



# the arran voice

the Isle of Arran's weekly newspaper.

## Plastic-free Arran

by Nick Underdown  
Chief Reporter

### Inside this issue

- **VisitArran: the backlash** p2
- **History on a disc** p3
- **Voicemail** p3 - p5
- **On The Green** p9
- **Arran Quilters** p10
- **Craig Masterton** p15

### Sports

- **Goatfell Race** p20
- **Poolside Powergames** p12-13



- **Football & Cricket Results** p22

### Special feature

- **Dining Out.** page 11

+ recipes, puzzles, letters, what's on and community & church news

The news that the Co-op's three island stores are expecting delivery of their new Fairtrade cotton Bags For Life within the next two weeks will be welcomed by Arran's eco-friendly community. The reduce, reuse, recycle motto has worked with most shoppers, and this new step will mean fewer plastic bags on the island – but could it bring an end to their use completely?

Arran's shopkeepers have looked with interest at the example set by the small village of Modbury in Cornwall, which has adopted an outright ban on plastic bags. This bold decision slapped Modbury firmly on the international map of green business and tourism. Residents adopted a no-tolerance attitude in February, often accosting visitors carrying plastic bags to alert them to the village's new and enlightened status. On Arran, with the imminent arrival of the Co-op cotton bags, many see no reason why we can't follow in Modbury's eco footsteps and go one better – by making Arran the first island in the UK to be a plastic-bag-free zone.

Currently 23,000 bags pass over the island's shop counters every week, and many business owners, including Elspeth and Russell Cheshire of Kildonan Stores, say they would welcome any initiative to help cut down on the plastic waste. Kildonan Stores alone go through 300-1,000 plastic bags weekly, with the polythene often ending up on the beach, where it is an eyesore and a threat to local wildlife.

*Above right: Brodick Co-op Manager Brian Edmiston hopes to be rid of poly bags soon*

*Left: 4,500 of these bags are coming to Arran*



Brian Edmiston, manager of the Brodick Co-op, says the company's national roll-out of the Fairtrade cotton bags, retailing at 99p, can only be a good thing. "Arran is the ideal place to create a plastic bag-free community, and with over 4,500 cotton bags due we are bringing enough to the island for everyone."

swallowed up as a result of the Co-op's initiative. Richard Roberts at the Arran Brewery, who already sells branded hemp bags, explains that the Co-op can launch a fabric bag for a reasonable price because it has the purchasing power to buy in bulk. Small stores on the island can't pitch their prices low enough to gain this advantage, so it's impossible for them to afford the switch. Arran Active found that out to their

However, many would-be green businesses are keen that their vital branding is not

*continued on page 2, column 3.*



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## COAST edge closer to success

The day the fishermen came out of their boats to talk to the COAST team on their home ground, COAST moved one step closer to their goal of having a no-take zone in Lamlash Bay.

For last Monday's live broadcast from Lamlash Bay, BBC News 24 had assembled all the parties involved in making the Lamlash Project happen in the near future, so expectations were running high. Howard Wood and Don Macneish represented COAST, and David Donnan was from Scottish Natural Heritage. Representing the mobile fishing interests were Patrick Stewart, Secretary of the Scottish Fishermen's Federation, and Alan McCreath and Kenny MacNab from the Clyde Fishermen's Association.

The general mood was one of optimism and friendship. "We're not here to oppose anyone," said Kenny MacNab. "We're here to see a way forward and find benefits for both sides in the argument."



Patrick Stewart of the Scottish Fishermen's Federation.

COAST want an area of Lamlash Bay to become a no-take zone, as the sea bed has been damaged by scallop dredgers. Evidence from a similar no-take zone in the Isle of Man proved that a no-trawling zone in one area allowed scallops to regenerate ten-fold and spread their seeds to the surrounding areas.

Patrick Stewart was in an upbeat mood. While he stressed that a lot more work had yet to be done to protect the fishermen's interests, he added that there was now a realisation that "we have to act in the name of society to protect the fisheries". He was also heartened by the fact that both sides had found yet more agreement. "We've shown the fishing industry that it's possible to find common ground with diametrically-opposed opinions," said Patrick, before nodding towards Don and adding, "we've worked with WWF on the Clyde Prawn Fishery so why don't we follow that with the Clyde Scallop Fishery? That would be a real badge of honour for Don and his team."

As the BBC crew packed up, the sense of relief that minds were coming together at last was palpable. "I've told the assassins to back down," joked Patrick. "Macneish is off our most wanted list."

It seems that real progress is being made between all the parties involved. Now it is the turn of the legislators to come up with the goods and legally implement Scotland's first 'no-take zone'.



COAST's Howard Wood chats with the Clyde Fishermen's Association members.

## New 'Islands standing working group' formed

The Council has opted for a new cabinet-style executive to replace its old committee system. The new 'streamlined' executive will be headed by 6 senior councillors, David O'Neill, John Reid, Peter McNamara, Tom Barr, John Bell and Margaret McDougall.

During Tuesday's council meeting, amendments to the proposed scrutiny powers of the committee were made, specifying an 'audit and standards function' to monitor the activity of the executive. The meeting was 'twice as long as normal,' said Margie Currie. This might be the shape of things to come, as under the new set-up,

the council will not meet as often as it has done in the past.

A new islands working group was formed comprising the 8 councillors from the two coastal wards covering Arran and Cumbrae. The chair and vice-chair of the Planning Committee will be decided next Tuesday.

continued from front page...

cost when Juliette and Andrew Walsh were quoted £3 per bag to go eco-friendly. Andrew suggests that co-operation to produce an 'Arran-branded' bag advertising a collection of local businesses may be the way to go.

Maureen McKenna recognises that the island's natural beauty is a key asset and says VisitArran would be interested in looking at any proposed environmental project to safeguard it. As a destination management company, VisitArran would provide the 'perfect vehicle' to harness any widespread community support for a co-operative approach. An 'Isle of Arran'-branded bag would do two jobs to enhance tourism: advertise key local businesses and fly Arran's green flag. Our status as the

UK's only eco island would be a unique selling point.

Overnight success may not be possible, however. Helen Wigley from Slidery Supplies believes an outright ban on plastic bags would be 'too drastic', with many people unwilling to pay for a fabric bag more than once. She believes the Irish approach, with a charge for all plastic bags, is the best one. However, that is a national strategy, and Arran will need to find its own way to become plastic-free.

*Given goodwill, the island may well succeed in this, with huge benefit to our daily lives and to Arran's reputation.*

## Wheely good kids

The island's primary kids are in for a tough challenge today, Friday May 25th, as the primary 6 and 7 classes take on the Cycling Proficiency assessment. Colin Kay and Joyce McKinnon from NAC's Road Services division will be putting the kids through their paces with both theory and practical tests. Good luck, kids!

Right: Johnny leads the other Lamlash cyclists.



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## History on a disc

A quarter century of Arran High School heritage work has been brought together in a new digital archive. An Isle of Arran Heritage DVD contains hundreds of articles by High School pupils with photos and written accounts of island life – from ghost stories of Glen Sherraig to the histories of Whiting Bay and the Craw farm in Catacol. The photos are eye-opening reminders of the island's past. And the accounts, often based on interviews with elder members of the community, bring Arran's heritage to life.

The project forms an impressive piece of work, condensing a huge volume of personal testimonies and archive images, and it has helped to connect the young people of Arran with the island's rich

heritage. The computer-compatible DVD was on sale at the open day at Lamlash High School on Wednesday and teacher Ian McLaren confirms that it is a great resource for people interested in Arran's past.



Above: The DVD intro page

Right: A project on Lochranza Castle

## Mystery oil slick in Brodick Bay

On the morning of Thursday 17th May a scrap metal lorry caught fire on the Market Road, releasing a quantity of diesel fuel into Brodick Bay. The small blaze was extinguished by the fire service but the exact cause of the incident is presently unknown, although police have confirmed that it was 'nothing malicious'. However, inquiries by the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency was unable to determine the actual source of the diesel slick.

SEPA was first notified on Thursday afternoon prompting two officers from Ayr to catch the first ferry over to Arran. On their arrival the source of the pollution was impossible to determine, although it did not appear to emanate from the vehicle's own engine. "It had almost all abated by the time we arrived," said environmental protection officer Gavin Ferguson. He went on to praise the quick-witted response of the local coastguards who had put oil booms on the surface of the water to contain the slick. SEPA are continuing to conduct enquiries.

## News in brief

### Local MP rues missed chance

Ayrshire and Arran's Westminster representative Katy Clark was the only Scottish Labour MP not to vote for Gordon Brown in last week's Labour leadership nominations. Katy had backed John McDonnell, supporting his positions on the Iraq war and private sector involvement in public services, and said on Thursday when Brown's rise to the premier post was assured, "I personally felt it was important for there to be a contest". She added that the undisputed appointment missed a 'huge opportunity' for widespread engagement of the three million party members who would have voted in a leadership battle.

### Quids in

A small amount of cash was found at 11am on Saturday 19th May outside the Book and Card Centre in Brodick. The owner of the money has two months in which to claim their misplaced pennies from Lamlash police station.

### Brodick arrests

A forty-nine year old male from Glasgow was charged with theft and a drug-related offence in Brodick on the 14th May. Another 49 year old male was apprehended on warrant in Brodick on the same day. He was due to appear in court the following day.

### Arran's new coppers

Lamlash police station has welcomed four new police officers to cope with the anticipated upsurge in incidents during the summer months when tourism swells Arran's population. Police Constables Steven Lessells from Irvine, Barry Stokes from Drumchapel, Julie Gray from Saltcoats and Peter Cullen from Largs have all joined the island ranks. Each of them will be partnered with a longer-established constable on the beat. Sergeant Murison said the new staff, none of whom has worked on Arran before, are enthusiastic about the summer posting. The boost in numbers will enable officers to keep a close watch on speeding and drink driving, two key areas of national importance to the force. Recent figures show that seven out of ten road deaths occur in rural areas and 60% of motorcyclists' fatalities happen in the summer. Peter Cullen says he is looking forward to 'seeing a different aspect to policing'.

### Planning Apps

On 15th May John Thomson Construction Ltd made a planning application for the determination of conditions for a mineral and mining site at the Dereneneach quarry site near Shiskine. The Forestry Commission has submitted a planning application for the construction of a road for use as a 'multi-user recreation route' in the Merkland Wood.

## Voice mail

We've received a lot of correspondence this week, which is continued on pages 4 and 5. We start with the first of many letters about VisitArran.

**At the Cheese Shop I quickly realised that by working with "Taste of Arran"** (10 food producers working together), it was a lot easier and cheaper to exhibit, advertise, pay sales people, and distribute produce. Combining our resources made sense and the combined efforts of the "Taste of Arran" group has made a much greater impact on the UK food industry than any one of us could have done alone.

There is no doubt that the Island's economy is reliant on the success of tourism. Should the above principles of combining efforts and resources not then apply when it comes to selling our island and encouraging visitors to come here and return? I think so and hence the need for Visit Arran.

When most people choose a holiday destination, it's because of what they have read or heard about the area, not because of a specific hotel or visitor attraction; therefore it makes sense to promote the Isle of Arran cooperatively, and as a package.

Who should be in charge? Well we can't all be. Visit Arran needs funding and it seems logical that those who are investing the most, and therefore have the most to lose, should have some degree of control. These people all run successful businesses and are very capable of making sensible decisions.

Your article suggested that the Visit Arran directors are not interested in the good of the smaller businesses. I know that to be untrue; I would suggest that a large part of the island's charm is the woodcarvers, candle makers, family dances in the village hall, and honesty boxes at some of the golf courses. How can smaller businesses not benefit if more visitors are attracted to the island?

For two years I was involved with Destination Arran which, according to your article, failed to succeed.

Here is how I remember it:

- Providing visitors with a new information desk on board the ferry.
- Publishing and distributing the Arran Passport and Quest (designed to get visitors to go round the island and spend outside the three villages).
- The industry dinner.
- Campaigning for and getting better signage to the ferry on the mainland.
- Visitors Survey
- Personally guiding eight parties of overseas tour operators and travel writers around the Island.
- Ambassador awards.
- Being the stepping stone for the formation of Visit Arran.

We are used to cooperating within communities and businesses on Arran. Surely Visit Arran is an extension of that, aimed at maintaining and improving the local economy and securing a future for our industry.

Gordon Kinniburgh  
Island Cheese Company.

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# Editorial

Last week, it looked for a few alarming hours as though lives on Arran might be in danger. After a 'big brute of a man' was heard to be muttering about suicide in Mac's Bar, where his tattoos, skin-head and long black coat made him an object of suspicion, Chinese Whispers soon had it that a maniac was running wild on Brodick beach, threatening people with a gun. The police swung into action, deploying extra forces, a helicopter and full back-up for a potentially critical situation.

There was no gun. Nobody was threatened, and the man whom the police picked up from Goatfell gave no trouble, merely saying he felt 'a bit unstable'. He was taken to Kilmarnock Court on Monday and released on bail. Inevitably, mutterings started about waste of police time and public money. The facts behind the case, however, more than justify the full response. Scott Morrison, the man in question, had served time for attempted murder, and had been deported from Australia for threatening to kill a policeman whom he thought to be having an affair with his girlfriend. Police confirmed that Scott was 'volatile and dangerous'.

Policing is an emotive subject. Some see the police as our protectors, protecting society from criminals, while others regard them as a prejudiced group, always ready to believe the worst of under-privileged people. It's easy to complain that they over-react or under-react. We all carry an internal ache of grief over the tragedy of Dunblane, and ask, too late, whether warning signs might have been ignored, but equally tragic was the panicky extremism that led to the shooting by police of an innocent man in Stockwell. When mistakes of that magnitude are made, they leave a terrible mark. The memorial in Dunblane Cathedral is a silent reminder, and to this day, people who live near Stockwell underground station put flowers on the shrine of remembrance they built against the wall outside.

Lapses, however tragic their results, cannot condemn an entire professional body. As the closing line of 'Some Like It Hot' so memorably says, "Nobody's perfect". The police, acutely aware of their responsibility for public safety, have an absolute duty to respond to a situation that seems likely to be dangerous. If the information they receive is a bit wide of the mark, causing them to put a lot of resources into an exercise that might not have been essential, we should not carp. Next time – though we fervently hope there will not be a next time – we might have cause to be grateful.

## Quote of the Week

*"I don't really understand what a website is."*

Mr Justice Peter Openshaw, the judge conducting the trial of three alleged Muslim cyber-terrorists, reported in the Guardian 19.5.07

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# Voice mail

If I may, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate **Kenneth Gibson** for winning the election for the constituency of Cunninghame North, and to offer my commiserations to fellow candidates Campbell Martin, Lewis Hutton and, in particular, to former MSP for Cunninghame North, Allan Wilson. I had been waiting for the question of a possible legal challenge to be resolved, but I believe this saga rolls on.

I would also like to thank those who actually took the trouble to vote – whether by post, proxy or in person. The Fairlie polling station was in the Village Hall, where a dignified and respectful War Memorial pays tribute to the sacrifices which have ensured we enjoy freedom and democracy today. The fact that almost half our electorate couldn't even be bothered to vote is a rather sad indictment of society, and little short of an insult to the memory of those commemorated on that particular war memorial, as well as the many others on Arran, across North Ayrshire and Scotland as a whole. I would also like to pay tribute to the many wonderful and interesting people I have had the pleasure to meet on my campaigning, and to thank those who chose to give me their vote on 3rd May. I will continue to take a great interest in Arran and North Ayrshire, and perhaps someday I may even get the opportunity and privilege to represent them at Westminster or Holyrood.

*Philip Lardner,  
 Scottish Conservative & Unionist Candidate,  
 Cunninghame North*

### It's a pity that anything that smells of success always has its detractors!

Its a greater pity that the proprietor of a visitor centre which hosts a number of tourist ventures cannot see the benefit of being involved in collaborative marketing by joining VisitArran. I submit that there is no external agency that can better market Arran than one run on the island by islanders.

Destination Arran was indeed successful as far as its limited three year funding allowed and it did not have an endorsement for direct marketing as has VisitArran. From it evolved VA, backed by a wholly credible consultant who helped to establish the Destination Management Organisation (DMO), a concept which has been hugely successful in Aviemore and, though relatively new to the UK, has a proven track record in other countries dependent on the tourism industry. Not only have a number of Arran businessmen put "their money where their mouth is" but other outside agencies such as VisitScotland and North Ayrshire Council are backing VisitArran – NAC by a pledge of £30,000 over three years.

Those who, like me, are old enough to remember the original Tourist Organisation on Arran (to which nearly all businesses then

subscribed) will also remember that it was very successful. It was when the control moved off the island that a complacency set in which did little for Arran's tourist industry. VisitArran is a new chance to bring marketing back in house.

Are we now too large and diverse a community to pull together? It was proved so recently as the election that we did unite to ensure an island council member and I am grateful to have been given the post. I now see it as part of the job to advise all involved in tourism in any way to get behind this initiative to increase quality service, to extend the season by offering facilities beyond the summer months and by generally enhancing visitor experience on this exceptional island.

There has been a similar reluctance or apathy in the island's support of the Arran Access Trust, a body which over the last ten years has, through the management of grant funding, improved access to the hills and shores, the natural outdoor attractions that have over many years drawn most of the traditional visitors to Arran in the first place. The Trust needs a modest subscription from businesses to be able to maintain paths and stiles etc. because the original grant funding does not provide for subsequent upkeep. AAT will collaborate with VisitArran to integrate the common theme which is to provide the visitor with the best experience of all that Arran can offer. This is part of the bigger picture along with accomodation and travel provision.

VisitArran will not be successful if everyone adopted the wait and see attitude. It needs proactive involvement now. There's plenty of competition out there worldwide and we throw up this opportunity at our peril and to the detriment of the entire tourist industry on the island. I commend the directors who have committed their time and money and done a tremendous amount of work to get VisitArran on the go. The launch at Ormidale Pavilion was an excellent and a generous initiative. If you have faith that your own tourist business, however small, is worth pursuing then you must have faith in, and support, what I truly believe is the best marketing opportunity that Arran has ever had. To do otherwise will fragment the image of Arran as such a special tourism destination.

*Yours,  
 Margie Currie*

**The Arran Mountain Rescue Team would like to thank Lady Jean Fforde** for her very generous donation of £432.50 - this being the proceeds of the open garden day held at Strabane on 12th May 2007.

*If you would like to write to us on any subject, please do so.*

*E-mails (always more preferable but certainly not mandatory) can be sent directly to [voicemail@arranvoice.com](mailto:voicemail@arranvoice.com). Regular mail can be sent to our address on this page.*

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# Voice mail

As those who visited the successful launch of VisitArran will know, Arran Aromatics is one of over forty local businesses that have (so far) agreed to support Visit Arran. In response to your article "Visit Arran – the backlash", I would like to explain a few of the reasons why we have done so.

While we locally promote Home Farm, a significant proportion of our Island sales actually come from visitors who others have brought to the Island. I would suggest that this is equally true of other Island Visitor Centres (even restaurants, golf clubs and dare I say it, local newspapers). While perhaps not getting "shares in their business", it is true to say that we benefit from the investment accommodation providers of all sizes make in attracting visitors to the Island. Rather than begrudge contributing to the future promotion of the Island should we perhaps apologise for not having done so sooner?

I would suggest that the larger businesses, to which the charge of self promotion is levied, do not need VisitArran to promote themselves to a wider audience – they already do so quite effectively. What they can't achieve on their own is the true VisitArran objective that I would recognise, improving the overall experience enjoyed by each and every visitor to the Island. This can only be achieved by the concerted efforts of the Island as a whole.

By its very existence VisitArran has already raised the profile of Arran among key local and national decision makers, who alone can be influenced to change some of the issues raised in your article. Without the amazing efforts of the Directors and staff of VisitArran (of which I would stress I am not one) it would not exist. What is equally certain is that without the active wider support of organisations of all sizes, VisitArran will not achieve all that it could. How powerful is an organisation that can truly represent the full diversity of all Arran has to offer?

However much success VisitArran achieves I would suggest that we will be the richer for having contributed to its efforts in seeking success than from standing back and contributing to its failure. In life there is no money won betting on a race which is over.

Yours sincerely,  
Alastair Rennick,  
Managing Director,  
Arran Aromatics Limited

I refer to your article Visit Arran: the backlash. It is refreshing to see an article that brings into the open the differing views on VisitArran. The article only gave the view of the 'dissenters' and the chairman. I would like to put a different point of view forward from a non-dissenting small business.

Robbie or I have attended every meeting of VisitArran to find out what it is all about – initially we were very sceptical. Meetings have proved to be very open with plenty of lively debate between varied island businesses. I'm convinced that contributions from these meetings have been a major influence in the direction that the DMO is taking.

At the meetings it was made clear that it would be necessary for projects to be split between working groups, and the people responsible had to be trusted to deliver. I am involved in one such group. It involves people from diverse businesses around the island but all have a particular expertise to bring to the table. It's definitely not a closed shop for big business only. However, there is a need for regular updates on each of the working groups' progress. Silence is not necessarily golden and maybe this has led to people feeling that there is a closed shop operating.

There is no magic formula to make this an overnight success, but sitting back and waiting isn't going to help. Anyone complaining about a major lack of involvement need look no further. Maybe they could be involved in addressing one of the island's major issues and could ultimately contribute to the longevity of the DMO.

Angela Elliott-Walker,  
The Glenartney

I was most interested to read that if I paid the Forestry Commission £2 this weekend I would be allowed to drive my car over several miles of rutted track dodging potholes and piles of loose gravel. Don't we have the privilege of doing that every day of the year on the A841?

Andy Surridge

### Smaller vandalism

An observant reader has corrected the report about vandalism in last week's edition. The letters in question were 6 inches high, not 6ft as reported.

(Outrage evidently enlarges the vision. Ed.)

### ADVERTISING TERMS

1. The deadline for receiving advertisements is 5pm on the Monday prior to publication. At this time the Publisher reserves the right to create, repeat or substitute any copy missing from booked space.
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5. Cancellation of any advertisement must be

received at least 24 hours prior to the publication deadline. Any refund will take account of any block-booking discount that no longer applies due to cancellation.

6. Any error must be notified to the Publisher within 14 days of publication. A re-insertion or refund of the price paid for the incorrect advertisement will be offered only if that error materially detracts from the advertisement.
7. The Advertiser (or their Agent) agrees to indemnify the Publisher in respect of any liability arising from publication of their advertisement, however caused.
8. The Publisher reserves the right to refuse any advertisement.

OUR RATECARD IS ONLINE AT  
www.arranvoice.com



**WOOLEYS OF ARRAN**  
**Bakers for the Island.**

Breads, Rolls, Scones,  
Savoury Pies & Cakes

Sandwiches and Filled Rolls

Hot Take-Away and Drinks

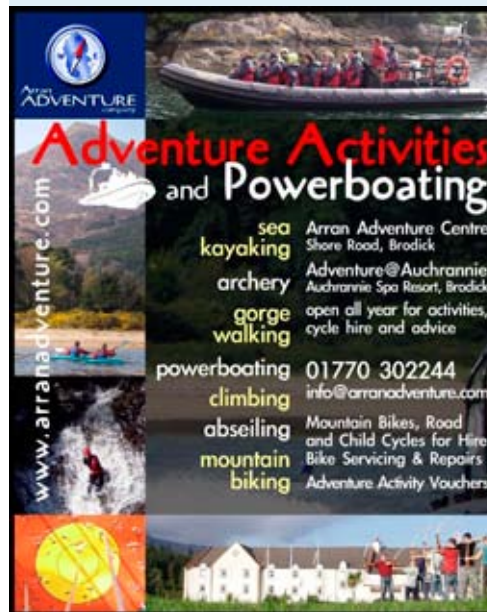
Local Fine Foods and  
Delicatessen items

Bakers of the famous  
*Arran Oatcakes*




**Arran reared**  
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Delivered frozen to your door  
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## Practical help for Creative People – FREE!

Does the term, ‘Business Plan’ fill you with dread? Do you wonder how to make contacts out there in the daunting commercial world? If so, have a look at the Cultural Enterprise Office (CEO). To quote its own words, “We offer a free business information, advice, development and support service for individuals and businesses operating in Scotland’s creative and cultural industries”.

This immensely useful and friendly service was set up a couple of years ago to provide practical, realistic help for those who grapple with the daunting demands of the business world when their training and instincts have equipped them with very different skills.

The May 2007 bulletin can be downloaded free from:

[www.culturalenterpriseoffice.co.uk](http://www.culturalenterpriseoffice.co.uk), and offers a huge range of help. Choose from a Music Business Seminar for Students on May 29th, or June seminars in Edinburgh and Glasgow, on ‘Creating Contacts’ and ‘Presentation

and Negotiation Skills’ respectively. Beginners are offered sessions on starting out as a creative practitioner. There’s information available from the CEO’s expert Legal Adviser about protecting your work. Trade events and fairs are listed, and individual advice sessions are on offer.

Phone the CEO on 0844 544 9990 for more information, or e-mail: [info@culturalenterpriseoffice.co.uk](mailto:info@culturalenterpriseoffice.co.uk).

*If you want to talk to someone in person, drop in at 350, Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow.*

## Wildlife Week bashed by weather

With the Waverley trip redirected due to heavy seas and poor attendance at many of the outdoor activities, it appears rain may have dampened the spirits of the adults during Arran Wildlife Week. However, there was no shortage of messy fun to be had for the kids. Glue, glitter, feathers and sequins flew across the room in a frenzy of creativity during the Burnside Gallery’s Wildlife Art Workshop. The kids

had been charged with fetching and identifying bugs with the help of Alistair and Neil, two rangers on special secondment from Eglington Country Park. It was then up to the gang to make a bug book to take home. A couple of messy hours later, the books were looking mighty fine... rumours that the pages had all stuck together by the time they got home were unfounded!



## New hope for ancient chapel

From the standing stones on Machrie Moor to the Viking fort at Kings Cross, Arran has many historic landmarks. However, few are as steeped in history as St Bride’s Chapel in Lamlash. A place of worship since the early 14th Century, it has played host to many notable figures – in life and in death. Mary Queen of Scots’ grandfather, James IVth attended mass there in 1504 and, in more recent years, Helen Asquith, first wife of the then Prime Minister Herbert Henry Asquith, was buried within its graveyard.

St Bride’s, also known as St Bridget’s and Kilbride Chapel, also has a very local history. Long-standing Arran names such as Bannatyne, Wooley and Currie are all represented on the headstones, some dating back to the early 18th Century. Up until 1875 the graveyard only held commemorative headstones as the islanders were buried on the Holy Isle, but when a funeral party drowned on the way over to the island the focus shifted to the land around St Bride’s. “Legend has it the rescuers saw a shaft of light which pointed the way to the chapel.”

However, roofless since 1870, the

building and its contents are now in a sorry state, covered by vegetation. One previous attempt to restore the site was led by Don McNeish in 1999, but the cost of the scheme quickly put the kibosh on it. Now, however, the Lamlash Improvements Committee has the bit between its teeth again. Led by its Secretary, Carol Mitchell, it has teamed up with Historic Scotland, Strathclyde Building Preservation Trust (SBPT), National Trust and North Ayrshire council to form a steering group led by project managers SBPT. “Don did some great preparatory work but the cost just overwhelmed people,” says Carol. “But we have to do something



now – St Bride’s will be lost if nothing is done in this generation.”

The plan is not to restore the chapel, but rather to consolidate it and halt its slide into further disrepair. The first stage of the planned works is to clear the site and get a handle on exactly what is under all that ivy. “We hope to involve the community from schoolchildren upwards in the on-site recording work and then to work with local volunteers to clear the vegetation from the

building,” says Sarah MacKinnon, Chief Executive of the SBPT, who is managing the project. “The work will require considerable care because of the delicate condition of the building but we hope to see a marked change in the site over the summer.”

The project is also seen as an opportunity to train local craftspeople in traditional building skills. “On Arran we have an opportunity to preserve an important example of this type of building,” says Sarah, “and to provide an exemplar project to encourage other communities to take similar action.”

As well as the physical work, a lot of research is needed to establish the history of the site so Carol Mitchell is seeking volunteers willing to give up their time and expertise to help with all aspects of the work.

*If you would like to be involved, call Carol on 600808.*

## The Arran Voice Photo Competition 2007

# 2007 Digital Photo Competition

The Arran Voice team is happy to announce their new Photo Competition, to run until August 31 2007. The competition is open to anyone - young or old, resident or tourist, with prizes including a digital photo frame, a Kodak camera, digital processing vouchers and memory cards.

### How to Enter

The theme is “Wild Thing”. That should leave plenty for the imagination. We’re not restricting you to Arran, either.

### Format

We can only accept digital images, taken from digital cameras. Please do not send prints.

### How to send your images

Please send your images to the email address below. You should send only one image per email and only 3 images per person will be

allowed. Please include your name and contact details.

Your images must not be more than 5Mb each, so please down-size them if you are taking them on a high-spec camera.

**When submitting your entries, please remember to include:**

Your name and your telephone number.

Thanks.... and good luck.

### Rules, terms, etc...

We will be publishing the entries on our website during the summer. Visitors can vote for their favourite shot and whoever gets the most votes, wins.

### Entries:

Only 3 images per person allowed.

Only digital images are accepted and only ones that have not been modified, other than any necessary post-processing to adjust brightness/contrast etc...

Photos do not need to be Arran-specific.

We reserve the right to delete any photos which we believe are defamatory, illegal, in breach of copyright law or are not in keeping with the nature of the competition.

### Voting

Voting dates to be announced.

Voting will be done by anyone who has signed up to the Arran Voice website. One vote per member.

ENTRIES MUST ONLY BE E-MAILED TO [photos@arrandatabank.com](mailto:photos@arrandatabank.com)

### Prizes:

We reserve the right to amend the prizes (make/model, etc) according to availability of stock at the draw date.

No cash alternatives are offered.

Overseas entries are welcome. We will source equivalent prizes for any overseas winner.

### Deadlines:

Closing date : August 31 2007.

Winners announced September 7th 2007

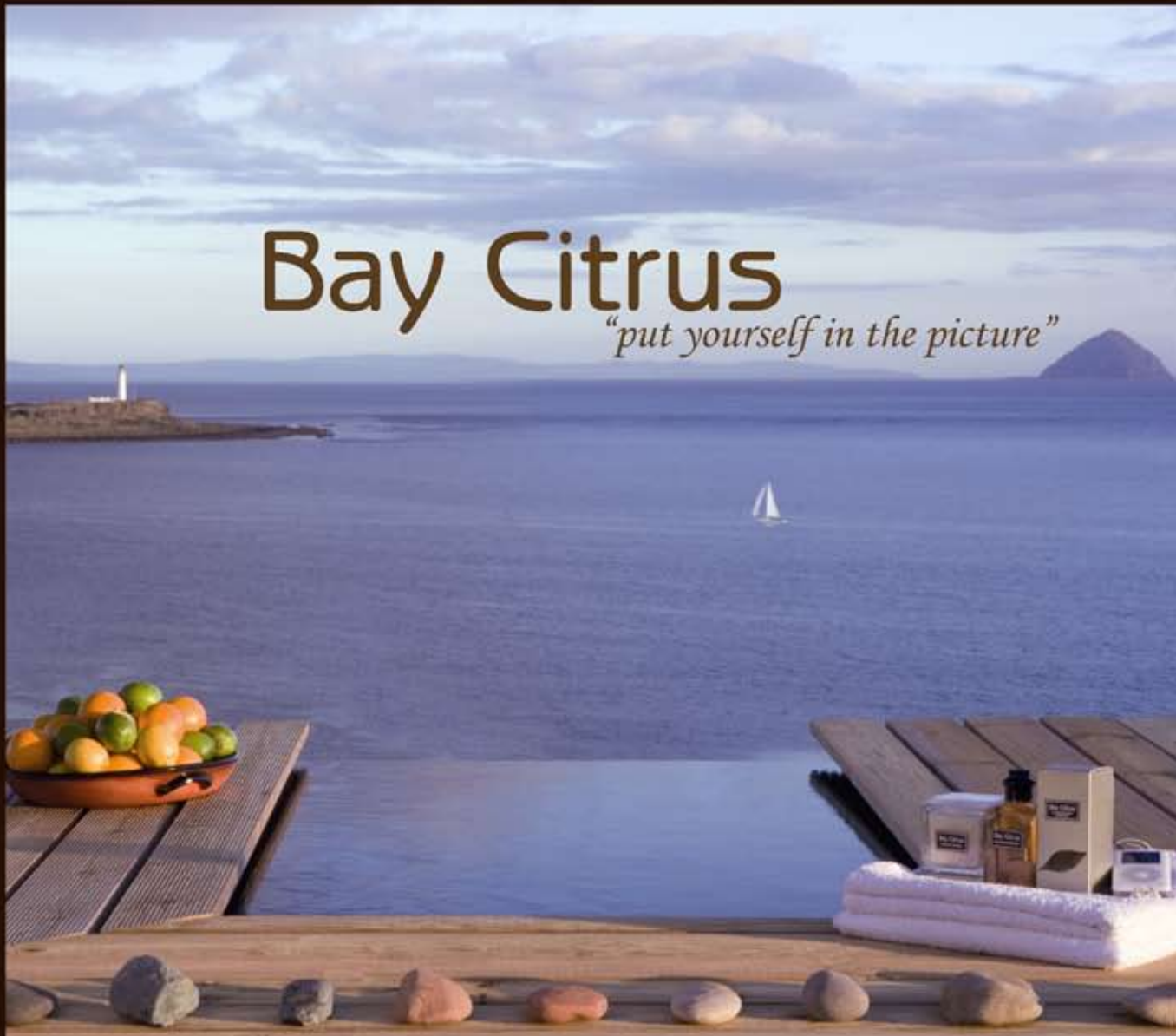
In the event of a tie, the overall winner will be judged by our editorial team.

By entering this competition, you are allowing *The Arran Voice* to display your photography in the newspaper and in post-competition results in any print or web format.

*The competition is not open to any Arran Voice staff or management.*

*Prizes are donated by Arran Graphics.*

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t: 0141 248 5242  
[www.arranaromatics.com](http://www.arranaromatics.com)  
[info@arranaromatics.com](mailto:info@arranaromatics.com)

# Out & About

## Daily Events on Arran

**Every Day**  
Brodick Castle & Country Park.  
Gardens open at 10am. Castle 11am-4pm

Art Exhibition Paintings by Ronnie McNeice at Brodick Castle. (May)

Arran Heritage Museum, Rosaburn, Brodick. Opens at 10.30am

Arran Art Gallery, Shore Road, Whiting Bay.  
Open 7 days 11am- 5pm.

The Burnside Gallery, Exhibitions, Sculpture garden. Auchrannie Road, Brodick. Open daily all year round 10.30am to 5.30pm

Main Fine Art, Michael Main Gallery, Douglas Centre, Brodick. Opens 10am-12.30pm & 2pm-4.30pm.

Hawk Walks with Ian Struthers. Phone Ian on 600544

Isle of Arran Distillery. Opens Mon-Sat 10am-6pm. Sun 11am-6pm

South Bank Workshop & Studio (between Kilmory & Kildonan). Open Wednesday to Sunday 10am-5pm

**Every Monday**  
Senior Fitness, Auchrannie Spa Gym 9.30am-10.30am & 10.45am-11.45am

Circuit Training, Auchrannie Spa Gym 6pm -7.15pm

Weight Wise, Hospital Bungalow 6.30pm -7pm

Legs, Bums & Tums, Kildonan Hall 6pm -6.45pm

Fitness Yoga, Kildonan Hall 7pm -7.45pm

Rink Games at 6.45pm at Brodick Bowling Club (May)

Summer Bridge, at Hirsell, Shore Road, Lamlash at 7pm for 7.15pm. All welcome. Please phone 600900 to book in.

Open Folk Session with Earthworks at the Kildonan Hotel 9pm

**Every Tuesday**  
Arran Runners meet at Dyemill car park, Lamlash. Juniors: 5pm, Seniors 6pm.

Legs, Bums & Tums, Auchrannie Spa Studio 6pm -6.45pm

Painting classes, Ranger Centre, Brodick Castle at 7.30pm

Pop Music Quiz, 10pm at the Ormidale Hotel

**Every Wednesday**  
Aquafizz , Auchrannie Hotel Pool 9.45am -10.30am  
Archives & Genealogy at Arran Heritage Museum, Open 10.30am-12.30pm and 1.30pm-3.30pm

Coffee morning at Lamlash Church, 10.30am-noon.

Rink Games at 2.15pm at Brodick Bowling Club (May)

Circuit training, Auchrannie Spa Gym 6pm -7.15pm  
Hockey, Auchrannie Hall 7pm -8pm

Open Folk Session 9pm at the Aldersyde Hotel

**Every Thursday**  
Senior Fitness, Auchrannie Spa Gym 9.30am-10.30am & 10.45am -11.45am  
Outdoor Cricket Practice, Sannox Oval at 6pm  
Pilates, Auchrannie Spa Studio 6pm -7pm  
Belly Dancing Classes, Lamlash Church Hall 7.30m.

General Knowledge Quiz, 10pm at the Ormidale Hotel

**Every Friday**  
Aquafizz, Auchrannie Hotel Pool 9.45am -10.30am  
Over 21's Disco 10pm at the Ormidale Hotel

**Every Saturday**  
Karate, Auchrannie Hall 11.30am -12.30pm

RNLI shop, Lamlash open from 2pm-4pm

Brodick Bowling Club, Rink Games at 2.15pm (May)

Over 21's Disco, 10pm at the Ormidale Hotel

**Every Sunday**  
Family Games, Auchrannie Hall 2pm - 3pm

RNLI shop, Lamlash open from 2pm-4pm

Open Folk Session 9.30pm at the Ormidale Hotel

**Wednesday, 30 May**  
Exhibition of Arran Paintings by William Lees at Corrie Hall.

Guided Hen Harrier Walk at 3pm. Meet at Kilmory Hall. Please call Lucy Gibbons 07899 675131 for bookings.

Jack the Ripper, 8pm at Brodick Hall. Tickets from Book & Card Shop

Chicago Music Explosion, 9pm at the Aldersyde

**Thursday, 31 May**  
Exhibition of Arran Paintings by William Lees at Corrie Hall

Mountain biking at 6pm meet at Lamlash Fire Station  
Jack the Ripper, 8pm at Brodick Hall. Tickets from Book & Card Shop

Arran Garden Club - preparing for Chelsea by Jim Jack, Lochranza. 7.30pm at Shiskine Hall

**Friday, 1 June**  
Exhibition of Arran Paintings by William Lees at Corrie Hall.

Jack the Ripper, 8pm at Brodick Hall. Tickets from Book & Card Shop

**Saturday, 2 June**  
Exhibition of Arran Paintings by William Lees at Corrie Hall.

Jack the Ripper, 8pm at Brodick Hall. Tickets from Book & Card Shop

The Swillbillys, 9pm at the Aldersyde

**Sunday, 3 June**  
Exhibition of Arran Paintings by William Lees at Corrie Hall.

Lochranza and Catacol Village Hall Open Gardens, 11am - 4pm. £4 includes Cream Tea in hall.  
St. Bride's Church, Lochranza will be open and welcomes visitors.

The Swillbillys, 9pm at the Aldersyde

My stab at the weather was good last weekend, but as usual with long range stuff, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday got a bit muddled. As Patrick Young said, "The trouble with weather forecasting is that it is right too often for us to ignore and wrong too often for us to rely on."



Stef Holmer

## Stef's Stab At The Weather

### General Summary for 25th-30th May

A ridge of high pressure is moving towards Europe through the south of the country at first, bringing lots of sunshine to England and Wales. However, Scotland will come under the influence of a developing area of low pressure triggering some showers over the weekend. Things will then turn more unsettled with strong winds possible from the north west and becoming cooler into the beginning of next week with frequent showers.

Just by the way... if you are heading over to Europe at the weekend, it's lovely and warm, although Greece could catch some rain and Germany could come in for some thunderstorms.

### Details

Friday: Quite mild at around 14°C with a fresh westerly breeze. Sunny periods more likely in the morning but with showers developing in the afternoon. Good for all kinds of outdoor activities.

Saturday: The wind will swing round more to the north west bringing cooler conditions at 11°C. Not a strong wind, but not much sun either. As with Friday there will be a better chance of sunny periods in the morning. Anyone watching the Cup Final? May also be a day for a trip to the mainland.

Sunday: Still breezy from the north, and cloudy with more rain coming along in the afternoon. Becoming cooler at around 10°C, and this is a holiday weekend! But then again, visitors may be inclined to make more use of our local businesses, leisure facilities, craft shops etc.

Monday: A bit of an improvement. Becoming milder at 13°C as the wind swings round to the south and could become much stronger. The cloud may become a bit more broken allowing for some sunny periods, but a strong chance of showers.

Tuesday: Continuing to become milder at 14°C with some nice sunny spells in the morning, and a light breeze from the south east. But oh dear, here comes the rain again later in the day.

Wednesday: Quite a nice mild day with a light breeze, a fair bit of sun and scattered showers.

### Ferry Notes:

There are fairly strong winds forecast for Arran in the latter part of the weekend, but so far Ardrossan Harbour looks OK. Would be a good idea to check wind forecasts nearer the time if travelling on Monday.



## This week's special events on Arran

**Friday, 25 May**  
Johnny & the Jetpatchers, 9pm at the Aldersyde Hotel

**Saturday, 26 May**  
Guided Hen Harrier Walk in Kilmory at 3pm. Please call Lucy Gibbons 07899 675131 for bookings.

Dyemill/Kilmory forest road open between 11am and 4pm. Access from Dyemill only. £2 per car

Arran B, 9pm at the Aldersyde Hotel

**Sunday, 27 May**  
First Shiskine Guides Car Boot sale, 10am-12noon at Shiskine. In aid of the Switzerland trip.

Exhibition of Arran Paintings by William Lees at Corrie Hall.

Guided Hen Harrier Walk 3pm, Kilmory Hall. Please call Lucy Gibbons 07899 675131 for bookings.

Dyemill/Kilmory forest road open between 11am and 4pm. Access from Dyemill only. £2 per car.

Tonto's Horse, 9pm at the Aldersyde Hotel

**Monday, 28 May**  
Red Cross Coffee Morning in aid of the transport & escort service, Whiting Bay Hall from 10.30am - 12noon.

Exhibition of Arran Paintings by William Lees at Corrie Hall.

Jack the Ripper, 8pm at Brodick Hall. Tickets from Book & Card Shop

**Tuesday, 29 May**  
Exhibition of Arran Paintings by William Lees at Corrie Hall.

Guided Hen Harrier Walk at 3pm. Meet at Kilmory Hall. Please call Lucy Gibbons 07899 675131 for bookings.

Jack the Ripper, 8pm at Brodick Hall. Tickets from Book & Card Shop



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[www.blackwaterfoot-lodge.co.uk](http://www.blackwaterfoot-lodge.co.uk)

Next Curry Evening is June 10th

## Submit your articles and news...

If you would like to submit an article, review or any news, please write to us at our usual address or email us at: [info@arranvoice.com](mailto:info@arranvoice.com).

## Old Byre Showroom

Machrie

## Sheepskin Shop

Brodick



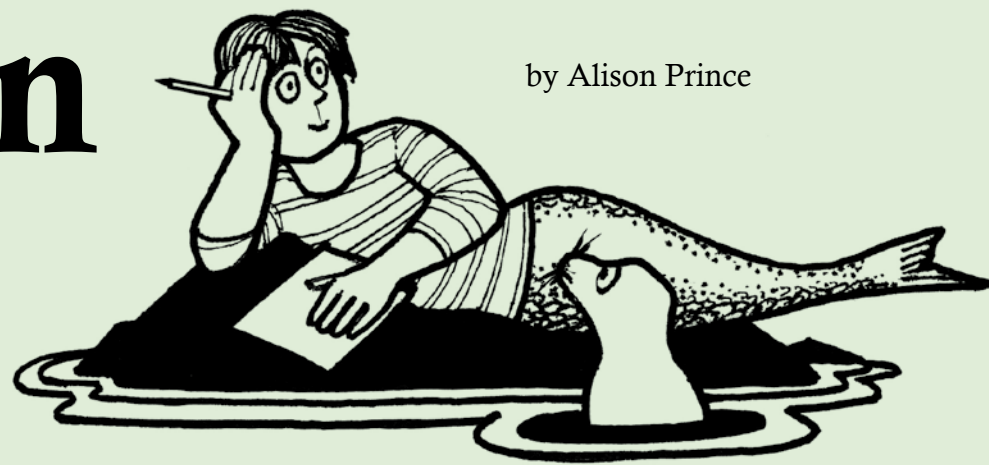
Extensive range of knitwear, Aran sweaters, sheepskin & travel rugs, leather bags, childrenswear and much more.

Open 7 days at Machrie and 6 days Brodick 10am-5pm. Tel 840227, [www.oldbyre.co.uk](http://www.oldbyre.co.uk)



# On the Green

by Alison Prince



Last week I snuck off to Dublin with friend Ann, for a few days of pottering about in Irish culture – and no, it isn't just Guinness and leprechauns, so you can forget that straight away. In fact, for the first day or so I wasn't sure if it was Ireland at all. Everyone seemed to be speaking Spanish or Polish or Chinese, and a brown-faced band of Rumanian women in ragged, colourful skirts and headscarves begged money for their babies up and down O'Connell Street, just as they do at every traffic light on the way into Brussels.

Dublin has gone very European – at least, superficially. The tourist industry seems to have been taken over by foreign nationals who deal smoothly with queries in every possible language (except, I suspect, Irish) and you have to look deeper for the real thing. It's there, though. A couple of men having a fag break on the steps of a bank pointed the way to Christ Church with a small chuckle. "That'll be two Hail Mary's from us, now." Irishness isn't far below the surface.

Tourism gives up when it comes to culture. It supplies the maps and the buses and provides the visitor centres, together with all the stuff sold therein, but there are no foreign accents among the curators and guides. Every one of them seems utterly

fascinated with the treasures now in their charge, and their knowledge comes tumbling out at any sign of interest. In the National Museum, a question put to a curator about the famous Tara brooch resulted in twenty minutes of detailed information as we were led from one beautiful thing to the next. "Of course," he said as we approached the later exhibits, "Cromwell did a lot of damage". He smiled gently, lest we should think he was being discourteous. Ireland's history has much that impels a Brit to apologise, though everyone is extra-nice when you say you are from Scotland. And there is so much to enjoy.

I brought back a postcard of a little boat made of beaten gold, no more than eight inches long and as simple as an almond shell, its projecting oars cat-whisker fine, the slim mast set to carry it over every ocean of the mind. And on a different but no less marvellous scale, I think back to the interior chamber of Newgrange, where the flat stones forming the corbelled ceiling are interleaved like playing cards, secure and cementless, unchanged for over five thousand years.

Leaping the centuries almost to our own time, the National Library had a fabulous exhibition about Yeats. It made clear just how vitally aware that great poet had been of the ancient, continuous spirit that runs

through the ages, and how desperately he had tried to put a finger on the mechanics of mystery. His wife, Georgie, was a medium who during trance-states produced 'automatic writing' that came, they both felt, from somewhere beyond the conscious brain. Weird, perhaps, and yet honest. People who know they stand on the edge of the unknown should never pretend to be normal.

From the mystic to the mundane. From Yeats to the idiocies of Ryanair. This once pleasant little airline has turned into a monster, and must surely stand as a dreadful symbol of what happens when the old respect for the human situation within natural life gives way to a lust for profit. Small, non-logical humiliations seem designed to reduce the traveller to a dumbly enduring package, since protest simply raises the blood pressure. (Mind you, it's almost worth dying on one of their horrible planes just to get one's own back.) Check a bag on the return journey? Ah, yes, over there, seven euros fifty. There

are 5,000 people between here and over there. It's not seven-fifty, it's twelve-fifty. Do you take sterling? No. Credit card? Um, all right. Now go to the back of the queue and check in all over again. Whew. But we're not finished. You can't pass this gate without putting your small bag inside your less-small one. Take it out afterwards? Shrug. Do what you like afterwards, but you're not going through here with that handbag. One of the teenagers who now seem to run the whole outfit gave a furtive look round and agreed, "It's a nightmare".

What's more, it's a magenta nightmare. Prestwick now assaults the eyes with this appallingly violent colour, on huge posters, on crowd-restraining tapes and in the seam-strips of the teenaged airport staff. Never again. In my dreams, I cross the Irish Sea in a small golden boat with oars as fine as cats' whiskers, but I guess I'll have to settle for Aer Lingus. At least its planes are coloured a decent shade of green.

the  
**wee**  
voice

*Our junior contributors, The Wee Arran Voice Team, discuss the season's clothing trends.*

***Yikes! It's summer!***

Indeed, summer is here again and no, the colour of the season is not black, unfortunately. Here at the Wee Voice, the thought of having to put on beach clothes makes us clutch our black hoodies in horror before curling up in a suitably dark corner. OK, maybe it's not that extreme, but for us, and many others like us, the thought of renewing our wardrobe for summer is a prospect which fills our hearts with fear and somewhat empties our wallets...



So what is actually in fashion this season? Mark our words; we should all be very afraid! For a start, the summer dress is certainly a big hit this season, with bold 'retro' prints and bright colours, also expect fashionistas to shell out on high-waisted tweed skirts and sailor boy-style blue and white-striped shirts. Pastel and neon make-up plasters the faces of many fashion-conscious celebrities, making them resemble a group of brightly coloured bugs – the greenfly of the clothing industry.

But apart from giving us an excuse to look through dodgy women's magazines, fashion has a much darker side. It's not just the skinny models and the frankly ridiculous prices (at both ends of the scale!) that we have to worry about. No, it's the manner in which fashion is produced and sold; the sweat-shop production of goods and the endless surpluses of non-recyclable materials. All remain even when the latest style suddenly changes. Least importantly, but just as shocking perhaps, it's the slow and horrific realisation that you have actually bought that mustard suit and oversized glasses.

***Summer style? No thanks!***

*The Wee Voice Team this week is: Zoë Tomalin and John Tilbury (both 14 years old) and a slightly unnerving obsession with tweed, just between you and me!*

# Arran quilts in *Loch Lomond exhibition*

Five quilts from Arran were on display in the Loch Lomond Quilt Show from May 16th-19th.

These stunning, intricately patterned creations were made by quilters Pat Nicholls, Isobel Rankin and Jean Chappell and formed part of an exhibition of work from other Scottish islands such as Islay, Lewis, Orkney and Skye. Quilting is a skill that can't be hurried, but the Arran quilters regularly gather in Brodick to work together and exchange ideas... and catch up on chat. The ladies in the group testify to the sociable and sometimes therapeutic side of quilt-making – and there is practical use, too, for their quilts often end up as beautiful spreads for relatives' beds or wall hangings for the home.



Above: Pat Nicholls' quilt for the Loch Lomond quilt show



Above: One of Jean Chappell's quilts for the Loch Lomond show - this one entitled 'Memories of Canada'.

Above: Isobel Rankin's for the Loch Lomond show entitled 'Bow tie tricks'

# Has your garden been *invaded*?

**Small, deadly and destructive, the New Zealand Flatworm is a threat to Scotland's gardens and agricultural land.**

The small beasts have been here on Arran for many years and it seems there are now few gardens which remain unscathed. The problem is, they feed on our native earthworms, the very thing which keeps our soil healthy, and result in reduced fertility of our land.

A Scottish Office Agriculture and Fisheries Department survey showed the initial spread of flatworms was slow and mainly in botanic gardens, nurseries and garden centres. However, by 1994 it was usually found in domestic gardens. Now the New Zealand flatworm is probably mainly spread by the exchange of plants between neighbours and friends, or by unwitting gardeners doing simple, seemingly innocuous, things such as adding shop-bought compost to their soil, or even planting seed potatoes.

**Argh!  
I have flatworms,  
what can I do?**

- Make a trap area. They like moist, shady areas so lay out a weighted plastic bag and look under it at regular intervals.

They will probably lay eggs under there and you should find a few adults. These can be disposed of quickly in a jam jar of salt.

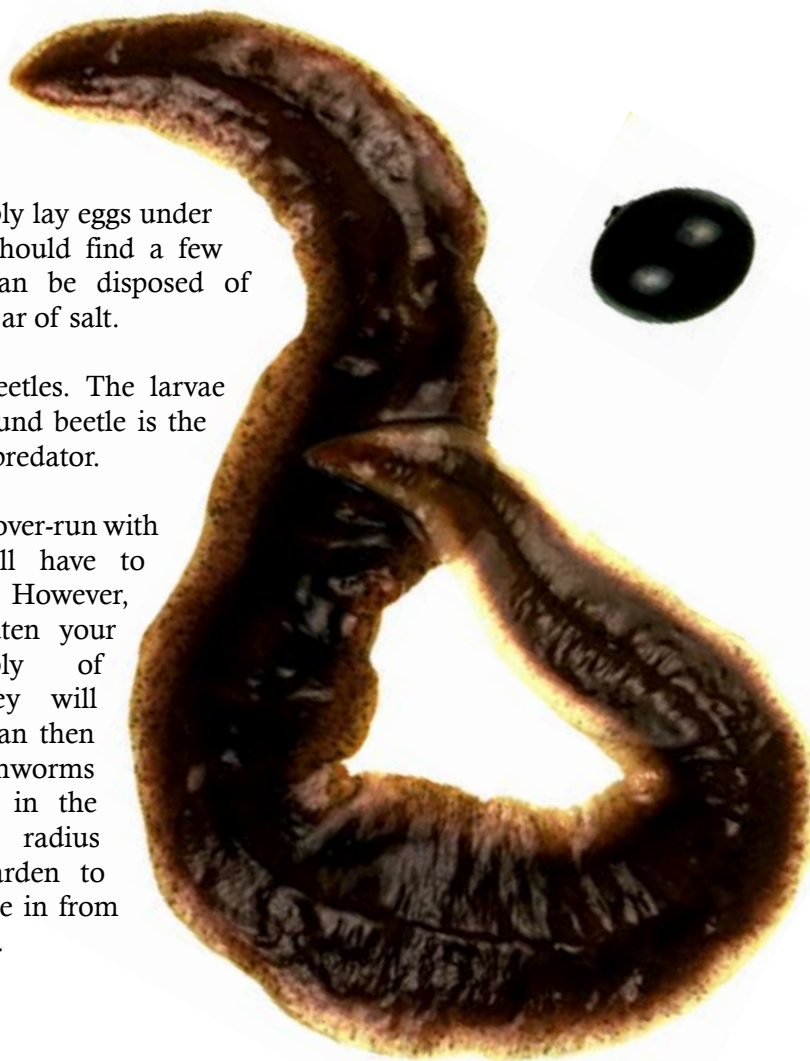
- Love your beetles. The larvae of the black ground beetle is the flatworm's only predator.
- If your land is over-run with flatworms, you'll have to grin and bear it. However, once they've eaten your garden's supply of earthworms they will move on. You can then reintroduce earthworms by cutting slits in the ground in a radius around your garden to give them a route in from your neighbour's.

**Phew!  
I don't have  
flatworms, how  
can I avoid them?**

- To keep the worm population healthy, use good organic gardening practices, such as propagating your plants from seed and making your own compost. Don't 'import' anything to your garden.

**How can I help?**

We would like your help in tracking the invaders down. If you spot one in your garden email us at: [info@arranvoice.com](mailto:info@arranvoice.com)



## Arran re-drawn

David Hilton, the artist who published a hand-drawn map of Arran in 1993, has now launched a new edition, updated to include many of Arran's latest features and attractions. The original map sold over 4,000 copies on the island and was a popular souvenir for Arran's tourists.

New additions include the Distillery at Lochranza, opened in 1997, and the Caledonian Isles ferry, which arrived on the scene almost immediately after the first map's publication. The map shows the Buddhist Retreat centre which replaces Glen Scorrodale farm on the Ross Road - and it's so up to date, it even includes the new Arran High School building!

Elements of the old map which had to be removed include Ollie the Llama at North Sannox, who sadly passed away. The Southbank Farm Park has now closed, so the pink spotted pig also had to be deleted.

The newly updated map is available at craft shops in Whiting Bay, Lamlash and Brodick, as well as Duchess Court Shops (Brodick) and on the ferry.



David Hilton, with his latest map of Arran

### Spaghetti Fun-Fair!

Every **Saturday and Sunday** evening «Spaghetti Fun-Fair» from 6 till 9pm at the **Argentine Guest House in Whiting Bay.**

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# Dining Out

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If it's Bank Holiday Weekend, it must be time for a treat. Foodies have a great choice here on Arran, with everything from freshly caught sea bass to fantastic vegetarian dishes on the menu in our finest eateries.

Roasts are the order of the day at the Glenisle Hotel in Lamlash and their homemade soup is cracking, although it has strong competition across the road in the Old Pier Tearoom where Robert and Lindsay's chicken and sweet-corn is hard to beat. Up the hill in the Fairways Restaurant at Lamlash Golf Club, local ingredients such as wild sorrel, used as a sauce for chicken, and a rather spectacular homemade pudding of apple lasagne.

If savoury pasta's your thing, head to The Argentine Hotel in Whiting, where Italian food is served up by Swiss-German Bruno and his wife. It's confusing on the multi-national front, but tastes great nonetheless. Fans of local produce can get their fix at either the Corrie Tearoom or the Machrie Tearoom, from where the Arran Voice recipes originate.

For a beautiful panoramic view of the Mull of Kintyre, head to the Shiskine tearoom where, by day there's home baking galore, and by night a la carte dinners are served up in a relaxed atmosphere.

Finally, if you like live music with your food, Brodick's McLaren Hotel has a rock'n'roll show on Saturday night and 3-course special menu, or you could opt for the a la carte menu featuring fresh scallops, langoustines and sea bass.

If that hasn't whetted your appetite, nothing will.



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The heat of the Auchrannie Pool may have been stifling but the competition between the island's primary school swimmers was even hotter during the annual **Primary Swimming Gala**. With thirty races to be won and lost the stakes were high. The stars of the show were Lamlash's Neil Hunter and Georgie Wood of Whiting Bay, who each scooped the Champions' race. It seems they both have a glittering sports career ahead of them, with Neil, the eldest of swimming teacher Sally Hunter's super-fast boys, citing Olympic champions Ian Thorpe and Michael Phelps as his heroes. He aims for a role as a gym teacher here in Arran. 11-year-old Georgie's hero, on the other hand, keeps it in the family. "My Papa Mick in Birmingham is my hero because he runs triathlons, and I'd like to thank my coach Ingrid Sloss and her son Glen." With a winner's speech like that you just know she's going to go all the way.

**P1 Girls**  
1st Emily Armitage, Whiting Bay  
2= Kirstie Kerr, Brodick  
2= Megan Hamill, Shiskine

**P1 Boys**  
1st Innis Thorburn, Shiskine  
2nd Duncan Coyne, Brodick  
3rd Jaden Lemay Simpson, Whiting Bay

**P2 Girls**  
1st Maili Beaton, Pirnmill  
2nd Jessica Miller, Whiting Bay  
3rd Danielle Mutch, Whiting Bay

**P2 Girls**  
1st Lucy Crawford, Shiskine  
2nd Abbie Robert, Brodick  
3rd Anna Crisp, Lamlash

**P2 Boys**  
1st Ryan Wilson, Brodick  
2nd Marcus Fforde, Corrie  
3rd Lyle Robertson, Kilmory

**P3 Girls**  
1st Fiona Bulger, Corrie  
2nd Katie Ross, Pirnmill  
3rd Abbie MacAlister, Shiskine

**P3 Boys**  
1st Joel Armitage, Whiting Bay  
2nd Trefor Goronwy, Coddie  
3rd Romney Soong, Brodick

**P4 Girls**  
1st Ellie Miller, Whiting Bay  
2nd Erin Hamilton, Shiskine  
3rd Gabrielle Allison, Lamlash

**P4 Boys**  
1st Ben Leslie, Lamlash  
2nd Harry Anderson, Brodick  
3rd Fraser Mackenzie, Whiting Bay

**Girls' Champions Race**  
1st Georgie Wood, Brodick  
2nd Gillian Anderson, Brodick  
3rd Lois Crawford, Shiskine

**Boys' Champions Race**  
1st Neil Hunter, Lamlash  
2nd Ewan Bulger, Corrie  
3rd Nicolas Relf, Shiskine

# Poolside Po

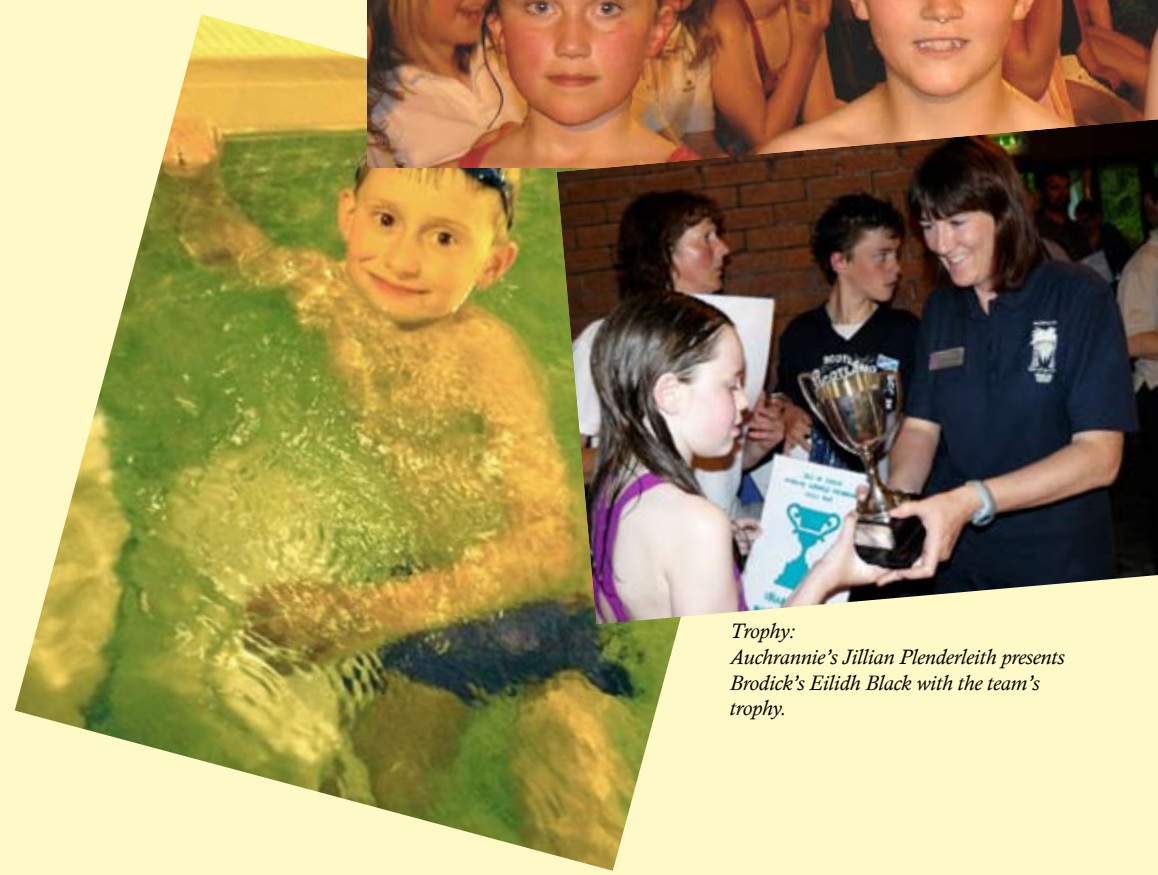
## The result

Champions:  
Georgie Wood & Neil Hunter.

Corrie's Ewan Bulger strides in for s



Below: Ben Leslie of Lamlash won the P4 race.



Trophy: Auchrannie's Jillian Plenderleith presents Brodick's Eilidh Black with the team's trophy.

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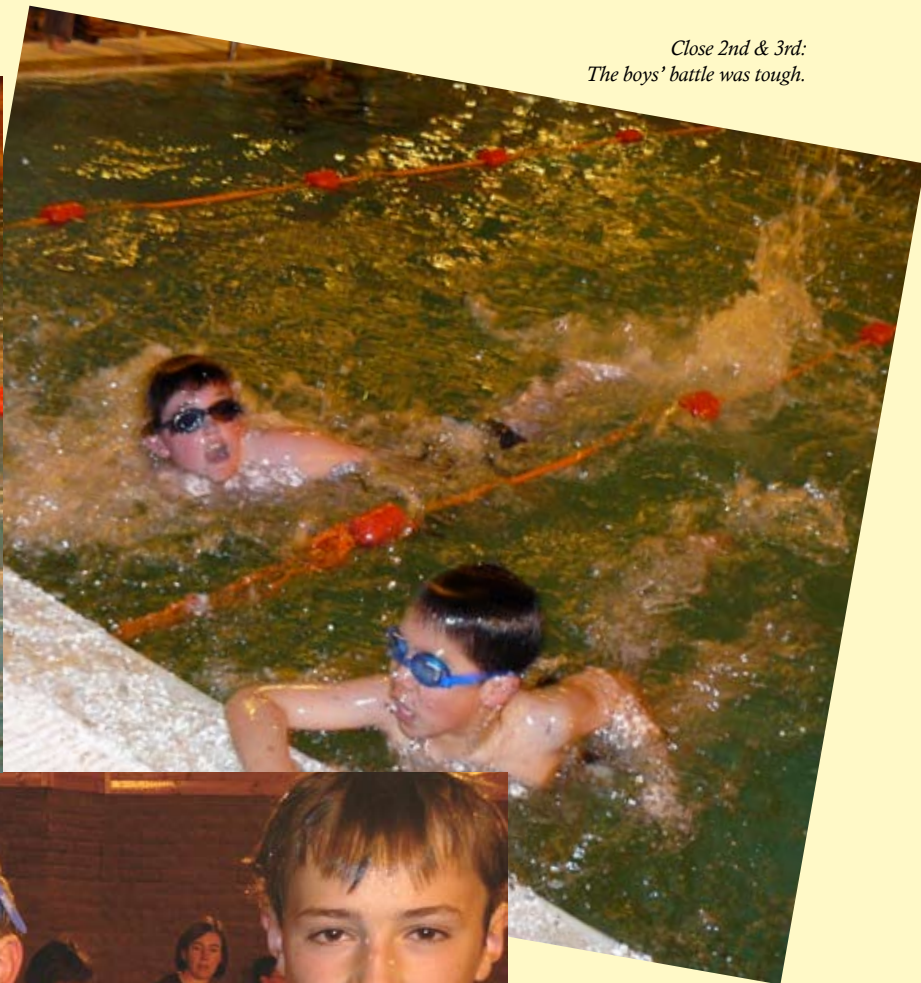
ROOMS AVAILABLE FROM £30 CAMRA GOOD BEER GUIDE 2007



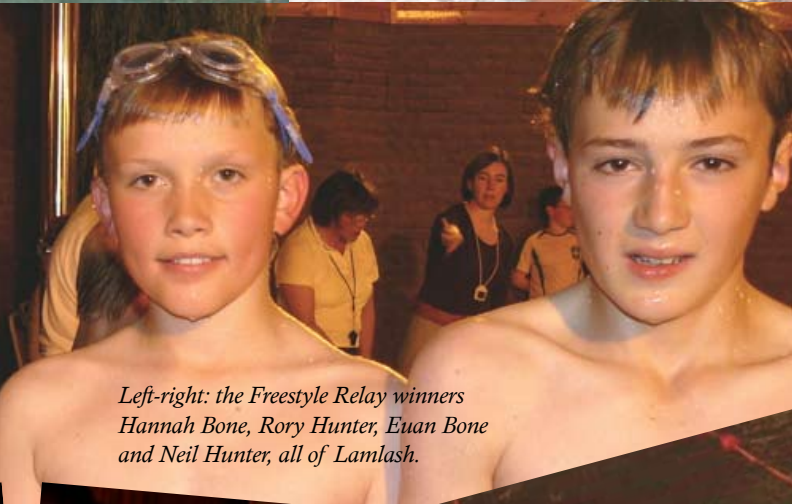
# Powergames

... in full...

...second place in the P7 Front Crawl.



Close 2nd & 3rd:  
The boys' battle was tough.



Below:  
Rory Hunter  
of Lamlash

Left-right: the Freestyle Relay winners  
Hannah Bone, Rory Hunter, Euan Bone  
and Neil Hunter, all of Lamlash.



Team glory:  
Brodick's Eilidh Black, Gillian Anderson,  
James McAleer (plus Erin Boal), scooped the  
Medley Relay title.



**P5 Girls, Back Crawl**  
1st Gemma Bennet, Shiskine

**P5 Boys, Back Crawl**  
1st Sam Sneddon, Pirmill  
2nd Struan Robertson, Shiskine  
3rd Allan Dillon, Kilmory

**P6 Girls, Back Crawl**  
1st Megan McGill, Whiting Bay  
2nd Sophie Marriott, Whiting Bay  
3rd Ceile Swinton Boyle, Brodick

**P7 Girls, Back Crawl**  
1st Lois Crawford, Shiskine

**P7 Boys, Back Crawl**  
1st Nicolas Relf, Shiskine  
2nd James McAleer, Brodick

**P5 Girls, Breast Stroke**  
1st Taylor Smith, Shiskine

**P5 Boys, Breast Stroke**  
1st Rory Hunter, Lamlash  
2nd Fraser Blain, Corrie  
3rd Roy Soong, Brodick

**P6 Girls, Breast Stroke**  
1st Lucy Latona, Lamlash  
2nd Eilidh Black, Brodick  
3rd Anna Hamilton, Shiskine

**P6 Boys, Breast Stroke**  
1st Euan Bone, Lamlash  
2nd Hamish Hamilton, Shiskine  
3rd Jordan Crawford, Shiskine

**P7 Girls, Breast Stroke**  
1st Lauren MacAlister, Shiskine

**P7 Boys, Breast Stroke**  
1st Ewan Bulger, Corrie  
2nd Ross Bell, Brodick

**P5 Girls, Front Crawl**  
1st Erin Boal, Brodick  
2nd Ailsa McMillan, Brodick  
3rd Katie Morrison, Kilmory

**P5 Boys, Front Crawl**  
1st Rory Hunter, Lamlash  
2nd Roy Soong, Brodick  
3rd Finlay Murchie, Shiskine

**P6 Girls, Front Crawl**  
1st Anna Hamilton, Shiskine  
2nd Shannon McAllister, Lamlash  
3rd Sophie Marriott, Whiting Bay

**P6 Boys, Front Crawl**  
1st Euan Bone, Lamlash  
2nd Gordon Crawford, Shiskine  
3rd Ryan Armstrong, Whiting Bay

**P7 Girls, Front Crawl**  
1st Georgie Wood, Brodick  
2nd Gillian Anderson, Brodick  
3rd Lois Crawford, Shiskine

**P7 Boys, Front Crawl**  
1st Neil Hunter, Lamlash  
2nd Ewan Bulger, Corrie  
3rd Ross Bell, Brodick

**Medley Relay**  
1st Brodick  
2nd Shiskine  
3rd Lamlash  
Small Schools Winner: Kilmory

**Freestyle Relay**  
1st Lamlash  
2nd Whiting Bay  
3rd Corrie  
Small Schools Winner: Corrie

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# Ripping Musical in store

Any controversy surrounding the Arran Music and Drama Club's decision to produce 'Jack the Ripper' has clearly spurred the cast and crew to reach new theatrical heights. The Arran Voice gained a preview last week of an energetic, entertaining and provocatively powerful production.

Preparations for the musical have been tough as some of the actors have had to skip the occasional rehearsal to study for exams, but new talent from the High School has ensured a vibrant and energetic atmosphere. The committee wondered if the younger members of the club could handle 'Jack the Ripper' as it is a modern and challenging work, but members wholeheartedly voted in favour of it. Steve Garroway, Arran's font of knowledge for all things actor-y, described it as a break from some of the classic but over-performed shows that so often find their way on to the amateur stage.

mythical bogeyman and heightened public awareness of the squalor endured by people living in London's most deprived areas.

Director Maureen Smith warns that some of the language 'isn't very PC' – but it paints a realistic picture of how life was in 19th-Century East London. Amid the fun and vulgarity of some characters the play has some piercingly moving moments. As the body of one of the Ripper's victims lies on the stage, the actors fall silent. The girl was just 15.

The provocative posters for the show now on view have transformed an innocent lane at Paterson's of Arran into a shadowy backdrop. The police were notified, so the April photo shoot did not arouse any local suspicions!

• *The show starts in Brodick Hall on the 28th May. Tickets are on sale at the Book and Card Centre in Brodick. Other enquiries, call Maureen Smith on 600 488.*

The play recounts the events of 1888 when Jack the Ripper carried out a series of gruesome murders, preying on prostitutes working the streets of East London. Although not the first 'serial killer', the Ripper was arguably the first murderer to attack a number of victims in a city with a literate population and a press campaigning for social change. The media coverage turned the unknown killer into a



*Helen Todd, Jessica Gillson, Emily Tilbury, Fiona Rodriguez.*

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2. M Bruce & D Bruce  
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# Blowing his own trumpet

A profile of Craig Masterton  
by Chris Atkins

Next month sees the culmination of four years' dedication and hard work as Arran Schools Brass Band goes on tour around Lake Garda in Italy. This is the realisation of Craig Masterton's lifelong ambition.

## Craig Masterton

Musician, Leader of Arran Schools Brass Band  
Favourite music: big band, Scottish, lute and opera. Age: 26, single (and open to offers!)

Four years ago Craig Masterton moved from Irvine to Arran, to become Brass Instructor at Arran High School and three primary schools – Brodick, Lamlash and Whiting Bay. The post quickly grew from two to four days a week on Arran, enabling Craig to visit all the other primary schools on the island, where he teaches the recorder.

Combining comradeship with commitment, Craig has brought out the very best in his pupils. "Getting children to practise at home can be the trickiest part," he admits, "so to encourage them I introduced a practice log book scheme." This has proved so successful that North Ayrshire Council has adopted it as a teaching method.

Arran Schools Brass Band comprises 38 pupils, aged from 9 to 18. Four years ago they could not read music and most had not played an instrument before, but their progress has been amazing. "The standard rose so quickly it surpassed all my expectations," Craig says. "Trying to keep them supplied with suitable music has become quite a challenge." Craig himself wrote a memorable piece for them to play at the Arran Ambassador dinner in 2006 and next year hopes to commission a composer to write more music for the band.

It wasn't an easy start. "We had very limited instruments of poor quality. A call from Arran's schools to those further afield in North Ayrshire



Below: Conducting the School Band and (above) Lake Garda

for more instruments attracted lots of broken ones held together with Blu-Tack and Sellotape! After a year we got ten new instruments; this year a further twenty." North Ayrshire Council has been a big help – and Craig himself is tireless. Every Tuesday he visits five different primary schools, and then returns to Brodick Primary as choir master – a role he duplicates on Friday evenings at Glebe. And at the moment he is running residential musical weekends in preparation for the band's visit to Italy.

Craig is amazed by the way the island community has supported the trip. "It's fantastic – you ask people to do something and they do it." Some parents have even jumped out of aeroplanes on a sponsored sky dive. Transporting and accommodating the band abroad is expensive, so fundraising has been essential. Last Saturday

saw the band packing bags at the Co-op. They have a signed Scottish rugby ball to raffle, and on Tuesday 19th June they are giving a pre-tour concert in Brodick Hall. Don't miss it!

During the six days they are away, the Arran Schools Band will be sole performers at three separate outdoor concerts. Off duty, they will enjoy a day trip to Venice, visit a theme park and take a boat trip around Lake Garda. "It's something they'll remember for the rest of their lives," says Craig. "When I was in the school band we toured Austria – a fantastic experience to see another culture and to play abroad. Two years later we went to Lake Garda and I decided then that if I ever had a school band this is what I wanted to do. I want them to have what I had."

The band is flying to Italy, but public transport

could not guarantee to deliver all the instruments in one piece at the right time. Couriers were too expensive, so one of the parents volunteered to drive a van across. "We're hoping to promote Arran when we're out there," Craig says. "We're taking VisitArran leaflets and Arran Aromatics products to give away at the concerts. We would have taken Taste of Arran products too but space is very limited in the van."

Sadly, there's a down-side to this brilliant story. Craig will soon have to leave the island, due to the lack of affordable housing. "I will still teach here two days a week," he promises, "but I really need to get on the housing ladder, and even on a decent salary I can't do that here." This will be an appalling loss for Arran, but Craig is not daunted. "People think I'm crazy," he says, "but I'm already planning the next trip for 2009."

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# The Arran Inquisition

*This week the inquisitee is Iain Struthers, well-known for running the Co-op in Lamlash for many years until he recently retired.*

## Name?

*Iain Struthers*

I was actually christened John – that's a terrible thing to do to anyone.

## Age?

62 and a bit –  
I'm 63 in September.

## Occupation:

I'm retired but I'm now a falconer.

## What really gets your goat?

Racism or religious bigotry. The assumption that just because someone has a different belief system makes them worse than someone else is just something I can't stomach.

## How do you like to relax?

Just wandering through farmland and across hills with my three dogs, Gale, Suzie and Axel.

## Where wouldn't you live, on Arran?

Probably Brodick because it's a bit too close to being a town rather than a village. I originally come from Wishaw which is a great place to come from but not a great place to stay.

## Global warming means Arran disappears into the Firth of Clyde. How would you spend your last few days on the island?

Somewhere high! On top of Dun Fionn, the hill on Claulchlands Point. You can think up there – if you have a brain. There's a sill of pitch stone high up there where 4,000 years ago people sat napping scrapers and arrowheads. It's wonderful to pick up pieces of stone that no one has touched for 4,000 years

## I'm happiest when....

Complaining. I complain about everything and anything.

## The last time I laughed was...

About five minutes ago – at someone else's misfortune. That usually gets me.

## Brodick Co-op or Ardrossan Asda?

I'd have to say the Brodick Co-op. I'm on the Co-op committee, you see. I try to get the best deal for Arran members.

## What committee (actual, or fantasy) would you like to be chairperson of?

A special committee against interfering bastards coming over from the mainland. People who try to make it more like the place they come from and ignore the views of the indigenous population. That annoys me no end. I've lived here for 30 years but I don't pretend I'm a local – my opinion is not better than the people whose roots are here.

## The last time I danced was.....

At my niece's wedding six years ago. I think it was the fourth time since I got married 35 years ago.

## Ebay or Arcas?

Arcas. I go there not infrequently.

## If the ferry sank halfway, would you swim for Arran or Ardrossan?

Arran! Without a doubt!

## I would most like to meet.....

Konrad Lorenz. He was the father of ethology which is the study of animal behaviour and he wrote King Solomon's Ring. He's given me an insight into understanding myself, people and animals. Anyone who thinks we're not animals is daft. I've always been obsessed with animals. Over the years we've had highland ponies, horses, foxes, badgers, snakes, stoats, mink and birds. And cats and dogs as well, of course. At one point we had 22 dogs.

## The last book I read or CD bought.....

"Fortune's Road" by 'Back of the Moon'. It's traditional Scottish music and Gillian Frame's wonderful.

## My earliest memory is.....

Being a very small boy and standing in front of my friend's Clydesdale horses. I remember being totally amazed by them.'

## The most expensive thing I've bought on Arran (excluding property)

My daughter's horse, Tessa. She's a chestnut and she nibbles my ear when I groom her.

## If I could be anyone else for a day I'd be...

Nobody. I'm happy with me after all those years working in the Co-op. I retired from managing the Lamlash shop at midday on the 7th of the 7th last year.

## Wind turbines: green machine or eyesore?

A bit of both

## Dream dinner date: what would you eat and who with?

My wife, Helen, and I'd have a big juicy steak with blood dripping out of it, onions on the side and some potatoes. Helen's would be well done and she'd do without the veg. I'm the only vegetable she likes.

## I spend most of my day....

I get up to take the dogs out, then go and see the horse in Brodick. If it's dry I'll fly a couple of the hawks, walk the dogs again, then have dinner and watch TV or something brainless like that. I also hunt hares and any marauding deer who venture onto farmland

## The great unanswerable is.....

Somewhere in Monty Python's 'The Meaning Of Life'.

Are you brave enough for the Arran Inquisition? If so, answer these questions and email or post your response to us.

This week's recipe:

## Spinach with Bacon & Roquefort

by Mark Williams of the Machrie Tearoom

I find it hard to think of spinach without picturing Popeye sucking cans of it through his pipe. Is there such a thing as the Spinach Marketing Board? I bet they couldn't believe their luck when his muscle-popping antics were beamed into millions of homes. How refreshing to see a delicious wholesome food being forged into children's consciousness for a change. Try to steer clear of the canned stuff, though – the fresh leaves are in season right now.

Always an extremely versatile ingredient, one of the simplest ways to prepare spinach has to be quickly sautéing it in browned butter with salt and plenty of black pepper and a sprinkle of freshly grated nutmeg. Definitely the best way to taste its sweet, nutty, iron-packed goodness. Alternatively, try this more upmarket version...

### Ingredients:

500g spinach  
200g Roquefort  
2 slices of bread cut into croutons  
4 slices of bacon, crisped  
Freshly chopped wild garlic  
Olive oil  
Balsamic vinegar

Toss the young spinach leaves in a frying pan with a little olive oil and balsamic vinegar, then add the crisped bacon, Roquefort, wild garlic and crutons. Serve when the cheese is just beginning to melt.



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## No dog days for off-duty Briar

An injured hill-walker was lucky to receive the expert care of the Mountain Rescue's Neil Bulger and his search dog Briar last Friday. Neil and his dog were out for a walk on Goatfell when Briar disappeared for about 10 minutes.

With a well-trained bark she indicated to Neil that she had found someone in need of help. As Briar was 'off-duty', Neil was unsure whether it was serious, but noticing the persistence of his rescue dog, he tailed her through the scrub. Sitting close to the water treatment plant in High Corrie was

a 57 year old holiday-maker with his face covered in blood. He had taken a head-first tumble into the burn and cut his nose and face, apparently to shreds.

Neil carried out a preliminary clean-up of the injuries and the man was then taken to hospital for some minor treatment. "I have never heard of an 'off duty' dog locating a missing or injured person," said Neil. "When she's not working she doesn't usually react and turn into work mode, but she did this time."

Neil Bulger with search and rescue canine heroine Briar



## Note of Appreciation

Members of the Arran Branch of the Royal British Legion travelled on three return journeys on the Caledonian Isles on Saturday 19th May and collected £471. This will be divided between the three Service charities of Erskine Hospital, Hollybush House and the Ghurka Welfare. Once again the members of the branch would like to thank all those who contributed so generously, and also say a thank you to the Captain and crew of the Caledonian Isles for their assistance during the journeys.

Alan Milligan,  
Public Relations Officer,  
R. B. Legion (Arran Branch)

## Roots of Arran Annual General Meeting

Roots of Arran will be holding its AGM on Saturday 23rd of June at 5pm in Kildonan Hall. It will be preceded by a barbeque and followed by a social to celebrate the achievements of our volunteers at Lag a Bheith. All are welcome at this meeting to hear what has been happening over the last year and find out what is being planned for the future.

We look forward to seeing you.

## Windfarm consultation closing

The consultation period for the proposed Arran wind farm closes next Thursday 31st May. Arran Windpower Ltd sets out full details of its proposals in its 'scoping report'. This hefty document can be downloaded online, or a hardcopy can be viewed in the Arran Library and the Lamlash Council Offices.

## Mapping out... ...our future mental health services

The first phase of NHS Ayrshire & Arran's 'Mind your health' project will culminate in a major conference called 'Mapping out our future'. This takes place on Thursday 7th June at the Park Hotel, Kilmarnock, and will bring together 300 people, including users of mental health services, their carers and families, as well as staff from health services, local authorities and voluntary organisations.

The project started with a major conference in December 2006, followed by workshops focussing on a range of services ranging through mental health provision for adults, children, adolescents and elderly people, as well as more specialist services dealing with such topics as addiction and intensive care.

Kirsten Major, Director of Strategic Planning and Performance, and Chair of the 'Mind your health' project, explains: "The purpose of the workshops was to encourage people to tell us what they thought about current services, and describe what would make the biggest positive difference to mental health services in Ayrshire and Arran."

Following the 'Mapping out our future' conference, the 'Mind your health' team will develop a draft model of care for presentation to the Ayrshire and Arran Mental Health Programme Board for approval. After a period of discussion, debate and continuing development, the Programme Board will present the final proposals to the NHS Board early in 2008.

How to find out more  
To see all the discussion material prepared for the eight workshops, please visit [www.nhsayrshireandarran.com/mindyourhealth](http://www.nhsayrshireandarran.com/mindyourhealth).  
If you would like to comment on what has happened so far, or would like more information, contact the 'Mind your health' on: 0800 169 1441, email: [mindyourhealth@aapct.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:mindyourhealth@aapct.scot.nhs.uk), or write to the Mind your health project team at NHS Ayrshire & Arran, FREEPOST SCO6879, Boswell House, 10 Arthur Street, AYR KA7 1BR.

## Church Services on Arran

- All Welcome -

**Arran Free Church of Scotland**  
11am, Shiskine (Church is between Machrie and Blackwaterfoot)  
7pm, Brodick (Church is behind the Post Office)  
Revd David Karoon  
Tel: 860426

**Kilmory Parish Church**  
Rev John Webster (locum)  
"A faith to proclaim. A fellowship to share"  
Worship at 10am  
At Southend (signposted - opposite creamery)  
Rev John Webster (locum)

**Holy Cross Catholic Church**  
Father Noel Colford  
Vigil Mass Saturday 7.30pm  
Sunday Mass 11am

**Whiting Bay and Kildonan Church**  
Sunday 27th May  
Service 10.30am  
Rev. Elizabeth Watson

**Church of Scotland - North Arran**  
Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza, Pirrmill and Shiskine  
Independent but working together. Minister Rev Angus Adamson, Parish Asst. Mrs Jean Hunter. Worship will be conducted in the above churches at the following times. Brodick 10.30am, Corrie 12noon, Lochranza 9.30am, Pirrmill 10.45am, and Shiskine 12noon. A service of worship will also be held in Montrose House at 1.45pm.

**Arran Free Church of Scotland (continuing)**  
Sunday 27th May,  
Trust Housing Lounge, Glen Estate,  
Brodick, 11am  
Evening Service  
7 Glen Road, 7pm  
Rev.J.J. Murray  
All welcome

**Scottish Episcopal Church** (in full communion with the Church of England) St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.  
Sunday, 27th May: 11.00 am, Holy Communion. Revd Dr Hector Soga, Dollar. Coffee after service.  
Wednesday, 30th May: 12.15 pm, Holy Communion.  
ALL WELCOME.

**Lamlash Church**  
Sunday 27 May  
You are invited to worship in Lamlash Church at 11 am.  
Mrs. Brenda Mackay  
All welcome

**Arran Baptist Church**  
Sunday 27th May at 11am  
in the Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick  
'Celebration of Pentecost'  
Speaker: Rev Andy Scarcliffe  
(Baptist Union Mission Advisor)  
Everyone welcome

**Religious society of friends (Quakers)**  
Will hold a meeting for worship on Sunday 3rd June at 11.30am  
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# Weekly Prize Crossword

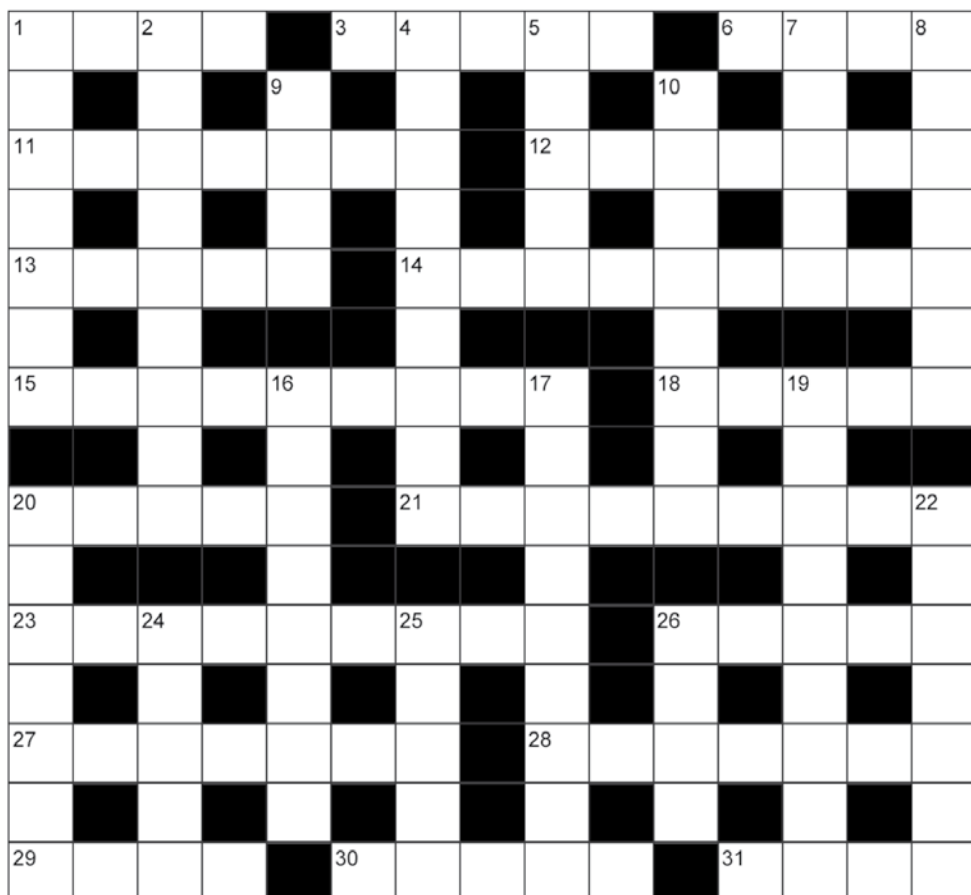
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Winners are asked to contact the shop before collecting their prize.

The answers for the cryptic clues are different to those for the quick clues.



## CRYPTIC CLUES

### Across

- 1 Rip off part of A La Recherche Du Temps Perdu, perhaps? (4)
- 3 Pursuit of a variety of aches (5)
- 6 Flora guesses she has fever (5)
- 11 Repaired new part in European city (7)
- 12 Raise the Spanish tax in the east, twice.(7)
- 13 'Ring before five, love. After that I would look like an egg!' (5)
- 14 Son's radar damaged in ferry town. (9)
- 15 Dash to directors' missile target (9)
- 18 Loan rate; one-fifty a month (5)
- 20 Better that Sue leaves earlier (5)
- 21 Princess's annoyance at disease (9)
- 23 Hesitates after result, ring around portrayal (9)
- 26 Bovine in Sierra Leone's evil-eye (5)
- 27 It seems a flavour is offensive (7)
- 28 80's pop star is resolute (7)
- 29 Inflammation in enclosure, it appears (4)
- 30 Despaired over bicycle.
- 31 Ruined Den's address (4)

### Down

- 1 Man I'd do kind of gem! (7)
- 2 Perhaps rip up root mixture? (3-6)
- 4 Disorderly mangled harp had swallowed map (9)
- 5 Pay out odds on result (5)
- 7 Note young girl's tumbler (5)
- 8 Uninterrupted Local Area Network boots up after alien hesitates (7)
- 9 Satisfy iron newspaper chief (4)
- 10 Mixed demon ale drink (8)
- 16 Diced cube discovered in cold grill (8)
- 17 Model consumed label (9)
- 19 About to transfer criminal (9)
- 20 Strangely wise after exercise? Maybe! (7)
- 22 Revolutionary eats dead correspondent (7)
- 24 Some of Edna's types are loathsome! (5)
- 25 One badly torn launch, in short (5)
- 26 Box at health resort, right? (4)

## QUICK CLUES

### ACROSS

- 1 7, in French (4)
- 3 Make amends (5)
- 6 Operatic song (4)
- 11 The art of paper folding (7)
- 12 Marine food fish (3-4)
- 13 Pot of money (5)
- 14 Womaniser (6-3\_)
- 15 Keyboard instrument (4,5)
- 18 Loft (5)
- 20 Follow (5)
- 21 Vulgar (9)
- 23 Band of musicians (9)
- 26 Carry further (3,2)
- 27 Torpor (7)
- 28 Blessing (7)
- 29 Average (4)
- 30 Postponement (5)
- 31 Eyelid inflammation (4)

### DOWN

- 1 Ball game/sport invented in India (7)
- 2 Serving no useful purpose (9)
- 4 Illumination on the back of a vehicle (4-5)
- 5 Hard-\_\_\_\_, arrogant (5)
- 7 Kingdom (5)
- 8 Poisonous metallic element (7)
- 9 Simple (4)
- 10 Mangle, mutilate (8)
- 16 Egg dish (8)
- 17 Bittersweet longing of the past (9)
- 19 Medical care (9)
- 20 Deterioration (7)
- 22 Indefinitely (4-3)
- 24 Hearten (5)
- 25 Mock (5)
- 26 Verdi opera (4)

If you wish to enter the draw for the prize, please print your name and telephone number here :

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ or Email \_\_\_\_\_

If you prefer to email your answers, please do so - to [info@arranvoice.com](mailto:info@arranvoice.com), with "crossword" and the issue number of the paper in the subject line (see front page)

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**DYEMILL/KILMORY FOREST DRIVE**  
Forestry Commission Scotland  
Forestry Commission Scotland is opening the forest road from Dyemill to Kilmory for the public to drive through on Saturday, 26th and Sunday, 27th May between 11am and 4pm. The public can enjoy the views that have opened up with the harvesting and see the new forests growing up. With some luck you might see a squirrel crossing the road or a harrier hunting over the young trees. Glenashdale Falls will be less than 100m away and you can drive to Aucheffan standing stones. Stop for a picnic in one of the many laybys.  
Access is from Dyemill only and will be one way. There is a small charge of £2 a car.

**Crossword Answers**  
**Issue 0006 (cryptic)**

- |                      |               |
|----------------------|---------------|
| Across               | Down          |
| 1 Middle of the road | 1 Mislead     |
| 9 Startle            | 2 Deadly sin  |
| 10 Carve-up          | 3 Lotus       |
| 11 Atlas             | 4 Overcast    |
| 12 Clientele         | 5 Tactic      |
| 13 Disperse          | 6 Erroneous   |
| 15 Corrie            | 7 Obese       |
| 18 Donate            | 8 Deplete     |
| 19 Crosscut          | 14 Extra-time |
| 22 Barbarian         | 16 Racism     |
| 24 Scare             | 17 Transfer   |
| 25 Italian           | 18 Debrief    |
| 26 Fulfill           | 20 Trellis    |
| 27 Father Christmas  | 21 Picnic     |
|                      | 23 React      |
|                      | 24 Seals      |

The crossword winner from Issue 6 was Val Campbell.



"I think I'm going to have to take this flash back to the shop."

**Arran Voice Crossword 6 (Easy answers)**

- |                     |              |
|---------------------|--------------|
| Across              | Down         |
| 1 Experimentation   | 1 Ensuing    |
| 9 Sinuous           | 2 Pensioner  |
| 10 Despair          | 3 Roost      |
| 11 Idiot            | 4 Mistaken   |
| 12 Arteriole        | 5 Nudity     |
| 13 Gangster         | 6 Assurance  |
| 15 Snoopy           | 7 Idaho      |
| 18 Scream           | 8 Nursery    |
| 19 Remember         | 14 Spaghetti |
| 22 Racehorse        | 16 Obligate  |
| 24 Paint            | 17 Dementia  |
| 25 Epistle          | 18 Serve-up  |
| 26 Teenage          | 20 Retreat   |
| 27 Public transport | 21 Priest    |
|                     | 23 Climb     |
|                     | 24 Press     |

**Something Trivial about May 26th.**

**202 years ago** to the day (May 26th 1805), Napoleon Bonaparte (below) was crowned king of Italy.

**67 years ago** to the day (May 26th 1940). The evacuation of Allied troops from Dunkirk, France, began during World War II.

**57 years ago** to the day (May 26th 1950), Petrol rationing in the UK came to an end.

**30 years ago** to the day (May 26th 1977), George H. Willig scaled the outside of the south tower of New York's World Trade Centre. It took him 3.5 hours to scale the building. He was later arrested at the top of the 110-story tower. New York City Mayor Abraham Beame fined him \$1.10, one cent for each of the skyscraper's 110 stories.

**13 years ago** to the day (May 26th 1994), Pop star Michael Jackson and Lisa Marie Presley were married in the Dominican Republic.

**Found on the web...**

A linguistics professor was lecturing to his class in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. 'In English,' he said, 'a double negative forms a positive. In some languages, though, such as Russian, a double negative is still a negative. However, there is no language wherein a double positive can form a negative.' A voice from the back of the room piped up, 'Yeah, right.'

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**Poetry Corner**

**Range Finding**

Once considered America's unofficial poet laureate, Robert Frost was a master of classic verse forms. He often uses the rural and ordinary to spotlight wider and deeper realities, as he does here in this deft anti-war poem.

The battle rent a cobweb diamond-strung  
And cut a flower beside a groundbird's nest  
Before it stained a single human breast.  
The stricken flower bent double and so hung.  
And still the bird revisited her young.  
A butterfly its fall had dispossessed,  
A moment sought in air his flower of rest,  
Then lightly stooped to it and fluttering clung.  
On the bare upland pasture there had spread  
O'ernight 'twixt mullein stalks a wheel of thread  
And straining cables wet with silver dew.  
A sudden passing bullet shook it dry.  
The indwelling spider ran to greet the fly,  
But finding nothing sullenly withdrew.

by ROBERT FROST (1874-1963)

**PUZZLES**

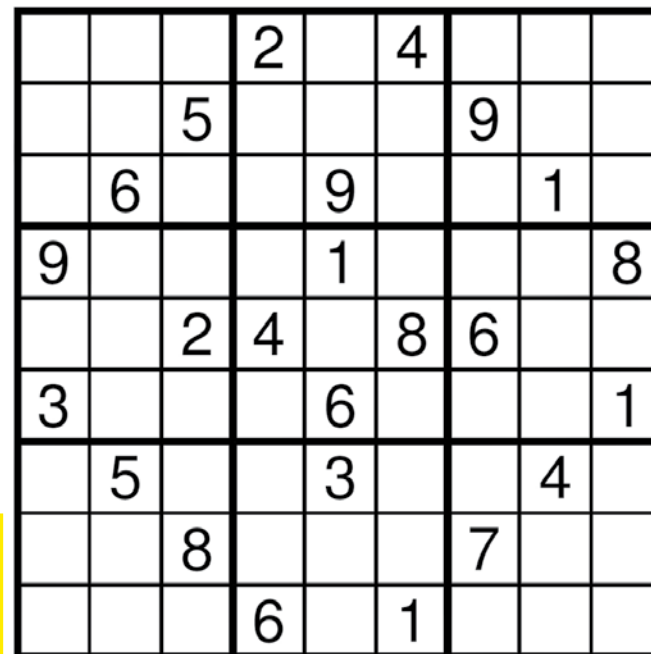
**SUDOKU**

Sudoku really only has one rule: Every row, column and 3x3 box has to have the numbers 1-9.

This puzzle has been graded "Medium".

See our website for more sudoku puzzles online.

Have you entered our Photo Competition?  
See page 6



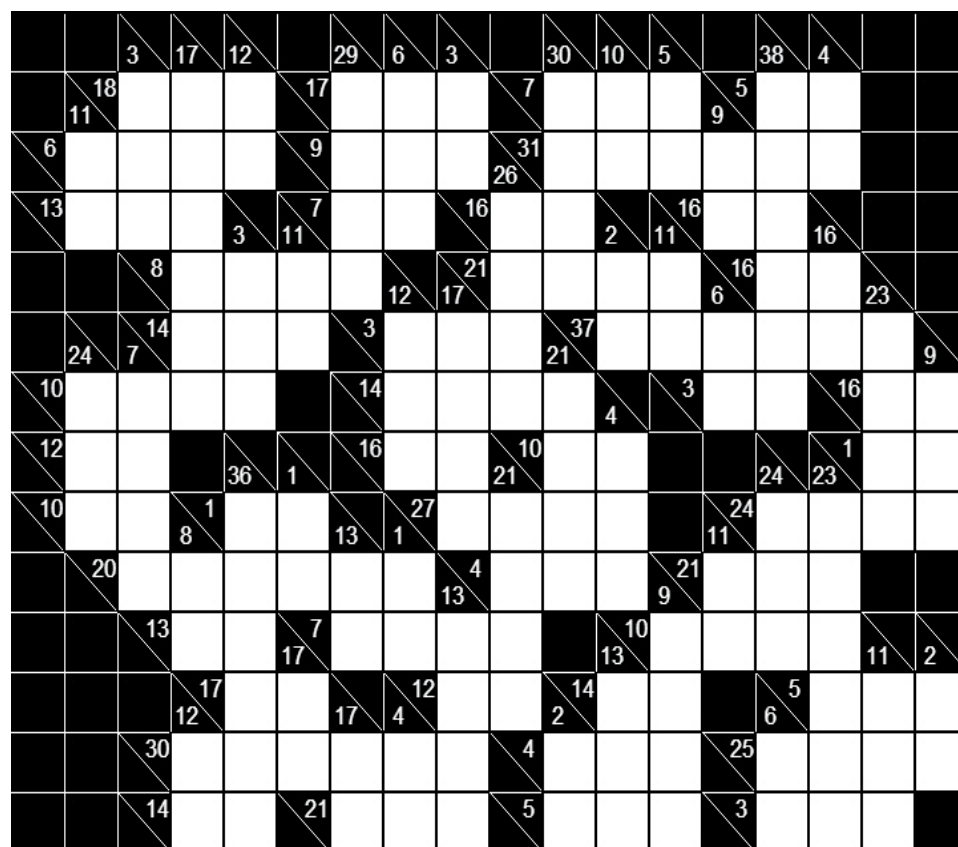
**KAKURO**

How to do Kakuro

Fill in the blank squares in the grid with numbers from 1-9 so that each horizontal or vertical line adds up to the total given in the box either to the left or above it. Horizontal totals are given in the top right corners of the shaded boxes. Vertical totals appear in the bottom left corners. You may not use the same number more than once in any run. The number may be used again, however, in the same row or column, but as part of another run.

Some numbers can only be formed from fixed combinations. Here are some Unique Digit patterns to help you. We'll give some bigger ones next week.

- |          |            |              |                |
|----------|------------|--------------|----------------|
| 3 - 1*2  | 6 - 1*2*3  | 10 - 1*2*3*4 | 15 - 1*2*3*4*5 |
| 4 - 1*3  | 7 - 1*2*4  | 11 - 1*2*3*5 | 16 - 1*2*3*4*6 |
| 16 - 7*9 | 23 - 6*8*9 | 29 - 5*7*8*9 | 34 - 4*6*7*8*9 |
| 17 - 8*9 | 24 - 7*8*9 | 30 - 6*7*8*9 | 35 - 5*6*7*8*9 |



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## Arran's sheepdog trial win goes to visitor

Angie McDiarmid won the Open Spring Sheepdog Trial on Friday 18th at Kilpatrick Farm in Blackwaterfoot with a cracking last run of the day.

The shepherd from Strachur near Dunoon, was very chuffed with his dog Hemp's good show of stamina and patience after a long day of waiting.

They pulled off a very tidy run, dropping only a few points to finish on 93. In an earlier attempt, Angie's younger 15-month-old pup had proved a bit too eager and failed to show enough restraint to impress judge Willie Todd. But experience shone through with the more mature seven-year-old Hemp delivering an impressive away drive, coaching the sheep into a gentle and orderly penning right at the close of the competition.



Perthshire's Peter Martin, Ian McConnell from Fort William, Craig Davidson from Dunoon and Jim Ogston from Crianlarich also made the top six, which gives them points towards entry into the Scottish National in August.

42 dogs ran in total and nine local entrants competed. Willie Stevenson won the confined contest with Nell with 65 points. And although the weather had been a bit changeable, the odd shower didn't dampen spirits as a good bit of teamwork ensured another successful trial on Arran. Neil and Kate Henderson had opened their field for the event and Jack Murchie supplied some pretty well-behaved sheep. Chairman John Craig, thanked the judge, Donnie Robertson for clerking as well as Susie Murchie and Lindsay Irving for running the bar and tombola and the various chauffeurs, caterers and sponsors who helped keep morale high.

*Left: Angie and Hemp await judge Willie Todd's decision*

*Below: Angie McDiarmid and Hemp partnering well to guide Jack Murchie's sheep pen-bound*



*Below: Sheepdogs shelter at the edge after their run*



# Tough at the top

After just 1 hour 4m and 29 seconds, Jethro Lennox trotted over a muddy finishing line to win the Goatfell hill race and racked up his fourth Scottish Athletics title. It was an awesome race for the Shettleston runner, who said, "I felt strong on the climb".

About forty minutes earlier Jethro could be seen making a goat-like ascent across the upper stretches of Arran's only Corbett. "How on earth do they do it?" asked one of the Arran Mountain Rescue marshals, who was sheltering from the hail in the lee of a rock on the ridge above. Jethro, who publishes world atlases for a living, only runs twice a day during the working week – perhaps just a wee clue to just how on earth he does do it.

## Tumble down

It was Jethro's first Goatfell race and he pipped Ochils' Alasdair Anthony to the winning line by only 26 seconds. "It was a good race, apart from falling over!" Jethro said at the end. He had taken a tumble just after one of the checkpoints on the way down but ran on clutching his arm. "It was tough at the top," he confessed.

Tough is a mild way to describe it. The Mountain Rescue recorded wind speeds of 65mph at the peak and watery eyes handicapped a speedy descent for some of the 130 competitors. Jethro seemed to experience the conditions in self-delusory bliss. "It was good weather – not too windy. It was a good atmosphere and I'll definitely come back."

## Piece of cake

Elke Schmidt of the Bellahouston Road Runners was the first female competitor to the summit in 36 minutes and won the women's race. Despite the classic Scottish May weather, first-time Goatfell runner Elke was equally euphoric., saying, "It was a fantastic day out! It makes you feel so alive". For anyone struggling to comprehend what possesses people to run up and down a mountain, Elke had quite an understandable response, saying that her motivation was to "be able to eat as much chocolate cake as I like afterwards – and to enjoy the great view".

*The long ascent, Goatfell race 2007*



*Goatfellrunners in the mist.*

*Leader Jethro Lennox skips up towards the peak*



Dawn Scott from Lochaber came in second in the women's race with Eilidh Wardlaw just a few seconds behind. Sarah Legge from Fife finished up in fourth position. Linda MacEwan from Lochaber won the F40 category and Fife's Jocelyn Scott cruised over the line in 1 hour 42m 11s to win the F50.

There were some other steely performances from field leaders who scampered out of the mountain's mist down a rocky ridge in double-quick time. Grant Stewart from Edinburgh was third and Murray Strain powered past Carnethy's Simon Peachey and Stewart Whitley to stride in fourth. Whitley retained his 40-plus athletics crown, being the first M40 competitor to finish. Irvine's Jim Stevenson was the M50 winner, although many people can't believe that he is really 50! Dougie Milligan from Solway had made a storming recovery from a ruptured Achilles tendon and won the men's 60-plus category with an impressive 1 hour 25m 48s.

Allan Miller was Arran's first to cross the line with a time of 1 hour 18m 57s. Allan has completed the race six or seven times before but said, "This year wasn't too bad – easier than before."

With some careful stewarding from the Brodick Improvements committee and the Arran Mountain Rescue, the event went well. Goatfell is the first of the six races in the new Scottish Hill Runners U23 Championship and provided the setting for the inaugural Scottish athletics Inter-District prize won by the men for the East and the women for the West.

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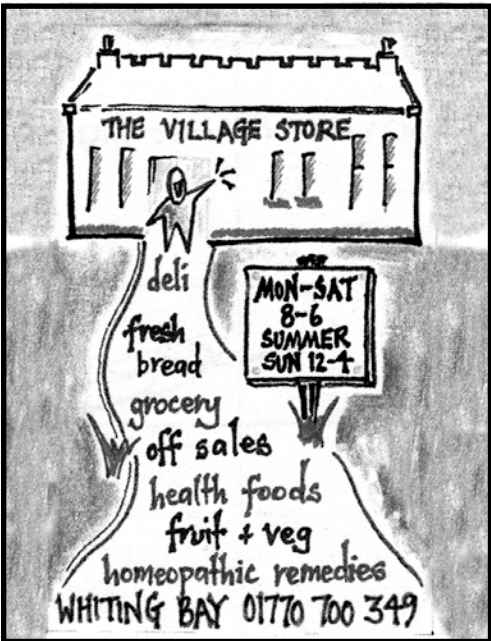
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**Public Notices**

**Arran Viking Longship Society AGM**

Tuesday 29th May Corrie Hotel  
8pm  
www.arranviking.co.uk email: avls@arranart.com

**Katy Clark MP**

...will be holding a surgery in the Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick on Friday 1st June from 11.30-12.30.

Councillor Peter McNamara will also be in attendance.

If you require to see Katy outside this surgery please call 01505 684127

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## Sports News in brief

### I would run 26 miles....

Having completed a sponsored London marathon, Brodick's Mike Mellor of the Arran Runners donates a cheque for £500 to Jamie McKinnon of Arran's Mountain Rescue Team. A serial marathon-runner, Mike has competed in Paris, Stockholm and Snowdonia and says, "I would run the marathon anyway but running for a good cause gives you that extra bit of incentive."

This year's race was run in a sweltering 73°F, the hottest day in the event's history, but Mike pulled off a respectable 3hours and 44 minutes, raising £500 for Mountain Rescue. He would like to thank everybody who sponsored him. He hopes to run in the Loch Ness Marathon in October but at the moment is 'relaxing' by running shorter distances.

### Foul weather stops race

The weekend's bad weather played havoc with the Scottish Island Peaks race which was due to call at Mull and Jura before reaching Lamlash Bay on Saturday May 19th. Organisers called a halt to it on Mull, with the finishing time of 18hrs and 37 minutes achieved by the trimaran Memec.

# Shiskine go top with tricky win

## Shiskine 4 Lochranza 1

**Shiskine ground out a 4-1 win in Lochranza last Saturday despite testing pitch conditions and a decent performance from Northend.**

Shiskine were rightly confident on the back of their cup success and some of the double-figure win margins at Lochranza notched up during last season. But Northend had pushed them to the wire in a friendly a couple of weeks before and there was a feeling in the windy air that it could be anyone's game.

The first half hour saw a lot of Northend pressure. Mark Whetton was aching close to a tap-in, but found the post instead, but it was Shiskine who eventually broke the deadlock. A Jamie Stewart strike was deemed to have come off a Northend hand in the box and any controversy was snuffed out by the unbudgeable Ian Keen on referee duty, leaving an unfazed Fergus Judge to net and take it to 1-0.

An Alan Johnston free kick doubled the lead as Northend's goalkeeper Norman Bond wrestled in the box with Freddy Galbraith, only for the ball to fly straight

	Won	Lost	Drawn	GF	GA	GD	Points	points table
<b>Shiskine</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>+3</b>	<b>3</b>	
<b>Lamlash</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>+2</b>	<b>3</b>	
<b>Brodick</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>Southend</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>-2</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>Northend</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>-3</b>	<b>0</b>	

in from about 25 yards. Shiskine had somehow found themselves two goals ahead.

In the 45th minute, Northend earned a corner and a well-pressured and testing cross skiffed off Ackie Currie's head into the Shiskine net. At 2-1, Northend had edged back into firm contention, and it was the visitors who looked edgy during a half-time team talk.

Northend came out for the second half blazing, with skilful graft from Kenny and Matt Milne policing the midfield with some ascendant football to earn him Shiskine's man of the match. Good passing to the wing released pace-man Martin, who came close to scoring after some spritely defence-skipping runs. But like a first half repeat, a rebounded corner after 15 minutes scudded loose and Shiskine's dependable Slipper slotted it home. It was a psychological gift for the

visitors who now started to play with the freedom of a two-goal cushion.

Transcending the bobbling pitch, Shiskine strung together a nice passing move starting with Stevie Crawford for the fifth goal. It led to a cross in from Jamie Stewart which was then hit neatly back across the keeper into the corner of the bag.

The score stayed at 4-1, but Shiskine considered themselves lucky to take away three points while some confident Northend defending bodes well for the side's league campaign. Shiskine skipper Fergus is sure that Northend will claim a few scalps, saying, "They are going to do it this season and it'll be on that pitch".



# Lamlash batten down the hatches

## Lamlash 4 Southend 2

**Lamlash churned out a home victory in their first game of the season, as Southend once again failed to convert their chances on a blustery Saturday evening.**

The weather may have played a casting vote, but some sturdy defending and a good spell in goals by Robert Simpson saw the Lamlashers hold on to the three points. The first goal for the home side came from a deflected corner, struck nicely from the edge of the box by Alastair Lockhart within the first few minutes.

Both teams had good chances inside the early stages, but again it was Lamlash who struck for the second. Jamie Duncan ran onto a through ball, fending off the attention of Neil McKechnie and chipped the keeper who'd attempted a challenge.

As if sensing a slide, Euan Ingram pushed immediately onwards for Southend and when the ball scudded through to him after a miss-kicked clearance, he reliably tucked home Southend's first goal to halve Lamlash's lead. 2-1 and barely midway through the first half, Alan McGrath once again opened up the two-goal cushion for the home team. Latching on to cross from out wide, Alan took the half-volley on his right foot, stunning the ball powerfully enough beat the muddy moat in front of Southend's goal.

As if playing with a knitted football, the goal-mouth puddles were acting like Velcro for the strikers, who time and again were frustrated by the extra line of defence. Another Southend goal in the first half from Sandy Kelso, who had replaced an injured Euan Ingram, was cancelled out by a Southend own goal and the teams went for the half-time team talk at 4-2.

"It was blowing quite a hoolie," said Alan McGrath, captain of the Lamlash side that had the gale on their backs for the first half. And the wind really picked up for the second 45, with Lamlash struggling to clear the halfway line from kick-outs. Southend played brightly winning the lion's share of attacking opportunities but



some robust defensive work from Lamlash held the fort. Referee Nog (Gordon Hendry) evenly dished out decisions (contested or not) to both teams.

Southend will be wondering what it will take for them to win this season after their hard-earned defeat to Shiskine in the Cup

Final. But the weather didn't help this squad's new and fluent attacking style. Meanwhile, Lamlash are unsure when their new pitch will be ready – and whether any matches will need to be rescheduled as a result – as contractors Barr are presently unable to commit to a definite date.



# Sannox win batting battle

**Sannox cricket club saw off longstanding opponents Mid Argyll in their first league match of the season in a nerve-settling victory last Sunday.** Undeterred by a hail shower at the first drinks break, optimism won the day as sun prevailed and a friendly breeze kept the midges at bay.

Winning the toss, Sannox put Mid Argyll in to bat on a drying wicket which was yielding a pretty regular bounce. By lunchtime, Mid Argyll had racked up a decent target of 146 for just three wickets after their 40 overs. With seven wickets in hand, it was surprising that the visitors hadn't let swing with the bat towards the latter stages of their innings. It was open only to speculation 'what might have been' had the young and in-form Shackleton seen a longer innings. He was sent packing by a decent Brookes bowl in the fourth over. With only eight extras and some economical overs from Chris Marriott and Jake May, any chance of a runaway total was averted. Mid Argyll's Matt Lewis made a stately 76 before being dispatched by a bail-splitting Pomeroy delivery.

After lunch, Sannox openers Tim Pomeroy and Colin Haggarty started sluggishly with some indecisive running. But wise caution soon blossomed into brisk batting. The opening partnership went on to score 67 before Pomeroy was caught behind off a leg-side edge for 33. Haggarty fell soon after the drinks break for 28. Despite the services of Arran's Jim Gourlay, who was a loyal addition to Argyll's ten-man field, the visitors were unable to contain the run-rate.

Newcomer to the club, Martin Kemp of Whiting Bay hit a solid 37 with an anchor-like hour at the crease and Chris Marriott added a handy 23 to move Sannox to within touching distance of the Mid-Argyll total. Mark Williams and Eric Dunn settled proceedings and nerves with three overs remaining.

*Sannox continue to practice every Thursday evening from 6pm and all newcomers are welcome. Phone 600 287 for more details.*

### Sannox CC innings

C. Haggarty	c Lister	b Barratt	28
T. Pomeroy	c Lyburn	b Barratt	33
M. Kempe	c Lister	b Findlay	37
T. Brookes	c Lister	b Lewis	8
C. Marriott		b&c Findlay	23
M. Williams	Not out		2
D. Hackett		b A Shackleton	0
E. Dunn	Not out		3
Extras			13
Total	for 6		147 (37 overs)

### Sannox Bowling figures

	O	M	R	W
May	7	2	11	0
Brookes	7	0	33	1
Marriott	7	2	14	0
Dunn	7	2	16	1
Hackett	3	0	18	0
Pomeroy	6	1	42	1
Kempe	3	0	12	0



## Golf news up to 20th May

### BRODICK GOLF CLUB

Junior Sweep  
1st, Archie McNicol (36) 55. 2nd, Euan Smith (32) 62.

Wednesday 16th May, Summer Cup. CSS 64, 33 played.  
1st, David McKinion (10) 61. 2nd, Terry Raeside (7) 63. 3rd, Stuart Cameron (7) 65 (B.I.H.).  
Scratch: Terry Raeside 70.  
There were 6 magic 2s.

Club Championship 1st round sweep. CSS 63, 30 played.  
1st, Lenny Hartley (18) 63. 2nd, Douglas Robertson (16) 64. 3rd, Bruce Jenkins (8) 65 (B.I.H.).  
Scratch: Steven Bunyan 68.  
There were 7 magic 2s, Iain Macdonald getting 3.

### BRODICK GOLF CLUB - LADIES SECTION

Tuesday 15th May, 2nd May Medal. SSS 67 CSS 67, 28 entries.  
1st Silver, C Arthur (16) 65. 2nd, F Crawford (13) 66. 3rd, M Bryce (15) 67.  
1st Bronze, I Rollo (30) 72. 2nd, M Cuthbert (26) 74. 3rd, K Kitson (21) 75.  
Scratch: F Crawford 79 (B.I.H.).

### LAMLASH GOLF CLUB

Thursday 17th May, Summer Cup 28 played.  
Scratch: D.MacFarlane 65.  
1st, J. McGovern 70-8=62 (B.I.H.). 2nd, A. Winship 77-15=62. 3rd, K. Barclay 83-20=63.  
3 Magic 2s: K. Barclay, M. Wallbank and H. McArthur.  
Saturday 19th May, First round of Championship. There were no surprises or any upsets. The only surprise was that not one game passed the 14th hole.  
Sunday 20th May Grouse qualifier.  
Only 6 pairs took part and there were no magic 2s.  
1st, G. Andrew & I. Bremner 71-8.5=62.5.  
2nd, J. Henderson & E. Evans 73-9.5=63.5.

Fixtures; Saturday 26th May, final of Championship over 36 holes commencing at 1300 & 1730 hrs.  
Sunday 27th May, Medal at 0930 and 1300 hrs.

### ARRAN GOLFERS ASSOCIATION RESULT

Seniors Bowl semi-finals; venue Shiskine Golf Club on Friday 18th May.  
Played in most uncomfortable conditions, squally showers, which were very heavy at times with a constant stiff breeze off the Kilbrannan Sound.

### LOCHRANZA CASTLE v BRODICK

Lochranza represented by A. Napier, R. McDonald, Pablo and H. McKinnon lost out to Brodick represented by J. Dick, D. Rudge, T. Reside and K. Robertson by a number of holes. While the Brodick team returned over the hill to the warmth of the clubhouse, an exciting match between Whiting Bay and the host club Shiskine was still in progress despite the weather.

### WHITING BAY V SHISKINE

Whiting Bay fielded the same team that defeated Lamlash last week.

G. McKechnie, K. Kelsall, C. Wanup and J. Hainey narrowly lost out to the host club Shiskine represented by W. Kelso, G. Stewart, J. Kelso and D. Henderson.  
Through 17 the overall result was square with one game 4 up and the other 4 down.  
No team parred the 18th so extra holes without interval were played.  
Due to bad light there was only time to play one extra hole, the first game halved in 5s and the second won with a par 4 over.  
D. Henderson sank a 30ft put. G. McKechnie had a 8ft put to tie, which lipped out.  
Final of the Seniors Bowl, Friday 25th May at 5pm.

### MACHRIE BAY GOLF CLUB

Tuesday 15th May, Lady Mary/Peter Sutton.  
1st, Alan Jeffrey 63. 2nd, Mark Sherwood 64. 3rd, Alistair MacDonald 65 (B.I.H.).  
Scratch: Alan Jeffrey 69.  
Magic twos: David Price, David Jeffrey and Alan Jeffrey.

Fixtures; Tuesday 29th May Ladies & Gents Club Championship, first round qualifier. 12.30/5.30.  
Saturday 2nd June, Peter Sillars & 2nd round Gents Club Championship. 1.00 start.

### SHISKINE GOLF CLUB

Ladies Club Championship (Qualifier)  
1st, V. Parks 92-33=59. 2nd, F. Crawford 78-13=65. 3rd, J. Turnbull 92-24=68.  
Best scratch: F. Crawford 78.

Fixtures: Wednesday 30th May, Dr. Adam Cup. 5.30pm start.  
Thursday 31st May, Mary Craig Trophy.

### WHITING BAY GOLF CLUB.

23 played in the first round of the McKelvie Cup in unexpectedly sunny conditions with many players taking advantage to shoot low and reduce the CSS to 62.  
1st, Alastair Kelly (10) 60 (B.I.H.). 2nd, Neil McKechnie (7) 60 (B.I.H.). 3rd, John Pennycott (10) 60 and 4th, Rob Stewart (20) 61.  
Nicol Auld won scratch with 66 and there were magic 2s from Danny Head and Nicol.

### Fixtures; Sunday 27th May, 2nd round of the McKelvie Cup.

Wednesday 30th May, JC Reid Cup Quarter Finals, (Non Qualifiers).  
Thursday 31st May, Club Championship Quarter Finals.

### CORRIE GOLF CLUB

Saturday 19th May, 2nd round club championship.  
1st: M. Sherwood, 71-13 = 58; 2nd: E. I. Cannon 77-16 = 61; 3rd: J. Adams 69-7 = 62 B.I.H.

Monday 14th May, Carradale outing.  
1st: T. Cotton 74-18 = 56; 2nd: A. MacDonald 75-12 = 63; 3rd: G. Murray 81-17 = 64.  
Fixtures:

Saturday 26th May: Grouse qualifier (pairs). Make up your own pairings or take pot luck on the day. Tee off at 9.30am and at 1pm.  
Wednesday 30th May: Wednesday night medal. Tee off from 5pm.

## Cricket club receives cash boost

**Graham Miller of Miller Stewart solicitors and estate agents presented Sannox Cricket Club with a bumper cheque last Sunday.** Continuing the cricket-mad support of the late Bryan Allsop, Miller Stewart have sponsored the club for the past three years and helped supply the team's match balls and shirts. As well as plans to spend the £1,000 on equipment, the team say it will fund a tour to Derbyshire for the return Bryan Allsop Memorial match against Chevin on July 1st.



## Volunteering further afield

17 year olds Katie Todd and Holly Adamson are trying to raise money to fund a voluntary work project in Ghana. The friends, who have known each other since primary one, are going to work in a 'care in the community' project in the west African republic. On September 17th they will fly in to Accra and stay with a host family, most probably on the Cape Coast.

"When you think of poverty, you think of Africa," said Katie. "It might sound bad but it's true and I want to help." The pair will stay in Ghana for two months and could find themselves doing anything from building classrooms to painting orphanages. Community projects are typically under-funded and Projects Abroad, which coordinates the work, always welcomes volunteers. A certain level of commitment is required

even now, as the girls have to endure a batch of vaccinations and Katie admits to a pretty low pain threshold.

The two plan to learn the basics of the language before they go and in the meantime they are busy fundraising. Arran's Rotary club has contributed £200 towards their costs and this Saturday they are holding a coffee morning at Lamlash Parish Church at 10.30am.



*Katie Todd and Holly Adamson are saving up to volunteer their help in Ghana*

## Post offices face anxious wait

The closure of 2,500 Post Offices countrywide was announced last Wednesday, May 16th, but how hard hit Arran's villages may be remains to be seen. With 18% of the national coverage facing the chop, Postmasters and Postmistresses of the five outlets on the island are all keenly anticipating a meeting with Post Office officials who will be coming to Arran in a couple of weeks.

"We don't know any more than the general public," says Andy Grents of Lamlash Post Office. "But businesses can't exist in the face of the open warfare – everyone's feeling it." This 'open warfare' is the gradual erosion of the Post Office's exclusive services, with pensions and allowances going direct to bank accounts and the arrival of the Pay Point system in supermarkets, enabling customers to pay bills while shopping. Post Office Ltd lost £2m a week in 2005-6 and this year the loss is expected to be about £4m a week.

However, for the island's smaller villages, Post Offices are a way of life, no matter how profitable they are. "We are essential for the village community," says Elspeth Cheshire of Kildonan Post Office and Stores. "Their only alternative is a three-hour round trip to Brodick on the bus. Here they see a face, have a chat and get advice about forms or services. While we, as a shop would survive,

it would be a shame to see the service we provide go."

Last year a petition with many millions of signatures, 800 from Arran, was handed in to Downing Street by Katy Clark MP. She sees the latest government announcement as bitterly disappointing. "For an island community like Arran the role of the Post Office is even more important," says Katy. "It needs to be seen as a social service, not just a business and we need to galvanise the whole community behind our campaign before it's too late."

Christine Cameron, Blackwaterfoot's Postmistress, adds that while some of the island's outlets may be protected by the distance criterion that requires 95% of the population to be within 5km of a Post Office, others could be under threat of closure. While many would predict that Brodick will remain unscathed, its Postmistress, Janice Small says all post offices are being viewed independently and reiterates the call to action by the community. "People are always saying, 'We don't want you to close', but then they'll come in and quite happily say, 'I've been on the internet all morning trying to do my road tax'. They don't seem to realise that for every road tax, passport application, book of stamps or whatever we get a certain amount – it's all done on a scale of payment. We need their custom to survive."

## The Perils of Obesity

*article by John Kinsman*

**An obese American tourist who fell ill on the cruise ship Century Cruise had to be carried off by rescue helicopter on Monday May 21 because of his size.**

The man, who weighs 32 stone (203kg), was on board the luxury five star cruise ship which was anchored off Kirkcaldy in the Firth of Forth when he suffered gastric problems.

Forth coastguards realised the passenger was so heavy that its usual rescue procedures would have been impossible. A RNAS Sea King rescue helicopter from HMS Gannet Prestwick was scrambled to winch the man off the ship before flying him to Edinburgh Royal Infirmary.

A spokesman for Forth coastguards said, "Trying to get this man down the side of the ship and into a smaller boat such as a lifeboat was just not possible, so airlifting was our only answer." The man, who has not been named, later received emergency surgery and was said to be recovering in hospital.

## Tabards for Disabled Riders

Fulton Decorators, who sponsor Arran's Riding for the Disabled group, have provided them with high-visibility Safety Tabards. These Hi-Viz tabards will be worn by both riders and helpers when the group goes out in Lamlash, and their bright colour helps motorists to be aware of the ponies and their riders, and slow down.

In the photo, Gavin Fulton hands over the tabards to Barbara Tinto. Also present are Tom Griffiths and Mark Leetham, and Tabatha the horse. The group is always grateful for any help, either in cash or kind, to further their valuable work with disabled children. If you would like more information, phone Barbara Tinto on 600 752.



## Marriages

**Married in Western Australia on 14 April 2007 was Lesley Craig ( daughter of the late Donald & Betty Craig of Corriecravie ) and Paul Screaigh of Perth Western Australia.**

Pictured in the photos with them is their 6 month year old daughter Kirsty Screaigh and a photo of everyone who made the trip down under to help celebrate the wedding. Including her sister and brother in law Isobel & Duncan Mulholland of Torrylinn Farm Kilmory with 3 of their children Rachael, Donald & John and cousin Bobbi Adamson.

Paul & Lesley live just outside of Perth in Western Australia where Paul has his own plumbing business.



## First Corrie hall wedding

Nici McLellan and David Boni were married last Saturday in what is believed to be the first ever wedding held in Corrie and Sannox Village Hall. Peter Finlay took the service and Nici's mother Jenny spoke a moving and heartfelt Celtic blessing. Great nosh and a knees-up followed for the hundred or so folk, some of whom had travelled from as far as Vancouver to be there.

*Left: Nici and 'Sub' tie the knot.*

