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Arran's Weekly Newspaper

SATURDAY 4 FEBRUARY, 2017

No 2100 70p

DRIVING FORCE

INSIDE your guide to 17 plate registrations

Golf course is a new target for badger pests

'The problem is the badgers do not have any natural predators on Arran and that there are no controls to limit their numbers'

REPORT

by COLIN SMEETON
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

The badgers who are causing widespread damage at Lamlash Cemetery have found their way onto the neighbouring golf course.

Already signs of badgers tearing up the turf on two holes of Lamlash Golf Course has had to be repaired. Now a nocturnal monitoring system has been put in place to keep track of where the badgers are coming from, their nocturnal habits and their population numbers.

Jim McKenzie, head greenkeeper at Lamlash Golf Course for more than 21 years, has already had to deal with extensive damage to the 12th tee and significant damage to the ninth fairway, and is mak-

ing preparations for dealing with the problem which he hopes can be curtailed.

Keeping in touch with Scottish Natural Heritage, Mr McKenzie is determined to avoid the costly implications of constantly having to re-lay turf over damaged areas and is investigating ways of dealing with the problem.

He said: 'My concern in protecting the 76 acres of pristine grounds at the Lamlash Golf Course. The problem is the badgers do not have any natural predators on Arran and there are no controls to limit their numbers.'

'The problem can expand exponentially if left unrestricted so solutions are being investigated in accordance with the Protection of Badgers Act 1992.'

'Among these solutions



Jim McKenzie, head greenkeeper at the Lamlash Golf Club shows the damage to the 9th fairway. 01_B05badger02

is an option to manage the population of chafer grubs and leatherjackets which are the favoured food of the badgers, but even these measures are restricted to certain periods and conditions making them just one small part of the control mechanisms.'

As first reported in *The Banner* early last month,

the badgers have caused extensive damage at Lamlash Cemetery which is still spreading.

Badgers, which are a protected species, have continued with the expansion of their setts and territory at the hillside cemetery while maintenance workers can only look on as the damage continues – and they remain

unable to contain it or prevent it from spreading. Following a particularly active few weeks over the festive period, extensive damage to Lamlash cemetery left visitors describing it as 'looking like a ploughed field'.

A specialist company, hired by North Ayrshire Council, has undertaken

Bid to bring back Sparkle

A community bid is to be made to revive the popular Santa's Sparkle event in Lamlash.

As previously reported in *The Banner*, last November's event was to be the last to be organised by Geoffrey Dallmore and Timothy Billings, of the Glenisle Hotel, who have been the driving force behind it since its inception seven years ago.

Now an attempt is being made to see if it can be revived, with the feeling it would need to become a community-driven event.

To that end, Lamlash Improvements will be hosting a public meeting to see whether there is enough support from the community to revive the Lamlash Christmas Fair.

Among the questions to be aired will be: What is essential, what is not? Should the event be in a marquee on the green or hosted in numerous venues around the village? Should there be market stalls? Should there be a show? Are there people willing to help organise the event?

One of those behind the revival is Alastair Howe of the Pierhead Tavern.

The public meeting is on Monday February 6 at 7pm at The Pierhead Tavern. All are welcome.

Continued on page 2



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Badger problem on Arran

Continued from page 1

en a survey of the area and while a report is imminent and financially viable solutions are being investigated, there are fears that the cost could be prohibitively expensive. One method of keeping badgers out of an area involves ring fencing which restricts access. However, with the fence method, a large proportion of the fence needs to be underground which can increase costs of both materials and installation.

Lamlash Cemetery superintendent Sid Sillars said:



Lamlash Golf Club's picturesque course begins to show signs of badger occupation. 01_B05badger03

'We have had six burials so far this year and when these occur we do our utmost to repair the damage

to the grass and try to make the damaged areas look presentable for visitors and the bereaved. It is a larger issue than we can reasonably deal with though and it is constantly re-occurring so a bigger, more permanent solution would be welcomed.'

A spokesman for North Ayrshire Council said: 'A survey has been completed by a specialist company and we are awaiting receipt of their report. We hope to be in a position soon which will allow us to find a long-term solution to protect Lamlash Cemetery.'



The damage caused by badgers at Lamlash cemetery is extensive and appears to be expanding. 01_B05badger01

Fashion trio bid for Junk Kouture final

Pupils from Arran High School have been short-listed for the grand final of trash fashion competition Junk Kouture for the third year in a row.

Ella Kerr, Fiona Bulger and Anna O'Donnelly are hoping to reach next week's final with their Firsh Tale Dress, with family and friends voting all week to help them through.

Banner readers can also help the cause, but they will have to be quick as voting closes at midnight tonight (Friday). The final takes place at the Clyde Auditorium in Glasgow on Thursday February 9.

The most innovative and fashion forward creations have been shortlisted and will now battle to strut it out in front of judges Una Healy and Louis Walsh at next month's final.

Now in its third year in Scotland, Junk Kouture inspires young, wannabe fashion designers to come up with truly spectacular creations made solely out of rubbish, while at the same time reinforcing the



Fiona Bulger models the Fish Tale Dress.

importance of recycling and re-using waste.

The pupils now face an online public vote, which will determine who makes it to Glasgow's grand final, where the teens will display their designs in front of a live audience. You can do this by visiting Junk Kouture's Facebook page.

The overall 2017 winner will receive £1,000 for their school, £500 cash, and iPad minis for their team, and teacher.

The Enterprise and Per-

formance winners will take away a trophy, and ASOS and Ticket master vouchers respectively, and the winner of the Glamour prize will have the chance to walk the red carpet in their design at the Royal Film premiere in London.

This year there's a new category to recognise budding young creative minds; the winner of the Junior Design award will receive a trophy as well as One4all vouchers.

Last year's Arran entry 'Sweet Dreams', created out of Tunnoch wrappers, made the Glasgow final, as did the previous year's 'Voo Do' dress.

To participate in the public vote, visit www.facebook.com/junkkouture

For more information on Junk Kouture, visit www.junkkouture.co.uk, follow on Twitter @JunkKouture or like Junk Kouture on Facebook.

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Museum needs backing to win prestigious pride award

Arran residents are being urged to get behind Isle of Arran Heritage Museum after they were named one of 15 finalists in the Provost's Civic Pride Awards 2017 run by North Ayrshire Council.

Provost Ian Clarkson and his team of judges had the tough task of sifting through a record number of entries nominated by the public.

They have now selected three finalists in each of the five categories for the 2017 awards – and the public now has the chance to pick their winners.

Residents can have their say by completing a voting form or by visiting www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/provostscivicprideawards. All votes must be received by Thursday March 2 at noon.



Some of the volunteers who help run the heritage museum. 01_B05museum01

The museum has been nominated for the North Ayrshire Arts and Culture Award sponsored by Saltire Facilities Management.

Their entry states: 'Open since 1976, and run by volunteers, Isle of Arran Heritage Museum goes from

strength to strength. The team are passionate, hard working and help raise valuable funds that make the museum so popular with islanders and tourists. The facility was recently given museum accreditation - an amazing achievement that recognises the work carried out by the volunteers to enhance the visitors' experience. The heritage of Arran will always be in safe hands and looked after for future generations to enjoy and appreciate.'

The museum faces opposition in the category from Funky Films, a collaboration between North Ayrshire Alcohol and Drug Partnership and Recovery at Work which gives people who have experienced drug and/or alcohol issues a chance to tell their stories

through short films showing recovery is possible.

Another contender is Greenwood Academy pupil Adam Lee who plays the clarinet and competes at a national level regularly.

He has also recently been accepted for a full-time course at the Royal Conservatoire.

Provost Ian Clarkson said: 'We had a record number of nominations so it was a tough task deciding on three finalists for each category.'

'There was plenty debate but, by the end of our deliberations, we had all come to agreement and were delighted with all our finalists.'

'It was very humbling and inspiring to read about the great people and groups doing so much great work across North Ayrshire. Now

it's up to the public to find their winners amongst all these amazing finalists.'

Each of the finalists will join Provost Clarkson at the prestigious awards ceremony at Seamill Hydro on Friday March 10.

This year's event will once again raise vital funds for two charities - Cash for Kids, which provides support to vulnerable children and Ayrshire Hospice, which provides outstanding care services.



The early artefacts room at the museum. 01_B05museum02

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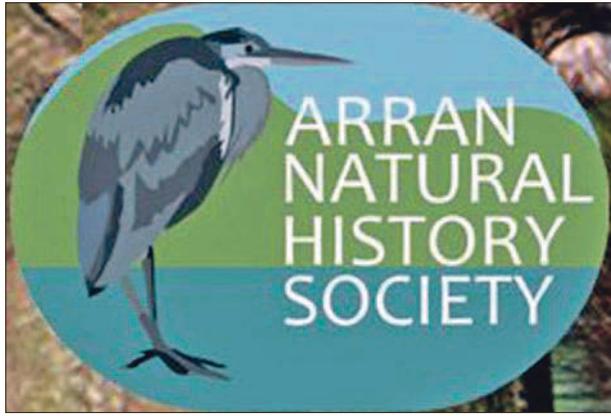
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Youngsters take a closer look at nature

Photo contest winners unveiled



This image of a robin by 12-year-old Mischa McRae from Richmond was highly commended by judges.

The Arran Natural History Society Photographic Competition for young people received a large number of entrants and after a difficult deliberation, the winners have been selected.

The competition was open in two categories – under 12 and under 18 – and allowed entrants to submit up to three photos of any flora and fauna

taken on Arran between December 2015 and November last year.

Entries included a variety of subjects from Arran, including geology, snakes and insects, birds, flowers, and seals. The locations of the images were also varied, from the mountains to the beaches and beyond, showing the diversity of the island.

The competition, which is

now in its second year, is held in memory of Audrey Walters, who was passionate about Arran's natural history. Winning entries received £50, with £25 prizes for runners-up. All winners also received a mounted print of their image. In addition to the prizes, one lucky winner, Ethan Silars, also had his photo chosen to be featured in the 2016 Arran Bird Report.



Thomas Mason, aged 12, from...



Megan McCartney, aged 11 and from Corrie, saw her squirrel being highly commended by judges.



Tom Thain from Lancashire, aged 16, was runner-up in the under 18 category with this image taken in a beautiful sunset.

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Staffordshire, took first place in the under 18 category with this image.



In the under 12 section, Robbie West, aged 11, from Glasgow, took first place with this squirrel.



Summer Swan from Colchester, aged nine, took second place with her stag image in the under 12 category.

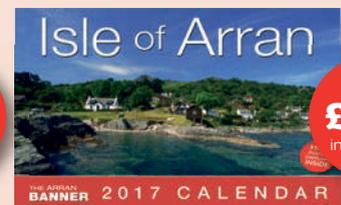


Ethan Sillars, 13, from Lamlash had his photo selected to appear in the 2016 Arran Bird Report.

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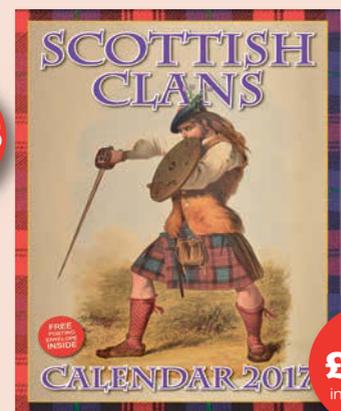


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Day in the dark at Corrie

The Corrie Film Club has extended an invitation for movie-lovers to join them today (Saturday) to enjoy 'a day in the dark' a series of classic films being shown at the Corrie Village Hall.

The theme of this year's mini festival is 'classics', and visitors and members can expect a full day of audiovisual entertainment at no cost. Soup, bread and cheese will be served at lunchtime and baked potatoes with fillings in the evening.

The programme will be: Scottish shorts at 10.30am, coffee at 11am. *The Philadelphia Story* from 11.15am to 1.15pm and lunch until 2pm. *Rebecca* from 2pm to 4pm, and tea and cake thereafter.

Gentlemen Prefer Blondes will be screened from 4.15pm to 5.45pm and supper from 5.45pm to 6.45pm.

To complete the evening *Doctor Zhivago* will be screened from 7pm to 10pm. Everyone is welcome to join for one or all of the films.

Elusive white deer makes a re-appearance on Arran

Arran's elusive white deer has been spotted in Lamash.

The existence of the current deer is well-known on the island and as far back in 2011 it was photographed in the *Banner*. At that time it wasn't known whether it was a stag or a hind. It is now clear from the current photograph that it was a male and it has now grown after another five years into a handsome stag. Unusually, the animal has a reddish rump instead of a light buff one.

Lamlash resident Tony Church, who spotted the deer and managed to photograph it, said: 'I was on my way back home from recording some fern species in a Lamlash wood when I saw what I thought was a giant white goat over the fence in the adjacent field,

but even with blurred vision, I could just make out it had antlers.'

'I dashed home to pick up my camera just in case I would be lucky enough to still find it feeding in the field when I got back. As luck, would have it, the stag was still feeding in the field when I got back but it was some distance away. Luck certainly comes into it when you have a hand-held camera and are using the zoom to its maximum. You just click away and hope for the best.'

White stags are rare in the UK and all the species of deer produce them very occasionally, both male and female. These white ones are not albinos but leucistic, which means the Lamlash animal has a normal colour. Though apparently very



Tony's picture of the rare white deer in Lamlash.

rare nationwide, many will well remember the famous white one of Lochranza back in the 1970s and another in more recent years reported in Sannox.

White deer hold a place in

the mythology of many cultures and have a mysterious symbolism associated with them.

Many consider them a bad omen, while others consider them as sacred and a representation of mankind's spiritual quest. The hunting of a white stag is frowned upon and often met with anger, traditionally hunters believed that they had a message for the person who spotted them.

Elderly Forum to learn to avoid fraud

Anyone over 55 years old is invited to attend the next meeting of the Arran Elderly Forum when the topic of discussion will be Avoiding Fraud.

The group, which meets on the third Wednesday of every month, will gather at the Ormidale Sports Pavilion on Wednesday February 15 at 10.40am when they will enjoy a cup of tea before the speaker begins promptly at 11am.

The speaker, Andy Moynichan, is the team leader of North Ayrshire Council's Trading Standards and is well placed to address the topic of avoiding fraud. This pertinent topic may be relevant to many of Arran's elderly who will have seen or heard stories of older people being conned and deceived.

The forum meetings are open to all over 55 years but younger visitors with an interest in protecting the elderly are also welcome to attend.



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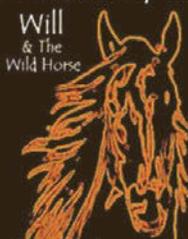
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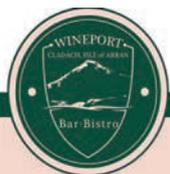
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Claims ferry move would cost public purse £166 million

The transfer of the Arran ferry from Ardrossan to Troon would cost the public purse a massive £166 million over the next 30 years, according to a report drawn up by North Ayrshire Council.

Ardrossan is campaigning to retain the 180-year-old ferry route following an attempt by Associated British Ports to shift the service to Troon.

North Ayrshire Council and Peel Ports, the operator of Ardrossan Harbour, have now submitted their financial case to Transport Minister Humza Yousaf, who is expected to make a decision in the next few months on the future of the route.

But Troon has branded the report 'fake news'.

Back Ardrossan

It came as Arran Community Council became the latest organisation on the island to throw its hat in with Ardrossan. At its monthly meeting this week the council voted unanimously to back Ardrossan but conditionally on infrastructure improvements at the port.

North Ayrshire Council and Peel Ports have pledged over £15 million to upgrade

the Ardrossan ferry facilities and prepare for the arrival of a new £48.5 million CalMac vessel next year.

Their submission includes a detailed economic study into the potential loss of the service from Ardrossan, which reveals that the full cost to the public purse would be £166.7 million over the proposed 30-year term on the contract – or £5.5 million per year.

North Ayrshire Council leader Joe Cullinane said: 'Our study shows the true extent of the cost to Scotland plc of moving the ferry to Troon.'

'These costs would need to be borne by passengers, government and the private and public sectors – everyone would lose out.'

'The figures are horrendous and underline the point that we have been making all along – that the Ardrossan crossing is the shortest, fastest and cheapest route available, and there is simply no business or economic case for moving the ferry to Troon.'

According to the NAC report, additional costs over the next 30 years would include:

* £75 million in higher

passenger fares, due to the Road Equivalent Tariff formula, since the Troon route to Arran is 38 per cent further than the Ardrossan route.

* £9 million in extra fuel costs – £300,000 per year due to the longer distance.

* £15 million in additional crew costs.

* £15 million in additional ferry servicing costs due to the longer journey.

* £30 million capital funding requirement to replace losses to the local community.

Cunninghame North MSP Kenneth Gibson said: 'This report reveals the huge ongoing costs of switching the ferry away from the shortest, fastest and cheapest route. Ardrossan is a no-brainer for the Scottish taxpayer and will deliver the most reliable and convenient service for Arran residents and visitors alike.'

However, a spokesman for Associated British Ports (ABP) said: 'This is not a time for fake news; this is a time for facts. Troon is better value for the taxpayer. Troon is more reliable. Above all, Troon is a better deal for Arran. The Scottish Government is undertaking

a detailed assessment of the respective routes. The outcome of that study will not be determined by fantasy numbers.'

Now Troon has moved to demonstrate its superior all-weather berthing to anyone who wants to look, with the launch of a webcam so Arran islanders can see for themselves. Log on to see the conditions now in Troon at <http://tinyurl.com/Troon-webcam>.

Brodick Quartet are coming home

On Saturday, February 18, there will be a concert in Brodick Hall by a group with a name that is sure to intrigue islanders.

The Brodick Quartet consists of four of Scotland's finest young string players, and they chose their name because, though they come from various places in Scotland (and one of them from Yorkshire), they all agreed that Arran is a very special place for all of them. They have variously spent time here on family holidays, or on hillwalking and geology trips, and acquired such a special love for the island that they chose the name Brodick Quartet for their joint musical enterprise.

The concert starts at



The Brodick Quartet is made up of Ben Norris, Katrina Lee, Liam Brolly and Alice Allen.

7.30pm with seating in café style, and you can bring a bottle if you want. Tickets will be available at the door on the night, in advance from Inspirations of Arran in Brodick, or online from www.arranevents.com.

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THE ARRAN BANNER

Struggle to find a balance

The badger problem in Lamlash is getting worse and there is no quick fix solution in sight.

The widespread damage at the cemetery is sad to see and must be distressing for anyone with loved ones buried there. Now the badgers have spotted the lush grass next door at the golf course and have already made inroads there.

Meanwhile, those in the village who take pride in their gardens have the difficult task of finding a balance between looking after the interests of the badgers while also protecting their property from the extensive damage the animals can cause.

Because of the Protection of Badgers Act of 1992, it is an offence to wilfully kill, injure or attempt to kill a badger. It is also a criminal offence to damage their setts or obstruct them. Those who work with nature and the outdoors generally have a great respect for all animal life and do not take to culling animals unless absolutely necessary. However, in some instances, reducing numbers is necessary to preserve natural habitats, sensitive environments and to prevent resources from being obliterated to the detriment of the remainder of the animals. Stock and animal management is a necessary component of animal and wildlife conservation. However, this option is resolutely disallowed for controlling badger populations. While the management of wildlife is kept in a controlled and natural state of equilibrium by predators further up the food chain, on Arran, where we have an isolated ecosystem, there are no foxes or sufficient numbers of large birds of prey to regulate numbers.

The solutions are not clear and those that attempt to address the problem can be breathtakingly expensive, as we might discover when a report is submitted to the council for dealing with the Lamlash cemetery population. They are usually not guaranteed either – at best they stave off the badgers for a period of time and there can be no guarantees that they will not return, in greater numbers.

The only thing that we do know is that Lamlash will continue to struggle to find a harmonious balance with badgers for years to come.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become rich.' (2 Corinthians 8:9)

press policy

WE AT the Arran Banner endeavour to ensure that all our reports are fair and accurate and comply with the Editors' Code of Practice set by the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO). We realise, however, that mistakes happen from time to time.

If you think we have made a significant mistake and you wish to discuss this with us, please let us know as soon as possible by any of the three methods: emailing editor@arranbanner.co.uk; telephoning the senior reporter on 01770 302142 or write to the Editor at Wyvex Media, Crannog Lane, Lochavullin estate, Oban, PA34 4HB.

We will attempt to resolve your issue in a timely, reasonable and amicable manner. However, if you are unsatisfied with our response, you can contact IPSO, which will investigate the matter. You can either telephone IPSO on 0300 123 2220 or email inquiries@ipso.co.uk. IPSO is an independent body which deals with complaints from the public about the editorial content of newspapers and magazines. We will abide by the decision of IPSO.

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



'Alternative facts'

Sir,
In the week that Donald Trump's aide said their administration had laid out 'alternative facts', it was interesting to read the letter to the *Banner* from Kenneth Gibson MSP about the council's budget settlement. Never have I read a statement so full of spin.

Last week North Ayrshire Council officers provided a budget briefing for councillors to explain to them what the SNP government's draft budget meant for North Ayrshire Council's budget.

The hard and fast fact is that the draft budget contains a real-terms £9.2 million cut in our revenue budget.

This cut comes despite the SNP government's own budget increasing by £418 million in 2017/18.

Mr Gibson attempts to muddy the water by quoting a whole range of things, including capital funding for flood defence works that the council has been working hard to secure for the best part of a decade, which may be welcome but come with additional expenditure requirements set by the government. They provide no flexibility in terms of the council's revenue budget.

He includes £150 million of capital funding that was removed from local government's settlement last year with a promise that it would be returned in future years.

That funding is not coming back to councils in 2017/18 although it has been included in the figures that the SNP is using to spin the budget.

And, like his party bosses have told him to, he includes potential increases in council tax revenues as part of his figures.

Let me be absolutely clear to your readers – any in-

creased revenue to North Ayrshire Council from council tax increases, including the SNP government's imposed changes to bands E-H, will come from the pockets of local residents, not the Scottish Government, and I find it appalling that SNP politicians are including local people's money in their spin.

It is not just your MSP, however, who is involved in this – it follows similar statements from his councillors. However, if the SNP council leader, deputy leader and finance spokesperson had attended the budget briefing last week, they might actually understand the impact of their party's budget on the council.

Finally, Mr Gibson points out that he is a member of the parliament's local government committee.

He will, therefore, be aware that Derek Mackay, his party's finance secretary, demanded that council leaders accept his 'offer' of cuts before that committee had scrutinised his draft budget or MSPs have exercised their democratic mandate to set their own budget.

I have refused to be bullied by the cabinet secretary into accepting these cuts.

The SNP is now a minority government and in order to pass its budget, it needs the support of at least one opposition party. So far, every opposition party leader has said they won't vote for the draft budget.

Mr Gibson and his party can continue to spin their 'alternative facts' – my administration and I will concentrate on fighting for the best funding deal for our communities.

Yours,
**Councillor
Joe Cullinane,
Leader of North
Ayrshire Council.**

Access concerns

Sir,
From your centre spread in last week's *Banner*, it seems the new Brodick ferry terminal project has been well managed by George Leslie Ltd and that construction is well up to schedule. Congratulations.

But serious concerns remain about access from the front of the new building to the ferry itself. It is a very long way, not just for the elderly and disabled but for small children.

In addition to the 200 metres walk from the back of the terminal, some of it up or down a ramp, a lift has to be negotiated by those unable to climb the 35 steps to the waiting room – 35 steps is the number you have to climb to reach the third floor in a three-storey building. Nor are lifts reliable. They break down, require maintenance, may well be over-used during the high season and, in some people, induce claustrophobia.

Those of us, myself included, who suffer from breathing and mobility problems, and who have to make frequent hospital visits, are alarmed.

How are we going to get to the ferry in time and at what cost in pain? Will there be enough wheelchairs and staff to make the long round trip from the terminal to the boat without causing unacceptable delays?

Many of us raised these issues at the planning stages, and now that the reality can be seen our worst fears are being confirmed.

We appear to be paying £33 million for a worse terminal than the one we had before. Why was this a good thing?

Yours,
**Ian Ferguson,
High Corrie.**

Homes sought

Sir,
Just prior to Christmas we advertised an urgent appeal for homes for Echo (tabby and white) and Tom (ginger), both six years old, as needing families urgently.

Our plea was answered and a home was offered. However, the new owner was not able to take them straight away as they were moving.

We were then told there was a third cat, the lovely Remy. When we told the prospective owner they immediately responded with extending the offer to him also.

They were due to go to their new home this weekend. On Monday night we were told the offer of a home was withdrawn. Now all three cats are homeless once more.

They are not used to any roads nor moving traffic and have lived up a track in total rural isolation all their lives.

We have sent out an appeal across a wide audience in the hope of finding them a home together.

They are not used to dogs or children. They are laid-back and affectionate cats that love to have a 'conversation' with you.

They have only a few days before the current owner must leave. In fact, by the time the *Banner* comes out, that window will have been reduced to something like 24 to 48 hours.

So if anyone is able to help they must contact us immediately on 01770 820611 or the Facebook page at [facebook.com/Catsprotection-IsleofArran](https://www.facebook.com/Catsprotection-IsleofArran).

Yours,
**Linda Hartley,
Co-ordinator,
Cats Protection
Isle of Arran
branch.**

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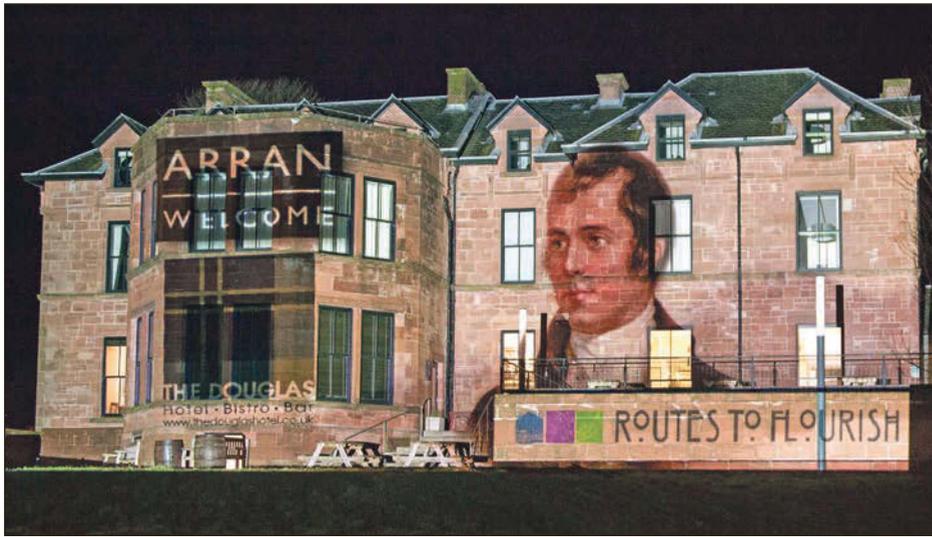
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A giant image of The Bard is projected on to the Douglas Hotel.

Photographs: Arran Photography.

Rabbie gives a warm Arran welcome

A two-storey high projection of Robert Burns was displayed on the iconic sandstone building of the Douglas Hotel, Brodick, as part of an 'Arran Welcome' project.

The event was to help celebrate the hotel's Burns supper and also launched a new marketing campaign by Arran company Routes To Flourish.

The images were created by Double Take Projections.

Alison Page, a coach and learning consultant at Routes To Flourish, said: 'I'm hoping this projection will help promote Arran as

an ideal place to come for individual and corporate learning and development in addition to being a world class holiday destination.

'I am keen to work in partnership with other island businesses to offer a wide range of options and cater for budgets from top class hotels to 'glamping' and everything in between.

Events

'I have enjoyed working with VisitArran, having developed the 'Arran Welcome' and delivered various learning events for island businesses to ensure continuous improvement.

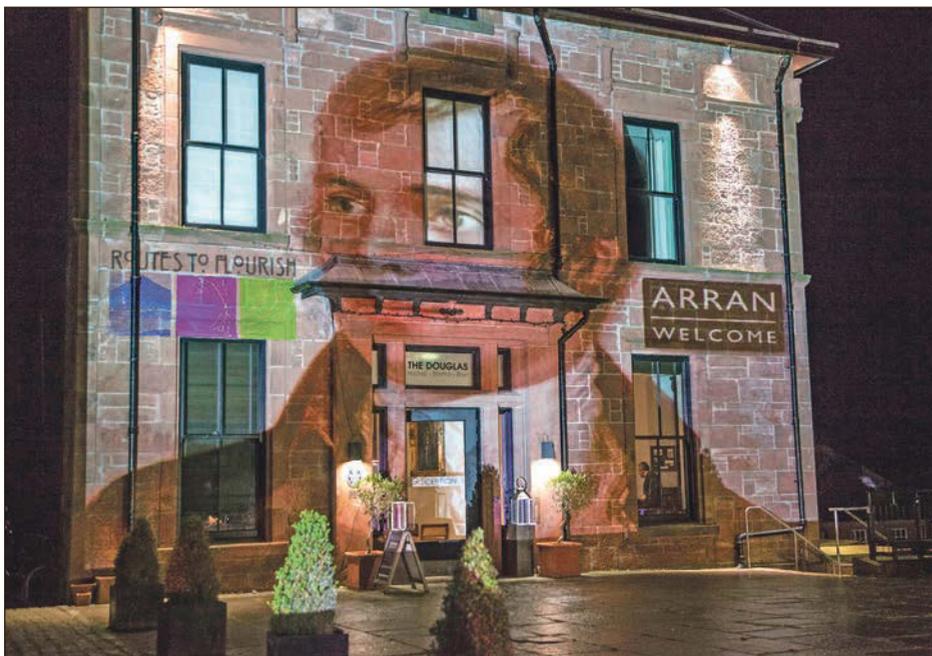
'Setting goals to work to-

wards is part of coaching and one of my business goals for Routes To Flourish is to market Arran the island as a place to come for personal and business development.'

Based in Edinburgh, Double Take Projections is an innovative Scottish design consultancy specialising in creating immersive visual experiences using a technique call Projection Mapping.

It has an impressive list of clients including the Scottish Government, The Hunter Foundation, Irn Bru and Caledonian MacBrayne.

☐ See centre spread.



Rabbie's head fills the entire front of the hotel.

Lunch club remembers The Bard

The Lunch Club enjoyed a special meal at its first meeting after the festive period break when members attended a Burns supper at Glen Estate Sheltered housing last week.

The club, which meets every fortnight, is run by a small team of volunteers who cook and serve food to residents and visitors. A two-course meal was provided for

a reasonable charge of £4 and besides the enjoyable meal it was a great social event.

The supper was well-attended and participants enjoyed the traditions that go along with the Burns supper as well as pipe music. Organisers thanked the volunteers for their assistance in making the event a special occasion which was enjoyed by everyone.



Volunteers Elizabeth Suter and Eleanor Hamilton look on as Michael Main addresses the haggis.

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Pupils take to the slopes in Norway

Arran High School students enjoyed another winter sports trip over the new year period when they visited Norway for ski instruction.

The group of 16 pupils and two members of staff visited the ski resort of Halfjell in Lillehammer where they took part in apres ski activities, snow boarding and outdoor excursions.

Among the highlights were visits to the Olympic bobsleigh track and a national ice hockey game. The children received professional ski instruction and everyone in the group is now able to parallel turn and are fluent, controlled skiers.

The seven-day trip was open to all S1 to S6 pupils and takes place every year.



Arran High School pupils who visited Lillehammer in Norway. B05ski01



Pupils learn the ropes at Halfjell where they received skiing lessons. B05ski02



Adam Brown, Ethan Sillars, Malley Robertson, Jordan Rogers and Catherine Bloy dressed for the cold. B05ski03

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THE ARRAN BANNER

Members enjoy Scottish night at Lamlash SWI

After being guests of Corrie and Sannox SWI at its Auld Year's night celebrations, Lamlash institute held its own Scottish night the following week.

After business was dealt with, Mary gave the Selkirk Grace and members sat down to a traditional meal of haggis, neeps and tatties followed by magnificent individual portions of Arran Gold creme brûlée, made by Nan. These were set in teacups with accompanying raspberries and homemade shortbread on the saucer. They were a feast

for the eye as well as the palate. The attractive table settings complimented the meal. Alison had organised a fun quiz on Scotland with Mary, Liz and Janet the winners.

Light-hearted

The evening was rounded off with community singing of light-hearted Scottish songs such as Sam the Skull and Ye Canny Shove Your Granny aff a Bus. With such an unusually large raffle, nearly everyone won a prize.

Winner of the Scottish corsage was Kathleen and

the whisky miniature belonged to Carol. Vivienne proposed a vote of thanks to Alison for organising the evening and to everyone involved in the cooking and entertainment. The ensuing round of applause showed everyone agreed it had been a most enjoyable night out.

The next meeting is a Make and Bake night when names for the trip to New Lanark will be taken. New members are always welcome to go and join the meetings. Look out for the posters around Lamlash.

Janet Mair.

Arran Society of Glasgow still going strong after 174 years

The historic Arran Society of Glasgow held its annual dinner in the newly-refurbished Kinloch Hotel last Saturday, 174 years since the society was formed.

More than 80 guests were piped in to the dinner by Arran High School student Fiona Bulger, before enjoying a delicious meal.

Following the Toast to the Society by the president, the company was entertained by talented Arran High School students Bethany Walsh, fiddle; Lucy Walsh, flute; and Emily Divine, guitar.

The president then welcomed BBC journalist Aileen Clarke to propose the

Toast to the Island. Aileen is a familiar face on Arran because of her reporting endeavours during the snow of 2013 and her excellent, witty speech included tales from then.

The reply on behalf of the island was offered by local lad Captain James Murchie of Blackwaterfoot, who served with the Royal Fleet Auxiliary for more than 40 years.

James is a familiar speaker on Arran and he didn't disappoint

The Arran Society makes modest, but meaningful, financial awards to young people, community groups and education-

al and cultural initiatives on the island and, following the dinner, honorary president Sheila Gilmore informed the company that recipients in the past 12 months have included Arran Junior Triathlon Club, Forest Schools, Aims Advocacy, Isle of Arran Heritage Museum, Arran Dancers, Isle of Arran Pipe Band, Arran High School Awards and various further and higher education students.

Established in 1843, the society is always looking to extend its membership to ensure its aims and objectives continue to be fulfilled, and guests, who had not already done so, were invited to apply online at www.arransocietyofglasgow.org for life membership which only costs £10.

The society thanks all staff at Kinloch Hotel, Arran Events, Arran High School music department, Taste of Arran, Arran: Sense of Scotland, and Isle of Arran Distillery for their support in making this event such a success.

Next year's Arran Society Dinner will be held at Kinloch Hotel on February 3 2018.



Speakers Aileen Clarke, Sheila Gilmore and James Murchie.



Members of Arran Pipe Band perform outside Brodick Co-op.

Community Fund beneficiaries perform at Brodick Co-op

The Co-operative recently celebrated a 'Join Us' day when groups who have benefited from its new community fund entertained customers at its Brodick store.

Arran Pipe Band gave a rousing performance outside the shop, while Alison Provan, representing the Highland dancing club, delighted everyone with her swords and fling performance.

The local community fund comes from the one per cent of own-brand purchases when a member card is presented. Local groups, which currently also include Arran Hospital Supporters League, will share the money from this until March.

During the day, shoppers were encouraged to join the scheme and members are invited to go online and have

their say on where future contributions should go to. They were also reminded of the five per cent reward for themselves on own-brand purchases as well as other benefits of being a member. Members who presented their card had the benefit of an extra ticket when they took part in the tombola and raffle which was won by Morag Murchie who won a Fairtrade hamper.

Additional musical entertainment was provided courtesy of employees Mark Harwood and David Wilson, while a busy cake stall raised more than £400 for the Red Cross and the local community.

Organisers thanked everyone who took part, congratulated Morag on her raffle win and thanked customers for their support throughout the year.

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The award-winning Head Chef, David Butters, has created a menu offering a true Scottish dining experience which showcases seasonal, locally sourced produce, perfectly matched by an extensive wine and whisky list.

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To enter, send separate entries (in the same envelope) with your name, address, telephone number and email address to Wyvex Media Ltd, Competitions, Fettes Park, 496 Ferry Road, Edinburgh EH5 2DL. Closing date, unless otherwise stated, is 28 February 2017. Entrants must be 18 or over. Employees of Wyvex Media Ltd, the competition promoters, and their direct families are ineligible to enter. No purchase necessary. The winner will be first correct entry drawn after closing date. No cash alternative is available. The winner will be informed by telephone. Promoter reserves the right to request post publicity. Indicate if you do not wish to receive further information from promoter. Usual Wyvex Media rules apply.



The audience listen intently as Finlay Murchie gives a recitation. 01_A05burns05



Allan Nicol cuts open the haggis during his address. 01_A05burns01



The top table toast the lassies.



Piper Ross Kerr entertains with his piping melody. 01_A05burns15



President Willie Robertson thanks Dr Rankine. 01_A05burns06

Burns is as relevant as he was in the 18th century

Song and verse at an evening of celebration

Around 50 Burns enthusiasts enjoyed a night of song, verse and merriment in their annual celebration of The Bard last Saturday.

And as Dr John Rankine, in his excellent Immortal Memory, said, if that was all a Burns Supper was, it would be enough. But he explained how the life and work of Burns still res-

onates and has a place in the world of today.

Lamlash Golf Club was the venue for the Lamlash Burns Club annual supper. The evening began with Douglas Auld rendering of the Selkirk Grace and, after soup, the haggis was piped in by Ross Kerr, making his first appearance at the event, and addressed in style by Allan Nicol.

After the meal it was the turn of John Divine to give his first Burns

song of the night, followed by a recitation of *To a mouse* by Finlay Murchie and later songs from Peter Wilson.

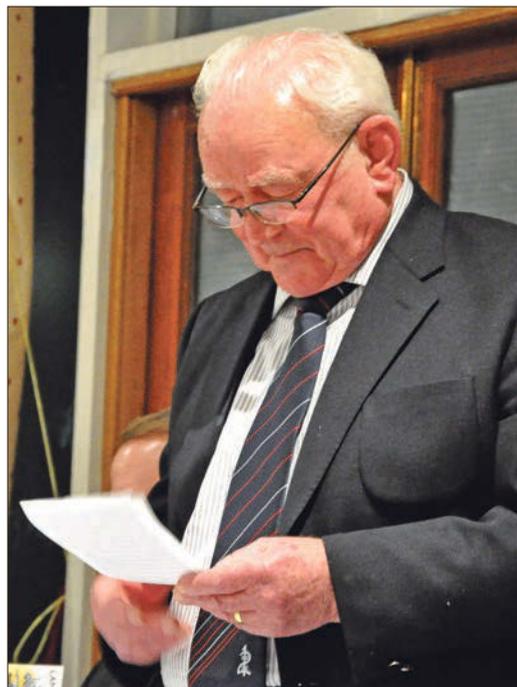
The room was quickly silent for the Immortal Memory by Dr John Rankine, which although naturally containing humour, gave an



Above: The top table at the Burns supper. 01_A05burns03



Douglas Auld is all smiles for the Banner photographer as he gives his vote of thanks. 01_A05burns16



John Kelso gives his toast to Bonnie Jean and the lassies. 01_A05burns11





ies. 01_A05burns12

Photographs by Hugh Boag

Relevant today as 18th century annual Lamlash supper

enticing insight into the life and work of Burns in the late 18th century and its relevance in the world today.

Rendition

Archie Nicol then sang *The Star o' Rabbie Burns*, with the audience joining in the chorus. President Willie Robertson give the vote of thanks to the speaker before Graham Kerr gave

an excellent rendition of all 224 unaccompanied lines of *Tam O'Shanter*.

A toast to Bonnie Jean and the lassies was delivered in some style and with humour as well as extensive detail by Jock Kelso. Donald Mackay gave the Toast of Lamlash Burns Club and the reply was given by Tony van Breugal who also designs the programme

ever year and this year went with the theme of 'A man's a man for a' that'.

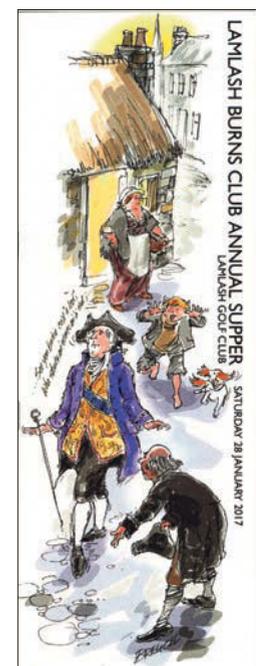
Rounding off proceedings was a piping melody by Ross Kerr before Douglas Auld gave the vote of thanks to the caterers and artists and, after the raffle, the evening was rounded off by the rousing rendition of *Auld Lang Syne*.



John Divine in full voice. 01_A05burns04



Left: Tony van Breugal has updated the famous Alexander Nasmyth portrait of Burns to make the Bard look more contemporary. B05burns18



The programme featuring the work of Tony van Breugal. B05burns17



Graham Kerr recites *Tam O'Shanter*. 01_A05burns10



Tony van Breugal gives his reply to the club.

01_A05burns14



The packed clubhouse listens to Dr Rankine. 01_A05burns08



Dr John Rankine gives the Immortal Memory. 01_A05burns07



Peter Wilson on song. 01_A05burns09

Welcome to Driving Force

Buying a car can be the second biggest investment you will make. Choosing a new car is one of the most exciting experiences a motorist can enjoy and having a clear idea of exactly what you are looking for can make the process much easier.

Whether you buy from a local dealer, a distant retailer, an online broker or via the internet, it pays to do your homework so you are in the best position to get a good deal. This means deciding what make and model you want, as well as any add-ons that you need.

Once you have the facts and figures in front of you, it's time to talk to the dealer and negotiate your best price. Our guide will help you get the right car, with the right features for the right price, so read on and get inspired!



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What car do I need?

Here's a handy checklist:



- ✓ What are my essential requirements? Fuel efficiency or enough room for all the family?
- ✓ Do I need the car to do anything specific? This could include towing a trailer or fitting into a small space. Is it for short city drives or longer journeys?
- ✓ Does it need to be able to cruise at motorway speeds without straining?
- ✓ Do I need a massive boot? Consider whether you need room for things such as sports equipment or a pushchair – or if you need to fit friendly Fido or your mother-in-law.
- ✓ Do I prefer petrol or diesel? The fuel you want to use can make a big difference in the model you might choose.
- ✓ Do I want to consider an eco-friendly car? If so, a hybrid or electric car could be an option.
- ✓ How much will it cost? Moneysavingexpert.com offers this checklist for calculating the full cost of your new vehicle.
- ✓ Any upfront costs. Once you've decided to buy a car, you will of course have to pay for it. You can either pay the whole cost upfront or take out a finance deal. Whichever way you choose, expect to at least pay a down payment before you drive off.
- ✓ Finance repayments. If you've taken a personal loan, or dealer finance, you'll need to factor in repayments. To work out the rough cost of running a new car, the Gov.uk website has a fuel consumption search tool. Motoring website Honest John also has a handy 'real MPG' section where drivers have reported how many miles per gallon they get.
- ✓ Tax. You can check out how much road tax you'll need to pay on the Gov.uk website. You can also search for cars in a particular tax band. These range from A-M depending on the car's CO2 emissions, with the cost of tax ranging from £0 to over £1,000 in year one. Standard rates then apply, at up to £500/year.
- ✓ Car insurance. The cost of insurance is based on how much of a risk insurers perceive you to be. For example, if you are a youngster who's just passed your test, you will pay more for your cover. Plus, taking breakdown cover will bump up the cost. New cars often come with a year's worth of breakdown cover.
- ✓ MOTs. Once the car's three years old, you'll have to pay for an MOT every year, which costs £54.85 (for the test).
- ✓ Servicing. You'll need to get your car serviced regularly, typically once a year, though it varies by model. Servicing ensures it's safe to drive and keeps the manufacturer's warranty valid. A routine service typically starts around £120.
- ✓ Parking permits and tolls. Unless you have free parking where you live, or a garage, you will probably have to pay for a resident's permit. Check your council website to see how much this costs. Consider any costs to park at work if you drive there too, as well as toll charges you may face along the way.
- ✓ Other spending. New tyres, repairs and valet cleans can add up, so make sure there's some breathing room in your budget. So allow a couple of £100s extra for additional spending per year – just in case.



Subaru XV gets interior upgrade and re-tuned chassis

- XV gets higher quality interior in line with new models
- Major re-tuning of chassis improves ride and handling
- NVH measures for more refinement
- New touchscreen infotainment with voice control and navigation

Subaru UK has announced a raft of modifications and upgrades to the interior and chassis of its XV compact crossover. The interior changes result in further significant improvements to cabin refinement and ambience.

Boasting the lowest centre of gravity in the compact crossover class – and the highest ground clearance – changes to the car’s suspension have been designed to result in a smoother, more compliant ride but without sacrificing any of the stability that the XV is renowned for.

Among the most important changes to the upgraded XV is a revised interior, which now features improved materials and an all-new touchscreen infotainment and navigation system.

The interior design now has a higher-quality look and feel thanks to the adoption of an all new instrument binnacle and new metallic and piano black accents throughout the cabin for the central console, dashboard and steering wheel switchgear and arm rests.

Subaru is pleased to announce that the all-new Subaru XV will make its global debut at the 87th Geneva International Motor Show to be held in Switzerland on March 7-19, 2017.

Fitted with Subaru’s renowned Symmetrical All-Wheel Drive system, XV is a compact SUV with a personality packed exterior.

The all-new Subaru XV will be unveiled at the press conference sched-



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THE ARRAN

BANNER

TWENTY
YEARS AGO

Saturday 8 February, 1997

Tourism fight

Less than a year after Isle of Arran Tourist Board disappeared into Ayrshire and Arran Tourist Board, it appears the Arran only body might re-appear. This will not be done in a way which challenges the main board, but the aim, nevertheless, is to regain local control.

Arran Tourist Board had, over the years, become a body which spoke with authority for Arran. Then a rationalisation of tourist boards was decreed and it was feared it may become one tiny part of a South West Scotland board. It was considered something of a victory when an Ayrshire and Arran board was allowed, but many felt it would cease to have much meaning for Arran. Local control of its flagship - the accommodation register - has just been released and many members are not happy

with it. Nearly half the entries are incorrect as no-one on Arran checked the facts.

Ronnie Mann, a member of the new council, has proposed an Arran Tourism Council.

Eager not to create ill-feeling, his proposal for the new council is in a policy making capacity, an enabling body that could look after Arran's particular interests to make sure the Arran sections are correct.

Arran luminaries

Access to the countryside is not just an Arran issue, but a nationwide one. And at Portencross, near Largs, the Ramblers Association held a meeting on Thursday.

The purpose was to unveil its proposals for Scottish access legislation. Presenting their four-point plan was John Holmes, vice chairman of the Ramblers Association, Scotland.

Many on Arran will remember Mr Holmes as the joint owner of the Enismor Hotel. He and his wife Joyce later established Argowan in Brodick.

Roadworks spending

North Ayrshire Infrastructure and Environment Committee has been presented with a listing, in order of priority, all of the roadworks proposed over the next five years.

Tenth on the list is £5,000 for Arran and Cumbrae small works including the laybys at Merkland Point.

Number 20 is £174,000 over four years on the String Road reconstruction which starts next year. Number 21 is £22,500 on the Blackwaterfoot village improvements scheme. Number 27 is £118,000 over five years on an Arran footpath development feasibility study.



Arran's Isa Wilson, who worked at the chemist shop in Brodick and travelled around the island in her blue chemist van for 25 years, will be missed by many as she retires. B05twe02



Margot Wheeler, Graham Tinto, Chris Stanger and Peter Mackay braved the weather to lead 26 youngsters in Arran Youth Rugby Club's training last week. B05twe04



Getting a North Ayrshire Council anti-litter campaign going are Shiskine pupils Jamie McClelland, Robert Murchie, Ellen Souter and Janis Murchie. B05twe01



A discussion on a proposed theatre for Arran was discussed in a make or break meeting of the Theatre Trust last Friday. Despite a successful one-woman show in St George's Church, the venue now seems to be less favoured than the Douglas Hotel. B05twe03



Arran High School rugby players will play host to teams from across Ayrshire next month when they host their first high school rugby sevens. First year players are pictured with teacher Iain Parker. B05twe05

What's on

in association with Isle of Arran Brewery

www.arranbrewery.com



Everyday

Trout fly fishing
Brodick Castle
Arran Brewery
Lamlash tennis courts/putting green
Soap making and candle dipping

Loch Garbad, bank fishing
garden open 9am-dusk
Fri - Sat 10am - 5pm Sun - Wed 12.30pm - 5pm
Open all day
Arran Aromatics, Brodick, 10am - 4pm

Saturday 4th February

Army Cadets
Over 21s disco
Family games
Fun in the pool
Arran Vets surgery
Arran Vets reception
Live music
Blackwaterfoot bowls
Flow yoga Ormidale Pavilion,
Live music - Will & the Wild Horse

Auchrannie Road 11am - 1 pm
Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Auchrannie games hall, 3pm-4pm
Auchrannie spa pool, 4-5pm
9.30am - 11am
9.30am - noon
Fiddlers, Brodick from 7.30pm
Bowling Club, Brodick, 1.15pm
Brodick, 9am
The PHT, Lamlash 9pm

Sunday 5th February

Family games
Fun in the pool
Open acoustic session at Fiddlers'
AA meeting
Taigi and Oigong

Auchrannie games hall, 3pm-4pm
Auchrannie spa pool, 4pm-5pm
Fiddlers, Brodick 2.30pm - 5pm
Brodick Church Hall, 5pm - 6.30pm
Whiting Bay Hall, 7pm

Monday 6th February

Over 50s badminton
Badminton
Morning fitness
Badminton
Arran Vets surgery
Arran Vets reception
Arran Junior Football Club
Circuit training
Lamlash Aerobix
RunArran
Tae Kwondo
Arran bridge
Arran Citizen's Advice Bureau
Live music Fiddlers,
Arran Skinnymalinks
Arran Skinnymalinks
Arran Skinnymalinks
Arran Skinnymalinks
Arran Skinnymalinks
Scottish country dancing for beginners and improvers

Lochranza Village Hall, 2-4pm
Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm
Auchrannie gym, 9.30-10.30am
Auchrannie sports hall, 7-9pm
9am - 10.30am and 4pm - 6pm
9am - 2pm and 4pm - 6pm
Ormidale Park, 6-7.30pm
Auchrannie gym, 6-7pm
Arran High School dance studio, 6.30pm
Drift Inn, Lamlash 5.30pm
Brodick Church Hall adults and over 10s, 7.00pm - 8.30pm
Lamlash Golf Club, 7pm
Ormidale Pavilion, 11.30am - 3pm
Brodick 7.30pm - 10pm
Lamlash Church Hall 3:30 - 4:00pm
Brodick - Arran Active 4:15 - 4:45pm
Corrie - Breagha Holistic Beauty 5:00 - 5:30pm
Shiskine Church Hall 5:15 - 5:45pm
Brodick Church Kitchen 5:45 - 6:15pm
Corrie Hall, 2pm - 4pm

Tuesday 7th February

Pop quiz
Alcoholics Anonymous
Youth club
Arran Vets surgery
Arran Vets reception
Rotary Club
Healthy outdoors
Blackwaterfoot bowls
RunArran run coaching
Bridge class (beginners/improvers)
Open cricket session
Lamlash Junior Drama Club
Flow yoga
Live music
Metafit
Pilates
Scottish country dancing
Winter bowls
Arran Skinnymalinks

Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
Brodick Church Hall, 2pm
Kildonan Hall, 7pm
9am - 10.30am and 4pm - 6pm
9am - 2pm and 4pm - 6pm
Glencloy Suite, Auchrannie, 6.30pm
NTS Ranger Centre, 10am - 1pm
Bowling Club, 1.15pm
Lamlash, 5.30pm
Brodick Golf Club, 2.30pm - 4.30pm
Brodick Astro turf 7pm-9pm
Arran High School, 6.30pm - 9pm
Corrie and Sannox Hall, 6pm
Fiddlers, Brodick 7.30pm - 10pm
Arran High School, 6pm
Kilmory Hall, 6pm - 7pm
Brodick Church Hall, 7.30pm
Auchrannie, 7pm
Lochranza Arran Distillery visitor centre 3:30 - 4:00pm

Wednesday 8th February

Rock an pop bingo
Tae Kwondo
Alcoholics Anonymous
Arran Brass rehearsal
Arran Vets surgery
Arran Vets reception
Yoga

Ormidale Hotel 9.30pm
Arran High School Kids-6.30-7.30pm adults-7.30-8.30pm
Lamlash Church Hall, 7.30pm
Brodick Church Hall, 7-9pm
9am - 10.30am and 4pm - 6pm
9am - 2pm and 4pm - 6pm
Auchrannie studio, 9.30am-10.30am

Hydrofit
Arran Heritage Museum archives and genealogy service
RunArran
Yoga-Arran
Live music
Mixed hockey
Dog classes
Flow yoga
Knittnerly and Natterly
Bus pass club meal
Chair yoga St Molios
Mexican night
Parkinson's support group
Coffee Morning

Auchrannie Hotel leisure, 9.45am - 10.45am
10.30-12.30 and 1.30-3.30
Auchrannie spa, 5.30pm
Kinneil, Lamlash, 7-8.30pm
Fiddlers, Brodick 7.30pm - 10pm
Auchrannie sports Hall, 7.30-9pm
Whiting Bay Hall, 1pm
Shiskine Hall, 7.30pm
Kilmory Hall, 2pm - 4pm
The PHT, noon - 2.30pm
Church Hall, Shiskine, 11am - noon
The PHT, Lamlash, 5pm - 9pm
Lamlash fire station, 2pm - 4pm
Brodick Church Hall, 10.30am - 12noon

Thursday 9th February

Morning fitness
General knowledge quiz
Arran Vets surgery
Arran Vets reception
Live music
Ladies' hockey
RUNFIT
Burger and quiz night
Winter bowls
Mixed Martial Arts/XFit
Arran Bridge
Quilt Arran
Flow yoga
Chair yoga
10th Ayrshire Shiskine Cub Scouts and Beavers Shiskine Hall, 6pm - 7.30pm
RUNFIT
Brodick Embroidery Group

Auchrannie gym, 9.30-10.30am
Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
9am - 10.30am and 4pm - 6pm
9am - 2pm and 4pm - 6pm
Fiddlers, Brodick 7.30pm - 10pm
Ormidale Pavilion, 7.30-8.30pm
Lamlash front green, 6.45am
Felicity's @ Eden Lodge, from 7.30pm
Auchrannie, 7pm
Balmichael Centre, 7pm
Brodick Golf Club, 7pm for 7.15pm
Lamlash Fire Station, 2pm - 4.30pm
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 6pm
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 10.30am - 11.30am
10th Ayrshire Shiskine Cub Scouts and Beavers Shiskine Hall, 6pm - 7.30pm
Lamlash green, 6.45am
Brodick Library, 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Friday 10th February

Yoga
Hydrofit
Arran Youth Foundations
Lochranza children's badminton
Lochranza adults' badminton
Quiz
Arran Vets
Arran Vets reception
AA meeting
Live music
Tae Kwondo
Karaoke/disco

Auchrannie spa leisure, 9.30am - 10.30am
Auchrannie Hotel leisure, 9.45am - 10.45am
Church Hall, Brodick 7pm-9pm
Lochranza Hall, 6-8pm
Lochranza Hall, 8pm
Whiting Bay Golf Club, 8pm
surgery 9am - 10.30am and 4pm - 6pm
9am - 2pm and 4pm - 6pm
Whiting Bay Hall, 7pm
Fiddlers, Brodick, 7.30pm
Arran High School, Lamlash adults, 7pm - 8.30pm
The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm



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Public Notices

CONSULTATION ON NORTH AYRSHIRE MAIN ISSUES REPORT AND INTERIM ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

On 30 January 2017, the Council published its Main Issues Report (MIR) as part of the preparation of a second local development plan (LDP) for North Ayrshire. The MIR and its accompanying Interim Environmental Report are available to view at <http://www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/localplans>. Paper copies of the MIR will be also available at all public libraries in North Ayrshire and at Cunninghame House, Irvine. The MIR sets out options for change on key areas of planning policy, and is intended to generate discussion on the key planning issues in North Ayrshire, including potential new development locations. Consultation responses to the MIR will assist us in preparing a Proposed LDP, which will set out the Council's position on the matters included in the MIR. The Proposed LDP is intended to be published in December 2017. As part of the consultation we will be hosting a series of exhibition events in North Ayrshire. Further details of the dates, times and locations of events will be published on the Council website, as above, and through Twitter @North_Ayrshire. The consultation on the MIR and Interim Environmental Report runs between 30/01/17 and 10/03/17. Responses can be submitted to North Ayrshire Council's Planning Service, within the consultation period, to LDP@north-ayrshire.gov.uk; members of the public and community groups can also submit responses in writing to Strategic Planning, Cunninghame House, Irvine, KA12 8EE. An online survey can also be submitted by visiting the Council website, as above. To discuss the MIR or Interim Environmental Report with planning officers, please phone 01294 310000 or email ldp@north-ayrshire.gov.uk.

Elma Murray
Chief Executive
Cunninghame House
IRVINE KA12 8EE



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3 pieces of second hand beige carpet in good condition approx: 1. 3mtrs 15" x 1 mtr 16". 2. 1mtr 10" x 2 and half meters. 3. 2 and

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01770 302 873
 email: james@jamesofarran.com

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Auchrannie Resort is recruiting due to continuing growth of the business.

Positions are now available for:

- Leisure Assistant**
- Receptionist**
- Restaurant Manager**
- Restaurant Floor Manager**
- F&B Assistants**
(flexible working hours available)
- Beauty Therapists**
- Chefs (all levels)**
- Painter and Decorator**

Further details can be found at www.auchranniejobs.co.uk or contact hr@auchrannie.co.uk

Benefits include family leisure club membership worth up to £800 and other discounts within the resort.

auchrannie resort auchrannie job vacancies

Housekeeper Assistant

Auchrannie resort are looking to recruit a Housekeeping Assistant to work throughout the resort.

No experience necessary as full training will be given however great customer service skills and a keen eye for detail are essential.

Porter

We are also looking for someone to join our team.

With responsibilities across the resort including our mini bus service to the port, luggage portage and general housekeeping assistance this is a varied role.

Driving licence is essential for this role

Further details can be found at www.auchranniejobs.co.uk or contact hr@auchrannie.co.uk

MACHRIE BAY GOLF CLUB

Applications are invited for the Lease for the Tea Room at Machrie Hall

Contact 01770 840360 for more details

BUSINESS FOR SALE Cladach Sawmill, Brodick

For sale as a going concern, a long established timber business.

Interested parties please call

David on 01770 302471 or 07803625248 for more details.

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Cleaner | NAY02204

£6.70 - £6.87 (the Hourly Rate for the post + a Living Wage Pay Supplement, in order to bring their earnings to £8.45 per hour) | 40 hours per week

Closing date 14th February 2017

Arran Outdoor Education Centre, Lamlash, Isle of Arran KA27 8PL

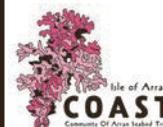
For further details and to apply visit www.myjobscotland.gov.uk/councils/north-ayrshire-council



We are an equal opportunities employer so please inform us of any special needs you may have.

LAMLASH PAVILION RENOVATION CONTRACT

Expressions of interest are invited by 13th February demonstrating your ability to carry out this turnkey work to a fixed price. Further information, drawings and specification are available from Donald McNicol at kebars@hotmail.co.uk or 01770 700296.



Invitations to tender will be sent to the selected contractors by 20th February.



HOUSEKEEPERS REQUIRED

The Arran Team are looking for reliable and conscientious housekeepers for various locations across the island.

Competitive rates of pay.

If you are interested, please contact us on 303113 or call into our office at The Douglas Centre, Brodick.

LOOKING FOR NEW STAFF?

THE ARRAN BANNER

Tel: 01770 302142
www.arranbanner.co.uk

Part - time Arts Co - Ordinator

Arran Theatre and Arts Trust seeks a part time, self - employed arts co-ordinator for 8 days per month to co-ordinate and develop existing and new projects, promote an arts programme on and off the island of Arran and work with local groups in a wide range of art forms.

For full job description and information about Arran Theatre and Arts Trust go to www.arantheatreandarts.co.uk

To apply go to http://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/show/search_view.aspx?ID=JAN271054 including a CV.

Applications should be lodged by 20th February 2017. Interviews early March.

If you have problems following this link or have questions regarding the application process please contact: Sophie.Paice@argyll-bute.gov.uk Phone: 01546 604363



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CHURCH NOTICES

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(Part of the Worldwide Anglican Church)

St Margaret's, Whiting Bay
Sunday 5th February
 11.00 am Holy Communion
 Mrs Janis Gallagher
 Coffee after service
 ALL WELCOME

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Parishes of North Arran
 Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza,
 Pirmill and Shiskine
 Independent but working

together

Minister:

Rev Angus Adamson

Parish Assistant:

Mrs Jean Hunter:

Worship will be conducted in the above churches at the following times to which all are invited.

Sunday 5th February

Lochranza and Pirmill Churches, 10.15am Morning Worship including Sacrament of the Lord's Supper in Pirmill Church.

Shiskine Church, 12noon Morning Worship including Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

Brodick Church, 10.30am Morning Worship
 Corrie Church, 11.30am Prayer Meeting

12noon Morning Worship
 There will also be a Service of Worship in Montrose House at 1.30pm.

WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
 (Charity Number: SC014005)

Sunday 5th February

The Sacrament of Communion will be celebrated by the minister, Rev Elizabeth Watson, at 10.30am.

The table belongs to the Lord Jesus and all who love Him are most welcome.

There will be activities for our young people in the Church Hall.

Tea and coffee will be served after the service.
 All welcome.

There will be a service in Cooriedoon at 2.30pm to which all friends are welcome.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

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

Sunday 5th February

Rev Lily McKinnon

Kilmory 10 am

Lamlash 11.30 am

In both churches:

Service of praise

All welcome, including families; children's area

Scottish Charity SC015072

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, QUAKERS

Quakers meet every Sunday at 11am. For meeting venue ring - 830622, 820223

BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sunday 5th February

Sunday Mass 11am

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(continuing)

Sunday 5th February

Morning service 11am

Trust Housing Lounge

Glen Estate, Brodick.

Evening service 6.30pm

5 Glen Road, Brodick

All Welcome

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev Vince Jennings

Sunday 5th February

Service 11am

Ormidale Pavilion

Tea and coffee after the service

Wednesday at 7.30pm

Home fellowship group for bible study and prayer.

Contact phone no 600222

Everyone warmly invited

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Shiskine 11am (church on road between Blackwaterfoot and Machrie)

Brodick 6pm in

ORMIDALE PAVILION

(due to renovations at church)

Rev Benjamin Van Rensburg

DEATH

BELL - William (Billy) (Leith, Edinburgh)

Suddenly, on 25th January 2017, William (Billy) Bell, much loved triplet brother of Bobby and Jimi and big brother of Liz. Sincere thanks to all who attended to Billy. A celebration of Billy's life will take place at Warriston Crematorium, Lorimer Chapel, on Wednesday 8th February at 2pm, to which all are welcome. Family flowers only, however, a collection will be taken for two charities, which Billy had been supporting over the years.

BIRTHDAY



Whiting Bay Golf Club

Sunday January 29, Stableford sweep. After the rain of the previous day, Sunday morning saw the ground drying out well enough for 11 players to take to the course. Playing from the yellow tees, scoring was generally good with the top four players all beating par.

The winner by three points was Sandy Pringle with 40 points. 1 Sandy Pringle 12, 40pts, 2 David Morrison 8, 37pts ACB, 3 Graeme Crichton 13, 37pts. Magic twos - George McKechnie @4th and Adam Kelso @17th.

Well done to all who survived the Burns Supper at Lamlash Golf Club on Saturday night and managed to play on Sunday morning, but a special mention in despatches for Stan Rainey - well walked Stan.

Fixture: Sunday February 4, AGA winter league at Brodick. Shotgun start at 10am so please be prompt. WBGC v Lamlash.

Shiskine Golf Club

Thursday January 26, ladies 12-hole medal, eight played, par 44, CSS 47. It was a bitterly cold day with wind chill below zero and the ladies had the option of warmth in the clubhouse. But, no, they were keen to get out and play, bravely



Arran Ladies Golf Union Drumadoon winners Jenni Turnbull, Brenda Livingston and Sally Brookes.

ing it in the very challenging conditions. First and scratch Ann May 51-4=47, 2 Alice Anderson 56-8=48.

Sunday January 29, 12-hole medal and Winter Cup, 23 played, CSS 41. First class: 1 S Miller 45-6=39, 2 R Crawford 44-4=40, 3 J Faulkner 46-5=41. Scratch, R Crawford 44. Second class: 1 C Laing 52-11=41, 2 L Jones 50-8=42, 3 P Betley 51-8=43. Magic twos - D Tod and C Laing.

Fixture: Saturday February 11, 18-hole medal, noon.

Brodick Golf Club

Wednesday January 25, Wednesday Cup. Jim Green was this week's winner with a superb net 61 in gale force conditions.

Douglas Robertson recorded a magic two @ 2nd.

Sunday January 29, Winter Cup, Stableford. 18 played. 1 Iain MacDonal (7) 39pts, 2 Bill Donaldson (17) 37pts, 3 Bob McCrae (8) 37pts. Fixture: AGA Duncan Trophy at Brodick, shotgun start. Check notice board for amended sweep details.

Lamlash Golf Club

Thursday January 26, yellow medal, CSS 61, par 61. 1 Andy Smith 74-15=59, 2 I Bremner 71-7=64, 3 A Wales 80-9=71. Scratch I Bremner 71. No magic twos.

Sunday January 29, winter stableford, CSS 66, par 64. 1 A Wales 35pts, 2 I Bremner 33pts, 3 J O'Sullivan 32pts. Scratch P Cowan 27pts. No magic twos.

Fixtures: Sunday February 5, AGA winter league, Lamlash v Whiting Bay at Brodick, 9.30am. Thursday February 9, yellow medal, 11am.

Arran Ladies Golf Union

Sunday January 29, Drumadoon, 19 played. It was a sunny day, calm and with stunning views of the snow-capped mountains.

Very many thanks to Corrie Golf Club for the courtesy of the course, to Pablo for the wonderfully swift condition of the greens, despite all the rain the previous day, and to Claire for the very welcome soup and teas. 1 Jenni Turnbull 17, 65 BIH, 2 Sally Brookes 20, 65, 3 Brenda Livingston 13, 67, Scratch, Brenda Livingston 80.

Silverware success at bridge club

The results of the Arran Bridge Club's aggregate competition held at Brodick on Thursday January 19 were: NS 1 Douglas and Margaret Bruce, 2 Anne McKelvie and Janie Maclure, 3 Margaret McGill and Jessmay Peacock. EW 1 Tricia Martin and Douglas Hamilton, 2 Jan and John Beattie, 3 Ellie and Mel Jones.

The Peggy Currie Cup, teams of four competition held at Lamlash on Monday January 23, winners were: Margaret Bruce, Douglas Bruce, Douglas Hamilton and Tricia Martin. Runners-up and winners of the Ann Cook Tray: Pat Adamson,

Jennifer McArthur, Morag Gardner and Brenda Livingstone.

The Boyd Trophy, round four, held at Brodick on Thursday January 26. 1 Margaret and Douglas Bruce, 2 John Baraclough and Jennifer Wales, 3 Jan and John Beattie.

Aggregate points competition at Lamlash on Monday January 30. N/S 1 Doug Chase and Jennifer Wales, 2 John Baraclough and Jennifer McArthur. 3 Jan and John Beattie E/W 1 Margaret and Douglas Bruce, 2 Brenda Livingstone and Morag Gardner. 3 Anne McKelvie and Janie Maclure.

Triathlon festival takes shape but help still needed

Arran Junior Triathlon Club, which is staging the first Arran Triathlon Festival later this year, is appealing to organisations and people who wish to be involved with the event to get in touch.

As previously reported in *The Banner*, the two-day festival will take place at Arran Outdoor Centre, Lamlash, over the weekend of Saturday June 3 and will see adult and junior events

taking place. There will also be a taster session for those who may be interested in triathlons.

Coach Craig Wood said: 'We would like as many local people and businesses to take part as possible. All profits will go straight into the club to help the children and to subsidise travel costs and raise much needed funds for a purpose-built home for the club in years to come.'

'We have not cut costs anywhere as we have had to compete with a commercial organisation which operates on the island. We needed to give participants more, such as power boat rides, chip timing and goodie bags and there will also be a £5,000 prize pot along with weekend breaks and much more.'

'If we get it right and prove we can run an event of this magnitude on the island and for the island, I'm

sure it can be a funding arm, not just for the triathlon club but many community junior clubs each year.'

'We have already obtained the support of Visit Arran and Arran Outdoor Centre, which we have secured as race headquarters for the weekend. We will be promoting the event with the children at the cycling and outdoor event at the National Cycling Centre this year. We also have the Pierhead

Tavern running the bar and evening entertainment with professional band Badstone booked, along with more local groups and singers still to be confirmed.'

Craig added: 'We want this to not only be a triathlon event, but also a festival in which local residents can come and experience the onsite entertainment and support our juniors when they race. We should all be so proud of the young

triathletes on Arran as in their first year they ranked fifth in the Scottish Junior league, finishing above Ayrshire's premier triathlon Club Ayrodynamics. We need island businesses and people to support us in many different ways including volunteering, donations, discounts or event sponsorship.'

Contact Craig.wood10@yahoo.com for more information.

Archie makes first podium finish in cross country event

Arran Junior Triathlon Club is continuing with its training and competing at events throughout Ayrshire.

Third

Last weekend the group, joined by vis-

itors from Arran, competed at the North Ayrshire schools cross country league where Arran junior triathlete Archie Gunaydi came third out of 37 P6 boys, earning his first podium finish.



Arran Junior Triathlon members, and Arran guests, who competed in the North Ayrshire schools cross country league.



Arran Junior Triathlete Archie Gunaydi, left, celebrated his first podium finish last week, coming third at the North Ayrshire schools cross country league.



James McCarthy is full of smiles and covered in mud as he makes his way along the route.



Beth McCarthy, in pink, took fourth place in her group.



Archie Gunaydi looking tired, but making good progress at the cross country event.

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Young hockey talent keeps ladies top of the league

Giffnock Ladies 2s 1 Arran Ladies 2

Arran Ladies remain top of the league after a narrow away win over Giffnock at the weekend.

They are now 11 games unbeaten and sit top of the West District Women's Hockey League Division 4 and five points clear of their nearest rivals Ardrossan Ladies 2s.

Arran travelled to play Giffnock Ladies 2s with a healthy 13 players and an umpire. With most of Arran's regular midfield players unable to attend Saturday's game, match experience was given to the new, younger players in the club, Hannah McCartney, Jemima Currie and Freya McNicol. The girls played with great determination

and commitment. Freya gave such a good show of herself as the right back defender, she was voted 'dame of the game' by her team-mates on her debut game.

Arran had most of the possession in the first half but Giffnock played a defensive game, blocking numerous shots on their goal.

The visitors constant pressure on the defence eventually paid off, enabling Lorraine Hewie to score the only goal of the first half putting Arran ahead at the interval.

Pressure

Giffnock managed an equaliser late in the second half, but the Arran Ladies never gave up, continuing to apply pressure in the shooting circle which won



Arran Ladies - unbeaten for 11 games. 01_B05hockey03



Freya McNicol earned herself the 'dame of the game' award on her debut.



Jenny Stark was voted 'man of the match' by the Giffnock players.

them a short corner penalty in the last few seconds of the game. Whilst Arran organised their play for the penalty, the Giffnock umpire blew for full time.

Some of the Giffnock Ladies thought that was game over, but the Arran Ladies knew the penalty corner still had to be played, as it had been awarded before the whistle.

And what a penalty corner it was. With a pass out to Anne Watts at the top of

the 'D', she took a cracking shot towards the Giffnock goal. The ball rebounded off the goalkeeper's padding and Lorraine took a deflecting jab forcing the ball between the goalkeeper's legs, giving Arran their second and winning goal and their 11th undefeated game of the season.

Jenny Stark was awarded 'man of the match' by the Giffnock players for her excellent midfield play and Arran Ladies voted the Giff-

nock goalkeeper 'man of the match' for her goal-thwarting performance throughout the game.

Arran Ladies next game is on Saturday February 11 at

the National Hockey Centre, Glasgow, playing Rottenrow Bluesox Ladies 2s.

Passback is at 1.30pm and all supporters are warmly welcomed.

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