



THE

# Arranvoice

VOCEM POPULARIS AUDIRE / ÉISD RI GUTH NA MUINNIR

20th November 2008 — 085 **65p**

# POST OFFICE SAFE



A WAVE OF relief swept over Arran's Post Offices this week. The threat to strip away the card account that provided pensions and benefits has been lifted, and as John Simmonds of the Whiting Bay Post Office said, 'We can start to plan ahead now. It's been so uncertain, we haven't known if we'll still be here.'

There has been an extraordinary shift in the thinking at Westminster since Lord Mandelson pointed out to George Brown that Post Offices could have a much enhanced value now that people are so disillusioned about the behaviour of banks. Had the Post Office Girobank not been sold off to Alliance and Leicester, there would already be a ready-made People's Bank, but even so, there is now talk of expanding Post Office services, possibly into support of Credit Unions and dealing with payment of energy bills.

On Arran, our resourceful Post Office owners already double up their trade with supplies of animal foods, Fair Trade goods, gifts, tropical fish, cards and office supplies, but hopefully, we will see them moving into a widely accepted prominence as suppliers of information and financial services. Sadly, some planned closures may still go ahead, but we can now feel reasonably assured that Arran's much-valued Post Offices are safe for the foreseeable future.

*Continued on page 3*

**IN THIS ISSUE: Cooriedoon Care Award / Balloons Review / Castle Art Show / Clochendichter begins / ArranVoice Poll**

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# CHRISTMAS TURKEY PRIZE DRAW



## Last chance to win a Christmas Turkey

Everyone hates surveys, but we really would like to know what you'd like to see in *The Arran Voice*, and what you think of the present content. If there are features that are of no great interest, then we'll drop them, and we are ready to cater for any new request — provided it's printable!

For a couple of minutes spent ticking boxes, you could win a fabulously tasty free-range turkey from Arran's well-known producers at Auchaleffen, delivered in time for your Christmas dinner — but this is your last chance. Drop your form in at our office or post it to us at the Pier Building, Brodick, KA27 8AX, by Friday, November 21st. The lucky winner will be announced in the following week's issue, on Thursday November 27th.

	Like	So-so	Don't like	Never read	Comment
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Poem of the Week					
Community Council minutes					
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Nan's Views					
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Cartoon					
And Finally					
Please add any general comments or suggestions, including any new features you would like to see.					

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Entries can be posted or brought to *The Arran Voice*, Pier Building, Brodick, Arran KA27 8AX. You can also enter online via our website, [www.arranvoice.com](http://www.arranvoice.com). The winner will be announced in our issue of **Thursday, November 27th 2008. GOOD LUCK!**

# Fond farewell to Sibby

*Wee gem: Dozens of folks turned up for Sibby's retirement tea party*



## QUIET COMMUNITY WORKER THANKED FOR 27 YEARS OF SUPPORT

Friends and colleagues wished Sibby Sangster a happy retirement last Friday. On Sibby's last day of work dozens of friends and colleagues turned up to wish her well and thank her for her tireless service during nearly thirty years as clerical support worker for Arran's Community Learning and Development team. 'It was a total surprise to me,' said Sibby. 'I was just expecting the usual cup of coffee, and then people started pouring in the door.'

Showered by presents and addressed by a touching and entertaining poem written by Sheila Gilmore, Sibby said she was overwhelmed. She is usually self-effacing about her working life, but last Friday was an opportunity for staff and members of community groups from all across the island to sing her

praises for her quiet, solid support over the years. As coordinator of lettings and classes for community groups and clerical support for youth services Sibby has become a well-kent face on the island.

At one time a patents officer for Glaxo, in 1981, a few years after moving to Arran, Sibby started part-time work for Strathclyde Regional Council for departmental manager Ian Frame. Since then she has witnessed quite a few changes, making the transition from typewriter to computers and moving from the Council offices to the Arranton building and latterly to the Community Learning and Development Centre at the new community high school in Lamlash. 'A lot has changed,' she said, but added, 'I would really like to say a huge thank you to the girls and all those who I have worked with.'

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# Post Office Safe

*Continued from front page*

BRODICK POST OFFICE participated in a campaign and petition to save the Post Office card account and owner Cams Campbell said that the office had received around 300 signatories. 'The customers were all very keen to send the cards away,' said Cams. 'I'd like to thank them all for the support. But I don't think it's over yet. The next review is in 2010 and the idea of Alan Cook [managing director of the Post Office] is to make the Post Office profitable by 2011.'

Cams explains that viewed separately Royal Mail and Parcel Force turn a profit, whereas the Post Office does not, but he believes there are less obvious social benefits to the retention of Post Offices. He says there is a profit-driven agenda, operated by the government which inhibits people from using Post Offices. Literature for arranging



*Tracy Fleming, Cams Campbell and Lorna Macdonald at Brodick post office on Tuesday, where customers have been very supportive*

pensions and benefits services mention the post office only in small print at the bottom of the forms, says Cams. 'It is simply cheaper for them to deliver these services by bank transfer,' he added.

# Cooriedoon nominated for top care award



COORIEDOON WAS A finalist in the prestigious Scottish Care national awards held in Glasgow last week. The Whiting Bay care home was nominated as 'Single Care Home Operator of the Year'. Sandra Butler was thrilled by the nomination, although confessed to being quite daunted by the ceremony, hosted by journalist Kaye Adams. 'It was awfully scary. We had to go on stage and there were lots of cameras flashing away, but I'm just very proud that the hard work we've put in here has been recognised.'

Hazel McGloin, assistant Care Manager at Cooriedoon, had written a tribute to the management at the care home. 'Sandra will move mountains for her staff and works relentlessly for them... She personally took on the fight for our staff... and fought for a year to get work permits to retain long serving staff who originally joined Cooriedoon from overseas.' (see article adjacent) This year was a prime example of the good approach at the care home. Cooriedoon undertook a massive refurbishment and both staff and residents were involved in every decision on how to spend the money 'right down to the colour of the napkins,' says Hazel.

Celia Butler and her daughter Sandra opened Cooriedoon in 1988 and have worked tirelessly to provide a comfortable

nursing home during a time when the country's ageing population needed such provision. Sandra now constantly wrestles with the issues facing care of the elderly.

## CARING IN THE COMMUNITY?

'Of course no-one is looking forward to going into a care home,' says Sandra. 'Just like no-one is looking forward to old age. Retirement yes, but old age and what it may entail — no ... In an ideal world everyone would like to stay at home,' she adds, but then echoes the words of Ranald Mair, Chief Executive of Scottish Care, who said at the recent awards: 'Do people really want to stay in their own homes when the reality is being in splendid isolation with a series of 20 minute visits and eventually die in hospital? Or do we want to be part of a caring community with happy trained staff, our meals, stimulation etc, and to be able to die with dignity?'

Sandra accepts that it is not always either/or, but adds: 'unless all families are going to adapt their houses and take relatives in, then there will be a key role for care homes'. Sandra is keen to respond to the ideas of those who need care, to provide them with the living environment that they want. 'If we work towards it now we could develop Arran's future care'.

# Bingo Night

ARRAN CHILDMINDERS' Group held a bingo night in the Whiting Bay Golf Club on 15th November.

With many thanks to a well supporting group of bingo goers, including childminders, family and friends we raised a grand total of £150.

Out of our total we will be supplying the Lamlash War Memorial Hospital with two portable dvd players for the use of patients. Thanks goes to Whiting Bay Golf Club, Johnny and Elaine Kelso.



# Cooriedoon fights to keep Tessy



COORIEDOON NURSING Home is fighting to keep a much-valued member of staff, as a long-running wrangle over work permits has stranded Tessy Jose in India. 'The Immigration Advisory Council and myself are fighting for her,' said Sandra Butler. 'We've been doing so for months now.'

Tessy started a student placement at Cooriedoon in 2006, and after much effort to secure a temporary working visa, she travelled back to India on the 6th of August of this year. She expected to have her passport stamped and visa granted so she could return in the role of senior in charge. Instead, the British Embassy in Chennai is refusing to grant her re-entry and the case is likely to go to appeal. Local politicians Cllr Margie Currie, Kenneth Gibson MSP and Katy Clark MP have all written letters in support of the application.

Tessy's husband and daughter live in India, but the care assistant has become an integral part of the Cooriedoon team. 'She's absolutely devastated,' said Sandra. 'She is such a good person and an employee. It's crazy going to a costly tribunal ... the bureaucracy is a real problem.'

In the past, Cooriedoon has helped overseas staff stay in employment by building a case for them to present at the Immigrations Appeal Tribunal. Some agencies charge £2,000-£4,000 to build an appeal, but Sandra has worked hard to fight for staff without incurring these costs.

# National helpline to tackle debt problems

A NATIONAL HOTLINE will help Scots facing debt problems in the economic downturn. The Money Advice Trust will feature on TV and online, and ATM machines will carry adverts for it. Anyone calling the phoneline will get free advice, in a bid to help people address financial problems rather letting them spiral out of control. The campaign has been backed with £382,000 of Scottish Government funding.

Local MSP Kenneth Gibson said: 'As the recession bites, families and pensioners in Arran are feeling the pressure financially, with increases in food prices, rising bills and mortgage and lending uncertainty all adding to the headache. The National Debtline will provide the best possible support for islanders with debt problems. The advice is free, confidential and independent. The main message I want to get across is for people to take control of their debt, before it controls them.'

Joanna Elson from The Money Advice Trust, added: 'It's important not to sit worrying — make the call today and take control of your debt.'

The National Debtline number is 0800 808 4000.

## Arranvoice.com Online Poll

**This week's question is:**

**Would you like to see the Post Office expand its range of services?**

**Share your opinion, visit [www.arranvoice.com](http://www.arranvoice.com) and cast your vote!**

**Last week's question was: Would you support a community-run abattoir by buying more meat locally?**

**Yes: 90% (9 votes)**

**No: 0% (0 votes)**

**Not Sure: 10% (1 vote)**



# Editorial

OLD AGE

DESIGN

We would like to send warmest congratulations to Sandra Butler and all those responsible for running Cooriedoon, which has been identified as one of Scotland's very best care homes for the elderly. While in the middle of busy and energetic lives, it seems impossible that one day, abilities will start to slacken and limbs become stiff and painful, but this lies ahead for all those who live long. It is easy to accept that the very young need to be cared for and helped while they grow towards maturity and independence, but far harder to view the opposite process as equally natural. Growing away from strength and ability lacks the promise and the young charm of the early years. It can, however, produce wisdom and humour and an immense wealth of valuable experience, and good care homes are able to see their residents as people to respect and love. As we all know, there are others that fail dismally in this, and there is a lurking fear among the healthy middle-aged that they may one day find themselves being treated with indifference and thinly veiled impatience. That our care for old people on Arran is so excellent must bring comfort to the whole community, for it is the equivalent of good, loving parenting, and in the end it is what we all need. Cooriedoon, together with our other excellent care homes, is something for Arran to be very proud of.

Readers may notice some differences in the layout of *The Voice* this week. As we gear up to collate the many responses that have come in to our survey, we are taking a fresh look at our layout and the general pattern of the paper. Some page openings were lacking in much visual interest, so we have shifted things about a bit, and a few old favourites may have moved. This week, there is no *Getting To Know* feature. It has not been dropped, as we are constantly interested in the people who contribute so much to the Arran community, but this column is very much in the hands of the interviewee. We respect that busy people, by definition, are those without much time to spare, for newspaper interviews or anything else, and accept absolutely that we have to take our place among many other activities. We have a constant list of potential subjects, many of whom have agreed in principle to be interviewed, but it is sometimes impossible to marry up reporter time and interviewee time. Rather than worry about it, we are inclined to take a more relaxed view, and fill the paper with the many other news items and features that constantly flood in. We will report on the results of the survey when the responses have been carefully noted, and meanwhile would like to thank all those who took the trouble to send us their opinions.

Quote

'I can't see the value in any of these advisers. They just slow me down. I want to get on with improving my school. Instead, I'm spending an awful lot of time helping advisers catch up with where the school is at.'

*Head teacher interviewed for Guardian Education this week.*

*Our broth is getting so full of cooks, you can't get your spoon in. Ed.*

THE ARRAN VOICE PRODUCTION TEAM

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Voice mail

Readers' News and Views...

FIREFIGHTERS' THANKS

THANKS FROM BALLOONS COMPOSER

HUMAN ERROR

Brodict Firefighters would like to thank everyone for their generous contributions towards Brodict's successful Bonfire and Firework Display. Thanks to Arran Aromatics, Arran Brewery, Arran Dairies, Arran Haulage, Arran Oils, Book and Card Centre, Brodict Co-op, Brodict Improvements Committee, Cladach Sawmill, Doreen and Wooley's. Thank you to everyone for the donations collected on the night and all those who contributed to the collecting tin in Alexanders.

*Brodict Firefighters*

I've just returned home after the week that saw the première of *Balloons*. I wanted to say what a fabulous experience it's been, and I would like to thank Heather, Diana, Alison and the entire *Balloons* team. I often have premières of pieces, but this was something unique. The show clearly packs quite a punch, and the realisation of it was due to your interpretation of the score and libretto, as well as your outstanding commitment.

Thanks to each and every one: cast, stage-crew, technicians and band. It will remain in my memory for a very long time.

With all best wishes,

*Andrew Keeling*

I write in response to the article entitled 'Stopgap safety plans for Corrie-Brodick road' in *The Arran Voice* of 13 November regarding the planned multi-user trail between Brodict and Corrie. The photograph used in the article shows a bus which is described by the reporter as having 'skidded off the road near the Merkland Wood entrance in May last year when approaching a lorry'. Rather than skidding off the road, the bus had been struck and forced off the carriageway by a local lorry approaching from the opposite direction around the bend. Thankfully, there were no passengers

on the bus and neither driver was injured.

There is evidence to show that human error contributes to 95 per cent of all road collisions and that many of the 3,500 deaths on UK roads each year are preventable. The biggest single cause of death and injury is excessive speed or inappropriate speed for the conditions. While the multi-user trail will provide a safe route for cyclists and other vulnerable road users, and while any other measures to improve safety are to be welcomed particularly as two cyclists have been killed along the Brodict to Corrie road in the last five years, it is driver attitude that has to change in order to reduce the number of deaths and serious injuries on the roads.

*Alan Beasley*  
*Alpine, Corrie*

So the Labour Government has finally announced that the contract for the Post Office Card Account (POCA) is to remain with the Post Office after all. This is a considerable victory for Conservatives and community campaigners against the worst instincts of a desperate Government on its way out.

Labour's instinct to undermine Post Office business has gone hand-in-hand with a swingeing programme of branch closures. Had the Government not backed down under Conservative pressure it's likely even more branches would have ceased to be.

Whilst this problem has been averted for the time being Labour deserves no congratulation for the concern it caused to rural communities, sub postmasters, and vulnerable POCA users on this botched tendering process.

Labour should now complete its climbdown and allow the Post Office to extend POCA, as the Conservatives continue to advocate.

*Jackson Carlaw*  
*Conservative & Unionist*  
*MSP for West of Scotland*  
*The Scottish Parliament*  
*Edinburgh*  
*EH99 1SP*

Your letters can be sent by e-mails to: [info@arranvoice.com](mailto:info@arranvoice.com), or by post to: Voice Mail, The Arran Voice, Pier Buildings, Brodict, Isle of Arran, KA27 8AX



# News in Brief...

## QUARRY FIRE

A plume of smelly smoke was rising last Thursday from a fire burning in the Corrie quarry, where a housing development is planned. John Inglis, Community Councillor for Corrie, sends us these pictures.



## JUST TURNED 60?

If you've just turned 60, then this will matter to you. A reader recently called *The Arran Voice* to let us know that the Winter Fuel Payment — which can offer up to £400 cash to help with fuel bills — applies only to those who turned sixty before the 21st of September. For a detailed explanation of whether you are entitled to claim the fuel payment, see <http://>

[www.direct.gov.uk/en/Over50s/Benefits/BenefitsInRetirement/DG\\_10018657](http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/Over50s/Benefits/BenefitsInRetirement/DG_10018657)

## ECONOMIC SLUMP HITS NARDINIS?

Nardini's ice-cream café and restaurant in Largs is up for sale after facing financial difficulties. Owners Ricky and Fiona Nardini put the famous ice-cream café into administration and plan to sell it as a going concern. The couple have been running Nardini's since 1995, employing 24 staff. Last year, the café was sold to a consortium after recording debts of £1.5 million.

## LAMLASH WRI

Special guest at the November meeting of the institute was Mr Bill Cowal who, with his wife, forms the care-taking team at Brodick Castle. Mr Cowal, a professional photographer, gave a talk on the skills of photography, beautifully illustrated with pictures of his work, and including paintings and furniture housed in the castle. Carol Davis proposed the vote of thanks, which was warmly accorded.

The competition of an action photo was won by Helen McGreggor, and the exhibition — an old photo — was won by Dorothy Erskine. The next meeting is on the 3rd December when the demonstration will be 'A love affair with quilting' by Judy MacAllister.

- Competition — Two mince pies
- Exhibition — A Christmas table decoration

ARRAN COUNTRY AND  
**FARMER'S MARKET**  
Kilmory Hall  
11.30am to 3.30pm  
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Saturday 22nd November  
6.30pm – 9.00pm  
Adults £3, Children £2,  
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In aid of Whiting Bay Primary School

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Licensed Bar  
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Telephone: 01770 870 345

**Isle of Arran Drama Association**  
Open Meeting in the  
Conference Room  
at KA Campus  
Arran High School  
on Wednesday 26th November  
at 7.30pm  
**ALL WELCOME**

# Co-op opens with a gift

THE CO-OP MARKED the launch of their new store with a donation of £200 to Brodick Primary School last week. On Thursday Co-op staff and members of the primary school pupil council cut the ribbon to officially open the new-look shop. Headteacher Mrs Fisher explained that the pupils would help decide how to spend the donation and said it would be put to a good use to benefit the school.



Local store manager Liz MacLean cutting the ribbon with pupils from Brodick primary

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The Arran Team — Arran's Own Property Management Team



# Arran ferry runs at a loss of over £1.5 million

A RECENT ENQUIRY lodged at the Scottish Parliament has revealed the high public subsidy which sustains the Arran ferry services. It is an oft-repeated Arran myth that the Brodick to Ardrossan ferry is one of the most profitable ferry routes on the west coast. However, the figures show that the operating deficit for the Brodick route has soared from £374,000 in 2004–2005 to £1,582,000 in 2006–2007.

The figures were the result of a question tabled by Jim Tolson MSP to Transport Minister Stewart Stevenson about the annual government subsidy paid to Caledonian MacBrayne. The overall grant level paid was revealed to have crept up steadily in the years before the millennium from £8.3million (1995–

1996) to £15million (1999–2000).

Meanwhile the average annual fare increases have fallen in percentage terms over the same period (with a marked exception in 1997). In 1995 the fare increase was 3.7%, but this had fallen to 2.5% in 2000 and this year the average fare increase across CalMac's routes was just 1.8%, significantly below inflation.

Company revenue (net of VAT, and less all grants received and any other non-fares and charges income, such as management fees) was £58million for the financial year 2007–2008, up from £34.2million in 1995–1996.

Below is a route-by-route list of the operating deficits across CalMac's entire fleet.

Route	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007*
Gourock/Dunoon	£2,203,000	£2,451,000	£2,381,000	n/a**
Wemyss Bay/Rothesay	£2,104,000	£3,749,000	£2,979,000	£3,390,000
Largs/Cumbræ	£343,000	£317,000	£674,000	£922,000
Colintraive/Rhubodach	£641,000	£430,000	£654,000	£650,000
Tarbert/Portavadie	£304,000	£340,000	£290,000	£280,000
Oban/Castlebay/Lochboisdale	£3,190,000	£3,763,000	£4,108,000	£4,464,000
Ullapool/Stornoway	£2,661,000	£4,512,000	£4,563,000	£4,607,000
Oban/Coll/Tiree	£1,788,000	£2,310,000	£1,422,000	£1,576,000
Uig/Tarbert/Lochmaddy	£1,963,000	£2,868,000	£3,300,000	£3,389,000
Berneray/Leverburgh	£977,000	£1,220,000	£964,000	£770,000
Barra/Eriskay	£497,000	£452,000	£463,000	£449,000
Kennacraig/Islay	£1,901,000	£2,632,000	£3,277,000	£4,462,000
Tayinloan/Gigha	£266,000	£472,000	£369,000	£357,000
Oban/Craignure	£151,000	£182,000	£929,000	£1,842,000
Fishnish/Lochaline	£112,000	£410,000	£187,000	£267,000
Tobermory/Kilchoan	£291,000	£436,000	£492,000	£505,000
Oban/Lismore	£326,000	£421,000	£338,000	£314,000
Fionnaphort/Iona	£329,000	£523,000	£338,000	£572,000
Mallaig/Armadale	£773,000	£725,000	£512,000	£643,000
Mallaig/Small Isles	£1,608,000	£1,946,000	£1,827,000	£1,828,000
Raasay/Sconser	£611,000	£732,000	£734,000	£720,000
Oban/Colonsay	£1,052,000	£1,426,000	£950,000	£1,012,000
Ardrossan/Brodick	£374,000	£1,561,000	£1,392,000	£1,582,000
Lochranza/Claonaig	£29,000	£165,000	£130,000	£182,000

\*The figures represent the losses incurred in the 12 month period ending on 30 September 2007, ie the last full operating year prior to the CalMac Ferries contract starting on 1 October 2007.

\*\*Gourock to Dunoon ferry service operated by Cowal Ferries Ltd from 1 April 2007.

The figures for 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 represent the losses incurred in the financial year ending on 31 March 2005, 2006 and 2007.

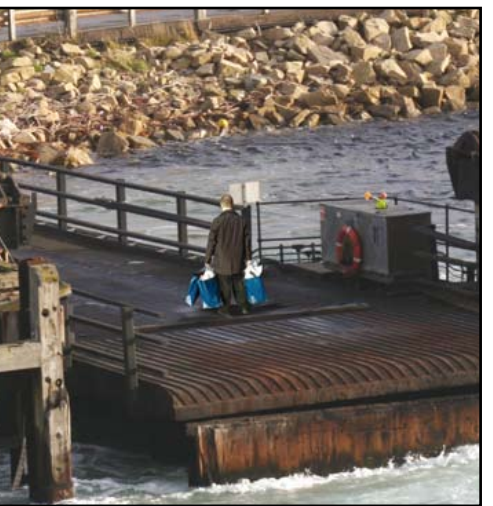
## Return sail

THE CALEDONIAN Isles ferry was seen sailing back to Brodick at 2pm last Friday, just ten minutes after it had left the harbour at the usual 1.50pm sailing time. There was no on-board medical emergency, no mechanical fault with the boat and the toilets were working fine. So why did the ship return?

It turns out a passenger had been left behind at Brodick. A quite ordinary passenger. Not the Queen or an A-list celebrity — just a man who had parked his van at the front of the car deck and without whose car-keys the remaining vehicles on board would have remained trapped on board until a return journey.

Ted was witness to the event from the comfort of Copperwheats café at the pier, and told The Arran Voice, 'A guy drives onto the boat, parks his van, gets off the boat, turns around and sees the boat sailing away. We thought something quite bad had happened, but it turned out he had just nipped off the ferry to do some shopping.'

There has been considerable speculation as to what the man bought during his few extra minutes on Arran. Was the purchase worth the many



litres of fuel spent during the ferry's extended trip? Some white goods from the Scottish Hydro perhaps or a picture from Maine Fine Arts? Ted's fellow employee Aiden reckoned that there was no excuse, whatever it was. 'Once you're on the ferry, you're on the ferry.' Sledgehammer to crack a nut? Hopefully the event won't lead to some draconian regulation to prevent a similar incident from happening again, or we'll be hearing an addition to the safety announcement that says, 'All car drivers must leave the keys to their vehicles with D.J. at the captain's office.'

What did the man buy? Send any suggestions to *The Arran Voice*, or e-mail [info@arranvoice.com](mailto:info@arranvoice.com).

## Be alarmed



OUR LOCAL MP Katy Clark poses with a safety alarm to remind us that this week is Carbon Monoxide (CO) Awareness Week. CO can be produced in any fuel-burning appliance that is not properly maintained and danger signs that Carbon Monoxide may be leaking include yellow or orange flames where there would normally be blue ones, or sooty stains on walls around fires and water heaters. Katy believes it is vitally important that the people of North Ayrshire and Arran are made fully aware of the dangers posed by Carbon Monoxide poisoning, which kills 40 people in the UK every year.



# Casting starts for Whorehouse

THE ARRAN MUSIC and Drama Club will be holding their first rehearsal meeting tonight (Thursday 20th November), as preparation for next year's production gets under way. *The Best Little Whorehouse In Texas* is sure to be a hit with the most intrepid of the island's theatre-goers, with hits musical highlights such as *I Will Always Love You*, made famous by Dolly Parton. While the Whitney-famed classic love song was not used in the original Broadway production, the Club is determined to weave it into their

show.

Chair Bob McLaren has welcomed anyone to come along and take part. There is a wide variety of roles available for people to become involved. Dave Payn has just joined the Club as musical director and says the club is looking for a rehearsal pianist. The club is hoping that someone or several people might step forward to take on the role. There may be a few star musicians at the high school who would like the practice.



## Arran Arts Festival

Events Programme 20th–22nd November 2008

**20th November — Poetry Workshop with Jason Watts**  
Burnside Gallery, Brodick, 2.00–4.00 pm (Free)

### “Arran and Beyond”

Poetry with Sheila Templeton (last year's McLellan Poetry Award winner),  
Music with Amy Hume, Robyn Keen, Tim Pomeroy  
Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 8.00pm (Free)

**21st November — Play Performance Reading**  
**by Nutshell Theatre Company**

of winner McLellan Play Award 2008 “Wasteland” by  
Fiona Connor. Corrie Hall, 8.00pm (Free)

**22nd November — Poetry and Play Award Presentations**  
**with poet W.N. Herbert**

Food, wine, music and festival close. Corrie Hall, 8.00pm (Free)

**Supported by North Ayrshire Council, Awards for All,  
Scottish Co-op**

Scottish Charity No. SCO06027

# Shiskine and Lamlash mark Guild Week

SHISKINE'S CHURCH OF Scotland Women's Guild met with the Lamlash guild this week at St Molio's Church to mark Guild Week 2008. The group met in the morning for a workshop and after some tasty soup and sandwiches the members watched a video of the annual national rally held in Caird Hall in Dundee at the start of September. Helen Knight, who gave a talk to the local Guilds, said they were keen to engage not with just members of the congregation, but also 'within the wider community,' echoing the Guild's mission to support and sometimes even re-establish a sense of community which has been damaged in recent decades. The afternoon was also a good

occasion to catch up and share views and news with members from the two villages.

Over the past two years, the Church of Scotland Guild has donated over half a million pounds to charitable causes: including some £106,616.85 to Borderline which supports homeless Scots in London and £53,353.10 to Christian Aid's 'Action for the Adivasi' in Bangladesh.

The Pirnmill Women's Guild (the only other Guild on Arran) will be holding a community lunch this Friday and a table-top sale. With around 35,000 members, the Church of Scotland Guild is one of Scotland's largest voluntary organisations.

**Book review Sponsored by Book and Card Centre**

## Book Review

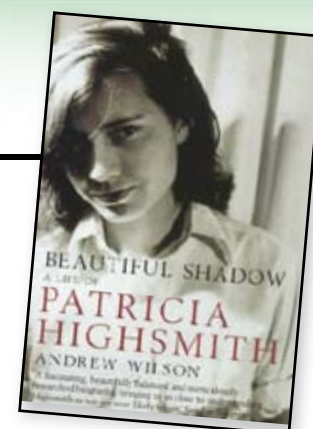
By Lorna Sherry

### BEAUTIFUL SHADOW: A LIFE OF PATRICIA HIGHSMITH

Cats, snails, and murderous tales, run through this highly detailed biography of one of the most popular, and most borrowed from libraries, of crime fiction writers.

Patricia Highsmith led a torturous life from her American childhood which she described as a 'little hell' to retirement, alone and fractious in Switzerland. Her life is littered with the names of other 'greats', photographers, writers, actors, and of course Alfred Hitchcock. Hitchcock's film of Highsmith's novel, *Strangers on a Train* brought her to a new and wider audience. More recently we have become acquainted with Mr Ripley, on film.

This biography is a kind of detective book in that it tries to discover the essence of Patricia Highsmith but her character is so complex that the woman is at the same time overwhelming, touching, rather frightening, and endlessly surprising. Many photographs show Highsmith and friends from the 1930's to the 1990's. Edgar Allan Poe was an early inspiration for a career that began with writing for comics and ended in international acclaim. She travelled



with her pet snails! They inspired a horror story although she loved them, and cats rather than humans were her beloved companions. Highsmith was quirky; friends invited to dinner might be treated KFC rather than be served the home cooked delicacies they expected, and if she got drunk, which she did increasingly — fireworks! Her ears were hypersensitive and she had communication difficulties which left her at times misunderstood.

Despite everything she had success but her private life was only sparsely punctuated by bouts of happiness. On hearing that Patricia had died a friend remarked, 'all things considered, it was probably one of the lesser traumas of her life'. Andrew Wilson's respect, sympathy, and fondness for his subject makes Patricia Highsmith a deeply interesting study.

**Beautiful Shadow by Andrew Wilson**  
**Published by Bloomsbury, RRP £8.99**  
**ISBN 0-7475-6855-3**

**You can buy any book reviewed in *The Arran Voice* from the Book and Card Centre at a handsome reduction of £2.00 on the published price.**

## Blackwaterfoot Garage

**Due to essential maintenance work  
Petrol and Diesel will not be available  
at the following times:**

**Tuesday 25th November — Afternoon**  
**Wednesday 26th November — All Day**  
**Thursday 27th November — Afternoon**

**We apologise for any inconvenience**  
**Full garage services will remain available**  
**Thank You. Telephone: 01770 860 277**



Do you have an island-based event you want to promote?  
Add it to **ArranOnline.com** free of charge, and it will automatically  
appear in these listings (subject to space and suitability).

Alternatively, send details of your event to:

**The Arran Voice Ltd, Pier Buildings, Brodick, Isle of Arran, KA27 8AX**

#### EVERY DAY (OR MOST DAYS)

Arran Craft Gallery, beside Bilslands, Brodick—  
open Monday–Saturday  
Arran Art Gallery, Shore Road, Whiting Bay—  
closed for holidays  
The Burnside Gallery & Exhibition Space,  
Sculpture Garden, Auchrannie Road—open  
daily all year round 10.30am–5.30pm  
(current exhibitions: Miniatures by Gordon  
Davidson and paintings by Roberta McRae)  
Corrie Art (former Corrie Village Shop),  
Corrie—current exhibition: Avril Paton *What's  
on Your Plate?* Decorative hand-painted  
platters by the artist, daily 1–6pm  
Main Fine Art, Michael Main Gallery, Douglas  
Centre, Brodick—open 10am–12.30pm &  
2–4.30pm  
Isle of Arran Distillery, Lochranza—winter  
opening times: Monday, Wednesday,  
Saturday 10am–4pm, Sunday 11am–4pm  
Arran Heritage Museum, Rosaburn, Brodick—  
closed for the winter  
Claddach Pottery, The Store, Claddach,  
Brodick—open 7 days  
Auchrannie Spa, Brodick, gym inductions,  
fitness assessments, personal training daily  
Balmichael Visitors Centre, String Road—  
Monday and Tuesday closed  
Arran Adventure, beside Auchrannie Spa,  
Brodick—open daily for outdoor activities  
Brodick Castle, castle closed for the winter, park  
open all days, shop open Friday, Saturday,  
Sunday 10am–3.30pm until Christmas  
KA Campus, Arran High School, Lamlash—  
regular fitness classes, gym inductions

#### THURSDAY 20TH

Senior Aerobics, Auchrannie Spa, Brodick,  
9.30–10.30am  
Senior Fitness, Auchrannie Spa, Brodick,  
10.45–11.45am  
Cardiac Rehab, Auchrannie Spa, Brodick,  
12.30–2pm  
Lochranza Craft Club, Lochranza Hall, 2pm  
Poetry Workshop with Jason Watts, Burnside  
Gallery, Brodick, 2–4pm (free)  
Table Tennis, Kildonan Hall, 3–5pm  
KA Jog, all levels, KA Campus, Lamlash,  
5.30–6.30pm  
Pilates, Auchrannie Spa, Brodick, 6–6.45pm  
Beavers & Cubs, Theatre & Dance Studio Arran  
High School, Lamlash, 6.15–8pm  
Junior Scottish Country Dancing, Lamlash  
Church Hall, 6–7pm  
Legs, Bums & Tums, KA Campus, Lamlash,  
6.30–7.15pm  
Outdoor Boot Camp, Ormidale Park, Brodick  
7–8pm  
Brodick Bridge Club, Ormidale Pavillion, 7.15pm  
Arran Music and Drama Club, Start Rehearsals,  
Brodick Hall, 7.30pm  
Brodick Embroidery Group, Library, Brodick,  
7.30pm  
Middle Eastern Dancers' Practice & Lessons,  
Lamlash, Church Hall, Beginners 7.30–  
8.30pm, Intermediates 8.30–9.30pm  
General Knowledge Quiz, Ormidale Hotel,  
Brodick, 10pm

#### FRIDAY 21ST

Yoga, Lamlash Church Hall, 10.30am  
Aquafizz, Auchrannie Pool, Brodick, 9.45am  
Senior Badminton, Auchrannie Spa,

Brodick, 2pm  
Kids' Club, Games Night, KA Campus, Lamlash,  
6.30–8pm  
Arran Pipe Band Practice Session, Brodick Hall,  
7.30pm  
Arran Arts Festival, play performance reading by  
Nutshell Theatre Company, of the winner of  
the McLellan Play Award 2008, *Wasteland* by  
Fiona Connor, Corrie Hall, 8pm (free)  
Quiz Night, Whiting Bay Golf Club, 9pm  
Over 21's Disco, Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 10pm

#### SATURDAY 22ND

Dance School, KA Campus, Lamlash, All day  
RNLI Shop Lamlash open 10.30am–12.30pm  
Farmers' Market, Kilmory Village Hall,  
11.30am–3.30pm  
Karate, Auchrannie Spa, Brodick, 11.30–  
12.30am  
Christmas Sale of Works, Friends of Lochranza  
Kirk (F.O.L.K.), Lochranza, 2–4pm  
Whiting Bay Primary School Christmas Fete,  
Whiting Bay Village Hall, 2–4.30pm  
Family Games, Auchrannie Spa, Brodick,  
3–4pm  
Fun in the Pool, Auchrannie Spa, Brodick,  
4–5pm  
Family Ceilidh, Whiting Bay Hall, 6.30–9pm  
Youth Club, Church Hall, Brodick—tabletop  
gaming (last Sat. of month), pool, PS3,  
dart, arts (scrapbooking, bring pictures)  
and crafts, table tennis, board games etc.,  
7–10pm  
Arran Arts Festival, Poetry and Play Award  
presentation with poet W. N. Herbert, Corrie  
& Sannox Village Hall, 8pm (free)  
Disco, Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 10pm

#### SUNDAY 23RD

Boys' Football, KA Campus, Lamlash (Astroturf  
or Games Hall), 10–11am  
Arran Wargames Club, Arran High School,  
Lamlash, 1–4pm  
*What's on Your Plate?* exhibition of hand-  
painted platters by Avril Paton with  
attendance of the artist herself who will be  
signing prints, Corrie Arts (former Village  
Shop), Corrie 1–6pm  
Kids' Club Sunday Matinée, 1.30–3pm  
AA Alcoholics Anonymous, St. Margaret's  
Church, Whiting Bay, 4.30pm  
Fiddle Class, Ormidale Pavillion, Brodick,  
5.30–6.30pm

#### MONDAY 24TH

Senior Fitness, Auchrannie Spa, Brodick,  
9.30–10.30am & 10.45–11.45am  
Ways 2 Walk Group, Ormidale Pavillion Car  
Park, Brodick, 11am  
Scottish Country Dancers, Beginners &  
Improvers, Corrie Hall, 2pm  
Weight Wise, Hospital Bungalow, Lamlash,  
5–5.30pm  
Core Strength, Auchrannie Spa, Brodick,  
5.30–6pm  
Circuit Training, Auchrannie Spa, Brodick,  
6–7.15pm  
Ab Class Beginners, KA Campus, Lamlash  
6.30–7pm  
Aerobics, KA Campus, Lamlash, 7–8pm  
Lamlash Improvements Committee Meeting, all  
welcome, Arran High School, 7pm  
Sannox Cricket Club, Indoor Practice,

Auchrannie Gym, Brodick, 7–9pm  
Lamlash Bridge Club, Golf Club House,  
Lamlash, 7.15pm  
General Knowledge Quiz, Cameronia, Whiting  
Bay, 9.30pm

#### TUESDAY 25TH

Senior Fitness, Auchrannie Spa, Brodick,  
9.45–10.30am  
Pulmonary Rehab, Auchrannie Spa, Brodick,  
12.30pm  
AA Alcoholics Anonymous, Brodick Church Hall,  
2pm  
Indoor Bowling, Corrie & Sannox Village Hall,  
2–4pm  
Mini Kickers Training KA Campus, Arran High  
School, 3–4 yrs old 5–5.45pm, 5–7yrs old  
5.45–6.45pm  
Legs, Bums & Tums, Auchrannie Spa, Brodick  
6–6.45pm  
Body Conditioning, KA Campus, Lamlash,  
6–7pm  
Kids Fit, KA Campus, Lamlash, 6–7pm  
Shapers, Auchrannie Spa, Brodick, 7–8pm  
Arran Rotary Meeting, Glencloy Suite,  
Auchrannie, Brodick, 7pm  
Scottish Country Dance Class, Brodick, Church  
Hall, 7.30pm  
Pop Music Quiz, Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 10pm

#### WEDNESDAY 26TH

Aquafizz, Auchrannie Pool, Brodick, 9.45am  
Yogalates, Auchrannie Spa, Brodick, 10–11am  
AIMS Advocacy and CAB Outreach Service,  
Corrie and Sannox Village Hall, 11am–2pm  
Core Strength, Auchrannie Spa, Brodick,  
5.30–6pm  
Kick Boxing, KA Campus, Lamlash, 6–7pm  
Circuit Training, Auchrannie Spa, Brodick,  
6–7.15pm  
Arran Rugby Club S1–U18 from 6.30pm,  
Seniors from 7.30pm  
Hockey, Auchrannie Spa, Brodick 7–8pm  
Arran Brass Band Rehearsal, Lesser Hall,  
Whiting Bay, 7.15–9.15

#### THURSDAY 27TH

Screen Machine, *High School Musical 3, The  
Duchess, Stone of Destiny*—exact times see  
ads & posters  
Senior Aerobics, Auchrannie Spa, Brodick,  
9.30–10.30am  
Senior Fitness, Auchrannie Spa, Brodick,  
10.45–11.45am  
Cardiac Rehab, Auchrannie Spa, Brodick,  
12.30–2pm  
Lochranza Craft Club, Lochranza Hall, 2pm  
Table Tennis, Kildonan Hall, 3–5pm  
KA Jog, all levels, KA Campus, Lamlash,  
5.30–6.30pm  
Pilates, Auchrannie Spa, Brodick, 6–6.45pm  
Junior Scottish Country Dancing, Lamlash  
Church Hall, 6–7pm  
Outdoor Boot Camp, Ormidale Park, Brodick,  
7–8pm  
Brodick Bridge Club, Ormidale Pavillion, 7.15pm  
Brodick Embroidery Group, Library, Brodick,  
7.30pm  
Middle Eastern Dancers' Practice & Lessons,  
Lamlash Church Hall, Beginners 7.30–  
8.30pm, Intermediate 8.30–9.30pm  
General Knowledge Quiz, Ormidale Hotel,  
Brodick, 10pm

# Out & About

## UP & COMING

#### FRIDAY 28TH (PREVIEW)

Screen Machine, *High School Musical 3,  
The Duchess, Stone of Destiny*—exact  
times see ads & posters  
Yoga, Lamlash Church Hall, 10.30am  
Aquafizz, Auchrannie Pool, Brodick, 9.45am  
Senior Badminton, Auchrannie Spa,  
Brodick, 2pm  
Kids' Club, Games Night, KA Campus, AHS  
Lamlash, 6.30–8pm  
Arran Pipe Band Practice Session, Brodick  
Hall, 7.30pm  
Quiz Night, Whiting Bay Golf Club, 9pm  
Over 21's Disco, Ormidale Hotel, Brodick,  
10pm

#### SATURDAY 29TH (PREVIEW)

Screen Machine, *High School Musical 3,  
The Duchess, Stone of Destiny*— exact  
times see ads & posters  
Dance School, KA Campus, Lamlash, All  
day  
RNLI Shop Lamlash open 10.30am–  
12.30pm  
Karate, Auchrannie Spa, Brodick,  
11.30am–12.30pm  
Family Games, Auchrannie Spa, Brodick,  
3–4pm  
Fun in the Pool, Auchrannie Spa, Brodick,  
4–5pm  
Roots of Arran AGM, followed by music,  
food & drinks, Ormidale Pavillon,  
Brodick, 7.30pm  
Youth Club, Brodick Church, tabletop  
gaming, crafts (next:6th Dec.), PS3,  
table tennis, sports etc., 7–10pm  
Disco, Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 10pm

#### SUNDAY 30TH (PREVIEW)

Screen Machine, *High School Musical 3,  
The Duchess, Stone of Destiny*— exact  
times see ads & posters  
Boys' Football, KA Campus, Lamlash,  
10am–11am  
Arran Wargames Club, Arran High School,  
Lamlash, 1–4pm  
Kids' Club Sunday Matinée, KA Campus,  
Lamlash, 1.30–3pm  
AA Alcoholics Anonymous, St. Margaret's  
Church, 4.30pm  
Switch-on of the Christmas lights in  
Brodick and party later on in Brodick  
Hall, Brodick, Bilslands, 5pm  
Fiddle Class, Ormidale Pavillion, Brodick,  
5.30–6.30pm

#### PLAN AHEAD

Schools off for X-mas/New Year, Monday,  
22nd December 2008–Sunday 4th  
January 2009  
Arran Drama Festival 2009—25th–28th  
February  
Arran Music Festival 2009—25th, 26th &  
27th March  
Schools' Easter Holidays 2009, Monday 6th  
April–Sunday 19th April  
*Wyrd Sisters*, Play by Terry Prattchet  
performed by the Arran Torch Players,  
1st, 2nd, 3rd May  
Arran Wildlife Festival 2009—13–30th May



# On the Green

By **Alison Prince**

## The advantages of fur

DON'T GET ME wrong. I'm not coveting fur coats or anything unpleasant of that sort — fur belongs to the animals who grow it, and to nobody else. But I do envy them. It must be so nice to have a permanent, beautiful covering that is warm and fairly waterproof and suits all occasions. No cat or dog — let alone lion or llama — goes through the awful business of raking through the wardrobe and moaning, 'I don't know what to wear.' They go around looking perfectly all right the whole time, with no more bother than an occasional thorough wash — and even then, they don't have to take anything off or hang it on the line or iron it.

Clothes are an art-form, of course — I admit that. Maybe in my case it's just one art too many. Ever since childhood, I've regarded garments as a sort of test. It could be because my mother used to look at me wordlessly then sigh. Mind you, the war years were not the best time, sartorially speaking. We were all wearing hand-me-downs and skirts with a darker bit round the bottom where a deliberately long hem had been let down to accommodate inconvenient teenage growth, and to make things worse, we were hog-

tied by the need to look respectable. Nobody, absolutely nobody, walked around wearing skimpy tops and navel studs. One's private bits were supposed to remain strictly hidden. Near-nudity wasn't an attractive option anyway, with no central heating and a perpetual shortage of coal, but the well-wrapped-up look could get a bit tiresome in the summer. Our school uniform dresses had to reach to four inches below the knee and with a kind of grim symmetry, their 'short' sleeves had to measure four inches underarm, which meant they reached to your elbows. The revealing of naked skin was obviously close to criminal.

And then there was the obsession with 'a good winter coat'. True, it was a necessary item in those blastedly cold winters, but nothing was quite as awful as the ancient brown leather golf-coat wished on me by my mother when I outgrew the uniform navy reefer. It weighed half a ton. Running for a train in it was like a private Turkish bath, and when sitting in the crammed carriage still gasping for breath, the damn thing *creaked*. Breathe in, breathe out, eeeeg-urggh, eeeeg-urggh. It made people giggle, or pretend not to

giggle, which was worse. And it was totally unlike anything the other girls wore. They never looked as if they were pretending to be a rhinoceros. Their clothes always looked natural. The smartest of them even managed to keep their blouses tucked in and their ties straight.

'Dressing up', on the other hand, was great fun. Trailing about in a picnic rug that was supposed to be a cloak or doing something silly in a shirt made of newspaper kept me perfectly happy. The problem lay with 'real' clothes, because they were always coupled with a generally accepted idea of what was right and what wasn't. I never knew which was which. It's easy to see at a glance on other people. Admiring the way someone else's skirt length is precisely right for those boots or noting the way a jacket is cut a little too tightly across the back seems simple — in fact, for years I made all the clothes for the family and myself. Perhaps that was the best time. It was a pleasure to handle cloth and feel its texture, hold it up and look at the colour and tone of it, imagine what it could be shaped into. Shirts could be as long as I wanted them, in nice cottons that sun-faded well. Skirts could be cut

on the cross so that they hung nicely and were comfortable. I don't know why shops can't manage to do this, but somehow they miss it every time. Those depressing racks of garments in their various sizes all have the look of a uniform waiting to be accepted and climbed into. Join the ranks of the correctly dressed. Get fell in. Can't do it, Sarge — sorry.

Clothes have to be comfortable. They mustn't itch or constrict. They mustn't make you sweat or be tight at the wrists or make you feel as if you have to live up to them. I suppose I want them to be as close as possible to being natural. Put them on, in as many layers as the weather dictates, wear them all day regardless of activities, take them off and go to bed. That's what I mean about fur, you see. It would be so nice to curl up and sleep in whatever place is convenient, without having to pull shoes off or tidy beds or fill a hot-water bottle (though my cats do like to share mine.) But I dare say they have their complaints, too, did I but know. *Boring old fur, same stuff the whole time. Having to lick it clean, yuk. Furballs in the stomach. Fleas. These humans don't know how lucky they are. Can't win, can you?*



## Children Feed for Children in Need

NINNA CRISP AND the children she looks after decided to raise money for Children in Need this year, so they baked muffins and teddybear biscuits to sell to parents. Over 30 cakes and biscuits had already been pre-ordered, so there was a great flurry of activity on Thursday and Friday. The children helped make the mixture and spoon it into muffin cases, roll out biscuit mix and cut the shapes out. They decorated the bears, too, and when the orders were baked and cooled, they packed them in colourful Children in Need bags. They raised over £20.00 for Children in Need, but the very best part was sampling the goods before they were sold!



The children pictured are Rosie Mckelvie, Charlie and Jake McAllistair.



## Glasgow dances through winter blues



IT SEEMS GLASGOW is determined to dance its way through the global economic downturn. Just off Sauchiehall St, this establishment was enticing clubbers in with a 'Recession Session' offering folks drinks for just £1.



## PUT YOUR SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS ON OUR MESSAGE BOARD, FREE!

### SAVE THE CHILDREN CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Following last week's report, the committee now wish to add that the sum raised on the day was £1447.55. This was over and above the £1234.55 which was raised from the puzzle.

We wish to record our sincere thanks once again to all who contributed and special thanks to Ian Clark for piping in our customers.

Brodict Poppy Scotland  
Appeal 2008

### Arran Pipe Band AGM

The Isle of Arran Pipe Band AGM will be on Friday 21st November 2008 at 19.30hrs in Brodict Hall.

A grand total of £1669.31 was collected for Poppy Scotland, once again I would like to thank all the outlets, collectors and contributors for their efforts.

Alan Milligan  
Brodict Poppy Convener

Hospital Supporters League Christmas Fayre Sun 7th Dec 2-4pm in the High School.

All the usual stalls. Come and have a cup of tea and a mince pie while you solve Dr.Tinto's Quiz.

For table tops please phone Judy on 700 245.

Any donations for home baking or bric-a-brac will be very welcome and may be left at the school from 11am on the morning of the fayre — come along and support your hospital.

### Shiskine Card Stars

COMING SOON

Two exclusive Christmas Cards by Cailean Robertson P.3 Shiskine Primary School

On Sale at Shiskine Primary School and other good retailers

### Family Ceilidh Whiting Bay Village Hall

Sat 22 November 6.30 – 9.00

Adults £3, Children £2,  
Family Ticket £8

In aid of Whiting Bay Primary School.

Lochranza Choir  
presents  
A Medley of Music  
at  
Lochranza Village Hall  
at 3pm

Tickets £5 (inc.wine)  
Children £1  
Proceeds to the hall and The  
Beaston Institute

### Friends of Lochranza Kirk (F.O.L.K)

Christmas Sale of Work in Lochranza Hall on  
Saturday 22nd November 2pm - 4pm.

Usual quality stalls + Fun + Teas +  
wonderful baking

NOT TO BE MISSED

Isle Of Arran Annual Carol Concert  
Lamlash Church  
7.30pm Monday December 1st 2008

Come and join us for this concert of readings, carols and songs. Leading, into the festive season of Christmas.

Those taking part include:  
Brodict Primary School Choir  
Arran High School Choir  
The Rowan Singers  
Lochranza Choir  
The Arran Brass Band  
And yourselves

Proceeds in aid of The Sir Malcolm Sargent Cancer Fund For Children

Scottish Charity No SC015072

### Annual General Meeting Arran Riding for the Disabled

The Annual General Meeting will take place on Friday 5th December in Brodict Church Hall at 11am. All Welcome



### HOMES WANTED

For two,  
8 week old tabby kittens  
both boys, lively with  
loving natures.

### ROOTS OF ARRAN AGM Community Woodland Group

Fri 28 Nov 2008  
Ormidale Pavilion  
6.00pm AGM  
7.30pm Presentations  
8.00 - 10pm Social: Music, chat, food & drink

MEMBERS & EVERYONE VERY WELCOME  
inc. children/Young Rooter activities.  
Interested? Become a director? Plant a tree?  
Find out more on the night or Tel 700640

### Lamlash Village Poppy Appeal — 2008

The total amount raised during the 2008 Earl Haig appeal in Lamlash Village was £342.05.

Many thanks to all contributors.

Christmas sale, on behalf of [sspc.a.cp](http://sspc.a.cp) and [apaws](http://apaws) we would like to thank all those who came to our sale and supported us especially our volunteers and those who had tables we all had a good day, again many thanks to all.

Soup and Sandwich  
Lunch + Slide  
Show in Aid of Dr.  
Graham's Homes.  
Tickets £5 from  
the Book and Card  
Shop, Committee  
members or at the  
door.

Sat. 29th November,  
Brodict Church Hall,  
12.30pm.

### Christmas Fete

Whiting Bay Primary School is holding a Christmas Fete in Whiting Bay village hall on Saturday 22nd November from 2.00-4.30, featuring craft stalls, home baking, a tombola, sale of Christmas crafts (come and make your own!), a CD/DVD "Swap Shop" and face-painting. Also an exhibition to celebrate 40 years of the school in its current building. All are welcome.

# Fish farm nets moved

ON THE AFTERNOON of Sunday 16 November, people in Lamlash may have seen a boat towing some of the fish farm nets through the No Take Zone into the Clyde. The boat passed quite near Holy Island then skirted Hamilton Rock. John and Sally Campbell of COAST rang SEPA the next day and were told by Mr Izzard at the Ayr office that Lighthouse Caledonia intend to replace square nets with round ones 'to increase efficiency.' (Quote: 'Salmon swim in circles.')

Asked what happened as a result of the last consultation about enlarging the fish farm that we responded to and heard nothing, Mr Izzard said that Lighthouse Caledonia withdrew their last planning approval/request and are about to submit another. *The Voice* will of course flag this up as before and it may be that consultation starts all over again. Meanwhile, if COAST can get a picture of any more nets being moved, so much the better. As Sally said, 'With the disease that has been around this fish farm, I do wonder what they are taking elsewhere.'

# St Andrew's Day at Pirnmill

ST ANDREW'S Day will be celebrated in song with help from Pirnmill Primary School pupils and instrumental works performed by music students from Arran High School. The concert is also an opportunity to demonstrate the versatility of the Hall's newly acquired piano, purchased this year through the fund-raising efforts of the community.

Come and enjoy a musical winter's afternoon with a glass of wine in the village hall with proceeds going to the hall and the Beatson Institute.





## Stef's stab at the weather

By **Stef Holmer**

*Amateur Meteorologist*

### SUMMARY OF LAST WEEK'S FORECAST

Ah well. After two in a row, last week's forecast kind of fell to bits. At least we had a beautiful day on Sunday.

### General Summary for 20th to 24th November:

There's a large anticyclone sitting out in the Atlantic, doing nothing useful for us. Our weather is being dominated by a huge low pressure centred over the Baltic. On Thursday this will bring some very strong winds from the west. As this low pressure moves slowly eastward the winds will swing round to the north, with very tightly packed isobars bringing an icy blast of cold air down from the Arctic on Friday and Saturday. A shift in the wind direction from north to north west will give us a wee bit of respite by Sunday and Monday ... but don't go reaching for those shorts and sandals just yet!



### Thursday

Still staying quite mild at 10°C, and mostly dry. There will be a fair bit of cloud around and glimpses of the sun. However, the main feature of the day is a very strong westerly wind with speeds in excess of 25mph and gale force gusts, especially in the morning. These will ease just a wee bit later in the day. There could be some showers developing in the evening.



### Friday

Here comes the Arctic! Temperatures plummeting down to 4°C or lower, and very strong northerly winds (up to 25mph) making it feel much colder. It will be cloudy again but with more moisture in the air, which may fall as occasional sleet or snow showers. When choosing my wardrobe for the day, the dilemma will be how many layers?



### Saturday

Getting even colder, and look out for an overnight frost. Probably the best you can expect will be 3°C with a frost at night. At least the north wind will ease a little. It will stay mostly cloudy and there could be a few wintry showers at any time during the day, but nothing much to speak of. The afternoon looks best for getting out but only if well wrapped up. No' a bad day for a brisk walk and something warm to greet you on your return.



### Sunday

Temperatures are on the rise again (8°C), but so are the winds. Mainly from the north west, approaching 25mph or more in the afternoon. There may be a few blustery showers in the morning, becoming a bit heavier later. Keep those winter woolies handy.



### Monday

Showery again in the earlier part of the morning, and temperatures holding at 8°C. We may see quite a bit more of the sun, and the winds, still in the north west, will drop back to around 20mph.

### Outlook (Very long-range stuff)

Cloudy, dry, and a bit milder on Tuesday. Rain coming in during the evening, heralding another wet and windy day on Wednesday. The rest of the week looks cold and showery, and the strong winds stay with us.

### Ferry Notes

Thursday is looking a bit dodgy with strong westerlies. While the wind stays strong throughout the period, it will be mainly from the north which is usually OK for Ardrossan. However check ahead if travelling on Sunday evening as the wind may shift round to the west, increasing to gale force.

# Screen Machine offerings

THE SCREEN MACHINE rolls into the Auchrannie car park again this week, and brings three contrasting films. *Stone of Destiny* stars Robert Carlye as the nationalist academic John MacCormick. Ian Hamilton, the film's hero, is played by Charlie Cox, with Peter Mullan as his gruff dad. The Stone of Destiny has of course immense symbolic importance for the Scottish nation, and there have been some grumbles that this largely Canadian production doesn't quite get under the skin of the Scottish psyche. The story of how Ian Hamilton and three other nationalists broke into Westminster Abbey and carried the Stone back to Scotland is marvellous to look at and the theme music of *Wild Mountain Thyme* with its refrain, 'Will ye go, lassie, go' will stir many a heart. There is of course an ongoing debate as to whether the stone retrieved from Westminster really is the genuine one, as many hold to the theory that the monks of Scone Palace fobbed Edward I off with a replica and kept the real Stone hidden. See the film, take your pick!

*High School Musical 3* is the latest in a series of Disney films, the first one made for TV in 2006. Its plot, if that is not too grandiose a word, centres on a teenage love story with a karaoke background, and it has been a huge hit with children in the 9-14 age range. Starring Zac Efron and Vanessa Anne Hudgens, it is presented to parents as a tale with a 'strong and uplifting moral', as the usual themes of success at all costs are ditched in favour of a gentler and more co-operative fable of young performers combining in a win-win situation. One critic tutted over the 'obscenely low-cut jeans' worn by Vanessa, but young viewers are unlikely to be shocked.

For more grown-up film-goers, there is *The Duchess*, based on the life of Georgiana Cavendish, Duchess of Devonshire, who though married to the Duke, had a passionate affair with Earl Grey. Not everybody's cup of tea, you might say. Filmed at Twickenham Studios and financed by BBC Films and Pathe, much of the action is shot on location at a variety of stately homes, including Chatsworth, Holkham Hall, Clarendon Park and the University of Greenwich. Its star-studded cast is headed by Keira Knightley as the Duchess and includes a powerful performance by Ralph Fiennes as her husband, the troubled and anxious Duke. The director, Saul Dibb, is credited by many critics with the great achievement of bringing out previously hidden depths in Keira Knightley, who in this film not only looks ravishing but portrays all the 'strengths, weaknesses and internal hurdles' of this most complex woman. Cameron Bailey of the Toronto International Festival remarked that she is 'actually a very serious actress and she's turning into a great, great performer.' Certainly worth a look.

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2pm.....Sat 29, Sun 30 Nov

**The Duchess**

(12A) 110mins

8.30pm....Thu 27, Sat 29 Nov

**Stone of Destiny**

(PG) 110mins

8.30pm....Fri 28, Sun 30 Nov

5.30pm....Sat 29 Nov

Ticket Prices: Adults £5.50, U16s £4, Concessions £4.

Online tickets available (+ booking fee) until 3 hours before each screening. Telephone sales (+ booking fee)

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# Castle Art Show

By **Alison Prince**

LAST WEEK'S ANNUAL art exhibition at the Castle was of notably high quality, reflected in the rush to buy exhibits on the opening night. There were indeed many covetable things, beginning with Nicole Shaer's interesting paintings confronting the viewer on entry. Her *Crowd* had something of the quality of Alison Watt's fine drapery study painted for a Glasgow church, and even more intriguing was her assembly of fragmented pictures called *Abstracted Figurescape* that evoked a whole, larger unity. The deep-toned small paintings had a feeling of Rembrandt about them, and one in particular, a woman's hand holding up a fold of fabric that might be a dress, hinted strongly at that master's study of Saskia knee-deep in the running water of a stream.

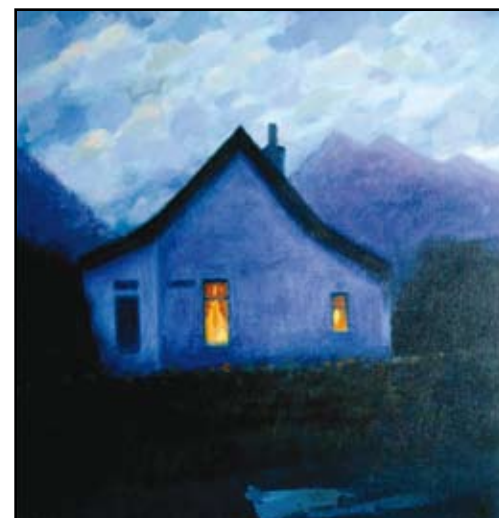


Nicole Shaer's 'Crowds'



Nicole Shaer's 'Abstracted Figurescape'

There was of course a strong representation of landscape, as Arran painters never cease to be fired up by the beauty of what can be seen all around us. One of the most attractive was Sheila Findlay's *Cottage at Dusk*, with its mountains rising into the dark blue of approaching night time and the bright gleam of orange lights from its windows. Roslyn Gibson shows a move towards an inventive exploration of textures and natural patterning in her exhibits this year, with a subtle patterning of watercolour and acrylic that merits close attention. David Irwin, too, is developing an analytical eye for the qualities to be seen in cliff, sand and water, and his pastel landscapes have a confident handling of big areas and contrasting textures. Jan Inglis continues her series of large, square studies of the sea in all its moods, but this year moves into a looser style, highly evocative of movement and wind.



Sheila Findlay's, 'Cottage at Dusk'

John Alexander Knox captures all the drama of large-scale landscape in his oil paintings. *Fencing the Sky* in particular, with its tiny figure on a slanting horizon under a vast sky-scape, has a real sense of nature's drama. Ronnie McNeice offers five of his inimitably lively acrylic paintings, including *Imacher*, with distant cottages between a busy field and a big sky, and the very attractive *Island Croft*.



Ronnie McNeice's, 'Island Croft'

Gerard Tattersfield's small sketch of *High Corrie* was evocative, and Clive Wortley's *Evening Light* showed a skilled use of watercolour, the delicate lines of tall grass in the water conveying absolute tranquillity. Kate Robertson's *Searching*, with its alert, anxious figures of a farmer and his dog in deep snow, lingers in the mind, too.

Landscape by no means dominated the show, however. Masako Ritchie's exquisite Japanese paintings are utterly delectable, full of movement and yet having complete stillness. Her *Fragrance of Yesterday*, like all her work, has a refined, extraordinarily sophisticated use of ink and the way it relates to the paper that receives it.

Chris Mills, too, had a detailed, delicate technique in his use of watercolour for his bird studies. *Barn Owl 2* was particularly impressive. Zabdi Keen handles watercolour equally well, using its faint, transparent



Masako Ritchie's, 'Fragrance of Yesterday'

hues to convey great heat in her study called *Rome — House in the Wood*.

Janette MacLeod is of course one of Arran's (or indeed, Scotland's) most accomplished painters, and she shows characteristically detail-packed, intriguing mixtures of decorative fun, combining in strong, highly enjoyable compositions. Her *Teapots and Tits in the Countryside* is gloriously chequered and flowered, with foxgloves and ferns in wondrous purples and russets rising round the wee birds. Her *Gandering in the Hoose* with its three white geese (or ganders) in the foreground has a fairground quality about it, with all the rich, detailed decoration of a merry-go-round and areas of lovely, detailed painting. She is a wonder, and anyone with an eye to the collectable should be beating a path to her door.



Janette MacLeod's, 'Gandering in the Hoose'

Three-dimensional work in the show is no less rewarding. Tim Pomeroy's *Starfruit* makes stone seem as fragile and sharp-edged as though it contained a hidden berry although it is carved of stone, and Andy Surridge's *Ash Beam Table* is a lovely thing. Alistair Linton's finely crafted *Marquetry Boxes* are equally covetable, specially the one that has birch trees running in an uninterrupted scene across its four drawers — and Irene Barnes shows a beaded, glowing, Klimt-like design that encloses an early photograph of a woman in decorative mystery. Altogether, a show to remember long and with great pleasure.

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# An independent eye on Balloons

By **Maureen Moore**  
Photos by **Arran Photography**

*Balloons* is set on Arran sometime in the future when rising tides threaten the villages. The islanders want to build huts further up the hill but Caroleeza Crowe, a loveable eccentric with a mad team of supporters, has dreamed up the idea of floating lightweight plastic housing 'pods' under hot air balloons. The Office of Privatised Island Services (OFPIS), which manages Arran from its mainland base, has the equally absurd idea of constructing a wall 'right round the whole blasted island', as Ernest, their Chief Executive, puts it. But some, Fiona Cameron among them, take illegal action, starting to build their own homes up the hill.



Lisa Duncan doing her make-up

When the OFPIS team arrive on the island, Ernest (played with impressive weight by Dave Patterson) is intrigued by the hot-air balloons scheme — and by Caroleeza. His newly appointed Island Liaison Officer, Dave Green, is young, naïve and far too honest for the OFPIS lot, and falls in love with Fiona, the island protest leader. Meanwhile Jan, Fiona's best friend and a single mum, is taken in by the advances of sleazy OFPIS PR Officer, Martin Mole, and is devastated when she finds out that he is married. The lies and 'spin' are deeply offensive to the islanders, who determine that they must take control of their own destiny.

The themes of *Balloons* are serious; climate change, lack of housing on the island and crass bureaucracy. It is essentially satirical, very funny yet hard hitting at all that we have come to loathe about the politics of today; the unending stream of lies disguised as 'spin'. 'Never ask me if it's true,' sings

Ernest, 'that's the art of spin.' The points are hammered home in this no-holds-barred burlesque, in the true spirit of the original 17th to 19th century playwrights, who dared to caricature the events of the times with all-singing, all-dancing satire. The tradition has been carried on through Music Hall and more recently, through such bodies as Joan Littlewood's Theatre Workshop and the biting anger of *Oh What a Lovely War*. The theatre is the medium that mirrors the times in which we live, and Alison Prince's witty script does not miss the target.

The first night set a very lively pace, with funky music introducing the *Balloons* team, an extravagance of pink wellies, head bands, ra-ra skirts and huge pom-poms, American cheer-leader style, urging, 'Buy the Balloons Experience!' Very well presented, lots of fun! Caroleeza in her trendy vermilion wig was strongly played by Sarah Cook.

The show had many highlights: there were jokes about ArCaS and Arran's potholes, and the antics of Ernest's black-hatted OFPIS men were ably caricatured. Alan Nicol had a sharp, utterly convincing take on Mole, the cynical PR Officer, Donald Gray as the worried engineer expressed concern and was promptly sacked, and Stuart Gough as Persiflage produced a stream of gobbledy-gook that was a very funny send-up of official-speak, gravely received by Ernest. ('Thank you for that lucid explanation.') The well-executed Monty Python-style dance routines brought the house down, and young Dave, touchingly played by Sam Thornely, was pleased to get a site hut to live in, amid references to Arran houses costing half a while others struggled in caravans. Jan, beautifully portrayed by Laura Selkirk, had to leave Arran with her baby, having nowhere to live, and a tender scene between her and Edie (Ile Morrison), the wise woman, showed her fears for the future. In the Co-op scene the whole cast of islanders appeared, resplendent in plastic macs and colourful wellies. It is always a joy to see the concentration of the whole cast in big scenes, reminding us that every member makes an important contribution



Diana Hamilton, music director

to the overall excellence of the production.

The lively opening of Act 2 is a ceilidh, at which Martin Mole rashly ventures into a *Strip the Willow* with Jan and is pushed around by the angry villagers. Jan's leave-taking at the Pier is touching as well-wishers surround her, giving small gifts. The mood switches to comedy with Caroleeza's post seduction dismissal of Ernest in favour of an Arran farmer whose cows 'make every so much methane' for her balloons. The clever device of using mobile phones to spread misinformation is a clever way to reveal the OFPIS machinations, but the islanders see through the ruse. The finale is very strong, as Ernest and Mole are driven out with a song that tells them to 'Get lost.' As it says, 'You can't pull the wool over any more eyes.' Ile Morrison's closing reprise of the song, *Find Me*, was beautifully sung and, like all Andrew Keeling's music for the show, was memorable, moving and toe-tapping.



Heather Gough directing Balloons

The whole production was a worthy successor to *The Land and the People*, a truly magnificent community play, put together by a dedicated and talented team of islanders. Many congratulations to Heather Gough, Diana Hamilton and all concerned.



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# Marine News

By John Kinsman

## ARRAN VOICE FISHING CORRESPONDENT PROMOTED

John Kinsman, who sends us marine news, has been made Team Leader of the New St Monans-based First Response group in Fife. As on Arran, First Response provides unpaid trained first aid volunteers who provide rapid help in the case of any medical emergency.

They are part of the NHS Scottish Ambulance Service and have specially equipped vehicles to respond to any local incident as front line back up to the regular Ambulance Service. Our picture shows John Kinsman (right) being congratulated by First Response Scottish Community Scheme Manager Alan Moffat (centre) together with new recruit Anne Adams. A First Response vehicle is in the background.



## SKIPPER FINED FOR SCALLOP OFFENCES

Glasgow-born Malcolm McKelvie, skipper of the fishing trawler *Star of Annan* OB has been fined £7,000 by a court on the Isle of Man after he admitted having a quantity of scallops on board that were below the legal minimum size of 110mm. He was apprehended by officers from the fisheries protection vessel *Barrule* on November 6 this year when his trawler was some 4.3 nautical miles west north west of Chicken Rock, and pleaded guilty to the offence.

Having heard the facts of the case the High Bailiff noted that this was a serious offence and the level of fine should reflect this. He imposed a fine of £7,000 on skipper McKelvie with £150 costs and ordered that the skipper should not fish within Manx waters for a period of 7 days. The trawler was detained until the fine was paid. All

undersize scallops were returned to the sea.

Welcoming the conviction, the Hon. Phil Gawne MHK, Minister for DAFF, said: 'The Isle of Man has built an enviable reputation for sustainable management of our scallop stocks. I will not have this reputation tarnished by vessel owners wishing to make a quick buck at the expense of other, more responsible fishermen. The considerable volume of small scallops found on board this trawler indicated the complete disregard that this skipper had for the long term welfare of the Manx fishery.'

The Minister added that he wished to express his thanks to the crew of the *Barrule* for their diligence.

## DRAGON WARSHIP LAUNCHED ON CLYDE

Over 10,000 people gathered on the banks of the Clyde on Monday November 17 to watch the launch of the Royal Navy's newest

Type 45 destroyer. MHS Dragon slipped into the Clyde from the BVT's shipyard at Govan, Glasgow, with an 18m Welsh Dragon on its bow. The new vessel will provide air defence cover, being able to carry more than 60 Royal Marine Commandos and operate a Chinook-sized helicopter from its flight deck.

HMS Dragon is the fourth of six Type 45 destroyers to be launched. The Type 45 will replace the Royal Navy's ageing fleet of Type 42 Destroyers. These new vessels are due to come into service in 2009 and 2010. The three preceding the Dragon are already operational, but work on the fifth and sixth T45s, *Defender* and *Duncan*, is still ongoing. With a price tag of £605million, each of the 150m long vessels weighs in at 7,350 tons. All six new vessels are to be constructed and launched in Govan, securing work at yards on the Clyde well into the next decade.

# Jingle Belly!

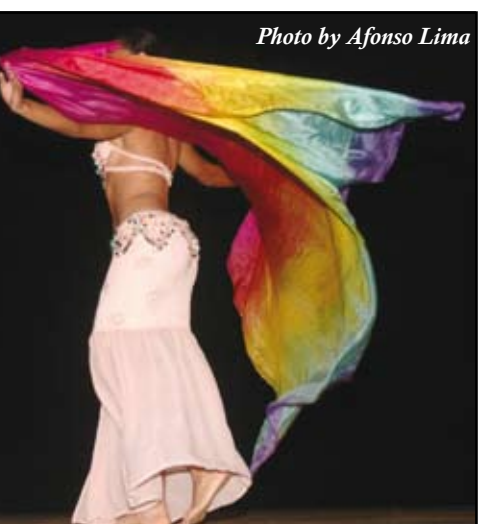


Photo by Afonso Lima

THERE MIGHT NOT be any Lebanese restaurants on Arran, but surely one of the island's eateries would enjoy hosting a group of wonderful Middle-Eastern dancers. Arran's famous belly-dancers are looking for a venue for their Christmas party. Space for dancing is probably required, although there are always the dining tables! To contact AMEDA (Arran Middle Eastern Dance Association), call Sandy at 700 640.

# Lochranza Choir Concert

THE LOCHRANZA CHOIR is now into its final rehearsals for a concert on the 30th of November. The Choir will perform a Medley of Music including works by Vivaldi, Handel and Verdi. Rudyard Kipling's words, *Non Nobis*, *Domine* with music by Roger Quilter and Samuel Barber's *Sure on this Shining Night* will contribute to a varied programme.

the  
**Wee**  
voice

**Fear**

By Katharine O'Donnelly

Quite a lot of people are afraid of the dark. Not being able to see scares people. Everywhere you can't see, someone or something may be lurking. In my case it's when I turn a light off behind me and I feel the black creep up my back, giving me the shivers! But that's about it for me... Walking down my hill at night is only ever scary if I hear noises and eyes suddenly reflect in my torch beam. Usually it's sheep!

I reckon every human is scared of something, whether it's a common spider or an angry lion, fast, deep-running rivers or heights... What I don't get is why people can be scared of flies or mice! I mean a mouse! What can a mouse do to

you? Look cute or nibble your finger?

Fear is a good thing, in many ways. If we weren't ever afraid we might foolishly march up to a hungry hyena and become dinner! If we weren't scared someone might climb to the top of the Scott Monument and, to see what it felt like, take a quick leap! Being scared makes us wary and careful. It helps us look after ourselves.

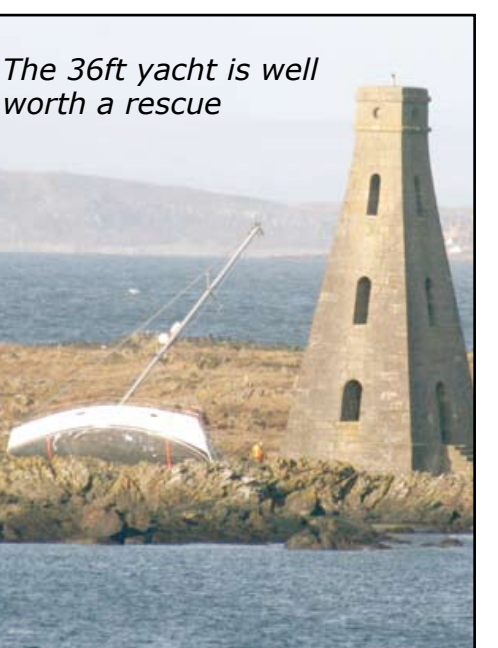
So, if you're intimidated by a flapping hen, calm down, and just imagine it is featherless. But if that angry lion is coming your way, get out of there fast!

*This week's Wee Voice is by Katharine O'Donnelly and her flowery wellingtons.*

# Horse Island salvage underway

A SALVAGE OPERATION was carried out last weekend to examine the wreck of the boat which ran aground on Horse Island last month. The 36ft vessel, *Encore*, was holed on the rocks in high winds and a Royal Navy rescue helicopter winched the three-man crew to hospital. Last Sunday workers for a salvage company could be seen on the island assessing the damage to the yacht's hull.

The tower on Horse Island — once a rudimentary lighthouse — is now derelict and over the years a number of ships have been wrecked on the island, including *Minerva* (1821), *Morning Star* (1871) and *Brigadier* (1960). Now the small isle is a Special Protection Area for breeding seabirds and waterfowl — herring gulls, eiders and lesser black backed gulls can be seen on the island's shores.



The 36ft yacht is well worth a rescue



# NAC urged to hire Council-owned facilities

## NEW MOTION URGES COUNCILLORS TO TIGHTEN BELTS AND REDUCE JUNKET

Local politicians may soon be having stovies in village halls instead of canapés in the Seamill Hydro when they meet on Council business. Councillor Ronnie McNicol and Ardrossan & Arran's independent councillor John Hunter lodged a motion requesting that senior officials stop booking function rooms in expensive hotels when alternative Council-owned facilities are available.

Speaking to *The Arran Voice* earlier this week, Councillor McNicol explained that some of the training courses and Council-run forums could easily be held in the Ardrossan Civic Centre or in Auchenharvie Academy (during the school holidays) at less cost to the tax-payer. 'We would obviously still have to pay for it, but it is going back into NAC coffers as it were and would save taxpayers money.' He said that a recent housing forum held in Seamill Hydro put the issue in stark relief. 'I think that's what brought it to a head. There are one or two large events that it would still make sense to run at large private facilities, but most of the smaller events can be run in-house with in-house caterers.'

Everyone present at the Executive meeting agreed with the motion, which means that Council-owned premises will be used for all meetings involving 'members, officers, staff, invitees and members of the public' unless



*The new Outdoor Centre might be a taxi journey too far for overnight Council accommodation*

specifically approved by Chief Executive Ian Snodgrass.

Council sources say there is a positive push towards frugality given the current economic circumstances and in light of this *The Arran Voice* decided to explore the arrangements for overnight stays on Arran by mainland Council employees paid for by the Council. The Council declined to disclose specific places of accommodation, but a spokesman said that guidance for Councillors and employees when overnight stays are required 'is governed by nationally agreed remuneration arrangements and employee terms & conditions respectively.'

### SLEEPING OUTDOORS?

*The Arran Voice* also asked whether the Council would consider the new facilities at the Outdoor Education Centre to be a suitable billet for employees and were told that accommodation of Councillors or officers at the Arran Outdoor Education Centre would be 'subject to operational arrangements at the Centre. The two upstairs rooms in the Centre are for the use of visiting instructors and plainly they would take precedence.'

# Classic Collection

By Douglas Hamilton

*Douglas Hamilton has a wide overview of the best classical CDs ever made, and in the following weeks will offer his advice on top recordings of famous and well-loved pieces.*

**Beethoven — Symphony No. 5 in C minor/Symphony No. 7 in A**  
Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra,  
Carlos Kleiber  
DG The Originals  
447 400-2GOR/SACD 461 630-2

I have never adhered to the notion that "Soprano X (let us say, Callas) was the greatest ever soprano" or that "Recording Y was the greatest ever recording of a piece". It is well known that performers and their performances provoke quite different reactions from various critics, so it is a very risky business to recommend that a particular recording is the only definitive version of that work. What I hope to do instead is to suggest some very good, outstanding recordings that I know and love, and which would provide the basis of building up a collection of classical CDs.

Most people would rate Beethoven, Mozart and Bach as the three greatest composers. Beethoven bridged the gap between the Classical period of Mozart and Haydn and the Romantics of Schubert, Schumann, Brahms etc. Among his works, the 5th and 7th symphonies are famous, accessible and very characteristic of the power and rhythmic vitality that typifies so much of his music. The 7th was described by Wagner as "the apotheosis of the

dance". Both symphonies are full of drama and colour. They are works where Beethoven grabs you by the collar and says "listen to this" — a good starting point on a voyage of musical discovery that could last a lifetime.

Carlos Kleiber's recordings of Beethoven's 5th and 7th symphonies have attained a legendary status among record collectors, yet for a "great" conductor, Kleiber's recorded legacy is quite limited. He never recorded complete cycles of, say, the Beethoven or Brahms symphonies, which makes the undoubtedly great recordings he did make the more treasurable. (Herbert von Karajan once remarked that Kleiber only conducted when he had nothing left in his freezer).

Fortunately, Kleiber's freezer must have been empty when it came to the Beethoven 5th and 7th Symphonies; both are recordings which are universally admired. They were originally issued in LP form in the 1970s, and the 5th was almost "legendary" as soon as it appeared, though the sound quality on the 7th was deemed less satisfactory. The digital remastering has greatly improved the sound, and marketed together in DG's midprice "Originals" series, they have become the top recommendation.

The *Gramophone* review uses phrases like "performance of genius" and "rare as gold dust" while the *Penguin* guide calls the joint recording "electrifying" and "incisively dramatic". The *BBC Music Magazine's* Top 1000 CDs describes it as "an essential acquisition for every collector... already deified". Need I add anything?

## Prayer

By Carol Ann Duffy (1955-)

Poem  
of the week

Some days, although we cannot pray, a prayer utters itself. So, a woman will lift her head from the sieve of her hands and stare at the minims sung by a tree, a sudden gift.

Some nights, although we are faithless, the truth enters our hearts, that small familiar pain; then a man will stand stock-still, hearing his youth in the distant Latin chanting of a train.

Pray for us now. Grade I piano scales console the lodger looking out across a Midland town. Then dusk, and someone calls a child's name as though they named their loss.

Darkness outside. Inside, the radio's prayer — Rockall. Malin. Dogger. Finisterre.

*Carol Ann Duffy is the UK's most popular poet. Perhaps it is because she is both subtle and plainspoken that she maintains the respect of her peers while also appealing to people who don't usually read poetry.*



## Recycling

**Did you know that you can recycle your old unwanted items free of charge on ArranOnline.com?**

If you have something that's just taking up space — why not visit ArranOnline.com, register free, and offer it to someone else?

You can also put in requests for items that you need.

There are full guidelines on the website, but the main rule is that only items that are being offered free should be added.

If there is space, we'll also add a note of items available for recycling in our Classifieds section of the paper.

**Remember — one person's rubbish can be another person's treasure!**

## The Burnside Vanishing Point by Roberta MacRae



**exhibition runs  
until 26th November**

*The Burnside*, Auchrannie Road  
Brodick, Tel: 01770 303888  
E-mail: info@theburnside.com



# Pupils learn to care for seashore

ISLAND PUPILS FROM Pirnmill, Kilmory and Corrie have been learning about Arran's special coastline in an exciting six month arts project. Last week the three primary schools joined up in Pirnmill to play a quiz and watch a series of videos drawing together their experiences on the beach. The workshop also revealed some fine budding film-makers.

Over the course of the project, the children had made trips to the beach and then returned to the classroom for further research and arts activities. The pupils even made some fun videos, recording short drama sessions as they acted out different types of objects and animals that are found on the beach.

During early summer, the children had explored the detail of what is washed up on the beach by laying out hoops on the shore and examining what was inside them. Kate Sampson explained how it took many years for some of the rubbish that had been washed up from the sea to degrade and warned of how it can damage marine animals and pollute the shore.

The involvement of local National Trust for Scotland rangers gave the young people an introduction to the very special environment on their doorstep, from the wildlife and



*Main photo: Kilmory pupils act out some coastline drama after their visit to Cleats Shore. Inset (left): Pirnmill pupils learn how to tweak photos on the computer. Inset (right): The primary pupils learnt about their own local beaches before meeting up to share experiences last week*

geology of the beach to the amazing history of Arran's shores.

'Every stretch of Arran's coastline has a story to tell,' said Ed O'Donnelly, who helped run the project. From stories of Viking battles, smuggling, fishing and the Clearances, Arran's

coast is rich in drama. The group of artists who helped run the project believe that increasing the young people's understanding of their local coastline will help them to appreciate it and become involved in looking after their natural heritage.

## Bella's Diary

By Margaret Kay

BOTH BELLA AND Wee Malkie are doing well. Malkie is a wee grubber and would feed until he burst I think. He has really grown and now weighs in at about 250 grammes. Ideally he should double his birth weight in the first week — so we are almost there. He is a strong wee pup and is doing well.

Bella is still happy to feed him, to snuggle in with him, to guard him and to nestle down with him at night — but clean him? I don't think so! She will happily lie with him cuddled in right under her chin — but lift him up to her nose and she just turns her head away. Cleaning and toileting is, therefore, still down to me.

Every two hours it's warm water and cotton wool to wipe round his wee ears and his eyes and to massage his tummy to encourage him to go to the toilet. Normally Mum takes care of all of this but Bella has obviously decided she doesn't do bottoms!

When Bella proved to be disinterested in the mundane side of motherhood, I wondered if some of the others would step in and foster Wee Malkie. Spangles, who is 11 now and very maternal, got quite interested, and so did her sister CoCo,

but Bella chased both of them away. While not wanting to do the job herself, she certainly won't let any of the rest of the gang help out. That leaves me faced with my interrupted sleep pattern for the foreseeable future unless she changes her mind — fingers crossed!

Bella goes back to see Big Malkie on Monday to have her stitches out, and by that time, Wee Malkie will have had his first trip on the boat. I have a dental appointment tomorrow and while the rest of the gang go off up to Joyce and André at the Kennels, Wee Malkie and his mum will have to come with me. He'll be cosy though, in his wee travelling bag with a "hottie" which will be replenished hopefully at the dentist's office. Ruby will be along with us too, as she "doesn't do kennels" — Crufts really went to her head!

Next report should see Wee Malkie's eyes open, and he will start to get much more mobile. Then the 2-hourly schedule will diminish as instincts to keep his nest clean will start to develop and he will automatically move away from his bed to eliminate. House training will begin,



even at this very early age, and the war cry of "Pee Pee the paper" will be heard throughout the house as he is lifted at every turn onto the Pee Pee mats. It's a lot of bother, but when he is ready to leave and go to his new home at around 8 or 9 weeks, he will be virtually house trained because of the work invested at this stage.



## Recipe

By Janis Murchie

### WINTER HOTPOT

Serves 4

Preparation time 20 minutes

Cooking time 1 hour, 30 minutes

### Ingredients

- Pork shoulder joint, about 650g
- 1 large cooking apple, peeled and sliced
- 2 onions, sliced
- 440ml can dry cider
- 1tsp dried sage
- 650g potatoes, thinly sliced
- 15g butter, melted
- Sunflower oil for frying

### Method

1. Preheat the oven to 150°C/gas mark 2
2. Remove pork rind, cut the meat into chunks, season, then brown in sunflower oil.
3. Transfer to an ovenproof dish, with the apple.
4. Fry the onions for 3 to 5 minutes then add the cider and sage; season. Add to the dish.
5. Toss the potatoes in butter, season and layer over the top of the dish.
6. Cover with greased foil and bake for 1 hour, then remove foil and bake for a further 30 minutes.



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# Arran Arts Festival – last events and Party

FOLLOWING ON FROM Balloons, the Arran Arts Festival is romping on with an enticing programme of goodies.

Today, Thursday 20th November, there is a free Poetry Workshop with Jason Watts at the Burnside Gallery from 2-4.00pm, and tonight is the hugely enjoyable 'Arran and Beyond' event at the Ormidale glasshouse, beginning at 8.00pm. This, too, is free. It features Sheila Templeton, last year's poetry competition winner, and there will be music by Amy Hume and Robyn Keen.

On Friday 21st November (tomorrow) Fiona Connor's play, *The Wasteland*, is to be aired in Corrie Hall at 8pm in a performed reading by Nutshell Theatre. This winning entry to the unique McLellan Play Award for a play in the Scots language is a real humdinger, and the rehearsed reading promises to be immensely rewarding.

The Arran Arts Festival Closing Night Bash at Corrie Hall on Saturday, 22nd November, 8pm is free to all comers and offers a feast of food, wine and music as well as a summing up of all the festival offerings. Headlining is Bill Herbert, this year's judge for The

McLellan Poetry Award, who will read from his work. He is an offbeat poet of great versatility. Often comic and with a sharp eye for the absurd, he is a master of the traditional verse forms and has a delicate lyrical touch. His outlook is both global and intimate, equally at ease with The Broons and pop singer Billy MacKenzie as with German philosophers and cross-border politics. Bill will be joined on stage by the three prize-winning poets, Vicky Paine, Nick McKinnon and James McGonigal, who will receive their prizes and read their poems, and Fiona Connors will also step up to receive her prize. Another star will be the multi-talented sculptor, painter, poet and musician, Tim Pomeroy. At last year's festival Tim stepped in to cover a cancellation at the 'Arran and Beyond' event in The Ormidale Hotel, when his haunting unaccompanied song, *Rocky Road to Dublin* was a standout. He is joined by the young local duo Scott Barbour and Nick Relf, members of the band Generic Rudeword. They are fresh from an arduous tour on the bedroom gigging circuit, and will perform a short acoustic set.

# Made on Arran

By Alison Prince

WHAT A PLEASURE the Arran Arts Festival event on Tuesday was! Made on Arran saw a gathering of poets, singers and players get together in the Eden Lodge bar with a handful of listeners and shared their making of music and words, with no formality but with great enjoyment. Jason Watts set the proceedings going with his always strong and interesting poems, then Tim Pomeroy took the floor — or at least, propped himself on a table — to launch into a powerful song that raised the spirit of old anger and rebellion. He is an extraordinarily talented player and singer, using the guitar with spare, meaningful economy and putting over every word with well-phrased clarity.

Mo McCormack was an equally impressive singer, with a rich, blues-y voice that needed no accompaniment, and David Underdown proved himself an impressive performer as he spoke his own poems, the ironic *Age Pollution* then a reflective meditation on *Black Water* and the workers who died there. Maureen Moore gave an amusing reading of two of her



Tim singing

own monologues ('Kevin, you are awful,' giggled the typing pool.) Scott Barbour and Nick Relf on guitar and violin were a most interesting duo, combining traditional Scots fiddle music with the more rock-influenced chords of a more modern idiom. The result was a rich, heady mixture, filled with intriguing textures and harmonies. One could describe the whole evening in the same terms. As one poet said, 'Why don't we do this more often, when there is such a wealth of creative talent here?' The question can't easily be answered, but we certainly had a good night.

## Arran Artists Calendar 2009

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Harbour Shop

Jimmie Gordons

Kildonan Stores

Kilmory Village Hall

Old Byre Showroom

Pirnmill Shop

Shiskine Golf Course

The Burnside

The Lemon Tree

The Village Shop

Whiting Bay Post Office



### All Welcome

**Scottish Episcopal Church**  
(in full communion with the Church of England)

St Margaret's, Whiting Bay

Sunday, 23rd November

Holy Communion, 11.00am

Revd Paul Fletcher. Coffee after service Wednesday, 26th November

Holy Communion, 12.15pm

All Welcome

**Arran Churches Working Together**

Thursday, 27th November

St. Andrew's Service, Brodict

Church, 7.00pm

Offering to Youth projects

All Welcome

**Church of Scotland**

Kilmory linked with Lamlash

"A faith to proclaim — a fellowship to share" Sunday 23rd November

Rev. Dr. Iain MacLeod

Kilmory 10am Lamlash 11.30am

All Welcome

**Arran Free Church of Scotland**

23rd November 2008

Shiskine, 11am (Church is on the road between Machrie and Blackwaterfoot)

Sunday School meets in the Church Hall Brodict, 7pm

(Church is behind Post Office)

Rev David Karoon

All Welcome. Tel: 860426

**Arran Baptist Church**

Sunday 23rd November in the

Ormidale Pavilion, Brodict

10.55 Worship Service,

Tea and coffee afterwards

Everyone Welcome

**Arran Free Church of Scotland**

(continuing) Sunday 23rd November

Trust Housing Lounge,

Glen Estate, Brodict, 11am

Evening Service 5 Glen Road, 7pm

Rev. J.J.Murray All Welcome

**Church of Scotland, Parishes of North Arran**

Brodict, Corrie, Lochranza,

Pirnmill and Shiskine

Independent but working together

Minister Rev. Angus Adamson,

Parish Assistant, Mrs Jean Hunter

Worship will be conducted at the

following times:

Sunday 23rd November

Brodict Church: 10.30am

Corrie Church: 12noon

Pirnmill: 10.15am

Shiskine: 12noon

A service of Worship will also be held in Montrose House at 1.30pm

**Holy Cross Catholic Church**

Sunday Morning Mass 11am

Whiting Bay and Kildonan Church

— Sunday 23rd November 2008

Worship will be conducted by members of the Worship Group and Congregation and there will be a sale of Traidcraft goods and Traidcraft Christmas Cards. There will also be a Wesley Owen Bookstall with great ideas for Christmas at 10.30am.

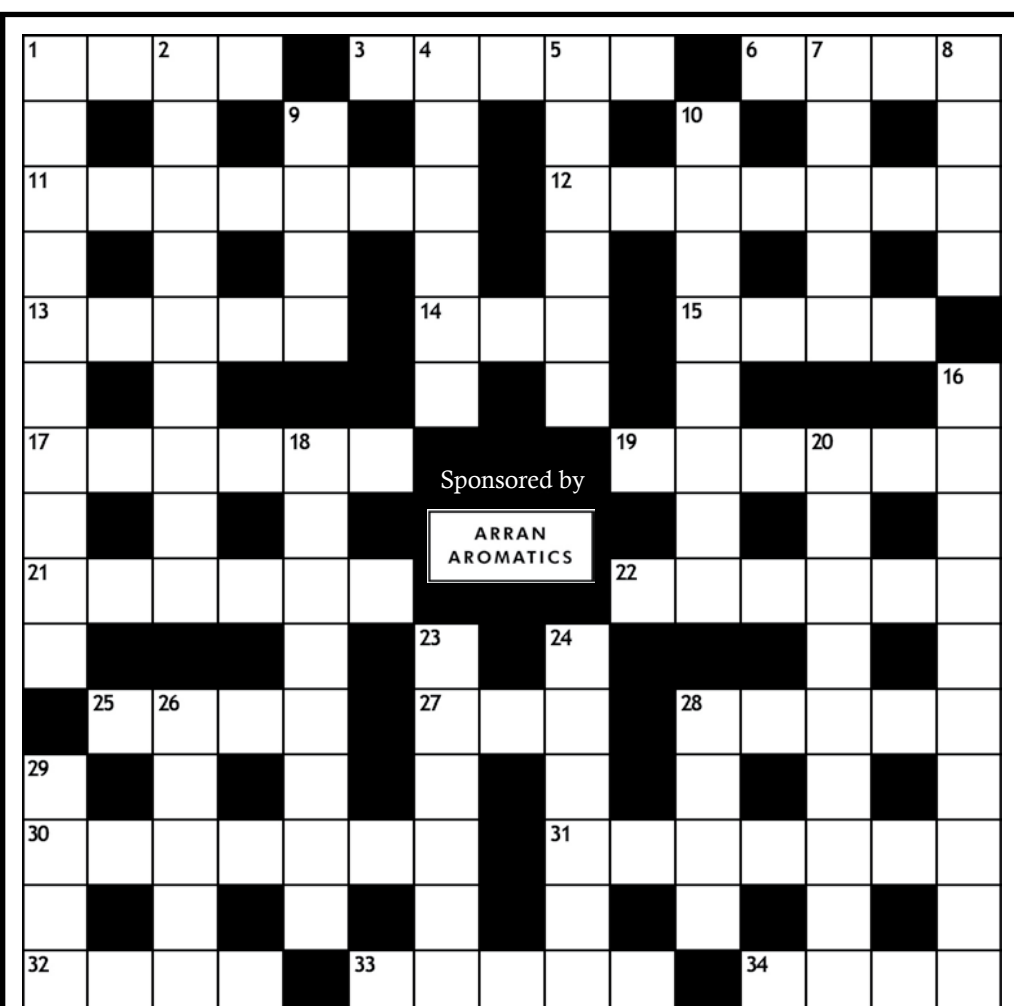
All Welcome. Tea and coffee will

be served in the Transept after the

service.



# Weekly Prize Crossword

Compiled by **The Wee Scunner**
**One Crossword —  
two sets of answers!**
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**You have until Tuesday, 2 December 2008 to send in your completed cryptic crossword.**
**This week's crossword sponsored by Arran Aromatics, Tel: 01770 302595, Website: [www.arranaromatics.com](http://www.arranaromatics.com). Winners are asked to contact the shop before collecting their prize.**
**Answers to Issue 83's crossword can be found on page 19.**


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Please send your completed crosswords to **The Arran Voice, Pier Buildings, Brodick, Isle of Arran, KA27 8AX**. Alternatively, e-mail your answers to [info@arranvoice.com](mailto:info@arranvoice.com), with the word "Crossword - Issue 85" in the subject line.

Name: .....

Address: .....

Telephone/E-mail: .....

## Cryptic Clues

### Across

- 1 Flag sag (4)
- 3 High like an attic (5)
- 6 Snakes like an afterthought (4)
- 11 I cheat wee Elizabeth English worship (7)
- 12 Harmful number 10 debt notes (7)
- 13 Identical eastern string (5)
- 14 Also old (3)
- 15 Lazy confused told untruths (4)
- 17 A confused couple unknown quantity make a home for bees (6)
- 19 Restaurant writer about holy man (6)
- 21 Graduate grade (6)
- 22 Large quarry bird (6)
- 25 Nothing from prize room (4)
- 27 Jeer offensive smell — oxygen? (3)
- 28 Appropriate about Scots song (5)
- 30 Breathe in south birds (7)
- 31 Game bird transport almost late (7)
- 32 Fish English laws (4)
- 33 Straightforward stamp (5)
- 34 Utility vehicles from down under (4)

### Down

- 1 Trouser tops spoil groups by the sound of it (10)
- 2 Big cat one energy treating as very important (9)
- 4 Tom eel mixed egg dish (6)
- 5 Daisy's transport one behind the other (6)
- 7 Cussed (5)
- 8 One 1 obi (4)
- 9 Nasty base (4)
- 10 Declares former rights (8)
- 16 I mope sadly about chemical compounds like nylon (10)
- 18 I hector right art of speaking (8)
- 20 Nagging woman makes nag matter (9)
- 23 Sailor addict he maltreats (6)
- 24 Pirm (6)
- 26 Seven (5)
- 28 Old Spice, high class (4)
- 29 Sublime film (4)

## Quick Clues — just for fun!

### Across

- 1 Cube (4)
- 3 Intimidate (5)
- 6 Shape (4)
- 11 Protected (7)
- 12 Turns (7)
- 13 Attitude (5)
- 14 Motoring organisation (3)
- 15 Growth (4)
- 17 Pasta ribbon (6)
- 19 Hit and destroyed (6)
- 21 Abrupt (6)
- 22 Roman magistrate (6)
- 25 Eager (4)
- 27 Deserter (3)
- 28 Open to view (5)
- 30 Burns' birthplace (7)
- 31 All in one infant outfit (7)
- 32 Half open (4)
- 33 Advertising leaflet (5)
- 34 Not amateurs (4)

### Down

- 1 Determination (10)
- 2 Bus full of passengers (9)
- 4 Cows milk bags (6)
- 5 Song words (6)
- 7 Vows (5)
- 8 Condensed water vapour (4)
- 9 Writes or says more (4)
- 10 With a jerky delivery (8)
- 16 Worshipping false gods (10)
- 18 Goes for a sleep (4,4)
- 20 One who contributes little to a group (9)
- 23 ..... and Bute (6)
- 24 Sound (6)
- 26 Detached house (5)
- 28 Spheres (4)
- 29 Fete (4)

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## Issue 83 Crossword Answers

### Cryptic Answers

Across: 1 Dashboard; 6 Bathe; 9 Niche;  
10 Decadence; 11 Ratatouille; 13 Eat;  
14 Fault; 15 Idea; 18 Asia; 19 Atone;  
24 Fob; 25 Epidiascope; 26 Eider Duck;  
27 Blini; 28 Sheen; 29 Energetic.

Down: 1 Dandruff; 2 Secateurs; 3 Bee;  
4 Ardour; 5 Docile; 6 Budgerigars; 7 Tense;  
8 Events; 12 Tetrahedron; 16 Ecologist;  
17 Celeriac; 20 Afters; 21 Dilute; 22 Fickle;  
24 Budge; 27 Bug.

### Quick Answers

Across: 1 Mythology; 6 Chafe; 9 Canal;  
10 Bowerbird; 11 Reconsiders; 13 Err;  
14 Naomi; 15 Each; 18 Isle; 19 Infer;  
23 Rub; 25 Evening Star; 26 Crossroad;  
27 Acres; 28 Sandy; 29 Afrikaans.

Down: 1 Macaroni; 2 Tenacious; 3 Owl;  
4 On Bail; 5 Yawned; 6 Christening; 7 Alive;  
8 Endure; 12 Noiselessly; 16 Cafeteria;  
17 Armrests; 20 Braces; 21 Verona;  
22 Cinder; 24 Brown; 27 Ark.

### Winner of Issue 83 Crossword:

Congratulations to **Biff Simpson** from **Kings Cross**  
who wins the gift voucher this week.

## Issue 84 Sudoku & Kakuro Solutions

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

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

	24	40				17	38	19		
12	8	4		11	5	12	8	1	3	
13	7	6	12	28	3	1	9	8	7	
24	9	1	2	8	4	10	15	6	9	
	16	7	9		3	1	2			
	12	4	3	1	4	13	9	4	5	11
16	7	9	14	29	1	6	5	9	8	
31	4	8	9	3	7	6	4	2		
8	1	2	5			4	3	1		

# Sudoku

Sudoku really only has one rule: Every row, column and 3x3 box must contain the numbers 1 through 9. We've given you a medium and hard puzzle to try. Visit our website at [www.arranvoice.com](http://www.arranvoice.com) to find new Sudoku puzzles everyday!

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

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

## On this day...

- 1947 Princess Elizabeth marries Lieutenant Philip Mountbatten at Westminster Abbey in London.  
1984 SETI is founded.  
1985 Microsoft Windows 1.0 is released.  
1992 A fire breaks out in the Private Chapel of Windsor Castle, rages for 15 hours, and seriously damages the northwest side of the building.  
1998 The first module of the International Space Station, Zarya, is launched.

## Star Birthdays

- 1908 Alistair Cooke, British-born journalist  
1925 Robert F. Kennedy, American politician  
1956 Bo Derek, American actress  
1961 Tim Harvey, English racing driver  
1981 Kimberley Walsh, English singer (Girls Aloud)

# Kakuro

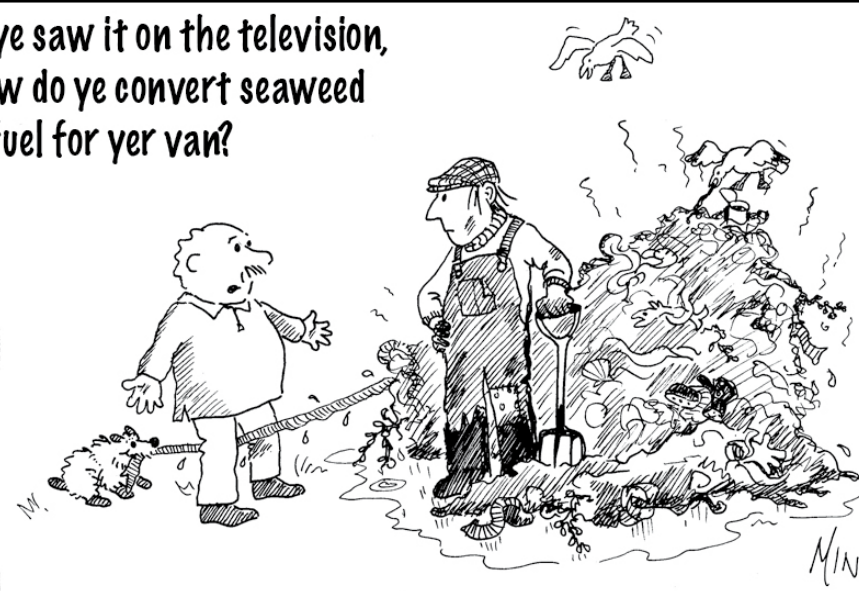
### How to do Kakuro

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.

	3	36				12	41	11
5						6		
7					13			
			4	17	19			
	22					12		
	20					8		
24					3	12		
15					18			
				12				
3				18				
			8					3
11							10	
21							4	

So — ye saw it on the television,  
but how do ye convert seaweed  
intae fuel for yer van?



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MANY HERE ON the Island will remember just how run down and sub-standard the Kildonan had become.

Many will also fondly remember the glory days when this was "The Hotel" in the area.

Six years ago Anne and Rod Acuna saw the potential to revive this beauty and restore its reputation with a total makeover, first rate food and friendly professional service.

Now a stylish blend of old and new has produced 17 ensuite rooms and suites, most with panoramic ocean views or garden patios. Open year round, the Hotel is ideally situated to cater to those seeking a luxurious haven from the pressures of daily life.

Meals are served in the Pub and dining room, both with equally high quality menus and an extensive choice of Wine, Beers and Malt Whiskeys to suit every taste. Rod has developed some unique dishes using seasonal and local produce as they come available. Combined with his natural flair for seasonings and flavours he never fails to please.

We cater to functions big and small always with the added touch to complement the occasion. Our weddings are well known for the beauty of the gardens and scenery plus the individual planning accorded each couple for their



special Day.

At this time of soaring costs we have endeavoured to keep our prices fair and reasonable with something to suit every budget. Most beverages and meals are still at 2007 prices. We greatly appreciate the support we have from our local communities and in that small way will continue to give back to them a token of that appreciation.

As we rush once more into the festive season we will make staff parties, Christmas and New Year dinners as affordable as possible while maintaining our high standards.

For all who have become regular customers of the Hotel, we thank you, and for all who have yet to venture to the South End we invite you to come check us out.

# Kildonan Hotel

## Open Year Round

**Bar meals daily**  
1pm–3pm and 6pm–9pm

**Restaurant Open**  
Friday–Tuesday, evenings 6pm–9pm

**Christmas Day**  
2 dinner sittings at 1pm and 3pm

**New Year**  
4 course Dinner Dance, champagne,  
fireworks etc  
£60.00 per person  
(limited seating still available)

**Ask about our 3-day  
Hogmanay package**

Room rates slashed for November!  
2 nights B&B for one night price of £90.00 per room

Book now for your special occasions and leave the rest to  
our experienced team for a stress-free festive season.

Telephone: **01770 820 207** E-mail: [info@kildonanhotel.com](mailto:info@kildonanhotel.com)

## It's a Car's Lot

THERE ARE GREAT bargains to be had in car-showrooms everywhere just now, and although buying a new or newer car can seem like a luxury, if it brings down running costs it can be the sensible option even in these hard times.

This correspondent can confirm that newer small cars are much cheaper to run and not to be sneered at. Unofficial performance comparisons on Arran roads between an L-reg Ford with a 1.6 engine and an '04 Corsa 1 litre showed the Corsa to be no slouch on the corners though, of course, lacking in 'poke' for the overtaking. But, apart from when you're late for the boat, what's the hurry? A 25% reduction in fuel consumption and lower insurance and road tax costs are ample compensation for allowing an extra five minutes for the journey.

If a Corsa is not your style there is a range of small cars which might suit you.

*The Which?* Guide to Greener Driving says the Citroen C1, Peugeot 107 and Toyota Aygo 1.0 are the best-value cars priced at under £10,000. Starting at around £6,995, their low-consumption and low-emissions design means that you'll only pay £35 in road tax.

At £10,000 to £15,000, there are the Kia Cee'd and 1.6 Ford Fiesta Econetic. The Kia has a seven-year warranty, putting off worries about repair costs till after the recession, while the Fiesta will be exempt from road tax since it emits only 98g of carbon dioxide per kilometre, making it very green indeed.

### FREE TO UPLIFT 2 Citroën CVs

Blue C reg galvanised chassis, runner  
Red G reg for spare, engine and many  
other spares including some new parts.  
For more information phone Mark on  
**820 231 or 600 416**

### VOLVO

Volvo 940 Automatic  
'P' Reg, Taxed and MOT

### VOLVO

Volvo V70 Estate Automatic  
'P' Reg, Taxed and MOT

**01770 302260**



### CARS FOR SALE

**'07 Toyota Yaris Diesel 1.4**  
5 Door, Silver, 17,000 Miles

**'05-05 VW Golf TDI**  
5 Door, Blue, 48,000 Miles

**'05-05 Nissan Almera 1.5 S**  
5 Door, Silver, 21,000 Miles

**'05-54 Vauxhall Astra Estate**  
Club CDTI Diesel, Silver  
79,000 Miles

**'02 Suzuki Grand Vitara 1.6 SE**  
3 Door, Black/Gold, 66,000 Miles

**'02 BMW 320D Touring**  
5 Door Estate, Blue Metallic

**'02 Hyundai Santa Fe 4x4**  
2.0 Diesel, Silver, 80,000 Miles

**'02 Toyota Avensis**  
Silver, 73,000 Miles

**2000 W-Reg Citroën Saxo**  
**1.1 Forte**  
Red Metallic, 46,000 Miles

**X-Reg BMW 320**  
4 Door, Black (Diesel)

**R-Reg Honda CRV**  
5 Door, 2.0 Petrol,  
Red Metallic, 71,200 Miles

### VANS/COMMERCIALS

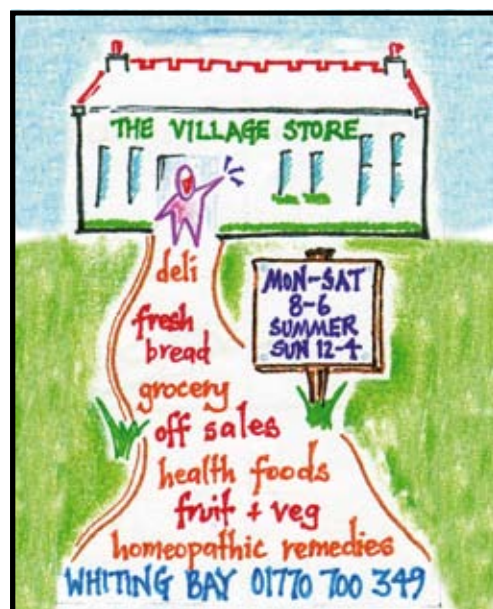
**04 Citroën Berlingo**  
2.00 HDI, White

**04 Ford Transit SWB**  
Medium Roof, White

**53 Reg Citroën Berlingo**  
1.9 Diesel, White

**Tel: 01770 840 231**  
**Open Monday – Saturday**  
**8.00am – 6.00pm**





## FOR SALE

**Potatoes for sale** — Golden Wonder, Kerrs Pinks, Marris Piper, dirty carrots and pony carrots. Regular deliveries Slidery-Brodick. Contact W. Cook 820218

**Arran Lamb Prepared for the freezer £5/kg** Delivered throughout the Island. Please Contact Richard McMaster - Tel 820 253

**Arran mutton available. £3/kg.** Island delivery available. Please contact Richard McMaster - Tel 01770 820 253

**Refrigerated serve over deli counter** with refrigerator lower storage. 5ft x 3ft — Excellent condition, tel 01770 810 636 (evenings)

**BMW 320 I Coupe** L Reg 11 thousand — 5 months MOT and 3 months tax - £650 Ono Tel: 07765108229

**Dell A940 all in one printer** (scan/copy/fax) - little use - £45 ono Tel: 700 435

**Dyson DC01** - Bag less vacuum cleaner - good condition and working well - £50 ono Tel: 700 435

**Sharp Microwave 650w** - Stainless steel interior - good working order - Length 21 1/2 inch - Depth 14 1/2 inch - Height 14 inch £30 ONO Tel: 700 453

## Puppies for Sale

**Jack Russell Puppies For Sale**  
Please contact:  
**07527 007 226**

## SERVICES

**Island Blinds.** All styles for home, conservatory, velux. Wide fabrics range. Estimates, fittings free. Tel: 01770 302081.

**Lph roofing contractors and property maintenance specialists** in roofline replacements, P.V.C maintenance free — Fascia Boards, Soffits & gutters. Re-roofs and roof repairs, roof tiles, power washed and sealed. Don't forget to have your roof slates and tiles checked free for a limited period while we are here in Arran. All Estimates and Advice are free — All work guaranteed — Tel — 0800 030 4702

**Clifford Latona Plumbing and Heating Engineers.** Tel: 01770 600391 Corgi, Calor and Oftec registered.

**Professional Garden Services,** Hedges, grass, pruning, strimming, drainage, paths, patios, decking, fencing etc. Free estimates. Call Tony 303539

**STAY SAFE — AND LEGAL!** PAT testing for all your electrical appliances. Call Chris — 302 397.

**Tarmacadam Contractors** — Roads, Drives and Car parks — While our team are on Arran — Save £££ — Free Quotes — Tel — 0800 030 4702

**All domestic cleaning** and changeovers. Phone Sheila on 600 434



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## PUBLIC NOTICE

### Annual General Meeting Arran Riding for the Disabled

The Annual General Meeting will take place on Friday 5th December in Brodick Church Hall at 11am

**ALL WELCOME**

### Arran Riding Club

### Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 26th November  
in Brodick Hall  
at 7.30pm

**ALL WELCOME**

## WANTED

**Rowing Boat or similar** - Anything considered Tel: 600 348 ask for David

## RECYCLING

**Free to uplift** — 1 double bed, 2 pieces of corner seating unit — off-white leather tel: 01770 700 385

**Bagged Manure for uplift** — Tel 600 517.

**Small combined wardrobe/dressing table unit** with light on casters, free to uplift 830 386

**Aviary 12ft by 4ft** - Excellent condition - lights and heater - free to uplift - Tel 601 319

**Small neat piano** in good condition free to uplift 600 552

**Vanity Unit** - Length 30inch - Depth 25inch includes leg caps, waste pipe but pale blue wash basin slightly damaged Free to uplift - Tel: 700 453

**Do you have something for sale?** Our competitive rates and clearly laid-out advertising will help sell your car, boat, sofa... whatever you have.

**Classified listings start at just £3.50 + VAT,** though charities benefit from significant savings on our standard rates.

**You can add your recycle items to ArranOnline.com free of charge, and they will appear here automatically, subject to space and suitability.**



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& PRIVATE HIRE MINI-BUS**  
for weddings, funerals & all other occasions

Day: (01770) 700 345  
Night: (01770) 820 286  
Mobile: 07967 587 481

**THE BAY GARAGE**

## OFFICE HOURS

Our office at the Pier Buildings is manned — or womanned — from 9.30am to 5.00pm, Monday to Friday. Lunch-break is from 1.00–2.00pm, but there is often someone in at this time as well, so it's worth trying us.



## Recycling

**Did you know that you can recycle your old unwanted items free of charge on ArranOnline.com?**

**If you have something that's just taking up space — why not visit ArranOnline.com, register free, and offer it to someone else?**

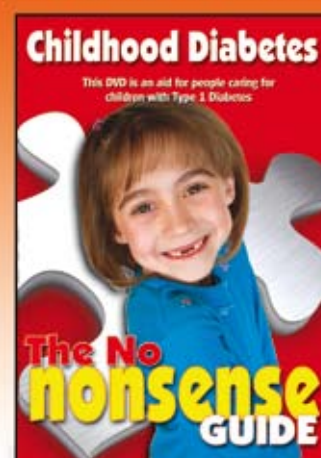
**You can also put in requests for items that you need.**

**There are full guidelines on the website, but the main rule is that only items that are being offered free should be added.**

**If there is space, we'll also add a note of items available for recycling in our Classifieds section of the paper.**

**Remember — one person's rubbish can be another person's treasure!**

## Diabetes DVDs



[www.diabetesdvd.co.uk](http://www.diabetesdvd.co.uk)

## ADVERTISING TERMS

1. The deadline for receiving advertisements is 5pm on the Monday prior to publication. At this time the Publisher reserves the right to create, repeat or substitute any copy missing from booked space.
2. All advertisements must comply with the British Code of Advertising Practice.
3. All advertisements must be paid for prior to publication. Extended runs of advertising will be invoiced monthly in advance, unless otherwise agreed in writing.
4. In the event of an advertisement not appearing for any reason, the liability of the Publisher will be limited either to a re-insertion, or refund of the discounted cost of that advertisement.
5. Cancellation of any advertisement must be received at least 24 hours prior to the publication deadline. Any refund will take account of any block-booking discount that no longer applies due to cancellation.
6. Any error must be notified to the Publisher within 14 days of publication. A re-insertion or refund of the price paid for the incorrect advertisement will be offered only if that error materially detracts from the advertisement.
7. The Advertiser (or their Agent) agrees to indemnify the Publisher in respect of any liability arising from publication of their advertisement, however caused.
8. The Publisher reserves the right to refuse any advertisement.

**Our ratecard is online at: [www.arranvoice.com](http://www.arranvoice.com)**



# Petition launched to save rural forecourts

THE PETROL RETAILERS Association started a petition earlier this week asking First Minister Alex Salmond to address the increasingly tough circumstances faced by local, independent petrol stations in rural Scotland. A Scottish Government-sponsored report was due for publication at the end of last month at a national conference in Bridge of Allan, but the findings have now been delayed. The report was due to investigate the sustainability of fuel supply in the Highlands and Islands region and the competitive condition of the distribution market.

The petition calls upon the First Minister to assist with the prompt publication of the report. More details on this will follow in next week's *Arran Voice*, but in the meantime check out *The Arran Voice's* front page article 'Arran fuel stitch up?' published on 6th June 2008, which details the background to rural fuel distribution in the Western Isles.

Below is an excerpt from the PRA's petition

*'We the undersigned, petition the First Minister to expedite publication of the report commissioned by Highlands and Islands Enterprse entitled Sustainability of Transport Fuel Supplies within the Highlands and Islands. Addressing the problems associated with survival of individual privately-owned forecourts in an increasingly difficult commercial environment is paramount, as is the earliest attention to development of a strategic plan for a long-term fuel forecourt network. Undue delay in presenting the conclusions contained within the report will have a damaging effect...'*

It ends with the words, 'Please help the Petrol Retailers Association by signing this petition to the First Minister, and provide the earliest clarity for the small businesses engaged in providing an essential service in the most rural areas of Scotland.'

# Council sets out £17m housing plan

NORTH AYRSHIRE Council has finalised a £17m housing plan which, if implemented, would see the building of a further 116 houses on Arran by 2014.

Council representatives have commented on the difficulties of accessing land on Arran for affordable housing. 'The few major landowners on the island are generally unwilling to sell for affordable development,' reads the Strategic Housing Investment Plan, recently published as a result of lengthy committee-level negotiations.

Nevertheless, the local authority has identified six sites around the island to help alleviate what many regard as a chronic housing crisis. The houses will be 'affordable' and 'social rented' properties, but the detail for many of the projects has yet to be fully ironed out. 91 of the 116 properties planned are at what NAC describes as 'amber status'. None of the projects are currently 'green' and ready to go.

One of the biggest surprises is that the planned development of 30 houses behind Brathwic Terrace in Brodick is not due to be built until 2011. The SHIP says that NAC Housing and Legal Services are working together to resolve legal issues, but on further questioning by *The Arran Voice*, the Council declined to elaborate. Head of Housing and Building Services Olga Clayton would only add that 'Investigations are ongoing on this

matter in respect of land ownership issues.'

The house-building programme is seen merely as a stopgap measure by the Council until the revision of the Local Development Plan. It recognises that an affordable housing policy on the Isle of Arran will require 'developer contribution in the form of land or money' but it is not known yet what level of contribution is likely.

Of the 116 houses planned, six are 'special needs' buildings, only about a quarter of what the Council recognises should be built to meet the housing need. (More on this next week).

## SITES PART OF THE HOUSE-BUILDING PROGRAMME

- 11 houses, Benlister Road, Lamblash (North) — £1.78m
- 18 houses, Corrie Quarry, Corrie — £2.53m
- 12 houses, Old School, Kilmory — £1.64m
- 20 houses, Benlister Road, Lamblash (South) — £3.08m
- 30 houses, Brathwic Terrace, Brodick — £4.54m
- 25 houses, Shiskine — £3.59m

# Council discloses list of consultants

LAST MONTH, Councillor Ronnie McNicol asked the Executive of North Ayrshire Council to provide details of the money spent on the use of external consultants since the 2007 election. Below is the response he received, listing the consultants and costs incurred by each department of the local authority. Councillor David O'Neill said that the Council departments 'are required to be conscious of best value at all times' and that there should be no 'unnecessary use of external consultants.'

<b>Corporate Services</b> <i>Finance</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• £33,747.36 paid to Eden Brown for staff training (fully funded by DWP and Local Housing Allowance funding)</li><li>• £2,600 paid to PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP for VAT advice</li></ul>	contaminated land consultancy	Johnston, Craigforth HCAS Limited, DTZ Piedad Consulting, East Dunbartonshire Council, Howes Brooks and Associates, HQN Limited, Montgomery Housing Consultancy, New Haven Research, Omfex Systems Limited, Solon Community Network and Tenant Participation and Advisory Service	Consulting, EDP Consulting Engineers, Fleming Muir Architects, Forbes Leslie Network, Grontmij, Grossart Associates, Harley Haddow Consulting Engineers, Hodgins Smith Partnership, JW Ross & Co, James Black Associates Limited, John Aitken, Land Drill Geotechnics Limited, Lawrence McPherson Associates, Martin Berkley, Mexel Design Consultants, Munro Architects, Omnitech (Scotland) Limited, Patrick Loan, Perlam Sheet Metal, Pick Everard, Rushbrook Consultants Limited, TGP Landscape Architects Limited, Thomas C Stewart, Turner & Townsend, Wallace Stone Consulting Engineers, Woolgar Hunter for the specialist consultants on construction and design projects
<i>Personnel</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• £5,774 paid to Eglinton Management for a management development review</li><li>• £9,502 paid to Rosie Docherty HR Consulting for a job evaluation equality impact assessment and training</li></ul>	<i>Development &amp; Promotion</i> £37,791.31 paid to Vector Consultants, ENTEC, Anderson Bell Christie, Jacobs Babbie and ARP Lorimer by Development and Promotion department	<i>Roads</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• £474,600 paid to Colin Buchanan, Faber Maunsell, MVA, Posford Haskoning, URS Corporate, JMP, Jacobs, Glasgow City Council and Scott Wilson for the design and supervision of major capital projects</li></ul>	
<i>Legal and Protective</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• £6,632.88 paid to Forbes Leslie by Building Standards department</li><li>• £42,837.48 paid to Max Cowan, SSDP, ARP Lorimer, Faculty Services Limited and Mark Steele Consultants by Development Management department</li><li>• £175,881.26 paid to Mason Evans, Johnson Poole &amp; Bloomer (Scotland) Limited and BAE Systems Environmental by Environmental Health department for</li></ul>	<i>Community Planning</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• £38,478 paid to Lowland Market Research, Rocket Science, CIPFA Training and Sixth Sense Training</li></ul> <i>Communications</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• £5,550 paid to Lowland Market Research</li></ul>	<i>Technical Services</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• £21,521 paid to IPF for management/IT consultants</li><li>• £2,611 paid to STC and David Boyle for specialist energy/utility management consultants</li><li>• £475,220 paid to AA Sinclair Limited, Armour Construction Consultants, CDM Scotland Limited, DMP</li></ul>	<b>Social Services</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• £60,000 paid to Kieron Beary, Scott Moncrieff, Glasgow School of Social Work Research and Tim Chapman Associates</li></ul> <b>Educational Services</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• £26,578.51 paid to SJ Educational Services, Taylor Educational Services, UXL and William Clark</li></ul>
	<b>Property Services</b> <i>Cleansing, Grounds Maintenance &amp; Transport</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• £128,000 paid to Tillhill Forestry, Halcrow Consultants and Glasgow Caledonian University</li></ul>		
	<i>Housing</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• £144,235.84 paid to Ardneil</li></ul>		



# Golf Results

## Arran Golfers Association Corrie Hotel Cup, Corrie Golf Club Saturday 15th November

An overcast day saw seven teams compete for the prestigious Corrie Hotel Cup. After many ups and downs Lochranza Castle emerged victorious for only the second time in the competition's history, the first being back in 1981. This year's runners up were Corrie.

Lochranza team: P. Moran, A. Pattison, A. Cumming and A. Napier total 141 pts.  
Corrie team: D. Crawford, J. Adams, A. MacDonald and E. I. Cannon total 131 pts.

Individual:  
1st P. Moran 37 pts,  
2nd A. Pattison 36 pts (bih)  
3rd D. Robertson 36 pts (bih)  
4th I. Bremner 36 pts.

Magic twos: J. Adams, D. Price, J. Pennycot, D. McKinnie.

Thanks to Corrie for organizing the event in the usual professional manner and look forward to next year with an earlier date of Friday 3rd July.

This was the 29th time the competition has been played and the scores are now as follows:

Lamlash: 17 wins  
Brodict: 3 wins  
Corrie: 2 wins

Whiting Bay: 2 wins  
Shiskine: 1 win  
Lochranza Castle: 2 wins  
Machrie: 2 wins

### Fixtures:

- Arran Grouse Foursomes (RE-ARRANGED DATE)
- Shiskine Golf Club, Saturday 22nd November from 11am.
- The Draw for the Grouse Foursomes is as follows:
- For purposes of the draw, each club winners will be A and runners up B,
- Shiskine B v Machrie A, 11am
- Whiting Bay B v Brodict A, 11:08am
- Corrie B v Lamlash A, 11:16am
- Lochranza A v Corrie A, 11:24am
- Lamlash B v Lochranza B, 11:32am
- Whiting Bay A v Machrie B, 11:40am
- Shiskine A v Brodict B, 11:48am

### Whiting Bay Golf Club

Results:  
Sunday 16th The first winter friendly of the season was played in glorious conditions at Lamlash and resulted in a 4-2 win for the Home club. As always the hospitality was first class and the banter entertaining!

### Fixtures:

- Sunday 23rd, Stableford Medal, (NOT the Wolfi Kroner competition as Wolfi is away on holiday! This will be played at a later date).
- Sunday 30th, Medal

# Clochendichter begins

By Lenny Hartley

BRIGHT AND SUNNY weather endured for the delayed first round of the Clochendichter inter-village Championship at Brodict Golf Club last Sunday, 16th November.

Holders Alma and Poor Ground to the South had a tough match against a very strong Village team managed this year by John (Indian Chief) Beattie.

### MCGUNNIGLE TO THE RESCUE

In the first game Club Captain and failed Frankie Boyle impersonator Brian Smith hit a hat trick of water features at the 1st, 3rd and 12th, causing Alma Captain Jim Nichols to behave like a demented polar bear aimlessly wandering around the course in ever decreasing circles, but Bert McGunnigle saved the day and the Alma pairing beat Sid Sillars and AGL Keir by 1 hole.

Donald McKinnie and Lenny Hartley beat Angus Raeburn and Aly Hume 3 and 2 in a match closer than the results suggest. Matt Keir and B. Jenkins then thrashed Don Rudge and Gus Robertson 4 and 3.

A great comeback by Sam McCalla and Joe Rae to halve the match after being 3 down with 5 to play against Jimmy Armit and John Beattie gave Alma a 2-1/2 to 1-1/2 points victory.

### CATCHMENT AREA WIDENS?

The other match was between the

Knowe and the Street, the latter managed this year by late appointee Nicol Hume. Eschewing the new rules that allow Junior players to be selected if required, his choice of Gordon Sunter from Greenock raised a few eyebrows, the rationale being that the Street's catchment area was anywhere north of Douglas Row.

If in future you seen an Inuit with Golf Clubs strapped to his back paddling his Kayak down the Kilbrannan sound you know where he is heading!

The Multi Club Championship-winning partnership of Willie Innes and Stevie Bunyan had an impressive victory over the fancied Bobby McCrae and David Hendry partnership. Callum Macfadzean and Euan Mckinnon beat the Knowe Captain Gordon Hendry and Al Dobson by one hole and the other two matches were also close as Dougie Robertson and Terry Raeside were one up against Russell Campbell and Campbell Russell (sorry it was Russell Duncan and Campbell Russell).

In the last match Nicol Hume and Gordon Sunter beat Iain Mcdonald and Gordon Robertson 2 & 1. The score finished Knowe 1, Street 3.

**Next Match Sunday November 30th**

- Alma Vs Street, tee-off 10:00am
- Knowe Vs The Village People, tee-off 10:30am

# Arran Pool League — week 3

## 'IMMACULATE CLEARANCE' AT EDEN LODGE

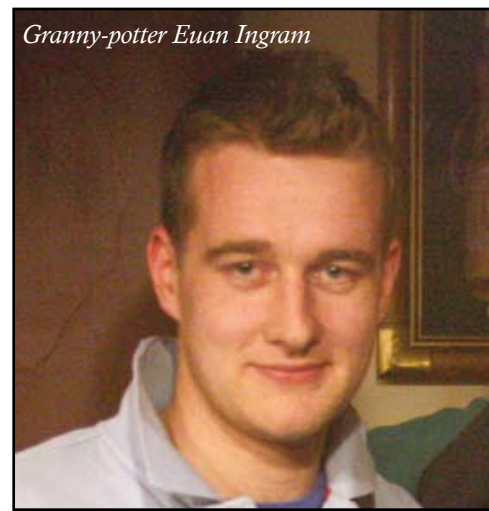
Euan Ingram executed a masterful granny during Bar Eden's match against P.T. 1934 last week. His opponent, new gun Mark Williamson, was given only two attempts at the table before what Pool league chair Eddie Picken described as the Whiting Bay man's 'immaculate clearance.' 'His positional play was second to none,' said Eddie. 'The Eden boys are in wonderland with their start to the season.' The visiting Southenders were seen off by a convincing scoreline of 8-4 and lost the gallon to boot.

Elsewhere, Catacol's best start to any season in recent West coast history saw

them take yet another point from their encounter with 2006-2007 champions Cameronia. Angus Cook reckons his Cammy squad might already be out of the running this season, but The Arran Voice suspects this might just be an attempt to lull opposition teams into a false sense of security.

Kildonan were felled by the narrowest of margins at Lamlash, as the Drift survived with a slightly depleted team to go second in the table. And just along the road, the PHT were unlucky not to grab a point against Corrie, who recovered from a miserable start to sneak through at the doubles stage. Corrie's stand-out player was Steve Sannox Bay Wood who anchored the team to victory and

won his game against Julie who has a decent record against Corrie.



Granny-potter Euan Ingram

Steve wins his match this time...







# Lamlash ladies golf awards

By Jo Hastings



Ella Watson (centre) was guest of honour — it's possible we might be able to print her poem next week!

ON FRIDAY EVENING November 7, the ladies of Lamlash Golf Club held their annual prizegiving and dinner at the club. The guest of honour was Mrs Ella Watson who also presented the prizes. Ella is a long standing member of the club and entertained the ladies with a review of her past 35 years of golf in verse!

# And Finally ...

## ICHEAT

A cheating husband whose wife discovered that he had sent a picture of himself to his 'bit on the side', using his new iPhone, claimed that it was a fault with the phone — nothing to do with him. He even claimed that he'd taken the phone to an Apple store, and it was them that had told them about the technical glitch.

Remaining dubious about her fella's story, the wife posted the question of 'accidentally' sent pictures on a expert

forum. Naturally enough, she was inundated with answers assuring her that this was impossible.

Her triumph was dashed for a moment when two new forum members piped up with information to the contrary, supporting the case of the husband, but it quickly transpired that both these 'members' were in fact the woman's husband himself, trying to put her off the scent.

The upshot of all this ill-advised fibbing? The woman's lawyer is currently drawing up the divorce papers.

# Blackwaterfoot win Scally Cup



Fiona Gilmour helps pen this report from the Scally Cup  
(published better late than never!)

THE ANNUAL SCALLY Cup was held a week last Sunday 9th November. Even after a good and hard game of rugby on Saturday and the adventure to Edinburgh to watch the Scotland rugby game the night before, the boys all made it back to play a fitting game of football in Calum's honour.

Even after a late substitution of around seven kids for the Shiskine side, we decided that that was a fair equivalent to one big Ewan Stewart! It was a tense game and at the last minute Shiskine scored to take it to penalties.

With around 17 players on each side Willie 'the cat' Robertson for Shiskine

and Rory for the Blackwaterfoot team took to the goals and saved a few fantastic spot-kicks.

After 15 min and a cold wind blowing from the sea it was decided that everyone as always had done the big guy proud and it was time to retire to the bar for a light refreshment and canapés! The cup was presented to Shiskine captain Willie the Cat and as usual the losing team will have their name on the cup — this year being Blackwaterfoot.

The cleanest man on the field again was Alistair 'ackie' Currie and dirtiest was Ewan Stewart, with Murray Picken a close second. Fraser Hendry once again ran the day and we all had a great time. The Gilmours would like to say thanks to all and we know our boy would have had a great laugh watching, as we all had.

## BRIDGE CLUB

### Brodick Bridge Club

13th November 2008

N/S

1. J. McLure & A. McKelvie +3950
2. E. McNiven & L. Tricket +2750
3. I. McArthur & T. Martin +1900

E/W

1. H. Boyd & J. Murchie -1170
2. E. Jones & B. Livingstone -2580
3. E. McConnel & M. McGill -2730

### Lamlash Bridge Results

Monday 17th 2008

N/S

1. T. Martin and A. Bilsland +1510
2. J. McBride and E. Sillers + 940
3. E. Paul and E. McNiven+480

E/W

1. J. and J. Beattie+1780
2. H. Boyde and J. Murchie +1590
3. J. McLure and A. McKelvie +590