

Colaiste Árainn Mhor by Proinsias Mac a' Bhaird

Bunaíodh Colaiste Árainn Mhoir beagnach 40 bliain ó shin agus on am sin ar aghaidh ta scolairí ag teacht 'un an oileán gach samhradh chun barr feabhais a chur ar a gcuid Gaeilge. Is cuis athais é do fhorhthor mhuintir an oileáin na scolairí a fheiceail ag teacht - comhartha go bhfuil an samhradh ar an bhealach (ce go ndéireann roinnt daoine go dtugann siad an drochaimsir leo). Beidh beocht arís san áit on 23 Meitheamh nuair a thagann breis agus 200 scolairí, cinnirí agus muinteoirí isteach go hÁrainn. Beidh na ceilithe ag toiseacht gan ro-mhoill agus beidh cairde nua ag aos og an oileáin. Ní bhíonn morán trioblóide ag baint leis na scolairí de ghnáth agus reitíonn foireann an cholaiste agus muintir an oileáin go maith lena chéile. Beidh muid go leir ag suil le buailleadh lenár seanchairde arís an mhí seo chugainn.

Over 200 students, cinnirí and teachers will be arriving in Arran on 23 June. We're looking forward to meeting old friends, speaking a bit of Gaeilge and enjoying the ceilis and craic.

At a Glance

- 75 islanders and the Arranmore pipe band travelled to Burtonport for a parish mass on Sunday 21st May.
- The salmon season will start on Thursday 1st June until Tuesday 25 July 2000. Boats are limited to 1,500 yards of net and can fish daylight hours within the six mile limit between Monday and Thursday of each week.
- The island craft shop is open every Saturday from 10.30 am to 4pm with plans to open daily during the Summer months. All crafts welcome.
- Arranmore Youth Club held a excellent night of entertainment to a full house in the island community centre last month. The evening consisted of short sketches, Irish Dancing, Traditional Music and singing.
- Leaving Certificate and 6 Junior Certificate students from the island will sit their exams from the 7th June 2000. Best of luck to all.
- The ferry times will change from 1st June - The last ferry will leave at 7pm from Burtonport and 7.30 pm from Arranmore. For a complete list of ferry times visit <http://www.arainnmhor.com/ferryboat.html>
- Congratulations to Nellie "Annie" and Danny Mor O'Donnell who had their 50th wedding anniversary on Saturday 27th May 2000.
- Congratulations to the 5 islanders made their First Holy Communion on Sunday 28th May. Keyla Early, Aoife Boyle, Aine Rodgers, Dean McGowan, Seanie Gallagher.
- Congratulations to the island ferry boat skipper Frank "Julia" Boyle who received a bronze badge for his long service in the Burtonport RNLI fund raising committee.
- Arranmore has had a spell of unseasonably hot weather for the past number of weeks, long may it continue.
- The Transition year students at Gairmscoil MhicDiamada (Secondary School) held an exhibition of the various projects they completed throughout the year on Friday 25th May.
- Francis McCauley recently returned from this year's Raphee Youth Pilgrimage trip to Lourdes where he acted as a helper at the Shrine and hospital for 5 days. The trip was sponsored by his class at Gairmscoil MhicDiamada who raised the funds locally.

Issue #2

Nuacht Árainn Mhór

May, 2000

Calendar of Events

- 2nd June 2000** - Opening of Brú Árainn Mhór, Hostel Accommodation
- 5th June 2000** - Sponsored walk of Arranmore Island in aid of Rehab.
- 23 June 2000** - Colaiste Árainn Mhor students arrive for Irish Language courses.
- 30th June 2000** - Arranmore Links Dance, Glasgow, Scotland.
- 30th July 2000** - RNLI fund raising Regatta.
- 2nd August 2000** - Inis Caorach Reunion, Inis Caorach Island
- 18-20th August 2000** - Clann Inisfríe Millennium Celebrations, Inisfríe Island
- 9th September 2000** - Arranmore Picnic, Chicago, IL, USA
- October 1-14th 2000, Beaver Island, MI, USA** - Twinning ceremony for Arranmore Island and Beaver Island will take place on Beaver Island.

Irish Dancers

by Aine Bonner

Two Arranmore girls did the island proud on Easter Sunday last when they competed in the Irish Dancing World Championships in Belfast's Waterfront Hotel. Fourteen year old, Emma Muldowney come twentieth in her group and Carrie O'Brien, 20, from Manchester danced her way to second place. Carrie's mother is a Gaughan from the island.

Both girls trained extremely hard for the event and danced well on the day. They also kept the island entertained over the Easter holidays by demonstrating their talents in some of the pubs. Warmest congratulations go out to the girls. Riverdance, eat your heart out!!!

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Island Recycling Initiative

The island recently took delivery of four recycling bins which are situated at the Co-Op building. Everybody now has the opportunity to recycle a large proportion of their household waste if the recycling bins and the compost bins provided last year are utilised. There is a bin for clear glass, brown glass, green glass and drinks cans. Please avail of this very worthwhile service.

Clann Inshfree Millennium Celebrations

A weekend of special events - Faighte, Mass and Ecumenical Service, History, Music, Poetry, Dancing, Crafts, Island Literature, Story Telling, Nature Walks, Boat trips, Fishing, A Taste of the Past: baking in a pot-oven, day in the bog, wrinkle picking, Irish Language etc will take place on Inshfree Island, Co. Donegal from Friday 18th-Sunday 20th August 2000. In addition, a Millennium "Celebration of Light" will be held where Inshfree will be connected to the national electricity grid for the first time.

Friday 18th August 2000: Clann Inshfree Grand Millennium Banquet, Ostan na Rossan, Dungloe
Saturday 19th August 2000: Island Celebrations
Sunday 20th August 2000: Millennium Commemorations

Please send names, island connection and fee to: Margaret Duffy, Inshfree, Burtonport, Co. Donegal, Ireland. Telephone: 075-22450. Other contact numbers:

Ireland: Kay Molloy: 075-42223
Scotland: Nan Duffy-Currid 00441702 713097
England: Elaine Cull 0044 141 423 5534
Wales: James G O'Donnell 0044 163 3601489
America: Patrick Campbell 001 201 433 1550
Jane Duffy 001 609 2940597

Proceeds to cover expenses. Details will be issued. Fees: Life Membership fee IR£15 Family £25. It is hoped to have a photo album for each island home (visual and written history). Please collect old photos, history, genealogy, memories, music etc. These will be copied and kept on show in the island. In the absence of a Community Hall, a Marquee will be erected. Friends welcome.

Development Committee Meetings

The island Development Committee is inviting various interest groups to hold a meeting in order to draw up a list of requirements which would benefit themselves & the island community. The following is a rough guide to the various groups which could be formed: accommodation, builders, education farmers, fishermen, medical, public-transport, publican's, general public, any other..... It will be up to the individual groups to call a meeting and then meet with the development committee to discuss their findings. This two level system will allow the committee to get a better idea of the requirements of the islanders and enable them to present them to the relevant bodies. Any questions can be addressed to the committee.

Internet address:
www.ainnmmhor.com/development.html
e-mail: development@ainnmmhor.com
FAX: 075-20127

Arranmore Island e-mail addresses

A free web-based e-mail service which can be accessed from an internet connected computer anywhere in the world is now available through the Arranmore web site (<http://www.ainnmmhor.com>). The e-mails have an @ainnmmhor.com address e.g. johnboyle@ainnmmhor.com. The names are allocated on a first come basis so it is advisable to reserve yours now.

Glasgow Dance by Sharon Traynor

Arranmore Links Glasgow will hold their Summer dance at Patrick Thistle Football Club on Friday, 30/06/00 starting 8.00pm - 1.00am. All welcome. Tickets £5. Contact John Gallagher on 0141 562 4541, or Teesie Ward on 0141 556 3445.

Get Well Soon

Connie "Cook" O'Donnell who was in Manoframilton hospital, Co. Donegal. Duncan McWilliam who spent a brief spell in Letterkenny
Charlie "Gogach" Rodgers who underwent hip surgery in Letterkenny Hospital
Noel "Mary Lizzy" Gallagher who had his appendix removed in Letterkenny
John "Beaty" O'Donnell who is in Beaumont Hospital, Dublin
Roshia Coll who is recovering at home from a short illness
Sissie "Tom" O'Donnell who is in hospital in Letterkenny

Multi-million pound investment in Donegal Gaeltacht and Islands announced by Minister Eamon Ó Cuiv.

Eámon Ó Cuiv, T.D., Minister for the Gaeltacht and the Islands, on his visit to Donegal on 25 February 2000, said that he believed that the lack of infrastructure had traditionally been a cause of great deprivation in the Gaeltacht and the Islands. He had discussions with Donegal County Council in relation to the Work Programmes for the year 2000. This programme includes:

1. £300,000 co-funded equally between the Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands and Donegal County Council for small works on Islands. A further £100,000 is being provided for minor works which will be exclusively funded by the Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands.
2. The provision of £168,620 fully funded by the Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands, for "bóithre aise". These are non-county roads, and the intention is to provide an adequate road to each household in the Gaeltacht.
3. £125,000 co-funded between the Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands, and Donegal County Council has been approved for village renewal schemes.
4. The Minister said that he had

discussions with the County Council regarding the upgrading of strategic roads into the Gaeltacht areas. A programme is being prepared and an announcement will be made in relation to this matter in the near future. Minister Ó Cuiv said that he would be providing significant funding on a 100% basis for this work.

5. The Minister also said that the County Council has informed him that progress had been made in relation to the development of plans in relation to strategic piers. Funding of up to £500,000 per pier will be provided for the development of these piers. A decision will be made on the first of these in the very near future.
6. In relation to major projects on Islands, Minister Ó Cuiv said that work had progressed very rapidly on Leath Garbh Pier on Arranmore on a major development of the ferry pier there. The work on the major development of Tory Island pier is due to be completed this year. The ESB have confirmed that they hope to complete the installation of electricity on Inshfree and Inshbolin Islands by the end of September. Minister Ó Cuiv also said that he hoped that major progress would be made this year on the provision of an airstrip for Tory Island. This represents a £10m investment in total in Island infrastructure.
7. Minister Ó Cuiv announced that £160,000 would be spent this year on further small pier works. For the first time this year this programme is being funded 75% by the Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands and 25% by Donegal County Council.

For more information contact the Arranmore Island Development Committee.

Arranmore Grants Breakdown

The following grants have been recently awarded for Arranmore:
IR£100,000 - Coastal Protection wall at Leab Garbh between Phil Ban's and the Gairmscoil.
IR£25,000 - Repair and widening of road at Chapel Strand.
IR£35,000 - Repair of Road to Poll a' Mhadadh pier
IR£5,000 - Repair of steps and sea wall at Poll a' Mhadadh pier
IR£30,000 - Repair of county road at Aphort
IR£22,200 - Improvement of signage on the Island
IR£2,000 - Improvement of non-Council road at Ullinn Upper (S. O Cnaimhsí)
IR£44,000 - Repair of non-Council road from Screig to the Lighthouse Road
Total Amount: IR£213,200
Other islands received the following:
Tory IR£57,800
Inshbolin IR£50,000
Gola IR£44,000
Inshfree £35,000