

# Refurbished Hostel Opens

Congratulations to Suzanne & Paul Mulvey on their newly refurbished Arranmore Hostel (Brú Árainn Mhór) which opened on the 2nd June 2000. It is a family run hostel not 200 meters from the ferry pier overlooking Leabogarrow strand. The building is a traditional two storey house which has recently been renovated and extended. In days past, the building was a post office and a family home. Up to thirty two visitors can stay in Brú Árainn Mhór and it is open year round.

## Hostel Facilities

- Open 24 Hours, Year Round - No Curfew
- Family Rooms and Double ensuite rooms available
- Hot Showers
- Self-Catering Facilities
- Central Heating
- Laundry Facilities
- Spacious Common Areas
- TV and Video Room
- Adjacent Payphone
- Fax Service
- Tourist Information
- Towel Hire



Brú Árainn Mhór

## Proprietors: Paul & Suzanne Mulvey

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**E-mail:** [hostel@arrainmhor.com](mailto:hostel@arrainmhor.com)

## Births

Congratulations to:  
 Michael & Collette Traynor on the birth of their daughter Erin on the 20th May 2000, Denis & Elaine Gallagher (Arranmore) on the birth of their son Liam Gallagher on the 4th August 2000, Hannah Marie & Martin Gallagher (Dungloe) on the birth of their baby son, Niall John, on the 4th of September, Sinead & Stephen Boyle (London) on the birth of their baby daughter Shannon Boyle, Bernie & Phil Green (Arranmore) on the birth of their baby son Brandon, Carol & Ross (Lantry) McMillan (Yorkshire, England) on the birth of their baby boy Adam, Angela Lamy & John McCauley/Marjorie & Paddy "Tom" O'Donnell (Alaska, USA) on the birth of their baby girls in October

## A Little Bit of Sport by Sadie Bonner

Our main topic on the island, sportwise, would be our own football club, Arranmore United. The club was established in 1987 when we entered a team in the Donegal League for the first time. The club was very successful in those years, going from division three champions in 1987/88, to division two champions in 1988/89 and division one runners-up in 1989/90. Also in 1989/90 they won the F.A.I. Junior Cup, beating the favourites, Ardara. In the latter years emigration has robbed us of a lot of our players. However, despite all the difficulties, we still manage to field a team and are still up and running.

At the present time we are in "C.T. Ball" Division Two. We have been relegated for the past two seasons, but hopefully next year we can make our way back up into Division One. The club is in the process of building a team at the moment with some very young players coming through for the past couple of years. It takes time to regroup and hopefully they will learn from the experience of older players (I am tempted here to name a few of these older players!)

At the time of writing we have won 2 games, drew 2 and lost 2. Not bad at all. Training for the team can be quite difficult, at most there are only four or five players at home, others being either away at college or working in various places. The pitch at Rannagh Park is in good shape, and with the stand, dressing room with showers, new railing and dugouts, we are up there amongst the top teams. It is quite expensive to run a club on an island because of the travelling involved, which is why we need the continued support of the community as in past years.

Sport can play a major part in the development of our youth in today's world. There is nothing like sport to challenge young peoples abilities, or provide the opportunity to participate and respect fellow team members and opponents. To have self-discipline, be a good loser and respect your opponent, develops character in people, gives them pride and good sportsmanship, all of which are great strengths.

**Deaths** - Condolences to the families of the following islanders who died during the Summer:  
 Cruithar, "Frank Cruithar" Bonner (58), Enliar, Mary "Keedy" Boyle, Australia, Rosh Coll (85), Illion, Rosie McHugh (68), Fallagowan, Sissie Tom O'Donnell, Josie "Mary Anne" Boyle  
**Marriages** - Helen Marie Boyle, Denis "Joss" O'Donnell & Grace McHugh  
**Engagements** - Congratulations to: Thomas Costello & Evelyn Langan, Tina Bonner & Noel Gallagher, Hughie Kavanagh & Donna Boyle  
**Get Well Soon** - John Beatty O'Donnell, Neil Gallagher (NT Leap, School), Charlie Moir Rodgers

## Issue #3

# Nuacht Árainn Mhór

June-Sept., 2000

## Back.....

Arranmore Island Nuacht is back after a busy Summer. Pictures will be added to the printed and internet versions of the newsletter for a trial period, the e-mail version will continue to be sent in plain text. Any material to be included in the newsletter should be sent to Nuacht Árainn Mhór, Arrainn Mhór, Co. Dhun na nGall, Eire or e-mailed to [newsletter@arrainmhor.com](mailto:newsletter@arrainmhor.com).

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## Jenny Mulvey

Jenny Mulvey who spent time on the island as a National Teacher at Aphort school and who supervised the hostel through its refurbishment has left to take up a teaching post in Cavan. She will be missed by the students of Aphort school and by the many friends she made on the island.

## Donegal Women's Network by Kathleen Brady

Women here, women there, Women, women everywhere. Busy taking care of all, Especially here in Donegal.

And then one day there came some news. Would women meet and air their views? They met - the Women's Network came, Life would never be the same!

Coffee mornings, evening classes, Painting stones and painting glasses. Dressmaking and icing cakes, Painting scenes of hills and lakes.

Bewildered husbands scratched their heads. "Decoupage? What's that?" they said. "Wait and see", replied their wives, The Network's brightened up our lives.

No tired, bored wives around the houses, But bright and attractive to their spouses. The Women's Network transformed all, We'll keep it here in Donegal.

FREE - Please Take One

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# Arranmore Lifeboat News

by Nora Flanagan

Arranmore's new Severn class lifeboat was officially christened on 13th May with a big splash. Over 500 people attended the naming ceremony which took place at the Boatouse. Guests from Scotland, England and Wales, along with crew members from most of the lifeboat stations in Ireland joined with the Arranmore crew to help celebrate the special occasion on the island. The ceremony began with the Arranmore Pipe Band playing the National Anthem. Tony Gallagher, acting Honorary Secretary, then welcomed all the guests and introduced Mr Murray Campbell executor of the will of Myrtle Maud Campbell. Mr Campbell expressed his delight in having the privilege of officially handing over the boat to the station and said that, coincidentally, he and his wife had paid a visit to the island 18 years ago, never thinking that he would be returning to perform an important and pleasant duty on behalf of a client, whom at the time he hadn't even met. He continued to give a brief history of Myrtle Maud, after whom the boat is named. Myrtle Maud was a very beautiful young socialite born in England who represented her country in the Olympic Games in Germany. She had a short lived first marriage which lasted only a few years. She remarried a R.A.F. officer with whom she lived very happily until his death. Unfortunately there were no children from either marriage and as they both had a great interest in the sea they decided to leave their not inconsiderable fortune to the R.N.L.I., a deed for which the Institution and the people around the coast which the lifeboat serves are eternally grateful.

The service of dedication was conducted by Rev. Gordon Freeman, Ardara and Fr. Martin Doohan c.c. Arranmore, this was followed by the vote of thanks, proposed by Mrs Winnie McCauley, treasurer of the Fund raising Branch. Mr and Mrs Campbell were presented with a crystal vase, donated by Michael Bond from Donegal Crystal and bouquet of flowers, respectively. The presentations were made by members of the family of the late Neil Byrne and Nora Rodgers, wife of the late Joe Rodgers. Neil and Joe were both medal holders from services on previous lifeboats stationed on Arranmore. Mr Chris Price H.Q. R.N.L.I. Pool then presented long service awards to John O'Donnell (former mechanic), Francis Bonner (former coxswain) and Tony Gallagher (former Honorary Secretary) for services with the Arranmore Lifeboat. A function was later held in Early's Bar which was attended by a large number of crew, family and friends.

Other news: £4500 was raised by the Rosses Fundraising Branch of the R.N.L.I in a Monster Quiz held during the Mary from Dungloe Festival.

## V.E.C. Adult Education Classes

Evening classes in:-

- Basic Irish
- Yoga
- Drama
- Aromatherapy
- Basic Car Mechanics
- Colour Me Beautiful
- Marital Arts
- Sewing
- Woodwork
- Homoeopathy

Basic Photography & Video classes will begin over the coming weeks. Classes are open to all adults over 18 years of age. For more information contact: Pauline Cornack at 075-20747.

## Public Internet Access

Arranmore Island Development Committee in association with Darryn & Noreen Martin and Circle Networks have installed a public access internet kiosk in the Islands Post Office. The kiosk consists of a computer housed in a steel casing connected to the internet via a high speed line (SDN). Access to a wide range of services is via a 17" touch screen and keyboard. Use of the internet or e-mail/videoemail is charged at IR£1 for 10 minutes while shopping at Circle Networks retail partner sites is free. Retail partners include hotel groups, transport companies, semi-state bodies and local authorities. Another facility is the ability to record a video greeting and attach it to an e-mail which can be sent to friends or relations with an e-mail address.



**Facilities:**  
**Internet Browsing/Searching**  
**e-mail**  
**Video Mail**  
**Online Shopping**  
**Online Banking**

## Recipe Corner

by Sadie Bonner

Here is a simple recipe you might like to try for Halloween, or even as a Sunday tea-time treat.

### Tea Brack

#### Ingredients:

- 9 ozs. Plain Flower sieved together with 1/2 level teaspoon Bread Soda
- 1 lb. Mixed Dried Fruit
- 6 oz. Brown Sugar
- 12 Tablespoons (approx... 6 fluid ozs.) Strong Tea
- 1 Egg, lightly beaten
- 1 oz. Margarine, melted

#### Method:

Place the tea, fruit and sugar in a bowl. Cover and leave to stand overnight.  
 Next day stir in the egg and melted margarine and fold in the sieved flour and baking powder.  
 Line a 2 lb. loaf tin and pour in the prepared cake mixture.  
 Bake in a preheated oven, Gas Mark 4/350F/180C, on the middle shelf for approx. 1 1/2 hours.  
 Leave in the tin for about 10 mins., turn out, remove lining and leave to cool.

#### At a glance.....

1. The reunion planned for Iris Caorach on 2nd August has been reluctantly called off. Another reunion will hopefully be scheduled for another date.
2. Congratulations to the island Leaving Certificate Students who finished school this Summer.
3. Francis Bonner has taken over from Tony Gallagher as Honorary Secretary for the Arranmore Lifeboat.

## Development News

**Island Committee** - Following representations made to Donegal County Council at a meeting in Burtonport on the 4th July 2000, a second place on the Islands' Council was secured by Arranmore Island Development Committee. Prior to this, the population of the individual islands was not considered with both Inishboffin (population 6) and Arranmore (population 600) having a single vote.

At a subsequent meeting of the Development Committee, Seamus Bonner was elected to represent the development committee for a period of twelve months. Tony "The Post" Gallagher is Arranmore's other representative on the Island Council.

The Islands Committee is comprised of members from each of Donegal's offshore islands as well as engineers and elected council members and is responsible for identifying and funding of projects which will benefit the individual islands. The Islands Committee meets every few months to discuss issues relating to work by the County Council on the islands. Any queries, requests or problems should be brought to the attention of Seamus Bonner or Tony Gallagher who can bring them up at the next meeting which is to be held on Arranmore on the 6th of November.

The following is a projects list from the Arranmore Island Development Committee for 2001:

#### Flagship Project:

- Leisure Centre

#### Small Projects

- **Footpaths** - footpaths in built up areas e.g. around shops/pubs also approach road to St. Crone's Chapel on Ballintra Road.
- **Traffic Management Measures at the Ferry pier** - provision of no parking/clearway/double yellow lines, direction signs/arked arrivals & departures areas, widening/removal of bottle-neck on access ramp to the slipway.
- **Road Repairs** - from the main Leabhrannagh road to Aphort Pier and additional lighting on Aphort Slipway.
- **Irish Language Only Signage** - information, place name & road signs.
- **Playground** - An outdoor children's playground.
- **Library Service** - the provision of a regular library service on the island which could involve the stocking of an existing building on the island or regular (at least monthly) visits by the County's mobile library.

- **Safety Barriers** - at a number of locations on the island e.g. the School Brae, O'Donnell's Bar, Ballintra Bridge.
- **Litter Bins** - provision of proper, covered "urban" litter bins which are emptied regularly.
- **Life Saving Equipment** - examination and replacement of all broken/worn life saving equipment at beaches/piers.

**Josie & Donnelly** - There was widespread anger at the decision by Donegal County Council to lay off Anthony "Donnelly" O'Donnell and Josie Early and replace them with workers from the mainland. Although both were temporary workers, there was sufficient funds to keep them employed for an additional month to six weeks. The Development Committee have contacted a number of local representatives as well as the County Council and have been assured that this will not happen again. It is hoped that the Council will employ as many local labourers as possible when carrying out projects on the island.

**Coastal Protection** - Work is continuing on coastal protection works at Leabgarrow and Chapel strand. Both beaches are being protected by large granite boulders removed from the mountain area of the island. These will break up waves during storms and will prevent erosion which has been a problem over the years.



Breakwater at Chapel Strand

**Ferry Pier** - McDaid construction has won the tender for the completion of work to an extension of the ferry pier. Work has been held up for the past year with a concrete deck for the breakwater, a retaining wall and widening of the slipway still to be carried out. Work on the pier has yet to commence.