will be open during Christmas holidays. Closed
Christmas Day and 1st January only.

We will also be open on the Wednesday before Christmas,
And Tuesday & Wednesday the following week.

Lamlash 01770 600249

**ALEX BAIRD
DOUBLE GLAZING**

Wishes all his customers
past and present a
very Happy Christmas
and a prosperous 2010

01290 420587 07775 594115
ORDER NOW TO BEAT VAT INCREASE

**Shiskine Pro Shop
@ Shiskine Golf Club**

For a wide range of quality Gents &
Ladies clothing & accessories

*Dougie wishes all customers a
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
and thanks them for all their custom during 2009*

Best Western
**Kinloch
Hotel**



Robbie and Barbara and all of the staff at The Kinloch
Hotel would like to wish all of their customers a very
happy Christmas and every success for 2010

Blackwaterfoot, The Isle of Arran KA27 8ET
Tel: 01770 860444 Web site: www.bw-kinlochhotel.co.uk

The Curtain House
Hunterston, Lamlash

To all my Friends, Family
and Customers Merry
Christmas and Every
Happiness for 2010
from Ginelle



Telephone: 600 753

Isle of
**ARRAN
Cheese Shop**



Gordon and his staff would like to
wish everyone a very
happy Christmas and a joyful new year.

WWW.ARRANCHEESE.COM

**County Carpets
(Arran) Ltd**

SEASONS GREETINGS FROM TIM AND ALL THE STAFF.
THANKING ALL OUR CLIENTS FOR THEIR CONTINUED
SUPPORT AND WISHING EVERYONE A HAPPY NEW YEAR

www.countycarpetsarran.co.uk
Tel: 01770 700480 Fax: 01770 700455
Email: admin@countycarpetsarran.co.uk
Whiting Bay Open 6 Days, 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.

BROOMBRAE GROUNDS & GARDENS Ltd.
Landscape & Groundworks Contractors.



We wish our Customers &
Suppliers Seasons Greetings
See www.broombrae.co.uk
Mobile 07522 860435

Christmas Greetings

from our readers

Tommy & Dorothy Campbell, Pirnmill

To all our friends, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year

HELEN MCCALLUM

Seasons Greetings and best wishes to friends and neighbours.



Betty McNeish

Seasons Greetings to all friends and family.

DAVID BALFOUR

wishes all his friends on Arran a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Ad Astra, Whiting Bay.

Jenni, Jimmy, Leah & James

Wish all family and friends on Arran Seasons Greetings Donations to MS in lieu of local cards



Staff at the Banner

Would like to wish all their readers a very merry Christmas and a prosperous new year



Nan & Ella

wish all their friends a Merry Christmas and a healthy happy New Year

PAT & DAVID, Lamlash

Seasons Greetings to all of our friends



BILL WALLACE

Wishes all friends and relatives on the island a Good Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Best Western **Kinloch Hotel**

FESTIVE OPENING HOURS

<i>Wednesday 23rd December</i>	open from 11.30am until 11pm lunches from 12.30pm until 2.30pm evening meals from 5.30pm until 8.30pm bakery open from 9.30am until 1pm
<i>Christmas Eve</i>	open from 11.30am until midnight lunches from 12.30pm until 2.30pm no evening meals will be served bakery open from 9.30am until 3pm
<i>Christmas Day</i>	CLOSED
<i>Boxing Day</i>	public bar open from 3pm – midnight no food will be served bakery closed
<i>Sunday 27th December</i>	open from mid-day until midnight lunches from 12.30pm until 2.30pm evening meals from 5.30pm until 8.30pm bakery closed
<i>Monday 28th December</i>	open from 11.30am until midnight lunches from 12.30pm until 2.30pm evening meals from 5.30pm until 8.30pm bakery open from 9.30am until 3pm
<i>Tuesday 29th December</i>	open from 11.30am until midnight lunches from 12.30pm until 2.30pm evening meals from 5.30pm until 8.30pm bakery open from 9.30am until 3pm
<i>Wednesday 30th December</i>	open from 11.30am until midnight lunches from 12.30pm until 2.30pm bakery open from 9.30am until 1pm no evening meals served
<i>Hogmanay</i>	open from 11.30am until 11pm lunches from 12.30pm until 2pm – reduced menu bakery open from 9.30am until 3pm no evening meals served
<i>New Years Day</i>	open from 11.30am until midnight lunches from 12.30pm until 2.30pm – reduced menu no evening meals served bakery closed
<i>Saturday 2nd January</i>	open from 11.30am until midnight lunches from 12.30pm until 2.30pm evening meals from 5.30pm until 8.30pm bakery open from 9.30am until 1pm
<i>Sunday 3rd January</i>	open from midday until midnight lunches from 12.30pm until 2.30pm evening meals from 5.30pm until 8.30pm bakery closed



Netta McDonald

would like to wish all her friends and family a Merry Christmas and a Good New Year.

SEASONS GREETINGS

June Curtis would like to wish friends, neighbours and Banner readers, best wishes for Christmas and a happy New Year.

MARY MCSPORRAN

would like to wish her friends and neighbours a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Joyce & Andre

Wish all our friends on the island a very Happy Christmas. Thanks for all your kind thoughts and good wishes whilst Andre was in hospital in Edinburgh. Joyce will be back in action for the New Year.

DREW CRAWFORD

Wishes friends on and off the island Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

SEASONS GREETINGS

to my friends on Arran.

With love
Pat Ferguson
Lamlash.

Pater & Mary Mackenzie, The Knowe

Wish all their family and friends A Merry Christmas and good health and every happiness in the New Year

SEASONS GREETINGS

and love from Wolfi and Gege and all at Trafalgar, to family, friends and guests et al. Special love at Xmas to Gege's homies. xxx



Nancy & Eddie

wish all friends and relations Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

GREETINGS FROM DOWN UNDER

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



JOHANN MCHARG

Best wishes to neighbours and friends for Christmas and New Year

ANGUS, LYNN & LIBBY RAEBURN

Would like to wish all family and friends a fantastic Christmas and New Year. Xmas card money donated to ARCAS.



Whats On

ISLE OF **ARRAN**

in association with Isle of Arran Brewery

www.arranbrewery.com Tel: 01770 302353

BREWERY

EVERYDAY

Arran Brewery (Monday - Friday)
Trout fishing
Hawk Walks
Fitness Assesments, Gym Induction, Personal Training

10am - 4pm
Loch Garbad, Bank
Lamlash
Auchrannie Spa & Gym

SATURDAY 19th DECEMBER

Blackwaterfoot Junior Football
Karate
Family Games Kids & Adults
Fun in the Spa Pool
Over 21's Disco
Arran Dancers (4 years and up)
Youth Cafe (High School Pupils)
Social Night
RNLI shop open
Whiting Bay Children's Christmas Party
Farmers Market
Shiskine WRI Childrens Xmas Party (Babies - P7)
Lamlash WRI Childrens Xmas Party

Coaching, 10.30am - noon
Auchrannie Games Hall, 11.30am - 12.30pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
Auchrannie Pool, 4pm - 5pm
The Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Arran High School, 10am
Brodict Church Hall, 7pm - 9pm
Whiting Bay Golf Club, 6pm - Late
Lamlash Pier 10.30 till 12.30
Village Hall, 4pm - 6pm
Kilmory Hall, 10.30am - 2.30pm
Shiskine Hall, 2pm - 4pm
Arran High School 2.30pm - 4.30pm

SUNDAY 20th DECEMBER

Alcoholics Anonymous
Family Games Kids & Adults
Folk Session
Fun in the Spa Pool
Arran Fiddle Club- Childrens Classes
Folk Session
Motocross Practice (Weather Permitting)
Hall Decoration

Church Hall, Brodict, 4.30pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
Ormidale Hotel, 9.30pm
Auchrannie Pool, 4pm - 5pm
Library Annexe, 1.45pm
Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
Southbank FarmTrack
Kildonan Hall, 2pm

MONDAY 21st DECEMBER

Senior Fitness
Over 50's Badminton
Badminton
Cardiac Rehab
Circuit Training
Citizens Advice
AB Attack
Aerobics Class
Weight Wise
Ladies Netball
Arran Junior Football Club Coaching & Games
Lamlash Bridge Club
Kickboxing
Badminton Club
Arran Brass Christmas Concert
Pre school Music & Drama Classes
Arran High School Xmas Concert
Brodict Primary Carol Concert

Auchrannie 9.30am - 10.30am (Gym)
Lochranza Village Hall 2pm - 4pm
Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm
Auchrannie Gym 12.30pm - 2pm
Auchrannie Spa, 6pm - 7.15pm (Gym)
Open 10am - 2pm
KA Leisure, fitness suite 6.30pm - 6.50pm
KA Leisure, dance studio, 6pm - 7pm
Hospital Bungalow, 5pm - 5.30pm
High School Sports Hall - Seniors 8pm - 9pm
Ormidale Park, 6pm
Lamlash Golf Clubhouse, 7.15pm
KA Leisure, dance studio, 7pm - 8.30pm
Auchrannie Spa, 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Whiting Bay Hall, 7.30pm
Auchrannie Dance Studio, Various Times, 10.45am - 2.30pm
High School Theatre, 7.30pm
Brodict Church, 7.30pm

TUESDAY 22nd DECEMBER

Lochranza Swimming Club
Army Cadets
Pop Quiz
Alcoholics Anonymous

Kinloch 11am - 12pm
Auchrannie Road, 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Brodict Church Hall - 2pm



Citizens Advice
Pulmonary Rehab
Open Music Session
Indoor Bowling
Junior Hockey Club
Brodict Toddler Group
Body Conditioning Class
Youth Club
Senior Fitness
Step Aerobics
Rotary Club
Scottish Country Dancing
Indoor Bowling
Cricket Indoor Nets

Open 10am - 2pm 4 - 6pm (Appointment Only)
Auchrannie Gym 12pm - 1pm (Gym)
Catacol Bay Hotel, 8.30pm
Auchrannie Hall, 7pm
Ormidale Pavillion, 6-7pm
Church Hall, 10am - 12pm
KA Leisure, dance studio 6pm - 7pm
Kildonan Hall - 6.30pm
Auchrannie, 10am - 11am
Auchrannie Gym, 7pm - 8pm
Glencloy Suite, Auchrannie 7.15pm
Brodict Church Hall, 7.30pm
Corrie & Sannox Hall, 2pm - 4pm
High School Gym, 6.30pm - 8.30pm

WEDNESDAY 23rd DECEMBER

Hockey
Jnr Rugby Training
AquaFizz
Circuit Training
Arran Heritage Museum Archives & Genealogy
Kickboxing
Alcoholics Anonymous
Arran Rugby Club Seniors Training
Arran Brass Rehearsal
Country/ Blues session
Selt Making Class
Beavers
Yogalates
Quiz Night
Learn to Salza

Auchrannie Hall, 7pm - 8pm (Games Hall)
P4 - S4 Ormidale Park, 6pm - 7.15pm
Auchrannie Hotel, 9.45am - 10.30am (Hotel Pool)
Auchrannie, 6pm - 7.15pm (Gym)
10.30 - 12.30pm & 1.30 - 3.30pm
KA Leisure, dance studio, 7pm - 8.30pm
Lamlash Church Hall - 7.30pm - 9pm
Ormidale Park, 7.30pm
Whiting Bay Hall 7.15pm
Ormidale. 9.30pm
Shipfield, Lamlash, 10am - 4pm
High School, Lamlash 6.15pm - 7.15pm
Auchrannie Gym, 10am - 11am
Eden Lodge Hotel Whiting Bay, 8.30pm
Auchrannie Cruize Bar. 7pm - 8.30pm

THURSDAY 24th DECEMBER

Senior Fitness
General Knowledge Quiz
Citizens Advice
Lochranza Craft Club
Coffee Morning
Cardiac Rehab
Table Tennis
Legs, Bums & Tums Class
Indoor Bowling
Smoking Cessation Group
Brodict Embroidery Group
Youth Club
Cubs
Winter Bowling
Scouts
Guys & Dolls rehearsals
Brodict Bridge Club
Childrens Xmas Party
The Wee Blether
Christmas Eve Quiz
Kilmory Family Xmas Party

Auchrannie 9.30am - 10.30am
The Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Open 10am - 2pm
Hall, 2pm
St Molios Church 10.30am - 12pm
Auchrannie Gym 2pm - 3pm
Kildonan Hall, 3pm - 5pm
KA Leisure, gameshall, 6.30pm - 7.15pm
Auchrannie Hall 7pm
Ormidale Pavillion, 11am - 12pm
Brodict Library 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Youth Cabin, Lamlash 7-9pm
Shiskine Hall 6.30-8pm
Auchrannie, 7pm
Shiskine Hall 8-9.30pm
Brodict Hall, 7.30pm
Golf Clubhouse
Kildonan Hall, 5.30pm
Whiting Bay Hall, 11.30am - 1.30pm
Ormidale 10pm
Kilmory Hall, 5.30pm

FRIDAY 25th DECEMBER

Arran Pipe Band Practice
AquaFizz
Citizens Advice
Quiz
Over 21's Disco
Yogalates
Street Dance
Arran Ceilidh Dance Group
Lamlash Friday Club
Foundations at The Cabin
Open Folk Night

Brodict Hall, 7.30pm
Auchrannie Pool, 9.45am - 10.30am
Open 10am - 2pm
Whiting Bay Golf Club, 9pm
The Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Auchrannie Gym, 10am - 11am
Auchrannie Gym, 7pm - 8pm
Corrie Hall, 8pm - 10pm
Corrie Hall, 2pm - 3.30pm
The Cabin, 7pm - 9pm
Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay, 9.30pm

SATURDAY 26th DECEMBER

Charity Quiz (in aid of Marie Curie)
Johnny & The Jetpatchers

Catacol Bay Hotel, 8.30pm
Ormidale Hotel, 10pm

To appear in Whats On telephone the Arran Banner 01770 302142

PUBLIC NOTICES

Arran Youth Foundations

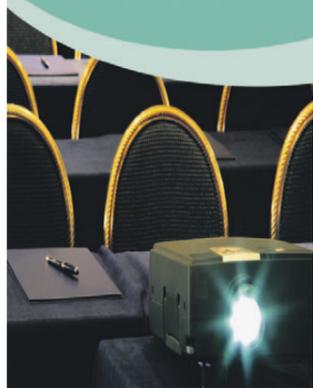
AGM

Sat 9th Jan
10.30am
The Cabin, Brodick

EVENT TO
PUBLICISE?

THE ARRAN
BANNER

Tel: 01770 302142
www.arranbanner.co.uk



69%
of the business
community read
the regional press

Source: Business Choice II, The Newspaper Society

Regional Press
CLOSER TO HOME



An Initiative of Trust Housing Association
SC009086

Isle of Arran Homes
and
Arran Care & Repair office
will be closed from
1.00pm on Thursday 24 December 2009
and will reopen on Tuesday 5 January 2010

If you have an emergency repair please contact

0800 783 3615

We would like to take this
opportunity to wish all our tenants
and members and contractors
A Merry Christmas and
a Happy New Year



Please note that
The Best Western Kinloch Hotel
and Bakery
will close on Monday 04th January
re-opening on Saturday 30th January.

The public bar will remain open throughout
from mid-day until 11pm.

No food will be served during this period of closure.

We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause



The Kinloch Hotel and public
bar will be closed for the day on
Monday 21st December.

We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.



Due to Christmas Party nights no evening
bar meals will be served on Friday 18th or
Saturday 19th December

We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause

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

Applications listed below together with the plans and other documents submitted with them may be examined at 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 or at www.eplanning.north-ayrshire.gov.uk

Written representations may be made to the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Protective Services) at the address below by 8th January 2010. Any representations received will be open to public view.

*and at The Council Offices, Lamlash

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

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

Application No: 09/00843/PP Address: Site To North Of Ardlamont, Blackwaterfoot, Brodick, Isle Of Arran
Proposed Development: Erection of detached dwelling house

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR DOMESTIC REFUSE & RECYCLING COLLECTIONS FOR ISLE OF ARRAN

Domestic Refuse Collections

Domestic Refuse Collections over the festive period will remain unchanged.

Offices will close on Thursday 24th December 2009 and will re-open on Tuesday 5th January 2010.

Any additional refuse can be taken to the local Transfer Station opening hours as follows:

Transfer Station

Friday 25th December 2009 - Closed

Saturday 26th December 2009 - Closed

Sunday 27th December 2009 - 8.00am till 1.00pm

Monday 28th December 2009 - 8.00am till 1.00pm

Tuesday 29th - Thursday 31st December 2009 - Normal Opening Hours

Friday 1st January 2010 - Closed

Saturday 2nd January 2010 - Closed

Sunday 3rd January 2010 - 8.00am till 1.00pm

Please place any large items of cardboard beside your blue wheeled bin on the day of collection.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS

All offices and facilities will be closed from 4.45pm on Thursday 24 December 2009 until 9.00 am on Tuesday 5 January, 2010.

The following ONLY will be open between 29 and 31 December, 2009.

REGISTRATION SERVICE

Irvine, Saltcoats and Arran Offices

29 December - 9.00 am to 4.45 pm

30 December - 9.00 am to 4.45 pm

31 December - 9.00 am to 1.00 pm

Kilbirnie Registration Office

29 December - 2.00 pm to 4.45 pm

30 December - 9.00 am to 12.30pm

31 December - closed

Largs Registration Office

29 December - 9.00 am to 12.30pm

30 December - 2.00 pm to 4.45 pm

31 December - 9.00 am to 12.30 pm

All registration business is by appointment.

Irvine Registration Office : 01294 324988

Saltcoats Registration Office : 01294 463312

Largs Registration Office : 01475 687591

Kilbirnie Registration Office : 01505 682416

LICENSING

Townhouse, High Street Irvine

29 December : 9.00 am - 4.45 pm

30 December : 9.00 am - 4.45pm

31 December : 9.00 am - 12.30 pm

SOCIAL SERVICES

The following offices will be open on Tuesday 29 and Wednesday 30 December (normal hours) and until 1.00pm on Thursday 31 December 2009:

Dirrans Resource Centre, Irvine

Independent Living Service, Pavilion 9, Ayrshire Central Hospital, Irvine

Aitken Place, Ardrossan

Vernon Street, Saltcoats

Criminal Justice, 157 New Street, Stevenston

Craigton Road, Kilbirnie

Brooksby, Largs

Byres Road, Kilwinning

Bridgegate House, Irvine

Shore Road, Lamlash, Arran

LIBRARIES

Irvine, Largs and Saltcoats

24 December - 9.00 am - 5.00pm

29 - 30 December - Open (normal hours)

31 December - Open 9.00 am - 1.00 pm

5 January 2010 - Re-open 9.00 am

Kilwinning

24 December - Open 9.00 am - 5.00 pm

29 December - Open (normal hours)

31 December - Open 9.00 am - 1.00 pm

5 January 2010 - Re-open 9.00 am

On behalf of North Ayrshire Council, may I wish you a very happy Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year

Elma Murray
Chief Executive
Cunninghame House
IRVINE
KA12 8EE

Ardrossan, Beith, Bourtreehill, Dalry, Dregghorn, Kilbirnie, Stevenston, West Kilbride

24 December - Open 1.00pm - 5.00pm

29 December - Open (normal hours)

5 January 2010 - Re-open 10.00 am

Arran

24 December - Open 10.00am - 5.00pm

29 December - Open (normal hours)

31 December - Open 10.00am - 1.00pm

5 January 2010 - Re-open 10.00 am

Fairlie

29 December - Open (normal hours)

5 January 2010 - Re-open 2.30 pm

Millport

24 December - Open 3.00pm - 5.00pm

29 December - Open (normal hours)

5 January 2010 - Re-open 1.45 pm

Skelmorlie

24 December - Open (normal hours)

31 December - Open (normal hours)

7 January 2010 - Re-open 1.00 pm

Springside

22 December - Close 5pm

5 January 2010 - Re-open 2.00 pm

Local History

24 December - Open (normal hours)

29 December - Open (normal hours)

31 December - Open 9.30am - 1.00pm

5 January 2010 - Re-open 9.30 am

Arran Mobile

No service Friday 25 December - Monday 4 January 2010 incl.

Mainland Mobile

No service Thursday 24 December - Monday 4 January 2010 incl.

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Housing Repairs - 0800 0196 444

Homelessness - 0800 0196 500

Roads & Lighting - 0845 603 0594

Trunk Road Repairs - Road & Lighting Faults (A78, A737, A738) - 0800 028 1414

Scottish Water - Water & Sewerage - 0845 601 8855

Scottish Gas/Tranco - 0800 111 999

Please note that no councillors' surgeries will be held from the 24th December 2009 until the 8th January 2010 inclusive. Councillors of North Ayrshire Council wish all their constituents a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



NORTH AYRSHIRE
COUNCIL

BANNER BANNER BANNER
PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLIC NOTICES

ARRAN BUSINESS SERVICES

RECRUITMENT

BICYCLES

GIANT BIKES SALE
BOULDER Trail Bike (MTB) £195
ESCAPE MTB Hydraulic disc brakes £295
CTS Road Bikes from £239
TWIST Electric bikes from £995
01770 302377

PLASTERERS

J. HUTTON
Quality Wall And Floor Tiling
 Indoor and Out
 Ceramic, Porcelain, Natural Stone, Mosaic
For prompt service Telephone 07821915500

PRINTERS

Raffle Tickets
 Organising a prize draw?
 We can supply numbered and perforated tickets to your requirements
Call into
 The Arran Banner
 Brodick, Isle of Arran, KA27 8AJ
 Tel: (01770) 302142
 Fax: (01770) 302021

DECORATORS

FULTON decorators
Your Local Decorator
 See our main Advert on page 2

Alex McMullan Plasterer
 Painting & decorating
 Coving
 25 years experience
 Competitive Rates
Tel 820623
Mob 07751890867

TAXIS

JIM DOUGLAS TAXIS
 Telephone **0789 9906642**
 Prompt & efficient service

Stevie's Decor Painting and Decorating
 Interior and Exterior
 Free Estimates
Tel: Stevie Newall 01770 600168
 Mobile 07901592922

CLASSIFIEDS

JOINERS

IAN WATSON JOINERY
HOME AND HOTEL MAINTENANCE
 Friendly Reliable Service
 Free Estimates.
Tel: 01770 700 697
Mobile: 0771 953 4290
 Email: ian.watson93@yahoo.co.uk

MISCELLANEOUS

Tel 302285
 EPSON stylus colour 660 printer £10 Tel 302285
 EPSON picture mate photo printer £15 Tel 302285
 OAK veneered computer desk £15 Tel 700479

Tel 302285
 EPSON stylus colour 660 printer £10 Tel 302285
 EPSON picture mate photo printer £15 Tel 302285
 OAK veneered computer desk £15 Tel 700479

HAYLAGE

Small bales, suitable for horses. Tel 850213

WHITE GOODS

COMPACT CREDA tumble drier with venting hose. Ex con £30 Tel 860492

FURNITURE

THREE piece suite £70 ono Tel 820225"

AUDIO/VISUAL

PANASONIC 21" TV with remote (not flat screen) £30 Tel 600238
 14" MATSUI TV 1407S + remote and aerial £10 303753
 20" MATSUI TV 2076R + remote and cabinet £15 303753

COMPUTING

CANON flat bed scanner £10

FUEL SUPPLIERS

ARRAN WOODFUELS
 Firewood Logs
 Wood Chips
 Wood Pellets
 Stoves & Boilers
 Grant Aid Advice
www.arranwoodfuels.co.uk
 Tel: 01770 870 207

THE ARRAN BANNER

MARKETING AND SALES ASSISTANT
 PART TIME
 The Arran Banner, Arran's established local newspaper requires a Marketing and Sales assistant to work in our Brodick office and assist with the further development of our products within the community. The successful applicant will play a key role in providing holiday and extra cover within our advertising department when necessary and be expected to deal with all aspects of the advertising reception. In addition they will also provide support to our sales team through selling and promotion of all our island titles and brand extensions. Excellent communications skills, flexibility, high levels of accuracy, computer literacy and a friendly and outgoing manner are vital.
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 If you think you know then post your answer on the website
www.arranbanner.co.uk
 Or email us at:
editor@arranbanner.co.uk
 Last week Archie was sitting on the front doorstep of the Douglas Hotel, just before the demolition men moved in. Some thought he was at the Wineport, but Robert Marr of Lamlash was first with the correct answer. He said: 'Maybe he is supervising the works.' This week he is on a slope, but where is that tarmac?
 02_b51arc01



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CHURCH NOTICES

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Sunday 20 December
 (Church is on the road between Machrie & Blackwaterfoot)
 Shiskine 11am
 Sunday School meets in the Church Hall
 Brodick 7pm (Church is behind Post Office)
 Rev David Karoon
 All welcome

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH
 Sunday Morning Mass 11am

WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH
Sunday 20 December

An all age service for Christmas, with a family communion will be conducted by Rev Elizabeth Watson, at 10.30am. Tea and coffee will be served in the Transept after the service. All most welcome. Usual monthly sale of Traidcraft goods.

Service at AWMH at 1.30pm, Coorieoon at 2.30pm and Craigielea at 3.15pm.

At 6.30pm in the transept, there will be an informal evening service of praise and discussion. All welcome.

Thursday 24 December
 There will be a service at 11.30pm to welcome Christmas Day. Offering to Al Shurooq, Beit Jala, nr Bethlehem.

Friday 25th December
 short family service at 10am conducted by the minister to which all children are invited to bring a gift from santa to show. All welcome.

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(in full communion with the Church of England)
 St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.

Sunday 20 December
 Holy Communion, 11am
 Mr John Roberts
 Coffee after service.

Thursday 24 December
 Midnight Mass, 11.30pm
 Revd Paul Fletcher
 All most welcome

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Kilmory linked with Lamlash
 "A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"

Sunday 20 December
 Rev Gillian Maclean
 Kilmory 10am
 Lamlash 11.30am
 Family Service
 In both churches
 All welcome, including families; children's area

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND (continuing)

Sunday 20 December
 11am

Trust Housing Lounge, Glen Estate, Brodick
 Evening Service
 5 Glen Road, 7pm
Wednesday 23 December
 Prayer Meeting
 7pm
 Rev D MacLeod
 All welcome

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH.

Ormidale Pavilion Brodick.
Sunday 20 December
 10.45am Communion
 Tea and coffee from 11.10am
 11.30am For all the family
 Speaker: Rev Willie Wright
 Everyone very welcome

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, to which all are invited - Families, young people and children welcome

Sunday 20 December
 Brodick 10.30am
 Corrie. 12pm
 Pirmill 10.15am.
 Shiskine 12pm

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

Thursday 24 December
 Brodick Church, 11.30pm
 Corrie Church, 9pm
 Shiskine Church, 11.30pm

Friday 25 December
 Christmas day Service in Lochranza Church at 11am

DEATHS

FOWLER - MICHAEL DAVID
 Peacefully at Arran War Memorial Hospital on Thursday 10th December 2009. David, aged 80 years, beloved husband of Margaret, dear father of Kathym, Andrew and Stephen, grand dad of Helen, Benjamin, Rachel and Thomas. Funeral service took place on Wednesday 16th December at Lamlash Church.

FLETCHER - R HEATHER

Peacefully at home, R. Heather, beloved wife of the late Arthur, much loved by Paul, Sheenah, Rebecca and Charlotte.

A funeral service will take place on Tuesday 22nd December 2009 in St Columba's Episcopal Church, Largs at 11am thereafter to Greenock crematorium for 12 noon to which all friends are respectfully invited.

BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS

BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMORIALS

THOMPSON
 Precious memories of Marion Mum, mother-in-law and grandmother who died 20 December 1997.

Your presence we miss,
 Your memory we treasure,
 Loving you always,
 Forgetting you never,
 Sadly missed,
 But together with Dad.
 Maureen, Jackie, Marion and families

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

JAMESON-CAROLYN

Gerry Jameson and family would like to thank the Rev Angus Adamson for his very thoughtful service and David Hendry for all the funeral arrangements. Drs and staff at Arran War Memorial Hospital and the crew of HMS Gannet. Eleanor for the wonderful flowers and staff at Brodick Golf Club. Also to all relatives, friends and neighbours for letters, cards and expressions of sympathy on the sudden death of Carolyn.

A great thank you to all who generously donated a total of £830.50 to Arran Hospital Supporters League. She will be greatly missed.

ANDREWS - JAMES

The family of Jim would like to thank all friends and neighbours for their kind expressions of sympathy received at this sad time. A special thanks to all of the doctors and nurses involved in Jim's care.

Thanks to Mrs Jean Hunter and Reverend Alan Thompson for a comforting service, and thanks to all who attended the service.

CAMPBELL - SYBIL

the family of the late Sybil Campbell would like to express their huge gratitude to all the people of Arran who have supported them during the last few weeks. We would particularly like to mention Mrs Jean Hunter, Rev Angus Adamson, David and Clare hendry, Alan and Grace Bleakley, St Brides Church, and Sybil's many neighbours and friends

BIRTHS



MCMULLAN

Glen and Tasha are pleased to announce the arrival of their wee boy Oscar Christopher McMullan. Thanks to Donna, Elaine and the staff at Ayrshire Maternity Unit.

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PERSONALS

Thank You

Many thanks to our guests for joining with us to celebrate Leah and Lachie's marriage - you all made it a very special day for us. Special thanks to John for your car and chauffeur services and to Gordon for your courage! To Angus and John, the service and the music was beautiful. To the management and staff of the Kinloch Hotel thank you, once again you provided faultless service and took everything in your stride; even an unexpected guest!

Jimmy & Jenni

DRIVE TIMES

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Sport

Arran's Weekly Newspaper



Pictured are seven of the trophy winners at the Lamlash Bowling Club's annual dinner and prizegiving.

Margaret and Charles keep up great record

Lamlash Bowling Club celebrated the end of another successful season last week with the annual dinner and prizegiving at the golf club.

Another haul of trophies was won this year including the incredible feat of Margaret Murchie and Charles Weir who won the Mixed Pairs title for the fifth year in a row.

The trophy winners were as follows: Federation Pairs

– Jim Sloss and C Haggarty; Nominated Pairs – Peter Heinemeier and I Tainsh; Balloted Pairs – C Haggarty and Linda Heinemeier; Mixed Pairs – Charles Weir and Margaret Murchie; Ladies Pairs – Margaret Murchie and Lillian Thomson; Ladies Singles – Pat Spence; Gents Singles – Jim Sloss and Open Singles – Charles Weir.

East takes on west in rugby games

THERE IS no doubt that after all the Christmas food and merriment by Sunday December 27, Banner readers will be desperately in need of some fresh air. So, why not go along to the East v West Rugby tournament in Brodick?

A girls/boys game will be kicking-off at 1pm at Ormidale Park and this will be followed by the senior's game at 2pm. The Isle of Arran Rugby Club would like to see as many people there as possible, so go and along and support the teams.

Lamlash Bridge Club

The results from Monday 14 December were as follows: N/S 1 P Adamson and E McConnell +1730, 2 M McGill and P Thomson +1020, 3 H Boyd and J Murchie -310. E/W 1 M and D Bruce +2050, 2 E McNiven and R Thomson +1250, 3 J Macclure and A McKelvie +780.



Golf

Lamlash Golf Club

Thursday 10 December, 15-hole medal, 14 played in dry conditions with cold breeze testing some of the players. There were eight magic twos from G Tinto, J Stewart, D Wales, S Brothers, A Smith, M Wren and D Robertson with two. 1 Jim Stewart 59-11=48, 2 Derek Robertson 52-3=49, 3 Mark Wren 61-9=52 BIH. Sunday 13 December Stableford, only eight played in very good conditions with greens in good nick. There was one magic two by Miller Crawford. Scratch G Andrew with a 73,

1 G Andrew 36, 2 A Smith 35.

Fixtures: Every Thursday 15 hole medal. Saturday 19 De-

ember, Christmas Disco Dance from 9pm, members and friends welcome. Sunday 20 December, Friendly game with Whiting Bay at Lamlash 10.30am for 11am. Saturday 26 December, Boxing Day game from 11am.

Whiting Bay Golf Club

Sunday 13 December, 21 played on a day when visibility was down to only a few yards at times as the mist settled over the course. Amazingly the CSS dropped to 62 as scoring was better than usual. Once everybody had been counted back safely the winner of the third round was found to be Gus MacLeod (12)60, 2 John Taylor (17)61 BIH, 3 John Simons (11)61, 4 John Pennycott (11)62 BIH. Jamie MacPherson won scratch with 68 and there were no magic twos.

Fixtures: Sunday 20 December, friendly with Lamlash at Lamlash, tee offs between 10.30am and 11am. A good Whiting Bay turnout would be appreciated. Sunday 27 December, Christmas Bottle.

Brodick Golf Club

Saturday 13 December, Brandon and Winter Cup, 18 played. 1 Len Hartley (16)60, 2 Bruce Jenkins (8)61, 3 Lindsay Keir (11)63 BIH from I MacDonald, scratch E McKinnon 66. There were five twos, G Hendry, C McFadzean, B Jenkins, Russell Duncan and P McCalla. First class Brandon winner – Bruce Jenkins. Second class Brandon winner – Len Hartley. Some very good scoring on a cold winters day.

Fixtures: Sunday 20 December, Clochendichter.

Shiskine Golf Club

Thursday 10 December, Ladies 18 Hole Medal. 1 Jenni Turnbull 88-18=70, 2 Liz Kerr 89-16=73, 3 Sylvia Money 107-33=74 BIH. Best scratch Jenni Turnbull 88.

Sunday 12 December, 18 hole Medal. 1 Donald Logan 75-9=66, 2 Alan Napier 72-5=67, 3 G E Stewart 78-9=69. Best Scratch Alan Napier 72.

Fixtures: Saturday 26 December, Boxing Day Texas Scramble. Thursday 31 December, Mahogany Trophy.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Tuesday 8 December, Winter Cup played from the yellow tees. 1 Brian Sherwood 73, 2 Elizabeth Ross 75, 3 Donald Campbell 82. Scratch Brian Sherwood 82. **Fixtures:** Tuesday 22 December, Winter Cup, tee-off 12pm. Tuesday 29 December, two-club competition (putter and one other club) played over nine holes, tee-off 12pm.

Corrie Golf Club

Saturday December 12, Winter Cup, 1 D Wilkinson 73-17=56, 2 R Logan 63-6=58, 3 B Rooney 74-15=59. Monday December 14, 1 L Hartley 69-14=59, 2 A Macdonald 69-11=58, 3 M Macdonald 73-12=61. **Fixtures:** Saturday December 19, Winter Cup, 12pm start. Monday December 21, Monday Cup 12pm start.

Brodick Bridge Club

Last Thursday 32 members met in Brodick Golf Clubhouse for the annual dinner. The excellent meal was followed by games of bridge. The winners were: N/S Jean Murchie and Linda Trickett and E/W Jean Barclay and Liz Paul.

President David Scobie thanked all those who had helped in making the evening a great success, particularly Trish for the delicious meal and Douglas for his help on throughout the year. The club will re-start in the Ormidale Sport's Pavilion on Thursday January 7 at 7.15pm.

Whiting Bay Golf Club

Xmas Opening

Monday 21st – Thursday 24th
Monday 28th – Thursday 31st
12 noon - 4pm

Christmas Day & Boxing Day
Closed

Wednesday 30th
Video Quiz
8pm – Late

Hogmanay
Members & Guests
8pm – Late

New Years Day gathering
12 noon – 5pm

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Published by Wyvex Media, Brodick, Isle of Arran
Tel: 01770 302142 - Fax 01770 302021
E-mail: editor@arranbanner.co.uk
Registered at the Post Office as a Newspaper



The Arran Banner's circulation is independently audited by the Audit Bureau of Circulations (ABC Ltd) - www.abc.org.uk. The total average weekly net circulation for the 52 issues between 1st January 2008 and 31st December 2008 was 3,313. The Arran Banner will continue to be independently audited.