



DON'T GO DOWN TO THE WOODS TODAY...

Full story on page 3

ISLANDERS ARE WARNED not to visit Merkland wood, for fear that a plant disease affecting trees there could devastate Arran's gardens and countryside. Phytophthora Kernovaie (Phyto-K) was first discovered at Brodick Castle grounds at the start of this year, but last Tuesday, the National Trust for Scotland confirmed that it has spread half a kilometre from the original site to Merkland Wood and may now present a risk to the wider island. Brodick Castle grounds remain open to visitors, but people are asked not to enter Merkland Wood, as spores on boots and clothing may carry the infection to other areas. However, Phyto-K may spread by other ways. Moist air can carry the spores and the fast-growing rhododendron ponticum which flourishes on Arran may act as a host. Studies show that diseased trees are sited near infected rhododendron.



Brodick Castle's head ranger Kate Sampson has urged walkers to avoid Merkland Wood until the disease has been dealt with.

Coastguard Tower demolition leaves devastation

See page 12 for full story

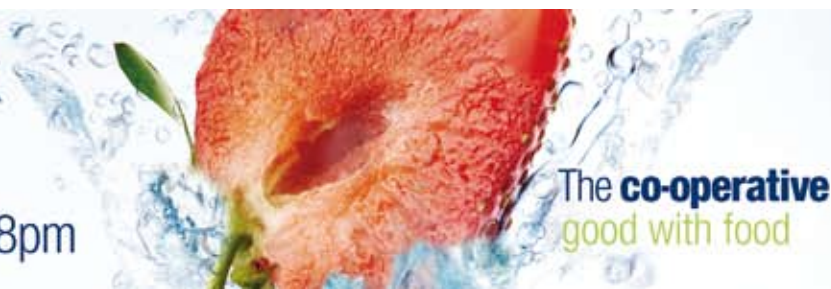


Photo by Sheila Bryson

IN THIS ISSUE: Lest We Forget / Dolphins spotted / Arran HideAways Update / Youth Voice / Halloween Guisers

The **co-operative** food Shore Road, Brodick
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Planning shake-up

A WIDE-RANGING package of improvements to Scotland's planning system has been announced. Key measures include:

- Simpler and more transparent processes
- Government agencies to focus on matters of genuine national interest
- Scottish Government and agencies to publish annual reports on performance
- Up-to-date development plans that provide investors and communities alike with greater certainty
- Quicker decision making by councils on high-quality applications
- A new electronic planning system to be formally launched next Spring

Finance Secretary John Swinney MSP said when announcing the reforms, 'We will work collaboratively to make planning quicker and more proportionate. Planning reform needs to help, not hinder, the economy — especially in the current climate. In Government we will be less prescriptive in setting planning policy centrally, and will let local circumstances drive local decisions and innovation.'

MSP Kenneth Gibson added: 'What islanders want to see is [the involvement of] local people at an earlier stage of the process ... With the right partnerships in place and a smarter approach, applicants will be provided with quicker decisions.'

Councillor Alison Hay, COSLA

Regeneration and Sustainable Development Spokesperson, welcomed the reforms. She said: 'We have sought to find a balance between streamlining the system, while retaining the necessary rigour that ensures quality and consistent decisions. I believe that we now have that, and today sees the launch of a planning system where communities get the development they need and want, built to a quality standard, friendly to the environment and something that future generations can be proud of.'

Dan Macdonald, chairman of the Scottish Property Federation, said: 'It is imperative that the development industry and public sector work together in genuine partnership to speed up planning reform. The likelihood of economic recession makes it even more important that applications can be dealt with quickly in the national interest.'

David Thorburn, chairman of CBI Scotland, said: 'Planning delays cost Scotland £600million each year in lost turnover and investment. These reforms are a welcome and detailed response to one of CBI Scotland's greatest concerns. Scottish Ministers should be congratulated for this initiative.'

For the sake of clarity, the Scottish Government is streamlining over 20 separate Scottish Planning policies into one. The first two parts, on core principles and the key elements of the planning system are published today. The third part, a statement of policy on a number of development themes, will be published in spring 2009.

New mental health hospital planned for Irvine

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL has told the NHS that it supports the construction of a new hospital for mental health patients in the grounds of Ayrshire Central Hospital.

NHS Ayrshire & Arran's review of mental health services began in December 2006 and involved around 1,000 people in a consultation with the public, staff and other stakeholders about the future location of Mental Health Acute In-Patient Services. At the moment, patients in this category are referred to Ailsa Hospital, Crosshouse Hospital and Ayrshire Central Hospital.

The Council believes a new, purpose-built and energy-efficient facility will ensure improved accommodation for patients and staff and provide support in a central location. Bernadette Docherty, Corporate Director of Social Services, said the new facility would ease travelling for patients and relatives from North and East Ayrshire, and would 'bring a significant economic boost to the area, with increased direct and indirect job opportunities.' It was also hoped that the move to a new site would dispel any stigma about mental illness that might have built up over time at Ailsa Hospital.

Marine News

By John Kinsman, Fishing Correspondent.

MISSION CENTRE IN TROON

The Royal National Mission for Deep Sea Fishermen has opened a small mission centre in Troon Fish Market. The centre was officially opened on Friday October 31 by Mr John Duncan, QPM, Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant.

The fishing fleet based at Troon Harbour is bucking the trend by growing instead of shrinking in size, but many of the fishermen working out of Troon are Filipino or East European and are unable to go home when the trawlers are tied up at weekends or because of bad of weather.

The new centre will be used by the crews of tugs, wood carrying ships and P & O crews

and other seafarers. It will provide snacks and TV, and will give fishermen the opportunity to exchange books, send e-mails and make telephone calls home.

MORE MACKEREL

Scotland's fishermen will be allowed to catch more mackerel in 2009.

Scottish Fisheries Minister Richard Lochhead MSP has revealed a 33% rise in the EU mackerel quotas for the Atlantic and North Sea, and says, 'It is a reward for the restraint shown.' However, cuts are expected in the quotas for other species when the annual yearly quotas are announced in December.

Arran Artists Calendar 2009

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 Jimmie Gordons
 Kildonan Hotel
 Kildonan Stores
 Kilmory Village Hall
 Lochranza Golf Shop
 Machrie Tearoom
 Old Byre Showroom
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CALOR Gas

Dolphins spotted from Arran coast

A POD OF as many as 18 dolphins was spotted off the coast of Arran last Sunday, skipping and jumping in the Kilbrannan Sound. Local photographer Len Hartley first saw the dolphins on the east coast and was quick to take some fantastic photos of the amazing sea mammals. 'They were travelling anti-clockwise around the island and I spotted them from the golf course at Machrie,' said Len. An hour later they passed Blackwaterfoot, where he managed to take the photograph below, but from then on he lost them due to the vagaries of island transport. 'They were travelling south, but I was low on petrol and could not follow them, as I had to return to Brodick via the shortest route for petrol,' Len explained. After re-fuelling, Len headed on down to Kildonan, but was too late to see them again. At the time Len was on the road however, Howard Walker from Lamash was in Kildonan and also took some stunning snaps. (To see the pictures see www.arranvoice.com or <http://jinglyjingly.fotopic.net>)

SIGHTINGS ARE IMPORTANT

Len Hartley sent his photos to Dr. Mauvis Gore at the Millport Research Station, who heads up the Millport Large Marine Vertebrates Group that conducts conservation research, teaching and courses on marine mammals and sharks. The results inform welfare and conservation policies, and they are always keen to receive news of sightings from the Arran coast.



Dolphins play in the sea off the Blackwaterfoot shore (Lenny Hartley / JinglyJingly Images)

Don't go down to the woods today...

Continued from front page

KEN THORBURN, Brodick Castle manager, has found himself in an invidious position in having to raise the alarm about the tree disease, but he is under no illusion about the urgent need to raise wider awareness of the problem. Until recently the disease has only infected trees, notably rhododendron and beech, but it has now been found in a blaeberry plant. 'It has potentially serious consequences for the island, let alone Brodick Castle,' Ken told *The Arran Voice*. 'The fear is that the disease will spread to Arran's heather habitats. We have not been able to contain the phytophthora problem to the gardens — it has jumped half a kilometre to Merkland wood.'

Brodick Castle has the unfortunate distinction of harbouring the first recorded case of *Phytophthora kernoviae* in Scotland — but, like crime statistics, it may be that the garden's rigorous horticultural monitoring policy has resulted in quick detection. By law, any cases of Phyto-K must be reported to the Government, but the procedures for containment and eradication are necessarily strict, which could act as a disincentive to many other gardens and landowners across Scotland to report the disease. Kate Sampson, head ranger at Brodick Castle, agrees that their own detection probably happened 'because we were being very vigilant,' but Ken Thorburn regards it as 'small consolation to be at the cutting edge of something we can't control.' NTS staff and government inspectors are now finding more cases of the disease than they can keep up with, and even the top scientists in the field of plant pathology are unsure just what could happen. 'Because it is a notifiable disease, it has always been destroyed,' explains Kate. 'It has never been allowed to progress as a condition, so no-one

knows.' The spread of the disease may mean that the National Trust is forced to cut down more mature trees in the Castle grounds, weakening the shelter belt that protects the gardens from storm damage.

WHO PAYS?

The discovery of the disease in blueberries marks a very serious step in the spread of the disease. It is known to be able to spread to heather, and this could have major knock-on impacts for the island. The Scottish Government's consultation document admits that the 'potential for the spread of *P. kernoviae* ... in open heathland in Scotland is not currently known'. Minimum-level intervention on the assumption that Phyto-K would infect no more than 169 hectares could cost just £20,000 over 20 years, but the extent of the problem might be much greater. Heather plays a significant role in Arran's economy, providing an important habitat for the many forms of wildlife, including game birds, for which the island is well-known. Infection of heather-covered moorland would have a drastic impact on the game sport interests of the estates. Two-thirds of Arran is owned by Sannox Estates, Arran Estates and Dougarie Estates, all of them deriving income from game shooting. Landowners reporting the presence of Phyto-K are lumbered with a very expensive eradication job under the Plant Health Act 1967. Government estimates put the potential bill at almost £4m to public and historic gardens, and the NTS is pressing for government assistance to treat the disease. As Ken Thorburn said, 'If phytophthora had legs like a sheep or a chicken, as in Foot and Mouth Disease, there would probably be full compensation. At the moment we are having to foot the bill.'

Lest We Forget

KENNETH J GIBSON MSP has put a motion before the Scottish parliament asking that it will commemorate on 11 November the 90th anniversary of the 1918 Armistice which ended the First World War, and that it should acknowledge Scotland's heavy sacrifice in that appalling conflict, which cost Scotland 147,609 fatalities and hundreds of thousands of wounded. Scotland's losses represented 19% of the estimated 761,000 British war dead at a time when Scotland had less than 9.5% of Britain's population. Countless Scottish families suffered grievously, but Mr Gibson believes that few families endured as much as the Mochrie family of Kilbirnie, Ayrshire, which had five brothers serving in the British Army, all of whom were tragically killed on the first day of the Battle of Loos, 25 September 1915. A further brother was killed at the Battle of Arras on 9 June 1917. A surviving sister, a nurse with Queen Mary's Army Auxiliary Corps, lost her son, William McKim, when he was killed serving on HMS Hood in the Second World War. The motion declares it 'our solemn duty to both remember them and commemorate their sacrifice.'



Arranvoice.com Online Poll

This week's question is:

Should landowners get Government funding to help eradicate plant diseases that may threaten the island?

Share your opinion, visit www.arranvoice.com and cast your vote!

Last week's question was:
Would you like British Summer Time to continue through the winter?

Yes: 80% (12 votes)

No: 20% (3 votes)

Not sure: 0% (0 votes)



Arran Council for Voluntary Service
(Scottish Charity No. SC004057)

Annual General Meeting
to be held in
Ormidale Sports Pavilion, Brodick
at 7.30pm on Friday 14th November 2008

Speaker: **Alex Anderson**
Economic Development Manager, North Ayrshire Council

All Welcome!
PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE

OFFICE: Park Terrace, Lamash, Isle of Arran KA27 8NB
Telephone: 01770 600611 Fax: 01770 600909
E-Mail: jim.nichols@arrancvs.org.uk

Chairman: Jim Lees
Manager: Jim Nichols

Editorial

DYING LIBRARIES

For too long, glib talk of libraries being 'made fit for our technological world' has thrown a masking coat of whitewash over the slow death that is going on. Diversion of funds into the purchase of computers and the installing of electronic book-checking were accepted, albeit reluctantly, by the traditionalists in the hope that these improvements, once established, would not continue to monopolise the budget. Perhaps, in truth, they have not done so, but the reduction in the book-buying fund that happened then has become permanent. As a result, the stock gets older and more dog-eared (particularly for much-fingered children's books), and the day soon comes when readers can find nothing new on the shelves.

The dominance of what Wordsworth called 'getting and spending' has made it seem in some way 'better' to buy books rather than to borrow them. Certainly, any child taken into a well-stocked bookshop will find an excitement and richness that is vanishing from libraries, those poor relations who can only offer their willingness and half-starved inventiveness, hoping that the general air of shabbiness will be forgiven. Librarians are great people, constantly devising ways to connect with schools and prompt creative work, but the heart-breaking thing is the complete lack of support for the essential service they offer. Reading is not merely a major pleasure — it is the means of enriching experience and developing the mind's capacity for taking in new possibilities.

This week, researchers have

announced that present-day 14-year-olds are only as intelligent as 12-year-olds were a generation ago. Today's youngsters assimilate facts quite well, but they show little ability to take a fresh, pragmatic look at a problem and come up with an original solution. Considering that education has been strait-jacketed by the dominance of test-passing for the last 20 years, this is hardly surprising, but the most worrying failure of all is the descent into semi-literacy that has engulfed so many children, many of whom are now adult. Clinical dyslexia is not new, but the astronomical rise in non-reading cannot be ascribed to a soaring pathological cause — unless, of course, the diagnosis identifies a sickness in the structure through which people come into touch with books.

The Harry Potter phenomenon does not prove that a good book will always find its readers. Quite the reverse — it proves that a well-funded sales campaign can sell anything. Books have become a marketable commodity, subject to the promotions, the TV endorsements and the supermarket dump-bins that attend any sales pitch. But that does not touch on the essential nature of books. Reading is not a form of consumerism. It is more akin to music in the mind, or to the love of walking on the hill or the thrill of seeing an eagle at home in its sky-world. Books are needed in the same way that food and exercise are needed. They have to be freely and generously available. To starve our libraries is to starve minds, specially of children. We are already paying the price.

Quote

'Most people who received a traditional education have some idea of life in the fourteenth century, since they are likely to have read the *Prologue to the Canterbury Tales* for either O or A Level, and may also have read a couple of the *Tales* themselves.'

Allan Massie, reviewing a book in *Literary Review*, November 2008

Is this man out of touch with the modern world? Discuss.

THE ARRAN VOICE PRODUCTION TEAM

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Voice mail

Readers' News and Views...

ACVS AGM

Arran Council for Voluntary Service Annual General Meeting takes place on Friday 14th November, at 7.30pm in the Ormidale Sports Pavilion.

We are fortunate this year to have Alex Anderson, Economic Development Manager, North Ayrshire Council as our guest speaker.

Alex will cover a range of issues of interest to the Arran Community, including Community Planning, developments in Social Enterprise, leveraging European Funding into North Ayrshire and future arrangements for Business Gateway services.

The talk, which follows a very short business agenda, will provide the opportunity to ask questions on a range of related issues.

Helen Ross

SORRY FOLKS

The Jazz Café would like to apologise for having to cancel our Halloween Evening at Whiting Bay at such short notice. We tried to let people know, but if we missed you and you had a wasted journey, we're very sorry.

A small trad band needs all its members in order to play, and when two are struck down with the dreaded lurgy it just doesn't work. On the mainland this would not be such a problem since you can usually find someone from another band to fill in, but here on Arran it's not so easy. In fact, it's impossible.

However, if there are any would-be jazz players on the island who'd like to have a try, or any experienced players who'd like to put us all to shame, please contact me or any member of the band. We'd really like to meet you.

John Gibson, 870 224

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

Corrie wears pink for charity

LAST FRIDAY CORRIE Primary School held a fundraising day in aid of Breast Cancer Awareness 'Wear it Pink'. The school also held a cake sale and raised the fantastic amount of £358.00. Congratulations to the Primary fundraisers!



News in Brief...

FIGURES CONTRADICT NEED FOR POST OFFICE CLOSURES

Four thousand Post Offices have been closed, including five Post Offices in North Ayrshire, on the grounds that many local branches are financially unsustainable — and yet, the Royal Mail Group's half year trading statement reveals that its operating profits have more than doubled in the past year from £86million to £177million.

West of Scotland Liberal Democrat MSP Ross Finnie called the public consultation on Post Office closures 'a complete sham, with many complaints and objections to the proposals completely ignored.' He pledges that 'Liberal Democrats in North Ayrshire will continue to campaign against any further closures to local Post Offices.'

FIRE ALARMS WARNING

NAC Trading Standards officers are warning householders in North Ayrshire to be vigilant over buying fire alarms from cold callers. An English-based company is currently operating

in the area and preying on vulnerable individuals. Anyone who is concerned should contact the Trading Standards officers on 01294 324917.

KATY WELCOMES VALDETE TO ARRAN

Katy Clark, MP for North Ayrshire and Arran, expressed her delight at hearing from Sue and Julian Davidson that Valdete Gjonpali from Albania has at last been granted her multi-entry medical visa for essential medical treatment.

Valdete has been confined to a wheelchair since the age of 18 because of infantile meningitis contracted when she was a baby, but Arran people contributed generously to the fundraising that made her visit possible.

Sue Davidson said, 'We are so grateful to our Member of Parliament Katy Clark for helping us through the red tape associated with Valdete's visa application.' She also thanked 'our retired GP from Lamlash', who helped to short-circuit the medical bureaucracy and obtain the necessary medical evidence to support Valdete's application.

'Next Level' for Arran Hideaways

ARRAN HIDEAWAYS, the Brodick-based self-catering holiday lets agency, has been bought by one of Scotland's leading companies, Cottages & Castles Ltd. Penny Brass, who launched Arran HideAways in 1998 and has built it up to its present success, said she is 'delighted that a company with the reputation of Cottages & Castles will be taking Arran HideAways to the next level.'

Penny is particularly pleased that properties will no longer have to be graded by Visit Scotland before they can be taken on the books, remarking that this process has been unpopular, as it is expensive and tends to result in a 'homogenised' sameness of standard. Cottages & Castles, she says, is big enough to do its own grading, and broad enough in outlook to accept and service many types of properties.

Existing clients need have no fears that the business will lose its personal touch or the huge benefit of intimate local knowledge. Existing staff at Arran HideAways will continue to service the properties and liaise with both owners and visitors. They have re-branded as 'The Arran Team,' but their detailed, meticulous care will continue unchanged. In their time-honoured premises behind the Arran Estate Agents where the tempting smell of new-baked bread drifts from Wooleys bakery, they will continue to provide all the little details that make the owner's life easy and ensure a warm, welcoming holiday experience for the visitor.

Few people know what a range of small but valuable benefits they offer. For instance, The Arran Team will hold a key for anyone — not necessarily a self catering client — who is off the island and could perhaps need someone to let the plumber in, right through to owners who

want someone to be there for all problems 7 days a week. They now provide contract linen, crockery, cutlery and a Help At Hand service, available to a private self catering owner who may need someone to do an occasional change-over. They will even receive and assemble flat-pack furniture for you!

Par for the course are their three low season services. The 'Lights On' service ensures a warm, well-lit house to welcome visitors with maybe flowers on the table and a bottle of wine to ensure that visitors feel welcomed and happy, while they also offer fortnightly winter checks and post storm checks. None of this will change. The only difference is that the initial booking will be taken by Cottages & Castles, the

Perth-based agency linked with property consultancy CKD Galbraith, who, with the addition of the Arran properties, will have at least 500 letting cottages and houses in their portfolio.

Sue Bourne, manager of the new parent company, says Arran's holiday lets industry will benefit from a larger market audience of potential holiday makers, through their extensive marketing. 'Our advertising budget is large,' she told *The Arran Voice* last week. 'That's one major advantage of the acquisition.' Cottages & Castles advertises its properties in publications such as *Country Life* and national newspapers *The Scotsman* and *The Herald*.

However, Sue is well aware of the crucial importance of the local knowledge afforded by 'The Arran Team' as island managers of the business. 'Penny's business was really quite unusual,' she said, 'in that she both rented and serviced properties. Now she will be able to focus fully on the property services side, and we are looking forward to working together.'



Events at Brodick Castle, Gardens & Country Park
Tel: 0844 4932152



Brodick Castle Winter Exhibition of Contemporary Art

13th ~ 16th November 12.00 ~ 4.30pm
The annual eclectic collection of artwork by local artists, displayed throughout the Castle.

Reception Centre Opening

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THE YOUTH VOICE

INFORMATION AND NEWS FOR AND FROM YOUNG PEOPLE!

By **Scott McMurray, Megan McEachern and Eilidh Kerr**

Hello and welcome to the second ever Youth Voice! Yes, we have changed the title! We felt that Hoodie's Voice gave people the wrong idea, so the name has been changed to something more positive but not too cheesy. If you want to write for this page or have something you'd like us to include, please contact The Voice or Scott McMurray at the High school.

EVENTS

SYP (SCOTTISH YOUTH PARLIAMENT) SURGERY

On Friday 7th November from 10.30am to 2.30pm.

The MSYP's from North Ayrshire will be holding a joint surgery with Katy Clark MP in James Watt College, Kilwinning. If you have any issues at all then either pop along or e-mail Scott McMurray MSYP on scott.mcmurray.msyp@sypmail.org.uk.

SCOTTISH YOUTH PARLIAMENT GENERAL MEETING

On Sat 15th–Sun 16th November.

This will be hosted by Aberdeen City Council. Included in the programme is a march against knife crime through the streets of Aberdeen and Violence Reduction workshops. If anybody has any issues they would like to raise at the meeting about youth crime or problems of rural life, please e-mail Scott McMurray MSYP on the address given above.

YOUTH FORUM PARTY

On U18's Gig on Fri 7th November from 9pm.

Live bands, music, glowsticks, food and drink all at Brodick Hall on the 7th! Buses will be provided for getting home and entry is 100% FREE!

YOUTH CONFERENCE

On Wed 5th November.

A select group of young people from across North Ayrshire will be attending the 2008 Youth Conference in the Gailes in Irvine. There will be a small group going across from Arran and I am sure it will be a very successful event! We will keep you up to date on the news from this next month!

NEWS

THE YOUNGER MUSICIANS COMPETITION

Took place on Wednesday 1st October, and it was a very successful and enjoyable concert. Congratulations to all the winners and well done to everyone who took part — it was an excellent night!

SCHOOL ART TRIP

On October 21st the Higher art class went to the Lighthouse Centre in Glasgow. The group were toured around the building and shown the Giles Miller Collection of product designs made from cardboard. After this they were shown to the viewing tower on top of the Lighthouse building which has a great view of Glasgow. The group were then treated to a workshop by Adele Hannah who is a graduate of Edinburgh College of Art. She concentrated on product and furniture design and will be working with the Higher class for the next couple of weeks on Arran.

MUSICAL COFFEE MORNING

Arran High School's music department held a fundraising coffee morning at the school on Saturday 27th September. All money raised was put towards paying for the windband's trip to Biggar last May. A selection of pupils entertained the coffee drinkers with solo and group performances from the balcony overlooking the school canteen. The new outdoor performance area was christened, as the school's saxophone group performed on it (before the rain started!). It was a very enjoyable morning and the department succeeded in raising £200.

TYPICAL...

Here I am, writing an article for *The Voice*, and my computer has decided to crash! Why does it always happen that way? I remember that television advert about the woman whose life was 'just typical' because it started to rain as she stepped out her front door and then her umbrella wouldn't go up. But no fear. She looked in her bag and found the perfect remedy for her 'typical' day. Constipation pills I believe... But if only there really was a pill that could make those annoying typicalities go away! For example, whenever you need something urgently, you can't find it anywhere. And the day before you had a million of the said thing and didn't need it at all. Or all the times you moan about a bus

being late and the one time you aren't running quite on time yourself it's five minutes early. Why is this?! Frankly, I think it should be scientifically looked into. And this article is being written with a pencil, because typically, I couldn't find a pen...

OVERLOADED? ROOM FOR MORE!

Young Scot Overload is a brand new project exclusive to North Ayrshire in which local bands will be able to have their talent shown across the county. The project, led by North Ayrshire *Young Scot*, will give local bands the opportunity to have their music broadcast at some of the biggest events in North Ayrshire through the Mobile Youth Centre, online via the new *Young Scot Overload* website, and at their very own *Young Scot Overload* Festival, which is due to take place on February 21st.

Young Scot Overload is now actively looking for local bands to get involved in the project. Ideally band members should have an average age of 12–18 and have their own recorded material. We're looking for absolutely any type of music, so any band can join in, from the best of Scottish piping to the latest legends of rock! *Young Scot Overload* application forms are available from local secondary schools, the Harbour Arts Centre, the Caley Centre and The Ark or via the *Young Scot* website: www.youngscot.org/overload.

Young Scot will be launching their new website for the project in the very near future. It will contain profiles for all the bands registered for the project and will give young people in North Ayrshire the chance to login and listen to band's tracks then to rate them and give feedback. In February the top 15 bands voted by the public will be invited to play live at the *Young Scot Overload* festival at the Cornerstone Church, Kilwinning. This festival will take the form of a 'battle of the bands' where young people will be able to vote for their favourite band of the night in the Mobile Youth Centre. The top band of the night will receive a fantastic record deal, a music video in partnership with the Caley Youth Centre and various musical prizes to help the band get on their way. Young people who attend will also get the chance to take part in karaoke competitions, air guitar competitions and 'pub' quizzes, and could win some massive prizes on the day. So if you have a band and fancy entering, make sure to visit www.youngscot.org/overload to download a band application pack.

USEFUL WEBSITES...

www.youngscot.org
general info site for young people.

www.talktofrank.com
confidential service for information about drugs.

www.drugscope.org.uk
as above

www.youngminds.org.uk
mental health info suited to young people

www.thinkuknow.co.uk
drugs/drink addiction information

www.childrenslegalcentre.com
providing legal advice, information and representation for children and young people.

www.bullying.co.uk
speaks for itself!

www.childline.org.uk
phone for confidential help on any problem.

www.childreninscotland.org.uk
Children in Scotland is the national agency for voluntary, statutory and professional organisations and individuals working with children and their families in Scotland.

www.workwithus.org
actively help, advise and support over 700 charities and a range of public sector bodies, providing an invaluable range of specialist fundraising and marketing services.

www.womensaid.org
Women's Aid is the key national charity working to end domestic violence against women and children. They support a network of over 500 domestic and sexual violence support services across the UK.

Arran artist helps launch new jazz album

ARRAN ARTIST SHELAGH Collins designed an outstanding CD cover with a beautifully original painting for a new jazz album containing some of the top names in British jazz. *Jazzmoss* is led by a frequent visitor to Arran, poet and jazz singer Louisa Le Marchand, and boasts a veritable Who's Who of UK jazz, along with Ugandan multi-instrumentalist and jazz pianist Kaz Kasozi. It features saxophonist Art Themen, Scottish guitarist Jim Mullen, trumpeter Henry Lowther, drummer Professor Trevor Tomkins, Israeli bass player Liran Donin and backing singer Gill Swan, whose parents lived in



Lamlash for the last 40 years of their lives.

Jazzmoss have recently finished a 10-date UK tour. They are in the process of planning next year's tour and would love to perform on Arran, should anyone wish to promote them here. Louisa has also published a book of her poetry, *Whispers in the Mists of Time*, and both the *Jazzmoss* CD and the book can be purchased in Arran Asia and The Book and Card Centre, Brodick.

Toddlers start reading with Bookstart Bear

SOME ARRAN TODDLERS received a special library award earlier this week as part of the Bookstart scheme run by Children's Outreach Services. Leah Brown, Rory Currie, Rhiannon Gardiner, Yeshe Gautier, Tenzin Gautier, Keiran Geraghty, Julie Hamill, Cameron MacKay, Robbie Milton and Andrew Milton all received a 'Book crawl certificate' from Hamish the Bookstart Bear for reading books loaned from Brodick library. Children from 0-5 years old can collect the certificates at the library by borrowing books and will even receive a special pack of children's books to take home. Nina Hamilton who helps read the scheme has been visiting



Leah, Rhiannon, Yeshe, Tenzin, Cameron, Robbie and Andrew with the Bookstart Bear, Glynnis McAlister and Nina Hamilton

toddlers groups around the island and is keen to help children and parents get involved. For more information call Nina on 600247.



Jindabyne (2006)

ON SUNDAY November 9th, Corrie Film Club shows *Jindabyne*, directed by Ray Lawrence, based on a story by Raymond Carver called *So Much Water So Close to Home*. Its original name was telling, as people may find themselves in deep water through a single unwise decision. The switch of setting to Australia explains the changed title, for the film was shot on location entirely in and around the town of Jindabyne in New South Wales, near the Snowy Mountains. It also brings in another dimension, touching on the racial prejudice that still lies deep in Australia.

Four men go on a fishing trip into the isolated high country, an annual event much looked forward to, but Stewart, played by Gabriel Byrne, finds the body of an Aboriginal girl in the water. She is obviously the victim of a violent killing. Their weekend looks to be ruined — far from being an enjoyable break, it will turn into an official enquiry. But darkness is coming, and it's too late for them to hike the long miles back to the road and report their find. If they have to wait until tomorrow morning, they reason, why not a bit longer? They tether the girl by her ankle to prevent her body from being washed away down the falls, and carry on fishing.

The men get home late on Sunday night and report their find to the police. They are called into the sheriff's office the next morning to face an angry official who is appalled by their callous action. Their wives support them — except for Claire, Stewart's wife, (played by Laura Linney.) She cannot forgive her

husband for coming home to make love to her when he had left the dead girl in the water, and starts raising money to pay for the Aboriginal girl's funeral. She even contacts the family, and the whole uneasy racial situation in Australia comes into high focus — as do the fault lines in Claire and Stewart's marriage.

The Age, Australia's most serious newspaper, hailed *Jindabyne* as 'easily one of the most engrossing, thoughtful, adult-orientated big-screen dramas produced in Australia for 20 years.' Its examination of a community split by the racial tensions that underlie its conventional comfort remains a haunting allegory of the Australian dilemma, made all the more poignant by the beauty of its setting. The photography is glorious, and the deep water of the plot remains long in the mind. *Jindabyne* scooped countless awards on its release in 2006, and with good reason.

The showing starts at 8.00pm in Corrie Hall. All are welcome. Non-members are asked to make a donation to costs.



Book review Sponsored by Book and Card Centre

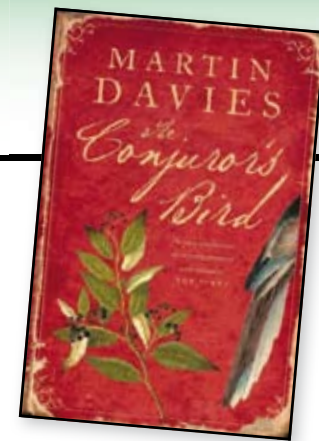
Book Review

By Peri Aston

THE CONJUROR'S BIRD

Joseph Banks, the famous naturalist who sailed with Captain Cook to the South Seas, is popping up a lot at the moment. He is the first to feature in *The Age of Wonder* by Richard Holmes, discussed and read on radio 4, and this compelling book by Martin Davies weaves an intriguingly believable story around the historical facts known about him. These centre round 'The Mysterious Bird of Ulieta'. Nobody is sure what this feathered creature actually was, but it was first recorded in 1774 on Cook's second expedition, which Banks dropped out of at the last moment over an argument with the Navy Board about cabin space. The bird was given to Banks, but disappeared, never to be seen again. Nothing remains of it except a single drawing, which you can see in the Natural History Museum. All that is true.

The fictional part starts in the present. Fitz, a taxidermist but one-time researcher of rare species (especially birds), meets with his estranged wife and her new companion, a Norwegian enthusiast who wants to trace the Ulieta bird. Fitz doesn't trust his motives, and soon finds that the Norwegian is not the only one interested in the whereabouts of the bird. A race begins to track it down. Fitz's first-person narrative of how he and his lodger, Katya, seek the bird so as to preserve it is intercut with the facts about the 1774 expedition. Cook wrote that on reaching Madeira they were told that a mysterious 'Mr Bennett', (actually a young woman), had left and sailed back to England because Joseph Banks was not on the ship. The ill-fated romance



between these two, and the strange facts about the young woman, are all that Fritz has to go on in his hunt for the strange bird — but the historic story is told in chapters that alternate with the present-day one.

The young woman, whose name is never mentioned during her story, has been brought up by an atheist father with theories way beyond his time, well educated and allowed to wander without restriction in the woods, where she spends her days making exquisite drawings of plants. There Banks encounters her, away from the eyes of the disapproving society, and their mutual passion for nature forms the beginning of a tentative relationship. 300 years later, Fitz and Katya follow their intuitions through tedious hours of perusing microfilm records, looking for the slightest clue that will lead them to the mysterious mistress of Joseph Banks and so to the bird. They have to hurry, for there are others who want it for darker, pharmaceutical reasons to make a lot of money. There is a nice twist at the end, and this un-put-downable book keeps you guessing right up to the finish.

The Conjuror's Bird
By Martin Davies
Published by Hodder
ISBN 0-340-89618-3 RRP £7.99

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.

Out & About

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 Works by Jilly Bannantyne, from 8th onwards: works of Roberta McRae)
Maine Fine Art, Michael Maine Gallery, Douglas Centre, Brodick—open 10am–12.30pm & 2–4.30pm
Isle of Arran Distillery, Lochranza—open Monday–Saturday, 10am–6pm, Sundays 11am–4.30pm
Arran Driving Range—open every day (860 530/860 251)
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—Mondays and Tuesdays closed
Arran Adventure, beside Auchrannie Spa, Brodick—open daily for outdoor activities
Brodick Castle, closed for the winter—country park stays open
KA Campus, Arran High School, Lamlash—regular fitness classes

THURSDAY 6TH

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
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
Brodick Embroidery Group, Library, Brodick, 7.30pm
Arran WRIs, Winter Rally, Speaker: Robbie Glen, Kinloch Hotel, Blackwaterfoot, 7.30pm
General Knowledge Quiz, Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 10pm

FRIDAY 7TH

MSYP's of NA joint surgery with

Katy Clark at James Watt College, Kilwinning
(info, e-mail:scott.mcmurray.msyp@sypmail.org.uk)
Yoga, Lamlash Church Hall, 10.30am
Aquafizz, Auchrannie Pool, Brodick, 9.45am
Senior Badminton, Auchrannie Spa, Brodick, 2pm
Lamlash Friday Club, Church Hall Lamlash, 2pm
Kids' Club, Games Night, KA Campus, Lamlash, 6.30–8pm
“Hannah & Harvey”, Platform + Scottish Touring Theatres Consortium, Arran High School Theatre, Lamlash, 7pm
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 8TH

Dance School, KA Campus, Lamlash, All day
“Vanishing Points”—exhibition of paintings by Roberta McRae, Burnside Gallery, Brodick, from 10.30am
Safe the Children Christmas Fayre, Brodick Hall, 10.30am–1.30pm
Karate, Auchrannie Spa, Brodick, 11.30–12.30am
Family Games, Auchrannie Spa, Brodick, 3–4pm
Fun in the Pool, Auchrannie Spa, Brodick, 4–5pm
Lamlash Bonfire, 6.30pm
Youth Club, Church Hall, Brodick—tabletop gaming (last Sat. of month), pool, PS3, dart, arts (next: 22 Nov) and crafts, table tennis, board games etc., 7–10pm
Arran Music Society Concert—Mr McFall's Chamber, Brodick Hall, 7.30pm
Disco, Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 10pm

SUNDAY 9TH

Boys' Football, KA Campus, Lamlash (Astroturf or Games Hall), 10–11am
Remembrance Service, Whiting Bay & Kildonan Church, War Memorial, 10.55am
Arran Wargames Club, Arran High School, Lamlash, 1–4pm
Kids' Club Sunday Matinée, 1.30–3pm
AA Alcoholics Anonymous, St. Margaret's Church, Whiting Bay, 4.30pm
Corrie Filmclub, “Jindabyne” (Australia 2006), by Ray Lawrence, Corrie & Sannox Village Hall, 8pm

MONDAY 10TH

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 Bridge Club, Golf Club House, Lamlash, 7.15pm
General Knowledge Quiz, Cameronia, Whiting Bay, 9.30pm

TUESDAY 11TH

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
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
Lochranza & Catacol Village Hall, AGM, Village Hall, 7.30pm
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 12TH

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
Corrie & Sannox Wednesday Club, Jim Cassels “Birds on Arran”, Corrie Hall 2–4pm
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
“Balloons”, Lamlash Community Theatre, 8pm
AA Alcoholics Anonymous, Lamlash Church Hall, 8–9.30pm

THURSDAY 13TH

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
Corrie WRI, Elenor McCue, Floral X-mas, Corrie Village Hall, 7.30pm
Middle Eastern Dancers' Practice & Lessons, Lamlash Church Hall, Beginners 7.30–8.30pm, Intermediate 8.30–9.30pm
“Balloons”, Lamlash Community Theatre, 8pm
General Knowledge Quiz, Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 10pm

SATURDAY 15TH

Dance School, KA Campus, Lamlash, All day
Karate, Auchrannie Spa, Brodick, 11.30am–12.30pm
Family Games, Auchrannie Spa, Brodick, 3–4pm
Fun in the Pool, Auchrannie Spa, Brodick, 4–5pm
Bingo Night, Arran Childminders Group, Whiting Bay Golf Club, “Balloons”, Lamlash Community Theatre, 8pm
Disco, Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 10pm

SUNDAY 16TH

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

PLAN AHEAD

Arran Arts Festival, 12th–22nd November, details in this and next week's *Arran Voice*
Art Exhibition at Brodick Castle, 13th–16th November
Schools' In-Service Day, Friday, 14th November 2008
Farmers' Market, Kilmory Hall, Saturday, 22nd November 2008
Christmas Market, Whiting Bay Hall, Sat/Sun, 29th/30th November 2008
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 2009
Arran Wildlife Festival 2009—13–30th May

On the Green

By Alison Prince

Tomatoes

I LOVE TOMATOES. I like the taste and colour of them, and the smell, and their yellow flowers. I like the lime green stain they leave on your fingers, too, even if it does come off on newly-washed white sheets if you don't wash your hands properly. Most of all, I love the way tomatoes are so growable. You can bung some seeds in a Grow Bag in any sheltered spot and they will thrive. Even in the grottiest summer you can grow tomatoes in pots on window sills indoors.

Take no notice of anyone who says you can't freeze them. The cherry-sized ones can be tied in a freezer bag and come out as good as new, at least for cooking, and the bigger ones can be chopped and squashed down into plastic pots. Either way, they are nicer and more concentrated than tinned ones, full of that red, rich, Mediterranean flavour. There's nothing quite so easy and instantly delicious as Italian cooking, with garlic and onions, basil, paprika and tomatoes. Throw in some mushrooms as well, or a pepper or a chopped courgette if you need to bulk the quantity up a bit, ladle it over some pasta, and there you have this hot, comforting, utterly yummy food, fast without being nasty.

More and more, I think the natural colour of food has a lot to do with whether you fancy it or not. I love the look of my fruit basket in summer, with nectarines and oranges and piles of richly maroon grapes. It's not quite so easy to get the same effect in the winter when we are down to apples and pears and bananas, but that's a time to root about in the freezer for raspberries and brambles. 'Got to eat your colours,' my daughter used to tell her wee girl, who used to be a faddy eater when she was small. Somehow, it worked amazingly well. Nagging about the benefits of broccoli and carrots is useless, but an alternating of green and orange, white and red seems more fun. I feel rather the same — specially about red. I've tried growing yellow tomatoes, but I think they know I don't really like them. They mature into sulky things, thin-flavoured and ungenerous, whereas the wee pepper plants that have been living in pots beside the computer and now drop the occasional withering leaf on the mouse-mat are pillar-box red and cheerful.

CHEFS ARE PAINTERS

White food is peculiarly off-putting. Fish pie tastes OK if I shut my



eyes, and so does macaroni cheese (which is better because yellower), but the desire to cheer these pale dishes up with a something bright is irresistible. That's why chefs are so keen on garnishes, I suppose. They hurl handfuls of chopped herbs about or scatter chocolate crumbs on top of anything creamy, and of course it immediately looks much better. What are glacé cherries for, may I ask, except as a touch of brightness on the trifle or white-iced bun? Chefs are painters, really. They came into their own with the nouvelle cuisine fad that has never quite left us. You know the sort of thing — a Jackson Pollack swirl of raspberry coulis across a vast white plate, and in the middle of it, a tiny pud with one of those wee orange berries on top. I never remember what they are, but they live inside a thin, brown-papery open pod, ideal for chef-art. Years ago, we used to use hundreds-and-thousands, but those wee coloured bitties used to run if you sprinkled them on over-wet icing, and nobody wants a bun that looks blotchy.

Porridge is art-stuff, in the sense that paper is there to be drawn on. That's why kids won't eat it without a trail of brown sugar or golden syrup over the top. It doesn't in fact

taste as nice that way, but it does need some kind of design to break up the blandness. That blank, neutral look is only seductive to the extremely hungry or to people who are very grown-up. The cereal manufacturers were quick to understand this, which is why their products are always in the brown/yellow/orange range, loosely referred to as Golden Goodness — though I read the other day that some nutritionist had said you'd be better off shredding the packet and eating that.

KETCHUP

Best of the lot, of course, is tomato sauce. Instant colour, instant good cheer. Dipping a chip in tomato ketchup doesn't really make it taste much nicer, but it satisfies a deep need for richness and decoration. Watch a toddler carefully applying a dollop here and a dollop there, and you can see a potential designer at work. Children used to get told, 'Don't mess about with your food, just eat it,' but now that nobody watches what they do with their microwaved pizzas, maybe they are all free to exercise chef-art. I can recommend Gardener's Delight for your cherry-sized tomato highlights, kids. Try growing your own.

the
Wee
voice

Guy Fawkes

By Christian Pomeroy

EACH YEAR, when November the 5th comes along, our household, (daft artists and co.) buys a large box of fireworks from the wholesaler Makro. The box is about 1x0.5 metres big, and contains a variety of fireworks ranging from Roman candles to big rockets. These are highly coloured, and have interesting names like 'Starry Night', 'Fountain of Youth', and 'Martian Invaders'.

To begin the bonfire, we first have to spend hours stacking wood, cardboard, rolled up bits of old newspaper, (once even a dead sheep!) — basically, anything that will have the slightest chance of catching fire. Upon the

eventual igniting we all crowd round and heat up, often too much. Then, after getting smoke blown in our eyes for the 16th time, we break out the fireworks, and start preparing to launch them. Of course by then it's too dark to see what we're doing, so one of us has to trudge through the inevitable mud up to our house to get the torch.

Finally, everything is prepared for the first firework, which will probably not light properly and be delayed-reaction launched, resulting in some very alarmed parents. Eventually, after about half an hour of bangs, sparkles and crackles, the box is finished, and it,

along with all the burnt-out fireworks, goes onto the bonfire. We then retire to the house for hot chocolate and a seat by the fire for a well-earned rest.

This week's Wee Voice was by Christian Pomeroy, who likes lighting bonfires!

Muahaha!



PUT YOUR SMALL ANNOUNCEMENTS ON OUR MESSAGE BOARD, FREE!

SAVE THE CHILDREN CHRISTMAS FAYRE

BRODICK HALL
SATURDAY 8TH NOVEMBER
10.30AM-1.30PM
TEA, COFFEE, SOUP &
SANWICHES

BAKING, BRIC-A-BRAC, BOOKS,
JEWELLERY, FACE PAINTING ETC.

TOMBOLA & RAFFLE

ALL WELCOME

ROOTS OF ARRAN AGM Community Woodland Group

Fri 29 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

QUESTION TIME

Our MP, MSP, Council Leader and others respond to topical questions relating to Arran's sustainability and independence. Don't miss democracy at work! Only 70 seats available. Starts 7:30pm prompt at the Ormidale Sports Pavilion, Brodick, this Friday, 7th November

MP SURGERY — POST OFFICE CONCERN?

Katy Clark MP is holding a surgery this Saturday, Nov 8th, 1.30-2.30pm in Whiting Bay Hall. People concerned about the fate of our Post Offices may wish to raise this vital question with Katy.

The Arran Childminders group

The Arran Childminders group is holding a bingo night at Whiting Bay Golf Club on 15th November to raise funds to cover the group's regular trips away. Some of the funds raised will also be used to donate some portable DVD players to the Arran War Memorial Hospital. The event promises to be a fun night for all the family and all are welcome.

Corrie and Sannox Wednesday Club

Wednesday 12th November
2pm-4pm
Jim Cassells
"Birding on Arran"
All welcome

Jazz Cafe apology

The Jazz Cafe Band would like to apologise to its fans (both of them) for having to cancel last Friday's gig at short notice. Two members of the band were incapacitated by a lurgy, and couldn't make any noise but a muffled groan. We'll let you know when the next date seems possible and germ-free.



This loveable twosome are Clyde and Jed.

They would love a new and loving home. They can go together or separately. Clyde, the little black and white, is a homely cat who likes nothing better than to watch the world go by and lay on her back for a tummy tickle. Jed, the slinky black on the right, is a very independent male who loves to be adored by people. Jed would most definitely need to be somewhere well away from a road. If you would like to give these two a loving home please contact telephone 01770 820611 (evenings)

Christmas Sale — Brodick Hall

Sat 15th November

Start 12 noon
to 3 o'clock

APAWS, SSPCA and C.P. Sale tombola,
home baking, bric-a-brac
Charity goods and table tops

To book a table phone 302150

INDOOR CRICKET PRACTICE

Auchrannie Gym 7-9pm

From Monday 17th November
Indoor Cricket Practice

Auchrannie Gym 7-9pm

From Monday 17th November

FRIENDS OF LOCHRANZA KIRK

The next meeting of the friends of Lochranza Kirk will be held in Lochranza Church on Wednesday 12th November at 2pm and the speaker will be Mrs. Jean Hunter on her visit to Singapore and New Zealand. All welcome and a cup of tea.

Sunday 9th November

Please note a change to our remembrance service at Whiting Bay and Kildonan Church. We will begin the service at the war memorial in the grounds of the church at 10.55am. We will observe the two minutes silence outside then go into the church for a shortened service. It is hoped that members of the community feel that they can come and join us to remember all those who gave their lives. Also to remember all our service men and women serving around the world.

Gaelic Weekend on Gigha

Gaelic speakers and learners might be interested in a Gaelic weekend on the wee Isle of Gigha, 8-9 November. Beginner and intermediate classes in the Gigha Gallery, accommodation in the hotel beside it. Professional tutors, good food and good craic! Phone 01583 505 101 for details.

Meeting about NTZ marauders

KENNETH GIBSON sends us news that SEPA is due to meet COAST on 13 November about the infringement of the Lamlash No Take Zone (NTZ) last week. The police will also be in attendance. By the time of the meeting COAST members hope that 'lashed and stowed' provisions will either be in place or a date for implementation will be given. These provisions will lay down a requirement that any fishing boat entering the NTZ will have to have all fishing gear stowed away and lashed down, making it clear that the boat and its crew have no predatory intentions.

Ken MacNab of the Clyde Fishermens Association has said the boat that breached the NTZ was not a Clyde registered boat. Prosecution is unlikely as evidence against the boat is 'at best inconclusive' according to Eamon Murphy of the Scottish Government. However, the new provisions should ensure that the full weight of the law is more easily brought to bear on boats that breach the NTZ in future.



Print Ordering Service

We are now offering prints of
photographs that appear in each
issue *The Arran Voice**

8" x 6" prints from £8.50
8" x 6" front page prints from £15.00
CDs — £2.50
Images from £0.50

(exclusive of Postage & Packaging)

Discounts available for larger orders.

Other print sizes are available

**For more information, call 01770
303 636, or
e-mail info@arranvoice.com**

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Stef's stab at the weather

By **Stef Holmer**
Amateur Meteorologist

SUMMARY OF LAST WEEK'S FORECAST

One of my most accurate yet. What a beautiful spell of real autumnal weather as I remember it! Yes, it was pretty cold and the days are getting shorter, but if you could find a sheltered spot it was good enough to sit out and have a coffee. Well I certainly did. Now what's in store?

General Summary for 6th November to 10th November:

That big low pressure near Iceland that I mentioned last week was being held at bay on Wednesday by our ridge of high pressure over the UK. By Thursday, though, it looks like it will break through, bringing a stronger southerly air flow and quite a few weather fronts.

By Friday it will be centred off north west Ireland bringing some strong winds and rain to western Scotland. However, there is another deeper low off Greenland belting across on Saturday. Although centred over Iceland for the rest of the weekend, its tightly packed isobars will be right across Scotland.

Thursday



Quite a bit milder than earlier this week at 11°C with a light easterly wind to start, then swinging round to the south and increasing in the afternoon to about 12mph. There will be a lot of cloud around and virtually no sign of the sun all day, but staying dry. A bit dull and dreich, but you could still be safely out of doors. No frost in sight overnight.

Friday



We'll be catching the effects of that low pressure now. Getting windier from the south, around 20mph or more, with some showers lingering through the morning. The afternoon could be a bit drier and there may be a wee glimpse of the sun from time to time. Still not a bad day to be out, and it could be an idea to take good advantage of this. Rain will start again in the evening and last overnight. It will be a little cooler at 9°C.

Saturday



It looks like getting a bit stoury later today. The wind will be a wee bit lighter in the morning with some showers around. However, the southerly winds will increase to 25mph or more, and there will be more persistent rain becoming heavier throughout the day. Ach, back to normal again. If you have to go out, wellies and wind/wet proof clothing recommended. Brollies only if you are sheltered from the southerly strong winds. The wind and rain will decrease a wee bit later in the evening.

Sunday



No better than yesterday, I'm afraid. Probably worse in fact, with heavier rain throughout the day. Ominously for the ferry, the wind, south west and strong in the morning, looks like shifting due west in the afternoon and becoming stronger at 25mph or more, possibly with gale force gusts. It may ease a little in the evening. I would call it mingin' weather.

Monday



It just goes on and on. Lots of heavy rain with very strong winds, at least 25mph from the south west in the morning and afternoon, then swinging back to the west in the evening.

Outlook (Very long-range stuff)

Things may ease off a little on Tuesday with more showery weather rather than the bloopers of the weekend, and the winds dropping throughout the day. Wednesday looks quite pleasant with light winds and a fair bit of sunshine through the day. Getting colder again.

Ferry Notes

The winds over the weekend and Monday give me some concern but crossings will be bumpy rather than cancelled (I hope.)

CHRISTMAS TURKEY PRIZE DRAW



EVERY RESPONSE to our reader survey will be entered into a prize draw for a splendid Christmas turkey from **Aucheleffan**, Arran's prime producer of free-range, super-delicious poultry.

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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. The winner will be announced in our issue of **Thursday, November 27th 2008**.

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Coastguard Tower demolition leaves devastation

LOCAL RESIDENTS ARE angry about the rutted area of mud, rubble and broken glass left in the wake of the demolition of the Coastguard Tower in Kildonan. Mr and Mrs Hagan, who live in one of the Coastguard cottages, talked to *The Arran Voice* about the history of the tower (see Coastguard



History below). However, they feel that the demolition site is now more dangerous than the half-derelict tower was, and are concerned about new cracks that have appeared in the concrete platform that heads the area. They are also worried that a preservation order on the trees that act as a windbreak may be ignored in the interests of new development in this quiet corner. The whole site, they claim, is far more exposed now that two fine Scots Pine trees have been felled.



Access to Mrs Patsy Keen's cottage used to be via a field path that led to her garden, but foot-deep tractor ruts now make this impassable, as our photographs show. Local people feel that the job has not been properly finished off, and hope that the contractor, John Thomson, will make the site good and restore access in its previous condition.



Kildonan Coastguard Memories

Mrs Rosemary Hagan, whose father was one of the coastguards manning the tower that was demolished last week, contributes her knowledge and memories of those long-vanished days.



LLOYDS SIGNAL Station was the first in Kildonan, and the trees that border the Coastguard Station now were planted in 1905 to make a background so that ships could see the signals from it. The Coastguard Service acquired land adjacent to Lloyds and built two houses for a two-man station and constructed the tower, possibly in 1928 or 29, at the bottom of the two gardens. They then changed to a three-man station and acquired one of the Lloyds Cottages (now known as Old Coastguard House) nearest to it. This was

for the station officer, while the Coastguard Cottages Nos 1 and 2 were for the senior and junior coastguard. They needed three men then so as to do a continuous watch, probably because of WW2.

The station up till then had just telephones, but was now changed to a Radio Telephone (RT) station. The office, which was at the back of the station officer's house, held the RT with connection to the tower, so one coastguard could man the radio and two could be in the tower on phones if there was a casualty. They had weather instruments attached to the flag pole and made weather reports to Prestwick. The flag was raised at sunrise and lowered at sunset each day. Of the three men, one was on duty, one on standby and the other off duty, but he had to let them know where he was going in case an emergency occurred, when he would be called back.

The coastguards also patrolled the beaches around the island, taking it in turns, first on their bikes, though in the early 1960s they got a car. At about the same time, UHF (Ultra High Frequency band) radio was installed. The Troon, Girvan and Campbeltown lifeboats were on radio call for any emergency. There still exists in the ground of the station the LSA (Life Saving Apparatus) Hut, in which was stored the trailer containing all the gear — ropes,

rockets, breeches buoy etc — needed for a casualty call out locally. The trailer was hauled by a friendly farmer's tractor. Also in the '60s, the vertical ladder to the tower was replaced, being considered too dangerous, especially in bad weather, and the drive to the two coastguard houses was tarred, having been a dirt track previously.

The coastguards had local volunteer men who were prepared to assist if an emergency occurred, and they regularly undertook practices, called 'drills', to keep them up to date on procedures. There were three auxiliaries, one of them a local lady, who kept watch at night if the station was busy. The three coastguards had to keep the grounds of the station in condition, and it was inspected regularly by the District Officer for Arran Coastguards, stationed in Portpatrick in Wigtownshire. It was also visited twice a year by the Inspector of Coastguards.

The station began to wind down in 1975 when the station officer was transferred south. My father retired then, after 20 years on Arran. He was given the Imperial Service Medal and made his home in Whiting Bay. After the station closed, the remaining coastguard was transferred to Lamlash, and moved to Ardrossan coastguards later. The tower was removed from the station on Monday 27th October 2008, having stood for almost 80 years.

Arran guisers make most of Halloween



ISLAND DOORSTEPS were busy with trick-or-treating guisers last Friday as villages from across the island joined in the spirit of Halloween. Parties held at Montrose House, Kilmory Hall, Pirnmill Primary, Shiskine Hall and Lamlash Primary school witnessed some impressively scary costumes. Lesley Van Bogerijen's display at Montrose House was another fine work of art and created a suitably spooky reception for Halloween guests. Here's a wee selection of some of the best guisers and their outfits.



Left: Gabriel Allison won best fancy dress for P4-P7 with this scary rocker costume. Right: Spooky look. The vampire's green nose and purple glasses are pure genius. Below: Megan and Lena are terrifying



Quality idea! Sarah Jenkins and Sophie Corbett dress to impress with these great, original costumes.



Above: Theo Nicolson cuts a fine figure in his Robin Hood-style garb. Left: The scariest costumes for sure...

Copperwheats Opening Hours

Saturday, 8th November	9.30am-7.30pm
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Tuesday, 11th November	9.30am-5.00pm
Wednesday, 12th November	9.30am-7.30pm
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Friday, 14th November	9.30am-7.30pm

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Puppy diary

By Margaret Kay



BELLA'S PUPS ARE due in only a few days now. At home, the basic preparations are done — the box is all ready, about two inches deep in newspapers, courtesy of Ruth and Barry and the girls in Bay Stores, bar codes removed (so as the shop gets the sale or return value) and spread out. I have a number of quirky issues about the papers, but more of those later. The trolley with cotton wool, iodine, scissors, load of towels, hot water bottles and rescue remedy is all set out waiting for Bella to decide the pups are ready to meet the world — just a case of hanging fire now. Depending how things go, some of the Rescue Remedy could be for me! I also have my Jones's Animal Nursing Book to hand — but tend not to look at it now as these publications always point out what can go wrong.

Bella had a cursory look round the box but showed little real interest in it — but at least she knows it's there. Amazingly, the dogs all seem to find their way to the box to have their pups on the day. (Only Swizzel had a preference for an under-bed drawer filled with woollens but she was very quickly pointed in the right direction and dissuaded from that idea).

However, in the meantime we are on the 4.40pm heading for Gourock and then a drive up to Perth. We were booked on the 11.05am but high winds and bad weather caused delays which will result in a longer and later journey for us. On the other hand, this gave Bella and Ruby a chance for a really long and windswept walk in Whiting Bay this afternoon — the rest of the gang were deposited at the kennels early this morning. We should get some nice walks over the weekend, around The Den in Methven — at least it is a more sedate walk and I am less likely to be retracting all my tummy muscles, vicariously protecting the pups, as Bella belts over boulders. She gets the added advantage of Simon Howie's (Perth's "The Scottish Butcher") black pudding while she is here.

Bella is blooming ... and whilst it is difficult to say that she is enjoying her pregnancy, it is evident that she is enjoying the perks, the extra feeds and the mega doses of TLC. It is difficult to know how the dogs all think about it, but I am certain that they are aware of what's going on, just from how they are treating Bella at the moment. Last night she was stretched out like a beached whale and both Spangles and Swizzel were nuzzling all round her, cleaning her ears and her eyes — just pampering her.

It is very funny when she tries to get up, as she has to take two or three attempts at rolling before she can get onto her front and up onto her feet. Bella is a cuddly dog at the best of times — but just now she is ultra, ultra huggable. Maybe she knows she had better make the most of it just now, as next week both she and I will hopefully be busy with her babies.



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18th November — Poetry Workshop with Jason Watts

Burnside Gallery, Brodick, 2.00–4.00pm (Free)

Made on Arran

Music and words from Arran

Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay, 8.00pm (Free)

19th November — Short Story Workshop with Alison Prince

Corrie Hall 8.00pm (Free)

20th November — Poetry Workshop with Jason Watts

Burnside Gallery, Brodick, 2.00–4.00 pm (Free)

"Arran and Beyond"

Poetry with Sheena (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)

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Getting to know Zabdi Keen

By Alison Prince

ZABDI IS BEST known to Arran people through her gloriously decorated van lettered with the words, 'Flying Fever'. Ever since she was rock-climbing on the hills above Lochranza and saw someone float past her overhead under the wing of a paragliding canopy, the love of the sky and all its vast, intricate workings has ruled her life. Perhaps even before then, she was only loosely attached to any kind of conventional, earth-bound life, for her story is essentially one of trusting to fate.

When Zabdi was six years old her father died. From a Council house on the Isle of Wight, her mother, Patsy, intrepidly packed into bin bags whatever she and her children could carry, and set out for Arran for a new life. Almost symbolically, the point of contact for the migrating Keen family was Emile, an expert on birds of prey, who at that time was the bird warden on Holy Isle. They rented the small cottage from him for a while, then moved into a caravan on the beach at the foot of one of Duncan Mulholland's fields in Kilmory and lived there for six years. After that, they heard that a Coastguard House at Kildonan was vacant. Nobody wanted it, as tinkers were living in the neighbouring house and travelling people do not always live in a conventional style. The Keens themselves had a free-floating approach to life's problems, so they didn't mind. 'My mum always made things into fun,' Zabdi says. 'Nothing was ever a problem — it was always an adventure.'

On leaving school, Zabdi worked at the bakery for a while, then trained Mountain rescue dogs. But from the moment of seeing

her first paraglider drift overhead, she knew what she wanted to do. On her first flight, she took to the air with scant instruction and 'stalled' her canopy, causing a fall into a hillside that was fortunately heather-covered. 'Oh, sorry,' said her friend Andy Robson, panting up. 'I forgot to tell you ...' It could have been an epitaph, but Zabdi was undeterred, and went on to become a skilled flier and instructor. Nowadays, beginners learn low down and are taken up in tandem with an experienced instructor — and of course, the canopies themselves are far more sophisticated and controllable.



OUTER MONGOLIA

When a visiting paraglider pilot asked Zabdi to go to Hong Kong for seven months to teach paragliding, she raised a bank loan and went. Airfreighting all the necessary equipment cost about £300, but by the end of her time there, freight prices for the return journey had more than tripled. If the equipment was shipped on

a slow boat from China it was affordable, but would take six weeks to arrive in Scotland. 'So,' she says laconically, 'I went on a trip to Outer Mongolia.' Spending nights wrapped in a paragliding canopy in the permafrost was taxing, and she admits, 'I was glad I had a good sleeping bag.' Mongolia was not an easy place. The vastness and aridity of the Gobi Desert is daunting, and the people and their language take some understanding. 'I wouldn't want to go there without interpreters.'

EAGLES

Since that experience, Zabdi has spent most winters away, running ski-ing chalets in Chamonix, France for a while, then working in her most beloved country, Nepal. Meeting her partner, Maurice, and giving birth to her wee boy, Kieran, didn't change anything — the baby came, too. 'I have such good friends there,' she says. 'They came to the training hill and looked after him when I was busy.' Mundane considerations never disturb the skill and delight of flying. 'To fly wing-tip to wing-tip with an eagle is astonishing,' puts in Maurice. 'And to see their feathers from above. When you are on the earth, you can only look up and see them from underneath.'



He and Zabdi are full of knowledge about the cocoon of air that surrounds our planet, and describe it as having the same physical forces as water. 'Hot spots' in the rock can boil the air up like a kettle, and once into that it is like 'trying to hold onto a herd of galloping horses.' The landscape essentially steers the wind direction — but Maurice pointed out more sinister factors at work.

There is a magnetic layer surrounding the earth, of great use to us as it enables electronic messages to be 'bounced' from it around the world. Scientists have found the means to raise this layer, significantly improving our telecommunications. Their official website called HAARP proudly and unblushingly proclaims the details. The result, however, has been the disruption of the atmospheric jet-stream that always used to do a seasonal migration to the north. Dispelling this pattern has resulted in the turbulent variations that cut across the seasons and make us feel that something has gone wrong — as indeed it has. Our people of the air, like birds, know much that most of us do not.

Moss-Gathering

By Theodore Roethke (1908–63)

Poem
of the week

To loosen with all ten fingers held wide and limber
And lift up a patch, dark green, the kind for lining cemetery baskets
Thick and cushiony, like an old-fashioned doormat,
The crumbling small hollow sticks on the underside mixed with roots,
And wintergreen berries and leaves still stuck to the top —
That was moss-gathering.
But something always went out of me when I dug loose those carpets
Of green, or plunged to my elbows in the spongy yellowish moss of
the marshes:
And afterwards I always felt mean, jogging back over the logging
road,
As if I had broken the natural order of things in that swampland;
Disturbed some rhythm, old and of vast importance,
By pulling off flesh from the living planet;
As if I had committed, against the whole scheme of life, a
desecration.

Roethke spent much of his young life in a greenhouse, and died in a swimming pool. The son of German immigrants, he went on to win America's foremost literary prize, the Pulitzer.



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Mugenkyo drummers

wow Arran

By Emma Ingham

MAYBE I SHOULD start with an explanation for anyone living in Cordon or the outskirts of Lamlash, who, last Thursday evening could hear the sound of drums echoing through the chilly evening. In fact, the sound may have been heard as far a field as Whiting Bay and Brodick! It was the fantastic Mugenkyo Taiko Drummers performing in the High School theatre. If you only heard them from a distance you missed a real treat. It was amazing that five people could produce such highly charged, pulsating, almost hypnotic rhythms, and yet incorporate such gentle and tranquil moments as local girl Teresa Brookes relaxed the audience with the Shinobue bamboo flute.

These moments were only short lived as founder member of the group, Neil Mackie, would then begin another explosive assault on our ears with the Odaiko big drum, a drum in fact so big, at one point Teresa was using a baseball bat to beat out another rhythm. The performers were totally focused, with tightly co-ordinated and at times wild routines. There was a feeling of the Martial Arts as each performer prepared to engage the drums. Arran was part of the 25-date national tour, partly due to the strong connections that Mugenkyo have forged with Arran and particularly with Dave Samuels and Ruth Mae of South Bank Farm. Between the two of them they make Taiko drum sticks and authentic Taiko drums, and they also instruct in two Taiko drum classes at Kildonnan Hall each week.

At the end of the performance the packed High School theatre audience were left wanting more and demonstrated the fact with foot stomping, whistling and shouts of more. Mugenkyo, whose name means 'limitless reverberation', duly responded with an encore, which, as Neil explained, was dedicated to their teacher Masaaki Kurumaya Senei. This piece was as lively and vibrant as previous sets but this time included an enormous gong which gave a haunting shimmering sound between another high octane, energetic performance.

I can't imagine anyone who enjoyed Thursday's performance leaving the venue without wanting to have a go with that baseball bat.



Top: Dave Samuels, Ruth Mae and Neil Mackie. Left: Jen Mc Fadden, Teresa Brookes, Miyuki Williams, Neil Mackie and Peter Tagg. Below: Total concentration. Below left: Teresa Brookes performs a stunning drum solo last Thursday. (Arran Photography)



Miyuki Williams and Neil Mackie (Arran Photography)

Recipe

By Janis Murchie

WHITE CHEESE CHICKEN LASAGNA

Ingredients

Serves 12

- 9 lasagna noodles
- 115g butter
- 1 onion, chopped
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 60g all-purpose flour
- 6g salt
- 475ml chicken broth
- 355ml milk
- 450g shredded mozzarella cheese, divided
- 100g grated Parmesan cheese, divided
- 1g dried basil
- 2g dried oregano
- 1g ground black pepper
- 490g ricotta cheese
- 280g cubed, cooked chicken meat
- 568g frozen chopped spinach, thawed and drained
- 4g chopped fresh parsley
- 25g grated Parmesan cheese for topping

1. Preheat oven to 350°F (175°C). Bring a large pot of lightly salted water to a boil. Cook lasagna noodles in boiling water for 8 to 10 minutes. Drain, and rinse with cold water.
2. Melt the butter in a large saucepan over medium heat. Cook the onion and garlic in the butter until tender, stirring frequently. Stir in the flour and salt, and simmer until bubbly. Mix in the broth and milk, and boil, stirring constantly, for 1 minute. Stir in 2 cups mozzarella cheese and ¼ cup Parmesan cheese. Season with the basil, oregano, and ground black pepper. Remove from heat, and set aside.
3. Spread ⅓ of the sauce mixture in the bottom of a 9x13 inch baking dish. Layer with ⅓ of the noodles, the ricotta, and the chicken. Arrange ⅓ of the noodles over the chicken, and layer with ⅓ of the sauce mixture, spinach, and the remaining 2 cups mozzarella cheese and ½ cup Parmesan cheese. Arrange remaining noodles over cheese, and spread remaining sauce evenly over noodles. Sprinkle with parsley and ¼ cup Parmesan cheese.
4. Bake 35 to 40 minutes in the preheated oven.

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Mr McFall's Chamber

THIS SATURDAY, November 8th, Mr McFall's Chamber will be performing their intensely exciting music in the current Music Society concert at Brodick Hall, 7.30pm. They have been described as 'Scotland's most versatile musical ensemble', and to add to the treat for Arran, they are bringing with them the singer Valentina Montoya Martínez. Valentina and her family were refugees from the military coup in Chile in 1973, and some of her deeply moving songs reflect this experience. In *La Partida* she tells the story of her arrival in dank London as a young girl. *Sola* celebrates an activist who represented the disappeared in Argentina and who was prominent in anti-Pinochet campaigning. Valentina will also sing a number of other classic tango songs.

No mention of tango is complete without mention of Astor Piazzolla, the brilliant Argentine musician who revolutionised the tango tradition. The group will play some of his best known works — including *Soledad* and *Adios Nonino*. There will also be piano pieces by his fellow Argentine Carlos Guastavino. Closer to home is a recent work written for Mr McFall's Chamber by the British composer Gavin Bryars — his *The*

Church Closest to the Sea, is named after the church in St Monans, Fife.

Another British composer is the guitarist Robert Fripp, whose progressive rock band King Crimson recorded *The Sheltering Sky* for the album *Discipline* in 1981. On Saturday the group play their own version of this number using electric violin and also include a characteristically catchy tune from Raymond Scott, whom they describe as 'a band leader and general genius' from the swing era.

Mr McFall's Chamber comprises the following impressive list:

Valentina Montoya Martínez — vocals

Greg Lawson — 1st violin

Robert McFall — 2nd violin

Brian Schiele — viola

Su-a Lee — cello

Rick Standley — double bass

Graeme McNaught — piano

Iain Sandilands — percussion

Please note our earlier start time of 7.30pm.

Spring flowers planted at Shiskine surgery

Garden Club grows floral medicine

MEMBERS OF THE Arran Garden Club helped put the finishing touches to the new Shiskine surgery last week by planting 2,000 spring bulbs in the practice grounds. The group had planned to undertake the planting the weekend before, but heavy rain and wind delayed the task. 'We planned it so the first ones should come through in January and it should keep flowering all the way through to May,' said Derek Jarvill who headed up a small team including his wife Joanne and John Delaney. 'It's getting towards the end of the planting time, but we managed to plant 35 different varieties of bulbs, 14 daffodil varieties, as well as crocuses, tulips, irises and many more.'

Derek explained that patients visiting the previous surgery house at the Grassies' house were cheered by the bright flowers in the garden. The new surgery has some well-crafted shrub borders, but Derek was keen to brighten them up with some



floral colours. 'I think we all need a lift at that time of year,' he said. 'January can be a bit blue and some spring flowers help to lift the spirits.' The bulbs were donated by the Arran Garden Club.

News from the Blues



THE ISLAND has quietened down significantly in the past couple of weeks and the police have reported very few incidents.

There was a car crash on the String last Saturday at approximately 4pm. Police and ambulance were in attendance. Fortunately the driver suffered only minor physical injuries. Only one car was involved in the incident.



All Welcome

Scottish Episcopal Church

(in full communion with the Church of England)

St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.

Sunday, 9th November: Holy Communion, 11.00 am. Mrs Janis Gallagher. Coffee after service.

Wednesday, 12th November:

Holy Communion, 12.15pm.

All Welcome.

Church of Scotland

Kilmory linked with Lamlash

"A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"

Sunday 9th November

Rev. Gillean Maclean

Kilmory 10am

Lamlash 11.30am

In both churches — the Two Minute Silence will be observed during the service

In Lamlash — the church will be open on Tuesday 11 November from 10.45am until 11.15am.

All welcome

Arran Free Church of Scotland

9th November 2008

Shiskine, 11am,

Sunday School meets in the Church Hall 12pm, Act of Remembrance,

Shiskine War Memorial

Brodick, 7pm (Church is behind Post Office)

Rev David Karoon

All Welcome, Tel:860426

Arran Baptist Church

Sunday 9th November in the Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick.

10.45 Communion, Tea and coffee from 11.10

Everyone welcome

Arran Free Church of Scotland

(continuing)

Communion Weekend, Sat.9th November,7pm,

Preparatory Service, Redburn, Brodick, Sun.10th,

11am, Trust Housing Lounge,

Glen Estate, Brodick

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be dispensed at the close of morning worship.

Evening Service,7pm, 5 Glen Road,

Thanksgiving Service, Monday 11th,7pm.

Rev G Craig,
Prayer Meeting, Wed.13th, 7pm, Rev D Macleod,
All welcome

Church of Scotland,

Parishes of North Arran; Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza, Pirnmill and Shiskine Independent but working together.

Minister Rev. Angus Adamson, Parish Assistant, Mrs Jean Hunter

Worship will be conducted at the following times:

Sunday 9th November

Remembrance Day Service at

Brodick Cenotaph 10.15am

Brodick Church, 10.30am

Remembrance Day Service at Corrie War

Memorial 12 noon

Corrie Church, following

Remembrance Day Service.

Remembrance Day Service at Pirnmill War

Memorial 10am

Pirnmill 10.15am

Remembrance Day Service at Shiskine War

Memorial 12 noon

Shiskine Church, following

Remembrance Day Service

A service of worship will also be held at Montrose

House at 1.30pm

Holy Cross Catholic Church

Sunday Morning

Mass 11am

Whiting Bay and Kildonan Church

Sunday 9th November 2008

Worship for Remembrance Sunday will be conducted by the minister, Rev Elizabeth Watson, beginning at the War Memorial at 10.55am

(N.B. change of time)

when the wreath will be laid at

the War Memorial and the two

minute silence will be observed

and then there will be a shortened

service in the Church immediately afterwards.

The Young People will go straight

to the Hall to begin their

usual activities at 10.55am.

There will be a retiring offering in aid of

the Earl Haig Fund.

All welcome.

Tea and coffee will be served

in the Transept after the service.

There will be a service of

Remembrance in the

Arran War Memorial Hospital at 1.30pm to which

all are welcome.

Arran Churches Together

Taizé: there will be Taizé worship on

Thursday, 6th November, at 8.00pm in St

Margaret's Episcopal Church, Whiting Bay.

ALL WELCOME.

Weekly Prize Crossword

One Crossword — two sets of answers!




ARRAN AROMATICS

Compiled by The Wee Scanner

Win an Arran Aromatics gift box worth £30 this week
 You have until Tuesday, 18 November 2008 to send in your completed cryptic crossword.
 This week's crossword sponsored by Arran Aromatics, Tel: 01770 302595, Website: www.arranaromatics.com. Winners are asked to contact the shop before collecting their prize.
 Answers to Issue 81's crossword can be found on page 19.

1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8
9						10								
11				12								13		
14										15		16		
														17
	18									19				
20														
23		24		25										
26														
28														

Sponsored by


Cryptic Clues

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>Across</p> <p>1 Car controls dart panel (9)
 6 Clean swim (5)
 9 Medicine panel around hospital recess (5)
 10 Ten years once nothing, showing moral decline (9)
 11 A lute tailor concocted a vegetable stew (11)
 13 Dine on mixed tea (3)
 14 Criticise error (5)
 15 Notion contained in vivid earthquake (4)
 18 Alcoholics Anonymous surround French if continent (4)
 19 Expiate a shade (5)
 23 Foreign Office British tag (3)
 25 Confused, I escaped page ten projector (11)
 26 Down bird (5,4)
 27 Small pancakes initially baked lightly in Neapolitan ice (5)
 28 Female English north lustre (5)
 29 Cite green dynamic (9)</p> | <p>Down</p> <p>1 Fund far note scurf (8)
 2 Secures at pruning shears (9)
 3 Honey producer gathering (3)
 4 Heat a road of us (6)
 5 Compliant hand out round 101 (6)
 6 Birds start with 24 down (11)
 7 Edgy time (5)
 8 Matches first women round no trump (6)
 12 Four faced solid figure (11)
 16 Cool geist environmental scientist (9)
 17 Clear ice contorted edible root (8)
 20 Not before Scots dessert (6)
 21 Water down princess instrument (6)
 22 Mercurial Eastern film remake (6)
 24 Move sprout backwards for example (5)
 27 Editor leaves 24 down to annoy (3)</p> |
|--|---|

Quick Clues — just for fun!

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>Across</p> <p>1 Legend (9)
 6 Irritate (5)
 9 Waterway (5)
 10 Australian flier (9)
 11 Thinks again (11)
 13 Stray (3)
 14 Ruth's mother in law (5)
 15 Every (4)
 18 Arran or Mull (4)
 19 Deduce (5)
 23 6 Across (3)
 25 Venus or Mercury (7,4)
 26 Junction (9)
 27 Areas (5)
 28 Reddish brown (5)
 29 Language of South Africa (9)</p> | <p>Down</p> <p>1 Pasta (8)
 2 Determined (9)
 3 Nocturnal bird (3)
 4 Released, temporarily (2,4)
 5 Gaped (6)
 6 Baptism (11)
 7 Not dead (5)
 8 Bear (6)
 12 Without a sound (11)
 16 Eating place (9)
 17 Parts of seats (8)
 20 Trouser straps (6)
 21 City of two gentlemen (6)
 22 Ash (6)
 24 28 across (5)
 27 Noah's boat (3)</p> |
|---|---|

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, with the word "Crossword - Issue 83" in the subject line.

Name:

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Issue 81 Crossword Answers

Cryptic Answers

Across: 1 High And Mighty; 9 Blanket; 10 Inexact; 11 Tudor; 12 Uncrowned; 14 Twinge; 16 Travel; 18 Calved; 19 Salmon; 23 Albatross; 25 Elves; 27 Minibus; 28 Archive; 30 Overindulgent.

Down: 1 Habitat; 2 Gland; 3 Ask; 4 Detour; 5 Idiocy; 6 Haemorrhage; 7 Yearn; 8 Citadel; 12 Regrettable; 15 Ill; 17 Vim; 18 Crammer; 20 Nascent; 21 Bonsai; 22 Island; 24 Bongo; 26 Voice; 29 Col.

Quick Answers

Across: 1 Prevarication; 9 Baffled; 10 Shelves; 11 Runic; 13 Admiralty; 14 Yellow; 16 Cattle; 18 Jagger; 19 Temper; 23 Guarantee; 25 Syrup; 27 Latrine; 28 Effaced; 30 Needless To Say.

Down: 1 Puberty; 2 Elfin; 3 All; 4 Indian; 5 Assume; 6 Icebreakers; 7 Novel; 8 Restyle; 12 Cooperative; 15 Lug; 17 Top; 18 Juggler; 20 Rapidly; 21 Atweel; 22 Aeneas; 24 Anton; 26 Races; 29 Fat.

Winner of Issue 81 Crossword:

Congratulations to **Gordon Smillie** — *Lochwinnoch* who wins the gift voucher this week.

Issue 82 Sudoku & Kakuro Solutions

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

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

	23	37		4	17			
13	6	7		9	1	8	3	38
12	8	4	8	22	3	9	2	8
12	9	2	1	9	17	7	1	2
	25	9	7	1	8	6	5	1
8	16	7	1	8	21	8	9	1
	8	7	1	8	21	8	9	1
23	9	8	6	13	9	7	9	3
	13	6	2	4	1	5	4	1
			17	9	8	16	7	9

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 to find new Sudoku puzzles everyday!

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

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

On this day...

- 1528 Shipwrecked Spanish conquistador Alvar Núñez Cabeza de Vaca becomes the first known European to set foot in Texas.
- 1913 Mohandas Gandhi is arrested while leading a march of Indian miners in South Africa.
- 1944 Plutonium is first produced at the Hanford Atomic Facility, subsequently used in the Fat Man Atomic bomb dropped on Nagasaki, Japan.
- 1999 Australians vote to keep the British monarch as their head of state in the Australian republic referendum.

Star Birthdays

- 1861 James Naismith, Canadian inventor of basketball
- 1946 Sally Field, American actress
- 1947 Jim Rosenthal, English sports presenter
- 1949 Nigel Havers, English actor
- 1970 Ethan Hawke, American actor
- 1973 Nell McAndrew, British model

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.

	17	30					10	12	16
11						12			
			3			20			
19									
	9					5			
	3					24		35	10
9									
			29						
			30						
29								11	
							5		
							7		
	6	10							4
28							11		
9								9	



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**Ye auld eejit!
 Ye said yer
 home-made
 fireworks
 were safe...**



Balloons flying soon



REHEARSALS FOR *Balloons* are getting to the hectic but exciting stage, with costumes being put together, scenery being built and painted, and music ringing through the High School corridors, together with irreverent giggles. Our photos show the zany *Balloons* Experience team getting to grips with a song and dance number, and their leader, played by Sarah Cooke, pausing for a well-earned tea-break. The heavy men of the OFPIS outfit (Office of Privatised Island Services) are at their most ominous, and the islanders are getting seriously annoyed, while Stuart Gough and Alan McNichol confer over a musical question with Diana Hamilton at the piano.

The show opens next Wednesday, November 12th, at the Community Theatre in the High School, and runs for four nights. Tickets are on sale at the Book and Card Centre, and they are numbered, so if you want good seats, don't leave it too late.



It's a Car's Lot

A COUPLE OF hard frosts and some unexpectedly early snow indicate that winter is on its way. Now is the time to check up on a couple of practical points around your car (if the police haven't already done that for you!).

Times change, and whether it's better road surfaces or better tyres, at least you no longer need to look out the snow-chains to fit over your wheels for the skate down Brodick hill. Following recent legislation on tyre requirements in Germany, some tyre manufacturers have begun to offer specialised tyres for summer or winter in Britain, with an eye to developing new markets here. This is why you may now see your usual tyres described as 'summer tyres'. Don't worry, these tyres are adequate for wet and dry roads all year round — but simply would not meet the German definition of a tyre appropriate for snow or ice. We do not expect the prolonged periods of sub-zero temperatures and roads covered in compacted snow that winter tyres are designed to cope with, but Arran residents in the more outlying areas may want to consider the 'all-weather' tyres which use a low temperature rubber for improved flexibility in the cold and a tread pattern with additional traction. These tyres are identified by images of a snow-flake or snow topped mountain and a symbol of the sun on the sidewalls. Or you may just choose to take the tractor out instead!

If you're not going for new tyres then take the time to check the tread depth as part of an autumn review of your car. For most cars the legal requirement is a minimum of 1.6mm in a continuous band throughout the central three-quarters of the tread width, throughout the whole of the circumference. Remember, the only parts of your car touching the road at any time are four patches of rubber each the size of your hand, so it's well worth checking this on a regular basis. Also check for sidewall damage or other signs of wear at the same time.

Topping up antifreeze in your radiator and in the screen wash reservoir is a good idea right now, too. Check that you have a shovel in the boot, and perhaps a blanket or extra coat, spare wellies and a torch (with fresh batteries). It is all too easy to think, "I'm just nipping out in the car ..." — but what if it breaks down and you have to trudge up the road in search of a phone signal, or phone box?



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55,000 Miles

'05-54 Vauxhall Astra Estate
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79,000 Miles

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43,000 Miles

05-52 Ford Fusion 1.6
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3 Door, Black/Gold, 66,000 Miles

'02 Renault Megane Fidji
Green, 43,000 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

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4 Door, Black (Diesel)

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

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Golf Results

Arran Golfers Association Sunday 2nd November, Winter League 2008-09, 1st round, Machrie Bay Golf Club

A glorious sunny calm day saw the start of this year's winter league at Machrie. First off were the host club against Corrie. Machrie fielded a young team while Corrie went for experience over youth. The young guns came out on top with Machrie winning comfortably by the score of 4 matches to 0. Second off were Shiskine and Brodick, a much closer tussle this time with Brodick coming out on top by 2 and a half games to Shiskine's one and a half. Last off were Lamlash and Whiting Bay. With so many friendlies against each other the result is never certain. A close match was expected and that was what we got, Lamlash just edging the Bay by 2 and a half matches to 1 and a half.

Thanks to Machrie for the splendid condition of the course and the lovely soup and rolls in the tearoom afterwards. Next up for the league is at Whiting Bay on December 7th.

Fixtures:

Corrie Hotel Cup 2008, Corrie Golf Club, Saturday 15th November 2008
Draw for the Corrie Hotel Cup is as follows:

Brodick B v Lochranza B, 10:00am
Shiskine B v Brodick A, 10:10am
Shiskine A v Lamlash A, 10:20am
Whiting Bay A v Corrie A, 10:30am
Lamlash B v Machrie A, 10:40am
Lochranza A v Machrie B, 10:50am
Corrie B v Whiting Bay B, 11:00am

Arran Grouse Foursomes (REARRANGED 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 Brodick 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 Brodick B, 11:48am

Brodick Golf Club

Sunday 2nd November, Sweep, 16 played, CSS 67

1st L. Keir (10) 67
2nd C. Pattenden (11) 67
3rd R. McGunnigle (11) 69
Scratch L. Keir 77

There were 3 twos, Bert McGunnigle, John Beattie, and Lindsay Keir. On a beautiful Autumn day, perfect for golf, no excuses for the poor scores (including 10 no returns). With a CSS of 67, the round becomes a non-counter for handicaps.

Machrie Bay Golf Club Tuesday 28th October, Winter Cup, played from the yellow tees

1st Drew Crawford 65
2nd Marc Blair 66
3rd Elizabeth Ross 70
Scratch, Marc Blair 76

Saturday 1st November, Lochranza Hotel Cup

1st Marc Blair 36pts B/L/6
2nd David Price 36 pts BIH
3rd Alastair MacDonald 36
Scratch, Alan Jeffrey 72

Fixtures:

Tuesday 11th November, Winter Cup
12pm tee-off

Shiskine Golf Club Thursday 30th October, Ladies 12-hole Medal

1st Fiona Crawford 47-6 41
2nd Fiona Scott 62-14 48
3rd Viv parks 64-14 50 (bih)
Best Scratch, Fiona Crawford 47

Whiting Bay Golf Club Saturday 1st November, 8 played in the monthly mixed fours.

The winners over the 15 hole course were Jean Davidson and John Pennycott with a score of 54, narrowly beating Margaret Auld and Ian Davidson on the 'better inward half.'

On Sunday 2nd November the gents were pipped by 2.5 points to 1.5 points by Lamlash in the first Winter League fixture at Machrie. The next round is at Whiting Bay on 7th December.

Fixtures:

Sunday 9th November, Winter Cup Round 2.
Saturday 15th November, Corrie Hotel Cup at Corrie.
Sunday 16th November, Friendly with Lamlash at Lamlash Golf Club

Golfers tee-off for Children in Need

Poor golf? It's all the more for charity!

By Jo Hastings

ON SUNDAY 2nd November, golfers from around Arran joined in the Lamlash Golf Club 'Children in Need' charity competition. The weather was more than kind and almost 20 people took part. Everyone was prepared to pay 5p per net stroke in order to raise money for Pudsey. So whenever a simple putt was missed or a drive went a bit wayward at least Pudsey was happy, if not the golfer!

As a result of these efforts we sent £118.90 off to Terry Wogan (who mentioned this on his show on Tuesday 4th November). Many thanks to all who took part, also to those who could not take part on the day but who still made a contribution, and to the organisers, Jackie Winship and Grace Wallbank. The results of the competition are below:

1st Jim Stewart 62 (now the proud owner of Pudsey Bear)
2nd Sheena Murchie 63 (bih)
3rd Jo Hastings

Arran tough it out at Strathaven

ARRAN RFC travelled to Whiteshawgate last weekend for a tricky fixture away to Strathaven and were narrowly beaten 17-8. By the end of a closely-fought first half, the score was 5-5 and Arran took the lead early in the second period through a penalty kick. But Strathaven hit back with a converted try to edge ahead again before a last minute try widened the scoreline. Arran are now sitting in fifth position in the league, nine points behind 4th placed Strathaven, but with two games in hand. Arran's next fixture is an away match against Cowal on 15th November.

Other match results from West League Division 2 (1st November):

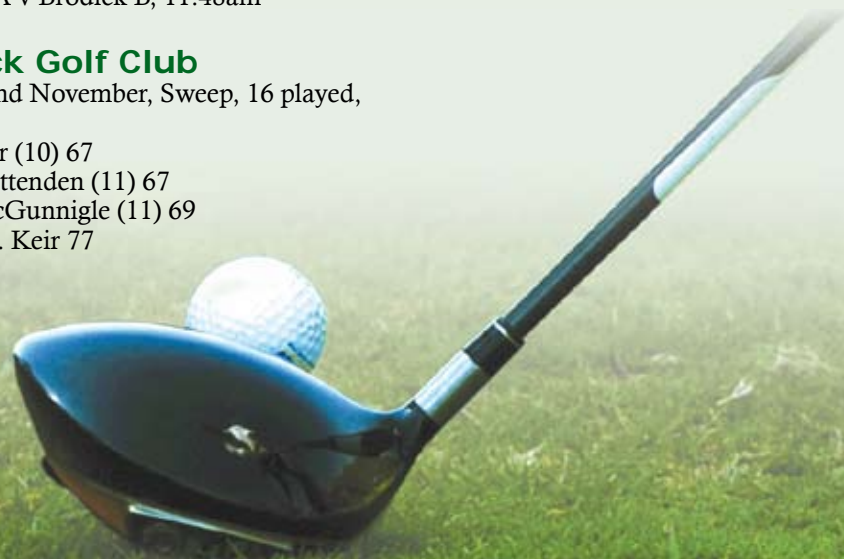
Moffat 28 — 5 Hughsden
Carrick 56 — 3 Braidholm
Cowal — McLaren (postponed)
Paisley 25 — 12 Millbrae



Jim Stewart won himself a new golfing partner



Arran RFC lose out to Strathaven



Riders enjoy sunny Sunday

By Dawn Murchie

CAIRNHOUSE WINTER POINTS competition got under way a week later than planned last Sunday at the stables in Blackwaterfoot. The right decision to postpone the first show of the season had been rewarded with a glorious day and a good turn out of riders and spectators. There were thrills and a good few spills with the Duster Badges changing hands no less than nine times, a record breaker — however, nothing else broken, which is a relief!

Twenty four riders were taking part and fifteen of them were forward for the Wobblers. It wasn't until our fourth rider that we had our first double clear round in Ella Maun riding Storm. Seven went clear in the first class with nine making it round unscathed in round two, however, just the following six were double clear for three points on the leader board: Ella, Erin Boal, Amie Latona, Taylor Smith, and Hannah Bone. The fastest double clear was Shannon MacAlister riding Rosie in a very fast time of 34.62 secs. to secure the five points on offer.

Eighteen were entered in the Novice class and half of them went clear in round one to go into a jump off against the clock over the shortened course. Nicola MacAlister was drawn in first, riding Taylor's Bingham's Pageboy. They had a good clear on a time of 32.44 secs. Megan MacAlister was in next and made an incredible couple of turns to finish clear on 24.06 secs. which was to prove unbeatable with her own Ally. The remainder of the riders had a good crack at chasing Megan's time but the only one to come close was Nicola Currie riding Dolly. Clear in 26.47 secs, she had to settle for the blue rosette and second place.

1st Megan MacAlister; Ally
2nd Nicola Currie, Dolly
3rd Nicola MacAlister, Bingham's Pageboy
4th Amie Latona, Merlin
5th Shannon MacAlister, Rosie
6th Ella Maun, Storm

Twelve were up for the first of the Challenge Classes with the Mini Challenge where the 100 fence was a maximum of 2' 3". Amy Downard

was first to go, riding Malakye and they set off at a good old speed returning with a brilliant top score of 390 which was to prove the winner. Jennifer Gilmour was in next and she brought Bob home with a good score of 305. Nicola and Dolly went a place better with a score of 315 which was to give them fifth place. Megan was on form with Ally and they had a real go at catching Amy's score, however were just short and had to be happy in second place with a score of 365. Nicola wasn't too far away with Bing and collected the yellow rosette with a score of 355.

1st Amy Downard, Malakye
2nd Megan, Ally
3rd Nicola, Bing
4th Amie Merlin
5th Nicola Dolly
6th Jennifer, Bob

Class 5 was the Clear round with only the following three earning themselves three points for returning a clear; Jennifer, Bob, Amy, Malakye and Lynn Ramage, Katie.

The final class of the day as always is the Cairnhouse Challenge where the 100 fence is now at 3' 3". Jennifer was drawn in first and sailed over the 100 along with six other fences to finish on what was to be the winning score of 250. Nicola was the only other rider to tackle the big fence and paid the price when she was unseated in spectacular style, however, finished on 170 which was good enough to collect third place. Hollie Adamson, home from Oatridge for the weekend, partnered up with old pal Merlin for this class and whizzed round in their usual way to collect second place with a score of 200.

1st Jennifer, Bob
2nd Hollie, Merlin
3rd Nicola, Dolly
4th Amy, Malakye
5th Amie, Merlin
6th Megan, Ally

The next winter points will be Sunday 23rd November (weather permitting).



Arran juniors scalp Clydebank

Continued from back page



Matt Evans on his way to scoring the first of his hatrick of tries. Inset: Robbie Bain was unlucky not to score with a few mazy runs

THE GAME WAS far from over and Clydebank showed good reserve by pulling two tries back through the efforts of Jack Fraser and Jamie Wilson. Jamie, who has previously played for the Scottish Rugby League under-14s team, powered beyond the Arran defence to reduce the scoreline to 22-10.

HATRICK TRY

But Arran dug deep and when the home side earned a free kick deep in Clydebank's 22, big-hitter Andrew Earle was on standby to punch a gap through the visitors' backline for another converted score. It wasn't to be the last. Matt Evans added to his try tally with two further scores, one a breakaway run down the right wing and the other a piece of quick thinking, as he chipped to behind Clydebank's defence and performed a lightning chase-down, drubber kicking to the try zone and diving for his hatrick. His conversion took the

final score to 41-10.

It was the first match under new coach Gerard Tattersfield, who said he was pleased to see the team compete so well. With both teams playing red, referee Chris Marriott had his work cut out for him, but the game was played in fine sporting spirit. 'Most of the tries were team efforts,' said Gerard. 'It was great to see the training paying off with a win.'

The junior team will take on Cartha Queens Park this Sunday at Ormidale Park. Come and support them!

ARRAN'S WINNING SQUAD

Robbie Bain, Iain Bain, Matt Evans, Cieran McAllister, Emmet McMaster, Finlay Sillars, Ryan Boal, Liam Boal, Charlie Boal, Andrew Earle, Stuart McMaster, Sean Higgins, Jack Barbour, Rob Taylor, Sam Tattersfield, Ewan Bulger, Babs MacNeill, Donald McEachern, Paddy Taylor, Neil Hunter.



BRIDGE CLUB



Brodick Bridge Club Results —
October 30th

Brodick Bridge Results
3rd November 2008

Match Points

1st H. Boyd & L. Paul 59.94%
2nd T. Martin & D. Hamilton 58.01%
3rd A. Bilsland & E. Duncan 57.37%

N/S

1st P. Adamson & E. McConnell +2180
2nd J. & J. Beattie +1540
3rd T. Martin & H. Boyd +1430

E/W

1st E. McKellar & I. McArthur +1320
2nd M. McGill & C. Bone +540
3rd E. Paul & E. McNiven +530





ARRAN JUNIORS SCALP CLYDEBANK

THE ARRAN JUNIOR rugby team secured their first win of the new league season last weekend, seeing off a sturdy Clydebank team at Ormidale Park by 41-10. It was a brilliant bounce back after their 60-0 defeat against Argyll in Oban last month and the squad demonstrated good teamwork to win the match, sponsored this week by Stevie McGovern.

GOOD START

The scoring opened soon after the starting whistle when Jack Barbour horsed down the left wing following a good passing move. His diving try beside the corner flag set up a tough conversion and Sam Tattersfield's kick whistled just wide of the post.

Any concerns that this was a one-off breakaway score were allayed as Arran settled down to contest the game well in the middle of the park. Clydebank threatened with some heavy forward attack play as their big front row Liam Conlan battered a few yards up the field on occasion, but Arran's defence held strong with some solid tackling. The work-rate of Arran's Neil Hunter would eventually earn him the player of the match. There were also some good moments of individual flair such as Donald McEachern and Robbie Bain's angled running that ripped through the Clydebank defence, but Arran were at their strongest when playing tight support play.

SUPPORT PLAY PAYS OFF

Some good off-loading eventually paid off when Liam Boal drove his way down the right wing and set up the ruck only for his brother Ryan to pick up and charge over the tryline on the 19 minute mark. 10-0 after another tricky conversion was narrowly missed. Matt Evans added to the score cushion before half time when his pacey run finished off a flowing move by the Arran backs. 15-0.

With roll-on, roll-off substitutes, the Arran squad adapted well to changes in the field and early in the second half they extended their lead, when a good run from Jack Barbour was tackled brilliantly by the Clydebank boys. The ball was shifted wide quickly by Charlie Boal and eventually found the hands of Robert Taylor, who raced through the centre of the park between the posts for Matt Evans to convert. 22-0.

Continued on page 23



Babbies MacNeill takes on the Clydebank defence

Pool league — week 1

Drift Inn go top ... already!

THE ARRAN POOL league got off to a flyer last week, as the Drift — we don't take it seriously — Inn beat the Cammy in an early showdown between the two league heavyweights. The Drift looked as if they might be cruising to an almost embarrassing winning scoreline, but the Cameronia salvaged some pride to close it out at 9-3, by drawing the doubles and winning the Gallon round too. Craig Black earned points for the Copperwheat Cue Challenge by executing the 'granny of the week' — hoovering up in his match against Euan Murchie.

Meanwhile, Bar Eden showed rock solid form against the Kildonan Hotel by winning 8-4 and snatching the gallon from last year's

gallusgallon finalists. The scoreline at Catacol masked a well-fought encounter as the home side fought back into contention after slumping early to Corrie (not real contenders surely) Hotel in the singles matches. They were also extremely unlucky not to win the gallon round, after a good recovery pot from Neil Burger was finished with a neat, fine-cut finish from captain Euan McKinnon.

Lamlash new guns PHT played host to the deep south in a close meeting, which ended in the points being shared. But P.T. 1934 signalled their firm intention to win the gallon this year and Eddie Picken has vowed to give the Drift a good game in tonight's league matches. Full pool reports next week.

And Finally ...

LOST IN TRANSLATION

Welsh-speaking lorry drivers were scratching their heads when a bilingual sign went up forbidding heavy vehicles from entering a residential site near a Swansea supermarket. Not that they wanted to enter it — the problem was purely one of linguistic logic. They were quite happy with the English instruction that told them, **No entry for heavy goods vehicles. Residential site only.** The Welsh language translation, however, seemed

curiously irrelevant. It read, **Nid wyf yn swyddfa ar hyn o bryd. Anfonwch unrhyw waith i'w gyfieithu** — which, as you will immediately realise, says, **I am not in the office at the moment. Send any work to be translated.**

Who was responsible for this curious interpretation? Swansea City Council, who had sent the notice to its translation department then unsuspectingly had the response made up into a large official road sign. Politically correct, yes. Practical? No.

Oh, there's stupid, see.