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Arran's Weekly Newspaper

SATURDAY 3 DECEMBER, 2016

No 2091 70p

Ferry route port fight now coming to Arran

Ardrossan and Troon both want support of islanders

REPORT

by **HUGH BOAG**

editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Both sides in the great port debate are bringing the battle to Arran.

As Ardrossan and Troon go head to head with claim and counter-claim, they are to give islanders the chance to have their say on their ferry port of choice, which will be determined by the Scottish Government next spring after an independent review.

This week both ports stepped up the fight and vowed: 'We're coming to Arran.'

First Arran residents will be able to hear the case for the Brodick-Ardrossan ferry crossing at a special public event next week by North Ayrshire Council on Thursday December 8.

Those attending will get the opportunity to hear the case for the route, ask questions and put their own ideas and thoughts forward. These contributions will

then be taken forward and be used as part of the submission to transport minister Humza Yousaf, who will make the final decision.

It follows a similar event by the 'Keep it A to B - Ardrossan to Brodick,' campaign, held in Ardrossan last week, to save the crossing which has existed for 180 years and which has attracted cross-party support from politicians in North Ayrshire.

Council leader Joe Cullinane has asked residents on the island to turn out in force at the meeting. He said: 'The people of Arran are reliant on the ferry service and their views will play an important role - that's why we want to make it clear that the Brodick-Ardrossan crossing is the best option for the island. The message from the people of Arran is loud and clear - they want a reliable and efficient ferry service.'

'The planned infrastructure improvements at

Continued on page 6



Running through a rainbow of colour

Arran's first ever colour run was held during Santa's Sparkle in Lamlash at the weekend. The event sees participants showered in a rainbow of fabulous colour as they take part in the run. See four pages of coverage of the last ever Santa's Sparkle inside. 01_A49colour01NO and 01_A49colour02

INSIDE TODAY

Fish farm protest

A large demonstration was held at Lamlash pier in protest at the planned expansion of the Lamlash fish farm which has applied for permission to double the size of its holdings. A decision on the application is due next week.

Full story, page 3

Farm eviction

The eviction of the Paterson brothers from Glenree Farm after 22 years resulted in the auction of their farm equipment and personal possessions last Thursday. The sale attracted a large number of farmers from across Arran and the mainland.

Full story, page 4

Creelers closure

After 26 years on Arran, Creelers Restaurant and smokehouse in Brodick has closed its doors and moved to its ancestral home in Skipness, where a purpose-built smokehouse, visitor attraction and shop has been built.

Full story, page 15

Bike club funding

The Arran High School mountain bike club has received funding for a new project to further promote cycling on Arran by refurbishing unwanted bicycles and making them available for pupils to use. The club will also speak to community groups, primary schools and other clubs to help develop new cycling opportunities.

Full story, page 23



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First pedestrian crossing is planned for Brodick road

The crossing is likely to be near the Douglas Hotel

Arran could soon have its first ever pedestrian crossing on a main road.

A pedestrian crossing has been proposed for Brodick with the most likely location near the Douglas Hotel because of the number of people now crossing the road there due to the big increase in ferry passengers.

However, it will not be the first zebra crossing on the island as only days ago a crossing was painted on the new approach road into the ferry marshalling area at the pier.

North Ayrshire Councillor John Bruce has made a formal approach to the council asking for the crossing.

He told the *Banner*: 'I have asked the appropriate council officers to consider a crossing in Brodick as the main ferry terminal is now extremely busy with vehicles and visitors on foot throughout the day.'

'Crossing the A841 on foot in Brodick is now decidedly unsafe as there is no designated safe crossing which is why we should consider a 'zebra' type crossing.' Traffic volume was recently monitored opposite The Douglas Hotel and on the Lamlash Hill.

The island to assist crossing the road at The Douglas

was installed several years ago and is seen as a possible location to install a crossing. But Councillor Bruce has not proposed a specific site as he said that would be up to the relevant bodies, including the police, to determine this. 'However, I have raised the principle of the need for one. Hopefully it will receive serious consideration,' he added.

A North Ayrshire Council spokesman said: 'We have received a request from Councillor Bruce to investigate the possibility of providing a formal crossing within Brodick. We will undertake this work in the near future.'



New community council members

It is out with the old and in with the new at Arran Community Council. Here we see outgoing chairman Richard McMaster with the new members who attended their first meet-

ing in Brodick on Tuesday. They are (l to r), Peter Randell, who returns to represent Whiting Bay, Chris Atkins, representing Brodick, and Julie Graham, representing

Lochranza. Bill Calderwood is the new chairman with Richard staying on as acting vice chairman until a new full committee is elected in January.

01_A49council01

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House fire in Shiskine

A blaze caused extensive damage to a house in Shiskine while the occupants are believed to have been on holiday.

A Scottish Fire and Rescue Service spokesman said: 'At 2.39pm on Wednesday November 23 the service was called to a fire at a property in Shiskine. Two firefighters in breathing apparatus help to extinguish the blaze using a powerful water jet.'

'Crews remained at the scene for dampening down and salvaging purposes before leaving at 4.09pm. No injuries were reported.'

The fire is understood to have started in the kitchen

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A Christmas carol concert

More than 100 singers and musicians from Arran will celebrate a unique start to the seasonal festivities when they perform at the Christmas carol concert in Lamlash Church.

New this year will be the orchestra set up to play for the carols with the island string group, Arco, joining with Arran Brass and woodwind players from Arran High School. With the addition of the Lamlash Church pipe organ, there will be no shortage of musical accompaniment for the singing.

The concert, on Monday December 5 at 7.30pm will also feature Aint Misbehavin, Arran Singers, Louis Ashley, Marsha Bain and the Band, Oisean Gold, Music Matters, the Trumpet Quartet and Vivace.

Proceeds from a collection that is held during the evening will go to CLIC Sargent, the charity that supports children with cancer.

Saltire outing

The annual Christmas outing of the Arran branch of the Saltire Society will be held at the Douglas Hotel on Wednesday December 7 at 7pm.

Members will enjoy a festive meeting and dinner and will also be entertained by the singing talents of local singer and poet Tim Pomeroy.

Poppy appeal

The Poppy Scotland collection on Arran raised a total of £3,111.89 for veterans' charities in the run up to Remembrance Sunday. Shiskine, Machrie and Blackwaterfoot raised £984.78 while Lamlash raised £571.28 and Brodick filled more than 40 tins, raising a total of £1,555.83.

Protesters oppose fish farm expansion plans

More than 30 people gathered at Lamlash pier to protest at the expansion of the Lamlash fish farm last Thursday.

The protest, organised by Community of Arran Seabed Trust (COAST), brought together locals, supporters and people within the marine industry who protested at the entrance to the pier as well as boarding boats and protesting on the waters between the fish farm and the mussel farm.

The expansion of the fish

farm, which is owned by The Scottish Salmon Company, seeks to double the biomass of fish in their enclosures, which the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) has indicated it will approve pending further objections. Protesters cited waste effluent and chemical effluent and the impact on wild salmon and other wildlife as reasons for their objections to the planned expansion.

COAST has asked the environment cabinet secretary



Andrew Binnie of COAST addresses the crowd at the demonstration. 01_B49demo03



Protesters gathered in Lamlash to voice their disapproval of the planned Lamlash fish farm expansion. 01_B49demo01

Roseanna Cunningham to 'call in' and oppose the decision which, it says, will impact negatively on the South Arran Marine Protected Area that was established in February this year.

Ms Cunningham is considering the calling in of the fish farm expansion and her department will aim to make this decision by Wednesday December 7.

A spokeswoman for The

Scottish Salmon Company said: 'We submitted an application to SEPA to increase the net depth at St Molio's fish farm in September 2015. SEPA has proposed to grant this licence.'

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Two of the larger pieces of farm equipment which were sold at the auction. 01_A49farm01



Auctioneer Drew Kennedy is surrounded by potential buyers. 01_A49farm02

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Everything at the farm was for sale. 01_A49farm06

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The sad sight

It was a sad day at Glenree Farm last Thursday when the Paterson brothers' agricultural equipment and personal possessions were auctioned off at a forced sale.

For John and his brother Ian, it was just too painful to watch as they saw lot after lot sold to the highest bidder. Everything from an extension cable and rolls of fencing barbed wire to slurry tankers, quad bikes and two massive tractors all went under the auctioneer's stick.

The sale was conducted by Drew Kennedy of Ayr-based Craig Wilson Ltd, a man well known in farming circles and the day attracted a big crowd of both Arran farmers and others from the mainland and a national media presence.

But, despite the bright low winter sunshine which

bathed the farm, there was a shadow of dark depression over the proceedings in the knowledge that the items for sale had once been someone's livelihood and that they had no option but to sell as the family were being evicted from the farm after 22 years.

As reported in last week's *Banner*, the Paterson brothers finally lost their eviction fight after reaching a mediation agreement with Arran Estates and, with the rest of their family, will now leave the farm.

However, it has emerged that part of that agreement allows the family a stay of execution at the farmhouse for a few weeks. During this time, Ian will also be able to keep his falconry at the farm until he can find a new home for his 78 valuable breeding

birds. But the rest of the farm and the equipment needed to run it has now gone.

John Paterson is one of a group of tenant farmers in Scotland being evicted from their homes following a ruling by the UK Supreme Court. It overruled a law passed by the Scottish Parliament in 2003 which granted the farmers a secure tenancy, after finding it breached their landlords' human rights.

At the sale, he said watching all the farming equipment being sold off was the worst day of his life. 'This is a very bad day for me. That is why I have been trying to keep out of it - I just can't bear to watch.'

Brother Ian said: 'It is heartbreaking to watch equipment we bought new being sold off literally pound for pound.'

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Drew Kennedy brings down his stick on another sale. 01_A49farm08



Above: John Paterson is interviewed on the day for *The One Show*. 01_A49farm04

of a farm sale

The Paterson family may receive some compensation from their landlord for improvements they have made to the farm and they are awaiting the result of a Court of Session ruling after tenant farmers took the Scottish Government to court seeking compensation for the loss of their farms.

Six more families across Scotland will suffer the same experience over the next couple of years, including Richard McMaster and his family on Arran, who are facing eviction exactly a year from now from the majority of the farmland at Shannochie on the south coast.

Richard said: 'It may be the Scottish Government who are effectively evicting us, but it is the landlords who are doing their dirty work. I believe the farm I was hoping

to pass on to my sons will be gone this time next year, but I suppose while there is time there is hope.'

Arran MSP Kenneth Gibson said: 'This has undoubtedly been a stressful and upsetting time for the Patersons. The situation has not been helped by the cynicism of politicians who do not represent Arran and irresponsible journalists, who have tried to make this difficult situation a cause célèbre.

'Even after it was made clear, not least in parliament, that tripartite negotiations involving the Scottish Government, tenants and landowners could not take place, nor emergency legislation enacted for legal reasons, the Patersons and others were wrongly told it could happen, if only ministers would act.

'Across Scotland, another seven tenant households are in a similar situation, including one family on Arran. Ministers will continue to explore every possible solution to prevent further evictions.'

West of Scotland MSP Ross Greer of the Scottish Greens, who attended the sale, said: 'To say we shouldn't be where we are now is a tragic understatement. The Scottish Government promised tenant farmers like the Patersons a three-way mediation and invited them to submit claims for compensation for loss of their tenancies.

'None of this has happened and Greens have called for emergency legislation to postpone future evictions until such time as the Scottish Government fulfils its commitments.'



Right: The sale is in full swing. 01_A49farm03

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Port fight coming to Arran

Continued from page 1
Ardrossan Harbour, along with the more powerful ferry will deliver that – with the added benefits that passengers will not have to fork out a small fortune by taking a longer, slower and more expensive service to and from Troon.
‘The new terminal at Brodick is really taking shape. Once the improvements are delivered at Ardrossan, what a fantastic service ferry passengers will have.
‘I would urge people to

turn out at the meeting and get the opportunity to hear the full facts surrounding the service, as well the chance to ask questions and make their feelings clear.’
The event on Arran will be held at Brodick Hall on Thursday, December 8. It is scheduled to start at 4pm with a drop-in session, giving people a chance to speak to council officers. At approximately 5pm, the formal part of the meeting will get under way with key speakers addressing those attending. It is

expected the meeting will last until approximately 6.30pm.

Meanwhile, the following week it will be the turn of the Port of Troon to put its case to the people of Arran.

This will be through a series of evening drop-in sessions arranged at convenient locations on the island where the community can talk to ABP’s local port management team and marine professionals about the proposals.

The first of these will be held at Auchrannie Resort in Brodick from 7pm till 10pm on Monday December 12, followed by another session on Thursday December 15 at the Kinloch

Hotel, Blackwaterfoot, between 7pm and 10pm. Further dates will be arranged across the island.

Port owner ABP is also creating a forum for islanders to ask questions and feedback their views. The forum will also offer islanders a chance to say how they think the £50,000 annual donation from ABP to good causes on Arran should be spent.

As part of the Troon bid, which has attracted cross-party political support from politicians in South Ayrshire, ABP will publish a wide-ranging set of answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs) to help the community make

an informed view on the proposals being put before them.

Residents now also have access to a direct email address, which will allow members of the Arran community to ask further questions. Any questions can be sent to choosetroom@abports.co.uk

The initiatives follow ABP’s proposals to fund a state-of-the-art new £8 million ferry terminal, if the island’s ferry service relocates to Troon.

ABP director Andrew Harston said: ‘We understand how, for the people of Arran, the ferry is a uniquely important service and so there are bound to be ques-

tions about what our proposal means. That’s why we are determined to make it as easy as possible to ask those questions and get a straight answer based on the facts.

‘We are confident that Troon offers a better deal for the islanders and the Scottish Government. We are keen to help people cut through all the misinformation that is currently in the public domain and understand exactly what a fantastic opportunity is now on the table. We are also excited to see what suggestions people come up with for using the £50,000 for making maximum impact for local good causes.’

Arran’s SNP branch wants to keep it A to B

Members of the Isle of Arran SNP branch hosted a drop-in cafe last Wednesday at the Ormidale Pavilion in Brodick to encourage discussion and assess island opinion on the current ferry port debate.

The event, which provided information about Troon and Ardrossan, was well attended by members of the public. Opinions and suggestions were collected in discussions and by means of an ideas board. On balance, it appeared that there is very little support from Arran residents for moving the mainland port to Troon, because of longer

journey times, fare increases and the lack of a direct rail connection to the port. It was also clear that the Arran public has a wealth of ideas for improving the service currently provided from Ardrossan.

Numerous suggestions were made, including technical proposals for improving access to the harbour and changes to baggage handling provisions and bus connections.

There was a consensus that the slogan ‘Keep it A to B’ was more appropriate for Arran than ‘Save our Ferry’. Contributions have been collat-



Arran SNP members at the ferry port relocation consultation.

ed and shared with North Ayrshire Council and other interested parties. Organisers want to thank everyone who contributed, with special appreciation

to Kenny Morrison for the loan of posters on the history of the Ardrossan ferry service, and to all those who contributed home baking for the event.

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Ferry terminal redevelopment now in final phase

Work is progressing apace on the new Brodick ferry terminal redevelopment with phase four now completed and the final phase starting.

Phase five will continue until Monday March 13 and is on schedule for completion in August next year.

Phase four has seen the new bus terminus continue its operation and new permanent bus shelters completed. The new terminal building is progressing well and the external sandstone rain screen cladding is substantially complete. The roof and external glazing is almost complete, ensuring the building is wind and watertight, which will allow internal construction to be completed in a dry environment.

The main entrance to the new marshalling area and new car park to the west of the existing terminal building have been completed. This allows vehicle entry to the ferry from the west end

and the exit will continue to be via the east end of the new terminal building onto Market Road.

The pier strongpoint has been substantially completed and there are now only 16 pier and bulkhead piles to be driven into position.

East revetment secondary and primary armour continues at the fixed ramp bulkhead at the east end. The outer and inner lifting dolphin concreting operation is complete and the new link-span has been installed. The new fire escape building foundation and steel frame construction have also commenced.

Phase five, which has already started, will last for 17 weeks and will see the introduction of the new main ferry vehicle access route at the west end of the terminal. Ferry vehicle traffic will still exit onto Market Road via the route to the east of the terminal building. The final phase will see the completion of the coach



The new entrance for vehicle traffic leading to the marshalling area. 01_B49terminal01

drop-off, taxi ranks and new car park to the south of the new terminal building.

Construction work will continue internally on the new terminal building, fire escape building, fixed walkway and new main pier in preparation for the Adelte moving passenger access system.

The new east berth fixed ramp will be completed and the seaward-side cycle path and main decorative boundary fence on top of the seaward perimeter walls will also be completed as they head towards the scheduled project completion date in early August 2017.

A spokesman for Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd (CMAL) said: 'We will share any changes to passenger information before we move on from phase five of the project in March 2017. We are very grateful for the continued understanding and patience of

the public throughout the project. In the interests of safety, passengers and vehicle owners using the facilities should adhere to guidance provided by the ferry and bus operators.'



The car marshalling area to the east of the old terminal building is now in use. 01_B49terminal02

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Make Arran's voice heard

So the two sides in the port debate are coming to Arran to hear the views of the islanders. And about time too, in our opinion.

As we said at the outset, this debate seems increasingly about what the ferry route would mean for Ardrossan or Troon. But what about Arran? It is more important to us than to anyone.

Even the North Ayrshire Council campaign slogan 'Save Our Ferry' has come in for some criticism. Whose ferry? What does it even mean? The ferry is not at risk – well, we hope not.

As for Troon, they keep banging on about this £50,000 community fund. We think most people on the island would be more interested, first and foremost, in a reliable, efficient ferry service.

Back in Ardrossan, we are told that the service is vital for the local economy supporting hundreds of jobs worth around £4.5 million in wages alone, and that is a good thing. But where are the Arran figures or have they yet to be even considered?

Meanwhile, the biggest concern about Troon appears to be the extended journey times, and potential extra cost, as well as the rail and other transport links, which a few electric buses may not be able solve.

Perhaps, given all this, it is good that the two sides are coming to Arran in the coming weeks to state their cases and, hopefully, listen to the views of the islanders. What is important is that people make use of the opportunity to make their feelings known.

Unless people turn out to the meetings, they cannot complain somewhere down the line that they do not like the outcome.

It is our ferry and the Arran voice must be heard among the clamour of political rhetoric on the mainland.

Farewell, then, to Santa's Sparke. For seven years it has been the start of Christmas on Arran. But Glenisle owners Timothy and Geoffery have called it a day and they are to be thanked for the time and effort they have, almost single-handedly, ploughed into the event year after year.

They went out on a high this year, that is for sure.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'The prophet of the Most High will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for Him, and to give His people the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins.' (Luke 1: 76-77)

press policy

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

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your letters

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Letters to the Editor



Port investment

Sir,

As my business uses the ferry daily, it is pretty obvious that in the winter Ardrossan as a port is not good enough, with many cancelled sailings not only costing businesses money but non-commercial travellers missing hospital appointments and holiday flights. But is Troon any better? With a walk to the train station, it would simply not cope with the volume of passengers trying to get to Arran, particularly in the summer.

Is it not time for Peel Ports, which has been taking CalMac's money for years without any real investment, to stand up and invest in a breakwater to shelter the ferries as they attempt to enter the harbour and to dredge out the basin to allow ferries straight in access. Both these actions would almost elimi-

nate cancelled sailings from Brodick, with the obvious benefits.

Yours,
**Lindsay Keir,
Brodick.**

Rail and sail

Sir,

If the Arran service is moved to Troon, then the rail and sail option will be lost, because of the much greater distance between Troon railway station and the proposed ferry terminal.

It would also be going against decades of shortening sea crossings to enable the ferries to carry out more sailings and hence convey more passengers and vehicles.

It should also be noted that losing the Arran ferry would contribute to the economic decline of Ardrossan, as has already happened in Stranraer, following the move of the Northern Irish ferries to Cairnryan.

Railfuture Scotland believes that a convenient rail and sail service, with the train stopping a very short walk from the ferry, is the most attractive alternative to using a car, and thus most likely to result in environmentally-friendly travel.

Far from moving the Arran ferry terminal away from the rail network, consideration should be given to redesigning Ardrossan port so that the train can take foot passengers right down to the boat, as it used to until the mid-1980s.

Yours,
**Jane Ann Liston,
Secretary,
Railfuture Scotland.**

Pool exclusion

Sir,

I have lived here half of my life and I and my family have used the swimming pool at the Auchrannie for years. Today I was shocked to be told that at 8am I could

not go for a swim. The pool at the spa was empty, and I can only go early as I work.

The restricted hours for locals does not allow working people to go and many cannot afford to pay £212 for a senior membership who only wants to go swimming once or twice a week.

Maybe someone would like to explain to me why Auchrannie gets a government grant so that only some can use the pool and yet we are not allowed to.

And why only between 11am and 4pm, when you get home in the evening between 7pm or 9pm? I have a feeling that the spa is treating us as second rate citizens because we live here.

I went all the way to the Kinloch for a swim and the staff there could not have been nicer.

Yours,
**Jean Stone,
Lamlash.**

THE ARRAN BANNER

... on holiday

The Arran Banner regularly receives pictures of its readers enjoying their holidays in far-flung and exotic locations as well as those closer to home.

When space allows, we like to print these pictures of people who have remembered to take their favourite paper with them.

In this week's edition, we have Jamie Sillars in Cyprus and a whole school of pupils joining Maurice Deighton in catching up on the news from their school's namesake in The Gambia.



Jamie Sillars Jnr reads his Banner at the Sea Caves, Cape Greco, while holidaying with his family in Cyprus.



Maurice Deighton of Kildonan and pupils read the Banner at the Isle of Arran Nursery School in The Gambia.

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Hill warning after rescue team called out twice

Walkers were issued a warning this week after the Arran Mountain Rescue Team were called out twice in three days.

Anyone venturing into the mountains at this time of year is being reminded it gets dark far earlier in the day and due to the winter conditions the mountains can become a far more serious undertaking. A fully charged head torch with spare batteries along with full winter kit is advised.

The team would also ask anyone heading into the hills at the moment to take extra care as the paths, including lower paths, are very icy in places.

The warning comes after the team were called out around 4.30pm last Wednesday to assist a female walker with two dogs

who had lost the path on Goatfell due to the snow and fading light.

The team split into two groups with one setting off towards the summit via the tourist path and the other group over Maol Don towards the Coire Lan path. The walker and her two dogs were spotted near the shoulder area and both teams made their way to that location and assisted them down off the hill to safety.

Treacherous

In the second incident last Friday they were called out around 5.30pm after two walkers and their dog become crag-fast due to treacherous icy conditions and failing light while descending Cioch na h'Oighe. Thankfully communications were established via

mobile phone between the walkers and team members, enabling them to pinpoint the walkers' lights on the ridge from Glen Sannox. The team split into two groups with the first group heading up in the Argo cat to reach the walkers quickly and the remainder of the team on foot from the track at Glen Sannox. The walkers were located on some very steep icy ground and it involved a technical rescue to lower them to safety. Although cold, both walkers and their dog were uninjured and were able to walk off the hill with the team.

If an emergency situation occurs and you need to call mountain rescue for help, Call 999, ask for the police first, then mountain rescue.

Drive safely this winter

North Ayrshire Council's road safety officer Colin Kay has issued a call to all drivers asking them to be safe on the roads this winter, whatever the weather.

He has issued the call in an attempt to raise awareness of the steps drivers can take now to ensure they are not caught out in the colder months. It comes as the Scottish Government launches its annual 'Ready Scotland' campaign.

The campaign highlights the risks winter poses to homeowners, businesses, the wider community and those travelling, and offers advice on how to alleviate some of the risks.

Colin is taking the opportunity to offer some of his invaluable advice to drivers on how to prepare their vehicle – and

themselves – for winter. His top tips are to ensure your vehicle is well prepared. Have it fully serviced before winter starts and carry out your own regular checks on the brakes, tyres, lights and make sure fluids are kept topped up. Plan your journeys in advance, check local/national weather forecasts and make sure the condition of your route is safe to travel on; sign up to met office warnings. Keep an emergency kit in your car at all times. Useful items to have handy should you become stranded due to a snow storm or flood include a shovel, wellington boots, gloves, de-icing equipment, torch, blankets and tow rope.

More information and guidance is available on the Ready Scotland website: www.readyscotland.org

Book of birds to colour in

A self-taught artist and illustrator has produced her first colouring book.

Lesley Van Bogenjen has produced the *Birds of Arran in their natural habitat* which has a host of drawings to colour in.

It has been produced by Arran Graphics where it is already selling well and Lesley, who lives at High Kildonan, took the book to Santa's Sparkle at the weekend.

Lesley, who has lived on Arran for nearly 40 years, told *The Banner*: 'The colouring book is full of de-

tailed drawings, painted on quality paper, with parchment sheets between each to protect your work. It's the type of colouring book I could only dream of when I was young and that's why I drew it. The spiral closing is designed so the book can be folded back on itself. This allows you to isolate a chosen picture for colouring, stopping pressure marks from being impressed on other illustrations.'

The book costs £12 and is also available at www.arran-graphicsonline.com.



Lesley with her book on the shorefront at Brodick. 01_A49colouring01



SCOTLAND

PUBLIC CONSULTATION DROP IN SESSIONS

Your chance to discuss ABP's proposals to host the Arran ferry service at Troon with local members of the team and suggest how the community fund could best be used for good causes on the island.

December 12 – Auchrannie Resort, Brodick, 7-10pm

December 15 – Kinloch Hotel, Blackwaterfoot, 7-10pm

Further dates in convenient locations to be arranged.



Merry Christmas

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Elf Cil Paul and Sparkle cheerleaders Caitlin McGarry and Hollie Buckby lead the parade.

01_A49santa04



Sophia Bentley tells Santa what she wants for Christmas.

01_A49santa08

Santa's Sparkle signs off in spectacular style

Photographs by HUGH BOAG

Organisers had promised the final Santa's Sparkle would go out with a bang - and no-one was disappointed.

The hundreds who packed Lamlash Green were treated to a spectacular music, light and firework display - complete with live fire.

There was also excellent videomapping using the Glenisle Hotel as a canvas to show Christmas animations.

More people than ever flocked to the event, with many visitors from the mainland mixing with locals to enjoy the day.

From the outset of the now traditional arrival of Santa in the lifeboat at the pier, it was a day of sparkling entertainment and large crowds gathered along Shore Road to enjoy the Santa parade with Santa on a pony and cart followed by Heather Queen Jessica Reid and her maids.

By the time Santa made his way to his grotto in the

marquee, there was a large queue of youngsters eager to meet him.

This continued most of the afternoon, with the queue outside the tent and along the pavement at one point.

The Christmas Market did a roaring trade, with shoppers keen to find Christmas gifts, and there were plenty of customers at the burger stall.

After a display by the Sparkle cheerleaders, the festivities continued outside with egg and spoon and three-legged races organised by Save the Children.

Soon afterwards it was the event everyone had been waiting for - Arran's first colour run.

Although the race had an entry limit of 36, which included a few adults, everyone could take part by showering the runners in coloured powder. Many of the spectators ended up as dirty as the runners, but everyone was assured it would wash off.

Throughout the day events took place at venues throughout the village.

These included music and a talent showcase for all age groups at the Pierhead Tavern, Kathy's Christmas cupcake decorating at the Lamlash Bay Hotel and a gift-making workshop in the marquee.

As the light faded, it was time for the Heather Queen Jessica to turn on the Lamlash Christmas tree, accompanied by traditional festive tunes from Arran Brass Band.

A performance by the Taiko drummers and a raffle were enjoyed ahead of

the firework spectacular which brought the curtain down on the day's events and was a fitting end to seven years of festive fun.

For some the party would go on with the final of the Pierhead Talent contest followed by live music and the Sparkle disco in the Drift Inn rounding off events there.

Lead organisers Timothy Billings and Geoffrey Dallamore of the Glenisle Hotel were delighted at how their final sparkle had gone.

Timothy said: 'We are really, really pleased. The weather was wonderful with no wind and no rain. It is great so many people give up their time to be stewards and offer other assistance and the involvement of the other establishments and organisations meant that events were going on throughout the day.'

'We splashed out a bit on our last fireworks but at least there was a big crowd to enjoy them and everyone seemed to enjoy the day.'

Geoffrey added: 'It was extraordinary the kind comments people gave me on the day. It was very special for us.'

More photos of the day on pages 12 and 13.



Geoffrey Dallamore directs the parade into the marquee.

01_A49santa05

Kinloch Hotel
Isle of Arran

The hotel, leisure club and public bar will be closed on Sunday 04th and Monday 05th December.

We will be open for lunch & dinner as normal from Tuesday 06th December

The leisure club will remain closed for refurbishment,

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Santa waves to the crowd from his pony and trap as he makes his way along Shore Road. 01_A49santa03



Heather Queen Jessica Reid is joined by her friends on the parade. 01_A49santa02



Santa is given a warm welcome as he arrives at the pier by lifeboat. 01_A49santa01



The candy floss stall did a roaring trade. 01_A49santa12



Santa and his entourage in his grotto. 01_A49santa07



Freya Macpherson enjoys some candy floss. 01_A49santa13

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The Sparkle cheerleaders perform to a big crowd.

01_A49santa15



Little Tia McKinnon tries her hand at cheerleading.

01_A49santa17



Santa arrives at his grotto.

01_A49santa06



A young girl crosses the line in the egg and spoon race.

01_A49santa19



A youngster is covered in colour.

01_A49santa25



A spectacular firework lights up the Lamlash night sky.

01_A49santa30

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Santa's sparkle



Arran Brass Band perform at the lighting of the community Christmas tree.

01_A49santa26



One entrant shows why it is called...



This young man had the right idea ... use two hands to hold the egg.

01_A49santa20



Fun in the three-legged race.

01_A49santa21



The crowd watch the real fireworks.

01_A49santa29



Christmas images were projected on to the Glenisle using videomapping. 01_A49santa28



A long queue of children wait excitedly to see Santa. 01_A49santa09



The Taiko drummers entertain in the marquee. 01_A49santa27



Mark Bunyan shares a joke with the crowd watching him carve mushrooms from wood. 01_A49santa11

is a big success



led a colour run. 01_A49santa24



Participants enjoy Arran's first colour run. 01_A49santa22



Still plenty of colour about at the end of the run. 01_A49santa23



alls at the fireworks display.



The Santa queue stretched out into the street. 01_A49santa10

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 Byre at Brodick
 Castle Bay Studio

MORE SHOPS
 MORE DEALS
 MORE PRIZES

SHOP ARRAN

2nd, 3rd & 4th DEC
 BIG BUMPER PRIZE DRAW

New lifeline mental health service is introduced

A lifeline service which helps improve the lives of people with mental health problems and learning disabilities has been given the go ahead by North Ayrshire Council.

Cabinet members approved the introduction of the flexible intervention service which will be delivered by The Richmond Fellowship Scotland. The scheme will operate for an initial period of two years, with the option to extend for a further year.

The service will deliver appropriate and effective short-term interventions to people with mental health problems and/or learning disabilities in the form of crisis response or early intervention.

The Richmond Fellowship Scotland is a charity which supports over 2,800 people across Scotland.

Finnieston crane gets a mini makeover

Arran student Christian Pomeroy, who has been living and studying in Glasgow, has produced a luxury gift which is proving popular across the city in the run up to Christmas.

He has designed a tiny scale 1:1200 model of Glasgow's famous Finnieston Crane. Although designed originally to fill a brief, the idea has turned heads and gained mileage at the Glas-

gow School of Art where it is now for sale in the GSA shop.

Christian's model comes as a flat sheet of photo-etched brass in tracing-paper wrapping which is printed with concise instructions of how to construct the model. It requires no glue or scissors, the pieces simply press out and slot together with bendable tabs. Tweezers are suggested as being able to help with the construction. The finished model features a rotating jib and moveable block and tackle.

Christian is currently working on two further micro-models which at this stage are secret but which he hopes to make public sometime in the next few months.

The Finnieston Crane



Christian Pomeroy with his 1:1200 scale model of the Finnieston Crane.



A close up view of the crane which can be built with just a pair of tweezers.

model is also available in The Shop of Interest in Argyll Street or online at www.theshopofinterest.co.uk/

Christian is in the masters year of his Product Design Engineering, a combined course between Glasgow University and GSA.

The Finnieston Crane is a disused giant cantilever

crane near the SSE Hydro. It is no longer in working order, but is retained as a symbol of the city's engineering heritage.

The crane was used for loading cargo, including steam locomotives, onto ships to be exported around the world. It is one of four such cranes which still stand on the River Clyde.

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Fairmont St Andrews resort has recently completed renovating their public areas with a rich colour scheme and nautical elements and a lighting installation called *Zephyr* by George Singer. With over 200 luxury guestrooms, the resort has a plethora of facilities, including two championship golf courses and an indulgent spa. There are diverse yet luxurious eating facilities within the resort and the lucky winner can be confident that they will experience the best of St Andrews in luxury surroundings with outstanding service.

FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN, just answer the following question: **What is the George Singer lighting sculpture called?**

To enter, send your answer, name, address, telephone number and email address to Competitions, Wyvex Media, Fettes Park, 496 Ferry Road, Edinburgh, EH5 2DL. Closing date is December 31, 2016. Entrants must be 18 or over. Employees of Wyvex Media, the competition promoters, and their direct families are ineligible to enter. No purchase necessary. The winner will be first correct entry drawn after closing date. No cash alternative is available. The winner will be informed by telephone. Promoter reserves the right to request post publicity. Indicate if you do not wish to receive further information from promoter. Usual Wyvex Media rules apply. This competition is open to readers of other Wyvex Media publications.

KILMORY HALL

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Switch on at Kilmory Public hall, on Sunday 11th December from 4.30pm.

Licensed indoor Christmas market

Bratwurst sausages

Slow cooked hot chocolate (dairy free available) Nuttella

Colourful fire pit for marshmallow roasting

Photo opportunity

Carol singing & brassband

Bunkhouse open night.

For more information please contact Kilmory hall on 870345

Creelers returns to its roots with Kintyre move

Creelers Restaurant and smokehouse has closed its doors on Arran and moved to the Kintyre village of Skipness where a new purpose-built smokehouse has been built. The business which was established in 1990, and the smokehouse shortly after that in 1993, was located at Home Farm in Brodick but the lease on the property has expired and the owners no longer wish to renew it.

Tim James, who own

Creelers with wife Fran, said: 'We are sad to leave Arran but we are not very far away at all. We are just a short ferry ride away where we have returned to the family farm and restaurant at Skipness. We will continue to supply our loyal customers on Arran both through the Co-op and our delivery van.'

The new state-of-the-art smokehouse has been built on the footprint of the old Skipness Estate sawmill

and workshop where the business will continue to use traditional methods of smoking salmon and other classic delicacies, while enjoying stunning views overlooking Arran. Tim's family have lived on the Skipness Estate since 1936 and his sister Sophie runs the popular Skipness Seafood Cabin located near the scenic and historic remains of the 13th-century castle. The new smokehouse will be able to increase produc-

tion as well as offer a 'visitor experience' with an observation window where visitors can view the products being made as well as a shop where their products can be bought.

Creelers produces a wide range of products including smoked Arran venison, smoked duck and their multi-award-winning cold and hot smoked salmon which has received numerous accolades from the Guild of Fine Foods.



Tim and Fran James with one of the products from their smoked salmon range.



The Skipness Smokehouse has been built on the Skipness Estate by Creelers owner, Tim James.



Tim and Fran pictured a few years ago outside Creelers which has now closed and relocated to Skipness after almost 26 years on Arran.


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THE ARRAN SINGERS & GUESTS
Winter Concert
In Aid of Mary's Meals

Admission & Refreshments
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Whiting Bay Hall


Saturday
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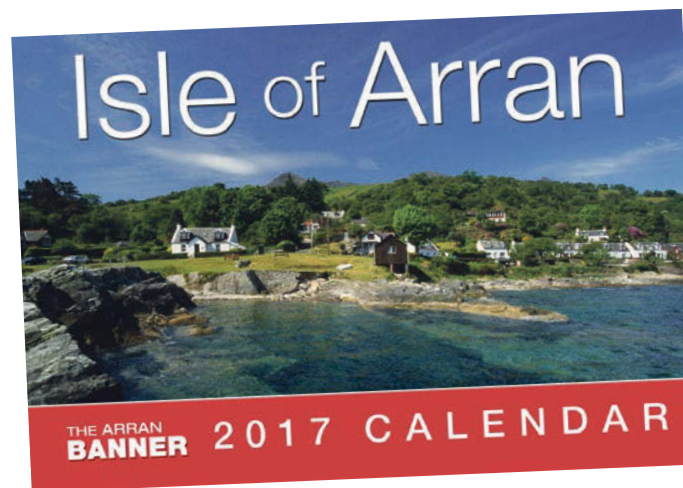
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THE ARRAN BANNER

John's Arran book collection

Arran Antiquarians welcomed John Jackson and his wife, Marion, to their November meeting, the final one of 2016. There were 55 members in the audience to hear them speak on Arran books from the 18th century to the present, writes *Norma Davidson*.

John spoke of four generations of his family holidaying on Arran, and it was on one such holiday in 1963 that the 12-year-old John read his first book about Arran. Back in Glasgow, and now aged 16, he bought his own copy of the *Book of Arran*. Since retirement from teaching, he visits frequently and is a great supporter of the Arran Christian Centre in Sannox.

Coincidentally, the authors of the oldest books on Arran visited in the summer of the same year in 1772. The oldest book, *A Tour of Scotland and Voyage to the Hebrides*, was

written by Thomas Pennant, a 42-year-old Welsh aristocrat who styled himself a 'tourist' which did not have the meaning we understand today but denoted one of the great and the good who could indulge in 'grand tours'. The book was self-explanatory and was a record of his tour. He produced pictures, including one of a basking shark being harpooned at Lochranza. Marion read us an extract on his observations and customs of the local people they met.

Commissioned

The second visitor that summer was a John Burrell, who is much quoted by Arran historians. Burrell was commissioned by the Duke of Hamilton to review all the farms on Arran and plan for the transition from the old run-rig system to the farming methods of today. He also sat in judgment and arbitrated disputes while he

was here. He produced a huge handwritten tome, of which we were allowed to see a copy. The detail was amazing and it is easy to see why this was such a definitive work still much referred to today.

John then went on to the different categories of books published. Geology featured strongly as Arran has long been a geologist's paradise. In 1798, Robert Jamieson, a university geologist for 50 years, wrote *Minerology of Shetland and the Isle of Arran*. This book was published in old script with a map that modern eyes thought inaccurate. He thought the agriculture could be much improved and his writings showed him to be anti-Catholic, anti-Gaelic and even anti St Molio.

Gradually more modern books by Andrew Ramsay (1841), Tyrell (1928) have appeared until we have Ar-



Marion and John Jackson who gave a talk on Arran books.

ran Landscapes in Stone from the present day.

Books on tourism started to appear from as early as 1703 when Martin Martin, a London doctor who emanated from Skye, visited. He found the west of Arran used the Irish language and the eastern side spoke English.

The Victorian era saw the emergence of mountaineering and walking books and guides. Naturalists found Arran a rich source of material and from Edwardian times to our very own Jim Cassels with his *Arran Bird Atlas*, publications have

been frequent and popular. Since 1900, there has been a tendency to base novels on Arran, and Mary Davies and Kirsty Wark are recent examples.

Young readers are not forgotten as recently there have been assortments of modern books, story books and guide books for the younger visitor and also activity books. The title, *The Kildonan Coo*, looked a good read for a tiny tourist.

John finished by showing us several old illustrations from his books, and throughout the afternoon Marion had read extracts

from some of the books. Members were encouraged to examine his book collection which covered many tables on two sides of the hall. There was truly something to fascinate everyone. Members found browsing among the collection absorbing.

Please note, there will be no meeting in December, but the antiquarians meet again in Brodick Hall on Monday January 16, at 2pm for their AGM. They have a full and varied syllabus in place for next year and new members are always welcome.

Council backs campaign

NORTH Ayrshire Council has officially backed the Women Against State Pension Inequality (WASPI) campaign following a council motion by Irvine West Labour member Louise McPhater.

WASPI is a campaign fighting the injustice done to women born in the 1950s - on or after April 6 1951 - regarding changes to the state pension age with the aim of achieving fair transitional state pension arrangements

for the women affected. There are hundreds of thousands of women across the UK who have been unfairly treated by the pension changes in the Pension Act 2011. Many have lost six years' state pension entitlement with just two years' notice.

The council's chief executive will now write to the UK government outlining the council's support for transitional arrangements to be put in place. Speaking after her motion,

Ms McPhater said: 'I was pleased to move this motion in solidarity with the women affected by these changes.'

'This is an issue of social justice. These changes have left the pension plans of many women in tatters. They stand to lose out significantly financially and many will face hardship as a consequence. It is absolutely right that North Ayrshire Council stands shoulder to shoulder with them on this issue.'

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

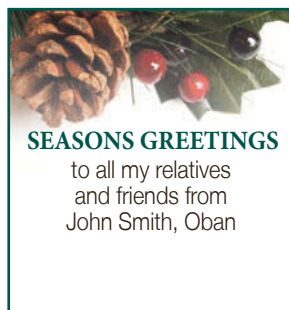
Published on 10th December

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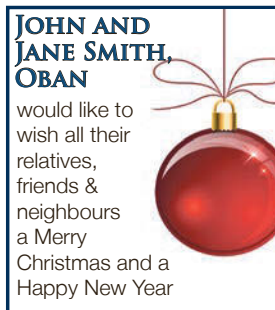
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Lottery funds help buy fifth community bus

The Kilmory community bus that has been running since 1989 has been replaced with a newer model after the charity received lottery funding to replace it.

The bus service, which is run by volunteers and relies on donations to keep it on the road, has been used by community groups and schoolchildren for trips both on Arran and to the mainland.

Too costly

After the previous bus became too costly to maintain, the committee decided to apply to Awards for All Scotland again and, to its delight, it received the maximum amount of £10,000 towards the purchase of another vehicle.

A 2013 Ford Transit with very low mileage was sourced and, together with the award and savings, the

committee purchased its fifth bus. The bus is well used by many local groups but especially the Kilmory Primary School pupils for whom it provides affordable transport so that they may attend all the activities and workshops on the island. These visits to various events encourage social and educational interaction with their peers.

The Kilmory bus was given the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service in 2010 and this year the chairperson and treasurer attended the Patrons' Lunch in London, which was held by the Queen for members of different volunteer groups around the country.

If any business on the island would like to purchase advertising space on the Kilmory bus, contact Phyllis Picken on 870263

or Mandy McDonald on 700800.



Kilmory primary pupils give the new community bus the thumbs up.

Twelve reasons to enjoy singers Christmas concert

Arran Singers are looking forward to teaming up with two other local singing groups, Ain't Misbehavin and Vivace, for an afternoon concert full of Christmas cheer on Sunday December 11 at 2.30 pm in Whiting Bay village hall.

The singers will be joined by three talented young musicians: singer and guitar player Emily Divine, Bethany Walsh on fiddle and Lucy Walsh on flute and are also honoured to welcome renowned tenor Peter Alexander Wilson.

Raise money

As well as entertaining the audience, mince pies and hot drinks will be provided during the interval. The group hope to raise enough money for Mary's Meals to provide children in some of the poorest countries of the world with a meal every

day that they go to school. The charity feeds more than one million children every day.

To help support them the Arran community choir invites you to, in the theme of The 12 Days of Christmas: 12 – Ain't Misbehavin, 11 – Men a-singing, A 10-fingered accompanist, nine – Christmas carols, eight – solo numbers, seven – Vivace songsters, six minutes of Messiah, five – lines for music, four – voice parts carolling, three – young musicians, a two-armed conductor and a concert in Whiting Bay hall.

Tickets are available on the door and from Bay News in Whiting Bay, The Book and Card shop in Brodick and from choir members. Admission is £8 for adults and £3 for children.



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THE ARRAN

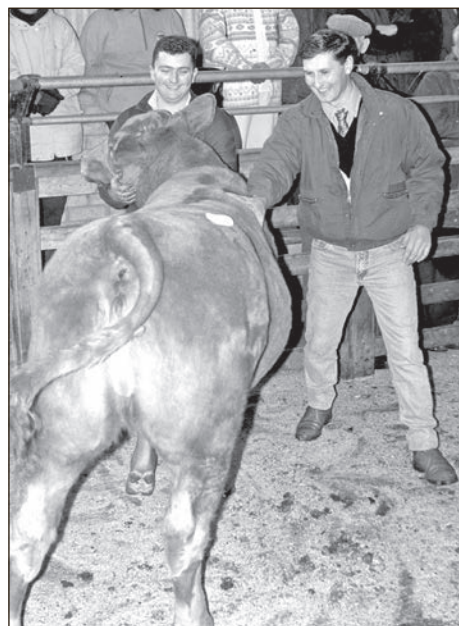
BANNER

TWENTY
YEARS AGO

Saturday 6 December, 1996

Whisky scam

On the back of the sale of bonds at the Isle of Arran Distillery, an organisation called James Devereaux Ltd has sent mail to people offering a 'never to be repeated chance of a lifetime' to purchase a 50-gallon hogshead of Arran single malt for £950. Those who sent money never heard any more and were sent no certificates, whisky or receipts. The distillery confirmed that it had received many complaints about the or-



Alan Currie of Kilwinning judges the only entry in the Young Farmers section from David Henderson. B49twe05

ganisation and that it owed the distillery money too. The possible scam was exposed in the *Sunday Times* last week.

Night mail

Experiments have been tried before in the quest to get mail delivered to Arran. In December 1984, it was brought over by helicopter but that proved too expensive. Alternatives have been tested since then but since October the Arran mail has been leaving Glasgow at 3.30am, riding by lorry to Tarbert and, once there, boarding the fishing vessel Green Pastures heading for Lochanza. The mail has since been arriving in post boxes in Brodick by midday and, even though the ferry has been unable to sail, customers have still been getting their mail with the new system being trialled.

Ship shape

While the MV Isle of Arran is in service on the Arran run while the MV Caledonian Isles is away for her annual overhaul, rumours have been circulating that cracks have been found during the work on the vessel. CalMac's chief executive Colin Paterson said: 'There is slight cracking but it's not in the hull itself. It is between the engine bed plates and the hull.' He also said that this was not uncommon in new ships and that it was not something that they were unduly concerned about. Being the company's second newest ship, he expected it to be repaired and back on the Arran run at least a week before Christmas.



Fishing boat Green Pastures arrives at Lochranza Pier and brings in the Royal Mail at 8am as owner Calum MacMillan unloads and Arran postman Alan Dillon collects it. B49twe001



Above: Ann Uttley presents Mamie Smith of Brodick with a doll which she correctly named as Marina in the Children in Need competition held by the Royal Bank of Scotland. B49twe02



A quintet of farmers who attended the Christmas prime stock show at Brodick market last Thursday which suffered from a small number of entries. B49twe04

Right: Shona McMullen, who works as the deputy unit manager at Montrose House, has graduated from the Glasgow Caledonian University with a BSc in Health Studies after attending evening classes to obtain her degree. B49twe03



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
 Soap making and candle dipping

Loch Garbad, bank fishing
 9am-Dusk
 Mon - Sat 10am - 5pm, Sunday - 12.30pm - 5pm
 2pm (limited spaces call for availability)
 Open all day
 Arran Aromatics, Brodick, 10am - 4pm

Saturday 3rd December

Army Cadets
 Over-21s disco
 Family games
 Fun in the pool
 Arran Vets surgery
 Arran Vets reception
 Live music
 Blackwaterfoot bowls
 Flow yoga
 Live music - Wildcard
 Whiting Bay Christmas market
 St Brides Christmas Fayre

Auchrannie Road 11am - 1pm
 Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
 Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm
 Auchrannie Spa pool, 4-5pm
 9.30am - 11am
 9.30am - 12 noon
 Fiddlers, Brodick from 7.30pm
 Bowling Club, 1.15pm
 Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 9am
 The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm
 Whiting Bay Hall, 11am - 3pm
 Brodick Church Hall, 1.30 - 3.30pm

Sunday 4th December

Family games
 Fun in the pool
 Open acoustic session at Fiddlers
 AA meeting
 Taigi & Oigong
 Live music, Will and The Wild Horse

Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm
 Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm-5pm
 Fiddlers, Brodick 2.30pm - 5pm
 Brodick church Hall, 5pm - 6.30pm
 Whiting Bay Hall, 7pm
 PHT, Lamlash, 4pm

Monday 5th December

Over-50s badminton
 Badminton
 Morning fitness
 Badminton
 Arran Vets surgery
 Arran Vets reception
 Arran Junior Football Club
 Circuit training
 Lamlash Aerobic
 RunArran
 Tae Kwondo
 Arran bridge
 Arran Citizen's Advice Bureau
 Live music
 Arran Skinnymalinks
 Arran Skinnymalinks
 Arran Skinnymalinks

Lochranza Village Hall, 2-4pm
 Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm
 Auchrannie Gym, 9.30-10.30am
 Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7-9pm
 9am - 10.30am & 4pm - 6pm
 9am - 2pm & 4pm - 6pm
 Ormidale Park, 6-7.30pm
 Auchrannie Gym, 6-7pm
 Arran High School Dance Studio, 6.30pm
 Drift Inn, Lamlash 5.30pm
 Brodick Church Hall Adults & over 10s, 7.00pm - 8.30pm
 Lamlash Golf Club, 7pm
 Ormidale Pavilion, 9.30am - 1.30pm
 Fiddlers, Brodick 7.30pm - 10pm
 Lochranza Distillery, 12noon - 12.30pm
 Arran Active, Brodick, 4pm - 4.30pm
 Shiskine Church Hall, 5.15pm - 5.45pm

Tuesday 6th December

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

Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
 Brodick Church Hall, 2pm
 Kildonan Hall, 7pm
 9am - 10.30am & 4pm - 6pm
 9am - 2pm & 4pm - 6pm
 Glencloy Suite, Auchrannie, 6.30pm
 NTS Ranger Centre, 10am - 1pm
 Bowling Club, 1.15pm
 Lamlash, 5.30pm
 Brodick Golf Club, 2.30pm - 4.30pm
 Brodick Astro Turf 7pm-9pm
 Arran High School, 6.30pm - 9pm
 Corrie & Sannox Hall, 6pm
 Fiddlers, Brodick 7.30pm - 10pm
 Brodick Castle, 2pm - 3pm
 Arran High School, 6pm
 Brodick, Church Hall, 7.30pm
 Kilmory Hall, 6pm - 7pm
 Auchrannie, 7pm

Wednesday 7th December

Rock and pop bingo
 Tae Kwondo
 Alcoholics Anonymous
 Arran Brass rehearsal
 Arran Vets surgery

Ormidale Hotel 9.30pm
 Arran high School Kids-6.30-7.30pm Adults-7.30-8.30pm
 Lamlash Church Hall, 7.30pm
 Brodick Church Hall, 7-9pm
 9am - 10.30am & 4pm - 6pm

Arran Vets reception
 Yoga
 Hydrofit
 Arran Heritage Museum archives and genealogy service
 RunArran
 Yoga-Arran
 Live music
 Drift Inn quiz
 Mixed hockey
 Dog classes
 Flow yoga
 Knittnerly and Natterly
 Winter warmers snacks
 Bus pass club meal
 Arran Skinnymalinks
 Coffee morning
 Lamlash SWI
 Parkinsons Support Group

9am - 2pm & 4pm - 6pm
 Auchrannie Studio, 9.30am-10.30am
 Auchrannie Hotel leisure, 9.45am - 10.45am
 10.30-12.30 & 1.30-3.30
 Auchrannie Spa, Brodick, 5.30pm
 Kinneil, Lamlash, 7-8.30pm
 Fiddlers, Brodick 7.30pm - 10pm
 Lamlash, 9pm
 Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7.30-9pm
 Whiting Bay Hall, 1pm
 Shiskine Hall, 7.30pm
 Kilmory Hall, 2pm - 4pm
 Lochranza Field Centre, 11am - 2pm
 The PHT, 12 noon - 2.30pm
 Lamlash Church Hall, 4pm - 4.45pm
 Lamlash Church Hall, 10.15am - 12noon
 Lamlash Fire Station, 7.30pm
 Lamlash Fire Station, 2pm - 4pm

Thursday 8th December

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

Auchrannie Gym, 9.30-10.30am
 Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
 9am - 10.30am & 4pm - 6pm
 9am - 2pm & 4pm - 6pm
 Fiddlers, Brodick 7.30pm - 10pm
 Ormidale Pavilion, 7.30-8.30pm
 Lamlash Front Green, 6.45am
 Felicity's @ Eden Lodge, from 7.30pm
 Auchrannie, 7pm
 Balmichael Centre, 7pm
 Brodick Golf Club, 7pm for 7.15pm
 Lamlash Fire Station, 2pm - 4.30pm
 Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 6pm
 Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 10.30am - 11.30am
 Shiskine Hall, 6pm - 7.30pm
 Lamlash Green, 6.45am
 Brodick Library, 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Friday 9th December

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

Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30am - 10.30am
 Auchrannie Hotel Leisure, 9.45am - 10.45am
 Church Hall, Brodick 7pm-9pm
 Lochranza Hall, 6-8pm
 Lochranza Hall, 8pm
 Whiting Bay Golf Club, 8pm
 9am - 10.30am & 4pm - 6pm
 9am - 2pm & 4pm - 6pm
 Whiting Bay Hall, 7pm
 Fiddlers, Brodick, 7.30pm
 Arran High School, Lamlash Adults, 7pm - 8.30pm



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- 3 The Publisher reserves the right to cancel or alter the advertisement by giving reasonable notice.
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BANNER CLASSIFIEDS
BANNER CLASSIFIEDS
BANNER CLASSIFIEDS
BANNER CLASSIFIEDS

Public Notices

AGM

ARRAN ANGLING ASSOC

Monday 12th December
7.45pm
Forestry Offices, Brodick

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL
EDUCATION AND YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

OUTCOME OF THE CONSULTATION ON THE FUTURE OF HAYSHOLM SCHOOL, JAMES MCFARLANE SCHOOL, JAMES REID SCHOOL, STANECASTLE SCHOOL AND EARLY YEARS PROVISION AT ANNICK PRIMARY SCHOOL.

Education and Youth Employment have consulted parents, carers and other interested parties on a proposal on the future of Haysholm School, James McFarlane School, James Reid School, Stanecastle School, and early years provision at Annick Primary School.

A report on the consultation will be published on the Council website, www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk on Monday 5 December 2016. Copies will also be available at all schools affected by the proposal, Education and Youth Employment HQ, local libraries and community centres.

John Butcher
Executive Director
(Education and Youth Employment)

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

Applications listed below together with the plans and other documents may be examined at Planning Services, Cunninghame House, Irvine*, between 9am-4.45pm weekdays (4.30pm Fridays) or at www.eplanning.north-ayrshire.gov.uk *and at The Council Offices, Lamlash

Written representations may be made to the Executive Director (Economy & Communities) at the above address or emailed to eplanning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk by 23.12.16. Any representations received will be open to public view.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1)
16/01044/PP; St Georges Church, Clachlands Road, Lamlash, Brodick; Amendment to planning permission 12/00048/PP comprising of variations to the windows of 5 flats, modifications to the elevations, variations to layouts, addition of a door to one flat, addition of new chimney and terrace to the front elevation.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND BUILDINGS IN CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 1987
Applications for Listed Building Consent.
16/01043/LBC; St Georges Church, Clachlands Road, Lamlash, Brodick; Alterations to the windows of 5 flats, addition of new chimney and door to one flat, and terrace to the front elevation.

Elma Murray
Chief Executive
Cunninghame House
IRVINE KA12 8EE



North Ayrshire Council
Comhairle Siorrachd Air a Tuath

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Recruitment

ARRAN MEDICAL GROUP

has vacancies for

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS AND MODERN APPRENTICE'S

We are looking for motivated and enthusiastic individuals to join the Arran Medical Group team. As an Administrative Assistant you will be required to work across all our sites but will be based mainly in Brodick, Lamlash and Whiting Bay surgeries.

You should possess strong communication, interpersonal and organisational skills and be proficient in the use of Microsoft Office packages. The successful candidates will also be required to become proficient in using our specialist software systems for which training will be provided.

We are also looking for two modern apprentices; one to work in our Receptions in Brodick and Lamlash and one to work in our Dispensary in Shiskine.

As a modern apprentice you will be given the opportunity to learn on the job and complete an NVQ qualification. You will need to be between 16-24yrs and willing to learn. This is a great opportunity to develop a career in the practice and could lead to a career path in the NHS.

Hours Administrative Assistants: 26 hours as either a full time post or job share or part time hours dependant on candidates

Hours Modern Apprentice: 24 hours per week

For informal enquiries/application pack, please telephone 01770 600516.

Closing date for formal applications 5pm Friday 9th December 2016 to be sent to:

Jenni Turnbull, Arran Medical Group, Lamlash, Isle of Arran. KA27 8NS.

Job Opportunity with North Ayrshire Council

Catering Assistant | NAY02092
27 Hours Per Week | £7.72 - £8.44

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Closing date 12th December 2016
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BANNER BANNER
RECRUITMENT RECRUITMENT

auchrannie auchrannie job vacancies

Maintenance Engineer

Auchrannie Resort are looking to recruit an experience Maintenance Engineer with clear M&E background. We are also looking for someone with painting and decorating experience to further enhance our team.

An excellent package is available for the right person including Leisure Club membership and a variety of resort discounts.

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

auchrannie auchrannie job vacancies

Leisure Assistant

Auchrannie Resort are looking for someone with an interest and passion in the outdoors and leisure to join our existing team.

Our Leisure facilities include 2 swimming pools, 2 gyms and games hall as well as a fantastic indoor Playbarn and Arran Adventure.

Our Leisure Assistants are involved in all aspects of these facilities offering our guests a unique experience.

We have full and part time roles available with flexible hours for local travelling as well.

An excellent package awaits you including full Leisure Membership, Staff accommodation if required and discounts across the resort.

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Catering Supervisor

To manage kitchen & dining room operations
42 hrs per week
Accommodation and food package available

Tel: 01770 830637 or
chris@lochranzacentre.co.uk

auchrannie auchrannie job vacancies

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

Positions are now available for:

Leisure Assistant

Restaurant Floor Manager

F&B Assistants
(flexible working hours available)

Beauty Therapists

Kitchen Porter

Business Development Assistant

Playbarn Assistant
(flexible working hours available)

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

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

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CHURCH NOTICES

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(Part of the Worldwide Anglican Church)
St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.
Sunday 4th December
Holy Communion 11am.
Mrs Janis Gallagher.
Coffee after service.
ALL WELCOME

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 4th December

Lochranza Church and Pirnmill Churches, 10.15am
Morning Worship in

Lochranza Church
Shiskine Church, 12noon
Morning Worship.

Brodick Church, 10.30am
Praise Service with local string group ARCO.

Corrie Church, 11.30am
Prayer Meeting, 12noon
Praise Service with local string group ARCO

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

WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(Charity Number: SC014005)

Sunday 4th December

Worship for Advent will be conducted by the minister, Rev Elizabeth Watson, at 10.30am.

Tea and coffee will be served in the Transept after the service.

All welcome

There will be a service in Cooriedoon at 2.30pm
All welcome.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Kilmory linked with Lamlash

"A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"

Sunday 4th December

Rev Dr Ian MacLeod
Kilmory 10 am
Lamlash 11.30 am

All welcome, including families; children's area
Scottish Charity SC015072

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sunday 4th December
Sunday Mass 11am

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(continuing)

Sunday 4th December

Morning Service 11am
Trust Housing Lounge,
Glen Estate, Brodick
Evening Service 6.30pm
5 Glen Road, Brodick
All welcome

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev Vince Jennings

Sunday 4th December

Service 11am at Ormidale Pavilion
Tea and Coffee after the service.

Wednesday at 7.30pm Home

Fellowship Group for Bible Study and Prayer.
Contact phone no 600222
Everyone warmly invited

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

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

Brodick 6pm in ORMIDALE PAVILION (due to renovations at church)

Rev Benjamin Van Rensburg

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, QUAKERS

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

DEATH

A I T K E N H E A D , ALASTAIR - Peacefully on the 27th November in Temple House Mossblown, formerly of Ayr and Corrie Isle of Arran.

Father of Sarah and Sue, grandfather to Beth, Helen, Eve, Douglas and Lesley, great grandfather to Alice and Will.

Funeral Service to be held at Masonhill Crematorium on Saturday 3rd of December at 12 noon.

No flowers please. There will be an opportunity to donate to the Peritoneal Dialysis Fund.

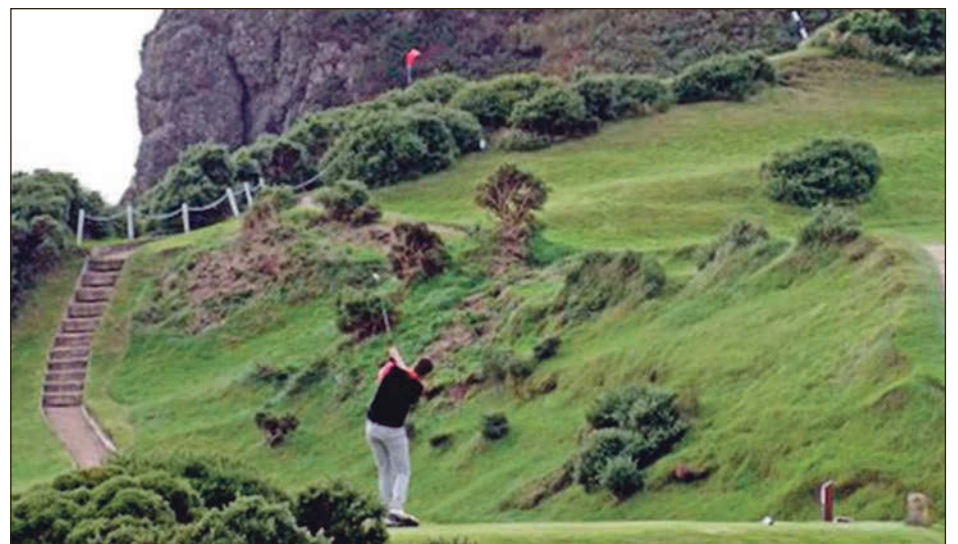
BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS



Shiskine Golf Club

Sunday November 27, Ryder Cup. First round of matches, fourballs. Nice to see so many out enjoying the company, the game of golf and the wonderful course. Torbeg 2 and 1/2 v Kilpatrick 1 and 1/2, Shiskine 3 v Blackwaterfoot 1. The table after round one: 1 Shiskine 3 +1pts, 2 Torbeg 2 and 1/2pts, 3 Kilpatrick 1 and 1/2pts, 4 Blackwaterfoot 1pts. Shiskine won the bonus point. Nearest the pins were: @4th Campbell Laing, @10th Willie Robertson, @12th, Jack McNally.

Fixtures: Ladies golf game every Thursday at 10am. Saturday December 3, 12-hole medal and winter cup, 1pm. Sunday December 4, the AGA winter league/Dun-



Shiskine Golf Club

can Trophy, second round at Shiskine. Draw: Shiskine v Corrie, 8.30am, Lamlash v Machrie Bay 9.20am, Brodick v Whiting Bay 11.50am. Please note that the course will be closed all day.

Whiting Bay Golf Club

Sunday November 27, stableford sweep. Eleven played on a fine morning in the current spell of good weather and after the heavy rains of last Sunday, the course had dried out well. Scoring was good with Gus Macleod scoring 40pts and winning by only one shot.

Magic twos went to Jamie Macpherson and Tom Paterson @4th and Nicol Auld @9th and 11th.

However, the shot of the day was undoubtedly Andy Martin's hole-in-one at the 11th. Well done, Andy, and thanks for the customary and generous clubhouse hospitality afterwards. 1 Gus Macleod 11, 40pts,

2 Jamie Macpherson 6, 39pts, 3 Douglas Auld 26, 38pts BIH, 4 Nicol Auld 4, 38pts.

Fixtures: Sunday December 4, AGA winter league v Brodick at Shiskine. First tee-off at 11.50am. Sunday December 4, Christmas tree party in the clubhouse at 2pm, see the WBCG website and Facebook page for full details.

Lamlash Golf Club

Sunday November 27, winter stableford. 1 A Wales 38pts, 2 Andy Smith 35pts. Scratch, A Wales 29pts. Magic twos, A Wales, A Winship and Alan Smith.

Fixture: Sunday December 4, AGA winter league at Shiskine.

Thursday December 7, yellow medal at 11am.

Brodick Golf Club

Wednesday November 23, Wednesday Cup. 1 Bert McGunnigle 76-13=63, 2 C O'Neill and J May with net 65s, Charlie had the BIH. Sunday November 27, winter cup, stableford. 19

played. Iain Keen 12, 44pts, Bob McCrae 8, 39pts, Bill Donaldson 17, 38pts. Great score from Iain which included 27 points for his last nine holes.

Fixtures: Sunday December 4, AGA Duncan Trophy v Whiting Bay at Shiskine. Also sweep, draws 9am and noon.

Corrie Golf Club

Saturday November 19, Winter Cup. 1 M Elliot 27pts.

Monday November 21, Monday Cup. 1 R Burke 68-8=60, 2 J McGovern 74-12=62. Scratch, R Burke 68.

Saturday November 26, winter cup. 1 A Smith 40pts, 2 D Logan 39pts. Two great rounds by Alan and Donald only decided by the final put.

Arran Golfers' Association

Fixtures: Sunday December 4, winter league/Duncan Trophy 2016/2017, second round at Shiskine Golf Club.

Draw: Shiskine v Corrie, 8.30am, Lamlash v Machrie 9.20am, Brodick v Whiting Bay 11.50am.

MEMORIAM

Mackenzie,

James

A loving dad who is always in our thoughts and heart. Love you always. June and James x

In Memory of Sarah who passed away 28th November 2015 from Mum, Sheena, husband Richard, Gran and Aunt Greta
Love you always

Clare Mills & Matthew O'Donovan

Married on 4th November, Clare, youngest daughter of Colin Mills of Shiskine and Eileen his late wife, at The London Rowing Club to Matthew O'Donovan of London. Having honeymooned in Borneo they are now living in Putney. Clare is executive assistant to the boards of Sence and Sence International and Matthew is a company accountant in the City.



Maintenance project will give discarded bikes a new lease of life

Arran High School Mountain Bike Club are delighted to have received money through the Lottery Fund young start scheme for a cycle maintenance project.

While increasing the club's maintenance capacity, their main aim is to engage Arran's young people in maintaining bikes for sport and sustainable ac-

tive travel. Significant social value will be added to the project by diverting unwanted or abandoned bikes from landfill and refurbishing them to make them



Pupils at work in their new bike maintenance workshop.



Club members intend to build up a bike 'library'.

safe for use. Working with Brodick's waste transfer station, the club will collect discarded bikes and transport them back to Arran High School so they can be worked on in the comfort of their new bike maintenance workshop. They intend to build up a bike 'library' to

add to their existing mountain bike fleet which will be made available to pupils free to loan at weekends and during holidays. Some of the refurbished bikes will be sold to fund the sustainable running of the project in the future. Pupils will also provide to peers, pri-

mary schools and community groups free bike MOT checks and repairs.

The pupils are keen to engage with local community groups to deliver cycle repair sessions which should create opportunities for anyone on Arran to cycle easily and safely.

Club enjoy winter ride out at Brodick Castle

The Arran Riding Club recently enjoyed a collective ride out from Brodick Castle. All ages were represented in the group of 23 horses and riders who set off together during a dry break in the weather.

The group explored the woods, enjoying views of the snowy hills, while the horses all coped very well with the natural obstacles that were encountered during the ride. The route saw riders and horses negotiating low branches, tight corners, steep hills, river crossings and one ominously slippery bridge with style.

Organisers thanked the National Trust for Scotland for allowing them to make use of the route. The next scheduled ride out will be on Wednesday December 28 or the following day, depending on the weather, and will include Christmassy refreshment incentives.



A large group of 23 riders enjoyed a ride out at Brodick Castle.

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Junior triathlon club celebrate their success

The Arran Junior Triathlon Club celebrated a successful first season with an awards ceremony held last Friday in Shiskine village hall.

The club, which was only formed in February, finished in a very respectable

fourth place among the 13 clubs in Scotland after the points gained by positions acquired throughout the season were added up. All 27 members received a trophy for their involvement and hard work during the season. The top boy award



All 27 members received an award for their participation.



Coach Craig Wood with the triathlon club prizewinners, Eilidh Hamill, James McCarthy and Rhea Webster.

was won by James McCarthy and top girl was won by Rhea Webster, while Eilidh Hamill received the athletes' athlete of the year award.

Coach Craig Wood said: 'All the young triathletes within the club have been fantastic and I am pleased to see we are going from strength to strength as a club.

'We now have four training sessions per week and have just purchased 15 turbo trainers so that we can keep training through the winter, and make a

bigger impact next season.' Any children interested in joining the club in time for next season can contact Craig Wood at wood10@yahoo.com.



Members of the club celebrate the team's success this season.

Weekend hockey games off

Arran Ladies hockey team had a double disappointment last weekend when both games were postponed.

Their trip to Glasgow last Saturday for their match against Rottenrow Bluesox 2s was called off as the pitches at Glasgow Green were frozen and, despite the Astroturf in Brodick thawing in time for Sunday's home game, the match was called off after Western Wildcat 3s were unable to bring a team over and have forfeited the points.

The ladies now have a festive break.

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING



Recycled paper made up 75.5% of the raw material for UK newspapers in 2004



Published by Wyvex Media, Brodick, Isle of Arran
Tel: 01770 302142 - Fax 01770 302021
E-mail: editor@arranbanner.co.uk



The Arran Banner's circulation is independently audited by the Audit Bureau of Circulations (ABC Ltd) - www.abc.org.uk. The total average weekly net circulation for the 52 issues between 31st December 2014 and 31st December 2015 for combined print and digital editions was 3,053.

The Arran Banner will continue to be independently audited.