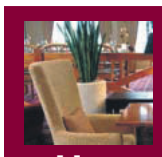

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Arran's Weekly Newspaper | SATURDAY, 27 DECEMBER, 2008 | No 1680

A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR READERS

FREE INSIDE THIS WEEK
YOUR 2009 ARRAN BANNER CALENDAR

Flood of anger over school closure

Whiting Bay pupils sent home for third time this year

Report by JENNIFER LYON

Parents expressed their anger after pupils at Whiting Bay Primary School were sent home twice last week because of flooding. It is the third time this year that the building has been flooded.

The school's 71 children were told to go home early on Wednesday afternoon when the toilets flooded.

On Thursday morning pupils were actually turned away from the school gates as the building was still letting in water.

Rachel Armitage has two young children at the school and she is furious that North Ayrshire Council is not tackling the problem.

'I think this situation is just showing the complete and utter incompetence of NAC,' she said. 'We have been waiting more than two years for this problem to be solved. It's disgraceful.

'The flooding has a wide-reaching, chaotic effect. Not only is their education being affected but our children are being sent to school in a building that is not safe.'

In the past year Rachel estimates that the children have missed nearly one week of school because of the trouble with drainage around the building.

She added: 'If we were a mainland school this would never be allowed to happen. Because we are out of the way we are just forgotten about. It is scandalous.'

Gordon Provan, chairman of the Whiting Bay Primary School Parent Council, spoke to *The Banner* on Tuesday. He said: 'I drove past the school this morning and there was a digger in the playground, so I'm hoping that work is at last being carried out. The parent council has had to contact NAC on numerous occasions about this. We really should not be responsible for trying to get the school fixed.

'We are just hoping that the work will be carried out soon so we won't have to think twice about sending the kids to school when it rains.'

A spokesman from NAC said: 'There are two reasons for the flooding problems at Whiting Bay Primary School and we are tackling both urgently.

'The first is inadequate drainage in the fields adjacent to the school, causing water to flow straight into the grounds. We are investigating how this can be prevented – for example by deepening and/or clearing the ditches.

'Secondly there appears to be a problem with drainage under the school and its grounds. We have asked specialist drainage companies to locate this problem and deal with it.'

Santa surprise for Innes

Young Innes McNicol had his Santa hat on to meet Father Christmas for the first time at the SWRI Christmas party in Whiting Bay Hall last Saturday. Innes was just 20 days old and his dad Calum had to help him receive his gift, handed to Santa by Rural president Betty McCormack. More than 100 children received gifts supplied by the ladies of Whiting Bay Rural. b52san01

Staff told future is safe

Employees at one of Arran's biggest businesses have been told not to fear for the future after a liquidator was sought for the company this week.

Arran Aromatics had been ordered to wind up and appoint a liquidator after a petition was presented to Kilmarnock Sheriff Court by the advocate general for Scotland on behalf of HM Revenue and Customs at the weekend.

Alistair Renwick, managing director of the company, said: 'We received no warning that this notice was being served. Within 10 minutes we telephoned the HM Revenue and were able to sort out the misunderstanding. There is nothing to worry about.'

One employee told *The Arran Banner* that as far as the workforce was aware there is no threat of redundancy.

'We were told at a meeting on Friday that there are no grounds for this action,' he said. 'We have all been reassured that there is nothing to worry about. Really it's just business as usual until the problem with HM Customs is sorted out.'

Arran Aromatics began making body care products on the island in 1988.

Iain and Janet Russell bought the Home Farm premises in January 1989 and the first products were made on the site a few months later.

The family-run toiletries company now employs around 100 staff between their island premises and the factory in Dundonald on the mainland.

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John says pothole was so big it damaged his car wheel

An angry Arran motorist contacted *The Arran Banner* this week after one of his car wheels was severely damaged by a large hole in the road.

John Adams from Lamlash brought his damaged wheel into the *Banner* office on Friday to show the large dent on its rim.

'I was driving down the hill from Whitefarland towards Pirnmill when I heard a huge bang,' said John. 'Because of the time of day – it was about 5pm – and there was a car coming the other way I didn't see the pothole, so I wasn't able to swerve to miss it.'

The heavy metal wheel trim of John's car was dented and eventually the tyre came off.

'Huge'

'I stopped to have a look at the hole in the road and it's huge,' said John. 'You could fit a large boulder into it easily.'

He added that it was his intention to pursue North Ayrshire Council for compensation for the damage to the wheel and tyre.

A spokesman from North Ayrshire Council roads department said: 'Now that we are aware of these large potholes at Whitefarland we will do all that we can to rectify the problem.'

John Adams from Lamlash with the wheel that was damaged by the pothole. b52joh01

Police files

Man charged with reckless driving

A car driver was apprehended in Brodick last Wednesday for allegedly driving on the pavement.

Sergeant Bob MacKay said: 'The Lochranza man was observed driving along the pavement outside the Co-op and subsequently charged under section 89 of the Road Traffic Act (Scotland) for driving with defective eyesight.

'He was also charged with reckless driving.'

A report has been sent to the procurator fiscal.

Lost in the woods

A man was reported as being lost in the forest at Cnoc na Dail between Brodick and Lamlash at 11.40pm last Friday.

Members of Arran Mountain Rescue Team were mustered, but before they could reach the scene the 42-year-old Whiting Bay man was found by local police officers.

It is thought that he had been trying to find a way around the road closure on foot due to the fatal accident on Lamlash hill.

False alarm in Glen Sannox

Following reports of a flare being seen above Glen Sannox last Thursday evening members of Arran Mountain Rescue Team were called out at 5.20pm.

They carried out a search until midnight without any success and headed back into the glen at 8.30am. A Sea King search and rescue helicopter was also involved in the fruitless search which was described as a false alarm with good intent.

Festive advice from police

Local police will be extra vigilant over the festive period.

Sergeant Bob MacKay said: 'There will be island patrols by mainland traffic police and we will have extra police on duty over the holiday period. We just want people to enjoy themselves and keep safe over Christmas.'

Approval for seven lodges

North Ayrshire Council planning committee approved one Arran application and deferred another one last Tuesday.

An application by Auchrannie Leisure Ltd to build seven one-and-a-half storey lodges in Auchrannie Road, Brodick was approved with seven conditions.

Letters of objection on the grounds of overdevelopment were received from two co-owners of adjacent Auchrannie timeshare units.

An application to build two houses at Knockenkelly, Whiting Bay had been recommended for approval by planning officers but was deferred until the next planning meeting on January 13 after an objector made a counter application to build two houses in the same vicinity. Approval of either application would have prevented further development at Knockenkelly.

Both applications will now be considered at the next planning meeting.

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It pays to advertise in the ARRAN BANNER

The A841 was closed for 20 hours after a fatal accident last Friday evening. b52roa01

Elderly woman dies in road collision

An 82-year-old Lamlash woman died in a road crash between Brodick and Lamlash last Friday.

Elizabeth McArthur of Cordon, Lamlash sustained fatal injuries when her Suzuki motor car was in collision with a Vauxhall Astra at 4.40pm on Brodick hill.

Mrs McArthur was driving towards Lamlash after finishing her volunteer work in the Brodick ArCaS charity shop.

Sergeant Bob MacKay said: 'Emergency services attended but sadly Mrs McArthur was pronounced dead at the scene. An 82-year-old female passenger in the car was seriously injured and taken to Arran War Memorial Hospital.

'The passenger was later transferred to Crosshouse Hospital, Kilmarnock by a Sea King helicopter from HMS Gannet.'

A hospital spokesman said that the woman was in a stable condition in an intensive care unit.

The 42-year-old male driver of the other car was taken to Arran War Memorial Hospital where he was treated for cuts and grazes and later released.

Police were unable to get a Strathclyde Crash Investigation Unit to the island until Saturday morning due to the ferry being storm-bound.

Investigation

Ferry operator Caledonian MacBrayne arranged a special sailing from Brodick at 5.30am on Saturday and a traffic sergeant, traffic officer and two uniformed officers arrived on the island at 8am to conduct an investigation. The road remained closed until noon on Saturday.

Sergeant MacKay said: 'A report is being compiled for the procurator fiscal. It is too early to apportion blame.

'I would like to thank all road users for their patience in allowing the emergency services to deal with this tragic accident. Our thoughts are with the family of Betty McArthur at this sad time.'

Festive cheer in Brodick

The St Brides Ladies brought a significant amount of festive cheer to Brodick last Saturday afternoon when they held their annual Christmas Fayre.

Brodick Church Hall was crammed with people picking up last minute presents and enjoying a warm cup of tea or coffee with the delicious homebaking.

By far the busiest stall was the one packed with cakes, biscuits, tablet and scones that was being ably manned by Jean Robertson, Fiona Brown and Maureen Cuthbert. b51bri01

Council services affected over Christmas and New Year

Most local council services and offices will be closed from 4.45pm on Christmas Eve until 9am on Monday January 5.

During the Christmas period the local North Ayrshire Council social services office in Lamlash will be open on Monday 29 and Tuesday December 30 and on Hogmanay the office will be open until 12.30pm.

The Arran mobile library won't be operating on Christmas and Boxing Day or on January 1 and 2.

For round-the-clock help in an emergency please ring the following numbers. Housing repairs 0800 0196 444, roads and lighting 0845 603 0594, Scottish Water – water and sewerage 0845 601 8855.

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Kirstie Kerr is Arran's Young Naturalist of the Year. She is pictured with the rest of the Gnat Club, who are holding the George Crawshaw award won at Eglinton Country Park in September. b51nat01NO

Young naturalist of the year

Kirstie Kerr was named as Arran's Young Naturalist of the Year last week at a special meeting in the Ranger Centre at Brodick Castle.

Abbie Jackson and Duncan Coyne were this year's runners up.

Kate Sampson, senior ranger at Brodick Castle and Country Park said: 'The award is given for enthusiasm, team work and development of natural history knowledge and skills throughout the year.

Develop

'Kirstie has attended nearly every meeting and has shown great interest in nature and has also helped others develop their skills and interests.'

The Young Gnat Club meet once a month and the children range in age from six to 11. Every year the best young naturalist of that year is given a special cup. Apart from learning more about specific topics, like birds or archaeology, they also do some practical conservation.

The Brodick Young Naturalist team also won the George Crawshaw award for effort, friendliness and enthusiasm in September during an inter-club challenge at Eglinton Country Park.

New Year message from Councillor Margie Currie

Arran's local councillor Margie Currie contributes a New Year message to The Arran Banner.

This is not the happiest of reports or New Year messages. Yet another extremely sad fatal road accident brings shock to the community this Christmas time and our thoughts are with all who have been affected.

The threat of job losses is looming. Arran is not escaping the 'credit crunch'. Its a 'real' world we are all thrust into this New Year. The virtual millions have evaporated and left us (who never enjoyed the millions anyway) with the effects of the debt.

2008 broke no records of the kind we could boast about. many businesses in the tourism industry reported a poor summer season. The weather didn't help. Farmers struggled to make crops and livestock suffered from lack of sunlight and continual rain.

It wasn't all doom and gloom, however, the Distillery launched a new whisky (could be your best investment?) Arran Outdoor Resource Centre opened, Brodick Castle bucked the trend a bit and the Arran Brewery under new management was saved from the brink.

Arran's local councillor, Margie Currie. b52mar01

But what of 2009? All I can say is that I hope that the indigenous resilience of Arran people will come to the fore this year because it will be needed. It's going to be a time for co-operation more than ever.

There will be tourists and those that come will be expecting the same services and better for their money. Marketing will be crucial. In a new kind of economy maybe pricing structures need to be looked at? The upward spiral may be stopped.

The housing market will change. Many winter lets are not filled this winter. It's ironic that existing houses may be a bit more affordable except that the means to secure them are ever more difficult. Maybe the slowing of the private market is temporary while buyers await further price falls? The need is even greater for more homes for rent.

The budget is there for a modest increase in this house building and I hope that the land issues, which have been delaying progress, will resolve quickly.

Arran has valuable assets, the people themselves, a wonderful natural environment, a high quality food and drinks industry (flagged by Taste of Arran). To succeed in hard times we need to fully support our own local industries. Maybe this is the year when VisitArran can show its worth but only if the tourism businesses pull together behind it and use their collective strength for their own good and for the good of the island in general.

NAC Business Services and Citizens Advice Bureau are available to assist businesses in difficulty with advice. The business of Council itself is equally engaged in trying to make savings and efficiencies to contain budgets in the public sector and to maintain as many jobs as possible.

I wish everyone and every business the means to keep going until better times prevail. many people have many diverse skills on Arran. New Year is bitter sweet. Its tinged with sadness of loss in the year gone by and that's countered a bit by good Scottish optimism which we'll need this New Year!

Good luck and good health, Margie.

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Santa arrives in Lamlash in style!

Santa Claus arrived in style last weekend as he attended an afternoon of festive events in Lamlash.
Driven in a carriage by Janis Murchie, Santa was joined by Lamlash Heather Queen Shannon McAllister who then helped him to switch on Lamlash's beautiful Christmas lights.
b51san01

Sandy McGovern and some of the local children encourage the massed throng of youngsters in Whiting Bay Hall in a rousing rendition of 'Jingle Bells' to herald Santa's arrival last Saturday night with a sackful of goodies. b52san02

Rural ladies help make Christmas special

The Rural ladies of Arran do not just make jam and embroider quilts.

As well as their regular monthly meetings throughout the winter, they also help to make Christmas that bit special for many youngsters.

Most village halls host a party for all the local children on an evening approaching Christmas and entertainment, food and presents are usually supplied by the Rural ladies.

After a couple of hours of frantic games and a generous feed of sandwiches, cakes and jelly and ice cream the children are at fever pitch when the appointed time for Santa's arrival comes. And he always turns up on time with a present for every child.

In Kilmory and Kildonan the party is traditionally held on Christmas Eve itself, with the result that all children go home exhausted and quickly fall asleep waiting for the magical surprises of Christmas morning.

School leavers offered cancer vaccine

Girls in Arran who left school and were aged 17 years or younger on September 1 this year will be offered the cervical cancer vaccine.

Around 1500 girls will be contacted by NHS Ayrshire and Arran to offer them a vaccine that will protect them against the two main types of the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV), the main cause of cervical cancer.

The HPV immunisation programme is already underway in schools throughout Scotland, and NHS Ayrshire and Arran will now write to girls aged 16 and 17 who have left school to invite them to attend their family doctor to receive the first dose of the vaccine.

Depending on where they live, some girls will be invited by their GP, and they will be contacted anytime from December 2008.

Invitation

The remainder will be invited to attend a clinic, and they can expect to receive their invitation in the first week of January 2009.

The immunisation will help to protect girls against types 16 and 18 of HPV, which cause 70 per cent of all cases of cervical cancer, the second most common cancer affecting women under 50 worldwide.

Girls will be given three separate jabs in their upper arm over a six-month period to get the best protection.

The catch-up campaign, which is being offered to girls in S5 and S6, girls aged 16 and 17 who have left school this year, and girls in S3 and S4 next year, will be implemented over a three-year period and will take place alongside the routine programme, which is currently being offered to all girls aged 12 to 13 (S2) in schools across Ayrshire and Arran.

So far 5015 girls have already been offered the vaccine.

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THE ARRAN BANNER

New year will bring new challenges in tough times

As a new year is about to dawn it brings with it the prospect of new challenges and fresh opportunities.

But what does 2009 hold for the people and economy of Arran?

In the current unstable economic climate the way ahead could be seen as being more uncertain than ever.

Local companies and individuals will be looking very carefully at how they budget to maintain their share of the market for the coming months. Hoteliers, hauliers and shopkeepers will all have to become more professional in a business sense.

The credit crunch was not forecast and has had more impact than anyone could possibly have imagined.

Mainland financial institutions previously seen as being 'as safe as the Bank of England' have been found to be more like a house of cards.

Householders who were encouraged to borrow with up to 100 per cent mortgages are facing not only negative equity but the serious likelihood of losing their homes. Jobs that were previously seen as secure are no longer so.

Consumer spending has plummeted and amazing bargains are on offer at many mainland stores as retail outlets fight tooth and nail for a share of an ever-reducing spend.

Famous High Street brand names like Woolworths and MFI have toppled and many workers face a bleak festive season without a job or even the prospect of a job in the foreseeable future.

The world's largest car maker, Toyota, has just announced a first-ever trading loss and factory workers have been given a long holiday because of the lack of orders. Going on holiday has become even more of a luxury as the pound sterling has dropped in value to almost parity with the euro.

Heading into these difficult times it becomes the survival of the fittest. Those companies that invested wisely and grew steadily without over-borrowing are the ones that will survive.

Those people and businesses that practised good housekeeping and carefully planned for the future will be most likely to thrive in the inevitable aftermath of the infamous credit crunch.

Words like recession and depression are being bandied about every day in the media and it is difficult to foresee how far down the economy will tumble before it begins to stabilise.

In these harsh times sound economic foundations and good business sense are most likely to prevail.

Some Arran businesses may struggle to survive, but then again, life on an island was never meant to be easy.

The words of the Bard seem quite appropriate at this time: *'An' forward tho' I canna see, I guess an' fear.'*

Happy New Year.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, and through whom He made the universe.' (Hebrews1:1-2)

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 council pilot scheme

Sir,

First of all may I thank everyone who took the time to write to, or phone me with suggestions for a £10,000 pilot scheme.

Arran community council has not reached a final decision on how the money should be used.

We know that our final decision will not satisfy everyone but we are determined that any scheme that we select will benefit, if not all the community then a large part of it .

There are certain criteria that must be followed and points have had to be clarified with the government, as to the use of the money, and if there would be any continued funding for any particular project.

We have been informed that this is a one-off payment, so naturally we have to adjust any thoughts to take this into account.

We will therefore be making further deliberations early in the New Year.

I can assure you that the community council will do its utmost to ensure that the £10,000 is used wisely for the benefit of the island.

We therefore wish to take our time over the matter and not rush into anything .

Once again thank you to all who have made suggestions or given advice to the Community Council.

Thank you all for your support.

Finally, may I on behalf of the Community Council wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Yours,
Campbell Laing
Chairman
Woodside
Pirnmill

Update from Penrith

Sir,

I was interested to read the background to the naming of the Arran varieties of potato bred by Donald McKelvie in the *Banner* of December 6.

Old varieties of vegetables and fruits are coming back in; people are sick of bland ones from the supermarket.

A Marilyn hill is so-named as another sort of Munro, which is at least 3,000 feet high. Hills 2,000ft to 2,999ft are Corbetts.

Vast outdoor Christmas lights on houses can be overdone and are a profligate use of electricity, which is finite.

If the current crisis encourages thrift, so much the better.

This is my first letter to you for quite a while. I hear there is a website that says I write monthly to you.

Don't believe everything you read on the web!

Yours,
Jeremy Godwin
15 Drovers Lane
Penrith

Cumbria BBC scrap video on-demand news

Sir,

Further to my calls for the BBC to halt their plans for local video on-demand news (Banner 29 November), I am pleased to report that Sir Michael Lyons and the BBC Trust have decided to reject the BBC's five-year, £68 million plans to run 65 video websites, saying their priority should be improving the quality of existing services.

Media Regulator Ofcom recognised that the BBC plans may have stifled innovation by other news organisations, and I'm sure local newspapers throughout the country will be relieved that this threat to their income streams is removed, and that their own plans in this area as well as existing services will not be undermined.

Yours,
Philip Lardner
Westminster Candidate
North Ayrshire and Arran

Katy Clark MP with Polish artist Natalia Krsyzanowska and Burnside Gallery director Mhairi-Aileen Smeir.

MP experiences Polish folklore at Arran gallery

Arran's MP Katy Clark experienced the wonders of traditional Polish culture on a recent visit to Brodick's Burnside Gallery.

The gallery was hosting an exhibit by the Polish artist Natalia Krsyzanowska that displayed the regional varieties of traditional Polish culture.

Gallery director, Mhairi-Aileen Smeir said: 'Natalia spent five day presenting members from all parts of our community with a wonderful, exciting and educational presentation of Poland and Poland's districts, culture, art and folklore. I am delighted with the outcome of her visit and look forward to further visits from Natalia and others like her in the future.'

During Natalia's visit to Arran she delivered interesting and informative presentations to local school children, an elderly retreat and adult groups specifically interested in international costume.

Her time in Scotland was spent in both Arran and Edinburgh where she also made a presentation at the National Gallery.

Katy was most impressed with Natalia's exhibit, which included traditional custom, music craft and folklore stories from different regions of Poland.

'I greatly enjoyed meeting Natalia and learning about Polish traditions from her,' Katy said. 'She has put much time and effort into her exhibit, and has been a superb ambassador for her country. It is fantastic that Burnside Gallery can host such worthwhile visitors and exhibits, and events such as this are a huge asset to the Arran community.'

THE ARRAN BANNER

We would like to wish all our readers and advertisers a happy and peaceful festive season.

Please note that our Advertising & Editorial copy deadline is 1pm on Tuesday December 30.

We would like to invite you to send your Hogmanay and New Year celebration photographs to us for publication in the Banner.

Tel: 01770 302142
e-mail; editorial@arranbanner.co.uk

ARRAN DELIVERIES
Glasgow Depot ::
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Bird Notes - the robin

By Jim Cassels

Robins in the UK are associated with Christmas, and appear on lots of Christmas cards. A common explanation is that the Victorian postmen who delivered Christmas cards wore red uniforms, and were nicknamed 'robin redbreasts'.

So people associated receiving their cards with robins. The truth is probably much simpler, for robins are most noticeable at Christmas.

With bright red breast, which the bird puffs out to keep warm, and winter song, these birds bring colour and cheerfulness to drab surroundings.

Robins are one of the few species of bird that sing in winter. It is also in the depths of winter, when insect food is scarce, that robins seem most tame. So robins have become as much a part of the Christmas scene as snow and holly.

A rich folklore surrounds the robin, which has always been seen as a friend to people, and an emblem of charity and piety.

So William Shakespeare described the 'ruddock with charitable bill' while William Wordsworth asked, 'Art thou the bird whom Man loves best

The pious bird with the scarlet breast

Our little English Robin?'

Pious is poetical license. Robins are aggressive and have been known to defend their food territories to the death.

Robins sing throughout the year because each bird, male or female, will occupy its own territory during the winter.

In order to defend their winter food territories, the females have to sing and display just like males do.

Then in spring the females have to persuade the males to stop fighting them and start co-operating with them in the raising of a family.

The robin is most noticeable at Christmas. b52rob01NO

To do this, when they encroach into the males' territory they behave like young birds begging for food, thus stimulating the males to feed them rather than fight them.

The sexes are very similar, if not identical. Some texts suggest that the brown forehead is v shaped in females and u shaped in males, though even this is not always apparent.

The juvenile robin has speckled buff-brown upper parts and underparts. They have no red feathers so that adult birds do not attack them in territorial disputes.

The speckled feathers are lost in a partial moult when the bird is about two to three months old.

In winter, some immigrants from Scandinavia and continental Europe join resident birds in the UK.

A small percentage of British females winter abroad.

Large numbers of birds from northern Europe pass through Britain in the autumn before continuing to Iberia and North Africa to winter.

Enjoy your birding.

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

Corrie and Sannox SWRI

The monthly meeting of the Corrie and Sannox SWRI held on Thursday December 11 in the afternoon was very well attended.

The president, Mrs Elma Stevenson, welcomed the members with a very special welcome for our three honorary members, Betty Kerr, Ruth Russell and Bessie Sillars.

After the business, Elma introduced the demonstrator for the afternoon, Assaya Baumgartner, who showed the ladies how to make Christmas decorations that were traditional and eco-friendly.

Afterwards members were given the opportunity to make one themselves. Anne Pringle proposed a vote of thanks for an enjoyable afternoon. The next meeting, 'Auld Year's Nicht' is on Thursday January 8 at 6pm for 6.30pm where there will be a buffet followed by the return of 'The Three Amigos'.

Reminiscences at Corrie and Sannox Wednesday Club

Due to the illness of Dr Graham Tinto, the December meeting of the Corrie and Sannox Wednesday Club were treated instead to reminiscences from Stevie Stevenson.

He talked about his boyhood in Kilmarnock to his position as principal teacher of physical education at Grange Academy, Kilmarnock with many schools in between!

The speaker at the next meeting on January 14 will be Chris Traill who will speak about those who have trained to be First Responders.

The Christmas lunch was held at Scott's at Corrie Golf Club on Wednesday December 17. Thirty members enjoyed an excellent meal and a visit from the Secret Santa.

Auchrannie

Spa Resort

only a few tickets still available

'Celebrate Hogmanay in Style'

'Isle be there'

There's only one place to celebrate **Hogmanay** this year & that's at **Auchrannie!**

Live music from **'Corra'** offering ceilidh dances & contemporary numbers to keep you entertained all night.

Dinner & Dance packages available

Brambles - *Champagne arrival & 5 Course Dinner £75*

Cruize - *4 Course Dinner £48*

Tickets for the Dance only

£20 Adults

£10 Children (3-10)

Children Under 3 (FOC)

Stagecoach buses will be available at the end of the night to take you home, at a cost of £6 Adults & £3 Children. Pre-Booking is required through the Spa Shop in person.

Don't miss out!

Buy your tickets now from the Spa Shop, only limited stock left.

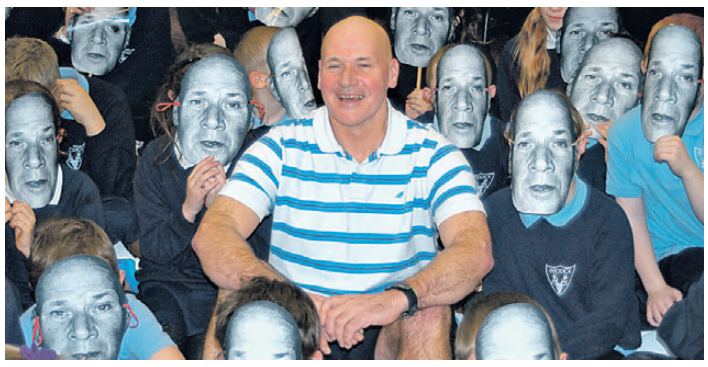
t.01770 302234

www.auchrannie.co.uk

Review of 2008

Meg Williams from High Kildonan celebrated her 100th birthday in January with grandchildren Adele and David, son Garth and daughter-in-law Tina. b03cen01

A large number of huge trees in the grounds of Brodick Castle were the victims of the New Year storms that ravaged the gardens. b03gar02



Jim Templeton from Lamlash, better known as Mr T, retired as janitor of Brodick Primary School in January. b04jim01

Liberal Democrat MSP Ross Finnie visited Corrie Primary School in February as part of the consultation process over possible closure of the school. b04msp01

Martha Currie, Betty Campbell and Peggy Currie at Drumadoon Farm. They were just three of Arran's remaining Land Girls that the *Banner* tracked down in February. b07lan04

2008 has been another very busy year for the people on Arran.

The year began with one final fling at Lamlash Community Centre as preparations were made for the demolition of the old Arran High School and the move to the brand new school.

As pupils moved into the new building there were concerns for pupil safety as they went to school on a building site each day and February the High School appeared again after the new facilities failed to impress island residents.

Another Arran school hit the headlines in January when it was announced that parents were going to fight the proposed closure of Corrie Primary School. And fight they did, ensuring that the school will now remain open for future generations still to come.

As snowstorms hit the island in February, angry southenders threatened to block the road if

Fran and Ian Roberts and daughter Jolene Briggs took over the running of the Pier Head Tavern in Lamlash in January, which meant the village once again had three pubs. b04pht01

Auchrannie operations manager Richard Small completed a sponsored swim in February in aid of Valdete the Albanian girl hoping to come to Scotland for life changing medical treatment. b08ric01

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THE CARPET FOUNDATION REGISTERED SPECIALIST
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All leading makes of carpets and flooring supplied and fitted. All contract and domestic work undertaken
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Whiting Bay Open 6 Days, 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.
CITB constructionskills

Site agent Jamie Picken instructs digger driver James Thomson in the careful removal of the sandstone sign as the demolition of the old Arran High School begins in April. b16hig05

Brodick postmistress Janice Small retired in February after 25 years. b05pos01

January to June

a problem section of the carriageway was not fixed and a ferocious plant disease was discovered at Brodick Castle that has continued to spread through the gardens all year.

Campaign

There was a celebration in Lamlash in March when North Ayrshire Council rejected plans for a huge fish farm at Clauchlands Point and a campaign was started to create a special hospice room for terminally ill patients and their families at Arran War Memorial Hospital.

Arran's sporting heroes also continued to impress as the rugby team were promoted to the second division after an impressive win against Hyndland RFC in May.

Arran's young pool players, Euan Ingram and Lee Girbow triumphed in the pool competitions and the High School athletics team went on to win a number of prestigious competions.

Pupils at Corrie Primary School had a great deal to celebrate in April when it was announced the school was to remain open after a lengthy campaign by parents, teachers and pupils. b18pri01

The main cast of Arran High School's production of Oliver took the island by storm in June. b25oli01

Shiskine's Lachlan Jones resorted to acrobatics in a bid to defeat Brodick's football team in one of the first games of the season in June.

Photo courtesy of Lenny Hartley/ Jingly Jangly Images.

There was first class news for the parents who had fought to keep Corrie Primary School open in April when North Ayrshire Council decided to retain the village school. b52cor01

In May, Russell, Sheila and Alistair Dobson celebrated Arran Dairies being in the family for 30 years with their staff at their premises in Brodick. b52dai01

It was a thrilling end to the season for Arran Rugby Club's senior team in May when they secured promotion to the second division. b20rug08

Kilmory Hall's post office opened in April more than a year after the village shop closed. Hall chairman Duncan Mulholland and sub-postmistress Linda Wallwork were on hand to welcome back the customers. b16pos01

Hazel McGloin, Sandra Butler, Elaine Kelso and Celia Butler raise a glass in May to celebrate the 20th anniversary of Cooriedoon Nursing Home in Whiting Bay. b21cor01

Lavinia and Iain Hendry, Jean Robertson, Stewart Lambie, Margaret and Bob Bryce and Mary and Iain McNicol at the Arran Society of Glasgow dinner at the Auchrannie Hotel in April. b52soc01

Lady Jean Fforde and Lavinia Hendry began the centenary celebrations at Brodick Bowling Club in June by cutting the celebratory cake. b25cen01

The Lighthouse Restaurant
Pirnmill 850240
WINTER OPENING HOURS
Friday - Sunday 12pm – 8.30pm
Open New Years Day for Lunch 12 – 3pm
Pre-Booking is essential
Alison and Andy Pattison
BYOB

The Ormidale
Brodick 01770 302293
HOME COOKED BAR MEALS
Served daily 6pm – 9pm amd 12.30pm – 2pm at weekends
Beer Garden Children Welcome
WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK
Fri- Over 21's Disco – 10pm (Last admittance 11pm)
Sat - Over 21's Disco – 10pm (Last admittance 11pm)
Sun - Folk Session
Tues - Pop Music Quiz – 10pm
Thur - General Knowledge Quiz – 10pm
Real Ale (Recommended CAMRA Good Beer Guide)

The Coffee Pot
Golf Course Rd
Whiting Bay
Tel: 700393
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

Pat Eyres singing her wonderful solo of 'Little Donkey'.

Musical group shines at Thursday club

The Whiting Bay Thursday Club was fortunate to have a return visit of the Ain't Misbehavin' musical group last Thursday.

Moira Starks, the group's founder was sadly unable to be with them as she is convalescing at home after her return from Crosshouse Hospital.

Moira's replacement as accompanist was Douglas Hamilton who very capably stood in.

The varied 14-item programme was very entertaining and the harmonies were even better than last year – the new members blending in beautifully.

Two solo items, a politically correct 'Christmas Ode' and a sweetly rendered 'Little Donkey' added to the afternoon's enjoyment.

The day before, the Thursday Club attended the Whiting Bay primary School pantomime.

Thanks to the pupils and staff for the superb performance and the excellence manners and warm welcome.

The Ain't Misbehavin' musical group entertained the Whiting Bay Thursday Club last week.

Maureen Oakes conducting the Rowan Singers at their Christmas concert in Brodick Hall.

Christmas concert is a success for the Rowan Singers and Arran Brass

Another successful Christmas concert was given by the Rowan Singers on Tuesday December 16 in Brodick Hall.

Once again a large and appreciative audience enjoyed their singing under the capable direction of Maureen Oakes.

The singers were ably assisted by Arran Brass who seem to get better every time. In particular, their playing of Schneewaltzer was excellent and reminded the audience of New Year in Vienna. They all wanted to get up and dance.

Pleasing

The choir produced a varied and interesting programme of songs and carols and although short of at least 10 members produced a pleasing balance of sound.

Especially good were the John Rutter numbers and a beautifully harmonised carol in the baroque style, 'Jesu swete son dere,' by choir member Julian Davidson. This year, apart from the band, the concert depended entirely on the choir and its members who showed their considerable talents in solos, duets , trios, group singings and well-chosen readings.

Among many good performances The little road to Bethlehem by Michael Head was sung beautifully by Isobel, The Three Kings, John, Laurie and Richard performed nobly and the trio of Lillian, Margaret and Kath gave a lovely performance of the Infant King.

To send everyone away in good spirits, members of the choir performed a comic version of the nativity arranged from a poem by Nicholas Allan and ably narrated and directed by grumpy landlord John Potter.

A happy evening was concluded with the singing of Hark the Herald Angels and thanks from Maureen to all her helpers including Ian Watt for his excellent work with the lighting.

So thanks are due to Maureen and her choir for producing another great concert from which a net sum of £600 was raised which will be divided between Arran Youth Foundation and Yorkhill Children's Hospital.

John Cruikshank

Legion celebrates early

A large number of Royal British Legion members gathered in the Pier Head Tavern in Lamlash last Tuesday afternoon for the Arran branch's annual Christmas dinner.

Welcomed

Chairman David Bingham and 33 members welcomed branch president Lady Jean Fforde and Angus Adamson padre of the branch to join the festivities.

All members were thanked for their fundraising support throughout the year.

Junior choir seeks members

The beginning of the year is an ideal time for new young singers on Arran to join the junior choir.

The minimum age is normally nine, going up to 16 or 17, at which stage most members will be leaving the island to go to university or college.

Since the choir was formed in 1987, 170 songs have been learnt mostly in two or three parts.

More than half of them have been professionally recorded on cassette or CD and these have gone to at least 15 countries overseas so young Arran voices can be heard in many parts of the world.

Choir practice is held on Thursday in Whiting Bay School between 6.45pm and 8pm. If you are interested in joining or would like further details please contact Tony Smith on 700203.

Happy New Year from

EDEN LODGE HOTEL
Whiting Bay Tel: 01770 700357
Open 26th December – 4th January
Serving home made meals from 12.30 until 9pm
30th December New Year Quiz – proceeds go to local organisations
Hogmanay bar open until 11pm

EDEN BAR AND BISTRO
Brodick Tel: 01770 302579
Open throughout the festive period
Teas, coffees, home baking, lunch and dinner available 7 days a week 11am - 9pm.

Seasons Greetings to Everyone

Brodick Improvements Committee
New Year's Day Ceilidh
The Famous
String Road Potholes Band
(followed by Disco)
Thursday 1st January 2009
Brodick Hall
7.30pm for 8pm
BYOB~ Tickets from Bilslands
£8 Adults, children under 14 £4

New Years Dance
Thursday 1st January
Kildonan Village Hall
9pm – till late
£5.00 admission
BYOB

Robin goes 'bob-bob-bobbing' into the Co-op

As heavy snow showers fell in Brodick recently a little robin red breast took shelter in the village's main Co-op store.

The bird had obviously flown through the automatic sliding door into the foyer of the building.

At one point he was seen scuttling along the floor before taking refuge amongst the fresh cut flowers.

Celia Sillars of Brodick who took the photograph of the tiny bird said: 'This wee robin took shelter in the Brodick Co-op on Saturday during the blizzard and while there he seemed to be doing a bit of promotional work with the Christmas Crackers.

'He also spent some time at the checkout greeting customers and making everyone smile.'

Cheaper line rental for residents on a low income

Arran Citizens Advice Bureau has learnt that British Telecom is providing a new service for residents on a low income.

The new package is called BT Basic and reduces the line rental to £4.50 a month.

It is available to people receiving certain benefits as well as those on pension credit.

For more information contact BT Basic on 0800 7831675 or the Arran Citizens Advice Bureau on 600210.

The bureau opening hours are 10am to 2pm on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

Please note that it will be closed for the Christmas holiday until 10am on Monday January 5.

Arran High School pupils rehearsing for their annual Christmas musical extravaganza last week.

High School musical extravaganza

Arran High School pupils were rehearsing for their impressive Christmas Concert last week.

The wide range of performers last Thursday evening impressed the large audience that had packed into the community theatre for the performance.

The school is fortunate to have such an immense number of talented musicians that included the Wind Band, the first and second year choirs as well as the string group and the Senior Choir.

As well as these gifted groups a number of individuals took to the stage including Scott McMurray on violin and Mark Sherwood on saxophone as well as beautiful singers Eilidh Kerr and Lisa Duncan.

Auchrannie winter bowls

The recent results from the Auchrannie Winter Bowling league are as follows.

Results for December 16:

I Hendry, G Haggarty, and P Milligan.

December 18:

M Spence, G McConnachie and C Haggarty.

Bowling will be taking place on Tuesday December 30 but the winter league will resume properly on Tuesday January 6 when it will take place every Tuesday and Thursday until the end of the season.

Brodick Bridge Club

Brodick Bridge Club held their Christmas dinner at Brodick Golf Club on December 16.

Winners of the president's bottles were: N/S 1 A McKelvie and J Maclure, E/W 1 P Adamson and J McBride.

Thanks to Brodick Golf Club, Douglas Robertson and Trish and the girls for the lovely meal.

Bridge will resume on Thursday January 7.

Lamlash Bridge Club

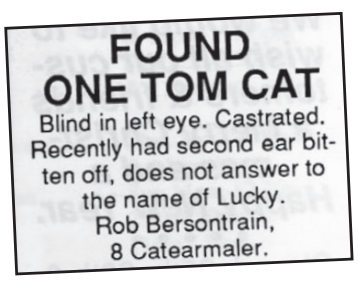
Lamlash Bridge Club results for Monday December 22.

N/S: 1 E Paul and E McNiven +5090, 2 D and M Bruce +3090, 3 H Boyd and J Murchie +2900. E/W: 1 J Barclay and E Sillars –560, 2 T Martin and P Thomson –690, 3 P Adamson and E McKellar –2040.

Lucky found after 20 years in The Banner

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

The original advert placed by Alan Roy in The Arran Banner in December 1988 looking for his lost tomcat Lucky. b51cat02


FOUND
ONE TOM CAT
Blind in left eye. Castrated. Recently had second ear bitten off, does not answer to the name of Lucky.
Rob Bersontrain,
8 Catearmaler.

'Found one tomcat' the advert placed by Brian Robertson the next week. b51cat01

'I didn't think she would still be alive 20 years later!'

Two weeks ago on The Arran Banner's 20 Years Ago page there was an old advert featured that was looking for a lost tomcat.

This unfortunate cat was missing one ear, blind in its left eye, recently castrated and answered to the name of Lucky.

Last week Alan Roy who used to live on the island contacted the Banner.

In his e-mail he said: 'Did you find my cat named Lucky? I didn't think she would still be alive 20 years later!'

It transpired that Alan, as a bit of a Christmas joke, had placed the advert.

Alan lived on Arran between 1986 and 1990 and worked in the Ormidale Hotel, Brodick.

'There was a series of this type of spoof ad,' said Alan. 'This one came to me while straightening old nails for Charlie Fforde with my good pal Hugh Wilson on a very rainy day at the estate work shop in December 1988.'

In the following week's edition of the Banner (Saturday December 23, 1988) another advert appeared. This time it would appear that the cat had been found, but did not in fact answer to the name of Lucky.

Brian Robertson from Brodick also contacted us to say that he had placed this second notice.

'It was just a bit of a joke,' said Brian. 'There used to be funny little things like that in The Banner all the time.'

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 27th DECEMBER

Blackwaterfoot Junior Football	Coaching, 10.30am - noon
Arran Dancers	Arran High School 11am - 4.15pm
Karate	Auchrannie Games Hall, 11.30am - 12.30pm
Learn to Salsa	KA Campus, 9.30am - 10.30am
Family Games Kids & Adults	Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
Fun in the Spa Pool	Auchrannie Pool, 4pm - 5pm
Youth Cafe for all High School Pupils	Brodick Church Hall, 7pm - 10pm
Highland Dancing Lesson	Brodick Church Hall 11am - 1pm
Boxing Day Dook	Lamlash Pier, 1pm
Arran Rugby East v West	Ormidale Park, 2pm

SUNDAY 28th DECEMBER

Alcoholics Anonyous	St Margarets Church, Whiting Bay, 4.30pm
Family Games Kids & Adults	Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
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

MONDAY 29th 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

TUESDAY 30th 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	Auchrannie Hall, 7pm
Indoor Bowling	Corrie & Sannox Village Hall, 2pm - 4pm
Brodick Toddler Group	Church Hall, 10am - 12pm
Body Conditioning Class	KA Leisure, dance studio 6pm - 7pm
Country Dancing	Brodick Church Hall, 7.30pm
Shapers	Auchrannie Gym 7 - 8pm

WEDNESDAY 30st DECEMBER

Mixed Hockey	Auchrannie Hall, 7pm
Corrie & Sannox Wednesday Club	Corrie Hall, 2pm
Core Strength	Auchrannie 5.30 - 6pm
Jnr Rugby Training	P4 - S4 Ormidale Park, 6pm- 7.15pm
Aquafizz	Auchrannie Hotel, 9.45am - 10.30am
Circuit Training	Auchrannie, 6pm
Yogalates	Auchrannie Studio, 10am - 11am
Arran Heritage Museum Archives & Genealogy	10.30 - 12.30pm & 1.30 - 3.30pm
Kickboxing	KA Leisure, dance studio, 6pm - 7pm
Alcoholics Anonymous	Lamlash Church Hall - 7.30pm- 9pm
Arran Rugby Club Seniors Training	Ormidale Park, 7.30pm
Arran Brass Rehearsal	Whiting Bay Hall 7.15pm

THURSDAY 1st JANUARY

Senior Fitness	Auchrannie 10.450am - 11.45am
Senior Aerobics	Auchrannie 9.30 - 10.30am
Citizens Advice	Open 10am - 2pm
Badminton	Kilmory Hall, Juniors 6.30 - 7.30pm, Adults 7.30 - 9pm
Lochranza Craft Club	Hall, 2pm
Outdoor Run	Auchrannie, 6pm
Pilates	Auchrannie Studio, 6pm
Aerobics	Auchrannie Games Hall, 6pm
Coffee Morning	St Molios Church 10.30am - 12pm
Arran Music & Drama Club Rehearsal	Brodick Hall, 7.30pm
Cardiac Rehab	Auchrannie Gym 12.30pm - 2pm
Table Tennis	Kildonan Hall, 3pm - 5pm
KA Jog	KA Leisure, front reception 5.30pm
Legs, Bums & Tums Class	KA Leisure, gameshall, 6.30pm - 7.15pm
Arran Junior Singers Practise	Whiting Bay School 6.45pm
Shiskine Cubs	Shiskine Hall, 6.30pm - 8pm
Scouts	Shiskine Hall 8pm - 9.30pm
Embroidery Group	Brodick Library, 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Lamlash Cubs	Arran High School, 6.15pm - 8pm
Junior Scottish Country Dancing	Lamlash Church Hall, 6pm - 7pm
Brodick Toddler Group	Church Hall, 10am - 12pm
Brodick Bridge Club	Ormidale Sports Pavilion, 7.15pm
Indoor Bowling	Auchrannie Hall 7pm
Outdoor Boot Camp	Ormidale Park 7pm
Ceilidh	Brodick Hall, 7.30pm

FRIDAY 2nd JANUARY

Arran Pipe Band Practice	Brodick Hall, 7.30pm
Lochranza & Catacol Coffee Morning	10am - 12pm
Aquafizz	Auchrannie Pool, 9.45am
Citizens Advice	Open 10am - 2pm
Circuit Training	Auchrannie, 6pm - 7.15pm
Arran Ceilidh Dancers	Lamlash Church Hall, 8pm

SATURDAY 3rd JANUARY

Quiz Night	Catacol Bay Hotel, 8.30pm

To appear in Whats On telephone the Arran Banner 01770 302142

PUBLIC NOTICES

BANNER

HIE
Highlands and Islands Enterprise
Iomairt na Gàidhealtachd 's nan Eilean

HIE WOULD LIKE TO WISH EVERYONE IN THE HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

Highlands and Islands Enterprise offices will be closed from December 25th 2008, reopening January 5th 2009

www.hie.co.uk

CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE FOR ADVERTISEMENTS

YOUR attention is drawn to the following terms and conditions which relate to the placing of advertisements in all publications owned by Wyvex Media Limited.
Parties to this agreement are the Publisher, The Oban Times Limited on the one part and the Advertiser on the other part. The Publisher publishes newspapers, magazines, books and provides advertising space therein or provides for the delivery of advertising materials to the public within these publications.
1 Advertising copy shall be legal, decent, honest and truthful and comply with the British Code of Advertising Practice and all other codes.
2 The Publisher does not guarantee the insertion of any particular advertisement.
3 The Publisher reserves the right to cancel or alter the advertisement by giving reasonable notice.
4 An order for an advertisement shall be deemed to be made on acceptance of the advertisers' order by the Publisher whether placed by telephone, mail, fax or in person.
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12 A request to insert an advertisement assumes acceptance of our conditions.

Isle of Arran Homes

An Initiative of Trust Housing Association

Isle of Arran Homes
and
Arran Care & Repair office
will be closed from
1.00pm on Wednesday
24 December 2008
and will reopen on
Monday 5 January 2008

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

PROPERTY

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Properties For Sale

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Luxury 3/4 Bedroom Villas

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3 Bedroom semi detached villas
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TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997
PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

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

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

*and at The Council Offices, Lamlash

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PROCEDURE) (SCOTLAND) ORDER 1992

Applications for planning permission - Notice to be published in accordance with Article 12(5) Written comments to be made within 14 days.

Application No: N/08/00940/PP **Address:** Site To West Of Hyrdo Electric Store, Market Road, Brodick, Isle Of Arran KA27 8AU **Proposed Development:** Erection of storage shed/office accommodation

Application No: N/08/00952/PP **Address:** Site To The South West Of Braeaig, Glen Cloy Road, Brodick, Isle Of Arran **Proposed Development:** Amendment of planning permission N/08/00142/PP to add extensions to semi-detached cottages with enlarged front porches, rear dining rooms, solar panels, additional dormers and repositioned windows

REFUSE COLLECTION & TRANSFER STATION ARRANGEMENTS FOR CHRISTMAS

Domestic Refuse Collections

22nd, 23rd and 24th December - service as normal
Christmas Day and Boxing Day - no service
29th, 30th and 31st December - service as normal
New Years Day and 2nd January - no service

Transfer Station Opening Hours

22nd, 23rd and 24th December - open as normal
Christmas Day and Boxing Day - closed
Saturday 27th December - open as normal
29th, 30th and 31st December - open as normal
New Years Day and 2nd January - closed
Saturday 3rd January - open as normal

Please remember to book ahead for visits to transfer station on 27th or 3rd on 600338 and keep recyclable packaging separate.

Ian Snodgrass,
Chief Executive,
Cunninghame House
IRVINE KA12 8EE

North Ayrshire Council

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Permanent part-time position in Shiskine area.

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Experience in moving and assisting would be advantageous as this will be an essential part of your roll – training can be provided.

Reply in writing to Arran Banner Box No. 127

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Mite PFI are currently recruiting for cleaners at Arran High School

- 2 x 16 hour per week, term time posts. £6.14 per hour pro rata
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To apply telephone 01294 608909 or Susan on 07500 815754

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Quality flowers for every occasion

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Closed from 24th Dec – 5th Jan

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COUNTRY NEWS INTERIORS GARDENS FOOD & DRINK PROPERTY ANTIQUES FASHION TRAVEL

THIS MONTH: 50 RESOLUTIONS WORTH KEEPING, HOMECOMING 2009, APPIN MURDER APPEAL, PLUS: TRAVEL, FOOD & DRINK, PROPERTY, COUNTRY NEWS, FASHION, HOMES & GARDENS, MOTORING, COUNTRY NEWS, COMPETITIONS...

ON SALE NOW

MEMORIAMS

THOMPSON

Precious memories of Marion

Mum, mother-in-law and grandmother who died 20th December 1997.

Your presence we miss,

Your memory we treasure,

Loving you always,

Forgetting you never,

Sadly missed,

But together with Dad.

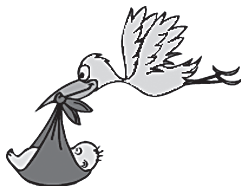
Maureen, Jackie, Marion and families

DEATHS

NAPIER Sheila (nee Maclean)

Peacefully at Bagatelle Nursing Home, Greenock on Friday 19th December 2008. Sheila aged 87 years, beloved wife of the late Charlie, dear mother of Allan, John and Coral, grandmother of the family. Funeral service took place in Lochranza Church on Tuesday 23rd December.

BIRTHS



SELKIRK On 18th December, in Hobart, Tasmania, to Craig and Liz, a boy, Finlay John

CHURCH NOTICES

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
North Arran: Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza, Pirnmill 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 28 December
Brodick Church 10.30am
Corrie Church 12pm
Lochranza 10.15am.
Shiskine 12pm. Service for Health and Healing, 7pm
A service of Worship will also be held in Montrose House at 1.30pm.

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Sunday 28 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
Rev David Karoon
All welcome

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH
Sunday Morning Mass 11am

WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH
Sunday 28 December
A service of praise and readings will be conducted by the the Minister, Rev Elizabeth Watson at 10.30am.
Tea and coffee will be served in the Transept after the service. All most welcome.

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH
(in full communion with the Church of England)
St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.
Sunday 28 December
Holy Communion and carols.
11.00 am. Revd Paul Fletcher
Coffee after service.
Wednesday, 31 December
Holy Communion 12.15pm
All Welcome.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Kilmory linked with Lamlash
"A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"
Sunday 28 December
Service of Nine Lessons and Carols
Rev. Gillean Maclean
Kilmory 10am
Lamlash 11.30am
All welcome

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND *(continuing)*
Sunday 28 December
11am
Trust Housing Lounge
Glen Estate, Brodick
Evening Service
5 Glen Road, 7pm
Thursday 1 January
New Year's Day Service
5Glen Road, 11am
Rev.D Macleod
All welcome
Rev D Macleod

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick.
Sunday 28 December
10.45 'Brunch Service' (which will include Communion)
Everyone is invited to this special service at the end of the year when we will also eat together.

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• Traditional and modern styles
• Free quotations
• Additional inscriptions • Home visits
Visit our display area at Sorbie Road, Ardrossan, opposite Cemetery Gates or phone
01294 461554
INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Jenny and Dorothy Thompson
wish all friends and neighbours seasons greetings for 2009

The players of Isle of Arran Rugby Club who were involved in rowdy behaviour on the south bound bus after their recent win over the League leaders wish to apologise to any member of the public who was offended by their behaviour.

Whiting Bay Golf Club

Sunday December 21, 20 brave souls turned up for the second Winter Friendly with Lamlash, this time at Whiting Bay Golf Club. Dave Hackett won the stableford with a very impressive 41 points, followed by Gus MacLeod and John Taylor both with 39 points. Nicol Auld won scratch with 65 and there were magic twos by Blair McGunnigle, Nicol Auld and Michelle Augier. The overall team result was four and a half points to Whiting Bay and half a point to Lamlash, edging Whiting Bay ahead overall by two points. As always the games were played in good spirit. **Fixtures**: Friday December 26, Christmas Bottle. Sunday December 28, Winter Cup round three. Friday December 2, nine hole cross country. Sunday December 4, Medal.

Brodick Golf Club

Clochendichter results for December 21 – Alma 1½ Street 2½, Village 2½ Knowe 1½.

The delayed November Clochendichter matches finally got underway on a showery and blustery shortest day. In the first match the reigning champions Alma got soundly beaten by an ageing Street team. Club captain Brian 'baby belly' Smith/Bert McGunnigle had a very impressive victory by one hole over club champion Ewan McKinnon and former Hope Cup player Calum McFadzean. Ewan had five threes in a row from the 13th and had to be demoralised that such good play only won one of the holes as 'baby belly' Smith played a blinder.

In the second game Robbie Duncan and Sam McCalla started well but were soundly beaten three

and two by Russell Duncan and Campbell Russell.

Game three and what a match, Gus Robertson and Don Rudge were five down at the 8th against veterans Willie Innes and Stevie Bunyan. The Alma pairing rallied and were one up going down the 18th but Stevie got the par to win the hole and half the match.

History was made in the final match when Gavin Dunn had the honour of being the first junior to play in a Clochendichter. Unfortunately for Gavin he was paired with Lenny Hartley and an inspired game by Gordon Sillars and Nicol Hume resulted in the Alma pairing being Humiliated by a Dogs Licence 7-6.

In the second match the Village surprisingly beat the Knowe 2½ to 1½.

In the first game the Knowe's Bobby McRae and Davie Hendry were beaten by Matt Keir and Bruce Jenkins.

In the second game The Knowe's Terry Raeside and Dougie Robertson were defeated 6-5 by Iain McMillan and Lindsay Keir. Bung played a blinder taking only 34 shots to the turn leaving Keir senior rolling out the dough in the clubhouse.

The third game between the Village People's chief John Beattie and Jimmy Armit and Iain Macdonald and Gordon Robertson resulted in a defeat by the Village paring by one hole after being four up after four holes.

The final match between Kenny McMillan and the Knowe captain Gordon Hendry and Ian Sillars and Aly Hume was halved, Aly said it was probably the best Clochendichter game he has ever played in.

The next Clochendichter games will take place on Sunday: Alma v Knowe 10am and Street v Village at 10.30am.

Lamlash Golf Club

Ladies: On Wednesday December 17 nine brave ladies played their annual Stableford Christmas game at Shiskine. The winners were: 1 Annie Mc Vicar 18 points, 2 Brenda Livingstone 17 points, 3 Ellie Jones 16 points, 4 Jo Hastings 13 points.

Corrie Golf Club

Saturday December 13, winter cup. 1 M MacDonald 75-21=54, 2 D Price 68-12=56, 3 S Beardsley 65-8=57. Monday December 15, Monday Cup. 1 A MacDonald 40, 2 S Beardsley 37, 3 R Logan 36.

Fixtures: Saturday December 27 Stableford. Monday December 29, Monday Cup. Thursday January 1, New Year's Day Shield. Monday January 5, Monday Cup. All tee-off at noon.

Netta McDonald
Would like to wish all her friends on Arran, Seasons Greetings a good wishes for the new year.

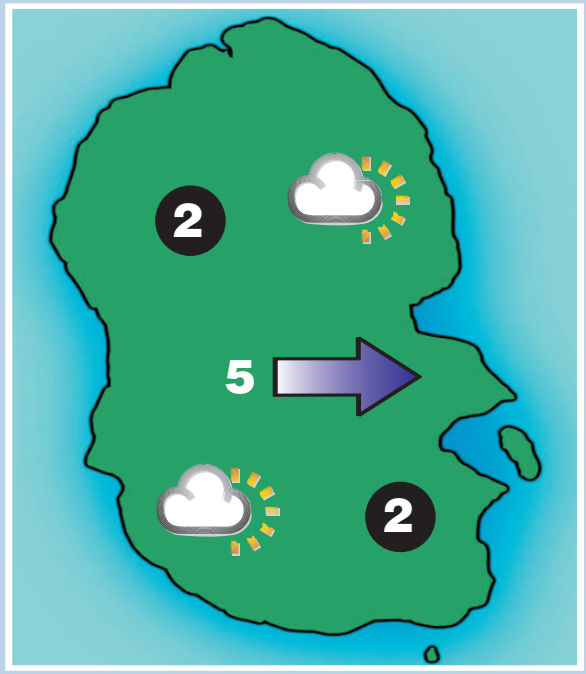
Tides

Tide tables for Lamlash during the week from
Saturday, December 27 2008
are listed below with differences
for major ports listed beneath.
All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am				pm			
Sat	0521	0.7	1205	3.2	1753	0.5	****	**
Sun	0017	2.9	0558	0.7	1238	3.3	1825	0.5
Mon	0052	2.9	0629	0.7	1308	3.3	1857	0.5
Tues	0126	2.9	0700	0.7	1338	3.3	1928	0.5
Wed	0201	2.9	0734	0.7	1410	3.3	2000	0.5
Thur	0234	2.9	0810	0.7	1443	3.3	2037	0.5
Fri	0311	2.9	0849	0.7	1520	3.2	2118	0.5

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

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



Saturday, December 27

Weather

Saturday, December 27

Mainly dry and sunny, temperature high of 2ºC getting colder at night with temperatures as low as 0ºC.

Sunday, December 28

Dry an dsettled with temperatures of 2ºC getting colder at night with temperatures as low as -2ºC.

Monday and Tuesday

Mainly dry and sunny, temperature high of 3ºC

Ferry Crossings/Sea States

Ardrossan/ Brodick - Moderate

Claonaig/ Lochranza - Moderate

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TO ARRANGE A FREE VALUATION CALL
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New year crazy cricket

Spectators should bring camping stools, blankets, waterproofs and refreshments

Sannox Cricket Club, ever on the lookout to promote cricket on the island is hosting its second mad-dogs-and-islander's New Year's cricket match on the Ormidale Astroturf on Saturday January 3rd 2009 at high noon.

The club warmly invites anyone to play or watch and shout encouragement.

'Warmly' here must be read in parentheses as the January 2008 match was played in temperatures barely above zero but a great cricketing time was had by players and spectators alike. Two full teams were picked on the day and wives, mothers and hardened cricket lovers shouted encouragement from the dubious shelter of the hockey nets.

The 2009 event will be no less ambitious. This is undoubtedly a fun event open to all genders and ages but organisers stress the need for *warm clothing* and waterproofs.

Whites of course are de rigeur but players should sport several layers of them. Arran Property, Sannox's main supporter, will sponsor the day.

Spectators should bring camping stools, blankets, waterproofs and refreshments.

Sannox Cricket Club would like to take this opportunity to wish one of its players well as he leaves the island.

Nathan Carey, who for the last three years has graced the Sannox Oval and who has been one of the most loyal and consistent players, leaves at the end of the month to join the army. He will be sorely missed for his enthusiasm and sense of humour. The club wish him every success and says haste ye back.

More information from Eric on 303810 or 0778 690 6992.

Indoor nets restart on Monday January 12 2009 at 7pm.

Newcomers are always welcome.

Nathan Carey receiving his club cap from Sannox Cricket Club captain Eric Dunne.

The principal prizewinners at Brodick Bowling Club's annual dinner were (from left to right) Rod Smith, Ann Whattam, Charles Hendry, Ann Hollingworth, John McConnachie, John Kerr and Roger Peacock.

Brodick bowlers pick up prizes

Brodick Bowling Club held their annual end of season prizegiving dinner at the Brodick Bar last week,

Ann Hollingworth picked up the Alma Trophy for ladies singles and John McConnachie won the Brian Wilson Cup for gents singles.

Roger Peacock and John Kerr were the winners of the David Auchinvole Cup for the pairs competition and the Bob Cameron Cup for triples was won this year by Alex Gardiner, Ann Whattam and Rod Smith. Charles Hendry was the 2008 winner of the President's Bowl and John Lauder won the Stewart Cup.

Jackie Donaldson, Tony Wooden and Iain Hendry picked up the Centenary Triples trophy.

Bar Eden undefeated

As Arran's pool players hang up their cues for the Christmas break the league table is looking increasingly interesting.

Since the beginning of the season Bar Eden have not lost a single match giving them a very comfortable eight-point lead at the top of the table.

The Drift Out team continued their success on Thursday when they defeated the Cameronia but many will now be thinking that it is too late for the Lamlash team to catch up with the unstoppable Bar Eden.

PT1934 sit contentedly in third place after their win over the PHT but the most surprising result on the night was Catacol's 10-2 thrashing of Corrie.

Results from last Thursday's games in the Arran Pool League are as follows: Cameronia (Gallon) 4 Drift Out 8, PT1934 (G) 9 PHT 3, Kildonan 4 Bar Eden 8 (G), Catacol 10 Corrie 2 (G).

The pool league now takes a break for Christmas. The next matches will be played on Thursday January 8.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	GoB
Bar Eden	8	8	0	0	62	34	24	6
Drift Out	8	5	1	2	55	41	16	5
PT1934	8	4	2	2	55	36	14	4
Corrie	8	4	1	3	45	46	13	4
PHT	8	3	1	4	47	48	10	4
Cameronia	8	2	2	4	39	52	8	5
Catacol	8	2	1	5	43	53	7	4
Kildonan	8	0	0	8	28	61	0	0

Weather wins again as another game postponed

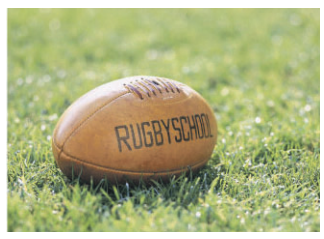
Arran Rugby Club's cup game with Mull was called off on Saturday because of the weather.

Coach Bert Ramage said that due to a poor weather forecast for Saturday evening the team from Mull were not keen to travel to the island.

It will now be played sometime in January.

This Saturday (December 27) the annual festive East versus West game will take place.

Anyone wishing to take part should meet at the Ormidale Park in Brodick at 2pm.



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