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Arran's Weekly Newspaper

SATURDAY 21 MAY, 2016

No 2064 70p

The changing face of Brodick

'At one side of the bay the village has a brand new beach and on the other side the frame of the new ferry terminal building'

REPORT

by HUGH BOAG
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

groyne to retain the sand against future tidal erosion.

The fishtail groyne were first proposed in a long-awaited consultants' report by AECOM Ltd published late last year. But as reported by *The Banner* at the time the rock armour coastal structures could cost at least £1 million.

After weeks of waiting final permission came late last week for the sand, piled up behind the beach, to be spread over the foreshore.

The Marine Scotland licence does not only cover permission for replenishment of the beach, but also the construction of two rock



At last ... a beach in Brodick. 01_B21beach04

It is not the first time the committee has tried to raise a huge sum of money after coming up with £650,000 to help build the main Brodick Promenade which opened in 2010.

Brodick Improvements this week welcomed the receipt of the Marine Scotland licence, which had been processed by North Ayrshire Council on their behalf.

A committee spokesman said: 'This has been a long process and finally on Friday we received the licence which gives us three years in which to complete the project.'

The generous donation of sand from George Leslie Ltd which was recovered from the works at the new ferry terminal has allowed us to place approx. 5,500 tonnes that had been temporarily stored on the low green awaiting the marine licence.'

And another 1,500 tonnes is still to come.

The consultants' report says that to full repair the



The final roof beans are attached to the ferry terminal frame. 01_B21beach01

beach would take more than 15,000 tonnes of rock and 27,000 tonnes of stone.

Work started on Sunday to move the material over the exposed geotextile bags and onto the beach. Local

committee members, led by the chairman Harry Davidson, gathered at the beach to start moving the sand.

Murray Boal has had a major role in this project and he was encouraged by oth-

er members including Bill Calderwood, Ian Small and Alison McNicol.

'All the committee have been working together to make sure that the beach

Continued on page 2

CalMac wins new £900m ferry contract

Caledonian MacBrayne won a new £900m contract to continue operating the Clyde and Hebrides Ferries Network, as *The Banner* went to press.

State-owned CalMac and private firm Serco Caledonian Ferries Limited had been competing for the contract to run the services, including the two Arran routes.

Commitment

The new contract, which was awarded by the Scottish government, covers the eight-year period from 1 October. CalMac have pledged £6 million investment in vessel and port improvements and given a commitment that all routes and ser-

vices will continue to operate as they do now.

First Minister Nicola Sturgeon said: 'I'm very pleased to announce CalMac Ferries Ltd as our preferred bidder for the next Clyde and Hebrides Ferry Services contract. Scottish Ministers will retain control of all of important issues, such as fares and timetables, through the public service contract. Vessels and port infrastructure will also remain publicly owned as they are now.'

'This new contract looks to make further improvements to our ferry services, and I look forward to CalMac starting the new contract later this year.'



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New terminal building is taking shape

The framework for the new terminal building at Brodick Pier is all but complete.

As week 19 of the works draws to a close it is another tangible sign of just how well the £22.2 million project is progressing.

It took steel erectors just two weeks to complete the framework which will house the two-storey terminal building, which will have a covered walkway to the pier.

Meanwhile, two 'crawler cranes' have been busy in recent weeks carrying out the piling works on the new bulkhead and pier construction.

And the primary rock armour, which will be the first line of defence for the new pier, is regularly being brought from Furnace, Argyll, by MV Burhou and this will continue for the next three weeks. All other rock for the project is being

supplied on the island. In another significant development, the very first part of the redevelopment, the new bus stance, should be complete and ready for use by mid-July.

This will allow redevelopment work to start on the present bus stance.

A spokesman for George Leslie Ltd said: 'We are pleased to report work is progressing well and on schedule.'



Primary rock armour is unloaded from the MV Burhou. 01_B21terminal01



All smiles as the sand is laid on the beach are Harry Davidson and Ian Small with Murray Boal in the digger. Photo Alison McNicol

The changing face of Brodick

Continued from page 1
is once again a welcoming area of our village. Our work will continue to start to raise funds to allow construction of the groynes to proceed as soon as possible to minimise the possible loss of material if nature intervenes again. Any fund raising suggestions would be welcomed,' the statement added.

Concerns have been raised that the sand could be washed away again by an easterly storm, but the

committee are keeping their fingers crossed.

There is also work being prepared in partnership with North Ayrshire Council to provide further protection to the footbridge and shore area at the start of Fisherman's Walk which is estimated will be carried out in a few weeks when costs and contracts have been confirmed.

They have also welcomed the offer of assistance from the Coastal Way group and Arran Ac-

cess trust to install a wooden walkway to enhance the start of the coastal way route at Fisherman's Walk which will also start in the next couple of weeks as soon as the material is delivered to the site.

'All the work proposed has been possible with the combined co-operation of the Brodick Improvements Committee, North Ayrshire Council and other community groups and we thank everyone for their support,' the statement added.

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'End in sight' for Anvil challenge

Big Davy's challenge of hauling a 120kg anvil to the top of Goatfell to raise money continues with slow but dogged and determined progress. The challenge now at day 12, at the time of going to press, has surprisingly seen Davy Ballantyne's determination increase as each day progresses.

He has now nearly doubled his original target of £3,000 which is currently at £6,848.65. Donations for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation have been received from colleagues and friends and from supporters as far afield as Hong Kong and Australia; this feat of passion and determination has captured the imagination of people the world over.

After the first week, and having endured a period of fierce spring sunshine, Big Davy really started getting into his stride as his daily distance increased as he passed the second deer fence on the route, despite facing steeper and rougher terrain ahead of him.

By day nine, having described his muscles as 'nearly popping' and struggling for purchase against the steep banking he reported being pleased at placing the anvil at a position which allowed him a good start in the morning. By day 12 which Davy described as 'nice' after having completed a 350m stretch and facing yet another steep ascent he added: 'Tomorrow starts a very steep ascent. It will be very strenuous. If we can make this climb, then the end will be in sight.'

Howard Wood receives OBE

Howard Wood, the chairman and co-founder of Community of Arran Seabed Trust, (COAST) has received an Order of the British Empire, (OBE) for services to the marine environment. Howard, his wife Lesley and two children Martin and Jenna travelled to London on Friday, May 6 where HRH The Prince of Wales presented him with the honour at an investiture at Buckingham Palace.

Howard told *The Banner*: 'I was delighted to receive the award from HRH The Prince of Wales, who is an ardent and passionate supporter of marine conservation.' Prince Charles is president of the Marine Conservation Society.

'I am extremely proud to receive this honour, which would not have been possible but for the achievements of COAST, the hard work of COAST staff, volunteers and our widespread support on the island. The whole family really enjoyed our day out at the palace, it was an unforgettable experience.'

COAST was founded in 1995 with local diver Don MacNeish and it has been instrumental in supplying the Scottish Government with marine management proposals that led to the creation of the No Take Zone in Lamlash which was designated in 2008. Howard was also the source of marine survey records that provided the support for the South Arran Marine Pro-



tected Area proposal which is now up and running.

As the chairman of COAST, Howard has forged strong links with those involved in the industry including the government, Scottish Natural Heritage, Marine Scotland and fishermens' associations and he has also appeared before parliamentary committees on a number of occasions. Since its founding COAST has won an Observer Ethical Award in 2008, a Nature of Scotland Award for Marine Conservation in 2014 and last year Howard received the prestigious international Goldman Environmental Prize for his work with COAST over 20 years.

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More success for Shiskine with *Daisy Markham* play

Shiskine SWI drama group and Pirnmill Players have been out treading the boards again on the mainland.

Both teams took part in the Argyll One Act Drama Festival in Ardrishaig on Friday April 29. The props were all loaded and everyone was ready to go when they heard they would have to take the Ardrossan ferry and drive round the long way due to a mechanical problem on the Lochranza ferry. They arrived safely and were in time for their technical rehearsals.

The Shiskine group won best dramatic production and were runners up overall for their performance of *Daisy Markham*, which won the Arran Drama Festival in March. It was another great festival for the Argyll 'am-dramers' and the

Arran representatives were delighted to be a part of it.

Islanders and visitors have one last chance to see the plays on today (Saturday) in Shiskine Public Hall. Doors open at 2pm.

There will be a cream tea thrown in too, and a raffle, all for a donation on the door.

Everyone is welcome.

Ferry back in service

Arran's summer ferry, the MV Isle of Arran, was expected to resume service on Thursday after nearly two weeks because of a propeller problem.

She returned to Scotland earlier this week and had been undergoing sea trials off Troon.

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Gardens to open for charity

This year the charity, Scotland's Gardens, will have three island gardens open to the public in order to raise funds for various charities.

The three gardens will be Brodick Castle, Dougarie Estate and the Glades in Whiting Bay. On Tuesday, May 24 Brodick Castle gardens will open and there will be a tour with the head gardener Tim Keyworth at 2pm. It will also be open on Thursday, June 30, Thursday, July 28 and Thursday, August 25 at 7pm where tours will once again be led by the head gardener.

On Sunday, June 19 a recently developed garden, the Glades in Whiting Bay will be open and on Wednesday, July 6 from 2pm to 5pm Dougarie will host their garden open day where there will be stalls and tea's served in the 19th century boathouse.

Up to 40 per cent of the funds raised can be donated to a charity of the garden owner's choice. Whiting Bay Improvements and the Village Hall will receive 40 per cent of the takings from the Glades and at Dougarie 40 per cent of the takings will go to the Pirnmill Village Association.

A planning application has been made by the Rokpa Trust for a micro hydro-electric scheme at the Samye Dechen Shing Retreat Centre at Glenscorrodale on the Ross Road.

The application is almost identical the one first applied for in May 2010, which was allowed to lapse after a neighbouring landowner was unable to sign a lease for a small piece of land on which to locate part of the intake.

Two phases

The only alteration to the application is that the proposal will be completed in two phases. The first would see the construction of a powerhouse, pipeline and intake to be completed by September this year, and phase two would be an extension of the pipeline and intake and which would be completed in 2017.

Phase one will be completely on Rokpa Trust land while phase two will be extend across the boundaries onto ground owned by the Forestry Commission and

The electricity would mostly be generated during October through to March and in the drier months the output will be less or even shut down altogether if water levels are insufficient.

The scheme would reduce emissions from heating and hot water boilers and will provide the 23 roomed long term retreat for Buddhist monks with reduced running costs.

Retreatants generally spend three to four years at the retreat which aims to develop wisdom and compassion and which has attracted people from all over the world since it opened in 2005.

The small cluster of single story stone buildings are owned by the charity

Arran Estates, if land rental agreements are signed.

Rokpa Trust which is based

at Samye Ling Monastery

and Tibetan Centre in Esk-

dalemuir, Dumfriesshire.

The application is under the consideration of planning officials at North Ayrshire Council.

Attempts to contact the Rokpa Trust this week for a comment were unsuccessful.



The terrain where the walker became crag-fast.

Crag-fast walker lowered to safety

The Arran Mountain Rescue Team were called out Sunday afternoon to assist a hillwalker who had become crag-fast traversing Cioch na H'Oighe.

Luckily the man was

able to give a grid reference of his location and was spotted quickly by team members from Glen Sannox.

The team made their way to the location as quickly

as possible and due to the steep ground the casualty was then lowered from his position and guided to safety.

Although tired and cold the man was uninjured.

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Brodick Co-op bids a fond farewell to Ian

Ian Pyott celebrated his 65th birthday the day after he finished his last shift at the Brodick Co-op store where management and staff wished him a happy retirement after 15 years with the company.

A familiar face at the main island store, Ian is a well-known character who has been involved with many of the store's important milestones during his long-serving career, including the official re-opening of the refurbished store in 2014 and last year's 20 year celebrations.

Most notably though, Ian is known for his fundraising efforts where he has been the driving force and face of many Co-op fundraisers, including raising £1,000 for the Arran defibrillator pro-

ject which has seen the installation of more than 20 public access defibrillators across the island.

Ian, who has a reputation for being friendly and helpful, has a quick wit and a great sense of humour and even on his last day at work he was talking to customers and raising funds for local charities with a raffle to win a 32-inch television.

Sad farewells

Many of the customers who visited the store said their sad farewells to Ian and contributed to his latest charitable cause after leaving messages on his shirt wishing him all the best for the future.

Ian said that he is looking forward to spending more time with his family on the island as well as on the



Store manager Liz McLean and team manager Carol Harwood and team leader Douglas Hamilton present Ian Pyott with gifts on his retirement. 01_B20coop01

mainland and taking care of his 95-year-old mother. He also hopes to find the time to dedicate a bit of time to his hobby of model railways.

Good humour

Store manager Liz McLean and team manager Carol Harwood presented Ian with gifts from the company and from his colleagues and Ian, with his characteristically good humour, thanked them by saying: 'I will miss you all, not so much the hard work', he joked, 'but certainly the friendly interactions that I have had with all of the staff and customers.'



Ian joined some of the male staff who decided to perform an impromptu Running Man dance which is a viral craze sweeping the nation. 01_B20coop02

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Peace of Mind information day is being held

An information day that helps people with social care and support needs will take place at the Ormidale Pavilion in Brodick on Wednesday, May 25.

The project is a collaboration between the Scottish Personal Assistant Employers Network and Respite Now and is an innovative new way of supporting people in receipt of self-directed support to engage with and develop new community connections. The event will take place from 10am until 2pm where facts about the Peace of Mind approach will be available as well as information from local interest groups who will be discussing the services that they offer. Light refreshments will be served.



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Sun shines for May Fayre Madness in Shiskine



The poster designed by the school pupils. 01_B21fayre05

Market report from Stirling

United Auctions in Stirling had forward 2,286 store cattle and cast cows, as well as 3,216 prime hoggs and ewes last week.

The prices were as follows: store cattle, bullocks: Craigdhu (AA) £975; Hawthorne (char) £950; Craigdhu (char) £920; Craigview (lim) £750; Glenkiln (AA) £610.

Craigview (lim) 301p; Glenkiln (AA) 270p; Hawthorne (char) 249p; Craigdhu (char) 208p; Craigdhu (AA) 207p.

Heifers: Hawthorne (char) £950; Moor £870; Hawthorne (gal) £850; Craigview (lim) £690; Glenkiln (AA) £620.

Craigview 248p; Hawthorne (Char) 236p; Moor (Char) 226p; Glenkiln (AA) 224p.

Cast cows: Bellevue (Sim) £865 and 132p; Kilpatrick (Sim) £675 and 112p.

Prime sheep, hoggs: Altgolath (TexX) £85.00; Altgolath (BF) £66.00. Ceither Gaoithe (X) Tup £79.00; Ceither Gaoithe (X) ewes £60.50.

The sun shone for the May Fayre Madness at Shiskine Primary School last Saturday.

The various stalls including the tombola, home baking and bric-a-brac did a roaring trade and the tearoom was also busy all morning.

As a result of the day £900 was raised for school funds and organisers would like to thank everyone who made donations. Congratulations also go to Barbara Crawford in winning the hamper in the grand raffle.

The pupils and staff of Shiskine Primary School and Early Years Class are very appreciative of the support that the school receives from parents and the wider community of Shiskine.



The tearoom did a roaring trade. 01_B21fayre04

Euan Kinniburgh helped run the card game competition. 01_B21fayre02



Ava McNeice hands over her raffle money to Shiskine head teacher Irene Markham as sister Olivia looks on. 01_B21fayre01



Erin McNiven with the soft toy she won with Rhea Webster. 01_B21fayre03

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THE ARRAN BANNER

Bright times for Brodick

What a week it has been for Brodick. Not only do villagers, at last, have sand on the beach, but a significant step forward has been taken at the new ferry terminal.

A lot of people have been surprised - and delighted - to see such speedy progress at the new £22.2 million pier. And now that people can see the dimensions of the terminal building it may allay some fears as to its suitability.

Contractors George Leslie Ltd have faced a number of challenges, including easterly winds last week, but have coped with them all. The fact the switch to the new marshalling yard went simply and smoothly should be recognised as a lesson in joined up thinking between port owners CMAL, CalMac and the contractors. The fact the contractor is talking about having the first phase of the redevelopment finished in mid-July - albeit only the bus stance - shows how much progress is being made and with piling work going on every day it is not just on the surface that progress is being made.

To think that in a year's time we will be looking for the new terminal to be operational in a matter of weeks is a remarkable turnaround.

It is a development which will have an impact on everyone on the island - locals and visitors - and combined with the arrival of a new ferry in 2018, represents an exciting time for the island.

Talking of exciting times - what a splendid sight it is to see Brodick beach looking so handsome after looking tired and unloved for so long. Well done again to Brodick Improvements Committee. But their work has only just begun. To have the drive and determination to aim to raise £1 million to build rock groynes to keep the sand - and not lose it back to the sea - is to be commended.

We hope our newly-elected MSPs take note and take the funding fight to Holyrood. Could European money be an option? We will have to wait till next month to find out.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.' (Galatians 5: 22-23)

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your letters

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Letters to the Editor

Keep the courts

Sir,

I'd like to endorse the plea for retention of three tennis courts at Lamlash, as stated in recent correspondence in your columns. As a regular visitor to Arran, one of the enjoyable activities for me is a regular game of tennis at Lamlash.

The courts are often fully occupied, particularly in the holiday periods. A reduction to two courts would certainly limit the freedom to just turn up and be assured of a game. The beautiful setting makes the experience so enjoyable and the rare provision of a clubhouse is an added bonus.

Many of our public courts have abandoned such provision which is an inconvenience and a pity. I wish to add my voice to those who argue for keeping at least three tennis courts on the site.

Yours,
**Mrs Isabel McNab
Paisley**

Family dismay

Sir,

My family and I were dis-

mayed to learn that Lamlash may lose some of its tennis courts. Whiting Bay has already lost six courts and we realise that times change and many young people nowadays exercise only their eyes and fingers, but the Murray family have surely reversed this trend.

Projects such as COAST have a habit of costing a great deal and achieving little in the end. Surely, active pursuits like tennis are far more valuable.

Yours,
**Kevin Jones
West Runton
Cromer**

Fewer but better

Sir,

In response to Anne Hodge's letter in last week's *Banner* and her concern at losing two of the four tennis courts in Lamlash. My preference would be quality before quantity with two astroturf courts replacing asphalt. I think Lamlash would be ably served by an upgraded two court facility.

Of greater concern should be COAST's financial commitment to provide ongoing maintenance in the long

term. Would they commit to ring-fencing tennis income for tennis upkeep?

On the question of the 'lucrative' holiday period it was ever the case that as soon as the Scottish schools went back the income dropped to a level unable to justify the attendant's wages.

Yours,
**Ian Scott
Rosslee
Lamlash**

Highly recommended

Sir,

I've found the *Holiday Arran 2016* very useful during my stay on the island. Lots of good information.

I wonder if you could tell me where the front cover shot was taken, it is credited, but not where.

My party stayed at the Dunvegan in Brodick, super place. We ate out in the Brodick Bar, Ormidale Hotel and the Altachorrie at Lamlash and the Corrie Hotel. All excellent. Used the local bus services and ARC taxis, very reliable and informative.

It was a great trip, weath-



er also was brilliant. Cannot recommend the island highly enough.

Yours,
Pat Ross

Editor's note: The photo on the cover is the rocky outcrop known as the Old Man of Tarsuinn near the summit of Beinn Tarsuinn with the view over Brodick Bay.

Spring Fair

Sir,

A very big thank you to everyone who supported our annual fund raising fair at Kilmory Primary on Sunday, May 15. The sun shone and all the stalls did a roaring trade. We raised a fantastic £680 some of which will go towards purchasing a new shed for storage in the school grounds.

Thank you for all the items contributed for the raffle, home baking and tombola and special thanks to all the local businesses around the island who donated some great prizes for our raffle.

Yours,
Kilmory Primary Parent Council

Arran gets a good view of TS Queen Mary coming home

A 1930s steam ship that gave its name to the ocean liner Queen Mary has returned to the Clyde.

TS Queen Mary, one of the oldest Clyde-built steamers, arrived at Greenock on Sunday afternoon after being towed from the Port of Tilbury in Essex. Watchers on Arran got a good view of the grand old lady as she was towed up the Firth of Clyde last Sunday.

The 250ft ship has been languishing at the docks for years after falling into disrepair.

A charity backed by Robbie Coltrane is raising funds to restore the ship and berth

her permanently in Glasgow.

Friends of *TS Queen Mary* has raised more than £300,000 to make her seaworthy and make the return journey possible, but a further £2m will be needed to complete the restoration.

Built in 1933 at Dumbarton, The *TS Queen Mary* was one of the last steamships to be launched from the famous Clyde dockyards. She sailed passengers 'doon the watter' from Glasgow to destinations including Arran, Dunoon, Rothesay and Millport.

At the outbreak of World War Two, the steamer -



The Queen Mary passing Corrie and Sannox on Sunday. Photo by Ken Mills

known as *TS Queen Mary II* at the time - became a life-line for Scotland's island communities.

While other vessels were commandeered to sweep for mines or to protect Scotland's skies from German bombers, she helped maintain a vital passenger and

freight service between the mainland and the islands.

In 2008 she was sold to a private owner but plans to restore her failed and she fell into disrepair.

Friends of *TS Queen Mary* was formed in 2012 in a bid to safeguard the future of ship.

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SWI celebrates 90 years of proud community heritage

Members and guests of the Kilmory SWI gathered for a special lunchtime meeting at the Lagg Hotel to celebrate the 90th birthday of the institute.



Kilmory SWI president Phyllis Picken displays a record of membership dating back to 1926.

01_B20wri01

Originally founded in 1926, the group held its first meeting in the old Kilmory school hall.

After 10 years they raised enough money from the village to build Kilmory Hall, to where they relocated. They have now held meetings there for 80 years.

The hall had a wing at the side of the building, still remembered today by some of the older members as the rural room.

The institute has been very active in the community and community projects and fundraising. Over the years they have contributed massively to social causes like skill sharing, retaining traditions and especially providing friendship and fun activities for members.

Kilmory president Phyl-

lis Picken said: 'Reaching 90-years-old is an impressive achievement that we are incredibly proud of but, unfortunately, like many organisations in rural areas we are suffering a decline in members.'

'In the 1930s we would of had more than 70 members whereas in 2017 we will be lucky to have 17. So we urge anyone who is interested to join us at our next meeting on Monday, September 26 and to experience some of the great friendships that have been fostered.'

'A great example of some of the lifelong friendships that have been created is apparent today where members have arrived from as far afield as Gloucester to catch up with their old friends.'



Some of the members and guests enjoy the birthday lunch. 01_B20wri02

At the birthday celebration treasury reports, meeting minutes and membership details dating back to 1926 were on display including that of their oldest member, Mary Morrison who is 95-years-old.

Other notable members who have received loyalty certificates for long ser-

vices are Janet Mulholland with 72 years' service and Edna Picken with 73 years' of service.

The SWI was formed in Scotland in Longniddry, East Lothian, in 1917 and currently has approximately 17,722 members across its 747 institutes and 32 federations.



The 90th birthday celebration cake. 01_B20wri03



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2016 orienteering champions Brodick Primary School. 01_B21orient07



Competitors search for controls in the expansive and well manicured gardens. 01_B21orient09



These two Brodick pupils wasted no time in completing the challenge. 01_B21orient11



The participants who took part in the Arran Schools Orienteering Championship. 01_B21orient12

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Brodick navigation orienteering challenge

Words and pictures by
Colin Smeeton

Brodick Primary School were crowned overall victors at the Arran Schools Orienteering Championship. Organisers could not have expected better weather or a finer location to hold their second event last Thursday.

The 155 youngsters who took part in the timed event, held in the spring sunshine in the lush and blooming gar-

dens of Brodick Castle, revelled in the challenge, which was likened to a modern-day treasure hunt. The sunshine and excitement of the challenge meant that there were plenty of smiles all round as the children excitedly ran from control to control marking off their accomplishments as they went along.

The children were equipped with maps and they went in search of various control

markers which they had to complete before returning to the Ranger Centre, where they started, to receive their overall finishing time.

The championship, which is sponsored by the Arran Outdoor Centre, with grateful assistance from Active Schools and Brodick Castle and Country Park, is the competition from which 70 participants are selected to take part in the Ayrshire



After finding their control these girls rush off to find the next one. 01_B21orient10



P4/P5 second place winners
Kaitlyn Haddow and Jemma
Totty. 01_B21orient15



01_B21orient01

**P4/P5 girls first place winners Beth McCarthy and Abby Stewart.** 01_B21orient02**Participants set off in search of the controls.**

01_B21orient14

**P4/P5 open winners.** 01_B21orient03**P6/P7 girls winners.** 01_B21orient04**P6/P7 open winners.** 01_B21orient05

Get their way to championship

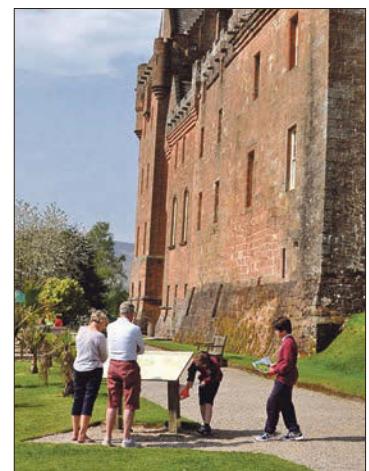
Championship. That will take place in Dean Park in Kilmarnock later this year.

Once all the pupils had taken part all of the competitors attended a prizegiving ceremony held on the stairs of the castle where medals and trophies were handed out to the top eight participants in each category.

Organisers Andy McNamara, of the outdoor centre, and Archie McNicol, of Active

Schools, thanked all of the volunteers who assisted as well as the teachers and children who helped make the event such a success.

The full results were as follows:
 P4/5 girls, 1 Beth McCarthy and Abby Stewart, Shiskine, 25m 37s, 2 Kaitlyn Haddow and Jemma Totty, Brodick, 32.7, 3 Ruby Wright and Imogen Allison, Lamlash, 37.34.
 P4/5 open, 1 Alfie Robinson and Harris McNicol, Brodick, 13.46, 2 Wiktor Jablonski and Charlie Adams, Brodick, 22.56, 3 Kieran Geraghty and Jack Popplewell, Brodick,

**Two competitors locate a control at a signboard with Brodick Castle in the background.** 01_B21orient08**Competitors celebrate after finding a difficult control.** 01_B21orient13**S1/S2 girls and open winners.** 01_B21orient06

Successful rhododendron show for Brodick Castle

The Brodick Castle gardens won a clutch of awards with their entries at the Scottish National Rhododendron

Society show held at Garelochhead at the end of April. The team won best hybrid in show for the second year



Rhododendron Augustinii.



Rhododendron Siren.

running, six first places, two seconds and four thirds in the nine categories in which the gardens entered.

Tim Keyworth, head gardener at the Brodick Castle, said: 'It was a great result considering the awful weather that we endured the week before the show. This made the preparing and picking of good plant material, that was up to exhibit standard, incredibly difficult.

Impressive

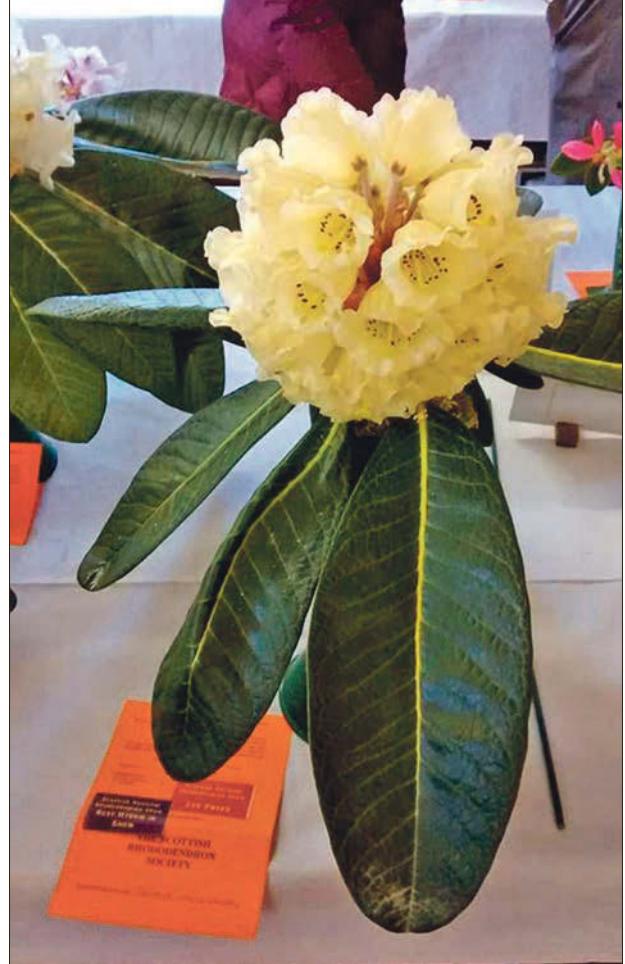
'Sleet, snow, hail and frosts had all taken their toll on the flowers of many of the impressive specimens located in the lower part of the garden on the lower rhododendron walk which were the most open to the

elements of all the collections at the castle.

'The exception to this though was the rhododendron 'Fortune,' the plant that once again was lucky enough to win best hybrid in show. Although very similar in habit to the other big leaf rhododendrons it appears to be more resistant to bad weather and thus is thriving and looking magnificent.

'This particular plant is supposed to be related to one of the original crosses of this hybrid and is likely to have come from the renowned Exbury gardens in Hampshire. The judges think it is a fantastic example of its kind and I am already looking forward to entering it in to the show for the third time next year.'

The Scottish Rhododendron Show provides an excellent opportunity for exhibitors to network with other gardens and gardeners, many of whom are experts in their field and, of course, to see a wide variety of the estimated 800 to 1,100 species of rhododendron.



Rhododendron Fortune, which won the best hybrid in show.

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Guides raise cash for First Responders

During this session, the Kilmorey Brownies and Guides decided as part of Girl led Guiding to raise some monies for the First Responders. The reason for this is that they are very mindful that it takes time for an ambulance to come from Lamalash to this side of the island, and that could be too much time.

The girls had plenty of ideas – too many at one point – and trying to find a suitable time for some of the ideas proved a challenge. In the end the girls decided to hold a sponsored silence, the challenge being that they could not talk for an hour! A challenge indeed when at meetings they are always talking and run-

ning about.

So one night before Easter the girls got down to the job – books to read, pens and paper to draw on and, for the leaders, one hour of total silence. Imagine.

Due to the success of the girls being totally silent for the allotted time they were able to raise £285 for the Responders. The girls re-



The girls get hands on with the Resuscite Anne model.



Fiona Laing shows the girls a defibrillator.



The group with their cheques they gave to Fiona (left) and Eveline (centre).

turned after the Easter holidays and had invited Eveline Thomson and Fiona Laing along to present the money to them. In turn, they brought along a practice defibrillator machine and a Resuscite Anne model

to practice some basic life saving techniques.

This was a great evening with all the girls having a go at the defib, lifting Eveline's very heavy pack and trying on her jacket. The evening was rounded off

with the girls presenting the cheques to First Responders with £95 going to each group. The girls gave their thanks to Eveline and Fiona for coming along and showing them a little of what they do.

Mairi Duff

Mammal expert entertains society with talk on badgers

The Arran Natural History Society was fortunate to receive a talk about badgers from acknowledged mammal expert Roger Cottis at their recent meeting. When it was discovered that Roger would be on the island doing a survey on badgers,

he was approached by the Arran Natural History Society and he readily agreed to talk to the members.

Roger has been studying mammals for many years through the Mammal Society, with badgers and otters being the main species. He

was a founder member of Staffordshire Badger Conservation Group in the mid-1980s and, since moving to Scotland 25 years ago, joined Scottish Badgers, with whom he is currently vice-chairman. Among other things he has responsibility for training Forestry Commission Scotland and private sector operatives when dealing with badgers and otters in relation to either forestry planting or harvesting.

Roger's illustrated presentation covered badger biology and their national distribution with an explanation of how badgers were introduced on Arran. The first mention of them is in Glen Sannox sometime between 1872 and 1895.

Roger shared his extensive knowledge and experience and showed tracks, trails and signs in a variety of habitats and offered advice on how to survey. Roger also outlined the laws protecting this much persecuted animal.

This fascinating and warmly appreciated talk was the society's final indoor meeting of the season.



A young badger at Hessilhead Wildlife Rescue Centre in Beith. Photo Alan Bellamy

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Over 100 species of birds recorded on Arran in April

April is the month when spring migration gets under way, with arrivals and departures of birds, all seeking their best breeding territories. This April was an interesting, almost 'four season' month with a wide range of temperatures and other weather conditions. While there were short, dry,



A hawfinch which has a huge bill.

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settled spells, it was wetter than April 2015 and the end of the month saw northerly winds and snow on the hills. The impact on migrating birds heading north seemed to be to hold them up. For example, there were widespread reports of wheatear including 36 in Sliddery on 23 April. Many of these

were the larger Greenland wheatear waiting for more southerly winds to help them head for Greenland and northern Canada.

While a number of the regular migrants did arrive in April, it seemed to be only the pioneers. Even by the end of the month the bulk of the migrants had still to arrive. Here are April 'firsts' with the 2015 arrival date in brackets for comparison: Manx shearwater off Largymore on 2nd (April 12), swallow in Sliddery on 2nd (April 7), white wagtail in Auchenthe Bay on 10th (April 6), willow warbler in Auchenthe Bay on 10th (April 4), house martin in Bennecarriagan Farm on 11th (April 9), whitethroat in Sliddery on 13th (April 21), common sandpiper in North Sannox on 14th (April 14), cuckoo in High Kildonan on 18th (April 12) and tree pipit on Maol Donn on 20th (April 20).

In April some of our wintering birds were still around including: six fieldfare in Sliddery on 3rd, one rook in Sandbraes also on 3rd, 110 barnacle geese over Kildonan on 10th, 48 pink-footed geese and two whooper swan in Sliddery on 10th and a redwing in Kilmory on 13th.

April is an ideal time for watching migration particularly around the coast. Examples included: a greenshank at Merkland Point on 5th, three great northern divers in Sannox Bay on 12th, six white wagtail on Cleats Shore on 17th; 21 whimbrel and a dunlin in Blackwaterfoot on 30th and a great skua in Brodick Bay also on 30th.

On Monday, April 25 there was an unusual spectacle for four observers. There were courting smew in the mouth of the river off Sannox picnic area. There was initially an adult male displaying to a red-headed female. These were later joined by two other red-heads. This is the first Arran record of this northern breeding saw-billed diving duck since November 2004.

Away from the coast oth-

er unusual arrivals were reported including: a ring ouzel on Goatfell on 10th and a common redstart in Monyquil on 18th and 22nd. This is the first Arran record since 2012. On Wednesday, April 6 there was a report of a nuthatch at feeders in Brodick Castle grounds. On the same day there was a report of a nuthatch at the rear of the Corrie Hotel. This species is spreading its range north and this may be the year that it first colonises Arran. Further records are welcomed.

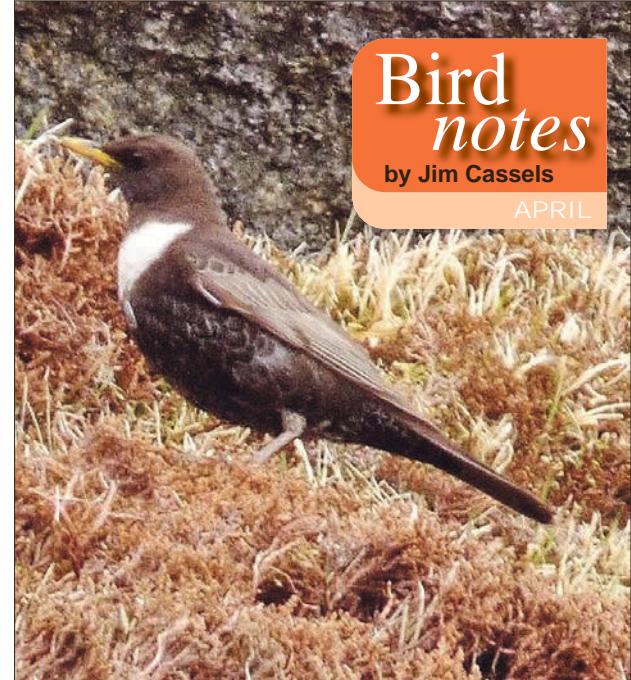
The signs of migration were also evident from the garden records in April. There were a number of lesser redpoll garden records including four in Cordon on 8th. In addition there were many widespread garden records of goldfinch, with 30 in Shan-



A nuthatch, worth looking out for this species. Photo by Dennis Morris

nochie on 26th being the largest group seen at one time. Siskin were similar, with 14 in Lamlash on 30th being the largest group seen. There could be thousands of birds on the move through Arran at this time. The most unusual garden record was a hawfinch reported in Pirnmill on 21st and Lochranza on 22nd. Heading north? There was one record in 2015.

With all this movement there were over 100 species of birds recorded on Arran in April. My thanks to the many people who have been in touch to share their sightings in what has been a remarkable month. Those of common birds are as welcome as those of rare ones.



A ring ouzel male on Goatfell. Photo by Tony Church

May should be an equally interesting month with the arrival of more summer visitors including grasshopper warbler, whinchat, sedge warbler, spotted flycatcher, garden warbler, wood warbler, swift and, hopefully, even corncrake and nightjar.

Finally, spring is a great time to be birding, as most birds are getting on with the business of breeding. The business of breeding involves attracting a mate by song, courtship display and ritual, defining a territory, nest building, and generally establishing relationships. Please take a moment to report any signs of breeding birds to me. Already there have been reports of blue

Bird notes
by Jim Cassels

APRIL



Courting smew en route to their nesting area.

Photo by Dennis Morrison

THE ARRAN BANNER

TWENTY
YEARS AGO

Saturday 25 May, 1996

Games cancelled

It has been decided by the games committee that Brodick Highland Games will not take place this year. The reason for the cancellation is that, to date, the committee has been unable to find a suitable, viable venue at which to stage the games, due to the unavailability of the Ormidale Park which will soon be converted into a sports arena. This was to be the 110th games but it will now be held next year on Saturday, August 9 at the revamped Ormidale sports field. Alastair Dobson of the Sports Association said that the suggestion to let the games go ahead could not work as turf had already been removed and the grant awarding bodies were urging them to get on with the revamp.



Pictured at Wednesday evening's primary schools swimming gala held at the Kinloch Hotel are P7 pupils: Sarah Gillies of Lamlash, Lindsay Black of Whiting Bay and Rebecca Kennedy of Lamlash. B21twe05

Declining population

The population of Arran is going to decline according to North Ayrshire Council in their population predictions for 1995 to 2001. Arran they say had a population of 4,630 in 1995 and this would decline to 4,576 by 2001.

The study states: 'The area continues to attract retired households though this has been offset by the natural decrease where there is a surplus of deaths over births on the island which reflects the significant share of the elderly population.'

Tuberculosis returns

As if the BSE crises was not bad enough for Arran farmers, there has now been another case of tuberculosis found on the island. Four weeks ago a case was discovered and the entire herd was taken off the island and slaughtered. This new case was on another farm altogether but only the affected cows will be slaughtered.

The last case diagnosed on Arran was over 55 years ago and Arran was declared to be the first area designated as tuberculin free. NFU secretary, Margie Currie said the chance of finding the source was doubtful and that it could be badgers or human contact. Farmers who have had cows slaughtered will receive compensation for the cattle lost.

Arran geology

Arran High School will be offering Geology as a subject next year. Initially it will be as a 'module' but it may eventually become a higher. Geography teacher Jacqui Glew made the initial suggestion and this week she became a pupil herself when she joined a geology trip with a school in Leeds who were visiting Arran.



Arran Runners coasted home to a team victory in the Scottish Co-op Goatfell Race last Saturday when Brian Robertson took second place and Gordon Allsop took third in the event which had 74 entrants taking part. B21twe04



Twelve horses and ponies braved the inclement weather when they competed in the Arran Riding Club cross country event which was held in Shiskine last week. B21twe01



Curries of Brodick has been sold. From next Saturday it will be taken over by West of Scotland Convenience Stores Ltd who trade under the name of Alldays. The store has been trading since about 1890 and it was in 1980 that Alastair Bilsland and Bob Brass bought it. Pictured is the counter as it looked in 1981. B21twe02

Anne Pollock and Jimmy Stewart share the Centenary Putter presented to them by Helen McAlister after winning the annual competition held at the Shiskine Golf Club. B21twe03



What's on

in association with Isle of Arran Brewery

www.arranbrewery.com

Everyday

Trout Fly Fishing
Brodick Castle, Garden Open
Arran Brewery
Arran Brewery tour
Lamlash Tennis Courts/Putting Green
Arran Heritage Museum
Soap making & candle dipping

Saturday 21st May

Army Cadets
Over 21s Disco
Family Games
Fun in the pool
Arran Vets - Surgery
Live music
Arran Physiotherapy & Acupuncture Clinic
Lamlash Bowling Club rink game
WBay Bowling Club open day
Brodick Bowling Club rink game
Flow Yoga
Live Music - Wildcard
Live Music - Michael Clark (Acoustic Butterfly)
Goatfell Race
Dr Graham's Homes Coffee Morning

Sunday 22nd May

Family Games
Fun in the pool
AA Meeting
Open Session - all musicians and singers welcome
Live Music - Biff sings Jazz
Car Boot Sale

Monday 23rd May

Over 50s Badminton
Badminton
Morning Fitness
9.30-10.30am
Badminton
Arran Vets - Surgery
Arran Junior Football Club
Circuit Training
WBay Bowling Club Rink Game
Brodick Bowling Club rink game
Citizens Advice Scotland
Lamlash Aerobix
RunArran
Tae Kwon-do
Summer bridge
Kilmory Hall AGM

Tuesday 24th May

Pop Quiz
Alcoholics Anonymous
Youth Club
Arran Vets - Surgery
Rotary Club
Healthy Outdoors
RunArran coaching
RUNFIT
Open cricket session
Lamlash Drama Club
Garden walk
Scottish country dancing
Flow Yoga
WBay Drama rehearsal

Wednesday 25th May

Rock & Pop Bingo
Tae Kwon-do
Alcoholics Anonymous
Arran Brass Rehearsal

Loch Garbad, bank fishing
9am-Dusk
Mon - Sat 10am-5pm, Sunday-12.30-5pm
2pm (limited spaces call for availability)

Open all day
Rosaburn, Brodick, 10.30am-4.30pm
Arran Aromatics, Brodick, 10am-4pm

Auchrannie Road 11am-1pm.
Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm

Auchrannie Spa pool, 4-5pm
Brodick, 9.30am - 11am

Fiddlers, Brodick from 7.30pm
arranphysiotherapy.co.uk 9am-noon

Lamlash Bowling Club, 2pm
Whiting Bay Bowling Club, 2pm

Brodick Bowling Club, 2pm
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 9am

The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm
The Douglas Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Ormidale Park, noon
Corrie Hall, 10.30am-noon

Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm
Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm-5pm

Brodick Church Hall, 5pm-6.30pm
Fiddlers, Brodick 2.30pm

The PHT, Lamlash, 4pm
Kilmory Hall, 2pm

Lochranza Village Hall, 2-4pm
Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm

Auchrannie Gym,

Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7-9pm
9-10.30am and 3-4pm

Ormidale Park, 6-7.30pm

Auchrannie Gym, 6-7pm

Whiting Bay Bowling Club, 6.30pm

Brodick Bowling Club, 6.45pm

Ormidale Pavilion, 9.30am - 1.30pm

Arran High School Dance Studio, 6.30pm

Drift Inn, Lamlash 5.30pm

Brodick Church Hall Adults & over 10s, 7-8.30pm

Arran High School, 6.30pm

Kilmory Hall, 7.30pm

Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
Brodick Church Hall, 2pm

Kildonan Hall, 7pm

9-10.30am

Glencloy Suite, Auchrannie, 6.30pm
NTS Ranger Centre, 10am-1pm

Lamlash, 5.30pm

Ormidale Park, 6.45am

Brodick Astro Turf 7-9pm

Arran High School, 6.30-9pm

Brodick Castle, 2pm

Brodick Church Hall, 7.30pm

Corrie & Sannox Hall, 6pm

Village Hall, 7.30pm

Arran Vets - Surgery

Yoga

Hydrofit

Arran Heritage Museum Archives & Genealogy service

Brodick, 9-10.30am and 6-7pm

Auchrannie Studio, 9.30-10.30am

Auchrannie Hotel leisure, 9.45-10.45am

10.30am-12.30pm and

Auchrannie Spa, Brodick, 5.30pm

Kinnel, Lamlash, 7-8.30pm

Fiddlers, Brodick from 8pm

Lamlash, 9pm

Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7.30-9pm

Whiting Bay Hall, 1pm

Brodick Library, 4-6pm

Brodick Bowling Club, 6.45pm

Shiskine Hall, 7.30pm

Lamlash Church Hall, 10.15am-noon

Lochranza Field Centre, 11am-2pm

Whiting Bay Hall, 7pm

Auchrannie Gym, 9.30-10.30am

Ormidale Hotel, 9pm

9-10.30am

Ormidale Pavilion, 7.30-8.30pm

Brodick, 5.30pm

Auchrannie leisure club, 2-3.30pm

nightFelicity's @ Eden Lodge, from 7.30pm

Auchrannie, 7pm

Shiskine Golf & Tennis Club, 5.30pm

Balmichael Centre, 7pm

Lamlash Fire Station, 2-4.30pm

Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 6pm

Shiskine Hall, 6-7.30pm

Lamlash Green, 6.45am

Lochranza Field Centre, 11am-2pm

Brodick Castle, 7-8.30pm

Brodick Castle, 2pm

Lamlash Church Hall, 2- 4pm

Thursday 26th May

Morning Fitness

General Knowledge Quiz

Arran Vets - Surgery

Ladies Hockey

RunArran Mixed Ability

Cardiac Rehab

Burger & Quiz

Winter Bowls

Tennis senior club night

Mixed Martial Arts/XFit

Quilt Arran

Flow Yoga

10th Ayrshire Shiskine cub Scouts & Beavers

RUNFIT

Spring Snacks

Guided garden walk

Castles treasures tour

Dementia Music Matters

Friday 27th May

Yoga

Hydrofit

Arran Youth Foundations

Live music

Lochranza Kids Badminton

Lochranza Adults Badminton

Quiz

Arran Vets - Surgery

AA Meeting

Live music

Tae Kwon-do

Frydays at Lochranza Field centre

Coffee Morning

Factory Tours

Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30-10.30am

Auchrannie Hotel Leisure, 9.45-10.45am

Church Hall, Brodick 7-9pm

Fiddlers, Brodick, 7.30pm

Lochranza Hall, 6-8pm

Lochranza Hall, 8pm

Whiting Bay Golf Club, 8pm

9-10.30am and 3-4pm

Whiting Bay Hall, 7pm

Fiddlers, Brodick, 7.30pm

Arran high School, Lamlash Adults, 7-8.30pm

Field Centre, Lochranza, 5.30- 8pm

Corrie and Sannox Hall, 10.30am

Arran Aromatics, Brodick, from 11am - 3pm



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Public Notices

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Wednesday 25th May
7pm Whiting Bay Village Hall

Come along for a presentation of Eco Savvy's busy past year up to-date report of the project.

Help shape the year to come with your ideas & suggestions for Zero Waste Arran.

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Enjoy refreshments while you meet other members.

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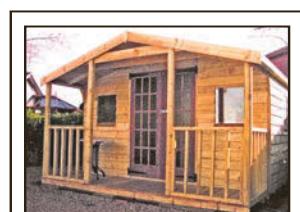
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CHURCH NOTICES

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(Part of the Worldwide Anglican Church)

St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.

Sunday 22nd May

Holy Communion, 11.00 am.

Mrs Janis Gallagher.

Coffee after service.

Wednesday 25th May

"Pop-up" service

Corrie Hotel, 12.00 noon

ALL WELCOME

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Parishes of North Arran

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Pirnmill 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 22nd May

Lochranza Church, 9.30am

Morning Worship.

Pirnmill Church 10.45am

Morning Worship

Shiskine Church, 12noon

Morning Worship.

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.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Kilmory linked with Lamlash

"A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"

Sunday 22nd May

Rev Lily McKinnon

Kilmory 11am

Combined Praise Service with Lamlash Church

Please note change of time Scottish Charity SC015072

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(continuing)

Sunday 22nd May

Morning Service 11am

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Glen Estate, Brodick

Evening Service 6.30pm

5 Glen Road, Brodick

All welcome

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sunday 22nd May

Vigil Mass 7.30pm

Morning Mass 11am



The triathlon club kids who took part in the event.

Junior aquathlon

The new Isle of Arran junior triathlon club had 23 children aged between seven and 15 years old competing in the last aquathlon of the season at Prestwick ahead of the start of the triathlon season.

The club started very well with the youngest club members, Rhea Webster and Innes McNicol, both winning their age group.

The club then had many more brilliant efforts from all the budding triathletes with many third and fourth place finishes, in distances of up to a 400m swim and 3km run, proving once again that this little island punches well above its

weight. Meanwhile, a fantastic night at the bingo took place last Friday night at Cafe Thyme at the Old Byre Visitor Centre.

Lorna and Hamza Gunaydi served up a full dinner menu and donated all profits from food and drink to the club, then coach Craig Wood acted as bingo master to several full houses and tense moments.

There then followed a great raffle and the club would like to thank all individuals and businesses who kindly donated prizes.

A total of £740 was raised for club funds which will be used for equipment and kit.



Playing bingo at Cafe Thyme fundraising event.



Medal winners Innes McNicol and Rhea Webster.



Archie Gunaydi enjoys a well earned drink.



Ruby Wright makes her way home in her race.



Julie Hamill powers her way around the course.



Whiting Bay Golf Club
Wednesday, May 11, Summer Trophy, round five: 31 played on a day with beau-

tiful overhead conditions, warm and sunny throughout. Perfect golfing weather but unfortunately the tricky greens brought a reminder of how perplexing the game can be and 11 players failed to return a completed score. The conditions did not stop Gus Macleod though. He came home with a fine net 61 to take first place and the

lowest gross. 1 Gus Macleod 10, 61 and lowest gross, 2 David Morrison 9, 64 acb, 3 Alan Kay 18, 64, 4 Sandy Pringle 13, 65.

Sunday, May 15, The McKelvie Cup, round one. A glorious Sunday morning for the first round of the McKelvie, also a qualifier for the club championship and the J C Reid Trophy, brought out a healthy field of 31.

Again, though, the tricky greens proved troublesome and the CSS went out to 64. John Pennycott beat that by one to win on 63. 1 John Pennycott 14, 63 acb, 2 Danny Head 6, 63, 3 Neil McKechnie 10, 65 acb, 4 Jamie Macpherson 5, 65.

Neil McKechnie and Danny Head got the only magic twos of the day at the 4th and 17th respectively.

Fixture: Sunday, May 22, The McKelvie Cup, round two. Wednesday, May 25, Summer Cup and JC Reid quarter-finals. Thursday, May 26, club championship.

Corrie Golf Club

Saturday, May 7, Summer cup round one. Great round by Stephen Beardsley to take the first round lead. Ben Innes and Marvin Elliot also well ahead of the rest of the field. 1 S Beardsley 65-8=57, 2 B Innes 78-20=58, 3 M Elliot 73-14=59. Scratch, S Beardsley 65.

Wednesday, May 11, Wednesday medal. 1 P Mlotec 80-24=62, 2 B Innes 82-19=63, 3 B Lewis 71-8=63. Scratch, B Lewis 71. Lots of twos but again none of them the one pulled out of the hat!

Saturday, May 14, Millennium Trophy and round two Summer Cup. The Innes family continue to dominate this season's results. This time it was John's father's turn to win.

Great to see Euan

McKinnon back golfing. He is obviously short of match practice as he could only manage four twos.

1 J Innes 70-9=61, 2 G Andrew 71-9=62, 3 D Logan 72-10=62. Scratch, E McKinnon 65. Magic twos from E McKinnon 4, R Logan, L Dickson, B Innes, G Andrew, D Logan.

Brodick Golf Club

Wednesday, May 11, Summer Cup, CSS 65: 44 played. Iain Pittman 76-13=63, acb, Billy Armit 72-9=63, acb, Matthew Keir 69-6=63. Scratch, Ross Duncan 67.

Sunday May 15, club championship qualifying, round one: 27 played. Ross Duncan 67, Matthew Keir 68, Ewan McKinnon 69. Sweep CSS 63. Alan Dunn 79-24=55, Iain Keen 81-20=61, David Hendry 77-15=62.

Fixture: Sunday May 22, club championship qualifying, round three. Saturday, June 4 and Sunday, June 5, Arran Open Championship, entry form on website.

Ladies section: Tuesday, May 10, Coronation foursomes. 1 Ann May and Aileen Latona 33pts, 2 Trish Martin and Gege Kroener, 31pts. Nine-hole Stableford, three played. 1 Liz Lawrie, 11pts.

Fixture: Tuesday, May 24, Club Trophy, round two, nine-hole Stableford.

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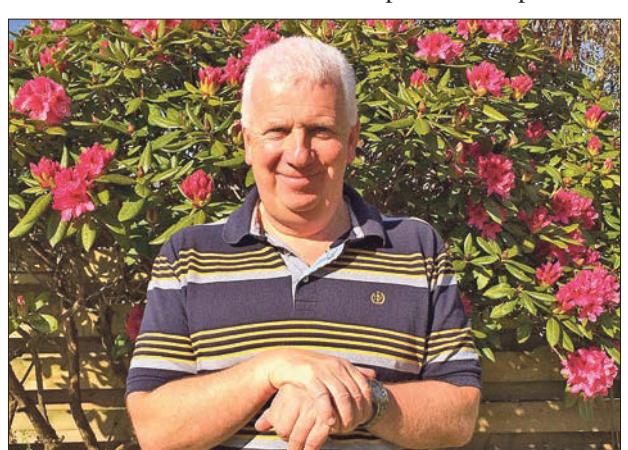
Great to see Euan

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Tuesday, May 10, games played on a very windy day but the course is in excellent condition.

Peter Sutton, CSS 65 R/O, eight played. 1 B Sherwood 80-13=67, 2 J Pennycott 82-14=68, 3 P Betley 83-12=71. Lady Mary, three played, CSS 67. 1 E Ross 94-23=71, 2 J Turnbull 96-17=79.

Fixture: Tuesday, May 24, Peter Sutton/Lady Mary, 12.30pm and 5.30pm



Craig Wilson won the recent Shiskine gents Stableford Open with 27pts.



The winners of the senior bowl competition played at Brodick.

Lamlash Golf Club

Thursday, May 12, Summer Cup, CSS 67, par 64. 1 Paul Jamieson 70-11=59, 2 A Colquhoun 74-10=64, 3 A Winship 80-14=66. Magic twos, A Colquhoun at 17th, D McFarlane at 16th, Todd Jamieson at 13th. Todd won the twos accumulator for his two at the 13th.

Thursday, May 12, Yellow medal. 1 R Garrett 80-15=65, 2 J Gibson 80-13=67. No magic twos.

Sunday, May 15, Jamieson Cup, CSS 67, par 64. 1 Todd Jamieson 72-5=67, 2 J O'Sullivan 87-17=70, 3 A Winship 87-13=74.

Magic two, Todd Jamieson at 16th.

Fixture: Sunday, May 22, Scratch Cup, round one. 9.30am and 12.30pm. Thursday, May 26, Summer Cup. Make up own games, see starter for times.

Ladies section: Wednesday, May 11, medal two and Ann Cook Tray, CSS 64, 10 played. 1 Alison Heron 22, 63, 2 Ellie Jones 17, 65, scratch, Ellie Jones 82.

Arran Golfers' Association

The final of this year's senior bowl competition was held at Brodick on Friday, May 13. After two weeks of matches, hosts Brodick were up against Whiting Bay. Thanks to Brodick for hosting and for use of the buggies which was a nice touch, to Keith and his boys for the condition of the course and to Dougie behind the bar for his usual top-notch stewardship.

Fixture: Sunday, June, 19, President's Prize. Nine-hole greensome at Lamlash Golf Club at 1.30pm. Sign in sheets in all clubhouses so please go along for a fun afternoon followed by tea and cakes.



Flockhart Trophy winner Brenda Livingstone is presented with her trophy by Arran Ladies Golf Union president Yvonne Brothers.

More than 200 runners ready for Goatfell challenge

More than 200 runners will take part in the gruelling Goatfell Race which will take place in Brodick today (Saturday) with new organisers at the helm.

The 15.5km annual race has a long history, going back to the 1950s when the local tourist board organised it. For the past 25 years the Arran Runners had taken over the mantle and organised the race but this year, in a new phase, the race is being run by Shettleston Harriers – the famous Glasgow running club.

Famous Harriers include Dunky Wright who, between the wars, competed for Britain in three Olympic marathons and, more recently, Lachie Stewart and Nat Muir in the 1970s and 1980s. It appears that attaching the race to a prestigious Scottish running club has paid dividends, as the event has quickly attracted more than 200 entries – a big increase on last year.

The winner of the race for the past three years, Finlay Wild of Lochaber, is probably the most notable entrant and he is always warmly received by the Arran runners and other entrants. Finlay became the British fell running champion last August. When not working as a GP in his native Lochaber, Finlay also makes time for climbing, mountain skiing and painting, and he recently held an exhibition in Pitlochry.

The Isle of Arran Pipe Band will also be at the event and playing in what is traditionally their first outing of the year. The Isle of Arran Mountain Rescue Team will be marshalling the race on the hill and the Brodick Improvement Association and other locals will be marshalling on the road section. In the interval between the start at noon at the Ormidale Park and the finish at the same place from around 1.15pm on, there will be children's races, welly-boot throwing and haggis hurling which will keep the spectators entertained. The record for completing the race is held by Andy Peace who returned home with a time of 1:13:40 in 1994 and the female record belongs to Angela Mudge who completed a time of 1:26:21 in 2001.

Arran score six tries to put Cumnock to the sword

Arran RFC 41

Cumnock RFC 17

Arran Rugby Club ran in six tries as they recorded a comprehensive 41-17 victory over Cumnock on Saturday at Ormidale Park. A minute's silence was held before the start of the match as a mark of respect for former club president Gus Robertson who died last week.

Arran fielded a strong team with captain Niall McMaster and stand off Lachlan Jones returning to the starting line-up. Arran started brightly on a glorious early summer's day and Jones landed a long range penalty in the opening minutes, giving the home side a 3-0 lead.

This was soon 10-0 as

Arran scored the first try of the match. Jones put up a well-placed up and under which the visiting full back allowed to bounce, Jack Barbour pounced on the mistake and offloaded to Gregor Adamson who timed his pass well to send the supporting Jones under the posts. Jones converted his own score and minutes later Arran were in for another try.

Adamson made a great break in midfield and shipped the ball wide, this allowed Charlie Boal and Jack Barbour to make good ground and the ball was eventually worked to Kiwi full back Fraser Gilbert who cruised in for try number two. Jones again converted and Arran were 17

points to the good after 10 minutes.

Arran continued to pile on the pressure and Cumnock simply couldn't match their intensity and commitment. The visitors were pinned in their own 22 for most of the opening period and Arran showed no mercy as Stuart McMaster bludgeoned his way over from close range for the home side's third try after some good work by the Arran pack. Jones was off target with the conversion giving Arran a 22-0 lead.

Cumnock slowly grew into the game and scored their first points with an unconverted score after they had worked the ball wide following a line out in the Arran 22. The home side responded almost immediately as Jack Barbour scored a fantastic individual try, breaking through the visiting defence and rounding the full back. This gave Arran their fourth try and the bonus point was in the bag before half-time. Cumnock hit back with another unconverted score, cutting Arran's lead to 29-10 at the half-time break.

Cumnock started the



Gregor Adamson offloads a great ball with Arran on the attack. 01_B21rugby04

second-half brightly and scored a converted try within 10 minutes of the restart after sustained heavy pressure on the Arran line.

As the match wore on tempers started to flare on both sides, resulting in prop Donald Murchie and his opposite number being sent to the sin bin after exchanging blows.

With both teams reduced to 14 men spaces started to appear out wide and the home side took full advantage running in a fifth try. Frazer Thomson was the scorer as he finished brilliantly in the corner following some clever offloading Niall McMaster and Gregor Adamson.

Arran's sixth and final try followed soon after as Jack Barbour took advantage of some loose Cumnock passing to run in unchallenged from 30 meters. Lachlan



Stuart McMaster forces his way over the line for another Arran try. 01_B21rugby06

Jones added the conversion bringing the score to 41-17 and that was how it remained until the full-time whistle as Arran saw out the match comfortably.

It was another superb home win for Arran, who played some lovely running rugby throughout.

The home pack was dominant for the majority of the game and the returning Iain Bayne was superb in the line out, securing clean pos-

session which provided the backs with plenty of attacking opportunities.

All in all it was a great display from the home side as they secured their second bonus point home win in a row, against a team in the top half of the table, ensuring that the boys went to their annual rugby club dinner in a buoyant mood.

Next up Arran face a tough away trip to second-placed Stewartry today (Saturday).



The minute's silence held before the start of the match. 01_B21rugby01



Jack Barbour makes a great catch from a bouncing up and under. 01_B21rugby02



The first bowl of the season is delivered by Jenny Douglas while the members look on.

Whiting Bay bowling season gets underway

Whiting Bay Bowling club started the season off with an open day and friendly game on their perfectly-manicured greens on Saturday, May 7.

The start of the season was marked with the traditional first bowl which saw last year's ladies champion Jenny Douglas being given the privilege of bowling the white jack and then following it with a ball.

The green is open on a Monday and Wednesday at 6.30pm and on a Saturday at 2pm and everyone is invited to attend. Club members would be happy to explain how the game works to anyone interested and they always welcome new members.



Last year's ladies champion Jenny Douglas prepares for her opening bowl.

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Southend claim cup win in season opener

Lamlash 1 Southend 3

Monday night saw the beginning of the football season with Lamlash taking on Southend in the preliminary round of the Arran Haulage Cup. Southend were hoping to retain the trophy they won last year while Lamlash were hoping to kick on from winning the FA Cup at the end of last season.

It was evident from the start that there were a few

rusty players with some mistimed tackles.

Ryan Armstrong scored the opening goal for the visitors with a low driven shot into the corner of David Heenan's net.

In the second-half Lamlash bagged an early equaliser when Danny Currie floated in a cross which was met by the head of James Todd and proved to be too powerful for the Southend

keeper, Fraser Gilbert. It wasn't long before Southend pulled in front again with Jack Simmons going on a terrific run from right back while linking up with Armstrong to assist the central midfielder with his second of the game.

Lamlash then came close when Grant Adamson latched on to a through ball, striking instinctively on target but Fraser pulled off a great save to prevent a goal.

The scoring was complete when 15-year-old Finlay McGill, making his competitive debut, struck a half-volley from outside the box. Heenan got a hand to the ball but it wasn't enough to prevent it from going in the top corner.

Referee Archie McNicol handled the game very well and let the game flow without any cards being issued. He gave the man of the match award to Ryan Armstrong for scoring a brace and dominating the midfield with his effective runs.



The Lamlash team before the start of the season.

01_b21footy02



The winning Southend team. 01_b21footy01.



Ryan Armstrong from Southend scores in the corner of the net. 01_b21footy03

Sam Tattersfield heads the ball away as Southend pile on the pressure. 01_b21footy05

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