





the Isle of Arran's weekly newspaper.

Making a Splash....

Issue 0016 Saturday 21 July 2007



Inside this issue

- Voicemail p 4, 5
- Out & About p 8
- On The Green p 9
- The Wee Voice p 9

Centre Pages Riding High!

• A profile of Mary Davies p 15

Sports

- Full Golf Results p 20
- Latest Football, Cricket and other sports p 22-24
- + recipes, puzzles, community & church news, and more...

Page 3 - Voucher for SuperJumper at the McLaren Hotel.



Paint it blue





This dog was sucking up to the judge

The fire brigade A-team won the 'It's an emergency knock-out' in a spirited clash between the emergency service groups on Arran. It was a high octane

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Bird handling at the fete

affair, and a no-holds-barred video of the event can be watched on the web at www.arranonline.com. It's well worth the download time. 'Oh to see ourselves as others see us,' commented Maureen Smith of the Lamlash Gala Committee.



This evening (Friday 20th) hypnotist Adam Night is performing at the Lamlash Community Centre. Asked how he does it, he says, 'To put it simply, I entertain with psychological subtleties and mysteries of the mind.' One of only four UK hypnotists with public liability insurance, he promises an intriguing night out for friends and family. He's careful not to humiliate or degrade the volunteers in his hypnosis shows, but Adam guarantees a laugh.



Arran's Pipe Band skirls the crowd

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It has been eight months, 13 countries, three continents and 6,622 miles, but NHS Ayrshire & Arran's 'virtual walk to Malawi' has finally made it.

NHS staff and members of the public took part in a sponsored walk along the River Ayr to raise money for healthcare charities in Malawi. A total of 80 walkers covered a distance of 400 miles, completing the final part of the virtual journey from Tanzania to Malawi.



A total of £2,900 was raised. Our original target was £1,700 to fund training for three health surveillance officers in Bandawe, and the extra

funds will help with the restoration of a dispensary building.



The money was presented to two visitors from Malawi, Hamilton Gondwe and Fides Muswolaa, at a special presentation. Staff heard first hand about life in Bandawe and about the projects we would be supporting with our donation.

Arran Voice Website

By Graeme Attkins

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graeme.attkins@arranvoice.com or call 0141 556 1369 during business hours.

Print-making workshop

Last weekend Arran Visual Arts held a 2-day printmaking workshop at the Ranger Centre in Brodick Country Park. The workshop was lead by Jenny Smith, a practising printmaker, who has exhibited widely in both solo and group shows.

Her work is held in many private and corporate collections. Jenny's workshop covered both Monoprint and Collagraph techniques.

10 people joined the workshop. The ages ranged from twelve through to Ferry Concession holders. Two people had travelled over from the mainland specially to attend.

Jenny began the workshop with an explanation of the techniques we would use and a slideshow demonstrating the range of styles and range of effects achieved by current printmakers. A Monoprint is a one-off print technique in which an image produced on an acrylic plate is transferred to paper. The acrylic plate is inked-up using a roller and the image is produced by selectively wiping away the ink with rags, brushes and improvised scrapers. Paper is laid directly over the plate and a print is

A Collagraph plate, which is made from cardboard, has a variety of materials fixed onto the surface of the card with PVA glue. These can include more pieces of card, embossed wallpaper, fabrics, string, sand, tissue, in fact almost anything. The surface of the plate is then sealed with varnish to form a tough, nonabsorbent surface prior to prints being taken. The two days absolutely flew by and Jenny's skill, experience and wideranging knowledge of the subject (and patience) were much appreciated by the group. When the workshop concluded everyone had several prints to take away and was keen to explore further the experience we had gained with these two printmaking techniques.

Arran Visual Arts workshops are organised monthly, cover a wide range of subjects and are led by experienced tutors with a wealth of knowledge of their field. They are open to everyone. The next two arranged for August are 'Still Life in Oils for Beginners' with Emma Szilagyi, a tutor at Leith Academy and the Open Colleges of Art . This one is to be held in Kilmory Hall on 3rd and 4th August. The second workshop on 25th and 26th August is at the Ranger Centre and is a beginners Calligraphy and 'Taster' Illumination with Tony Curtis, a fellow of the Society of Scribes and Illuminators.

Anyone interested in either of the above, please phone Marjorie McDougall on 600211.

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News



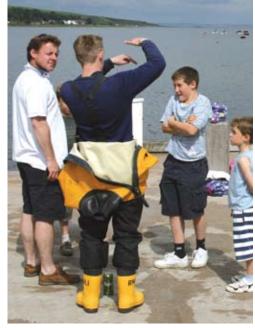
Arran's lifeboat station opens its doors

The Royal National Lifeboat Institute held its Open Day last Sunday. It was a busy afternoon with a fair number of interested visitors, who watched in fascination as a Sea-King helicopter arrived for some winching drills. (Older readers may like to note that these have little resemblance to the high jinks which formerly took place at Lamlash Hall on dance nights.) The Troon lifeboat made an appearance too, although was later forced to return back to the mainland after damaging the craft's propeller on the old jetty submerged in Lamlash Bay.

The B class Atlantic 75 lifeboat based at Lamlash covers the inshore waters around the coast of Arran and deals with a wide variety of calls, including capsized canoes, injured sailors and broken-down vessels, as well as extended searches for missing persons.

Doggy Paddle

During the open day, the team responded to a 'shout' from Whiting Bay. A small dog had decided to go for a sea swim



Above: Mark explains the technical work of the RNLI on the pier

Above right: Team members of the Arran RNLI return to the pier after a display in the

and instead of taking a leisurely doggy paddle, it was ploughing through the water towards Holy Isle. A concerned bystander said he was contemplating a rescue, then saw a girl swim in after the errant spaniel. It was at this stage that the RNLI was alerted to make sure the girl was safe. The rescuer and her dog returned to dry land and the RNLI returned to its open day.

Committee of Inquiry on Crofting

The Committee of Inquiry on Crofting is on a tour of Scotland, and will visit Brodick on Thursday 26 July for a public meeting at 7.15pm in Brodick Hall.

The Committee of Inquiry on Crofting was established by Ministers to consider what further reforms are necessary following the passing of the Crofting Reform Act earlier this year. The Committee will engage with crofting communities to develop a vision for the future of crofting, including its legal, institutional, regulatory and financial basis. This will lead to recommendations to government in the New Year.

The tour, which started at the beginning of June, is to enable the Committee to listen directly to people's views on the subject. It has issued a call for evidence, and packs containing questions will be available at the meeting.



for camper gran

Police and the fire brigade were called earlier this week when an elderly lady was trapped between an 8ft wall and a caravan in Whiting Bay. At around 3pm on Monday, the lady was 'extracted safely' from the gap which, according to Sgt Bob MacKay measured no more than two feet in width. The Sergeant explained that the fire service 'wheeched her out' without the aid of a winch.

Unlicensed to drive - part II

Folk are getting stopped each week for driving without a licence and it's difficult to come up with a silly new headline each time, so we're going to stick with this one from now on. Last Wednesday a 20 year old Polish male was reported to the procurator fiscal for driving a vehicle on the C147 without insurance. In another routine stop near Kilmory on Saturday 14th July a 20 year old Glasgow male was charged and reported for driving without a licence or

40 year old charged with supplying booze

A 40 year-old Brodick woman was charged with supplying alcohol to three underage drinkers on Tuesday 17 July. Staff alerted the police when beer and spirits were purchased in the small Brodick Co-op at 3pm. The booze found its way to three young people aged between 15 and 16 years old. A report has ben submitted to the Procurator Fiscal.

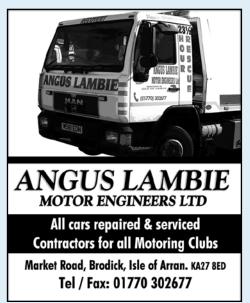
Two private eyes better than one?

Barr Construction have drafted in two private security firms in the wake of the recent vandalism of the new Arran High School. Fortress Security and Castle Security have both been deployed to provide 24 hour surveillance of the building premises.

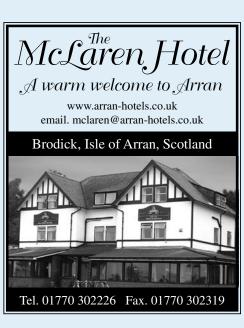
Fishing communities get a say

A consultation on the future of coastal communities and inshore fisheries is doing the rounds throughout Scotland. Two meetings have already taken place in Wester Ross and Shetland, and a meeting for the Clyde area will soon be announced. Rural Affairs and Environment minister Richard Lochhead says he is keen to devise a management system that can deliver 'profitable and sustainable inshore fisheries'. During the meetings,' he continues, 'my officials will seek the views of all those with an interest in the future wellbeing of our fishing communities on how to refine and develop Inshore Fisheries Groups.'









Editorial

The pity of it

p.**4**

A sadness remains in the wake of the wilful damage to the High School. The ugliness and waste of what was done is painful enough, but the greater concern must be for our young people. Here on Arran we have always counted on our children as a real and immensely valuable part of our community, and trusted them in the same way that we trust each other all through life. Because of that trust, there was no watchman on the new building, and no security cameras. Arran, it was felt, is a low-risk place. We are to be trusted. Or so everyone

There are underlying factors that partly explain why youngsters go off the rails. Boredom, disaffection, lack of engagement with school or with the family - these things and others can combine to make a young person feel unwanted and unimportant, and once this feeling takes over, there is no hesitation about damaging whatever comes to hand. Vandalism can become a back-to-front means of self-expression, an art of destruction rather than construction. The pity of it lies in the damage done to the young offenders themselves as well as to the community that includes them. After a destructive act on the level of the High School attack, the perpetrators move into adult life with the handicap of a marked card, finding it even more difficult to step away from resentment and hostility. It's our loss as well as theirs, for everyone here is in some way part of everyone else. The trustworthiness that links us has been damaged. Our main task now must be to ensure that we do not accept this damaged state as the norm. We must continue to trust, and to be worthy of trust.

Latin scholars rose gamely to the challenge of providing us with a masthead slogan, and we were particularly impressed by Helen Struthers' offering of VOX POPULARIS AUDIRE -'Listen to the voice of the people.' She even contributed the Gaelic rendering, EISD RI GUTH NA MUINNTIR. We can't think of anything better than that. Watch out for its inclusion next week and onward. Many thanks to Helen and to others who offered suggestions.

The BT saga grinds on. Broadband phoned this morning to ask with a trace of weariness whether the line was in yet. No, we had to admit, not yet. We were assured last week that it would be in 'this week or next'. We are now looking at next. How long is Next? Ah, now, there's a philosophical conundrum. Patience, patience, and shuffle the cards. Who said that? Someone confronted by endless Next, no doubt.

Quote of the Week

Writing is no trouble; you just jot down ideas as they occur to you. The jotting is simplicity itself – it is the occurring which is difficult.'

Stephen Leacock

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Voicemai

The politicians have spoken - the old High School is to be demolished. Not one has said that it is a good idea and all have expressed regret, yet none have so far shown any leadership in saving the school in accord with the wishes of the vast majority of Arran people. We have heard a continuous flow of arguments as to why this has to happen, the most insistent is the contractual obligations under the PPP system. According to NAC, "An integral part of the contract involves the demolition of the existing schools,' (including others in Ayrshire), yet, when the commercial side of the PPP was contacted a different attitude emerged. There was indeed a clause to allow renegotiation and they were prepared to renegotiate and be reasonable. It was also revealed that the demolition was at the instigation of NAC and that NAC still owns the school. The reason for demolition is obviously, primarily to relieve NAC of running costs! When this PPP revelation was pointed out to the Leader of NAC by Sally Campbell, the reply involved a change of tack. " It is not that our contract could not be renegotiated -" but this was followed by an unexamined list of other reasons for demolition, such as access, views, compensation etc. (June 29) In other words, the means already exists for renegotiation. I understand that the new school will open late. Already there are predictions beyond October but every month of delay is worth about £100,000 to NAC. This is a considerable bargaining counter. How could saving the old school result in delays when it greatly reduces the total amount of work to be done? The immediate view for the new school was going to be a car park on the site of the old school, not a sea view which is now much vaunted as a reason for demolition. Access, bus stop and car park are solvable minor matters. If necessary, a piece of adjoining land is available at market value according to the owner. NAC suggests that "It is likely that there would be complaints from all those interested in the well-being of the pupils and staff of the school ..." etc. How can they know this? Have they ever been here to see the school? Do they live here? It sounds like preposterous scaremongering! Of course, this is not really a battle of arguments. NAC have taken an entrenched position and have no inclination to change. This is a political decision which only superior political pressure can move. NAC have assessed that the wishes of Arran people can be over-ridden and have so decided. We may need to do more on this issue but, more important, perhaps Arran needs to develop more confidence in asserting itself. Otherwise the school could be just another scandal on the scale of Scottish Water and the sewerage

The old school is not that old. It is the island's biggest public building with a huge amount of public money spent on it. There are many and perhaps multiple uses it could be put to. Obviously, first priority would be housing,

while its separate, fine art block should be a community facility. It has been suggested that all local government offices and services be centred there. We need a professional assessment of its housing potential but if, in the wake of the Craigforth Report, housing needs were to be satisfied, it would be worth considering the school as a university geology college and base for residential geology study on the island with links to the new High School so that Arran pupils could benefit. It would be fitting to call it after James Hutton of "Hutton's Unconformity" fame. There are many more possible uses. The old school building would cost millions to build and here we have it intact. It seems like madness to demolish it and contribute an extra 3,000 tons of rubble and rubbish to our overstretched waste management system. We need to make NAC think again.

John Inglis, Community Councillor.

I am amazed that anyone would come all the way to Arran to buy cheese, chocolate, oatcakes and ice cream, all of which can be got anywhere on the mainland, as Linda Johnston would have it. And where are these FABULOUS cafes seving these wonderful and unusual items? Certainly we have good cafes, the Museum Tea Room is an excellent example.....but fabulous? Compared to what or where? I looked the word up in the dictionary......'false or feigned' is the definition. Seems about right.

Lorna Sherry

The Summer Fayre last Thursday in Brodick Hall realised the worthwhile sum of just over £1000. The steady stream of customers was given a cheery welcome at the hall by piper Angus Adamson. Delightful background music, provided by our regular pianist Yvonne Brothers, created a pleasant atmosphere within

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. Regular mail can be sent to:

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the hall. The "kitchen staff" were kept busy providing teas and coffees to accompany the delicious sandwiches and home-baking. Stall holders were busy and by 1.00p.m. several stalls were sold out. It was a very successful event and the committee once again wish to thank all regular supporters and for their help and donations. However, the support of the public is also necessary and we thank all who attended and contributed generously to our

Jean Robertson Save the Children Committee

A big THANK YOU! to all who supported us in the 70 Wild Miles event held last month.

Together we raised £1359.50 for CLIC Sargent (the childrens' cancer care charity).

For full acknowledgements please see our website www.thepuffins.co.uk

Many thanks Susan Knox, Fiona Fullerton, Nina Morgan. Cairndale, Strathwhillan, Brodick,

Patient safety

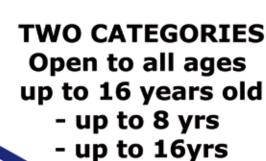
Improving patient safety was the focus of a recent conference hosted by NHS Ayrshire & Arran, in partnership with NHS Quality Improvement Scotland (QIS). Over 100 delegates came along to hear about wider safety and quality improvement in healthcare.

Arran **Visual Arts Exhibition**

The Arran Visual Arts Exhibition will be open from 10.30 am to 5.00 pm every day from Saturday 28th July to the following Thursday, August 2nd, at Lochranza Village Hall. Anyone wanting further details should contact Jan Beattie on 302521 or Jan McGregor on 700249.



picture of what YOU do with your summer holidays



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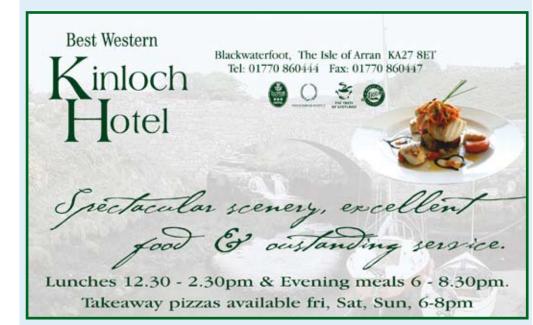
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Folk revival

With weekly summer ceilidhs now up-and-reeling in Brodick (and soon in Lochranza too), the newly-formed Arran Folk Festival company has started on its mission to restore the profile of Arran's folk music.

For the past few years Arran's music scene has played on spiritedly without the jewel in its annual crown. But from the ashes of a fierily successful festival and the burn-out caused by dampenng financial realities, a folk festival is now back on the horizon.

The history

In the 1990s, an annual weeklong festival placed Arran on the international folk map. Since the festival's decline and eventual winding up, the tradition of folk music on Arran has been kept alive by a few hubs around the island, with weekly open sessions at the Ormidale, Aldersyde and the Kildonan Hotel.

The first festival was held 17 years ago in 1990. It began, as most good things do, with a hefty dose of organic enthusiasm. Set into motion by a road-show where local

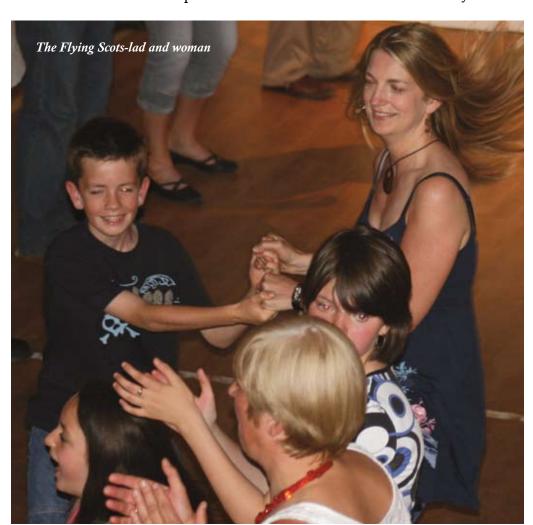
musicians would tour the pubs of the island, the event grew quickly into an international event. Bobby Watts encouraged bands from as far afield as Canada, and nobody will forget characters like Danny Kyle, Ian Anderson and Arran's own Mick Broderick.

Maggie and Ian Frame were part of the original committee and their daughter Gillian is now part of the successful group, 'Back of the Moon' with her husband Findlay Napier.

The festival gave fresh life to a folk community, as musicians who had worked in the shipyards together were making gutsy, political folk music, spearheading the revival of 60s music. Well-known faces were seen at the party. Billy Connelly used to scoot over on his Harley to join in.

Donal Boyle explained that one of the festival's unique strengths was its diversity. The highly lyrical and artistic, Gaelic-influenced side blended, he said, 'with the rootsy, urban music that would come out of Glasgow'.

Soon the festival was attracting big names – Frances Black, Dougie MacLean, Four Men and a Dog, Tim O'Brien – a draw for musiclovers from all over Scotland and the world. Ian Frame was key to the festival's success and the Bank of Scotland manager Richard gave over many of his non-working hours to assist. Bikers used to help out with security and the brimming campsites were like transient communities. The cleansing department even used to bring round extra bins. 'This was the kind of atmosphere that was created,' said Donal, 'and 90% of the island loved it.' A survey of local



businesses about 7 years ago found that the biggest weekly takings for many island businesses coincided with the festival in the first week of June.

But the festival organisers faced mounting financial and logistical pressures. As the fame of the festival spread, so did the popularity of the musicians who played. Artists who were charging £150-200 for a whole evening in the early days put their prices up to £1000 for an 80-minute set just 12 years later.

In 1997, the committee had an artistic budget of £15,000, but the costs of the marquee, security, generators and insurance meant that the annual turnover topped £35,000 - a huge financial risk for a voluntary committee scarily dependent on ticket sales and good weather. 'The final nail in the coffin was the fire regulations,' said Donal. After an audit by NAC, the permitted capacity of the marquee was cut from 1,200 to just 400. And although the organisers winged it that year, the event was never going to be the same again. 'It's a general economic trend that only bigger companies can afford to comply,' Donal remarked with mournful realism. The recent Proclaimers gig is a case in point. With suffocating red tape, it would be tricky for other smaller organisations to take on such an event.

Three years ago, the Folk Festival died. With £2,000 left in the bank, the committee agreed to place the PA system and what remained of the funds in trust and set a time limit of three years for a 'worthy successor'



Terry Stevens talks the hundred ceilidh-goers through the next dance.....

to emerge. The Feis was one such group, but no proposal to take on the name and assets of Arran Folk Festival was formed.

Donal Boyle, Findlay Napier and the Boguillie Band's Terry Stevens are directors of the new company. It will adhere in the main to the constitution of the original charity – and, Donal hopes, be good for the island as a whole. The Arran Folk Festival plans to establish a trust fund to assist the many community groups that are involved in music and the performing arts on Arran.

Ceilidh nights are being held weekly in Brodick Hall, and are already proving popular. The first one had about 100 folk putting on their dancing shoes to Strip the Willow and charge around for the Flying Scotsman. With bands like Johnny and Jetpatchers, Deepjoy and Tom Buchan's skiffle-crew regularly playing gigs around the bars, Arran looks set to regain its place as one of Scotland's top folk scenes.



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(01770)600349/998 079327 86524 tomin10@tiscali.co.uk



Out S About

Daily Events on

Arran Brewery – open Mon – Sat 10am – 5pm, Sunday 12.30pm – 5pm. Tour the Brewery and visit our extensive shop Brodick Castle & Country Park. Gardens open at 10am. Castle 11am–4pm

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 600

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

Brodick Bowling Club Rink Game – 6.45pm

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

Summer Bridge, at Hirsel, Shore Road, Lamlash at 7pm for 7.15pm. All welcome. Please phone 600 900

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

Painting classes, Ranger Centre, Brodick Castle at 7.30pm

Pop Music Quiz, 10pm at the Ormidale Hotel

Alcoholics Anonymous Brodick Church Hall 2pm

This week's Special **Events on Arran**

Friday 20th July

Live music at The Aldersyde – 9pm Baz Warne, Bap Kennedy & Peter O'Hanlon-Tickets £10

Lamlash Gala week final night with Adam Night followed by The Boguillie Band in Community Centre

Book and Card Centre open at midnight for launch of Harry Potter book , barbeque, face painting, fun & games

Sat 21st July

Live music at The Aldersyde – 9pm Baz Warne, Bap Kennedy & Peter O'Hanlon supported by Ben Ruth & The Gauntlet –8pm Tickets £10

Lochranza Gala Day and Craft Fair - The Village Hall 2pm – 4pm

Gala dance with The News Band 9pm – 1am (over 18's only – ID required)

Hen Harrier Day Trip

Join Arran's Hen Harrier Information Officer for a day trip to Kilmory to see the live nest camera footage in the Village Hall and go on a guided walk with a chance to see this rare and enigmatic bird hunting on the heather moors of the South End. Free of

Every WednesdayOpen Folk Session 9pm at the Aldersyde Hotel

Brodick Bowling Club Rink Game - 6.45pm

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.

Circuit training, Auchrannie Spa Gym 6pm -7.15pm

Hockey, Auchrannie Hall 7pm -8pm

Craft Market – Brodick Hall 1pm-4pm from Wed 4th July – Wed 22nd August - call Val for details 700651

Every Thursday Arran Bike Club, 6pm meet Brodick, Lamlash and Whiting Bay alternately. Visit arranbikeclub.com for location of this week's meeting – all welcome.

Senior Fitness, Auchrannie Spa Gym 9.30am-& 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

Village Market – Whiting Bay Hall 10am – 2pm. Thurs 5th July – Thurs 23rd August – call Val for details

Shiskine Tennis Club - Adults (16 +) 4.30pm onwards. Phone Sally Brookes 820221 for more details

Whiting Bay Golf Club - QUIZ. 9pm

Aquafizz, Auchrannie Hotel Pool 9.45am -10.30am

Over 21's Disco 10pm at the Ormidale Hotel

Whiting Bay Bowling Club Rink game - 7pm

Brodick Bowling Club Rink Game - 2.15pm

Karate, Auchrannie Hall 11.30am –12.30pm

RNLI shop, Lamlash open from 2pm-4pm

WB Hall, 2pm

Brodick church fete, 2pm

Drift Inn, 9.30pm

Lochranza, 2pm

Park, 6pm

Sun 22nd July

Ben Ruth & The Gauntlet

Guided Hen Harrier Walk – 3pm

Family Games, Auchrannie Hall 2pm – 3pm

Alcoholics Anonymous, St Margaret's Church Whiting

charge-please book to avoid disappointment.

Call Lucy on 07899 675131 Meet at Brodick

Whiting Bay and Kildonan Church Sale -

Whiting Bay improvements fun day, 2pm

Just John and Paul (Beatles tribute band) -

Football: Northend versus Lamlash,

Football: Brodick versus Southend, Ormidale

Live music at The Aldersyde 4pm & 9pm -

Join Hen Harrier Information Officer Lucy

Gibbons in Kilmory for a guided walk with

a chance to see one of Scotland's rarest and

most threatened birds of prey, as they hunt

the moorland of the South End. Please call

Cricket match Sannox CC versus Doune

07899 675131 for details and bookings.

Valley, 11.30am Sannox Oval.

RNLI shop, Lamlash open from 2pm-4pm Open Folk Session 9.30pm at the Ormidale Hotel And so it goes on. Apart from a few brief highs, low pressure areas will continue to drift in off the Atlantic, keeping summer away. We can be certain of nothing except that it will not be snowing. We have had some lovely days and part-days, but there is always the threat of rain. On the up side, there's still high hopes of high pressure returning at the end of July.

Stef's Stab At The Weather

Going abroad? Again, this weekend, southern Europe will be basking in hot sunshine this weekend, with temperatures well into the 30's. Germany and France, however, look like having a lot of rain.

For the Open Golf, it should stay quite dry and overcast for the first couple of days with an easterly breeze around 12/15mph. a bit more sun on Saturday and even more on Sunday.

General Summary for 13th July to 18th July

Areas of low pressure and weather fronts continue to meander aimlessly across the country. This means that we will continue with the sort of weather we have been having for the last couple of weeks, that is, nice bits and not-so-nice bits.

Friday: Quite a warm day, 18C, but not a lot of sunshine. Perhaps a couple of hours in the afternoon. With quite a bit of cloud about and a very light easterly air flow it will feel muggy and humid. I wish I'd some shares in midge repellent. Further out to sea the breeze will be fresher and fine for sailing. Rain? Some light

Saturday: A more pleasant day than Friday, with much more sunshine to keep the midges lurking in the woods, and continuing warm at 18C. It will stay dry with a very light breeze from the east. A great day for all outdoor pursuits

Sunday: Another pleasant day with a good measure of sunshine and patchy clouds. Still warm at 18C and little wind to speak of. Perhaps a slightly greater chance of showers, and with such humid conditions they could be thundery.

Monday: We will have another pleasant warm day, again at 17C, with some good sunny spells and broken cloud. A light breeze from the east is expected It should stay dry during the day, but there could be some light rain in the evening.

Tuesday: A wee bit cooler at 16C but still quite pleasant with sunny spells and a light breeze from the south west. Some showers in the morning, but very pleasant in the afternoon. As ever, though there is some heavy rain coming in the

Wednesday: It will remain unsettled with showers for most areas, some heavy, interspersed with some drier, sunnier periods.

Ferry Notes: Very light winds, so no ferry problems.









Tues 24th July

Whiting Bay Drama Club 'Ladies of Spirit' doors open 7.30pm Whiting Bay

Farmers Market - Kilmory Hall 11.30am

The Rowan Singers, Summer Concert Brodick Hall – 8pm.

Corrie Church Fete, Corrie & Sannox Village Hall 12.30pm – 3.00pm

Wed 25th July

Willow Weaving for Children. – 12noon A chance for children to learn about weaving with willow. They will be able to create small items like mini hurdles, stars, fish, or other decorations/toys depending on their capabilities. Drop in any time between 12 and 4pm at Brodick Castle Countryside Centre

Concert & Ceilidh at Brodick Hall. – 8pm Featuring a concert by local as well as visiting artists followed by a ceilidh by Arran's own Bougillie band. Tickets £7, Cons. £5 or £20 for a family ticket. Two adults and up to three children.

Thurs 26th July

Brodick Auction - Brodick Golf Club, 8pm (Viewing church hall 11am-12pm, 2pm-3pm)

Crofters Commission public meeting in Brodick Hall, 8pm

Arran Garden Club - Brodick Castle Rangers Centre – 7.30pm Gardening in Polytunnels - Dave Tapson from

Lamlash. Family Ceilidh – 8.30pm

Lochranza Village Hall Licensed Adults £5, U12s £3, Family (4) £15

Friday 27th July

Live music at The Aldersyde – 9pm Steve &

Earthworks live at the Cameronia Hotel -9.30pm

A night of LIVE music from Traditional Folk through Cajun, Bluegrass and Country to good old fashioned Rock! played on Fiddle, Drums and a mix of guitars and it's FREE!!

Saturday 28th July

Live music at The Aldersyde - The Micky Kemp Band with Elvis (Dave the Plumber) – 9pm

Sunday 29th July

Live music at The Aldersyde – The Micky Kemp Band with Elvis (Dave the Plumber) – 4pm & 9pm

On the Green

Risk

Glasgow is dead chuffed with itself now that a Weegie working at the airport has tackled a terrorist and come off best. Within the hour, a hero was established, a Wallace of our time. Wave the clenched fist in the air, buy the T shirt, offer to marry him. (No, honest, females did, by the dozen.) John Smeaton, for a day or two at least, was magic come true, the stuff of legend.

We've a desperate need for heroes, I suppose. Or is it that we need risk? You can't have a hero without danger. That's what makes him or her heroic, the fact of standing up with magnificent recklessness to unspeakable hazards. I'm not a fan of St George, and always tended to side with the dragon, who seemed a fairly innocent fire-breathing beast, but at least the guy with the red cross flag buckled over his armour was in there with his lance and broad-sword, never mind Health and Safety. This is a tricky line of argument, because it leads helter-skelter into a support of terrorists because they make life more exciting, and that doesn't much appeal to people who have been blown

Nobody ever admits, of course, that excitement is addictive. We ancients who

grew up during the war never admitted it, either, but there was a certain grim thrill about the sleepless nights of bombardment, the gritty mornings of rubble and nonrunning taps, fallen plaster that crunched underfoot, newly-ruined houses to be gazed at with their bedroom wallpaper exposed to the sky, shrapnel to be dug out of the lawn. To be honest, there were awful moments when it suddenly wasn't a game any more. You couldn't really cheer when an enemy plane went spiralling to the ground with smoke pouring from its tail, though you were supposed to. There were men in there. German kids unknown to us wouldn't see Dad come home any more. But that knowledge added to the weird sense of being extremely alive and lucky. When it all ended, there was a sense of something lost. An indescribably gripping piece of theatre had ended, the dull, muffling curtain had come down forever and the days turned into small variations on the theme of boredom.

This orgy of honesty is tricky stuff. Despite my secret taste for a bit of danger, I draw the line at too much of the stuff. As a devoted member of CND, I've always been horrified by the idea of nuclear arms, and don't even like the presence of Sellafield just down there in Cumbria, cooking up its lethal load of rubbish.

The post-Hiroshima stage of the war was something quite different and dreadful. We'd moved out of personal risk into mechanical annihilation, and that was a long way from St George and the dragon. Danger on the cataclysmic scale is just plain depressing.

But look at graffiti - no, honest, this isn't a case of butterfly-brain, it does connect. Look at the places those kids get to, climbing over railway gantries and through the barbed wire along factory walls in the middle of the night in order to make their mark. Sadly, it's always a hideous mark, the same as all the others, overblown capital letters and shapeless scrawls. (Banksy is quite different, he's an actual artist.) But the point is, the boys with the spray cans took the risk. The next day, sloping along among the unknown crowds, they can look up at the panels of some railway bridge high above the road and think, 'I did that.'

It's sad that excitement has been so packaged away that only the rich can afford it. Ski-ing is a thrill. So is motor bike

racing and hang-gliding – and hunting, for those with the money to put two gloved fingers up at the worthies who outlawed it. No fun for the fox, I dare say, but I'm not sure, were I a vixen, that I'd chose the spade and the gun rather than the hounds. Better to give the pack a good run for its money - there's always a chance you might get away with it. My enemy now is the blanketing dullness imposed by the silly idea that life can be safe. It makes us into something as inert as burgers, fat and squidgy and unhealthy.

We need risk. We need to fall out of trees and be disrespectful to persons in authority and get very dirty and do silly things with boats. That way, we start to get clever about staying alive rather than sitting in an armchair and grumbling about the insurance premiums. Let there be dragons, I say, even if we have to invent them. Let there be excitement. Let there be wild dreams and adventures and unexpected heroes. Let there be terrorists? Well, maybe. But - dear Lord, let them be somewhere else.



Our junior contributors, The Wee Arran Voice Team, discuss shopping.

It's a Shopaholism epidemic!

Shopping is fast becoming Britain's favourite pastime, but is our thirst for retail therapy getting out of control? And why is the average age of a "shopaholic" plummeting so fast?

It seems a little ironic that, in a time when we are most acutely aware of the damage that over-consumption can do to the planet; we are still splashing out every six months on that slim mobile or the latest ipod. But with

shoppers getting younger and younger it's no wonder spending is becoming such a popular activity.

by Alison Prince

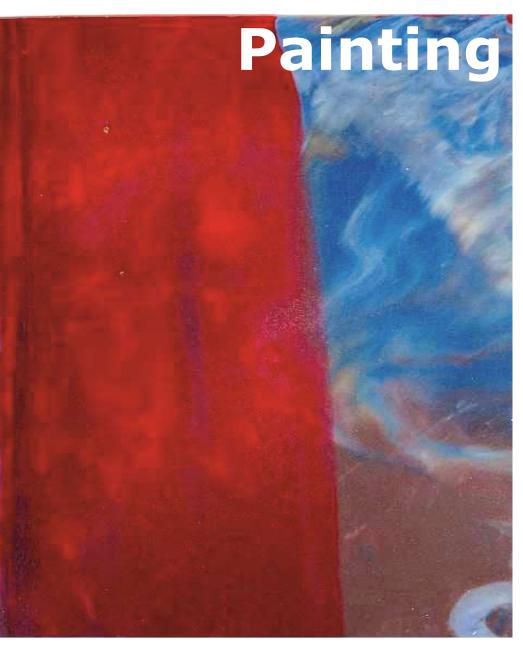
It is very clever of companies to get children and teenagers into the earliest possible use of their products because then, as they progress through life, they will "trust" the company and will continue to purchase whatever it offers them. A very good example of a business that targets a younger audience is the games company Nintendo, who produced the extremely popular GameBoy. They design their smaller games consoles to appeal to the under-twelves, and the larger, more expensive ones to the thirteen-plusses.

I think increased marketing aimed at juveniles is one of the key reasons why shopping has become so popular. Also, of course, high street prices have been greatly reduced, thanks to shops such as Primark and TK-Maxx, making fashion widely available to everyone.

However worrying our spending habits may be, both for individuals and for the planet at large, a day's shopping is certainly fun. I guess it's quite good exercise, all that walking around.... Well, that's my excuse anyway!

The Wee Voice Team this week was: Zoë Tomalin (who decided not to join the circus after all), with the help of Jasper, the dribbling cat.





Painting without a medium

In a world marked by derivative design and pastiche, genuinely fresh ideas are few and far between. But Elias Smeir reckons he is onto something by creating a the world's first painting 'without a medium'. In a debut exhibition of Inverse Art last week at the Auchrannie, he explains that artists have always painted on something, be it a rock or paper or wood. Now Elias has - through Inverse Art - created an oil substance that can be applied to a sheet of glass for example, and then peeled away leaving a micro-thin sheet of just the artistic paintwork itself.

Inventor and artist Elias uses a special formula of oil to enable what he describes as a new art form. The paintings can be translucent, creating a whole host of different effects.

'It is a new invention' Elias explains, 'which will open many a door for a great variety of people around the world to paint and outreach'.

Right: The Red Rock - an example of Inverse

Below: Elias explains the artistic technique to Alan Johnston last Thursday



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.

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.

ENTRIES MUST **ONLY** BE E-MAILED TO photos@arrandatabank.com

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.

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.

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.

Closing date: August 31 2007. Winners announced September 7th 2007

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

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

The competition is not open to any Arran Voice staff or

Prizes are donated by Arran Graphics.



LOCAL NEWS p.11

The Oak

Rangers on Record

By Stephen Mason

On Friday 13th July 2007, Mary and Billy Mason from Coatbridge decided to walk to the King's Cave as part of their week's holiday in Brodick.

First Class service of Arran Coastguard

As they started back, Mary slipped on a grassy slope and collapsed with her right leg under her body. She could not weight bear on the leg and felt sick, faint and dizzy. There was no way she could walk back to Shiskine Golf Club where their car was parked, so Billy contacted Strathclyde Police for assistance. They in turn contacted the local Arran Coastguard Rescue Service.

6 volunteers reached them after a 2-mile walk, with stretcher and leg splint, and as Mary herself says, 'Their care and attention was first class. They organised a helicopter from Prestwick which arrived and landed on the stony beach within what seemed like a few minutes.' The onboard Paramedics examined Mary then padded and protected the right leg. She was transferred to Crosshouse Hospital where a broken leg was diagnosed.



Above: Mary's leg being attended to



Above: Mary with the Arran Coastguard team.

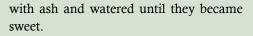
Mary and Billy would like to express their heartfelt thanks to 'the 6 wonderful volunteers - Gary Wilson, Fiona Laing, Laura Gilmour, Yvonne Currie, Jamie Logan and Billy Currie and also to the crew of the helicopter.' They add that 'these amazing people give their time in aid of a wonderful cause, and the Island of Arran should be proud of this excellent service.'



Above: Mary is airlifted off in the Royal Navy Helicopter All photos supplied by Billy Mason

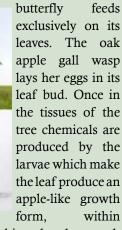
The tannin in Oak bark was used for making leather from hides. Acorns are produced periodically in what are known

as mast years, when one tree can produce up to 50,000 seeds. This food source can be made into a coffee or eaten once the tannins reduced, are which done by Native Americans by being buried



There is an island in Loch Maree in Wester Ross where coins have been hammered edgewise into an oak whilst making a wish. The oldest of the coins are from the 1870s, and the tree has long since died from copper poisoning.

Oaks are fantastic habitats, with over 500 species of invertebrates that are specific to them. The caterpillar of the purple hairstreak



which there are about thirty chambers, each with a larva inside.

Oaks are tremendously durable and a tree in Lithuania is suspected to be over 1500 years old. The bog oaks found buried in peatlands may be up to 6000 years old. The oldest door in Britain has recently been discovered in Westminster Abbey and is 900 years old.

An introduction to birds of prey.

The Hamilton family Coat of Arms consists of an oak tree and saw. Sir Gilbert

Hamilton was fleeing from the court of Edward II and was saved by exchanging

clothes with some woodcutters. Place names with darroch, doire or derry show their associations with oak. Dereneneach on Arran is the "Oak grove of the



Cairnie

By Ian Struthers

Cairnie is the name I have chosen for this male Saker. He has started on the preliminary stage of training, which is by far the most important although it looks the least impressive.

When I first picked him up he hissed and spat, although when his hood was put on, instead of making him worse it had a calming effect as he could no longer see me. He had already been fitted with jesses and anklets so it was only left to fit a swivel and leash. The next move was to get him to sit on the glove. This proved to be no problem, especially if I kept walking, as the slight sway caused him to concentrate on regulating his balance. After about an hour I sat down in a dark room and partially removed his hood just for a few seconds. This was repeated at intervals over the next hour until he would accept it being removed for a couple of minutes and then replaced. This had taken place in the latter part of the day and soon it was time to leave him on his block until the next morning, when I would try to get him to accept a strip of very lean venison from my gloved hand.

When I entered his mews he bated away from me and was not at all calm until I managed to hood him. Once hooded he soon settled, and after a period of walking, during which I removed and replaced his hood, I sat down in a relatively dark room to see if he would feed.

I took a strip of meat between my thumb and forefinger, then removed Cairnie's hood and waited, occasionally moving the meat a little. From time to time he would look at it, but he showed no interest in taking it. Just when I was ready to give up, he dropped his head and started to pull at the flesh. When he had a full crop he allowed me to hood him for return to the mews.

This stage of training is mainly about 'manning' the hawk - that is to say, getting it used to the ways of man.







The Riding for the Disabled Arran Group recently completed a week-long series of activities, finishing with a gymkhana. Last week the young folk sat their RDA proficiency tests tests after studying for 6 months, and all successfully passed Grade 1 & 2 for riding and Grade 1 horse care. Judged by Jenny Williams, RDA certificates and badges were presented and the rosettes - kindly supplied by Liz Kennedy – were awarded for the gymkhana games held on Friday.

About 16 helpers gave their time to plan and hold the week at Oakbank, kitted out in Kiscadale Engineering t-shirts. The group runs activities from riding lessons to treasure hunts and from negotiating Paul-Tinto-designed obstacle courses to washing ponies' manes and tails. Fulton Decorators provided the group with high visibility safety tabards which are used when the children hack out down to the village. Drivers passing through Lamlash have been asked to watch out for the fluorescent jackets and to pass wide and slow.

The group was given a special trophy of recognition at the NAC's recent 'volunteers celebration' for its work to help the lives of disabled people on Arran.

Barbara Tinto, who set up RDA on Arran a year ago, is passionate about providing activities for young people with learning difficulties. She explains that on Arran, where there is a smaller pool of formal organisations providing care and support, young people with learning disabilities can 'struggle to find things to do'.



Above: Certificates awarded for horse care and riding

RIDIN(



Above: Barbara Tinto w



HOLIDAY PROPERTY MANAGERS





BUIGH



Above: Sarah Thomson with "Polo" and Tom Griffiths.

Barbara admires the enormous work that goes on, with the Parents Support Group providing much-needed support. But she also perceives a need to extend the range of activities and support available on Arran. While school provides a structure, there is now a shortage of opportunities for young people at a school-leaving age. She is keen to explore the possibilities for supported employment amongst the island's businesses, to help people with learning disabilities into work.

Meanwhile the work and fun of the of the RDA continues. Anyone interested in helping - no horse knowledge required, just enthusiam, energy and a sense of fun - please contact Barbara Tinto on 600517 or Rona Fulton 600752.)

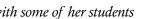


Above: Some of the horses on Lamlash Shorefront



Above: Well-earned refreshments at the Drift Inn





Whether you are looking for home-cooked meals for all the family, a night out with friends, a chance to hear excellent music from all different genres, or an environment to relax -

> the **Drift Inn, Lamlash** welcomes you. "When you are out, Drift Inn"

For further information please visit our website at www.thedriftinn.co.uk | Tel: 01770 600270





HOTEL ORMIDALE

HOME COOKED BAR MEALS

OPEN 12.30pm - 2pm & 6pm-9pm daily Brodick 01770 302293

Real Ale (Recommended CAMRA Good Beer Guide)

WHAT'S ON AT THE ORMIDALE

Sat - Over 21's Disco - 10pm

Sun - Open Folk Session - 9.30pm Tue - Pop Music Quiz - 10pm Thu - Gen. Knowledge Quiz - 10pm Fri - Over 21's Disco - 10pm



Welcome aboard the famous WAVERLEY – celebrating her Diamond Jubilee in 2007! Sail back in time on one of the World's greatest historic ships - magnificently restored. Dine or Relax in the warmth of the beautifully restored lounges – see the mighty engines, 'Clyde Built' for over 900 passengers & owned by a Scottish Charity. Enjoy a wonderful day out amid the magnificent scenery of the Firth of Clyde.

PADDLE STEAMER CRUISES Lochs & Isle:

from BRODICK Pier

LOCHS & CARRICK CASTLE EVERY WEDNESDAY Leave 11.30am back 6.10pm Day trip to Largs £14.95 SENIOR CITIZENS £12.95; Dunoon £18.95 SC £16.95

or Blairmore £19.95 SC £17.95 on the Coast of Argyll. Or stay aboard for the Grand Full Day Cruise – steam amid spectacular scenery up the Clyde Fjords of Loch Long & Loch Goil to view Carrick Castle £25.95 SC £23.95

TWO ISLANDS CRUISE

EVERY THURSDAY Leave 3pm back 5pm

Relax & enjoy the magnificent scenery of 'Scotland in Mini-ature' as you steam along Arran's coastline to Pladda Island & steam round Holy Isle £14.95 SC £12.95

AFTERNOON CRUISE - SKIPNESS CASTLE

Every Sunday Leave 3.40pm back 4.40pm Cruise in style accross the Kilbrannan Sound as you steam to Skipness Point with views of Skipness Castle on thr Kintyre Peninsula £9.95.

BE SURE OF YOUR TICKETS - TEL: 0845 130 4647

Cheques: Waverley Excursions Ltd, Waverley Terminal, Glasgow G3 8HA; Tickets from BRODICK TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE

Or Buy Your Tickets On Board When You Sail DISCOUNTS FOR GROUPS OF 10 & MORE

RESTAURANT :: LOUNGES :: STEAM ENGINE



Winners' Anthem

In a nail-biting finish last year, the Kielty brothers from Edinburgh beat Arran's entry in the Highland Quest for a new musical. The Arran team has kept in touch with them since, and is not at all surprised by what they are up to now. As a group called The Martians, they've written a song that seems to them ideal as a new anthem for Scotland, and are drumming up support for it - as their press release, slightly de-waffled by us, makes clear. Here we go:

In respect for Scotland's dogged refusal to 'die when killed', 'stop talking when your turn is over', 'queue in an orderly fashion' or EVER 'put that down at once and stop this nonsense' The Martians give you;

Our Home

www.the-martians.co.uk/upgrade/ news.php

Listen here to find out why Our Home should become the new Scottish Anthem. Paste it in your address book, email your vote and comments back. Put it on your mobile phone. Our Home can be downloaded for any WAP enabled phone that supports mp3 or amr. Led by Head Martian John Kielty, this tune is now being emailed and downloaded across the country.

Our Home celebrates Scotland, its history and passion. Now that the relevance of God Save the Queen is being questioned and the Flower of Scotland has been described as 'a dirge' by the SFA President, there

is a call for a new anthem, one that reflects the spirit and drive of modern Scotland. Our Home is that anthem. It celebrates Scotland as a place of enlightenment, a progressive and contemporary nation. It does not dwell on the tartan and shortbread image of recent times.

John and Gerry Kielty have always loved Scotland, "Partly because it was the first thing we saw when our eyes opened, and partly because the Scots and The Martians have so much in common. We both should have died of the cold long, long ago. We both gave dogs the vote before we gave it to females. We appreciate isostatic recovery and fear stinging insects."

The anthem is the opening number of John and Gerry's winning musical, The Sundowe, which will be the opening event for the newly built second theatre at Eden Court, Inverness. The ever-magnanimous Arran team wishes them more power to their collective elbow.



Bridge Club



On every Monday 7pm for 7.15pm The Hirsel, Shore Road, Lamlash Please phone 600900 to book in Visitors and residents welcome The results for Monday 16 July were:

N/S 1 H Boyd & J Murchie 2 A Carr & T Martin 3 L Robertson & M Jones

/W 1. S Nicolson & R Nicolson 2 I McArthur & L McKellar

2 I McArthur & L McKellar 3 G Wallbank & E McNiven

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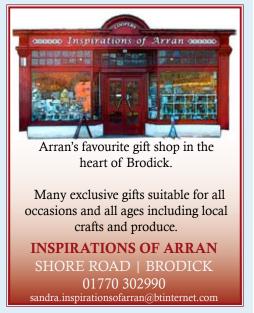


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A profile of Mary Davies by Claire Berrie

Mary Davies, local author and retired spiritual healer, looks out of her living room over Brodick Bay to Goatfell, and enlivens a dreich Friday afternoon as she talks to me about her strange life journey. An only child, she was born to unconventional parents in Morecambe. Her father was conscripted into the army during the First World War (much against his will, as he was a pacifist), and unfortunately lost two fingers in an engineering accident. This made it hard for him to find work, but he became, Mary says, a wonderful house-husband and father. Her mother was 40 at the time of Mary's birth, and had to act as the main breadwinner of the family, running a successful dressmaker's shop.

School days began as a torment for Mary, who was an overweight, painfully shy little girl. Her parents eventually moved her to a small private school where she blossomed and was almost always 'top of the class'.

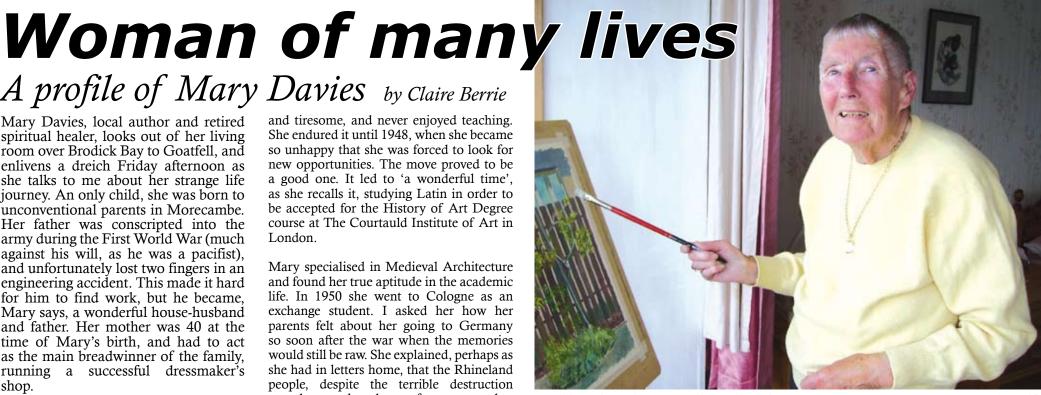
By the time he Second World War broke out in 1939, Mary was studying at Liverpool Art School. The night before she was due to sit her finals, her home was hit by a bomb from German raiders and destroyed. She sat her exams nevertheless, and passed them, but she and her parents were homeless and with few possessions left.

Young women were being called up to join the forces, but Mary had inherited her father's pacifism and was determined not to do that. Instead, she became an art teacher, because teaching was at the time a 'reserved occupation', regarded as essential. The system was in turmoil, she remembers, confused by the coming and going of children being decanted as evacuees to the country and the presence of European refugees who had fled before the threat of Nazism. She found it chaotic and tiresome, and never enjoyed teaching. She endured it until 1948, when she became so unhappy that she was forced to look for new opportunities. The move proved to be a good one. It led to 'a wonderful time', as she recalls it, studying Latin in order to be accepted for the History of Art Degree course at The Courtauld Institute of Art in

Mary specialised in Medieval Architecture and found her true aptitude in the academic life. In 1950 she went to Cologne as an exchange student. I asked her how her parents felt about her going to Germany so soon after the war when the memories would still be raw. She explained, perhaps as she had in letters home, that the Rhineland people, despite the terrible destruction meted out to them by our forces, seemed to bear no grudge and showed her nothing but

During this time Mary received a letter from Nikolaus Pevsner, the eminent architect and critic. This lead to a bizarre interview with the great man 'in the loo of The Courtauld Institute' she remembers. Unorthodox as the setting was, the interview must have been successful, for she became his research assistant on the Penguin 'Buildings of England' series of books he was writing, and worked with him for four years.

Mary's mother was by now widowed, and became increasingly more dependent on her only daughter. Mary returned home to Morecambe and secured a position with the Ministry of Housing. This involved travelling throughout North England, researching and plotting places of historical and architectural importance. Whilst giving a talk to a group of school children, Mary met Russell Davies, a retired teacher. For him it was love at first sight - it took Mary a bit more persuasion! However, they married and spent 10 happy years together, still



travelling throughout North England in furtherance of Mary's career.

After Russell died Mary found the lack of companionship too much to bear, and became dreadfully depressed. Then one day, just when life was at its bleakest, she spotted a little book in a village shop. It was called, 'Teach Yourself Esperanto', and it gave her a new lease of life. Fascinated by this simple made-up language that offered communication between people of all nations, she took early retirement to spend all her time travelling throughout Europe and meeting fellow Esperanto speakers. On top of this, Mary and a small group of friends established an Esperanto-speaking hotel. Over the next three years Mary had to get to grips with every aspect of running a small hotel 'except the kitchen.' she says. The unremitting work took its toll and left her completely exhausted.

At this point, the hotel cook announced that she was moving to Scotland. Mary needed a break and offered to research the possible opportunities. And this brought her As soon as Mary set eyes on our beautiful island she felt she had found her true home. While setting up house in Whiting Bay, she realised she needed to heal herself of the grief and exhaustion that was overwhelming her, and decided to attend a healing workshop in Surrey. To her amazement she discovered that she herself possessed the gift of healing. With, as she says, 'a profound sense of responsibility', she became a Spiritual Healer and Regression Therapist. Throughout the 90s Mary worked in this capacity on Arran, helping both islanders and holiday makers, and many people have been to her healing sessions and workshops.

During this time she became interested in writing. A dawning realisation that she had lived many times before led to the creation of her spiritual autobiography, 'The Journey'. Mary has gone on to write three further novels, one of which is also available on CD, and can often be spotted at her bookstall outside Miller Stewart in the heart of Brodick (but only on dry days!) However, she claims now to be 'fully retired' and has gone back to her original interest in art, spending her days in painting. It's been a varied and brilliant life for the shy, chubby girl from Morecambe.

Poetry Corner

Tails and Heads

The cormorant has Fourteen feathers in its tail; Almost identical, the shag has twelve. One cannot fail To differentiate at once between Bird and bird sharing the sea and wind.

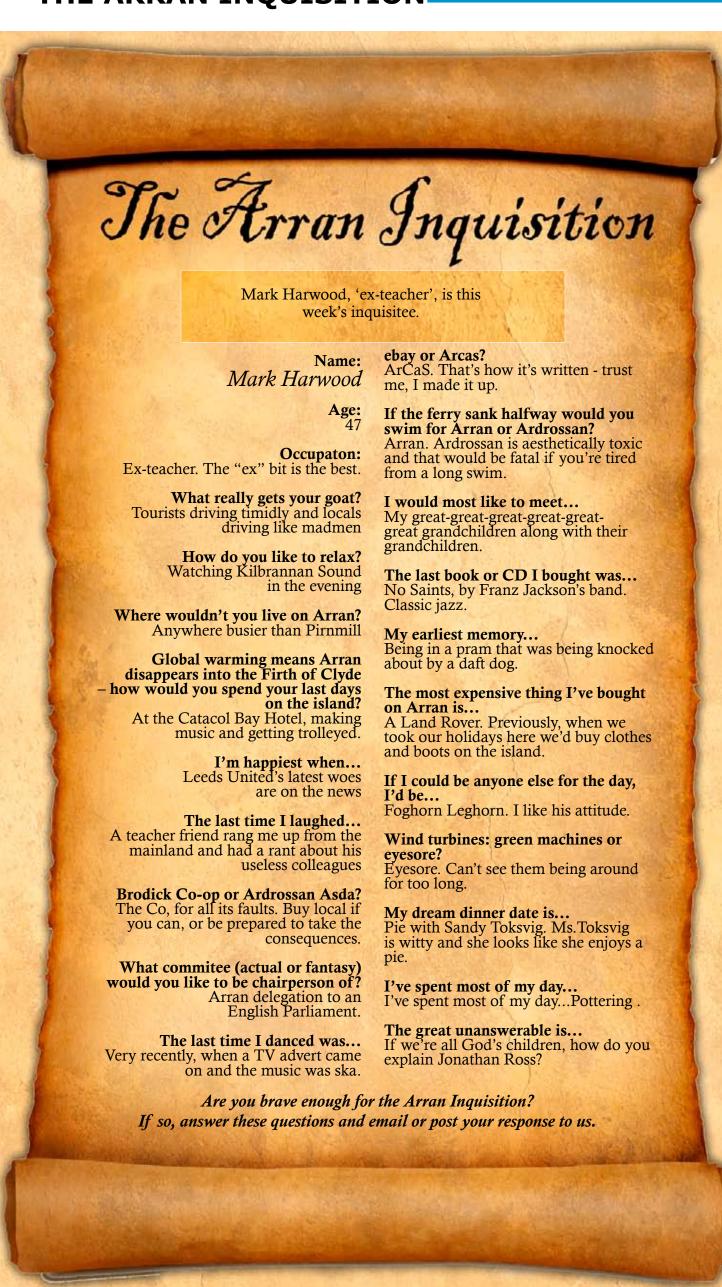
Take these two non-feathers of the shag To ornament your mind, As Pocohontas put Feathers from tameless eagles in her hair, And Henri de Navarre a great white Plume upon his helmet for a flag.

SUZANNE KNOWLES (1911 -)

Sometimes the beauty of a poem is in the reader's inability to identify exactly what it means. 'Tails and Heads' has that mysterious quality.







This Week's Recipe

Mackerel by Mark Williams, Machrie Bay Tearoom

Of all the gastronomic pleasures the sea has to offer, I think the humble mackerel is one of its finest. It is the only fish that can still be found in any numbers around Arran, so it should be easy to catch your own or pick them up for next to nothing.

Gleaming fresh, cucumber stiff, whole specimens, baked in the oven – or better still barbecued – until their succulent oily flesh is ready to flake from the bone is, for me, one of the great tastes of summer.

I once paid well over the odds at a Greek fish restaurant for a large glistening fresh mackerel which I selected from the day's catch over bream, turbot and bass. The waiter probably thought I was a mug, and I must admit I did wonder myself. I could probably have bought a couple of stone of it back home for the price – or caught a load for nothing. But when it arrived at the table perfectly charred on the outside, soft buttery flakes within, and after I had anointed it with lemon juice, I knew I had chosen well. There is something about the succulence of mackerel that, like good olives, marries perfectly with warm sunshine.

Maybe it's the lack of such warm sunshine that makes mackerel a rare sight on Scottish menus. Or perhaps it is the very cheapness of it, precluding the usual £15+ price tag restaurants like to charge?

Now that we are serving evening meals five nights of the week at the tearoom, we intend to always have a baked whole fish on the menu and will be proud to offer you a mackerel at a sensible price.

As with most fish, I think simple baking, grilling or barbecuing on the bone tastes best, but I have friends who catch mackerel in such quantities that new approaches are sometimes required. It is well worth seeking out tamarind for this Indian preparation: its sourness cuts through the mackerel's oiliness wonderfully.

Tamarind can be bought as jars of paste or dried blocks of the whole fruit which have to be steeped in a little boiling water for 10 minutes then rubbed through a colander with the back of a wooden spoon to dislodge the pulp from the stone. Ask at the Village Shop or Bay Stores, Whiting Bay – I've found it on their shelves before.

Mackerel with onions and Tamarind.

5 tablespoons Vegetable Oil

4 Medium Onions, finely sliced 5 cloves Garlic, finely chopped

3 tablespoons Ginger, grated

½ teaspoon ground cinnamon

1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

½ teaspoon ground/crushed fennel seeds

5 crushed cardamom pods

½ teaspoon ground cloves

¹/₄ teaspoon cayenne pepper (or less if you don't like the heat)

1 teaspoon salt

4 tablespoons Tamarind paste

2 good sized Mackerel ($\overline{1}$ lb - 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb), gutted, topped and tailed.

Don't be scared by the number of ingredients: it's dead simple!

Heat the oil in a frying pan then fry the onions, garlic and ginger until the onion is lightly browned. Reduce the heat and throw in everything else but the fish. Fry gently for a few minutes.

Meanwhile, make 3-4 slashes on either side of the fish and season inside and out with salt and pepper. Place them in a baking dish and smother with the onion mix, being sure to press it into the slashes and belly cavity. Cover closely with greaseproof paper and cook in a 180 degree oven for 30 minutes or until the mackerel flakes happily from its bones.

HIFAR sets out its stall

With the Craigforth report now only a few more reviews away from the public domain, the Housing Initiative for Arran Residents (HIFAR) has been invited onto the Rural Sub Group. It will participate in the chalking up of an action plan to figure out the finer details of how the Council should address the island's now well-recognised shortage of affordable housing.

HIFAR is circumspect about the Craigforth recommendations to build high density housing in each of the main villages. 'I think it is possibly counterproductive to build 50 jammed units,' said Henry Murdo. 'You're creating an urban situation'. Whilst it recognises that would-be Arran home-owners want different things, HIFAR is keen to revise established planning concepts and avoid high density settlements, road systems, street lighting and mains-dependent sewerage

40% of houses on Arran are either second or holiday homes. With 270 people on the Isle of Arran Homes waiting list and another 150 or so in need of housing, HIFAR is unequivocal: at least 200 homes must be built, and soon. It has set out a policy statement, the full version of which can be found on HIFAR's website www.hifar.co.uk. 'A paradigm shift must occur in respect to "the property ladder" says the document, arguing that it will not allow its properties to become part of the general housing market.

HIFAR argues for a variety of architectural styles to suit a building's setting. It supports a revival of the tradition of self-built housing and the renovation of existing properties (there are estimated to be as many as 100 derelict or unoccupied houses on Arran), and is committed to tackling the problem of 'ghost town' villages. In Corrie and Lochranza, for instance, only half of the properties are permanently

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Arran Property are delighted to present a rarely available superb Detached 3 Bedroom Bungalow in the stunning location of Kings Cross. Substantial corner plot, beautiful gardens, integral garage, green house, double glazing, Heating via electric oil heaters, excellent condition. Built of rendered brick construction circa 1975, the particularly bright and spacious accommodation comprises of porch into entrance hall with all apartments off, lounge, spacious fully fitted kitchen, 1 double bedroom with en suite facilities and 2 further double bedrooms(one currently used as a dining room), family bathroom, attached garage, workshop shed, greenhouse.





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a further area with three ponds. FREE market valuation of your property

Delayed housing report recommends 'larger scale developments' in Arran's big villages

It's finally out. Well sort of. The Councilcommissioned Craigforth Report, which has suffered eight months of delay, is up for a further, hopefullly final discussion by the 'Rural Group' before its release. Meanwhile, NAC have published a summary of the main findings and recommendations. It's a subtly damning report, exposing the inertia in planning regulations which has allowed the present housing crisis to develop.

The report concludes that 'Arran is a highly pressured housing market with limited affordable housing supply and severe affordability and access issues. There are almost no affordable housing options available in the owner-occupied sector, the private rented sector for residential letting purposes is poorly developed and there is low turnover and high pressure on the small social rented sector, particularly in relation to general needs housing'. No surprises there then.

The report makes a number of key recommendations. It says priority should be given to identifying sites for larger scale (20-40 units) mixed tenure development in Brodick, Lamlash and Whiting Bay. It also advises the Council to review existing planning laws which restrict development to within the village envelope and explore with local landowners options for releasing land for affordable housing.

The developer contribution

NAC is urged to use the planning system to free up additional land specifically for affordable housing, and the report recommends a minimum 25% allocation for affordable housing as part any development. It suggests this could be made higher 'given the high level of pressure in this housing market'. A policy framework specifying precise circumstances and parameters should set out the level of developer contribution to affordable housing. It's a complex area, given that policy results can be skewed depending on the size of the development, and Craigforth have resisted any precise recommendations.

Interestingly, the report urges closer communication between Communities Scotland and Arran's major landowners (the Forestry Commission, Sannox Estates and Dougarie Estates) to look into bringing empty properties back into use for quality, private renting purposes.

Developments should be a mix of social rented and low cost home ownership (LCHO) housing. The LCHO option should target single people and couples employed on the island but without a home, families unable to compete in the market and older residents who need more suitable accommodation. Shared equity models - where home-buyers purchase only a share of the house - are recognised as one way of aiding affordability and the report says 'consideration should be given to reducing the owner equity stake to less than 60%'

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)

Holy Cross Catholic Church

Father Noel Colford Vigil Mass Saturday 7.30pm Sunday Mass 9.30am and 11am

Whiting Bay and Kildonan Church

Sunday 22nd July Service 10.30am Rev. Elizabeth Watson

Church of Scotland - North Arran

Sunday 22nd July

Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza, Pirnmill and

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 Church 10.30am, Corrie Church 12noon, Lochranza 9.30am, Pirnmill 10.45am, and Shiskine Church 12noon. A service of worship will also be held in Montrose House at 1.45pm.

Lamlash Church

Sunday 22 July You are invited to worship in Lamlash Church at 11 am. Mr. Alan Saunderson All welcome

Scottish Episcopal Church

(in full communion with the Church of England) St Margaret's, Whiting Bay. Visit of Rt. Revd Martin Shaw, Bishop of Argyll and the Isles, and the Revd Anne Tomlinson, Provincial Local Collaborative Ministry Officer. Saturday, 21st July: 2.00 pm, Meeting with the Bishop and Revd Anne Tomlinson for annual review. IT IS HOPED AS MANY MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION AS POSSIBLE WILL BE THERE.

Sunday, 22nd July: 11.00 am, Holy Communion. Bishop Martin. Parish bring-aplate lunch after service.

Wednesday, 25th July: 12.15 pm, Holy Communion.

All Welcome.

Arran Free Church of Scotland(continuing)

Sunday 22 July,11am Trust Housing Lounge Glen Estate, Brodick Evening Service,7pm Prayer Meeting Wednesday 25th,7pm Mr G Furzer All Welcome

Arran Baptist Church

Sunday 22nd July in the Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick 10.45 Communion Tea and coffee from 11.10 11.30 Worship Service "The Missing Link" Speaker: Tom Hutchison Everyone warmly invited

Weekly Crossword

Win a Hamper every week.

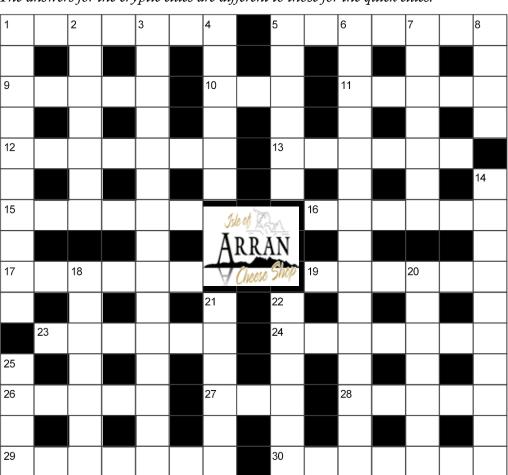
Submit your answers to our mail address on page 4. You have **10 days** from the publication date of this paper to send your entries in.

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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.



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

Name		
Te1:	or Email	

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

CRYPTIC CLUES

- White concoction surrounds very soft dog (7)
- Two hundred hesitate in broken down bus collapse (7)
- Middle Easterner initially of the Irish Republican
- Army? Quite Interesting! (5) Yea, I'm confused, OK? (3)
- Flower swallows upper class needle (5)
- 'Oi! Princess! Come up next to jerk, lunatic!' (7)

- 13 Player, of course! (6)15 Break leg after concert, such a laugh! (6)16 Authorisation, it's said, for a rise... (6)
- ..'A rise! Result!' (6)
- 19 Attach present after present (6)
 23 Menacing, wild fire next to civil engineer (6)
- Attempted to eat Malcolm Muggeridge, then decked (7)
- 26 Before long, eat soft utensil (5)
 27 Bird employed by Trotter's Independent Traders? (3)
 28 Playwright turned up inside James Nesbitt (5)
- 29 16 of the French smell quite the opposite! (7) 30 'I say, hello Lady Fforde, such wholesomeness!' (7)

- Fish howl in island village (7,3)
- Mirroring wise men with gin cocktail about (7)
- Indicate featureless mountains
- close up (5,5,5) Shock former PM without hesitation! (6)
- Allegedly bump off the Reindeer Express (6) Charge against the motorist or perhaps 13? (8,7)
- The French are doubled up after the UK's upper
- class instrument (7) Complain about meat (4)
- At two hours before midnight, waltz like the crowd (10)
 'It's dire, love. Sumo in strange foreboding' (7)
- All together, attending church service,
- one hears (2,5)
- The French say 'Seven, and another seven' (6) 27 in school thread (6)
- Maltreated, sailor leaves, exhausted (4)

QUICK CLUES

Across

- Lean (7)
- Eight-tentacled mollusc (7)
- Type of rice (5)
- 10 Transgress (3)
- 11 Foe (5) 12 Rotate, spin (7)
- 13 Menace (6)
- 15 Racket sport (6)
- 16 Skin disease (6) 17 Sexual desire (6)
- 19 Bathing suit (6)
- 23 Miserable (6)
- 24 Alien (7)
- 26 Excuse (5)
- 27 Tint (3)
- 28 Mammoth (5) Series of comedy films, usually starring
 - Kenneth Williams (5-2)
- 30 Ultimate (7)

Down

- Independently (10)
- Inspire (7)
- Film starring Barbara Stanwyck and Edward G Robinson (6,9)
- Slice of bacon (6) Decorative (6)
- TV game show starring Joe Pasquale (3,5,2,5)
- Make ready (7)
- Vegetable plant (4)
- 14 Puppet (10)
- 18 Obstruction (7) 20 Ape, copy (7)
- 21 Snake (6)
- 22 Feeble, ineffectual (6)
- 25 Soft mineral that feels like soap (4)



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'Ladies of Spirit' By Georgina Reid

In Whiting Bay Hall Tuesday 24th July at 8pm Doors open 7.30pm

Box Office open Tuesday morning 10am - 12noon & then 7.30pm

Adults - £4 Concessions £3.50

Arran Voice Crossword 14 (Easy answers)

Across	Down
1 Decibel	1 Diplomat
5 Satisfied	2 Cripple
10 Price	3 Breast-feed
11 Spa	4 Last
12 Erratic	5 Spandau
13 Oppose	6 Theme
14 Idle	7 Stress
15 Serum	8 Interfere
17 Alex Ferguson	9 December
19 Cede	16 Breeze
21 Cheese	18 Obtain
23 Teepee	20 Decapitate
26 Core	22 Harmonica
27 Perspiration	24 Ecstatic
31 Those	25 Infringe
32 Slam	28 Startle
33 Kipper	
35 Twisted	29 Implant 30 Dental
JJ I WISICU	ou Dentai

Arran Voice Crossword 14 (Cryptic answers)

32 Sedan

36 Tee 37 Again 38 Challenge

Thing

38 Non-smoker 39 Payment

Across	Down
1 Spectre	1 Shepherd
5 Buttercup	2 Exhibit
10 Ether	3 Terracotta
11 Emu	4 Eden
12 Imitate	5 Boudoir
13 Hubcap	6 Tribe
14 Sole	7 Edible
15 Leeds	8 Chaperone
17 Rite of Spring	9 Pleasant
19 Coin	16 Astray
21 Banter	18 No more
23 Morsel	20 Arrogantly
26 Earn	22 Adrenalin
27 Mysteriously	24 Bearskin
31 Range	25 Eyesight
32 Khan	28 Toaster
33 Taurus	29 Sardine
35 Kilmory	30 Reform
36 Ton	32 Kavak

Congratulations to our crossword Hamper winner from Issue 14. **Mary Morrison** from the southend wins the cheese this week.

34 Snap

Sudoku and Kakuro

Answers from Issue 14.									
9	4	6	5	1	7	2	8	3	
3	5	8	2	4	9	6	1	7	
7	1	2	3	8	6	4	9	5	
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6	8	7	1	9	3	5	2	4	
4	9	1	6	5	2	7	3	8	
1	6	9	4	3	5	8	7	2	
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Something Trivial about July 21st.

July 21st seems to be a day forever connected with space exploration.

On this day in...

1961 Capt. Virgil ''Gus'' Grissom became the second American to rocket into a sub-orbital pattern around the Earth, flying on the Liberty Bell 7.

1969 Apollo 11 astronauts Neil Armstrong and Edwin 'Buzz' Aldrin blasted off from the moon aboard the lunar module, after walking on the surface earlier in the day.

1998 Astronaut Alan Shepard died at age 74.

Global Warming?

On this day in 1983, the world's lowest temperature was recorded at Vostok Station, Antarctica at -89.2°C (-129°F).

Today will also be remembered as the day when millions of Harry Potter fans got hold of the latest book by J.K Rowling, "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows".



"Jenkins will now tickle you, survive this and you keep your job."

arranvoice the Isle of Arran's weekly newspaper.

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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.

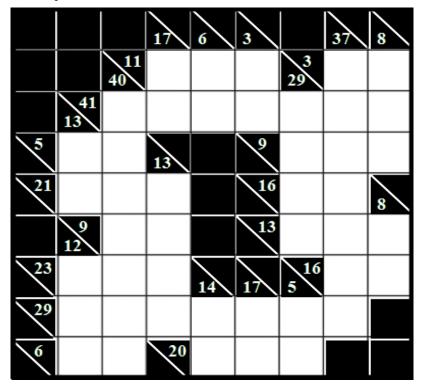
Have you entered our Photo Competition? See page 10

								2
			9					
2			8				6	1
			6	5			8	
9			1					
		6			9		4	
6		2						8
		5			6	3		7
	1				3			9

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.



View from the bench

by Min





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p.20 GOLF NEWS visit the arranvoice online at www.arranvoice.com

Golf results up to 15th July

Arran Golfers Association Result

Summer Cup results Summer cup 12th July 42 gents competed. c.s.s. 64 Scratch Neil Young with 64 6 magic 2's J.Stewart, W.O'Connor, S.McAllister, I.Murchie, K.Wallbank

First Stuart McAllister 70-10-60 Second Stuart Campbell 71-11-60 Third Andrew Glen 84-24-60 Fourth Neil Young 64-4-60 Brodick Golf Club

and I.Bremner

Summer Cup Wed 11th July ,css 64, 61 entries. 1st Charles O'Neill 16 60

2nd Alan McNicol 8 62 3rd Bobby McCrae 8 63 bih Scratch Alan McNicol 70 bih There were 5 magic twos, Russell Duncan, Michael Holmes, Jenkins,

Brian Smith & Gordon Robertson

Marchioness of Graham Putter Sun 15th July, Greensome 1st Bruce Jenkins / Bobby McCrae 8

2nd Lindsay Keir / Donald McKinnie 10.4 61.6

3rd Robbie Duncan / Lenny Hartley 12.8 63.2 There were 4 magic twos, Iain Sillars /

Russell Duncan getting two Brian Smith /Kerr Robertson & Jimmy Armit / Andrew Pattison getting one

Junior Stableford Tue 10th July css 64 9 played

1st Gregor Adamson 28 45 pts 2nd Finlay Sillars 36 30 pts bih 3rd Alexander Macneil 36 30 pts bih Brodick Golf Club — Ladies Section Tuesday 10th July. Centenary Quaich SSS 67 CSS 67 36 Entries

1st K Kitson (21) 67 2nd I MacDonald (16) 69(BIH) 3rd M Roxburgh (15) 69

Scratch B Livingstone 78

Lamlash Golf Club Summer Cup Results Summer cup 12th July 42 gents competed. c.s.s. 64 Scratch Neil Young with 64 6 magic 2's J.Stewart, W.O'Connor, S.McAllister, I.Murchie, K.Wallbank and I.Bremner

First Stuart McAllister 70-10-60 Second Stuart Campbell 71-11-60 Third Andrew Glen 84-24-60 Fourth Neil Young 64-4-60

Saturday 14th July Frank Crum qualifier 13 pairs took part

Scratch Iain Murchie and Andy Barclay

Magic 2's I.Murchie & A.Barclay with 2 and Neil Young with Stuart Campbell

First Iain Murchie & Anndy Barclay 66-3.5-62.5

Second Neil Young & Stuart Cambell 72-7-65

Third Robbie Glen & Lennie Herd 84-

16.5-67.5

The first 8 best net scores qualifying for the match play knock out

Sunday 15th July Scratch Cup 17 played.css 64

Scratch Jamie Murchie with a 69 Magic 2 sweep won by Ron Jeffries who had an ace at the 16th hole.

First Billy O'Connor 82-20-62 Second Jim McKenzie 73-8-65 Third Stuart McAlister 75-9-66 Machrie Golf Club Tues 10th Lady Mary / Peter Sutton

1st Bob Seaton 64 2nd John Semple 69 BIH 3rd Campbell Laing 69 BIH

Scratch Brian Sherwood 77

Fixtures:

* July 24th Texas Scramble 5.30 shotgun

Whiting Bay Golf Club Wed. 11th July, Round 9 of the Summer Danny Head (6)59, Sandy Harold (20)61

(bih), Charlie Hunter (18)61 (bih.)

Danny also won scratch with 65 and there were magic 2s from Malcolm Pennycott and Sandy Pringle, (who was 4th yet again!) Saturday 14th.

Cancer Relief Competitions- the Junior section was won by Nicky Emsley, Brenda Rankin won the Ladies section, John Rankin won the Gents section and £91 was raised for ARCAS.

Sunday 15th was the Raymond Curtis Salver with again separate prizes for Juniors and Ladies.

The Junior prize was won with an exceptional score by Peter Rankin, 74-22=52. Marjorie Brown won the ladies prize. 33 Gents played for the Gents' Salver and 1st was Graeme Mack, 67-7=60, 2nd Scott Adair, 67-6=61, 3rd David Rankin, 74-12=62 (bih) and 4th Graham Oxburgh 85-23=62. Graeme Mack won scratch with 67 and there were magic 2s by Andrew Mack, John Rankin, Ian Litster and John Duncan.

Many thanks to the Curtis family for the generous prizes.

Fixtures:

- * Saturday 21st-Sunday 22nd, Whiting Bay Open.
- * Monday 23rd, Junior Open, draws at
- Wednesday 25th Jim Pirie Quaich.
- * Saturday 28th Ladies Open.
- * Sunday 29th Clarke Trophy.





Positive Sannox Attitude

Sannox Cricket Club once again proved their mettle last weekend, keeping an icy nerve to win their final match of the league. It was another disciplined performance by the Sannox team, who found themselves calmly defending a meagre target of 95 against a potentially lethal Oban batting force.

The conditions played a big role, as a boot-breaching two inches of rain fell only 36 hours before the Sunday match. On Friday night the Sannox burn was in foaming angrily down the glen. It had left a sizeable puddle at the lower reaches of the cricket ground, but the drainage was up to the task and play went ahead on a welcome roaster of a day. The wicket was damp though, and when Oban won the toss, they put the home team into bat to suss out the battlefield.

Some good bowling soon exploited the moisture, as it soon became evident that



the ball was liable to bounce up. 'The ball was popping - instead of skiting through, it rises higher than you expect,' explained Tim Pomeroy. Colin Haggerty was the first to fall, bowled by Laycock and caught by the first slip. A promising partnership between Tim Pomeroy and debutant Sam Thornley was then cut short by a nice catch off Thornley's low hook shot. The Oban fielder plucked the ball like a summer plum from the shimmering air.

Pomeroy went on to anchor the team with a ground out score of 28. As the umpire wryly observed, Tim had used up at least two cat's worth of lives during the innings. A minimid-order collapse ensued before Stephen Mason took to the crease and stabilised the down-turn. Executing his trademark shots, the 'Mason late cut' and his deep leg sweep, his innings of 26 was crowned by a gloriously sweet six, tocked beyond the boundary. After a couple of runs from the tail end, Sannox had notched up a total of

The third highest contributer for the home team was the Oban field, gifting Sannox with 18 extras. It proved to be crucial. Oban started off with characteristic patience, but like Sannox, the top order fell cheaply until Laycock steadied the campaign. His determined innings of 30 gathered momentum for the visitors, who by the 18th over were firmly on course to chase the seemingly paltry run-rate. Laycock was eventually halted by an lbw from a Thornley bowl and when Eric Dunn tempted the danger man and big-hitter Carre with a seductive bowl, Mason's catch put a dent in Oban's chances.

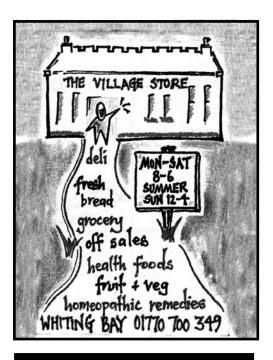
But it was Sannox's fielding wot won it. On a baking hot day, the team would be forgiven for allowing minds to drift to the fresh scones, strawberries and beer on the boundary's edge. Instead, in an almost eerily controlled performance, Sannox kept the fielding tight, cutting out singles and backing up some consistent bowling to give Oban only 10 extras - near enough the difference between the teams.

It was a nail-biting final few overs, but in the end Oban were bowled out for 83 and Sannox concluded a truly fine leaguewinning campaign on home turf. The club will train every Thursday for the next two months as there are friendlies and one-off tournaments lined up for the remainder of

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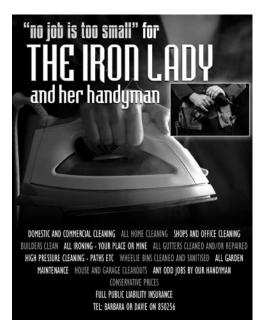
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Public Notices



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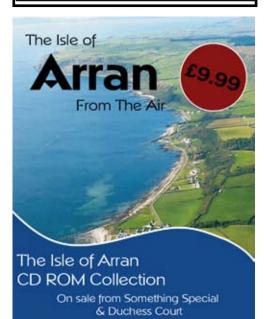


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Sports News in brief

SPORTS

Brodick Bowling Club Results of Rink Games

Mon 9th July -Skip A.Whattam, F Brown

Wed 11th July Skip A.Gardener, R.Peacock, R.McKee

Sat 14th July Skip N.Thomson, F.Brown

Arran Golfers Association

Results

Summer Cup results/ Summer cup 12th July 42 gents competed. c.s.s. 64

Scratch Neil Young with 64 6 magic 2's J.Stewart, W.O'Connor, S.McAllister, I.Murchie, K.Wallbank and I.Bramper

First Stuart McAllister 70-10-60 Second Stuart Campbell 71-11-60 Third Andrew Glen 84-24-60 Fourth Neil Young 64-4-60

Arran Yacht Club

The annual Pladda Cup race took place on Saturday 14th July in fresh westerly winds. With a brisk force 5 and heavy swell coming in from the Irish Sea, there was an initial consensus to delay the start.

After some refreshments, it was agreed to abandon the customary course (several times round Pladda) and sail an alternative transit race from Pladda to Lamlash. Five boats took part. Angus Campbell broke his centreboard on a submerged rock in putting to sea, but was able to make a repair and return to the water before the start. Ian Kerr-Hunter made use of this delay to make a circuit of Pladda, returning safely.

The start line was set between the two rescue boats in the lea of Pladda. Malcolm Kerr got the best start but was quickly overtaken by both Ian and Greg in Lasers. Ian made good use of his experience and downwind speed to establish a substantial lead, which he was to hold for most of the race. Greg's chances took an early downturn with a spectacular capsize and lengthy recovery. Meanwhile the GP14s of Angus and David Boyle (borrowed) tucked in behind the leaders on the exhilarating run to Dippen Head. After Dippen, with the wind increasingly on the port beam, Ian and Malcolm gained some advantage by keeping well out off the shore,

while the GP14s fought out an inshore course, Angus gaining the upper hand.

Round King's Cross point, conditions changed. The fleet faced a beat into a wind coming straight out of Lamlash Bay. While providing some respite from a port-tack leg which had lasted over an hour, there was still some hard work to be done. Making good use of wind shifts and the Albacore's capacity to point, Malcolm gradually whittled away at Ian's lead, then got past, and worked to build his own lead of over a minute. This proved to be just enough, giving Malcolm a win by four seconds when times were corrected on handicaps, and a first win in numerous attempts in this race.

Thanks are due to Bill Barr, Alistair Bilsland, and Geoff Norris for rescue boat duties.

Corrected Times:

- 1 M Kerr and S Knox (Albacore) 1.31.15
- 2 I Kerr-Hunter (Laser) 1.31.19
- 3 A Campbell and A Keir (GP 14) 1.34.57
- 4 D Boyle and E Borland (GP14) 1.36.14
- 5 G Hamill (Laser) 1.42.22

Shiskine Valley Sports

Texas Scramble

Ladies Vice Captain's Prize 12/07/07 CSS 44 1st Place: A Dobson, G McCrae, Doreen & J Duncan Score 33.5 Silver Bronze

2nd Place: G Hay, S Hay, E Hay & A Hay 1st: A Anderson 55 - 10 - 45 (BIH) 1st: S Brookes 55 - 14 = 41

2nd: W McCallum 50 - 5 = 45 2nd: L Howie 56 - 14 = 42

Best Dressed Team : The Jelly Fish !!! 3rd: C Wood 57 - 11 = 46 3rd: S Cleat 64 - 21 = 43

Well Done to all players who took the time to dress up and for making the day a big success. Best scratch W McCallum 50

Wed 11th July 18 Hole Medal CSS 65 S Brookes wins Vice Captain's Prize 41 1st: C McGlone 78 - 16 = 62 (BIH)

2nd: D Pilkington 71 - 9 = 62 Fixtures

3rd: G McGeoch 80 - 16 = 64 (BIH)

Sat 21st Charlie Sym Rosebowl

Best scratch Gordon Hay 63 Sun 22nd Gents Open Competition

Wed 25th 18 Hole Medal

Sat 14th July 12 Hole Medal CSS 42

Thurs 26th Ladies Greensomes Open Competition

1st Class 2bd Class

1st: Gavin Hay 40 - 2 = 38 1st: M Sherwood 50 - 8 = 42 (BIH)

2nd: J G Bell 45 - 4 = 41 2nd: A Ker 55 - 13 = 42

3rd: D Pilkington 48 - 4 = 44 3rd: K Gilroy 57 - 14 = 43

Best Scratch Gavin Hay 40

Runners brave the bog

The Urie Loch Hill Race was won this year by Colin Sturgeon of Girvan Athletic Club with a time of 50 minutes 45 seconds. It's an impressive time for what can be quite a gruelling wee race. The conditions were tough,

as it was a sweltering day, but still quite boggy underfoot due to the torrential downpour of the previous Friday night. Many of the competitors returned to the Lamlash village hall caked in mud.

It still doesn't quite compare to the record set in 1994, when the incredible Josef Poduska from the Czech Republic's Poldi Kladno Athletic Club skipped over the finishing line in 40m37s – a full ten minutes quicker than this year's winning entrant. It's a record that has never been beaten and it was also the year when Brian Roberston of the Arran Runners set the island's record of 44m32s.

Senior mens:

Colin Sturgeon, Girvan AC, 50m45s Adam Anderson, Carnethy HRC, 51m06s

Alan Miller, 52m11

Nicky Elmsley finished with 58m10s.

Senior womens:

Muffy Calder, Club Westerlands, 1hr 07m53s

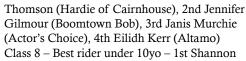
Shonagh Murchie, 1hr24m51s

Danny Currie won the junior race with a time of 22 minutes. Sam Tattersfield came in at 26m02s, Sean Higgins finished with a time of 33m41s. Forced to retire, Cameron Paul is working his way back to full strength.



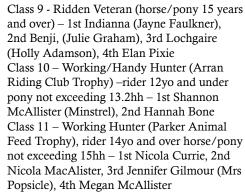






Class 7 – Under saddle over 15hh – 1st Sarah

McAllister, 2nd Hannah Bone, 3rd James



Class 12 - Working Hunter (Mr Frisky Shield) rider 15yo and over – 1st Jennifer Gilmour (Boomtown Bob), 2nd Katy Thomson, 3rd Kirsty MacQueen (Calvin Klein), 4th Hazel Ramage (Stormville Arizona)

Overall Champion (The Bert Keachie Shield) Sarah Thomson (Hardie of Cairnhouse) Reserve Champion – Isla Yuill (Hooch) Best Rider in Show (Yvonne Kerr Trophy) - Nicola Currie

Best Turned Out (Betty Smith Memorial Trophy) - Kirsty MacBain (Akeira) Best Condition Horse/Pony - Lochgaire (Holly Adamson)

Special rosette for endeavour and bravery Kathleen Dawson

Sunday 22nd July - training day with Doreen Mathie (contact Clair)

Sunday 29th July - Jumping Derby, Mayish



Arran Riding Club

After the heavy rain on Friday night and Saturday, we could not have had better weather for our show on Sunday. All 24 horses and ponies gleamed in the sunshine before our judge Penny Clifford from Newmilns.

Penny has judged at Royal International and Windsor Horse Shows, but is still very mindful of encouraging young (and not so young) riders at grass roots level and to this end she had kind words for everyone taking part.

We had no in-hand entries this year so proceedings began with under saddle classes for the smallest ponies, gradually building up to horses over 15hh, this class having attracted the largest entry of 12. It was from this class

champion - Hardie of Cairnhouse owned and ridden by Sarah Thomson. A delighted Isla Yuill with her pony Hooch was called in to stand as reserve champion. Best rider under 10 was Shannon McAllister with her pony Rosie, who put her best hoof forward and showed beautifully before the judge. Veteran class is for horses or ponies over the age of 15, and each of the entries belied their age as they proved how fit they continue to be despite advancing years. The working hunter course set by Yolly asked several questions of horse and rider. However,

that Ms Clifford found her overall showing

RESULTS

Class 4 - Under saddle 12.2hh and under - 1st James Mutch (Elan Pixie), 2nd Hannah Bone

young Shannon McAllister riding her sister's

pony Minstrel flew round the course in superb

Interesting jump fillers were put in place for

the junior class. Unfortunately these were

not to the liking of Woody, Rosie and Hooch who retired. There were 3 clear rounds, and

1 unlucky knock down for Megan McAllister

and Minstrel. The riders are judged on

jumping style, and the horses judged on

manners, confirmation and and type, with

Nicola Currie and Tiger Lilly the Pink the

winners. The Open class saw 6 combinations

go clear and after final judgement Jennifer

Gilmour and Boomtown Bob came forward

as winners. The biggest cheer of the day was

for Benji and Julie who almost completed the

course...the question is who paid them to

break the stile? Special mention to Iona Augier

- hope your wing heals quickly. Many thanks

to judge our judge, Penny Clifford and her

right hand man, Tim, and thanks to everyone

who helped before and during the day.

style to take the red rosette.

Class 5 – Under saddle over 12.2 to 13.2hh and under – 1st Isla Yuill (Hooch), 2nd Megan McAllister (Minstrel), 3rd Kathleen Dawson

Class 6 – Under saddle over 13.2 to 15hh and under – 1st Nicola Currie (Tiger Lilly the Pink), 2nd Katy Thomson (Silent Whisper), 3rd eg Nicola MacAlister (Summer), Rachael Kennedy (Tinker), 4th eq Jennifer Gilmour (Mrs Popsicle), Shannon McAllister (Rosie)

Brodick tonked 2-0 in home derby

Let it never be said a football match doesn't count. The Brodick-Lamlash clash always matters and Arran's 'Derby' fixture last Thursday drew a healthy crowd. It was a strange game.

Brodick looked like they would be runaway winners in the early stages, building a string of good chances, but they were consistently denied and their luck didn't swing in the second half as Lamlash sneaked into the game after a sound tactical change at the back.

It was a scrappy first ten minutes with not much to commend it despite one early chance for Lamlash. Jamie Murchie put through Euan Smith who struck it well first time, but the shot whistled just over the bar. Once some aerial ping-pong had played out, Brodick took control and proceeded to threaten throughout the first 45.

The first clear cut effort, came as Locky dispossessed a clearing McGrath. Wasting no time, he drilled it low just past the right hand post. A few minutes later Brodick had won a second corner, flighted in by Archie McNicol. With the ball rebounding back to the wing, Archie cut inside and then skipped back out before striking it well, only to be denied the near left apex.

John Drummond also nicked a strike from about twelve yards, but forced a good save from the keeper Ali Lockhart. Lamlash created one good chance in the first half, as Addy released a break after absorbing a sustained Brodick attack. Jamie Murchie

found himself through on goal, but hooked

The Brodick attack continued to probe, skipping a nearly non-existent Lamlash midfield. Keeno hit the side netting after a nice passing move down the left wing and minutes later hit the crossbar with a sweet dig from the left edge of the box. Brodick found most pressure down the right wing, as Duncan Heanan was playing well at right back to stub out forays down the left.

The obligatory controversy came when Archie McNicol passed across goal to John Drummond who stroked the ball in, only for the goal to be disallowed for off-side. The decision was good, but close, and the usual protests meant some of the younger spectators were learning new words.

The second half started brighter. Euan Smith came close with a strike driven across goal and Brodick were able to scramble a response. Gordon Roberston recovered quickly from a hefty Danny Currie tackle to launch a brilliant pass to Nog, who put his resulting shot just over the bar.

It was Lamlash now who were churning out the chances. With Addy dropping deeper, their 3-5-2 took on more of a diamond shape at the back and Lamlash were able to build from defence and plug the gap in midfield. Jamie Duncan came close to grazing a header into the net just minutes before his first goal. Jamie Murchie ran onto a nice pass in central midfield and broke free. The shot was expertly blocked, but Jamie Duncan was quick to the rebound and hammered back into the net. 1-0 Lamlash - and suddenly home side had a whole lot of work to do.

Brodick put on some direct pressure as Locky hit the crossbar with a nice header and about five minutes later, he headered again from a corner, only for it to be stopped on the goal-line by the unraised arm of Lee Little. Despite protests, referee Ugg was unsighted and waved play on. Brodick's attitude then let them down, and Lamlash forged two ahead when the two Jamies linked well again, the younger Jamie Duncan breaking left from a nice pass to slot it to the left of the keeper.

With another Brodick goal disallowed in the dying minutes, it was a frustrating match for the home side who had done well in the first half - but a great second win for Lamlash.

Brodick player of the match: Greg McCrae

Lamlash player of the match: Jamie Duncan

Referee: Ugg (Ian MacDonald) Rating; 6.1 Comments: 'Didn't take much abuse from the players and kept his nerve with some tough offside calls.' Distance covered: 3.5 miles Mobile usage: 'taxi to the Ormidale'. Disposition: relaxed authority. Bias factor: controlled







From now on Arran's footballers will be playing for pride only, after Shiskine clinched the league title on Saturday with a solid 3-1 win away to Southend. The silverware was never inevitable for the Blackwaterfoot team and some were even fancying dark horses Lamlash to steal the title in a crucial last game of the season. But Shiskine took control of their own ship against a slightly below-par Southend performance in Whiting Bay.

Both teams were missing key players with Southend's Murray and Jamie Picken absent, but replacement Southend goalie Chris Marriott put in a performance that will keep Craig Black on his toes. Shiskine were without goal-enforcer PC Pete and defensive lynchpin Robert Crawford.

The game took a time to settle into any sort of rhythm. Within two minutes Shiskine were pressuring the Southend box and a bouncing ball played onto Davie Morrison's hand. With the penalty awarded, Fergus Judge fluffed the spotkick, and later admitted that Chris would have saved it anyway had it snuck on target inside the post.

Shiskine were apparently unfazed by the missed opportunity and proceeded to carve out some good goal chances, each time foiled by some assertive keeping and good communication along the back line.

About ten minutes in, a series of tough touchline challenges led to the chopping of Neily McKechnie, who was forced to retire with a knee injury. It was an undoubted blow to the Southend team who were now relying on some younger players to meet the physicality of some of the Shiskine vets. Their midfield was coping well, but Shiskine's keeper Ally Judge was nipping some dangerous through-balls in the bud, with some commanding calls.

The first goal came in the aftermath of a free kick. Jamie Stewart launched it in and Swampy managed to keep the ball in play, putting it back across goal for Alonso Johnston to prod in. 1-0 to Shiskine after 30 minutes of play, and as it stood, they were going home with the silverware.

Southend came close on a couple of occasions, Nicky Elmsley hitting a fine but over-central strike right at the keeper. Attacking options were being thwarted by some clever defending. The usually rampant Elliott Smith was contained with some good marking and Euan Ingram lacked the killer touch of previous games.

Half time - and Southend needed to do some serious soul-searching to keep the league open. A nice move starting with Freddy Galbraith to Fergus to Sandy Kerr ended at the deceptively nimble boots of Jamie Stewart who turned and pinged a great shot on his left. But once again, Marriott to the rescue.

Shiskine edged two ahead, this time Fergus on the break, dragging the ball neatly out of the path of Sandy Pringle to lay off Graeme Todd to his left, who had made a surging run from defence. Graeme slipped it back across goal with his left foot into the corner bag. 2-0 the visitors.

Southend found themselves right back in it when a seemingly careless chop by Swampy gifted the home team a penalty – Davie Morrison slotted it home safely with near-professional ease. Just minutes later, Southend were unlucky not to get another free-kick after a edge-of-the-box challenge by Acky, but Shiskine were instead able to build on the counter. Southend kept plugging away though, and the game could have swung to two apiece with an effort by left back Alec MacDonald. His scorching strike looked a certain goal, but forced a good save by Ally Judge.

With about ten minutes to go, Shiskine snuffed out the come-back. Freddy took a free kick from the middle of the field and after a few quick passes, the ball found its way to Fergus who went wide on the left and drilled it low into the left corner. 3-1 Shiskine. Despite some gutsy Southend attacking, the scoreline remained as it stood, and Shiskine have now sealed the league, following an impressively determined campaign. With a now unreachable 18 points, the West-coasters have dropped only three points all season and are eight points clear of their nearest rivals Lamlash.

Southend player of the match: Chris Marriott Shiskine player of the match: Referee: Nick Underdown Rating: 3.9 Comments: 'Looked as if he was practising semaphore in the early stages, not enough use of the whistle outside the penalty box.' Distance covered: 5.3 miles. Mobile usage: time-keeping only. Bias factor: journalistic neutrality.



Rooting for the future

Roots of Arran received a blow to its community woodland mission when its £100,000 grant application was refused last week. Forward Scotland's Communities Environmental Renewal Scheme, which awards grants to community groups affected by mining, deemed that the hoped-for benefits were not sufficiently linked to an affected community.

The charity had planned some ambitious community-minded developments to the clear-felled area between Brodick and Lamlash – now becoming known as Lag a Bheith – that promised to have a wide set of benefits for the island. Money would have been used to upgrade paths





and drainage as well as commissioning a sculpture trail with contributions from local artists.

Russell Adam, secretary of Roots of Arran, was naturally disappointed but is keen to keep working on the project, despite the labyrinthine red tape. 'You can smother yourself in health and safety,' he said, 'but we'll do whatever it takes.'

Where is the Lag a Bheith site?

For some, Lag a Bheith might appear as an ugly swathe of decaying silver pine logs strewn across the hillside to the west of the Brodick-Lamlash road. But for members of Roots of Arran it is a future woodland. Pockets of alder and oak have been planted and there are still the remnants of an old birch forest. In the centre of the site, just off the narrow Faerie Glen pathway linking Brodick to Lamlash, is an enclosure where a ring of trees have been planted to create a living willow shelter for the future. Further up the hillside is an orchard, where collared organic apple trees are already starting to yield their first fruits. Roots of Arran still plan to widen the path and provide wheelchair access.



They now plan to build a roundhouse over the summer. Laminated 'tasksheets' will be left tthere, listing useful jobs to be done, so volunteers and members can go to the area and help put in a bit of graft when they want to. Anyone who'd like to lend a hand will be welcome.

Roots of Arran are indeed prepared to 'do what it takes.'

