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Demand to abolish community councils

Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

A war of words broke out this week after an Arran councillor called for the abolition of community councils.

Conservative councillor Timothy Billings said he wanted to see the statutory bodies scrapped and their roles absorbed into the locality partnership structure.

His call came at a full meeting of North Ayrshire Council last Wednesday and just days after Arran Community Council chairman Bill Calderwood had sharply criticised locality partnerships, as reported in last week's *Banner*. He said the new community engagement structure was

'dysfunctional' and unrepresentative.

But the tables were turned when, during a review of local governance, councillor Billings put forward an amendment to 'dissolve community councils and incorporate their roles within appropriately constituted locality partnerships', it was seconded by Conservative Councillor Tom Marshall, who represents the North Coast and Cumbraes.

Deputy provost Robert Barr responded by suggesting the council 'do away with' locality partnerships and keep the community councils.

'They are abysmal and sometimes too political for

my liking,' he added.

Councillor Donald L Reid said: 'All community councils in North Ayrshire will be shocked this has even been proposed. It really is a slap in the face to them. We should value the work done by these volunteers because they really are right at the heart of the community.'

The chairwomen of the Arran locality partnership, SNP councillor Ellen McMaster, speaking during the debate, said: 'First I'd like to say Arran Community Council have been very slow, four and a half years slow, to realise and accept the reality of their role on the locality partnership.'

Continued on page two

Ringling the bells for peace

An excited gathering of children attended Brodick Church on Sunday where they were all allowed to have a chance at ringing the church bells as part of the Remembrance commemorations celebrating peace and honouring those that lost their lives during the World Wars and other conflicts. A fitting tribute, and one that will remain in the memories of the delighted young bell ringers for many years. See pages four and five for more Remembrance services held across Arran.



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Minister says ferry will be completed on Clyde

The Scottish government minister responsible for ferries gave the *Arran Banner* a cast iron assurance this week that the new Arran ferry will be completed at the Ferguson Marine yard in Port Glasgow.

There were renewed reports last weekend that the possibility of moving the MV Glen Sannox for completion had previously been discussed, but on a visit to Arran on Monday islands minister Paul Wheelhouse said it would be 'too expensive' to move the contract to another yard at this stage.

The £97 million contract is for a new ferry to service the Brodick to Ardrossan

route, expected to come into service next autumn, and a second vessel for the Uig triangle.

He added: 'We want to assist the Ferguson yard with this contract to allow the company to compete for future work not just at home but internationally.'

Mr Wheelhouse, who only took over responsibility for Scottish ferries in September, said he also expected word soon from Peel Ports on the technical issues surrounding the Irish berth at Ardrossan harbour which has been out of use for some time. He said the government expected a report shortly on the technical issues involved and



Mr Wheelhouse with Arran MSP Kenneth Gibson and members of the ferry committee.
01_B46wheelhouse01

how long they may take to repair. The berth is expected to be used when the Arran berth is realigned as part of the harbour redevelopment work.

Mr Wheelhouse said he had come to Arran to listen to the concerns of the Arran Ferry Committee, with whom he had a two-hour meeting, and to update them on the plans for

a more robust and resilient ferry service following a summer of persistent problems on the Arran and Islay routes.

Pro-active

Mr Wheelhouse said the government was keen to take a more pro-active role in the ongoing maintenance of the ageing fleet of vessels – by identifying potential problems before

they arise. Repairs should be carried out more rapidly, he said, with the time taken to source spare parts reduced, using a Scottish supply chain where possible.

However, he accepted it was not ideal, that all dry dock work had to be carried out in Liverpool. 'That is not to criticise Camiel Laird in any way, but

it would be good to see a Scottish yard undertaking the work.'

Mr Wheelhouse also said the government was keen to see improvements in the current booking system, which, he said, CalMac had inherited.

'People are used to getting automated travel information if there are problems on the trains and buses and that is something we would like to see on the ferries as well,' he added.

Ferry committee chairman Iain Thomson said afterwards it had been a worthwhile meeting adding that, he felt, the minister had listened to their concerns.



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Call to abolish community councils

Continued from page one

'But I'd be first to defend their role as an important level of local democracy and a conduit into community empowerment. It's about educating the people that are on the community council what their powers and responsibilities are.'

At the vote the amendment was rounded defeat by 24 votes to five.

However, an unrepentant councillor Billings, who was elected to represent the Ardrossan and Arran ward in May of last year, said there needed to be a 'total rethink' about community representation and responsibilities.

'A new community-based body comprising directly elected community representatives as well as those from community services - such as emergency services, health and care - should be given decision-making powers, as well as the financial responsibility, to plan and organise a range of local services.

This should include community councils, that have no specific powers, and locality partnerships that are opaque in how they operate. This two-tier system doesn't truly represent the

community, and does not have the accountability to be given money-spending responsibilities.

He added: 'this is an opportunity to recognise the dedication and commitment that is shown by those who sit on Commu-



Conservative Councillor
Timothy Billings.

nity Councils and Locality Partnerships, by bringing them together in to one democratic, transparent and accountable body placed at the heart of each community. By giving that body decision-making powers along with the money needed, it can take decisions that will make real differences to the lives of the people in their communities.'

However, SNP portfolio holder for economy and communities, councillor Alan Hill, disagreed. He said: 'Once again, North Ayrshire Tory gilaikittness

shines through and they don't even know it.

'How would local communities be helped by removing community councils, who meet monthly, are at the heart of communities and are open to all, and absorbing them within Locality Planning Partnerships? How would they be able to meet? How many people would be able to be on them? How would they be able to do their work?'

'Most importantly, why are the Tories seeking to diminish the voices of communities across North Ayrshire? If there is a discussion to be had about how Community Councils can operate more effectively, let's have the discussion with them and support them.'

And fellow SNP councillor for Kilwinning Scott Davidson added: 'Community Councils are provided for in statute and are entirely independent from the local authority. Rest assured any further disgraceful and despicable attacks on our community councils, locality partnerships or communities at all, will be met with absolute brick wall resistance, and the contempt they deserve.'

Befriending dogs make such great company



Sarah Cowan with befriending dogs Corrie and Mini at the afternoon tea. 01_B46friend01



Those attending the afternoon tea watch the dogs being put through their paces. 01_B46friend02

Lamlash Church joins Co-op Food Share

Lamlash Church has joined an initiative known as Co-op Food Share in an effort to provide fresh food for those needing a helping hand and to reduce food waste.

The new national food redistribution programme enables Co-op stores to donate good quality food marked 'best before' – but which is still entirely fresh – directly to local approved partners.

As an approved partner, Lamlash Church will collect the food and make it available from the vestry at the back of the church – not the church hall – between 10.30am and 2pm on weekdays. This food can then be taken away free of charge and will en-

sure that individuals and families on low incomes can supplement their diet with fruit and vegetables.

Ian Watt, session clerk of Lamlash Church, said: 'We must make it clear that this food would otherwise be thrown out, and also make it clear that this project offers fresh fruit and vegetables and is in addition to the valuable work done by the Arran Foodbank.'

This community initiative between Lamlash Church and the Co-op will begin on Monday November 19 and anyone who requires a helping hand is encouraged to make use of it.

A special afternoon tea was held to celebrate Befriending Week on Arran.

It was held on Tuesday November 6 at the Befriending Project at Lamlash Fire Station run by the Arran Community and Voluntary Services (CVS).

One of the befrienders, Sarah Cowan, gave a demonstration of a few tricks with her Pets As Therapy (PAT) dogs, Corrie and Mini, who befriend with her. Red Vintage Teas provided the catering.

Befriending is an important element in tackling social isolation and loneliness. Befrienders can reconnect someone with their community, give them

something to look forward to and is someone they can trust.

They can give the befriendee confidence to try new things or just provide a bit of company in their own home.

Befriending can improve

people's mood and protect them from the health risks of loneliness, helping them stay well for longer.

People who want to get involved with befriending can phone 01770 600611 or email sophie.clark@arrancvs.org.uk

Sarah gets Corrie to skip. 01_B46friend03



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Arran's war heroes

Arran paid tribute to and honoured its war dead from both World Wars in a series of moving services held across the island at village cenotaphs on Remembrance Sunday.

The events were particularly poignant this year, given that they also marked the centenary of the end of the First World War.

Large turnout

In Brodick, representatives of Police Scotland, RNLI, Coastguard, Roy-

al Navy, North Ayrshire Council, Army Cadets and members of the public attended a Remembrance service at 10am – owing to the infeasibility of shutting the road at 11am when the ferry departs – but this did not prevent an equally large turnout returning at 11am to mark the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month when the war ended in 1918.

Services were also held in Whiting Bay, Corrie,

Shiskine and Pirnmill and Kilmory, in mixed weather conditions.

Memory

Arran also joined in the commemoration of the loss of more than 2,000 pipers who were killed or injured in battle with members of the Arran Pipe Band simultaneously playing 'When the Battle's O'er' at 11am in their memory at each of the cenotaphs and at the Clearance Memorial in Lamlash.

Involving the youngest members of the community, Arran Churches Together invited children from all of the villages on Arran to experience a unique and unusual activity, ringing the church bells from 7.05pm to 7.15pm, when churches and cathedrals across the nation and beyond, rang their bells to commemorate those that made the ultimate sacrifice and those who faced great hardships because of war.



A lone piper plays the lament at Brodick in honour of the thousands of pipers who perished or were injured during the war. 01_B46remembrance03



Representatives of various service organisations and group representatives prepare to lay wreaths at the Brodick Memorial. 01_B46remembrance04



Nearly 80 people gathered to pay their respects at Brodick cenotaph on Remembrance Sunday. 01_B46remembrance02



Look mum, I'm ringing the bell – Grace Popplewell rings the church bells to her obvious delight. 01_B46remembrance06



Jean Hunter leads the remembrance service at Shiskine war memorial assisted by the Rev Benjamin van Rensburg. 01_B46remembrance09



A large crowd huddle under their umbrellas at the Whiting Bay service. 01_B46remembrance08

remembered



A member of the Arran Cadets pays his respect at the Brodick cenotaph where a number of young children laid wreaths. 01_B46remembrance01



Beverley Scott plays the lament at Whiting Bay Church. 01_B46remembrance07



Children wait excitedly to have a chance to ring the church bells in Brodick Church. 01_B46remembrance05

Ryan secures modern apprenticeship place

The first intake of ferry operator CalMac's new port operations modern apprenticeship students have cast off on their training voyage.

The company has joined forces with Forth Ports Limited to deliver the modern apprenticeship to a group of five trainee port and harbour assistants, the first of its kind in the country which includes Ryan Bell from Kingscross, who will be working on the Ardrossan to Brodick route.

Key commitment

'Providing training opportunities for young people in the communities we support is a key commitment within our operating plan, and I'm delighted to welcome these five new trainees to the company. Expanding our existing MA programme into



Apprentice Ryan Bell with CalMac managing director Robbie Drummond and Stuart Wallace, chief operating officer Forth Ports.

port operations will ensure we have the right people in place for the future in what is a vital area of service delivery,' said CalMac's managing director Robbie Drummond.

'This new MA is the solid foundation for building a long term career in harbour management.'

Over the 15-month pro-

gramme of on-the-job and classroom training MAs will qualify to SVQ level 2 in Port Operations along with an additional industry qualification in plant and health and safety. Training will be carried out at ports across the CalMac network and at Forth Ports' new Skills and Business Centre in Grangemouth.

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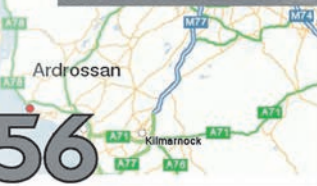
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Hi Norman Just to let you know our new direct debit is down from £180 per month to under £100 GM, LamLash

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Craigie takes the top spot in drama contest



Shiskine perform *The Shed* at the competition. 01_B46play04



The Jackton Insitute perform *Charity Begins at Home*. 01_B46play02

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Teams from all over Scotland made their way to Arran last weekend for the Scottish Women's Institute's Anstruther-Gray drama competition.

One team travelled all the way from Skye for the contest and ferry disruption on Saturday morning meant that some of the teams, as well as adjudicator Alastair Hawthorn, were late to arrive.

However, once proceedings got going the large audience, which filled much of the community theatre, enjoyed seven very different radio plays - all written by the teams themselves.

The Arran SWI Federation was the host of the competition this year which was originally a one-act play competition, but was converted to a radio play version after entries dwindled. Mr Hawthorn watched the plays from behind a screen, but the audience got to see the performers on stage and watch how they made the various sound effects required.

The competition was won by the Ayrshire Federation, represented by Craigie In-

stitute, with *Once Upon a Time* (but not as you know it), a hilarious retelling of the Little Red Riding Hood story from the point of view of the much misunderstood wolf - giving his evidence in court.

Runner-up was the Jackton Institute, representing Lanarkshire, which presented *Charity Begins at Home*, a comedy play set in a charity shop, which has just received a rather valuable donation.

Hosts Arran, represented by the Shiskine Institute, finished third to lift *The Smith Salver* with a play written and produced by Wilma Moreton, who was also one of the characters, about three women trying to save their allotment shed from demolition.

The final award for the best individual performance on the day went to Wilma Ballany of the Carnbee Institute, representing Fife Federation, who was secretary Olive in its performance of *Conflict Over Health and Safety* - an amusing look at the hoops community groups have to go through when organising an outing.



Winners Craigie in the courtroom setting of *Once Upon a Time* (but not as you know it). 01_B46play03



Carnbee perform *Conflict Over Health and Safety*. 01_B46play05

The other plays were Bellsquarry, Harburn and Ratho Institutes (Midlothian) with *Conflict is a Given*; Tillicoultry Institute (Stirling, Clackmannan and West Perth) with *Shetland Greets Dundee*; and Kyleakin Institute (In-

verness-shire) with *Conflict 17*.

Arran Federation chairman Jerry Arthur said it had been a great day and thanked all the teams for their determination and commitment to get to Arran to compete in the event.

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t as Arran hosts national



Winners of the Anstruther-Gray Challenge Cup Craige institute from Ayrshire Federation with, on the left, Anne Howat, national education and international convenor), and on the right the Linda Retson, national chairman of the SWI.



Wilma Ballany of Carnbee Institute won the best individual performance trophy.



Third prize went to home team Shiskine with backstage helper Fer Murchie. Jerry Arthur is behind the camera.



Second place winners, Jackton Institute with the Challoch Cup.



Tillicoultry perform Shetland Greets Dundee. 01_B46play06



The cast from Bellshill, Harburn and Ratho Institutes perform Conflict is a Given. 01_B46play01



Conflict 917 sees a confrontation between passengers on a bus performed by Kyleakin Institute from Skye. 01_B46play07



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Editorial

Fitting tribute

Armistice Day has taken on an extra special meaning this year marking as it did the centenary of the end of the First World War.

Some of the tributes have been tremendous.

And the TV producers and film-makers have excelled themselves with perhaps the best example Peter Jackson's *They Shall Not Grow Old* – still available on the BBC iPlayer.

But Arran, too, can be proud of the way the 98 men from the island who perished were remembered.

There is no doubt that the annual remembrance services attracted better than usual turn-outs, given the special occasion, and put an end to any notion that it is time to forget.

It was great to see Arran Pipe Band getting involved and performing the traditional end of battle lament at each of the island's war memorials. A little bird tells us this may become an annual event.

Then, to round off the day's events, there was the ringing of the church bells not just across Arran, but across the country.

The faces of the children on the front page show this was a joyous occasion, which is fitting as we were celebrating the end of the First World War.

Thought for the week

'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.' Matthew 5:8

Total control

Sir,
With reference to your lead article, in last week's *Arran Banner*, about the locality partnership this raised an interest for me as, having been chairman of the community council for several years, I was involved during that time in the pilot scheme being run by the Scottish Government, which I believe was the forerunner to the locality partnership.

At that time it was about grants to community councils for projects which they identified, but the actual distribution of the money was controlled by the Scottish Government. We were successful in our bid and £15,000 was granted for the refurbishment of the all-weather pitch at the Ormidale Sports Centre.

After reading through the article I became concerned regarding some of the comments being made as to it being 'dysfunctional and non-representative'.

I have read the rules governing the body only to find that it is made up of the three elected NAC council members, representatives of the police service, the fire and rescue service, health and social care, two community members and the chair of the community council – plus persons who could be co-opted on for their specialist knowledge on any subject that is at that time a matter for discussion.

Hardly unrepresentative. So as chairman of the community council Mr Calderwood has a reserved place on the locality partnership, but I also noted from its minutes he is vice chair of the partnership.

The governing rules stat-

ing that the chair should be one of the three NAC councillors. At this time Councillor McMaster.

It is also to be noted that Mr Calderwood has not accepted his position through his capacity as chair of the community council but as a community member, the community council then being allowed to delegate a member to fill the chairman's place. Therefore it would appear that the community council is well represented having two members.

Under the governing rules the group must have quarterly meetings and there are dates set out in the minutes for those meetings. There are also reports from an Eco Savvy representative, as Arran had been chosen for a pilot scheme for green health and living, and reports from health and social care representatives as to what is necessary for a better standard of living for the islanders. Between those quarterly meetings several workshops were arranged throughout the island allowing the general public to attend and air their views.

This I would suggest is the island being well represented.

From my interpretation of the article it appears that Mr Calderwood wants the community council to have full control.

In my opinion and with my experience of the community council this is not a healthy way forward as the community council can be unrepresentative.

For Mr Calderwood to turn down the position offered to the chair of the community council to serve on the locality partnership and then use his

position as chair of the community council to attack the workings of the group of which he is vice chair of as a community representative, I find very disturbing.

The purpose of the community council is to form a link between the various local authority departments and the community it represents. This requires a degree of respect from both and I would suggest that this article based on Mr Calderwood's views does nothing to support a good relationship.

Yours,
**Campbell Laing,
Pirnmill.**

Backing for Bill

Sir,
With reference to your front page story last week on locality partnerships can I just say: 'Well said Bill Calderwood!'

There is no need or use for a locality partnership on Arran – as events have proved. For decades community councils have had the statutory role to fulfil, just the very function that locality partnerships have been recently delegated i.e. to represent and consult with communities.

Community councillors are democratically elected by their community and have the remit of consulting with and representing their electors on local matters. Their only and major constraint is that they have never been adequately funded. Community councils are well equipped to deal with matters pertaining to 'community planning partnerships' and to disburse funds as seen fit.

Locality partnerships are one of the sillier initiatives of the current Scottish government which has

a penchant to denigrate any structure that it didn't invent itself. Community councils are the long-established arm of local government that couldn't be any closer to local community than they currently are.

For the record Arran Community Council was recognised as one of the best performing in North Ayrshire. I don't think that has changed. This is the body through which community concerns and suggestions should be channelled and dealt with.

Yours,
**Margie Currie,
Blackwaterfoot.**

Clean it up

Sir,
North Ayrshire Council has recently launched another campaign aimed to highlight the problem of dog fouling. We on Arran have numerous dog waste bins, waste bags available free of charge in local outlets and signs encouraging owners to be responsible – which thankfully most are.

However, this is all to no avail with some people as I have just discovered walking on the Rodden. Someone, with what must be a large dog, has not cleaned up a big pile of mess right beside the dog waste bin and waste bag dispenser, which was well stocked.

Apart from it being an offence and a health hazard it's totally disgusting and vile. If I said you could be responsible for just one child being infected and losing their sight would you still refuse to clean up after your dog? I don't know who you are but YOU know who you are!

Yours,
**Marilyn Woods,
Shiskine.**

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We've been in our Glasgow depot for 25 years, our long time friends Hebrides Haulage operate it and provide a great service. We can accept all size of deliveries into Glasgow. Our trucks are available daily to collect all your goods from Arran.

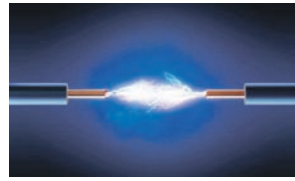
Anything in before 1pm is guaranteed next morning delivery. Let us know your requirements as our service, we offer 2 man delivery and Tailift Service throughout the island. Forklift at depot.

Parcelpoint Adrossan
Ayrshire, KA22 8BZ
Call us on 01475 676255
Open 9am - 5pm Monday to Friday

We are open to accept all your deliveries large and small. A lot of companies won't deliver to Islands, why not use us as your mainland address and let us bring it to your home. We have all the national parcel companies and pallet networks calling in daily to our Parcelpoint. If you are ordering from a few different companies we can

hold it until all your goods have arrived and deliver it all together to your home. If you're needing special arrangements for your delivery we can help. Just let us know your requirements when you book in. Forklift on site for pallets and as well as our speedy parcel services, we offer a 2 man and tailift service throughout the Island.

The history of electricity



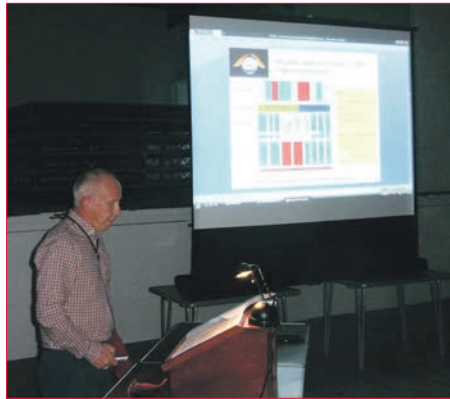
David Anderson from the Institution of Civil Engineers was the guest speaker at the October meeting of the Arran Historical Society and he gave a talk on the history and development of electricity.

David is a past chairman of the West of Scotland branch of the institution and was given the commission by the branch to talk about the history of electricity as this was his theme for his chairman's address in 2010.

Michael Faraday was working with electro-magnetism in 1831, invented the dynamo and a circuit with light and many pioneers developed it into the generator.

The first building with electric light was Les Grand Magasins du Louvre in 1877 followed by the Gaiety Theatre in London in 1878, even before the light bulb was patented by Thomas Edison in 1879. The first buildings in Scotland with electricity were St Enoch Station and Pullars Dye Works in 1880, then the first house near Newcastle the same year.

The first public electricity supply installed in 1881 in Godalming had the cables



David Anderson gives his talk on the history of electricity to the society.

in the gutter, before parliament passed the first Electricity Lighting Act allowing cables to be buried and licenses to be granted for electricity generation and supply.

Sir Coutts Lindsay at the Grosvenor Gallery in London invested in a small portable electricity supply and by 1883 he had attracted so many applications from local premises he overloaded the supply and the first blackout occurred. Sir Coutts appointed appropriately Sebastian Ferranti as his chief engineer and this pioneer helped develop the first power station in London at Deptford in 1887. At Fort Augustus the Benedictine Abbey installed a water wheel and a matching 18kw oil engine, the first public electrici-

ty supply in Scotland. The first hydro-electric scheme was built in Scotland between 1898 and 1902 at Foyers to refine aluminium for the British Aluminium Co. The latest one at Glendoe is between Foyers and Fort Augustus.

In the early 20th century numerous types of equipment were developed with different voltages, frequencies and types of currents. In 1926 legislation was passed standardising a common voltage, frequency and alternating current. The first distribution grid in the UK was installed in Central Scotland in 1928 with the first pylons round Edinburgh. This was celebrated by paintings commissioned to celebrate the event.

The North of Scotland

Hydroelectric Board was formed in 1944 and hydro and pumped storage were developed. The whole of the north became connected into the grid from the 1940s to the 1960s, with nearly 100 per cent of properties including isolated farms were connected.

He went on to describe the numerous developments in generation and transmission. There was coal, oil, gas turbines, nuclear, wind and water. Now the effects of high levels of carbon dioxide have resulted in coal fired stations being closed. Renewals such as wind and water and new materials are being developed. This new technology is on-going with lots of research being done and efficiency being increased.

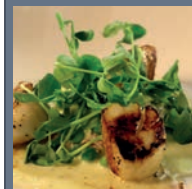
David was given a vote of thanks by the members. His talk did not touch on the development of electricity on Arran, which started in 1912.

The final society meeting of the year is on Monday November 19 in Brodick Hall at 2pm when Mr Jackson will elaborate on his research into the history of Sannox Church as well as the history of Christianity on Arran.

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Scottish Charity Number SC002089

Rosaburn, Brodick, Open Wed - Fri 11am to 3.30pm



THE ISLAND'S FOUR STAR FAMILY DAY OUT

Learn about Arran's Unique Geology, Farming, Archaeology, Social History, Clearances, etc., and visit the 19th Century Cottage, the 1940's Schoolroom, and the Blacksmith's Forge.

Archive and Genealogy researchers welcomed

(on Wednesdays only from 10.30am to 12.30pm and 1.30pm to 3.30pm or by appointment).

Children's Quiz and Play Area.
Riverside Picnic Area. Gift Shop.
Lovely Snacks and Meals at Café Rosaburn.



RIGID SOUL
SATURDAY 17TH - 9PM

Charlie Gorman
Sunday 18th
3pm

Pub Quiz
Weds
8.30pm

The PIERHEAD TAVERN, LAMLASH
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Children's Quiz and Play Area.
Riverside Picnic Area. Gift Shop.
Lovely Snacks and Meals at Café Rosaburn.

Stories of Lagg wanted as it looks to the future

The search is on for old photographs and stories which will help to bring the new distillery at Lagg alive with local history from days gone by.

The south of Arran has a rich history of distilling – both legal and illegal – and it is that story that Faye Waterlow, Lagg visitor experience manager, is looking to bring to life and involve the island community in telling the turbulent tales of the past.

Faye, who was the visitor centre manager of Lochranza Distillery for the last eight years, and the rest of the Lagg team, are searching for images or stories which could bring the walls of their visitor centre to life.

The focus will be placed on the land, the sea, the kinship and community

and the history of distilling – both legal and illicit – with tales of the daily lives of island ancestors living from 1800 to mid-1900.

The team at Lagg Distillery and Visitor Centre are interested to hear from anyone who has any accounts or pictures which connect to this idea of community and kinship or to tales related to illicit distilling on Arran.

Furthermore, the Lagg Distillery and Visitor Centre team are looking for amateur photographers with contemporary images from south Arran.

The images should capture the ‘spirit’ of the southern region of the island with a focus on landscapes through the seasons.

If they are in any way



The Bauder roof of the distillery at Lagg is nearing completion as BHC Ltd crack on with the main contractor work.

Poetry contest entries sought

A competition to find an official poem for the Lagg Distillery and visitor centre is being held in partnership with our sister publication Scottish Field.

The distillery is searching for a poem which captures the beauty of Arran, the history of the island or the Arran spirit itself and the winning entry will take pride of place within the Lagg visitor centre.

The competition is open to individuals over the age of 18 years only. The closing date for all entries is December 14 and the winner, along with the two runners-up, will be announced in January 2019.

To enter, please email your name, contact details and date of birth along with the poem you wish to enter to ksmith@scottishfield.co.uk with the subject line Isle of Arran Distillers – poetry competition.

related to whisky or the whisky production process, then all the better.

The photographs are to be displayed within the visitor centre, accompanied with a short introduction panel to the artist themselves and contact details should any of the visitors wish to contact the photographer directly.

Work on the Lagg Dis-

tillery and Visitor Centre is over half way through.

The custom-made copper pot stills, which will produce the signature Lagg Single Malt, arrived in late September and have now been fully installed within their new home.

The distillery now awaits the arrival of its traditional wooden washbacks in order to allow production

to commence towards the end of February next year.

In more general terms, the top layer of the ‘green’ roof has been laid down, the external steel structure is complete with both internal and external stonework ongoing.

The entire building is expected to be wind and water tight sometime in the next few weeks, just in

time for the arrival of the winter months.

If anyone has anything to share, or if they require any further information, please contact Faye Waterlow at faye@arranwhisky.com or on 01770 830334.

Talk to us

Send your news and photographs to editor@arranbanner.co.uk


Selling your Whisky Cask?

If you own a cask of Scotch Whisky and are interested in selling it, we would love to hear from you.

We are always searching for individuals who wish make a return on their casks, making the process simple and easy whilst offering the best market price.

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 ATOM BRANDS




Shop Arran



Your guide to the best shopping on Arran
throughout the Shop Arran weekend

Friday 16th - Sunday 18th November

Bell's of Arran



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Discounts, deals and festive fare kick start the Shop Arran weekend

XMAS SHOP ARRAN WEEKEND

Arran Graphics has lots of new arty products, special deals on hoodies, Arran notepads, stocking fillers, posters and framed prints. New Arran Teatowels now in stock!
arrangraphicsonline.com



Open all through the Shop Arran weekend 11 - 4

Find our products at Arran Active too!

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Arran Graphics

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Kitchen Shop - Lamlaish

OPEN Monday - Saturday
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FREE GIFT with every purchase over £10

Merry Christmas everyone!

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Open Shop Arran weekend
Friday 1st December 11am-7pm
Saturday 2nd December 11am-5pm
Sunday 3rd December 11am-4pm
Come and have a glass of Prosecco or a mulled wine while you browse.
10% off usual prices
Gifts from £25
10mins walk north from centre of Brodick. Look out for Shop Arran sign beside Brodick Primary school, studio 2 min walk from main road.



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Scenes of Arran
Photographic Art and Canvases
by Stephen J Sparshott

The Arran Glass Studio
Stained Glass and Mosaics
by Jill Jeffries

Granny's Knits
Baby / Toddler Wear, Tea Cosies, Dog Coats
by Linda MacCallum

Whiting Wool & Bay Buttons
Shore Road, Whiting Bay
Phone: 700481

Participating in Shop Arran

Bargain hunters are in for a treat this weekend as shops across the island get into the festive spirit by offering enticing deals, discounts and special surprises during the Xmas Shop Arran weekend.

Taking place throughout the weekend, starting today, Friday, and lasting until Sunday, the initiative also offers shoppers a chance to win a fantastic Christmas prize draw by visiting six participating stores and collecting six stamps.

With more than 27 businesses taking part the Xmas Shop Arran weekend has grown into an island wide initiative aimed at encouraging shoppers to buy locally and support local businesses by offering discounted goods, special offers and festive cheer.

And with more shops and businesses taking part than ever, there will be something for everyone - from the stocking filler shopper to the complete Christmas shopper. Selling everything from everyday staples to unique hand crafted products to tasty treats and indulgent spoils, there is hardly any need to go online when good quality items at reduced prices are right on your doorstep. For those who are just out and about and enjoying the attractions in the local villages, be sure to look out for a number of hotels and restaurants who are also joining in on the fun.

Starting in Brodick on the well established Xmas Shop Arran trail and going clockwise around the island, all of the participating stores will be suitably decorated with Xmas Shop Arran posters, balloons and decoration. Some might even tempt you with a refreshing glass of Prosecco or mulled wine.

Arran Graphics is the store in Brodick to pick up your Arran inspired gifts with an Arran theme. From their popular clothing line, including the

ubiquitous Goatfell Conqueror tee shirt, to Arran games, candles, cushions and collectables, it is all there at their new store in Cladach.

Just a few minutes outside of the centre of Brodick, behind the village primary school, in the quaint and secluded studio of jewellery maker **Ann Hume**, visitors will receive a warm welcome and an insight into the creations made by this talented artist. Specialising in delicate, intricate and contemporary

jewellery, designed and handcrafted on Arran, visitors are guaranteed to find unique gifts, beautiful precious metal designs and a 10 per cent discount to add to the allure of the desirable and charming jewellery.

Stopping next at **The Boathouse**, nestled appropriately on the beach sand of Brodick Bay, visitors will be able to find a host of children's toys and games that will make any child's Christmas a happy one. And with a 10 per cent discount over the Shop Arran weekend it will make parents equally as happy. The Boathouse stocks a great range of carefully selected products and toys that are the perfect combination of good value and good quality, not to mention perfect for gifts.

This year at **Red Door**, the girls have gone all out to bring you the finest selection of goodies for your Christmas shopping needs. Ladies are well catered for with a fabulous selection of super-soft cashmere mix pashminas, an array of beautiful gloves and hats for everyone's taste, some gorgeous Heaven Scent candles, not to mention the fabulous selection of jewellery and bags that Red Door is renowned for. There is also a

great selection of Christmas decorations and gents' gifts for the men of the family and as always, some lovely toys for the younger members of the family.

Within walking distance, Arran's only chocolate factory has been producing the finest hand crafted chocolate delights for over 17 years. And at their shop, **James of Arran**, their years of experience is plain to see, and taste. Offering a tempting array of sweet treats, Christmas gifts, chocolate bars and gift boxes, no visit to Arran is complete without making a mouth-watering stop at this shop.

Two doors down, **Bell's of Arran** has recently rebranded itself in an effort to better reflect

its mission, which is to sell excess stock from high street shops at bargain prices. Selling everything from men's, women's, children's and babies' clothing, to footwear, underwear, socks, nightwear, swimwear, school clothing and workwear, they stock just about every type of garment possible, and if you can't find what you are looking for, they will see if they can source it for you.

Just further down the road at Arran's specialist outdoor shop with a huge amount of space and an equally large range of outdoor clothing, footwear, rucksacks and equipment and also an impressive collection of whiskies and gins, visitors at **Arran Active** can look forward to receiving 10 per cent off any purchase over £25 (excluding alcohol) and a chance to enter a prize draw to win a Rab Jacket worth £190.

While there be sure to check out the **Arran Gift Box Company** who specialise in all things Arran with a range designed to suit all pockets. Their gift boxes contain Arran's finest produce and special treats. With a uniquely Arran inspired theme, these boxes and hampers are a must for any Arran lover



XMAS SHOP ARRAN WEEKEND
Friday 16th to Sunday 18th November '18

PARTICIPATING SHOPS
(look out for participating hotels and restaurants too!)

1. Old Byre Showroom	15. Book and Card
2. Arran Distillery	16. Arran Active
3. Arran Graphics	17. Arran Gift Box Co. (inside Arran Active)
4. Arran's Cheese Shop	18. Taste of Arran
5. Arran Aromatics	19. Buntys
6. Ann Hume Jewellery	20. Visit Scotland
7. Charisma Lane	21. Janelle's
8. The Boathouse	22. Island Porcelain
9. Red Door	23. Chameleon
10. The Parlour	24. Bay Wool & Crafts
11. Homestyles	25. Arran Studio
12. The Byre at Brodick	26. Mariko Clothing
13. Castle Bay Studios	27. Harbour Shop
14. Belle's Boutique	

Look for our bunting!

CHRISTMAS PRIZE DRAW

To enter: All you need is 6 stamps from participating shops, 1 stamp per purchase, no minimum spend.

"Elf on a shelf Pebble Treasure Hunt"
for children



Scottish Field 2019 Calendar
The beautifully photographed Scottish Field 2019 Calendar is available from www.scottishcalendars.co.uk
*from **£11.95** P&P charges may apply

and especially so with a 10 per cent discount on their Deluxe boxes over the Shop Arran weekend.

Still on the Arran inspired theme, right next door you will find the **Taste Of Arran Shop** which stocks Arran produce, food and drink and a wide range of Arran items that are difficult to find elsewhere. If it is made on Arran, chances are you will find it at the taste of Arran Shop and with a discount of 10 per cent on all full priced items it is well worth a visit.

the charming shop, Buntys offers something for everyone. While there are smaller gifts that are perfect for Secret Santa, there are also items for the home which are sure to enhance any fashionable decor. Buntys will be offering 10 per cent off all purchases over the Shop Arran weekend.

Also in Buntys you can find **Ailsa McNicol Jewellery** and this weekend she is offering 10 per cent off all silver jewellery. Ailsa makes a beautiful and unique collection of silver and gold jewellery with semi precious stones. Choose from bangles, necklaces rings and earrings all of which are made on the island.



Arran souvenir tea towel
The beautifully illustrated Arran map tea towel is available from www.krispcards.co.uk
*from **£6.95** P&P charges may apply
*other towns / areas available

Next to that, **Buntys** strives to capture the essence of Christmas, and you are certain to find a wide selection of tempting gifts for friends and family. With a knack for stocking items all carefully selected to match the style of

Quality Giclee A3 Printed Map

Isle of Arran Quality Giclee Printed Map hand drawn by Anne Gardner. Available from www.krispcards.co.uk



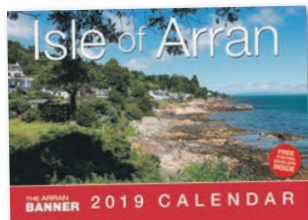
*other towns / areas available

from **£26.50**
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Staying in Brodick, **Homestyles** will cater to your every hardware and DIY need. Offering competitive and a surprisingly wide range of items, you will find homeware, hardware and even Christmas lights, tinsel, wrapping, candles and glasses, not to mention a friendly and warm welcome. Homestyles offers a great deal of items that are ideal for the DIY enthusiast and for any home and garden lover - which can also make for thoughtful gifts.

Heading north towards Lamlash, Christmas shoppers can continue their search for bargains with a whole new range of exciting stores to visit. A particular highlight for many, **Janelle's**, the interior design gift shop which stocks a wide range of unique giftware and home decor and which always manages to stock tastefully selected and ultra-desirable items. Janelle's will also be offering a 10 per cent discount to shoppers on everything in-store.

The Arran Banner 2019 Calendar



The beautifully photographed Arran Banner 2019 Calendar is available from www.scottishcalendars.co.uk
*from **£7.95** P&P charges may apply

Old Byre Visitor Centre, Machrie
Proud to be part of Shop Arran weekend

Enjoy 10% off your shopping and 10% off food in Café Thyme*
*with a stamped Shop Arran card



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Supporting the Shop Arran Weekend and Santa's Sparkle



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CASKS CAFE BAR
Take a break in our relaxing cafe, perfect for a light lunch or coffee and cake with festive cheer.

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- DISTILLERY TOURS HOURLY
- TUTORED WHISKY TASTINGS

www.arranwhisky.com

Nearby, at **Island Porcelain**, if the fantastic 15 per cent discount does not get you, the charming porcelain sheep, seals, birds and sea animals certainly will. The elegant and collectable porcelain designs will enhance any home and are uniquely charming and

are ideal as gifts. With no two the same, and each piece individually hand crafted and hand painted, you can be assured that every single piece is a unique and collectable keepsake.

Continuing with the trail northwards to serene Whiting Bay, shoppers are in for a treat at the **Arran Studio** where artist Heather Macleod will



If by now all this shopping is making you hungry then head to **The Pierhead Tavern**, locally known as **The PHT**, where you can get a free starter or dessert with a main meal on presentation of six Shop Arran stamps. They also have the wonderful singer and guitarist, Charlie Gorman playing on Saturday evening, a great round up to your day.

Further down the road at **Chameleon** where the quality and exceptional good taste never changes, ladies can be assured of a personalised shopping experience and a wide range of desirable clothes, bags and jewellery and a good few imported designs hand selected from across the globe. Chameleon Ladies Boutique will be offering a free scarf to those who spend over £50, along with 20 per cent discount on Fly boots and a number of other promotions and discounts over the Shop Arran weekend.

Further down the road at **Arran Fine Foods**, which offers a delightful array of quality Arran products including chutneys, mustards, preserves and salad dressings, along with a selection of homeware, cutlery and crockery, visitors who spend over £10 can expect a gift with their purchase.

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Tasty Gammon, Rich Steak Pies

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Sat 29th 8-5pm, Mon 31st 8-3pm, 1-3 Jan - CLOSED
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S 2 nd 1PM ROB MUIR	M 17 th 7.30PM JONI KEEN
M 3 rd 7.30PM FATMAN & THE ANGEL	W 19 th 7.30PM FATMAN & THE ANGEL
W 5 th 1PM LITTLE FIRE	F 21 st 7.30PM THE SAGGIES
F 7 th 7.30PM CAMS CAMPBELL	S 22 nd 7.30PM THE SENSATIONAL BIFF SIMPSON TRIO
S 8 th 7.30PM MIKE EDWARDS	S 23 rd 1PM HINGIN' BY A THREEED
S 9 th 1PM MIKE EDWARDS	T 25 th CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY
M 10 th 7.30PM TIM POMEROY	W 26 th 7.30PM ACOUSTIC BUTTERFLY
W 12 th 7.30PM ARRAN DAWN	F 28 th 7.30PM SHINDIG
F 14 th 7.30PM THE SENSATIONAL BIFF SIMPSON TRIO	S 29 th 7.30PM TIM POMEROY
S 15 th 7.30PM MIKE BAILEY	S 30 th 1PM ROB MUIR

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FOR ALL YOUR CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR, OUTDOOR GEAR AND GIFTS

10% OFF
any purchase
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(Excluding Alcohol sales)
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Plus chance to enter prize draw to win a Rab Jacket worth £190.

Opening Hours from Monday 5th November 2018
Monday-Friday 10-4, Saturday 9-5, Sunday 10-4.30

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Janelle's
Lamplash

10% OFF EVERYTHING
for Shop Arran weekend.

Tel: 01770 600723

welcome you to her uplifting studio. Known for her bright prints, detailed and in vivid colours, most of Heather's artworks, be it silk prints, candles, cards or crafts, are ideal as presents, or for spoiling yourself. In addition to a 10 per cent discount on prints and candles, the Arran Studio will also be offering the same discount of framing orders over the weekend.

Also in Whiting Bay, Arran's newest shop **Bay Wool and Crafts** is an ideal venue for finding perfect gifts. Made up of four artisans, the charming shop houses **Katsock Crafts**, a soft toy and blankets and cushion business, **Scenes of Arran**, a photographic art and canvas retailer and the **Arran Glass Studio** whose stained glass and mosaic creations will tastefully decorate any home or make for unique gifts. Perfectly suited for gifts, the remaining proprietor **Granny's Knits** sells baby and toddler wear, dog coats and various other creative and charming hand-knitted items that are all made with love, care and attention to detail.

Further around the island at Blackwaterfoot at the **Harbour Shop**, the owners are embracing the festive spirit and along with 10 per cent discount over the Shop Arran weekend they are also offering 10 percent off for the entire month of December for customers spending over £20. The Harbour Shop is an Aladdin's cave of gifts, toys, card, homeware, sweet treats, clothing, books and a number of other items which may surprise you. Add to this a personalised gift basket and a freshly ordered supply of gifts and you

will understand why a visit to the Harbour Shop is a must this weekend.

Another unmissable stop on the Shop Arran itinerary is the **Old Byre Visitor Centre** in Machrie which is offering 10 per cent off all your shopping and 10 per cent off food in Café Thyme with a stamped Shop Arran card, as well as 10 per cent off at the **Byre at Brodick**. A delightful place to relax while the children enjoy the play park area, the Old Byre Visitor Centre offers visitors a pleasant shopping experience offering high quality clothing products, handbags and accessories and sheepskin products. After the family have completed shopping and taking in the views an extensive menu of good food awaits in Café Thyme.

At the top of Arran, on its northern point which is a scenic destination in itself, is the home of the **Arran Distillery**. Their award winning Visitor Centre is geared toward making the visitor feel welcome and ensures that every single visitor leaves with a new knowledge, and usually, appreciation of Arran whisky. The distillery shop stocks all kind all Arran malt whiskies and bottlings and, along with other island products, a range of gifts and souvenirs.

Returning to Brodick and wrapping up a massive selection of choice for the Xmas Shop Arran weekend is the **Arran - Sense of Scotland** store. Your one-stop shop for island inspired beauty, bath and fragrance products inspired by nature and the beauty of Arran.

BUNTYS
Shabby Chic Hand Painted Furniture Home Accessories

10% OFF everything
over the Shop Arran weekend

Including Ailsa McNicol Jewellery.
Come and enjoy a glass of bubbly
Special offers each day

James of ARRAN
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Saturday 17th November

SHOP ARRAN
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 Winter Rink Bowls
 Family games
 Fun in the pool
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 Over 21s' Disco

Various Shops around the island from 9am
 Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 9am
 Lamlash Pier, 10.30am - 12.30pm
 Arran High School, 11am - 12.30pm
 Arran High School, 11am - 1pm
 Blackwaterfoot Bowls Club, 1.30pm
 Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
 Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm - 5pm
 Brodick Hall, 7.30pm
 The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm
 Ormidale Hotel, 10pm

Sunday 18th November

SHOP ARRAN
 From the Outside - A guided historic tour
 Handmade Christmas Craft Fayre & Lunch Offer
 Family games
 Fun in the pool
 Live Music - Charlie Gorman
 Alcoholics Anonymous meeting
 Folk Music Session

Various Shops around the island from 10am Brodick Castle
 11.30am and 2.30pm
 Tee Room, Shiskine Golf Club, 12 noon - 4pm
 Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
 Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm - 5pm
 The PHT, Lamlash, 4pm
 Brodick Church Hall, 5pm - 6.30pm
 Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Monday 19th November

Arran Historical Society, speaker Mr J Jackson
 Arran Skinnymalinks - Seek a Star
 Arran Skinnymalinks - Seek a Star
 JogScotland mixed ability running group
 Adult Tennis
 Circuit Training
 Isle of Arran Bridge Club, All welcome
 Tae Kwon Do, Adults and over 10s,

Brodick Hall, 2pm
 Shiskine Church Hall, 5.15pm
 Brodick Church Hall, 5.15pm
 Whiting Bay 5.30pm
 Blackwaterfoot, 5.30pm
 Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 6pm - 7pm
 Brodick Golf Club, 7pm for 7.15pm
 Brodick Church Hall, 7.00pm - 8.30pm

Tuesday 20th November

Healthy Outdoors Team
 Eco Savvy Energy Surgeries
 Winter Rink Bowls
 Alcoholics Anonymous meeting
 Bridge class (beginners/improvers)
 Arran Pace Makers- Jog Scotland Beginners Group
 Flow Yoga
 Arran Hockey Club - Juniors (5 - 14yrs)
 Scottish Country Dancing.
 Trev's Pop Music Quiz
 Traditional Music Sessions
 Body Blitz

Brodick Country Park Ranger Centre, 10am - 1pm
 Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 10am - 3pm
 Blackwaterfoot Bowls Club, 1.30pm
 Brodick Church Hall, 2pm
 Brodick Golf Club, 2.30pm - 4.30pm
 Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 5.30pm
 Corrie and Sannox Village Hall, 6pm
 Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 6pm - 7pm
 Brodick Church Hall 7.30pm
 Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm
 Brodick Bar, 9pm
 Auchrannie Spa Leisure 9.30pm - 10.30pm

Wednesday 21st November

Yoga
 Hydrofit
 Brodick Gardens Volunteers
 Arran Elderly Forum
 Coffee Morning
 Knit and Blether

Auchrannie Studio, 9.30am -10.30am
 Auchrannie Hotel Leisure, 9.30am
 Brodick Castle and Country Park, 9.30am -1pm
 Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 10.30am for 11am
 St Bride's Church, Brodick 10.30am - 12noon
 Bay Wool & Crafts, Whiting Bay 10.30am -12.30pm



Arran Heritage Museum
 Chair Yoga
 Archives and Genealogy Service
 Dog Classes
 Arran Skinnymalinks - Seek a Star
 Arran Pace Makers Running Group
 Flow Yoga
 Tae Kwon Do
 Alcoholics Anonymous meeting
 Family Friendly Pub Quiz
 Rock 'n' Pop Bingo

Arran Heritage Museum, 10.30am - 12.30pm & 1.30pm - 3.30pm
 Whiting Bay Hall, 12.30pm
 Lamlash Church Hall, 4.15pm
 Brodick, 5.30pm
 Shiskine Hall, 6pm
 Rosaburn, Brodick, 11am - 3.30pm
 St Molio's Church Hall, Shiskine, 11am
 Arran Heritage Museum, 10.30am - 12.30pm & 1.30pm - 3.30pm
 Whiting Bay Hall, 12.30pm
 Lamlash Church Hall, 4.15pm
 Brodick, 5.30pm
 Shiskine Hall, 6pm
 Rosaburn, Brodick, 11am - 3.30pm
 AHS, 7.30pm - 8.30pm
 Lamlash Church Hall, 7.30pm
 PHT, Lamlash, 8.30pm
 Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Thursday 22nd November

Morning fitness
 Arran Skinnymalinks - Seek a Star
 Chair yoga
 Arran Heritage Museum
 A. C. L. I. Volunteer Gardening Day
 Castle Time Travelers
 Quilt Arran
 Isle of Arran Bridge Club, All welcome
 Arran Hockey Club - Seniors (12 yrs +)
 Arran Soul Choir
 Brodick Embroidery Group
 Body Blitz
 Tommy's General Knowledge Quiz

Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30am - 10.30am
 Brodick Church Hall 10am - 10.30am
 Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 10.30am
 Rosaburn, Brodick, 11am - 3.30pm
 Golf Course Road, Whiting Bay, 11.30am - 3.30pm
 Brodick Castle and Country Park, 2pm
 Firestation, Lamlash, 2pm - 4.30pm
 Little Rock, Brodick, 7pm for 7.15pm
 Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 7pm - 8.30pm
 Community Theatre, Arran High School, 7pm - 9pm
 Brodick Library, 7.30pm - 9.30pm
 Auchrannie Spa Leisure 9.30pm - 10.30pm
 Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Friday 23rd November

Yoga
 Hydrofit
 Arran Heritage Museum
 Alcoholics Anonymous meeting
 Tae Kwon Do
 Friday Night Quiz

Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30am - 10.30am
 Auchrannie Hotel Leisure, 9.30am
 Rosaburn, Brodick, 11am - 3.30pm
 Whiting Bay Hall, 7pm
 Advanced (Advanced Class) Arran High School, 7.30p - 8.30pm
 Whiting Bay Golf Club, Whiting Bay, 8pm

Saturday 24th November

Santa's Sparkle
 Flow Yoga
 RNLI Christmas Shop
 Winter Rink Bowls
 Family games
 Fun in the pool
 Live Music - Charlie Gorman
 The George Lindsay Blues Band, blues with some rock funk and country
 Over 21s' Disco

Arran High School, Lamlash
 Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 9am
 Lamlash Pier, 10.30am - 12.30pm
 Blackwaterfoot Bowls Club, 1.30pm
 Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
 Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm - 5pm
 Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 7.30pm
 The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm
 Ormidale Hotel, 10pm



www.arranbrewery.com

Liberating Lochranza ...



Commando communication – recruits share intelligence and operational strategy at an impromptu meeting. 01_B45military08

Words and pictures
Colin Smeeton
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Armed commandos on the streets of Lochranza is not something seen every day.

But early last Thursday villagers were awoken to the sounds of bangs and

flares as Royal Marine Commandos ‘liberated’ Lochranza. Exercise Final Nail was actually the final assessed operation for potential young officers undertaking a gruelling 15-month course.

The 27 trainee commando officers, who set up

camp at the Ormidale Pavilion in Brodick, staged a number of simulated scenarios around the island, such as capturing strategic locations, commando raids and destroying bridges to beach landings at Imacher, Sliderry and Whiting Bay before

Trainers and commandos pause for a group photograph with smoke and Lochranza castle as the dramatic backdrop.

01_B45military14



Armed commandos secure the main road and keep a lookout for any potential attackers. 01_B45military06



At the ready, two commandos set up a defensive position at a strategic location. 01_B45military07



Military Combat Vehicles make an unusual sight on the Lochranza Spit. 01_B45military05

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but it's all friendly fire

finishing in Lochranza. The final hours of training saw a simulated attack on Lochranza Spit and at various locations throughout the village before sunrise. This large scale exercise saw intense activity involving blanks being

fired, smoke bombs and flares being set off and a number of strategic locations throughout the village being attacked and guarded by commandos. Major Peter Williams RN, Officer In Command of Royal Marines initial officer training, said:

'Thanks to the support from the Arran community, from planning to delivery, we have been able to provide a challenging and rewarding experience for the potential young officers which we would have been unable to undertake elsewhere.'



Major Peter Williams RN, Officer In Command of Royal Marines Initial Officer Training, stands in front of a CTCRM military vehicle at the Ormidale Sports Pavilion in Brodick. 01_B45military01



Aiming towards the sea the commandos check that their weapons are unloaded after the mission is complete. 01_B45military11



Recruits retrieve one of their two boats used during the exercise. 01_B45military13



Commandos make their way onto the Lochranza Spit to fortify the area. 01_B45military04



Commandos remain concealed behind bushes while keeping a lookout for potential invaders. 01_B45military09

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Board games

Three Arran hoteliers, who were elected to the Ayrshire and Arran Tourist Board at the AGM last December, have resigned.

Geoffrey Botterill, Assya Baumgartner and Fred Wood resigned after they were asked to accept a package they could not agree with. If they did not, the acting chief executive Ian Robertson threatened to stop production of the accommodation register, to make all staff redundant and close down the tourist board.

Resigning with them were also trade directors from Ayrshire leaving only two elected members – one whom was away, the other abstaining.

This is not encouraging for those tourist operators who look to the tourist board to help fill their premises. What the future holds for the Ayrshire and Arran Tourist Board we do not know. What seems pretty clear is that it is too embroiled in its own mire at the moment to even think of looking after the interests of its members.

Club changes

An elegant little building, the old clubhouse at Corrie Golf Club which is Edwardian in style and painted green with a red roof, is the subject of much discussion of late. The club plans to enlarge the building and in the view of some people living in Sannox and Corrie, destroy its charac-

ter.

The newer clubhouse is used mostly as a tearoom and meetings are often held in the Ingledene with the old clubhouse being used for changing. Some members of the club are keen that it is enlarged to be of more use but not everyone agrees. 'There are a lot of people, particularly natives, against this. They're probably doing it without thinking,' one member said.

Garden rededicated

Around 100 people from the Pirnmill area gathered at the village War Memorial on Saturday to rededicate it. The ceremony was held on the day before Remembrance Sunday so that the memorial and garden would be ready for the laying of the wreath on Sunday.

It was Campbell Laing of Pirnmill who, two years ago, had been tidying around the War Memorial. He touched the column and it moved.

Closer inspection showed that it was very unstable and in a state of disrepair. So he investigated having it refurbished and the ball was set in motion for refurbishing the entire garden.

Now it is complete and makes Pirnmill's War Memorial look like a cherished part of the village, so much so that nearly the whole village gathered to pay their respects to the dead and also to mark their renewed memorial.



Arran representatives Fred Wood, Assya Baumgartner and Geoffrey Botterill have resigned from the Ayrshire and Arran Tourist Board members in protest at what they call unconstitutional changes. 01_B46twe01



Mrs Margaret Harvison plants a Kilmarnock Willow in the new Memorial Garden in Pirnmill with her sons Andrew and Campbell Laing the day before Remembrance Sunday. 01_B46twe02



Youngsters in Brodick enjoy sparklers, a huge bonfire and hot soup at a Bonfire Night celebration which was one of many held across the island last Thursday. 01_B46twe04



Warmly dressed firework enthusiasts did not let the squally weather on Bonfire Night deter them from enjoying the outdoor celebrations. 01_B46twe05



Second mate Andy Keen, captain Ian Walker and lookout Colin Campbell are pictured on the bridge of the MV Caledonian Isles last week in force eight gales. 01_B46twe03

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Further details are available from, and applications with cv should be sent to Nial Moffat. nialmoffat@arrangeopark.co.uk

Public Notice

Arran Riding Club
AGM
Arran High School
Wednesday 5th December 2018. 7pm
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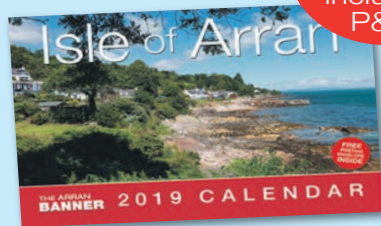
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Published on 15th December

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CHURCH NOTICES

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Parishes of North Arran, Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza, 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 18th November

Lochranza Church, and Pirnmill Churches together 10.15am. Morning Worship at Lochranza Church 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.

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(Part of the Worldwide Anglican Church)
St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.
Sunday 18th November Holy Communion - 11 am.
Rev Canon
Simon MacKenzie
Coffee after service

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(continuing)
Sunday 18th November Morning Service 11am Trust Housing Lounge, Glen Estate, Brodick Evening Service 6.30pm 5 Glen Road, Brodick ALL WELCOME

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Kilmory linked with Lamlash "A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"
Sunday 18th November Rev Lily McKinnon Kilmory - 10am Lamlash - 11.30am.
All welcome, including families; children's area
Scottish Charity SC015072

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

Sunday 18th November Sunday Worship at 11am 'Heather Lodge', Brodick Telephone 700346 Everyone Warmly Invited

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Whiting Bay and Kildonan Church of Scotland, Charity Number: SC014005
Sunday 18th November Worship will be conducted by Mrs Sharon MacLeod, Reader of the Church of Scotland, at 10.30am. Tea and Coffee will be served in the Transept after the service.
Traidcraft goods will be on sale.
Also, the Church Christmas Card, to be sent to all members, will be available to be signed, and all proceeds will go to the Glasgow City Mission.
All welcome.

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev Vince Jennings
Sunday 18th November Service 11am, Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick Tea and coffee after the service
Wednesday at 7.30pm Home fellowship group for bible study and prayer.
Telephone 600222
Everyone warmly invited

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Sunday 18th November Shiskine, 11am (church on road between Blackwaterfoot and Machrie)
Brodick 6pm
Rev Benjamin Van Rensburg

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sunday 18th November Sunday Morning Mass, 11am

DEATH

OSBORNE: Elizabeth (Betty) Passed peacefully away on Monday 12th November 2018 at Arran War Memorial Hospital. Loving wife to Eric, mum to Brenda, Colin and daughter -in-law, Amanda. Funeral service at Masonhill Crematorium on Thursday 22nd November at 10.30am to which all are welcome.

BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS
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BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Arran's youth can help to shape the future of golf

Youngsters on Arran who are passionate about golf and sport are being urged to apply to join the Young Person's Golf Panel (YGP), a national platform created to represent a voice of young people across the country in sport.

Interested applicants will need to be quick though, the closing date is on Wednesday November 21 at noon.

Led by Scottish Golf, the governing body for amateur golf in Scotland, the panel is open to both golfers and non-golfers aged between 14 and 23, who will provide valuable insights and a better understanding of young people in sporting society today.

The panel is being backed by 2018 XACT Scottish

Girls' Amateur Champion and 2018 R&A Girls' U16 Open Champion Hannah Darling, from Broomieknowe Golf Club, who believes the members will be instrumental in changing the future of golf.

She said: 'The launch of a dedicated panel for young golfers is a brilliant idea. Having a trusted forum to be able to share your opinions with likeminded people who are equally as passionate is a great force for change.'

'As a young golfer myself, I can see how the panel could open up many opportunities, so I encourage anyone with an interest in the sport to really consider entering. Not only would you build on your own personal skills, but you would



Scottish Girls' Amateur Champion Hannah Darling is encouraging interested young people to consider joining the new youth panel.

be helping to create a better future for young players in Scotland.'

The panel will play a pivotal role in identifying the issues and barriers young people face when taking up the sport and aim to tackle them head on by collectively sharing fresh and innovative ideas.

They will also be key in helping to increase participation by advising how to encourage more people, and youngsters in par-

ticular, to consider playing the sport as well as having their say in the overall vision and strategic direction of Scottish Golf.

Andrew McKinlay, CEO of Scottish Golf, said: 'This is a fantastic opportunity to be part of an exciting time at Scottish Golf, the successful candidates will be responsible for motivating and inspiring others to get involved in one of Scotland's most loved sports.'



Shiskine Golf Club

Thursday November 8, ladies' 12-hole medal, nine

DEATH

SLOSS: Mary Diana Peacefully at home on Thursday 8th November 2018. Mary, aged 85 years, beloved wife of the late Harvey and loving mum, gran, and great gran of the family. Funeral service at Clyde Coast and Garnock Valley Crematorium on Saturday, 17th November at 10:00am to which all are welcome. Family flowers only please. Transport available from 8:20 ferry and return for 15:20.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

HUME: Ann (nee Stewart - Kilpatrick, Shiskine). Beloved wife of the late Wyllie, mother of Linda, Kay and Yvonne, gran of six and great gran of three. Passed away peacefully, aged 87, on Monday 5th November. Following a service at Old Parish Church, Rutherglen last Friday, on Saturday she was laid to rest beside Wyllie at Keil Cemetery, Southend, Kintyre. Her daughters would like to thank all family and friends for their kindness, love and support at this time.

played, par 44, CSS 45. 1 Esther Henderson 60-16=44, 2 Piet Johnston 61-12=49, 3 Jenni Turnbull 58-8=50. Scratch Elizabeth Kelso 55. Magic twos Esther and Elizabeth. Congratulations Esther.

Sunday November 11, gents 12-hole medal and Winter Cup, 11 played, par 42, CSS 43. First Class: 1 Phil Betley 52-6=46, 2 Brian Sherwood 55-7=48. Scratch Allan Napier 51. 2nd Class: 1 Ron Woods 54-10=44, 2nd: Quintin Oliver 59-12=47. Congratulations Ron.

Fixtures: Ladies' competition on every Thursday at 10am. Saturday November 17, Alan Bannatyne Memorial Quaich and Lochranza Match, 1.30pm shotgun start. Sunday November 18, Jim Allison Trophy (Missionaries v Natives), 1.30pm shotgun start. Saturday November 24, gents 18-hole medal, noon tee off. Friday November 23, meeting about Ryder Cup to take place at Kinloch public bar at 6pm, all welcome. Sunday November 25, Ryder Cup.

Brodick Golf Club

Saturday November 10, Saturday Cup, Stableford, 10 played, NC. 1 Bill Donaldson 16, 34pts ACB, 2 Nicol Hume 14,

34pts, 3 Alistair Hume 12, 33pts ACB.

Sunday November 11, Brandon qualifier, 6 played, CSS 66. 1 Iain MacDonald 71-7=64, 2 Bill Donaldson 87-16=71, 3 Gordon Hendry 77-5=72. Scratch Iain MacDonald 71.

Fixture: Sunday November 18, Winter Cup, 9am and noon.

Whiting Bay Golf Club

Sunday November 11, Winter Cup round two.

Torrential rain, which had large parts of the course flooding, led to this round of the Winter Cup being abandoned. It will now be played on Sunday November 25.

Fixture: Sunday November 18, winter friendly v Lamlash at Lamlash,

10.30am rolling start, just turn up to be paired.

Corrie Golf Club

Saturday November 10, 18-hole sweep. 1 D Logan 71-11=60, 2 G Andrew 70-8=62 and scratch.

Monday November 12, Winter Cup. 1 J Henderson 76-18=58, 2 A Pattison 69-10=59. Magic twos A Pattison, R McLean.

Fixtures: Saturday November 17, sweep, ballots at 9am and 1pm. Monday November 19, Winter Cup, ballot at noon.

Lochranza Castle Golf Club

Saturday November 17, A Bannatyne Trophy and Lochranza v Shiskine match at Shiskine Golf Club, shotgun start at 1.15pm.

Arran bridge results

The latest results from the Arran Bridge Club are: Monday November 5, aggregate competition. N/S 1 Dougie and Margaret Bruce, 2 Pat Adamson and Brenda Livingstone, 3 Giorsal Kroner and Andy Martin. E/W 1 Janie Maclure and Anne McKelvie, 2 Alison Bilsland and Helen Young, 3 Ellie Jones and Sue Thurogood.

Thursday November 8, aggregate competition. N/S 1 Tricia Martin and Douglas Hamilton, 2 Margaret McGill and Alison Bilsland, 3 Ellie Jones and Elizabeth McKellar. E/W 1 Janie Maclure and Anne McKelvie, 2 Dougie and Margaret Bruce, 3 Jennifer Wales and John Baraclough.

Narrow win for Arran in bad-tempered match

Ayrshire Sunday League

Isle of Arran 2
Irvine Victoria 1

Despite the decent forecast on Sunday the heavens opened upon Ormidale Park but the weather could not dampen the spirit of the Arran players who are now on an eight-match unbeaten run.

Unfortunately the foul weather matched the mood of some of the opposition players which resulted in numerous red cards, scuffles and an upcoming disciplinary hearing.

Grant Adamson was rewarded with a start after his late winner last week and Archie McNicol made a comeback after a two-match absence. It was Adamson who was involved in the lead up to the first

goal as he was felled by the Vics goalkeeper and McNicol dispatched the resulting penalty in fine style at the Knowe Road end of the field.

A typical mazy run saw Johnny Sloss nearly double the lead shortly after but the Vics, who had already drawn and defeated Arran previously, played their way into the game.

A strong midfield line up caused Arran problems – and resulted in a change of tactics from manager Alan Murray – after Vics found a first-half equaliser with a low drive past Stephen Judge.

The second half saw little between the teams with Vics forcing the best chances but in-form keeper Stephen Judge was again showing safe hands in the

muddy Arran goal.

The game changed around the 70th minute when Adam McNicol and a Vics player came head to head. The Irvine player displayed an aggressive motion towards McNicol and was shown a red card by referee Ryan Bowie. It was a double whammy for Irvine Victoria as the resulting free kick from Sloss saw Donald Park rise well and flick the ball past the keeper, much to the delight of players and fans who again turned out in good numbers.

Sadly instead of trying to get back into the game some of the away team's players lost their discipline and two unfortunate tackles on Sloss – who had started to see the ball more on the left wing – saw Vics



Concentration etched on his face Archie McNicol wins the race for the ball.



An incoming cross is deflected off a player's head in an Irvine attempt at goal.



Spectators and reserve players brave the elements during heavy downpours.



Arran keeper Stephen Judge makes a brave save from a sliding Irvine Vics player.

go down to eight men with only seconds left. Upon the final whistle many of the Irvine Victoria's players and management apologised for a few of their players letting their club down with their behaviour.

Sadly a disciplinary visit to Hampden park will now be looming for them as these un-savoury incidents were caught on video.

An important three points were gained for the depleted Arran team who only

had one fit substitute on the bench as the bruising games are taking their toll on players who are carrying a great deal of persistent injuries.

Arran AFC thanked Chris Parks and Ellie from Little Rock for purchasing the new away strips which were on display last Sunday and also Stuart Brodie for sponsoring the match ball.

In other news the club have signed Sean Higgins

from a Glasgow amateur club and also their youngest recruit, Mak Russell, who will both help to bolster the club as they build for the future.

Tomorrow (Sunday) the Arran lads travel to Kilwinning Academy to play Irvine Celtic SC who are also mounting a title challenge. Kick off is 1pm and anyone wishing to travel on the team bus should contact Marc Head via Facebook.



Catching it on the rebound for the third time, Judith Ross scores despite the strong defence.

Arran puts Strathclyde students to the sword

Continued from page 28
curate ball passing. Play moved back and forth between the two determined teams and a cracking full swing shot from Hannah saw Arran back on the scoreboard.

Although a very impressive shot, Arran's goal of the game came when young Mia Walker, who had contributed so much to both defence and forward play as right mid, collected the ball herself in the shooting D, tried for a first – and re-

pelled, front shot – collected another rebound, turned her stick, dropped low and brought out her famous reverse sweep shot which has evaded so many goalkeepers. Mia's smile of achievement and the cheers from her team-mates were a sight to behold.

Great show

Never giving up, Strathclyde gave a great show of their duo player interplay passes which were a pleasure to watch as they successfully pressed into

the Arran goal. However with Ali 'Ninja' McKie on splendid ninja form all their attempts were thwarted until 26 minutes into the second half when their team captain shot a blinding lifted strike from the top of the D into goal.

Compliments came from both teams on such a superb shot and which demonstrated the level of sportsmanship on the pitch.

With the ball reset, Arran Ladies once again took charge and whilst in the



In top form, Judith Ross outmanoeuvres a trio of Strathclyde players.



Lorraine Hewie adds another one to her tally towards her hat-trick.

Strathclyde D they were awarded a short corner.

With Lorraine injecting the ball to the curve on the D line, Hannah shot the ball past the goalie and into the net. This brought the final score of 8-2 to Arran.

Players thanked the Ormidale Hotel for their continued support and Andy and his kitchen staff for providing the excellent after-match packed lunches for the visitors and for the teas which the Arran ladies enjoyed when they reconvened at the Ormidale to discuss the match – just as the heavens opened and the rain came pouring down.

Grateful thanks also went to the supporters who came out to cheer from the sidelines and to Pauline Reid

who once again umpired the match for the Arran Ladies despite suffering from a particularly nasty cold.

Captain Lorraine Hewie was awarded dame of the game by the University of Strathclyde team for her excellent performance

on the pitch. The Arran Ladies have another home game this weekend against Dumfries on Saturday October 17 with a push back at 2.15pm.

All supporters are warmly welcomed and appreciated.



No room to prosper, Arran's Mia Walker shadows her opposition player closely.

SPORT



INSIDE THIS WEEK:
Narrow win for Arran in bad-tempered match

Arran teach Strathclyde students a scoring lesson

Arran Ladies 8
Strathclyde University 2s 2

A calm and mild day brought 11 young ladies from Strathclyde University over to Arran last Saturday.

They took on the Arran Ladies, who were anticipating a challenging and physical game ahead of them.

Arran won the toss and chose direction over push back and with fresh legs and determination in their eyes they were raring to go from the first whistle.

Strathclyde came out hard and fast from the start, challenging the Arran's de-

fence line almost immediately. Regular defenders Eylse Aitken, in left back, and Faith McKelvie as sweeper, were aided on the day by Freya McNicol and Helen Thomson, who normally play right wing.

With a number of seasoned and strong team performers unable to make the match owing to other commitments, team captain and club coach Lorraine Hewie asked Helen if she could help out in defence as she had strong support on the forward line from Judith Ross, Isla McKelvie and Cerys Herapath. Helen stepped into defence as

right back which proved most beneficial. With her solid stick blocks, stopping any running ball towards the D and her 'rocket shot' clearances, she had a blinder of game, repelling the ball away from her side of the Arran goal area time after time.

Collecting the ball in mid-field from the frustratingly efficient defence line Susie Murchie, Hannah McCartney and Mia Walker quickly fed the ball up the pitch.

With some nimble passes, excellent triangular set piece passes and superb stick control, the forwards soon had Lorraine spinning



The Arran Ladies share some team spirit prior to the game starting.

her first goal passed the keeper just six minutes into the game.

The Strathclyde girls didn't ease off on the pressure though, as shortly after Lorraine's second goal a few minutes later, Strathclyde came back with one of their own. With the score now 2-1, the Arran forwards pressed back into the opposition's D and battled with the Strathclyde defence until the Arran lead was increased once more when Lorraine managed to push the ball past the keeper, giving her another hat-trick of goals.

With Strathclyde still try-

ing to keep pace with the strong Arran front line, it was the turn of Judith Ross as right wing to make her mark on the game. Running a beautiful line from the centre line and then along the baseline, she hit the ball into the D for Lorraine to shoot at goal. With the keeper saving the shot, Judith had run in for the rebound, scooped up the ball and shot it straight into the goal.

The next goal came from an almost mirror image of this, when Lorraine collected a pass in mid-field and ran twisting and turning past defenders on her

way to the goal. With a lifted flick shot at goal, the Strathclyde goalie batted the ball away, but only as far as Judith's stick, who again collected the rebound and tried repeatedly to get in past the goalkeeper on the ground.

With this proving fruitless she changed tactic and lifted her final shot up and over her and into the net, taking Arran into a 5-1 lead at the half time whistle.

With the match resuming and the sky clouding over, Strathclyde once again came out with swift and ac-

Continued on page 27



Forward Judith Ross leaves no room for blocking manoeuvres as she blasts the ball into the goal.

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