



## Sun shines as Mull keeps games spirit going

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# WELL DONE, TEAM OBAN

Fundraisers notch up 931 miles and £10,000 for Pancreatic Cancer UK

by Kathie Griffiths  
kgriffiths@obantimes.co.uk

People from as far away as Australia and Norway joined this year's Team Oban 24-hour walkathon, raising more than £10,000 for Pancreatic Cancer UK.

In total, the top team notched up an incredible 931 miles for the Big Step Forward on July 16 and 17, more

than doubling their target. This was Team Oban's second year taking up the virtual UK-wide challenge that saw 123 people, aged between two and 72, walk legs of the Gallanach loop keeping a safe social distance. Adding to their steps, there were 47 other people who joined them from locations such as Ben Cruachan, Edinburgh, Crieff, Aviemore, Arran, North Uist, Farnham, Northumberland,

Stonehenge, Manchester, Sussex, Tromsø in Norway and Melbourne in Australia.

Team Oban also had the support of the 37th Argyll Scout Group, where Connel man Adrian Beard was cub leader and Group Scout leader until his pancreatic cancer diagnosis forced him to retire.

It was Adrian's good friend Finlo Cottier who organised the first Team

Oban last year, taking on the virtual walk for Pancreatic Cancer UK (PCUK) and bringing 81 people together raising £6,500. Finlo's mum Linda passed away from the disease in 2014.

Adrian, 50, was diagnosed with stage 1 pancreatic cancer in May 2020, five years after his own mum Sue died from the same cancer.

After six gruelling rounds of

Continued on page 2.

## Family on Mull cut off by tide

A family cut off by the tide during a coastal walk on Mull were evacuated by lifeboat on Sunday.

The group had been on the Carsaig to Lochbuie route when they were caught out by the incoming tide, said rescuers. The decision was made to evacuate and return them to Carsaig, officials reported. Those involved in the rescue have now reiterated the importance of checking tide times when going on coastal walks.

A Craignure Coastguard Rescue Team spokesperson said: 'Please, please check tide times before heading out to the coast.'

The alarm was raised by the maritime rescue co-ordination centre at Stornoway on Lewis.

Three different crews responded - Craignure Coastguard with colleagues from the Ross of Mull team and Oban RNLI. A spokesperson for Craignure Coastguard said: 'Once all were onboard and the lifeboat had departed for Carsaig where the Ross of Mull team were waiting, the Craignure team started the long walk back to the rendezvous point.'



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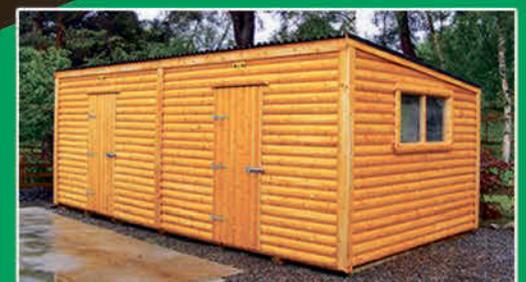
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Just some of the fundraisers from the Oban area who took part in this year's Big Step Forward.



# Team Oban takes Big Step Forward for cancer charity



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Continued from page 1.

chemotherapy, Adrian underwent an 11-hour operation to remove his pancreas and spleen, and as a result became diabetic overnight, he says the support he has received throughout from PCUK has been 'incredible'.

Despite more chemo, Adrian has since been told his cancer has spread to his liver but he is living positively.

Adrian was at this year's event with his beard dyed the charity's purple. PCUK's head of Scotland Dawn Crosby and Finlo kicked off the walk, starting their lap to Wings played by the Corps Band of the Royal Engineers - Adrian served 24 years with the Corp during his British Army career.

PCUK supports patients and their loved ones as well as funding life-saving research. Money from the Big Step Forward will go towards delivering projects into desperately needed new treatments and earlier diagnosis. The walk was also about raising awareness of how tough the disease is to beat.

Finlo said: 'When we first decided to have a 24-hour Walkathon last year we had a target of £500. A year on and we have exceeded £10,000 for PCUK - but more signif-



icantly we connected with each other. There was a huge amount of support for Adrian and his family and we were reminded of what a special community we are all a part of.'

Adrian said: 'This year I set my fundraising target at £5,000 and thought that it would be tough to reach, little did I know that it would be doubled! Last year I shared my diagnosis to my friends and family on Facebook and have had an outpouring of love and support, both locally and globally over the intervening period, it has been truly uplifting.'

'This event was all about connecting people, being positive and supportive to each other. At the end of the day all that matters is the relationships that we have, so it was amazing to see even more people come together for this event. It was once again a truly amazing, inspirational and memorable day.'

More than £120 was also donated on the day of the walk by people passing by Team Oban's base camp, near Oban Sailing Club.

Nationally, PCUK broke

through its original fundraising target of £180,000 to more than £200,000.

Dawn said: 'We were delighted that Team Oban took on The Big Step Forward for a second year and I was privileged to join Finlo on the first leg to kick the 24-hour relay off. We were amazed when they smashed their initial target, and then went on to more than double it! The incredible amount raised will support researchers to speed up diagnosis and improve treatments. We would like to thank them all for helping us take strides against this devastating disease.'

'We had a further 150 walkers in Team Scotland taking on The Big Step Forward this year. By walking together, we can create change to save lives.'

Around 850 people are diagnosed with pancreatic cancer every year in Scotland. Pancreatic cancer has the lowest survival of all of the 20 most common cancers in the UK, with just seven per cent of people living for five years after diagnosis. Despite the disease's appallingly low survival statistics, which have remained unchanged for 50 years, pancreatic cancer receives only three per cent of the annual UK cancer research budget.

You can still donate to Team Oban by visiting this web page: <https://bit.ly/3rjyNdN>

## POLICE FILES

### Men arrested at Ganavan

Police were called to a disturbance at 11.30pm on Friday July 23 at Ganavan Sands, Oban.

Two men, aged 36 and 31, were arrested at the scene and were subsequently charged with abusive behaviour and possession of an offensive weapon. A report has been submitted to the procurator fiscal.

### Teenagers facing drugs charges

Two teenagers were found in possession of cannabis in the early hours of Friday July 23 in Oban.

A 17-year-old male was stopped and searched by police and allegedly found in possession of cannabis about 1.30am on Friday July 23 in Soroba Road, Oban.

## CONTACTUS

email us at [editor@obantimes.co.uk](mailto:editor@obantimes.co.uk)  
telephone 01631 568000

Half an hour later, on the same road, a 15-year-old male was stopped and searched by police and allegedly found in possession of cannabis. Both were charged with the offence of possession of a controlled substance and referred to the Early & Effective Intervention scheme which deals with youth offending.

### Abusive behaviour

A 31-year-old man was arrested for allegedly behaving in an abusive manner at 7.30pm on Friday July 23 in Argyll Square, Oban.

The man was charged and issued with a recorded police warning.

### Arrested after breath test

About 12.15am on Saturday July 24, on Market Street, Oban, a 41-year-old woman was found by police in a parked vehicle after it had been reported being driving erratically.

The woman allegedly provided a positive breath test and was arrested. A report has been submitted to the procurator fiscal.

# Men's Shed at helm of Mary Jane restoration

Funding is helping float a Men's Shed project to restore a 90-year-old clinker boat and get her back on the water.

A grant of £1,965 from Argyll and Bute Council's Supporting Communities Fund means the Mary Jane, built by McQueens of Easdale, will make it to sea once again.

Registered in World War Two as a small craft, the Mary Jane is now in the hands of Oban Men's Shed who are happy to be bringing a little piece of maritime history back to life.

To help them achieve it, the project is on the look out for anyone with boatbuilding experience, retired boat workers or joiners, to come along and share their knowledge.

'We hope to encourage people to help and share their knowledge and experience to bring the Mary Jane back to



Oban's Men's Shed's John McAllister and Colin Turtle with the Mary Jane.

life. We thank Argyll and Bute Council for their support with a project grant,' said Colin Turtle.

Oban Men's Shed, part of a growing network of groups, is based in Stevenson Street and

is also open to women. It offers people the chance to meet up and get hands-on with creative and recreational activities.

It is believed originally Mary Jane was a rowing boat before being converted to a dipping

lug in the 1970s, then converted in the 80s to have a mast and rig. 'There's also a place at the stern for a small engine. It's a seagull engine and we believe we still have that as well and will try to get that restored too,' said Mr Turtle.

At about 15ft long, Mary Jane's restoration will have to be carried out on a driveway under a temporary covering or gazebo to keep her as she will not fit in through the Men's Shed doors. 'If someone's got a garage space we could use that would be good but we'd need it for quite a while. When she was first built on Easdale, she had to be carried into the water by villagers who turned the launching into a local event. We hope to keep as much of the original as possible so she will become a living piece of history,' added Mr Turtle.

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# Mull's Highland fling



Mull has made a good shot at keeping the Highland Games spirit alive and kicking on the island.

Instead of the official games being totally wiped off the calendar by Covid for another year, organisers put on an alternative event, reduced it in size and called it Mull & Islands Highland Gathering.

Mull man James Campbell, left, was one of the competitors in the heavy section of the games that took place on Thursday July 22 in sizzling sunshine.

See next week for full story and more photographs.

Left: James Campbell gets ready to throw the stone in the heavy class at this year's gathering. Photograph: Alan Harris.



World champion stand-up paddle-boarder Cal Major at Wee Ganavan with Jeanette Sheldrick and Victoria King, who were part of Hope Kitchen's swimming group.

# Stand up for world record-holding paddle-boarder, Cal

by Kathie Griffiths  
kgriffiths@obantimes.co.uk

World record stand-up paddle-boarder Cal Major came ashore in Oban to encourage more people to love the ocean and protect it.

The adventurer from Devon is paddle-boarding and diving around Scotland but stopped off to reconnect more people with nature and raise funds for her charity Seaful.

Ocean advocate Cal is on a mission to get people excited about their blue spaces and last week took a break from her paddle-boarding schedule to meet up with a group of newbie sea swimmers from Hope Kitchen at Wee Ganavan and join their weekly dip.

'They are an amazing bunch of women. It's been so lovely meeting so many awesome local people,' said Cal, who is also a trained vet.

With Basking Shark Scotland, the TV and film presenter, who travels the world, invited community supporters Catriona Petit from Hope Kitchen and Jeanette Sheldrick from the Salvation Army to join her on a boat from Coll to wildlife watch and explore a kelp forest.

It took Cal two months to get from Glasgow, where the United Nation's Climate Change COP 26 talks will be held later this



Cal Major interviews Hope Kitchen's Catriona Petit for a documentary about reconnecting people with the ocean.

year, to just below Stonehaven on the East Coast.

'There's two fold reasons for this expedition, the first is raising money for Seaful to connect people to the ocean who would not otherwise have the opportunity. The second reason is to explore our human connection to the oceans and the important connection it plays in all of our lives, also looking at how vital it is in the current climate and bio-diversity crisis which is why we started from this site of COP 26 where talks are going to be held in November,' said Cal, whose partner James Appleton is kayaking the journey with her and filming it for a documentary they hope will tempt the BBC. Crinan to Craignure

was a voyage Cal conquered on the West Coast part of her adventure and after the Oban stop she was heading straight back to the east of Scotland to head out to sea again with ground support from her good friend and Seaful co-founder Lorna Evans and family.

Cal's expeditions are mounting: in 2017 she paddled unsupported and solo around the Isle of Skye as part of her Paddle Against Plastic campaign, and the following year made it from Land's End to John O'Groats with her Vitamin Sea film documenting the 1,000-mile world record SUP expedition.

To find out more about Seaful's work go to seaful.org.uk



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# Salmon farm row after secret filming

by Ellis Butcher  
ebutcher@obantimes.co.uk

Scottish Salmon Watch (SSW) has filed welfare complaints with a trio of organisations after capturing what it called 'shocking' secret footage of 'lice-infested and dead salmon'.

Anti-fish farm campaigner Don Staniford, a director of SSW, said the photographs and videos were secretly filmed at four Mowi-run farms across Argyll and Bute – two in Shuna Sound and two in the Sound of Jura – over the weekend of July 16-17.

However, in a robust response running to more than 500 words, Mowi suggested they were 'isolated examples' and were not 'representative' of the health of fish raised at its farms.

But Mr Staniford, with support from Scottish charity Animal Concern and Friends of Loch Creran, said the footage showed fish with serious eye, head, snout and fin damage.

Mowi said 'tracking and

tending' to injured fish was difficult due to the size of the pens as the fish tended to flee when attempts were made to remove them.

Mr Staniford has lodged a complaint with the Animal and Plant Health Agency, the Scottish Government and Police Scotland's wildlife crime unit.

He called for the farms' RSPCA Assured certification to be rescinded 'immediately'.

RSPCA Assured said: 'We are concerned by some of the images that have been shared with us. As soon as they were brought to our attention, we immediately launched an investigation into those farms we understand are featured. These investigations are ongoing.'

'Animal welfare is our absolute priority and the focus of our assurance scheme, therefore any complaints are always taken very seriously and thoroughly looked into as standard practice.'

Police Scotland have also been contacted for comment.

Mowi said 'similar allegations' were filed in March

and also triggered an investigation by the RSCPA along with physical inspections by RSPCA Assured auditors, with 'no evidence' found to support the claims made.

Mowi said: 'As is the case with all types of farming, there will unfortunately be times when individual animals are in distress, and these isolated

day and don't like to see even one animal suffer.'

'Our experienced farmers are supported by fish health experts and veterinarians that help to ensure animal welfare is attended to every day, and these results are inspected by professional third-party organisations.'

Mowi also released an image

**'We are concerned by some of the images that have been shared with us...we immediately launched an investigation into the farms we understand are featured. These are ongoing.'**

examples can be understandably concerning to the public as well as the farmer.

'Farmers and veterinarians will do whatever they can to treat animals under their care, or, when circumstances require it, may have to choose to humanely euthanise the animal.'

Ben Hadfield, chief operating officer of Mowi Scotland, added: 'We care very much for the welfare of our salmon, every

of a fish it said was taken from one of its farms on the same date.

But John Robins of the charity Animal Concern said in the Scottish Salmon Watch press release that the group had obtained evidence of 'severe suffering'.

Mr Robins said: 'Since the welfare of farmed fish was recognised in the Animal Health and Welfare (Scotland) Act 2006 I have been trying

unsuccessfully to have that legislation used to stop this suffering.'

And Maggie Brotherston of Friends of Loch Creran said 'secret filming' was vital to exposing welfare on salmon farms and praised the 'remarkable job of ground-truthing'.

Mr Staniford, called on the Scottish Government to 'immediately close down' the farms and for supermarkets to stop selling RSPCA Assured Scottish salmon.

Supermarket company Sainsbury's said: 'All our suppliers have to meet our high welfare standards and are regularly required to demonstrate this.'

'This includes site visits and regular health and data reviews to make sure they also comply with all rules and regulations.'

It said it had been in touch with Mowi and the company had shared the 'full context' of the images and footage.

A Scottish Government spokesperson said it received allegations of alleged breaches of the Animal Health and

Welfare (Scotland) Act 2006.

'The Scottish Government takes fish health and welfare seriously and the complaint has been discussed with the Animal Plant Health Agency (APHA) which is responsible for investigating allegations of poor animal welfare on farms.'

'The complaint has also been considered as a matter of urgency by officials within Marine Scotland's Fish Health Inspectorate (FHI) which has contacted the company to discuss the sites in question and investigate from a mortality, sea lice and disease perspective.'

'These investigations by FHI, which include considering sea lice information collected weekly from all sites, have concluded there are no obvious sea lice or mortality issues at a population level at any of the sites involved in the allegation and that appropriate measures are in place to control sea lice, remove mortalities and ensure adequate fish health management at the sites in question. The FHI is not responsible for investigating welfare complaints.'



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## Around Oban

KAY MCDONALD

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In last week's Oban Times there was a lovely piece about a cheery binman called Sean MacVicar who brought a smile to people's faces by being cheery and happy. BID4Oban had also been contacted by Ailsa MacKinnon who was so impressed by Sean bringing a smile to her daughters' face.

This has inspired us to recognise the people in our community who do so much to spread a little happiness and Sean will be the first recipient of the Making a Difference award.

We need the people of Oban to help with this and let us know who the people in our community are, that go that wee bit further to help or cheer people up, the ones that make your day a bit brighter.

Let's celebrate the good instead of concentrating on the bad for a change and say thank you to the positive influences who make life that bit better.

It's really easy to nominate someone, you can Message the LoveOban Facebook

## WHERE IS THIS?



page, email kay@bid4oban.co.uk or call the BID4Oban office on 01631 569915. All we need to know is who they are and what they do that makes them special.

I'm sure there are hundreds of people out there who go out of their way to add a little cheer to the town - we're lucky enough to be part of a very caring community and that deserves to be recognised, not just for the big things but for the little things too. I'm really looking forward to hearing from everyone.

The photograph last week was of the new ScotRail Highland Explorer Active Rail carriage when it came into town. This week's photograph is a bit different but you don't have to go very far to find the subject.

# Has Barcaldine's Suzie dug up treasure?

by Kathie Griffiths  
kgriffiths@obantimes.co.uk

Treasure hunter Suzie Collins is waiting for news on her latest exciting find.

The metal detectorist, who grew up on Seil but now lives in Barcaldine, is staying tight-lipped about exactly where she found what could be a Highlander's ring brooch from the 18th century, but has revealed it was a new site for her on hill land at a farm between Oban and Fort William.

The mystery piece is now in the Edinburgh Museum for safe keeping while it goes through the Treasure Trove process.

If it is valuable and declared as treasure, Suzie will be splitting her reward 50/50 with the landowner.

At first Suzie thought it was



**Metal detectorist Suzie Collins with her most exciting find ever - it could be a ring brooch from mediaeval times.**

mered coin was my first find and there is also a gaming dice, that I think could be Viking, but that's also still with the Treasure Trove. Covid has caused a bit of a backlog, so I don't know when I'll hear about either of them,' she added.

It was just over a decade ago when Suzie was given her first metal detector as a gift. She has upgraded since to a more superior model but still gets her fair share of ring pulls and disappointments.

Her adventures are charted on her own YouTube channel and news of her finds on social media has become so popular she even has her own sponsor - Unearthed UK metal detector suppliers. Her tagline is Suzie Detects UK.

Artefacts already uncovered by Suzie include countless coins, musket balls and a Victorian seal.

'People think they can just go off in search on any land with a detector but there are rules to follow. It's important to get the landowner's permission first. That's the first rule of metal detecting.

'If I could, I'd be out all day every day searching for new finds,' added Suzie.

Watch Suzie find the brooch ring by visiting Suzie Detects UK on Facebook and joining her page.

just an old penny but as she moved the mud off she spotted a sword at its centre and realised it was something out of the ordinary.

'I wasn't that gentle with it at first until I realised it was something more special, then I jumped in the car and took it straight home to contact the Treasure Trove.

'I haven't been able to find anything else quite like it online,' said the 39-year-old whose day job is a support worker.

'I think it could be a ring brooch used by a Highlander worn on his shoulder to hold his kilt up but until I hear back from the Treasure Trove I don't know the age or even what it's made of. I think it could be silver, it looks like bronze but silver can age that colour. If they want to keep it they will purchase it from me. It's an offer I can't refuse.

'It's definitely the best find I've ever had but I have my favourites. A Charles I ham-

## Cycle-friendly trains on right track

Oban expects a boom in cyclists following the introduction of a new 'active travel carriage' to services on the West Highland Line, writes Ellis Butcher.

ScotRail's Highland Explorer train has a dedicated space on its new Class 153 carriages to store 20 individual bikes, along with bulky hiking gear.

Running twice a day between the town and Glasgow Queen Street, hopes are high it will encourage people to leave their cars at home.

A special welcoming ceremony was held at Oban Railway Station last week attended by local dignitaries, members of North Argyll Cycle Club, and local piper Jamie MacGregor, who greeted the new train with a spirited skirl. Andrew Spence, chief executive of

BID4Oban Ltd, was joined at the event by town ambassadors Kay McDonald and Joe Reich.

Mr Spence said various partners had been involved for two years and to see the train arrive was a testament to the hard work that had gone in.

He said: 'This is the first carriage of its type in the UK and given the huge increase in cycling in recent years we are confident it will be well used.

'We have invested in mapping various routes in and around Oban that are aimed at all abilities. This enables our visitors to travel to Oban or other stations along the way and take advantage of some fantastic cycling experiences.'

Also welcoming the train were councillors Elaine Robertson, chairperson of the Oban, Lorne and the Isles

Area Committee, along with Kieron Green, Jim Lynch and Andrew Vennard. They were joined by Carron Tobin and Karen MacCorquodale, representing the Argyll and the Isles Tourism Cooperative (AITC).

Councillor Robertson said: 'The new service will not only make it easier for adventurers to store their equipment, it also supports climate friendly Argyll and Bute actions promoting sustainable travel. This new service is an important step forward.'

Watch The Oban Times' video from launch day: [youtu.be/yamfwj\\_Et5E](https://youtu.be/yamfwj_Et5E)

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# Business support, just the job

Let's get back to work! Whether you want to get a foot on the first step of the ladder, have been made redundant or are yearning to retrain, there is help available. The UK Government is working hand-in-hand with businesses to offer opportunities to young people. Here we focus on four schemes – for more information visit [gov.uk/planforjobs](https://www.gov.uk/planforjobs)

## Kickstart

■ **Available in England Scotland and Wales**  
For six months the UK Government funds businesses to provide a job for 16 to 24-year-olds on Universal Credit, who are at risk of becoming long-term unemployed. Funding covers: 100 per cent of the National Minimum Wage, National Insurance contributions and minimum automatic enrolment pension contributions.

## Apprenticeships

■ **Available in England only**  
Expand skills of people you already employ or create a new job for someone recently made redundant. Current apprenticeship incentives for employers are extended to September 30 and there is a flat payment for all ages of £3,000 for new starts from now until September 30.

## Traineeships

■ **Available in England only**  
Employers receive £1,000 per trainee for up to 10 trainees per nine regions for providing a work placement lasting a minimum of 70 hours. Allows businesses to help support young people into meaningful work and design a relevant training programme.

## T Levels

■ **Available in England only**  
These are work placements open to 16 to 19 year olds, designed to help those with entry-level skills, making sure they develop the knowledge, attitude and practical skills to succeed. There are £1,000 incentive payments for employers who host placements between now until 2022.

■ **All businesses should always check eligibility for each scheme.**

## Seaweed farm benefits from 'good young talent'

**Kickstart employees Courtney Mickley, 22, and Peter Coultas, 24, are helping SeaGrown, the UK's first offshore seaweed farming company, ride the crest of a wave. Co-director of the business, based on two ships, is**



**PROMOTED:** Courtney Mickley.

**Wave Crookes. "Courtney has been with us for three months and works in our café and bar. She's excellent with people and really good at the café/bar stuff – so much so that we have promoted her to shift supervisor already. We would never have come across Courtney any other way."**

**Courtney said: "Working at SeaGrown so far has been an amazing opportunity and experience." Peter, who lives with his partner Charlotte and their six-month-old daughter Charlotte, minutes from the ships, had**



**struggled to get a job before landing the Kickstart opportunity. He was made redundant from his car valet job as the pandemic first hit. "I have been doing general maintenance. "It is a nice job to wake**



**KELP HELP:** Peter Coultas with SeaGrown boss Wave, inset.

**up to, there is something different to do every day. It has boosted my confidence, I am better physically and mentally and love the people."**

**Wave urged other business bosses to get on board. "Take the leap, fill in the forms and give yourself access to really good young talent."**

## Boost for Rhyanne's retail career hopes

**In April Rhyanne was taken on as a Kickstart Scheme sales assistant at Furniture Works.**

**"Retail is the line of work I am interested in. I am learning customer**

**relations, product selling, stock control, overseeing deliveries, posting items for sale on Facebook, updating the website, and cash handling," said the 18 year-old. The support she gets from her boss Sarah Thornton, co-director of the company that owns the shop, also helps her overcome anxiety. Rhyanne works 25 hours a week at Furniture Works, part of Futureworks NY, a Community Interest Company founded in 2012. It is a not-for-profit organisation that helps**

**local learners from school age upwards, enabling them to acquire life skills, confidence, practical skills and some qualifications. "While we don't have sales targets, we encourage Rhyanne to build upon her skills portfolio," said Sarah. Rhyanne added: "One of the many benefits of the scheme is that I will have the skills I need to continue a career in retail."**



**IN THE WORKS:** Rhyanne with her boss Sarah Thornton.



**RETAIL DREAM:** Rhyanne Marshall.



# Supporting and creating jobs

Guidance and support is available at [gov.uk/planforjobs](https://www.gov.uk/planforjobs)

**All together** >

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# Crofter DJ pipes up to help with British legion fundraiser

by Kathie Griffiths  
kgriffiths@obantimes.co.uk

Seil crofter DJ MacDougall is picking up his pipes to raise £1,000 for charity.

DJ last played a note with Oban Pipe Band before Covid, so this fundraiser for the Easdale branch of Royal British Legion Scotland will warm him up, quite literally, for when band practise resumes.

He is taking on the challenge of marching, while playing the pipes, almost five miles from the Oban side of the Bridge Over The Atlantic down to the seafront at Ellenabeich.

Plans are for him to be accompanied by supporters, including the Easdale branch's standard bearer, on August 28, collecting donations along the road. A Justgiving page has also been set up at [www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/djpipesovertheatlantic](http://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/djpipesovertheatlantic)



djpipesovertheatlantic

DJ's piping challenge will be on the same day the branch

usually has its annual sale.

Ron Hetherington, who is chairman of the branch that

will be celebrating its centenary next year, said hopes are pinned on DJ to bring in

**DJ MacDougall is taking on a five-mile pipe march in aid of the RBL's Easdale branch**

£1,000 or more to help make up for the sale being cancelled due to Covid.

'It's been very difficult since Covid.

'We've not been able to hold the normal things we would've done.

'By now we would've had our book sale, been planning a summer dance and looking forward to the sale that we usually have on August 28, the day DJ is now doing his walk for us.

'It would be lovely to smash his £1,000 target. Normally our annual sale brings in between £1,200 and £1,500 on the day. That's a big chunk of money for us. On average we distribute roughly £5,000 a year to forces charities, which isn't bad for a very small branch like us,' he said.

DJ was just nine years old when he started playing the pipes. He was taught at Easdale

Primary School and his dad is also a piper, so he is keeping up a family tradition.

He was invited to be the official piper for the Easdale branch a couple of years ago and said: 'I gladly accepted. It's an absolute honour.'

Some of DJ's family in the past have also had links to the Royal British Legion Scotland.

DJ is hoping for dry conditions on the day of the walk, not too hot though 'but a wee bit of sunshine would be ideal,' he said. 'I'm not entirely sure how long it will take, maybe two hours. I need to do a bit of practise. It's an endurance challenge for sure but I'll keep going as far as I can, maybe with the odd pit stop but I'll definitely be playing as I cross the bridge and when I get to Easdale,' he added.

DJ might even be taking requests. 'Up-tempo ones preferably,' he said.

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\*You must be 18 or over to attend the event.

## Dalmally Show 2021 cancelled

A major event in Argyll's events calendar has been cancelled.

Dalmally Agricultural Show, which is organised by volunteers and has been going since at least 1920, had been due to take place at Mart Park on Saturday September 4. Officials said: 'The committee did not take this decision lightly but feel it was the right thing to do in light of the current circumstances surrounding the Covid pandemic.'

## Water leak report prompts callout

Retained firefighters in Oban were called out to Combie Street last Friday afternoon, July 23 following reports of a suspected water leak coming through one of the flats accessed down the passageway between two takeaway businesses. A fire service officer said the scene was checked over with no injuries to anyone. Police also attended the call-out which was close to the junction with Glencruitten Road.

# 'Hour-long queues' at Oban recycling centre

People are queuing up to an hour during busy times at the recycling centre in Oban, writes Ellis Butcher.

Resident Ian Reid recently went to the Moleigh Recycling Centre and said he faced a queue of 15 vehicles and a wait of 60 minutes while the skips were changed.

Mr Reid said it was not a criticism of staff, but policy, and believes change overs of containers needed to be better managed so as not to frustrate the public and put them off recycling.

The site is council-owned but operated by Renewi.

A spokesperson for Argyll and Bute Council said: 'On busy days, often when the weather is particularly good, skips can fill up quicker than normal.'

'Amenity sites then have to close so the skips can be emp-



tyed safely. We apologise to customers for delays, but site safety for staff and customers is paramount - whether operated by the council or our trusted contractor.'

Mr Reid said he acknowledge that safety was a prime concern but said on a recent Saturday the site was closed at the time it was scheduled to open.

He said: 'Skips were being

changed and domestic white goods were being repositioned. These operations took more than an hour and could have been carried out either before opening time or at times when visitor numbers were likely to be small.

'Four out of six of my recent visits have involved lengthy queues. We need guidance about likely busy times. We

There have been calls to change skips etc at times when the centre is likely to be less busy.

need to encourage, not discourage, the public to dispose of its waste appropriately.'

Renewi said that safety was its number one concern with a strict policy of ensuring that no members of the public were on site when its mobile plant was operating in areas that were usually accessible to the public.

It said: 'Our commitment to recycling for Oban's residents means that our receptacles sometimes fill up during the day and must be emptied, a process which takes about four minutes. During this short period we close the site to the public so that we can make sure they stay safe.'

'More recently, we have been

complying with Covid restrictions that require a maximum of four cars to unload at one time, in order to allow adequate social distancing.

'The combination of these safety policies has sometimes led to delays lasting 20-40 minutes. When these delays happen we make sure to apologise to all of those queuing and explain the reason for our policies.'

'We greatly appreciate the patience we have seen among Oban residents when faced with any delays, and we are sorry for any inconvenience that these safety procedures have caused.'

'We are endeavouring to reduce queues whilst maintaining the safety of all visitors. We recommend that residents consider visiting between Tuesday and Thursday when the facility is less busy.'

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OT

# Campaign against dog fouling launched

by Ellis Butcher  
ebutcher@obantimes.co.uk

Argyll and Bute Council's new anti-dog fouling campaign has been unveiled – but it's not as hard-hitting as recently discussed.

Councillors had agreed to pursue an anti-dog fouling campaign at an earlier meeting of the council's environment, development and infrastructure committee in June.

One option put before the committee then was a sinister-looking pair of eyes bearing a message that the authority would be 'watching' lazy dog owners who do not clear up after their pet.

That initiative was created by the Keep British Tidy organisation.

A report for last month's meeting said that the cost of pursuing this campaign would be £2,250 – enough for 40 posters – although it was not enough to provide one



to every community council across Argyll and Bute.

Instead, the #makeyourpuproud campaign is now set to run for four weeks across social media, with council staff and members of the public having shared photographs and ideas.

Community councils will be offered free posters to be put up in popular dog-walk-

ing areas to remind owners to clean up after their dogs.

Council leader Robin Currie, who represents Kintyre and the Islands for the Liberal Democrats, said: 'This is something I know most communities feel strongly about and we need to tackle it together.'

'Most people clean up after their dogs – we know this. We

need to remind the one in 10 that don't pick up that this just isn't acceptable.

'It is up to all of us to keep Argyll and Bute beautiful. What we want to do with our campaign is remind people of the social and health dangers that leaving dog mess behind can create.'

'I'm sure if more people considered the effect not picking

The new campaign by Argyll and Bute Council, Make Your Pup Proud

up after their dog has on others, they would be more considerate.'

Councillor Currie is also chairman of the environment, development and infrastructure committee and said at its meeting in June: 'It is disgusting – we do not accept humans urinating in public places; why should we put up with dog fouling?'

Other councillors at that meeting weighed in, with South Kintyre Conservative Councillor Donald Kelly saying: 'It is down to irresponsible people. We have been round the houses on this and it is not going to make any difference to them.'

'The only way around it is naming and shaming to ensure that the police, maybe

for a period of time, allocate some police hours to coach people through the correct process.'

Donald Cameron MSP, for the Highlands and Islands, backed the council campaign.

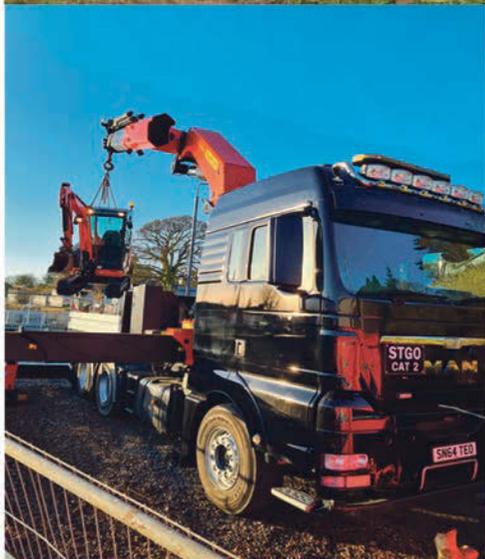
He said: 'All elected representatives know only too well how many people are understandably upset by the very small minority of dog-owners who don't seem to think they have an obligation to clear up after their pet.'

'And that's why I welcome this imaginative scheme by Argyll and Bute Council which I very much hope will lead to a sharp reduction in dog-fouling incidents.'

Councillor Alastair Redman (Kintyre and the Islands Ward) added: 'It's sad to say, but even here on Islay, dog mess can be a real problem, so let's all get behind the campaign and make our streets and footpaths more pleasant for everyone when we are out and about.'

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# WHAT'S ON @ CORRAN HALLS

liveArgyll continues to await guidance from the Scottish Government on when event and community venues can reopen but there are many acts ready to raise the roof at the Corran Halls, with provisional dates already in the diary.



Get the Queen experience, featuring Ian Adam as Freddie Mercury.



If it's all things Irish you like, then Ireland the Show! is the one for you. Join us for a night of well known ballads and singalongs, a string of hilarious stories and jokes, all topped off with energetic reels and jigs.

## Community Testing in Argyll and Bute

liveArgyll are proud to be supporting NHS Highland as they run community testing centres across Argyll and Bute.

About 1 in 3 people with COVID-19 do not have symptoms but can still infect others. Even if you are vaccinated, there is still a chance you can pass COVID-19 on. Taking a test to check if you have virus will help stop it spreading.

**To help encourage and promote testing for those without symptoms, liveArgyll are offering anyone who is tested at any of the below centres the opportunity to be entered into a prize draw. Working in partnership with Atlantis Leisure and Crerar Hotels, we have up for grabs annual single and family liveArgyll memberships, Kindle Readers and leisure passes.**

We want to help protect our communities and prevent an increase in COVID-19 cases where we can. We encourage you to help in the fight against COVID-19 and get tested.

## Test Centre Locations

### Oban – Corran Halls

Tuesday 24th – Saturday 28th August, 9.30am – 4.30pm.

### Lochgilphead – Lochgilphead Community Centre,

Tuesday 14th – Saturday 28th September, 9.30am – 4.30pm.

### Tobermory, Mull - Venue TBC

Tuesday 21st – Saturday 25th September, 9.30am – 4.30pm.

### Inveraray - Venue TBC

Tuesday 28th September – Saturday 2nd October, 9.30am – 4.30pm.

## Prizes

The following prizes will be up for grabs in each area's weekly draw:

Inveraray – 2x Loch Fyne Hotel Leisure Spa pass, 2x Kindle Reader

Mid Argyll – 2x liveArgyll Family Membership, 2x liveArgyll Single Membership, 2x Kindle Reader

Mull – 2x Isle of Mull Leisure Club pass, 2x Kindle Reader

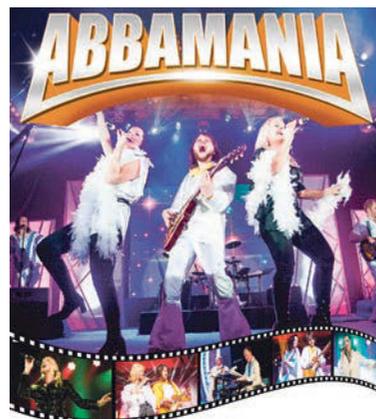
Oban – 2x Atlantis Leisure Couple Membership, 2x Atlantis Leisure Single Membership, 2x Kindle Reader

Winners will be drawn the Monday after each test centre week is completed.

T&Cs - To be entered into the prize draw you must first complete your test, then fill out the prize draw entry form on site. By entering the draw you agree to sharing your contact details with liveArgyll, so you can be notified if you are a winner. Entrants must also agree to having their name shared on any liveArgyll social media pages. Prizes are non-refundable and non-transferable, there are also no cash alternatives. Re-sale is strictly prohibited. If the winners of membership prizes have already paid for a full year's membership, the prize will be activated when their membership is up for renewal. If they currently pay monthly for membership, the free membership will be activated the following month for a year.



Missed The Beatles first time around? Don't miss them now, as the Upbeat Beatles come to town. The rockin' band with tight musicianship and powerhouse vocals will have you jumping from the word go! Breath taking harmonies and guitar solos all wrapped up in Scouse humour, you'll be left on an emotional high.



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For the first time, wildlife presenter and filmmaker Gordon Buchanan will be reflecting on his incredible 30 years working both behind and in front of the camera. This will be a rare opportunity to discover what has continued to drive his career and the landmark stories that take pride of his work.

Find out more at [liveargyll.co.uk/whats-on](http://liveargyll.co.uk/whats-on)

## Library opening hours

**Oban library** - Tuesday 9.30am-1.30pm, Wednesday 2-6pm, Friday 9.30am-1.30pm, Saturday 9.30am-12.30pm

A click and collect service, where library users can order up to five books from their genre of choosing, is available from this library. You can use this service by visiting [liveargyll.co.uk/liveargyll-click-and-collect](http://liveargyll.co.uk/liveargyll-click-and-collect).

**Tobermory library** - Saturday 10am-4pm

**Tiree library** - temporarily closed due to operational reasons.

## Read for Summer

Get lost in the world of books this summer with liveArgyll Libraries. Running until Friday 3rd September, junior members aged 4-11 are challenged to read five books of their choosing from any of the liveArgyll libraries, including BorrowBox, the online library with a fantastic selection of e-Books and e-Audiobooks. They will then be asked to register these books to show they have completed the challenge and will receive a goodie bag and certificate in return. For more information and to register for the challenge visit: <https://liveargyll.co.uk/kids-reading-summer-challenge-2021/>



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### TICKET INFORMATION

To avoid disappointment, please buy your tickets in advance. Check out [liveargyll.co.uk/whats-on](http://liveargyll.co.uk/whats-on) to see a full diary of events and up to date ticket information, including web links for online sales.



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OT

## Argyll and Isles WASPI group welcomes report findings

A campaign group in Argyll has welcomed a significant breakthrough in a long-running pensions dispute affecting 3.8 million women in the UK, writes Ellis Butcher.

The Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman (PHSO) has found 'maladministration' in the way the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) communicated changes to the state pension age for women.

The independent watchdog has been investigating complaints the department 'failed to provide accurate, adequate and timely information' to women affected and has published an 84-page parliamentary report.

It will now investigate whether those failings caused an 'injustice'.

Argyll & Isles WASPI (Women Against State Pension Inequality) welcomed the findings and has called on the UK Government to 'fully compensate' those affected.

Locally, 6,700 women across the area, who were born in the 1950s, were affected, with many losing as much as £50,000, the group said in a statement.

It said: 'Women in WASPI Argyll and Isles have said they don't know of anybody who received a letter from DWP, out of all their friends and colleagues.'



Some of the women affected by the 'maladministration'

'So they couldn't prepare for the loss of money and can never make it up in their sixties, even if they can get a job or are in good health.'

'Some took redundancy or resigned thinking money they had would last until 60.'

'State pension compensation needs to come soon as it's a time-sensitive issue for women in our sixties with some approaching 70.'

'Many voice fears that they won't receive anything because they won't be here if it's not resolved soon.'

'Sadly, some have already died without receiving much or any state pension, having paid into it for 40 plus years, as some started work at the age of 15.'

'We need action to remedy this or even more older women

will be living in poverty, exacerbated by the gender pay and pension gap.'

The national WASPI group said the findings 'reinforced' what it knew all along.

It said: 'The DWP's own research showed that women were not sufficiently aware of the changes, yet they failed to act.'

'This inaction had devastating and life-altering impacts on women across the country.'

'These women have been waiting for many years for compensation. We cannot wait any longer.'

'We are calling on the government to agree fair and adequate compensation for WASPI women rather than allow what has become a vicious cycle of government inaction to continue.'



Kevin Byrne at one of the refill taps on Colonsay. Mr Byrne has also just won the Argyll and Bute Regional Hero volunteering award for the islands for his work in clearing marine litter.

## Colonsay taps into becoming plastic free

by Kathie Griffiths  
kgriffiths@obantimes.co.uk

Colonsay is topping up its ambition to become plastic-free.

The tiny island, 10 miles long and two miles wide, has just turned on five new refill taps to quench the thirst of walkers and cyclists, and anyone else who needs cooling water.

The taps were bought as Phase One of a project being driven by Colonsay Tourism Marketing Group (CTMG).

But because of Covid the taps had to wait until now to be installed and ready to run, explained Richard Irvine from CTMG.

Colonsay has been fighting plastic for the past decade and can boast some of the cleanest, if not the cleanest, beaches in the Hebrides, said Richard,

thanks to the hard work of former hotelier Kevin Burns, who co-ordinates a beach and marine litter-picking project.

'We are all very proud of what the island has already achieved through the litter project and it has led the way to us becoming a plastic-free island. With just 134 people and only a few businesses, it is perfectly possible to encourage everyone to give up single-use plastic,' said Richard.

The taps are non-percussive which means they only need to be pressed once and they will not be left on. They are made of stainless steel which means they will hopefully survive the island's environment.

You can find Colonsay's taps near The Pantry, Colonsay House, close to the gardens,

in the north of the island at Uragaig, at the book shop and at the gin distillery.

If you go to [refill.org.uk](http://refill.org.uk) you can download an app to see the Colonsay taps marked out on a UK map. The island has five taps for now but hopes to add two more - Mull has six.

'We are just delighted to see them being used a lot. It's great,' said Richard.

At the next community council meeting there will be a motion forwarded for members to adopt that the island wishes to achieve plastic-free status.

The move after that will be to get Argyll and Bute Council to do the same, added Richard.

Businesses on Colonsay are also being encouraged to reduce their use of plastic as the project nudges forward.

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## Thumbs up for new island fuel station

A new community fuel station on Tiree is a step closer to reality.

The proposal by Tiree Enterprises Limited for the site at Crossapol, on land to the east of MacLeod's Store, was given the thumbs up by Argyll and Bute Council. No representations were received from members of the public to the proposed development, which will see an unmanned petrol station built and mon-

itored from the store. Two underground tanks, and one overground diesel tank, form part of the plans.

A council planning officer said in the report that the site was adjacent to the B8065 public road near the Tiree Community Business Island Centre. The site is bounded to the west by MacLeod's Store, a long-established retail outlet, and to the north and east is a vast expanse of flat, unde-

veloped land, said the report. The standalone, unmanned fuel station will be monitored from the shop and remotely via a camera which includes a tannoy system to allow contact to be made with patrons on the forecourt. The plans also include an automatic number plate recognition system, linked to the payment terminal network. The planning officer added said it represented an essential infrastructure project.

# Presenting Kilbride's new performance space

by Kathie Griffiths  
kgriffiths@obantimes.co.uk

Thanks to archaeologists, stonemasons and volunteers, a new outdoor performance space is about to be celebrated at Historic Kilbride.

Friends of Kilbride have partnered up with Oban Music Society to welcome award-winning trombone quartet AERIS Brass for a concert in the renovated space of the ruined kirk on Sunday August 1 at 3pm.

The new space is the result of more than a year of work during lockdown clearing the kirk and session house of rubble and stabilising the walls so the floor could be laid with gravel.

A generous grant from the Historic Environment Recovery Fund also made it possible to create the atmospheric venue for all sorts of outdoor events, including weddings. As well as marking the successful completion of phase three of the kirk's renovation, the brass gig also heralds the return of public concerts to Oban as Covid restrictions begin to ease.

Proceeds from the concert will be divided between Friends of Kilbride, Oban Music Society and the Kilmore



AERIS Brass will perform at Historic Kilbride's new outdoor space on Sunday August 1

and Kilbride Community Fund. Seating will be inside the kirk at one-metre social distance between households, or around the churchyard for those who prefer to have more space. To make sure everyone has a good seat and experience, the musicians will be performing from different spots in the grounds. Refreshments will be available.

Funding for this concert is from the Chamber Music Scotland Recovery Fund.

AERIS Brass has entertained audiences across the UK, Sweden, and San Marino performing at festivals such as the San Marino New Music Project; The Merchant City

Festival, Glasgow – in collaboration with Surge Theatre Scotland; and more recently as part of the British Trombone Society Cyber Fest. They also won the British Trombone Society Quartet competition 2019.

Friends of Kilbride Trustee Michelle McAnally said: 'We are very excited to bring the award-winning ensemble AERIS Brass to Historic Kilbride to celebrate both the return of live music and to showcase the incredible preservation work that has been accomplished over the past year. We have created an outdoor space within the restored kirk walls that is perfect for a live perfor-

mance, and we hope this may be the first of many.'

'The impetus behind the concert is Oban Music Society. Due to Covid its concert programme has been put on hold. While the performances are usually held at St John's Cathedral, Friends of Kilbride is thrilled to host AERIS Brass in our outside venue, with social distancing measures in place. We are grateful to OMS for allowing us to help them bring back live music to Oban and inaugurate our new space at the same time.'

Tickets are £15 for churchyard seating and £20 for kirk seating. To book go to friends of kilbride.scot



## Pub gets go ahead to be turned into a home

Easdale island's Puffer pub is to be turned back to a home, writes Kathie Griffiths.

Listed building consent to convert the small bar area at the back of the restaurant and tearoom has now been granted by planning chiefs.

No objections were received by Easdale and Seil Community Council so no local representation was made, said CC convenor Zim Knight.

It is understood the front part of the popular venue will stay as a bistro restaurant and will be licensed, with its owners being able to live on site.

The Puffer used to be two former slate workers' cottages which were extended and joined together, providing the tiny island and visitors with combined restaurant and bar facilities.

The application was for a partial change of use to allow the rear part of the premises, currently a small bar, to be converted into living space.

A report to the planning committee explained: 'The rear part forms part of a terrace of

four properties situated to the rear of the community hall.

'Works involved to return the unit into residential use are minimal, comprising of the blocking up of the access into the front section of the premises and the installation of internal partitions to form a one bedroom cottage.

'No changes to the existing external openings are proposed as part of the application with the only external works comprising the addition of a dummy chimney to the south west gable and the installation of a metal flue to the south east elevation of the property to serve a new solid fuel stove.

'The partial change of use of the premises to allow the rear section to be utilised as a residential unit is considered to be acceptable with the works proposed having no adverse impact on the appearance or setting of the listed building consistent with the policies and guidance set out above.

'In light of the above it is recommended that LBC is granted subject to the conditions.'

## pause & breathe

### Isle of Mull retreat 6-11th September



Many people are feeling tired, run-down, overwhelmed by all of the changes we've all experienced over the last 16 months. You may well be feeling the same.

On top of that, it's been difficult to get some downtime – many places in the UK are fully booked, or have extortionate prices. Travelling abroad doesn't yet feel right for many of us, even to those countries on the "green" list.

There may be an answer slightly nearer to home. Susie & Phil from Pause & Breathe CIC (<https://www.pauseandbreathe.co.uk/>) are running a retreat on the Isle of Mull from 6-11th September. This retreat will bookend each day with some Mindfulness & Qi Gong. Don't worry if you haven't practiced either before, this retreat is suitable for absolute beginners.

Mindfulness is all about being in the moment – learning how to unhook from the busy mind, and be present in life. Susie will be offering some mindfulness meditations,

mindful walking and mindfulness in nature during the retreat. She'll also be sharing some practices focused on deep rest.

Qi Gong is a form of mindful movement. We align slow movements with the breath, to move stuck energy around the body. Qi Gong can help to lower stress and anxiety and to help improve balance and increase focus. Phil will be sharing movements from a variety of Qi Gong sets, and plans to have some sessions in the open air, on the beach which help increase the feeling of energy.

There will be plenty of time during the day to have some downtime on the island, and to explore at your own leisure. There are optional additional trips, such as a boat trip to Staffa and a walking tour on Iona.

At the end of the week, you are bound to feel like you have completely unwound, with a reduction in feelings of stress and worry and an increase in feelings of calm and relaxation. Mull is such a beautiful island, and the slower pace of life really helps us to slow down.

There are just two spaces left on this retreat – either a single supplement (£695pp) or a space in a shared room (£550pp). It's also possible to book for two people in a shared room (£925 for

two people). If you can't join the retreat, but you're interested in trying Mindfulness or Qi Gong, they run regular online sessions, get in contact with them to find out more.



Get in contact with Susie if you'd like to book in, or to request a brochure: [susie@pauseandbreathe.co.uk](mailto:susie@pauseandbreathe.co.uk)

OT

## LETTERS

Write to us: send your letters to [editor@obantimes.co.uk](mailto:editor@obantimes.co.uk)  
or The Editor, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB

## Stepping up to the mark

Three cheers for all the walkers who stepped up to support Team Oban and raise more than £10,000 for Pancreatic Cancer UK.

It was an incredible effort and awesome response from a far reach of people that doubled the original target for this year's Big Step Forward which will help fund life-saving research. This was the second year Finlo Cottier got more than 100 people up and moving for the cause. Well done to you all for taking part. The affection and respect for Connel man Adrian Beard was evident in the turnout and smiles of those treading their laps of the 24-hour walkathon. Adrian was there to cheer them on, staying positive and ever grateful for the support he and his family have received from the charity PCUK.

The walk was also about raising awareness of how tough the disease is to beat. With the help of Team Oban, nationally the charity broke its original fundraising target of £180,000 and raised more than £200,000.

Despite pancreatic cancer's low survival statistics, which have not changed for half a century, it only gets three per cent of the annual UK cancer research budget. You can still donate to Team Oban by visiting <https://bit.ly/3rjyNdN>

The editor welcomes letters of approximately 300 words in length for publication on this page.

However we reserve the right to shorten, to amend or to refuse to print them. Names and postal addresses must be supplied, including on emails, to indicate good faith. A daytime phone number is also required for verification. Anonymous letters will not be printed. Please email: [editor@obantimes.co.uk](mailto:editor@obantimes.co.uk) or write to: Letters page, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB.

The views expressed on our letters page are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of The Oban Times.

At the Oban Times we endeavour to ensure that all our reports are fair and accurate and comply with the Editors' Code of Practice set by the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO). We realise, however, that mistakes happen from time to time. If we have published anything that is factually incorrect, please email: [editor@obantimes.co.uk](mailto:editor@obantimes.co.uk); telephone on 01631 568000; or email [editor@obantimes.co.uk](mailto:editor@obantimes.co.uk). We will attempt to resolve your issue in a timely, reasonable and amicable manner. However, if you are unsatisfied with our response, you can contact IPSO by email: [inquiries@ipso.co.uk](mailto:inquiries@ipso.co.uk). We will abide by the decision of IPSO.



## Help is much appreciated

May I, through your letters page, express my sincere thanks to all the emergency services who attended my accident on Ganavan beach on July 14.

I would also like to thank those who attended to me prior to the emergency services arriving. I don't know who they were, but I believe there was a paramedic, physiotherapist and even a doctor at the scene.

Thank you for your reassurance which helped keep me calm.

Wilson Meredith.

## Time for afternoon tea

As someone who has recently lost a loved one to breast cancer, I've seen first hand the devastating impact this disease can have.

Four days before the UK went into national lockdown, I lost my beautiful mum to secondary breast cancer. I was 11 weeks from giving birth to my daughter, Sofia Lily. She would have been my mum's first grandchild.

The Covid-19 pandemic has been an unprecedented situation for us all, but losing my mum and grieving during this time has been incredibly difficult.

I desperately want to do everything I can to support Breast Cancer Now, which provides essential support services so that people living with the disease, like my mum, are supported the whole way through their breast cancer experience. But they can only do so with your help.

Since the start of the pandemic, Breast Cancer Now has faced huge disruption. Their researchers lost thousands of precious hours in the labs and they've been forced to cancel hundreds of community support events – taking away a crucial lifeline for many.

That's why I'm joining the thousands of others across the UK and having an Afternoon Tea this August.

Whether it's a cuppa in the garden or delivering delicious treats to friends, anyone can take part. And no matter how you choose to have your Afternoon Tea, all money raised will help Breast Cancer Now provide world-class research and life-changing support for anyone affected by breast cancer.

So, if there was ever a time to pop the kettle on and get baking, that time is now. Fundraisers can register to claim a free fundraising pack at [breastcancernow.org/cuppa](http://breastcancernow.org/cuppa)

Andrea Springthorpe, Breast Cancer Now supporter.

## Beachd Ailein

ALLAN CAMPBELL

[ailean@obantimes.co.uk](mailto:ailean@obantimes.co.uk)



Mar ghàirnealair neo-dhreuchdail fhuair mi beagan faochaidh nuair a dh'innis caraid nach robh am buntàta tràth air fàs ro mhath dha am bliadhna, faochadh à fios nach mise an aon neach dha nach do shoirbhich air na chur mi dheth.

Dh'fhàg aimsir fhuair earraich gun robh an siol beagan fadalach a' dol dhan talamh agus thug e ùine a' gobachadh agus bha e cho slaodach a' tighinn às dèidh sin gun d' fhàs na chuir mi cola-deug nas fhaide air adhart seachad air! 'S ann gu math fadalach a thog mise am buntàta tràth, agus bu shuarach na bh' agam às. Ach abair coltas fallain air an dàrna cuid a chuir mi, agus ma nì bàrr bun tha còir gum bi toradh ann! Cha chreid mi gum faca mi riamh flùraichean a' leantainn cho fada air barran, chan eil fios am bheil sin ag innse dad ach thig fios le foghar.

Bidh mi tric a' smaoinichadh air mar a bhiodh croitearan a' bhaile ri farpais agus cliù ga ghabhail à cò bhiodh air toiseach a' rùsgadh phuill-mhònach, neo ri treabhadh, neo buain. Saoilidh mi gun robh na farpaisean sin nam brosnachadh dha daoine a bha claidhte le obair chruaidh gun chus duais, agus 's neònach mur e sin a dh'fhàg seanfhaclan mar "'s e farmad a nì treabhadh!" Ged a tha sinn ann an saoghal glè eadar-dhealaichte an-diugh tha beagan spòrs, agus moit, anns an fharpais le caraidean a thaobh 's mar a bhios toradh a' ghàrraidh, gun ghuth air tlachd a bhith ag ithe na thig às! Ma smaoinicheas tu ma dheidhinn, tha sinn uile

bhon àm a thig a' chiad mhòthachadh dhuinn nar beatha air ar brosnachadh le beachd agus moladh dhaoine eile, agus gu ìre tha leithid sin de mhiseachadh cudromach dhuinn fad ar beatha. Aig an aon àm cluinnear bitheanta daoine a' cur an aghaidh farpais, aig Mòdan mar eisimpleir, mar gum b' e droch chleachdadh a bh' ann agus gun aire sam bith air ìre a' mhiseachaidh a tha daoine a' faotainn às a leithid.

Nuair a bha mo mhac na dheugaire bha e na fhìor dheagh lùth-chleasaiche agus a' farpais aig ìre nàiseanta an Alba, agus tha cuimhne mhath agam air mar a bhiodh an sgioba-trèanaidh a' brosnachadh nan cleasaichean le bhith ag iarraidh orra a bhith farpais nan aghaidh fhèin, daonnan a' feuchainn ri bhith nas treasa agus nas luaithe. Bha mi a' smaoinichadh air sin a' coimhead toiseach, agus ciad fharpaisean, nan lùth-chleasan Oilimpeach ann an Japan. Tha e cho fìor thàmailteach dhan dùthaich gum bheil bacadh air luchd-amhairc anns na lannan-cluiche brèagha a chaidh a dheasachadh aig cosgais cho mòr, agus theagamh nas tàmailtiche buileach nach eil brosnachadh a' mhòr-shluaigh aig prìomh chleasaichean an t-saoghail 's iad a' farpais ann am prìomh thachartas lùth-chleasachd na cruinne. 'S e tachartas car aonaranach a bhios ann am fèin-fhiosrachadh na farpais dha mòran, agus feumaidh iad cuimseachadh air farpais riutha fhèin cho math ris na bhios mun cuairt orra!

Allan Campbell, [ailean@obantimes.co.uk](mailto:ailean@obantimes.co.uk).

## Guinea Pig Club anniversary

Eighty years ago in July 1941, a group of young men who had sustained severe burns in aircraft crashes during the Second World War came together to form The Guinea Pig Club. They took this name in honour of the ground-breaking techniques of pioneering plastic surgeon, Sir Archibald McIndoe.

Upon leaving hospital following their lengthy treatments, members established new careers, married and raised families, challenging the opinions of those who questioned their abilities. These young men quickly became a beacon of hope and their perseverance and tenacity continues to inspire burns survivors today.

The RAF Benevolent Fund is proud to have supported The Guinea Pig Club since its formation 80 years ago and has provided assistance to many of its members over the years.

However, just six members of the Guinea Pig Club remain, so the Fund is taking this important anniversary to highlight the inspiring story of the Guinea Pig Club to ensure its legacy lives on.

I urge your readers to pay tribute to those who served and sacrificed their lives during the Second World War by visiting [rafbf.dedication-page.org/gpc80](http://rafbf.dedication-page.org/gpc80) where they can share memories, photographs, and thanks.

Air Vice-Marshal Chris Elliot, Chief Executive of the RAF Benevolent Fund.

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# DISTRICT NEWS



## Sun smiles on fundraising duo

The sun came out for fundraising couple Fiona and Alan Patterson who made it to John O'Groats, pictured, raising awareness and money for leading men's health charity Prostate Cancer UK.

The couple who live near Taynuilt set off from Bristol's Clifton Suspension Bridge on May 18 and are now on their return journey, hoping to arrive back at the iconic finish line on August 10 after their 1,000-mile walk. Fiona and Alan's mission has been inspired by a friend who has the disease. They set their goal at £2,500 but it has now exceeded the £3,000 mark.

To make a donation you can go to [www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Fiona-Alan-LEJOG](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Fiona-Alan-LEJOG)



## Fundraising swimmers lap up support

Chirpy Bluetits of Dunearn have been lapping up 10 miles worth of swims raising more than £2,000 for Breast Cancer Now, writes Kathie Griffiths.

Mary Freer and Karen Wesley, who swim with the cheekily-named Bluetits, a UK-wide open swimming network, have been out in their cossies daily to take a dip and swim lengths of the quarry pool near Seil Island Hall.

Other members of the group, who swim from Dunearn beach, have been swimming alongside them in support.

As well as online fundraising, Balvicar Stores has also been collecting sponsorship for the duo and fellow swimmer Jeltje Danhof painted slate stones to sell for the good cause.

'It's amazing how much support we've received. The total so far is staggering,' said Karen.

Make a donation at [www.facebook.com/donate/1423404211373358/10225687014105103/](http://www.facebook.com/donate/1423404211373358/10225687014105103/)



Mary Freer and Karen Wesley celebrate swimming 10 miles in July for Breast Cancer Now; and top, fellow Bluetits of Dunearn give their support.

## Walk on the wildside

Views of a female sparrow hawk carrying prey back to her nest greeted members of the Argyll and Lochaber Group of the Scottish Wildlife Trust when they gathered for a wildlife walk around Ballachuan Hazel Wood on Seil.

Led by David Croucher, the group paused at Ballachuan Loch spotting tufted ducks, little grebes and ringlet butterflies before entering the dense woodland.

Ballachuan is an extensive Atlantic hazel woodland, cloaking a low ridge along the shores of Cuan Sound. The hazel was formerly coppiced, though it has not been exploited for many years and is now very thick and rich in lichens and fungi.

'We were fascinated by the discovery of glue fungus, which, as the name suggests, glues



Argyll and Lochaber Scottish Wildlife Group takes a walk at Ballachuan on Seil

together touching living and dead branches of hazel. However, we were unable to spot the rare hazel gloves fungus, with which it is often

associated,' said the SWT group's chairman Tony Mitchell-Jones. Down at the shore, the group was lucky to see a whimbrel, as well as more familiar birds, such as oystercatchers and common sandpiper and one or two members even caught a glimpse of an otter on the rocks.

After a picnic lunch, the group completed a circuit through the wood, passing beneath a well-established heronry from which the young appear to have fledged. A swarm of speckled wood butterflies was congregating on a dead tree.

Other items of interest included the day-flying chimney-sweep moth, numerous orchids and the larval web of the marsh fritillary butterfly.

Now that restrictions have been lifted, the group hopes to return to a more normal programme of events, so check out the SWT website at [scottishwildlifetrust.org.uk](http://scottishwildlifetrust.org.uk)

## At random

MARTIN LAING

[editor@obantimes.co.uk](mailto:editor@obantimes.co.uk)



## Bon voyage

I thought I'd give a nod this week to a (briefly) former colleague, whom many of your delightful readers will have come to know over the past year and a half or so.

Ellis Butcher arrived to work at The Oban Times last March, just as the whole country went into lockdown. He had moved up from the northwest of England and found himself suddenly adrift in a strange place where he knew no-one and where not even the pubs, let alone his new office, were open.

Dunkirk spirit and all that, Ellis embraced the job, the town and its people, and got stuck in marvellously, and made a genuine and telling contribution to the community he had become part of.

Now, largely for family reasons, Ellis has departed, and was given a splendid send-off on Sunday, though I was more than sorry not to be able to attend. I have, though, had the pleasure of blowing the froth from a few with him over recent months on a number of occasions.

As I said, many of you will regret his leaving and I'm sure you will want to join me in wishing him well.

## Scandalous treatment

A wee footnote regarding Oban golfing sensation Bob MacIntyre. I am absolutely with the outraged brigade over the coverage given – or, rather, not given – to young Bob during his astonishing performance at the Open Championship at Sandwich.

He was the top Scot, the top Brit and the top European in the competition and finished tied for eighth place. However, you'd be forgiven for thinking he wasn't there at all from watching the Sky coverage.

My chum Davie Buchanan put it very succinctly while ranting about it when he compared the exposure given to Bob and Rory McIlroy (who tied for 46th place). Davie opined: 'If McIlroy had gone to the toilet, they'd have followed him into the cludge.'

Fear not, though, Bob: everyone in Oban knows what a star you are. Keep it up!

What do you think? Send your comments to [editor@obantimes.co.uk](mailto:editor@obantimes.co.uk)



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## Kilmartin opens new trail for would-be treasure hunters

Kilmartin Museum and Heart of Argyll Wildlife Organisation (HAWO) have teamed up this summer to set out a Treasure Hunt Trail.

Based at 12 sites in and around Kilmartin Glen and Knapdale, this self-guided activity takes visitors on an amazing journey through the cultural and natural heritage world of Mid Argyll, visiting the Kilmartin Glen Monuments, the Argyll Beaver Centre, the National Nature Reserves and forests.

The information needed to get started is available online at [www.kilmartin.org/education](http://www.kilmartin.org/education) and [www.argyllbeavercentre.co.uk](http://www.argyllbeavercentre.co.uk), or pop into the Argyll Beaver Centre or Argyll Book Centre in Lochgilphead. The activity pack includes everything needed for the treasure hunt, whether on the ground or online.

A Kilmartin Museum spokesperson said: 'We want to make the Treasure Hunt Trail as accessible as possible so we have included links to web-based information to accompany each of the sites, especially helpful for those who cannot visit the area in person.'

Treasure hunters are encouraged to take photographs at each site and to post them to the Kilmartin Museum and HAWO Facebook and Instagram pages.

A HAWO spokesperson added: 'We are really looking forward to seeing everyone's pictures of their favourite treasure of our beautiful area.'

For those that complete the question sheet, there is also a chance to win an A4 portrait of a pet or favourite animal drawn by HAWO ranger Oly Hemmings and a signed copy of Kilmartin Museum's guide book, *In the Footsteps of Kings*.

Kilmartin Glen is home to internationally significant prehistoric and early historic sites and monuments, making it one of Scotland's most important archaeological landscapes. The prehistoric monuments include the densest concentration of rock art anywhere in Britain, a unique Neolithic and Bronze Age linear cemetery, the remains of one of Scotland's largest timber circles and Dunadd Hill Fort which was first fortified around 2,400 years ago.

Knapdale Forest is home to an internationally important range of habitats and species. Temperate Rainforest is one of the rarest and most threatened habitats on Earth and is a treasure trove of unique plants and animals.

Answer sheets should be emailed to [heartofargyllwildlife.org](mailto:heartofargyllwildlife.org) or [education@kilmartin.org](mailto:education@kilmartin.org) by Tuesday August 31 or physical copies can be dropped in at the Argyll Beaver Centre.



Download the guide and get your thinking caps - and a stout pair of shoes - on.

## Oban lockdown in 'Scotland's forgotten'

by Sandy Neil  
editor@obantimes.co.uk

Pipe Major John McLellan DCM, a composer from Dunoon and Jura whose First World War song may replace Flower of Scotland as the national anthem, is the subject of a tribute website and Spotify playlists created by Duggy McGregor while locked down in Oban.

Pipe Major John McLellan, known as Jock, is 'probably Dunoon's, if not Argyll and Bute's best known composer of bagpipe music', writes Dunoon-born Duncan 'Duggy' MacGregor on his tribute website, created while working in Oban during lockdown.

'Although John McLellan's name and music legacy is well-established within the bagpipe music world, he isn't as widely known with the public as some of his famous contemporaries,' he explained.

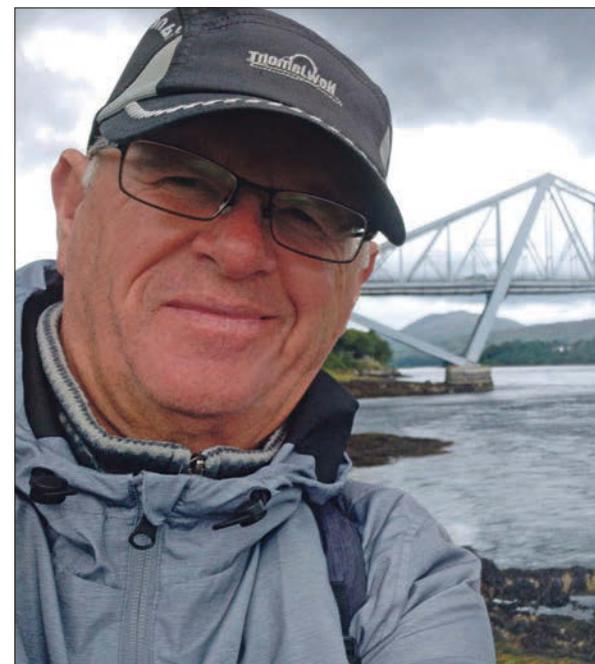
'The aim of this website is to remember the man and his music and gather all the relevant information about Jock into one place online. It was my late mother's wish that I create the website to Jock as she was his great niece and she often talked to me about him and his accomplishments.'

John McLellan wrote more than 160 melodies and songs.

His most famous, The Road to the Isles, became one of Scotland's most popular tunes after it was covered Sir Harry Lauder in 1926, followed by Andy Stewart, Moira Anderson, Kenneth McKellar and Isla St Clair.

The Road to the Isles, which John wrote when he was just 16 years old and living on the Isle of Jura, has endured the test of time and many of John McLellan's other compositions continue to be performed by pipe bands from Scotland and beyond, such as Bonnie Dunoon, Mary Darroch, Cowal Gathering, Dream Valley of Glendaruel, Glen Caladh Castle, The Sheiling, The Taking of Beaumont Hamel, My Home Town, Men of Argyll, Colonel McLean of Ardgour and South Hall.

John also made a big impact on Scottish folk music, with artists such as The Red Hot Chili



Pipers, The Battlefield Band, Calisaig, North Sea Gas and Skippinich recording renditions. Button accordionist Graham Irvine believes McLellan to be 'Scotland's forgotten music genius', but he was also a decorated war veteran.

Jock was born in St Andrew's Street, Dunoon, on August 8 1875, one of six children to Neil McLellan and Mary Darroch McLellan, who hailed from the isles of Islay and Jura respectively.

'They came to the Scottish mainland to find work in 1869 and, after marrying in Greenock, decided to settle in Dunoon,' explained Duggy. 'Unfortunately, the family later endured great hardship when Neil McLellan tragically died of pneumonia while still in his early 40s. John was eight-years-old when his father died and his mother decided it was best for them to return to her native Jura.'

John spent his formative years on Jura and while he was there it appears he learned to



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# inspires tribute to ten music genius'



Duncan 'Duggy' MacGregor has created a tribute website to Pipe Major John McLellan DCM, urged on by his late mother, who was Jock's great niece.

John became Pipe Major of the 8th Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders in 1919, a year after the Great War ended, and remained in that post until he retired in 1930.

When John died in Dunoon Cottage Hospital on July 31 1949, the Anglo Boer War Association recorded this tribute: 'McLellan's fame as a composer of pipe music as well as a piper spread far from his native shores and he will long be remembered in every corner of the world where Scotsmen foregather.'

'Considering Jock wrote many of his most popular tunes over 100 years ago, and during his life he never actually published his own collection of pipe tunes, it's amazing so much of his music is now available online,' writes Duggy.

Many of Jock's tunes continue to be performed by pipers at highland games and today his music can also be heard online on YouTube and Spotify.

At the end of August 2020, The Cowal Highland Gathering in Dunoon held the world's first virtual highland gathering, including the Lads of Argyll's tribute to McLellan.

When MSPs recently called on the Scottish Government to replace the unofficial national anthem Flower of Scotland, the contenders included songs by Robert Burns, Dougie McLean and a tune by John McLellan, Bloody Fields of Flanders, set to Scots lyrics by the poet Hamish Henderson for the peace marchers at Holy Loch in the 1960s.

It was beamed to millions across the world from Glasgow's Commonwealth Games in 2014, under its new name Freedom Come All Ye.

Read more about Pipe Major John McLellan DCM on Duggy's tribute website [johnmcllellandcm.weebly.com](http://johnmcllellandcm.weebly.com) and listen to McLellan's many tunes via Duggy's playlists on Spotify.

play the bagpipes and a few other musical instruments.

He also learned to read music, though there aren't any records from that time to tell us who taught him or, indeed, who helped him develop this amazing talent.'

On turning 17 in 1892, John joined the Highland Light Infantry, serving overseas in Malta, Crete, Egypt and then, in 1899, the Boer War in South Africa where John won the Distinguished Conduct Medal (DCM). After taking a bullet in the ankle, Jock ignored the wound and continued to play his bagpipes to rally the troops. While he was recovering in hospital, he composed Lochanside and The Battle of Magersfontein, which is still played by pipers to this day.

John left the army in 1903 and after his return to Scotland he joined Govan Police Pipe Band, later the City of Glasgow Police Pipe Band and Strathclyde Police Pipe Band.

## DOWN MEMORY LANE

We delve into The Oban Times archives to bring you faces and places from yesteryears



Oban Times reader Sandra Marr got in touch with us about the photograph published in the paper on Thursday July 8.

She said: 'I think the gentleman in uniform is Mike Marsden, who was the superintendent in the Fishermen's Mission in the early 1980s'.

Thanks for letting us know Sandra.



These youngsters look like they have been having fun in Fort William, but what is the event, when was it and do you recognise any of the youngsters? Email us at [editor@obantimes.co.uk](mailto:editor@obantimes.co.uk)

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# BUSINESS NEWS

## £1.8 million for seafood sector

Funding of £1.8 million has been announced to help Scottish seafood businesses recover from the economic impacts of Brexit and Covid-19.

The funding will support seafood businesses to access new markets within the UK and abroad, including campaigns in Asia, Europe, North America and the Middle East, said the Scottish Government.

As major international trade events begin again, together with a number of virtual online events, these platforms will enable Seafood Scotland to engage with buyers to experience the broad range of seafood available, it said.

Donna Fordyce, chief executive of Seafood Scotland, said: 'The Scottish seafood supply chain is now firmly in recovery mode, with ambitious plans to access new markets and to grow existing trade relationships.'

'Our role is to support them, opening doors to new opportunities and to spread the word about the quality of our produce, which is prized the world over.'

In Scotland, 'buy local, support local' campaigns are being run to encourage growth in the domestic market, capitalising on rising demand for seafood provenance and quality, said the Scottish Government.

Rural Affairs Secretary Mairi Gougeon announced the funding. She said: 'The seafood sector is a crucial part of our rural economy, supporting jobs in coastal communities and our priority has been to protect people's livelihoods.'

'While we continue to work to resolve some of the export issues the sector faces, this new funding will help the sector's longer term recovery from these recent challenges.'

Argyll and Bute MP Brendan O'Hara said: 'We have the best seafood in the world and it is absolutely right this industry is given the assistance it needs and that there is a focus on building local as well as international markets, which will help support jobs crucial to the sustainability of so many of our communities.'

# Shock as doors close for good on Chalmers in Oban

by Ellis Butcher  
ebutcher@obantimes.co.uk

Shocked staff at Chalmers in Oban have thanked customers for their support after the bombshell news that the iconic store on George Street has closed with immediate effect.

The decision, which is not linked to its trading performance, came from an area manager at midday on Tuesday July 20 and apparently follows a decision by the building's Edinburgh-based landlord after negotiations over the future of the lease.

It caps a rollercoaster 17 months for Chalmers' five loyal employees who had hoped their jobs and the store had been saved when it re-opened last November.

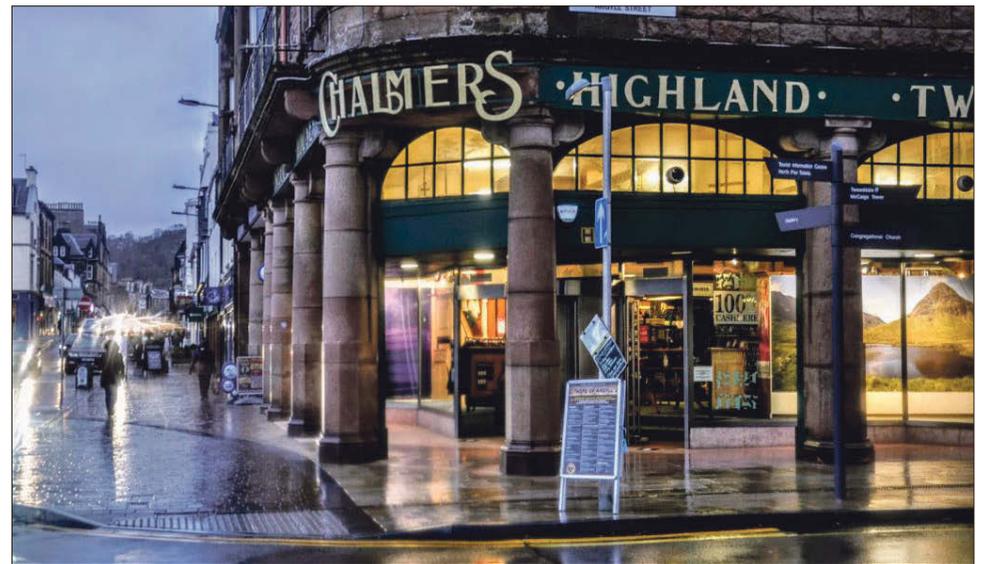
EWM entered administration and its neighbouring sister shop was shut with four job losses.

Chalmers manager Helen Hetherington said: 'We are closed now and the shop will be emptied by July 29. We are all in a state of shock and packing up boxes. When the shop is all packed up, that's when it's going to hit us.'

'We don't know if we are being made redundant, but probably. The only place we could relocate to is McCaig's Warehouse and they won't have the capacity to take on five staff.'

The five members of staff have collectively served the business for more than half a century, with its longest-serving employee working a total of 15 years.

Mrs Hetherington, who served for 12 and a half years, said: 'We just want our customers to know it has not been anything we've done and we love them and are going to miss them all. If they have got an item that is not okay, they can



When Chalmers re-opened earlier this year, staff were overjoyed and the town thought the well-established business was here to stay.

return it to McCaig's.' Commenting on the news, Andy Spence, chief executive of BID4Oban Ltd, said he was 'shocked and saddened'.

He said: 'These are very difficult times for retailers and in particular EWM which has been unable to renegotiate a new lease with the property owner.'

'The staff in Chalmers have long been great ambassadors for the town over many years, providing great service to customers and visitors from all over the world.'

'It is so sad to see an empty site on George street, given the investment in other businesses

across the town, and we hope the site will be filled soon and that the staff find employment very soon.'

EWM and representatives of the landlord were contacted for comment.

Gill Chalmers, of Inverness, said her great, great grandfather William Chalmers started the shop after he moved to Oban from Dumbarton in the late 18th century.

She said: 'His family had the tweed business for many, many years throughout the 1900s. I am shocked this is closing as it is such a big part of Oban.'

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# Scottish tourism leadership programme launched

A Scotland-wide programme to support business and community-led tourism enterprises recover from the Covid 19 pandemic was launched this month.

The Scottish Tourism Leadership Programme will offer opportunities to develop personal skills and expertise, to gain insight from fellow participants and subject specialists and to become part of a growing network of people working together to develop innovative tourism opportunities.

Funded by the Scottish Government's £25million Tourism Taskforce Recovery Plan, Scottish Enterprise, Highlands and Islands

Enterprise, South of Scotland Enterprise and Skills Development Scotland (SDS) are working together to design and deliver the programme which is offering fully-funded places for up to 300 participants between now and March 2022.

Tourism Minister Ivan McKee said: 'We know tourism and hospitality businesses have been extremely hard hit by the pandemic and we have been working closely with the sector on a range of initiatives to help them get back firmly on their feet. A talented and valued workforce will be vital to enabling recovery.'

'Recovery will take time, but this funding will enable communities and tourism businesses

to come together to work on solutions for the industry and I encourage anyone working in the sector who is looking to develop their skills to consider applying.'

Derek McCrindle, head of place with Scottish Enterprise, said: 'As we know, the tourism industry has been significantly impacted by the effects of the pandemic.'

'However, there are a huge number of really motivated and talented individuals employed within the sector with the potential to help drive the sector's recovery.'

'This programme aims to provide these potential leaders with access to the skills, knowledge

and networks they need to become amazing leaders within their businesses, communities and wider destinations.'

Introduction to Tourism Leadership starts in August and Communities Leading in Tourism begins at the end of September and applications for both are now open. An additional, more in-depth, Tourism Leadership Course is coming soon.

All courses are available online, with details available at [findbusinesssupport.gov.scot](http://findbusinesssupport.gov.scot)

Individuals from tourism businesses and organisations based anywhere in Scotland can apply for a place.

## Trio of new faces join the team at Dunollie trust

The MacDougall of Dunollie Preservation Trust has welcomed three new members of staff, writes Kathie Griffiths.

Emma Sutcliffe is the new general manager at Dunollie Museum, Castle and Grounds, Jamie MacGregor has been appointed Heritage Engagement and Access Officer and Florence Medard is the new Communications Co-ordinator.

Jamie grew up in Connel and returned to the area after his graduation from the University of Stirling last year. He joined the team at Dunollie Museum, Castle and Grounds in January, but was not able to come on site until June. He has spent the last few months getting community volunteer groups back and has worked in partnership with the Furan Centre to make Coffee and Gaelic sessions accessible to everyone online.

Emma moved to Oban with her family last month, tackling what used to be two people's jobs. She has worked in the heritage sector since graduating from the University of Newcastle Upon Tyne in 2011. Her most recent post was community manager at Aldershot Military Museum. In just a few weeks, she has become essential to the smooth running of the site.

Florence also moved to Oban last month, after her graduation from the University of



Glasgow and the end of her internship with Archaeology Scotland. She is the new point of contact for all marketing and communications-related queries and can be contacted at [florence@dunollie.org](mailto:florence@dunollie.org)

Although half the team is new, they have all been working hard to get Dunollie Museum, Castle and Grounds back up and running. Tickets for activities and workshops can now be booked via the website [www.dunollie.org](http://www.dunollie.org)

**The MacDougall of Dunollie Preservation Trust has welcomed three new members of staff, Emma Sutcliffe, Jamie MacGregor, and Florence Medard.**



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# LEISURE & ENTERTAINMENT

YOUR GUIDE TO WHAT'S ON IN ARGYLL AND LOCHABER

## Applications open for Sound of Young Scotland Award

The Scottish Album of the Year (SAY) Award has launched a new prize, The Sound of Young Scotland Award.

Emerging Scottish artists can now apply to win up to £5,000 to help with the creation of their debut album. Artists can apply until midnight on Friday August 13.

The award aims to drive the future of Scotland's music scene by annually awarding a young, emerging artist.

The winner will be chosen by a panel of previous SAY Award nominees with the funding covering production costs such as producing, studio rentals, engineers, mixing, mastering, recording expenses and more.

The winning artist will also receive a bespoke art prize from The SAY Award Design Commission, plus a showcase slot at 2022's final ceremony; performing in front of the biggest and best in Scotland's music industry.

Artists must be 25 or under to apply – in a band, the primary songwriter(s) must be aged 25 or under, and all members should be under 30 years old.

They must not have previously released an album and must have made Scotland their creative base for at least the past three years.

View full eligibility and prize information at [www.sayaward.com/thesoundofyoungscotland](http://www.sayaward.com/thesoundofyoungscotland)

# Grieving boy saved by goose in Seil author's new children's book

by Sandy Neil  
editor@obantimes.co.uk

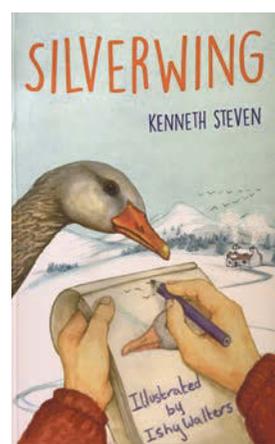
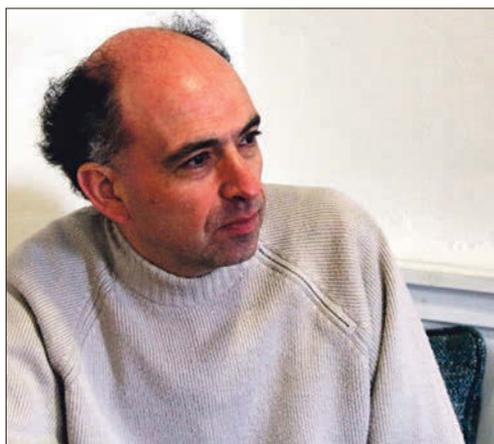
Seil writer and poet Kenneth Steven has published a new illustrated children's book called *Silverwing*, about a greylag goose that helps a 10-year-old boy and his father cope with the death of his mum.

'It starts with Douglas and his dad in the house on their own,' he explains. 'They are going through terrible depression, because of the loss of his mother from cancer.'

'The boy and his father haven't been able to communicate since her death, and the house is a place of sadness,' continues the publisher Neem Tree Press. 'One day Douglas finds an injured Greylag goose and so begins their mission to nurse the bird, and themselves, back to health. As father and son work together they start talking together again.'

Then, Kenneth adds: 'They find a diary written by Douglas's mother when she was a girl, when she nursed a goose back to health. Her father was a gamekeeper: he was used to killing geese.'

Douglas blossoms by draw-



**Kenneth Steven, and the front cover of his new children's book.**

Main photograph: Kristina Hayward

numerous poetry programmes for BBC Radio; his feature on St Kilda – made 75 years after the evacuation of the island – was awarded a Sony in 2006.

Other programmes tell the stories of how some of the greatest poems known came to be written.

His collection *Letting in the Light* is dedicated to his beloved little girl Willow, and many of the poems in its pages were written for her.

As a novelist, Kenneth's most recent works are *Glen Lyon* and *The Well of the North Wind*. Their style is almost a melding of poetry and prose; they are like stones rolling down a hillside, fast and furious, refusing to let the reader's attention relax.

His newest novel 2020 is unlike anything he has written before; a political thriller told from the perspective of a plethora of narrators – disturbing and rather eerily prescient.

'Trying to live from a literary income is getting harder and harder,' he said. 'I describe myself as a literary crofter: I have to do several things to make a living.'

ing *Silverwing* the goose: 'It is almost like his mother has come back in goose form to bind together these two souls and restore them.'

The idea for the book, although conceived five years ago, has found its moment.

'I hope the book will resonate now, because of the state we have been in with lockdown and loss,' Kenneth said.

'I hope it will reach out to children who have lost a significant carer. I have worked in hundreds of classrooms through the Scottish Book Trust, and I hope the book will be taken up in wider

Scotland. It is a book that can be read by a class and discussed and really thought about.

'It is not a sad book. This is a book about kindness, restoration, and finding hope and love. It is about animal welfare, rather than shooting everything. There is always an anti-bullying message in my children's books, because I myself was bullied.'

'Douglas is a very gentle soul. The worst of the bullies tease him about not having a mother. As well as fighting against his own depression, Douglas has to fight against the teasing. I want to show, not tell. I am

showing through the book how goodness and hope, and love come back after terrible loss. It is a book about holding on.'

Altogether Kenneth has published more than 50 books, and his latest book of poetry, a collection of his best poems titled *Iona*, is also available in Oban Waterstones. Much of his poetry is inspired by the wild landscape of his native Highlands; much has resulted from his love of the Celtic Christian story whose deepest roots are for him found in the island of Iona.

He has written and presented

## Recipe

### A little hot in the kitchen today?

Freshen up with this light and filling chicken and quinoa salad which will make for ideal lunchbox leftovers too

#### Ingredients

- 200g dried quinoa
- 4 cooked skinless and boneless chicken breasts, roughly shredded
- 4 red apples, cored and cut into bite-sized pieces
- 4 celery sticks, thinly sliced
- Small bag of baby spinach leaves
- Bunch of spring onions, trimmed and thinly sliced
- 2 hard-boiled eggs, peeled and finely chopped, to serve
- Small handful of fresh chives, finely chopped
- Small handful of fresh mint, finely chopped

### Chicken and quinoa salad



#### For the dressing:

- 200g fat-free natural fromage frais
- 3 tbsp fat-free vinaigrette
- 2 tbsp roughly chopped bottled gherkins

#### Method

1. Cook the quinoa according to the packet instructions, then drain and set aside.
2. Meanwhile, put the chicken in a large salad bowl with the apples, celery, spinach and spring onions.
3. Mix all of the dressing ingredients together in a bowl and pour over the salad.
4. Add the cooked quinoa and toss to mix well. Scatter over the eggs and fresh herbs to serve.

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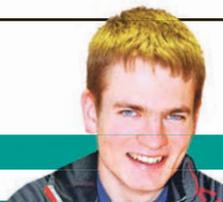
[slimmingworld.co.uk](http://slimmingworld.co.uk)



# Robert in lockdown

**ROBERT ROBERTSON**

robert.d.robertson@hotmail.co.uk



Desperate to get away to the sun, myself and a few pals last week decided to write off the Mediterranean for another year and head, instead, to the Hebrides.

We flew out to Tiree on Tuesday evening and the holiday that followed was better than anything the Med could have offered. In the almost 10 years I have been going to Tiree, I have never seen the island quite like I saw it last week. A full week of wall-to-wall sunshine, the hottest day since 1991, and unmatched hospitality made it a week to remember.

My first thank you has to go to our good pal, Ian Smith, who picked us up, took us to the beautiful Reef Inn for dinner, and then hosted us in his house all week.

The handy thing about Ian's house is that it happens to be right next door to his distillery – which made it particularly suitable accommodation for the type of week we had in mind.

Ian and his business partner Alain Campbell have built up something quite amazing with



the Isle of Tiree Distillery in West Hynish, and (as we sat out on the decking of their gin bar being served cocktails by Calum MacArthur) we could easily have been in the Caribbean.

The only noticeable difference was that the background music was 2/4 Marches rather than Reggae.

Thanks also to Ian's mother, Margory, for inviting us into her neighbouring garden for a dram or two and absolutely no thanks to Ian's brother Bernie who, when I was lying sunbathing on his paddle board in the bay, thought it would be funny to swim up and place two live crabs on my chest.

In the days that followed, we

went out to Coll on Smithy's boat for a wonderful meal in the Coll Hotel. We then came alongside Steptoe MacLean from Tobermory whilst he and his grandsons were fishing for mackerel off the Cairns of Coll. Whilst we were there, a pod of dolphins swam right across our bow.

We returned to a Tiree beach party with a cracking barbecue and were taken back out to sea on a Banana Boat being towed by Angus MacKinnon.

Afterwards, we warmed up round a bonfire whilst the moon shone down onto the ocean – as Archie Bear said – just as Calum Kennedy would have imagined it in *The Moonlight on Bonnie Tiree*.

A real highlight was the night we were kindly invited out to Duncan and Allison MacArthur's yacht, the *Re-Tyree*. As I lay in a hammock, I asked the boys: 'If someone was to offer us the chance to be dropped anywhere in the whole world right now, what would you say?'

Their reply was unanimous: 'Just leave me exactly where I am.'

# Film festival reels in young islanders for film festival

Our Island Stories, the first film festival for young islanders in Scotland, is inviting submissions for its online showing on August 28, writes Sandy Neil.

The festival is seeking short films of up to three minutes in length from filmmakers aged 12-25. Submissions will open from August 2-14. Films must focus on life on a Scottish island, and can be in English, Gaelic or Scottish dialects.

'The project will support young people to make their films, find their voice and share their personal experiences of life on their islands,' the organisers said.

'The films can take a number of forms and filmmakers are encouraged to be creative and use various techniques. Filmmaking provides a unique and creative way for young people to be heard and to express what they want for their future, how to move forward and improve their lives, how to encourage others to stay on islands and attract others to move there.'

Films already created by young islanders from Islay, Arran, Lewis, Orkney, Shetland, South Uist, Colonsay, Eigg, Tiree and Mull



The festival is seeking short film submissions from Scottish islanders aged 12 - 25 to form its first programme.

during Our Island Stories workshops earlier this year cover a vast range of topics, from tourism to LGBTQ+ safe spaces, second homes to marine litter.

'To support young people to take their filmmaking skills to the next level, Our Island Voices has created a range of video tutorials, covering shooting with a mobile phone, composition tricks, editing, adding music, animation and more. The videos are all free to access and can be viewed at [screenargyll.co.uk](http://screenargyll.co.uk)'

The project is delivered

in partnership with Youth Scotland and the Scottish Island Federation, with Screen Argyll working with Youth Scotland to reach and support young people as part of the Young Islanders Challenge.

Jen Skinner at Screen Argyll said: 'We are so excited to be working with the Scottish Island Federation and Youth Scotland on this project, for the potential it has in reaching out to young people in our communities, connecting them through film and giving them a voice. We can't wait to hear what they have to say!'

## What's on at Oban Cinema

**BUGS**

**LEBRON**



**A NEW LEGACY**

**THIS WEEK**

**Friday 30 Jul - Sunday 1 Aug + Thursday 5 Aug (closed Mon-Tue)**

The Croods 2   U	12:00/14:45
Space Jam: A New Legacy   U	12:15/14:30/17:15
Black Widow   12A	17:00
Frankie   12A	19:45
The Hitman's Wife's Bodyguard   15	20:00

**Wednesday 4 Aug**

The Croods 2   U	12:00
Space Jam: A New Legacy   U	12:30/14:30
Black Widow   12A	17:00
Frankie   12A	18:30
The Hitman's Wife's Bodyguard   15	20:00

**FRANKIE** 🍷

Unfolding over the course of a late summer's day in the fabled resort town of Sintra, Portugal, **FRANKIE** follows three generations who have gathered for a vacation organized by the family matriarch (Isabelle Huppert). In this fairy tale setting, husbands and wives, parents and children, friends and lovers, stirred by their romantic impulses — discover the cracks between them, as well as unexpected depth of feeling.

**THE CROODS 2** 🌱

The prehistoric family the Croods are challenged by a rival family the Bettermans, who claim to be better and more evolved.

**SPACE JAM: A NEW LEGACY** 🏀

Superstar LeBron James and his young son, Dom, get trapped in digital space by a rogue AI. To get home safely, LeBron teams up with Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck and the rest of the Looney Tunes gang for a high-stakes basketball game against the AI's digitized champions of the court — a powered-up roster called the Goon Squad.

**THE HITMAN'S WIFE'S BODYGUARD** 🛡️

The bodyguard Michael Bryce continues his friendship with assassin Darius Kincaid as they try to save Darius' wife Sonia.

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<b>MONDAY:</b>	8am-12pm 12-3pm 5pm-7pm 7pm-8pm 8pm-9pm 9pm	Breakfast show with Stephen Lunch with Bob G Drive Times with Marcus Highland Fling with Rosemary Calum McLuckies Show David Cullen Show Breakfast Show with Stephen
<b>TUESDAY:</b>	8am-10am 10am-12.30pm 1pm-3pm 3pm-5pm 5pm-7pm 7pm-8pm 8pm-9pm 9pm	Ken Hunter Macky on FM Mediation with Heartfelt Change Drive Times with Archie Darling Highest Praise with Stuart Chalmers Scottish Sounds with Archie Cameron Oban Pride on the Waves with Jay & Crystal Breakfast Show with Stephen
<b>WEDNESDAY:</b>	8am-11am 11am-1pm 1pm-3pm 4pm-7pm 7pm-9pm 9pm	Comfort Zone with Lesley Doug in the afternoon Drive Times with Campbell Country meets Rock N Roll with Len Gordon's Grooves
<b>THURSDAY:</b>	8am-11am 11am-2pm 2pm-3pm 3pm-7pm 7pm-9pm 9pm-10pm 10pm	Breakfast Show with Andy & Sarah Lunch Show with Steve Mediation with Heartfelt Change Drive Time with Stephen Christine's Collections Ann's Ceilidh Margo Till Midnight
<b>FRIDAY:</b>	8am-10am 10am-1pm 4pm-6.45pm 6.45pm-7pm 7pm-8pm 8pm-10pm	Breakfast Show with Anna & Phil The Brunch Show With The One Teeny & Tiny Show with Harry & Janet Sports View with the Dream Team Country Meets Country with Jackie Craig Evening Show with Peter Rainnie
<b>SATURDAY:</b>	8am-10am 10am-1pm 2pm-4pm 6pm-7pm 7pm-8pm 8pm-10pm	Breakfast Show with Stephen Saturday Morning Live with Linda Jukebox Jamboree with Ken Mc Sports View with the Dream Team Sounds Scottish with Archie Darling Evening Show with Dave Hobbs
<b>SUNDAY:</b>	9am-11am 11am-2pm 7pm-9pm 9pm	Sunday Morning with Breege Sunday Brunch with Stephen New Country Show with Dave & Murdoch Drum & Bass with Graham.

# The joy of giant swings comes to Oban and Fort

Edinburgh's All or Nothing Aerial Dance Theatre is touring Oban, Fort William and Skye with its new outdoor, interactive and family-focused production, *The Swings*.

'The Swings is part breathtaking aerial duet, staged on a magnificent, larger than life, five-metre-high swing set, and part installation, where the audience are invited to have a swing whilst listening to a sound installation of memories evoked from childhood swinging,' explained the aerial dance company.

The Swings was conceived by All or Nothing Dance Aerial Theatre's artistic director, Jennifer Paterson.

She said: 'The inspiration for *The Swings* came from spending time in a playpark as a mum, being around swings again and seeing how much joy they bring.

'Swings are so integral to your childhood.

'They are in almost every park. If you're lucky you have one in your garden, or maybe a rope swing on a tree. You hang about them as a teenager.

'The feeling of being on a



Photograph: Suzanne Heffron

swing and the excitement of building it up higher and higher never leaves you. It's such a visceral feeling - the air rushing past your face, the laughing, the rise and fall of your stomach. Will you jump off? How high can you go?'

The Swings, staged using a giant swing set with two swings, is a 15-minute choreographed aerial dance duet performed at intervals throughout the day, explained the company: 'Inspired by age old playground games and memories, the playful dynamic between the two aerial artists is key.

'Using the long ropes and

swing seats as their apparatus they begin by exploring this unfamiliar environment, swinging, and jumping off, climbing and hanging whichever way they can; their voices unable to contain their excitement. They gradually build the energy performing a range of stunning tricks, flipping, somersaulting, and tumbling, as they soar high above the socially-distanced audience below.

'Following every performance, audiences will be invited to have some time on the swings, accompanied by a soundscape made up of mem-

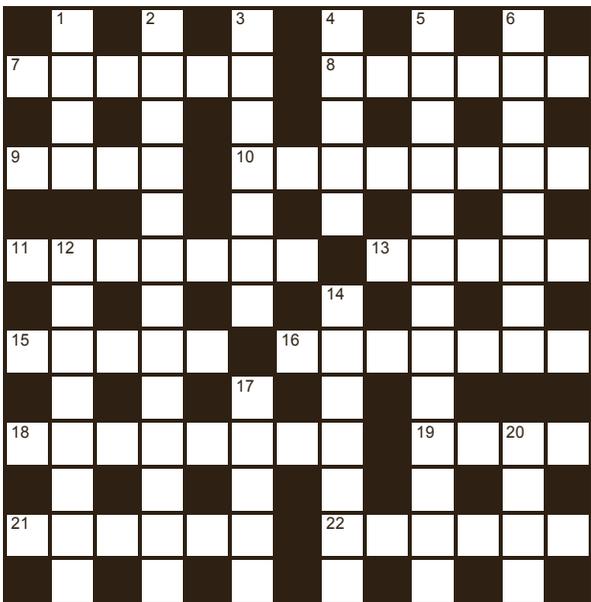
ories, thoughts and feelings of being on a swing. Fragments of these conversations, from the company's friends, family, neighbours and colleagues, including three-year old Nancy, and Gillian in her 70s, can be heard.'

As Scotland opens up for live performance *The Swings* will be performed at 23 outdoor venues, including on Skye at Armadale Castle on August 4-5, followed by the Nevis Centre Court in Fort William on August 7, and then the Rockfield Centre car park in Oban on August 8.

Jaine Lumsden, Theatre Officer at Creative Scotland said: 'Audiences across the country can look forward to All or Nothing's fun, inventive and multi-sensory circus experience touring to outdoor spaces this summer in partnership with some of Scotland's much loved theatres and festivals.

'This family-friendly show is made possible thanks to the generosity of National Lottery players, who raise £30 million for good causes across the UK every week.'

## CROSSWORD



- Across**
- 7 Work (6)
  - 8 state as the years go by (6)
  - 9 Place to buy from (4)
  - 10 Makes a gap in typing (5,3)
  - 11 Synthetic (7)
  - 13 Shortly (5)
  - 15 As notebook paper (5)
  - 16 Shrink (7)
  - 18 From one to another while in flight (3-2-)
  - 19 Wildcat (4)
  - 21 Somewhat (6)
  - 22 Pine (6)
- Down**
- 1 Scrub (4)
  - 2 Free (13)
  - 3 Severe (7)
  - 4 Terminal (5)
  - 5 Window covering (8,5)
  - 6 Illegal... (8)
  - 12 ...someone who does something illegg
  - 14 Dark skin colour (7)
  - 17 Woodland daity (5)
  - 20 Yuletide (4)

**LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION**



## Pirates invade Oban on the hunt for treasure!

Shouts of 'arrr!' rang out around the streets of Oban on Friday as a sell-out walking performance of *Treasure Island* played out to hearties young and old with eyepatches and waistcoats galore.

The Rockfield Centre welcomed three performances of *Treasure Island* by actors from The Walking Theatre Company, based in rural Argyll, who led a merry band of parents, grandparents and wee ones around some of the town's famous landmarks in a retelling of the Robert Louis Stevenson classic.

Artistic director Sadie Dixon-Spain said the show's three slots at 2pm, 2.30pm and 3.30pm all sold out, with each having a maximum audience of 30 to comply with restrictions.

Sadie said: 'We have met at The Rockfield and then gone off on a wee journey around the town to maximise the environment and the beautiful townscape Oban has.

'The Rockfield has been



Shipshape: The Walking Theatre Company gear up for *Treasure Island*.

amazing because it has just been a venue that has really embraced this and let us use the environment and get out there, and we couldn't have picked a better day.'

Fee Shaw, culture and creative officer at the Rockfield Centre, said they were so

grateful to the community for supporting the event.

Fee said: 'It's very exciting for us because it's the first time we've got theatre connected to the new building and it has been a good few years since we have been able to have any live theatre.

'We've had exhibitions inside and have one going on at the moment and, although this is not inside the building and is an outdoor walking performance, it means we're edging closer to being able to have events indoors with larger crowds.'



The touring tent is sure to be a popular event when it comes to Strontian.

# Under Canvas music festival visits Strontian

by Sandy Neil  
 editor@obantimes.co.uk

Eden Court's flagship outdoor summer festival of music, Under Canvas Across the Highlands, will hit the road in Lochaber this month, setting up stretch tents offering music, entertainment and engagement activities.

Having begun life in 2018, this is the first time the festival will be delivered outwith Inverness to rural communities, visiting Strontian's Show Ground on July 30 and 31.

Audiences can enjoy the Under Canvas house band, featuring incredible musicians Ruairidh Gollan, Megan MacDonald and Calum McLroy. Local guest artistes will perform alongside them at every stop along the way, including Malin Lewis, Anna Massie, Ali Levack, Ingrid Henderson and Iain Macfarlane.

Eden Court's Engagement Team will be on the road, working with local schools

and agencies to identify the children and young people who would most benefit from creative sessions during the summer holidays. The tent will be packed full of fun, and it will be a relaxed space for the young people in these communities to explore their creativity; whether it is filmmaking or crafting, and as the evenings draw in, the tent will play host to great music, food and drink.

There will be two sessions per evening, one at 6pm and one at 8pm, lasting for 90 minutes each. Table service will ensure the comfort and safety of audiences and there will be delicious wood-fired pizzas, made fresh on site. Audiences can secure tickets to sessions from 6-7.30pm and from 8pm-9.30pm. The event is free with a £5 reservation fee per person that will secure a table and be redeemable against food or drinks bills at the end of every session.

Eden Court CEO James Mackenzie-Blackman said: 'Eden Court was founded as the

arts venue for all the people of the Highlands. Touring Under Canvas to every corner of the region is testament that we take these founding principles very seriously. I can't wait to set up our tent, deliver fantastic opportunities for children and young people to enjoy a summer of play and to host the very best Scottish musicians for audiences.'

Eden Court is pleased to have the Highland Council's support to reach young people in our communities this summer.

Chairperson of the education committee Councillor John Finlayson said: 'Covid-19 has impacted on important milestones for socialisation and wellbeing for many of our children and young people. Therefore, this work by council officers in conjunction with our many partners to plan for activities for pupils over the summer will go a long way to help build and sustain improved wellbeing during this time and in preparation for the new school session.'



# M'ALBA

## MY ALBA

### DIARDAIN 29 An t-Iuchar THURSDAY 29 July

- 17.00 Prògraman Chloinne – Children's programming
- 19.00 Ceathrar air a'Chuilteann (Four on the Cuillin)
- 19.30 Speaking Our Language
- 19.55 Earrann Eachdraidh/History Shorts
- 20.00 An Là – NEWS
- 20.30 Fuine (Home Baking)
- 21.00 Seobhrach as a'Chlaich/Poetry of Prof. Donald MacAulay
- 21.45 Binneas/Na Nads
- 22.00 Air An Rathad/On the Road
- 22.30 Mor-Dhrochaidean/Mega Bridges
- 23.20 Dhan Uisge
- 23.30 FUNC

### DIHAOINE 30 An t-Iuchar FRIDAY 30 July

- 17.00 Prògraman Chloinne – Children's programming
- 19.00 An Là – NEWS
- 19.25 NEW Dàn
- 19.30 Machair
- 19.55 Earrann Eachdraidh/History Shorts
- 20.00 Tir is Teanga
- 20.30 Dealbhan Fraoich/Heather's Portraits
- 21.00 Opry le Daniel
- 21.50 Dhan Uisge
- 22.00 Am Bronntanas/Irish Drama
- 23.00 Folk Prom

### DISATHAIRNE 31 An t-Iuchar SATURDAY 31 July

- 16.00 Prògraman Chloinne – Children's programming
- 17:45 An Là – NEWS
- 18.00 Scottish Premiership/Dundee v St Mirr
- 19.45 Binneas/Na Trads
- 20.00 Tir is Teanga
- 20.30 An Lot 55

- 21.00 Ceò Dùthchasach/Ken Burn's Country Music
- 22.55 Celtic Connections
- 23.00 Scottish Premiership
- 00.45 Dealbh is Slighe

### DIDÒMHNAICH 1 An Lunsdal SUNDAY 1 August

- 16.00 Prògraman Chloinne – Children's programming
- 18.15 An Là – NEWS
- 18.30 Seachd Là/News Review
- 19.30 Alleluia
- 20.00 Fuine/Home Baking
- 20.30 Slighe Chladach Fìobha/Fife Coast Path
- 21.00 Ionad Hiort-Oir an Dochais/St. Kilda Centre-Edge of Hope
- 22.00 Mor Dhrochaidean/Mega Bridges
- 22.50 Celtic Connections
- 22.55 Am Bronntanas/Irish Drama

### DILUAIN 2 An Lunsdal MONDAY 2 August

- 17.00 Prògraman Chloinne – Children's programming
- 19.00 Puirt-adhair/Highland Airports
- 19.30 Speaking Our Language
- 19.55 Earrann Eachdraidh/History Shorts
- 20.00 An Là – NEWS
- 20.30 Dealbhan Fraoich/Heather's Portraits
- 21.00 Trusadh – Pudar's Peant/Why Wear Make-up
- 22.00 Cuir m aig Celtic
- 22.30 Tommy Burns
- 23.30 Dealbh is Slighe

### DIMÀIRT 3 An Lunsdal TUESDAY 3 August

- 17.00 Prògraman Chloinne – Children's programming
- 19.00 An Lot/The Croft
- 19.30 Speaking Our Language

- 19.55 Earrann Eachdraidh/History Shorts
- 20.00 An Là – NEWS
- 20.30 Slighe Chladach Fìobha/Fife Coastal Path
- 21.00 An Drochaid/The Bridge Rising
- 22.00 Trusadh – Pudar's Peant/Why Wear Make-up
- 23.00 Dàn
- 23.05 Machair
- 23.30 Alleluia

### DICIADAIN 4 An Lunsdal WEDNESDAY 4 August

- 17.00 Prògraman Chloinne – Children's programming
- 19.00 Puirt-adhair/Highland Airports
- 19.30 Speaking our Language
- 19.55 Earrann Eachdraidh/History Shorts
- 20.00 An Là – NEWS
- 20.30 Leugh Mi/Book Show
- 21.00 Jimmy Johnstone
- 22.30 FUNC
- 23.00 Opry le Daniel
- 23.50 Dhan Uisge

### DIARDAIN 5 An Lunsdal THURSDAY 5 August

- 17.00 Prògraman Chloinne – Children's programming
- 19.00 An Lot/The Croft
- 19.30 Speaking Our Language
- 19.55 Earrann Eachdraidh/History Shorts
- 20.00 An Là – NEWS
- 20.30 Fuine
- 21.00 Creachadh na Clarsaich/Plundering the Harp
- 21.45 Dealbh is Slighe
- 22.00 Air an Rathad/On the Road
- 22.30 Sar-Threanaichean/Mega Trains
- 23.20 Dhan Uisge
- 23.30 FUNC S1



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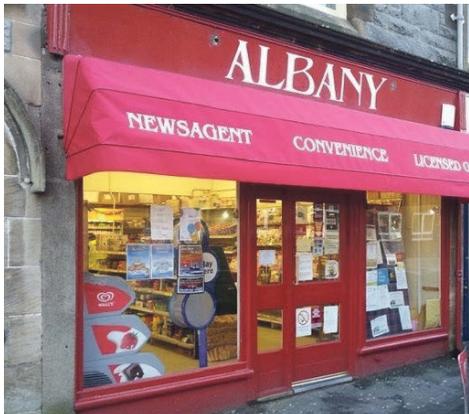


**Oban Business Improvement District**  
[www.bid4oban.co.uk](http://www.bid4oban.co.uk)



**13. ALBANY STORES**

Albany is a family run licensed newsagent-convenience store offering excellent confectionary, home-baked cakes, coffee, hot savouries and soup. Open: Sunday – Thursday 6am-6pm, Friday & Saturday 6am-7pm  
**Address: 29 Albany St, Oban PA34 4AL**



**14. DAY-2-DAY EXPRESS**

The local corner store is committed to going that extra mile for customers, and take great pride in servicing the local community, providing a 'one-stop-shop' for all essentials. Open: Sunday-Thursday 7am-10pm, Fri&Saturday 7am-11pm  
**Address: 2 Macgregor Ct, Oban PA34 4DJ**



**15. JACKSON BROTHERS MASTER BUTCHER**

3rd generation local butcher, using the finest scottish meat, available for phone orders, delivery and counter service. Open: Monday-Saturday 8am-5pm  
**Address: 2 George St, Oban PA34 5RX**



**16. D WATT & SON**

Officially Oban's oldest family fishmonger,, offering a great selection of fresh fish including Salmon, Crab Claws, Mussels, Langoustines, Trout Fillet, Doversole, Haddock, Halibut, Monkfish, Grey Sole, Cod and more Open: Tuesday-Friday 9am-5pm, Saturday 9-1pm  
**Address: Railway Pier, Oban PA34 4LW**



**17. FOOD FROM ARGYLL AT THE PIER**

Food From Argyll is a co-operative organisation made up of food producers from throughout this area. Passionate about where they are and what they do Open: Monday-Saturday 8.45am-3.30pm, Sunday 8.45am-2pm  
**Address: Railway Pier, Oban PA34 4LW**



**18. HANNAH'S NEWSAGENTS**

Your local Licensed newsagent/ convenience store, offering a wide range of magazines, newspapers and essential supplies as well as sandwiches and pastries. Open: Monday-Sunday 5.30am-10pm  
**Address: 5 Stevenson St, Oban PA34 5NA**



**19. OBAN FOOD HUB**

Order online by midnight Tuesdays [www.thegreatbritishfoodhub.com/hubs/oban-1](http://www.thegreatbritishfoodhub.com/hubs/oban-1), collect Thursdays between 4pm-6pm from **Scout Hut behind Cathedral.**



**20. THE WHISKY SHOP**

Proud to offer the highest level of service to customers, online and in store. They have been fortunate to receive recognition for service from customers and the industry. Open: Monday-Wednesday & Saturday 10am-5.30pm, Thursday & Friday 10am-7pm, Sunday 11am-4pm  
**Address: 52 George St, Oban PA34 5SD**



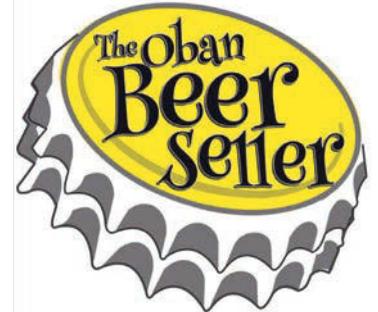
**21. OBAN WHISKY & FINE WINES**

Experts in rare and unique Scotch, particularly from the West Coast. Specialists in shipping whisky worldwide. Open: Monday-Saturday 10am-6pm, Sunday 12pm-5pm  
**Address: 19 Stafford St, Oban PA34 5NJ**



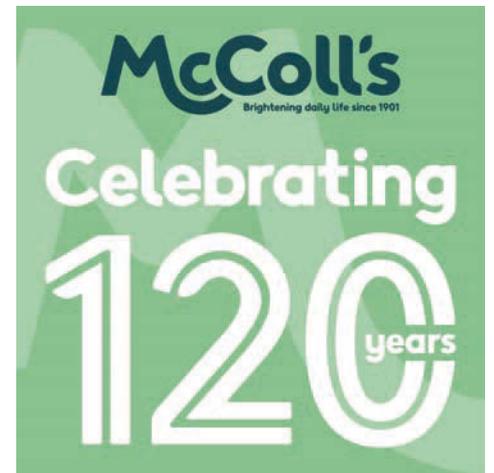
**22. OBAN BEER SELLER**

The Oban Beer Seller is an independent craft beer shop selling a range of fresh, exciting, dynamic, innovative, traditional and sometimes just plain crazy beer from near and far. Open: Tuesday-Saturday 12pm-5pm  
**Address: 29 Stafford Street, Oban, PA34 5NH**



**23. McCOLL'S**

Their aim is to provide a great range of quality everyday products and services, close to where people live, and available when they need them. Open: Monday-Saturday 6.30am-10pm, Sunday 7.30am-10pm  
**Address: 128 George St, Oban PA34 5NT**



**24. FARMFOODS**

Chain supermarket specialising in frozen food products, often offered at discounted prices. Open: Monday-Friday 8am-8pm, Saturday 8am-7pm, Sunday 9am-6pm  
**Address: Dunollie Rd, Oban PA34 5PJ**



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## Around the markets

**Caledonian Marts Ltd, Stirling, Thursday July 22**, sold 135 cattle comprised of 46 bullocks, heifers and young bulls and 58 OTM cattle as well as 31 calves and stirks.

Prime heifers averaged 248ppkg at 590Kg. Prime bullocks averaged 253ppkg at 612Kg.

Prime heifers sold to 278ppkg for a Limousin twice from Learielaw, Broxburn and Penston, Macmerry purchased by G Kirk, Butchers, Denny, D Comrie, Butchers, Comrie and D Campbell, Butchers, Callandar respectively and to £1633 for a Limousin from Bruckley, St Andrews purchased by T Johnston, Butchers, Falkirk.

Prime Bullocks sold to 262ppkg Twice for a Limousin from Bruckley, St Andrews and Learielaw, Broxburn purchased by D Comrie, Butchers, Comrie and T Johnston, Butchers, Falkirk and to £1642 for a Limousin again from Bruckley, St Andrews purchased by W Stark, Twechar. Bulls (Under 30 months) sold to 210ppkg for an Aberdeen Angus from Highland Waygu, Dunblane and to £1555 for a Limousin from J H Garbutt, Sketewan, Pitlochry.

Other leading prices: Heifers per Kg 278p Learielaw (Twice) & Penston; 272p Learielaw; 268p Faskine; 265p Penston 260p Bruckley; Bullocks per Kg 262p Learielaw & Bruckley; 260p Faskine; 258p & 255p Penston. Heifers per Head £1633 Bruckley; £1851 & £1534 Learielaw; £1532 West Shirva; £1,517 Pirnhall. Bullocks per Head £1642 Bruckley; £1638 Nethermyres £1619 Learielaw; £1596 Faskine; £1582 Nethermyres. Also forward were 58 OTM Cattle with mainly feedings cows forward. The OTMs averaged 143ppkg selling to 178ppkg for a Limousin from J H Garbutt, Sketewan and to £1470 for a Simmental from J Graham, West Balgothrie. Dairy Cows sold to 138ppkg from J & J Kinloch, Walton

and to £1160 for the Same Beast. Other leading prices: Beef OTMs per Kg 178p & 177p Sketewan; 175p Malletsheugh; 169p Gryffwraes; 168p West Balgothrie; 163p Learielaw. Beef OTMs per Head £1470 West Balgothrie; £1420 & £1370 Sketewan; £1290 Gartfairn; £1260 Blairsgreen. Dairy Cows per head £1160 Walton; £1030 Gibblaston; £960 Hillend (Twice)

The next sale of prime cattle, young bulls, OTM Cattle and young calves and stirks will be on Thursday August 5.

**United Auctions Stirling, Thursday July 22**, sold 3,493 prime sheep comprising of 2,745 new season lambs to average 261.30ppk and 748 ewes and rams.

New Season Lambs (2,745) - Cretlevane (Tex) £140.00; Wester Balgair (Tex) £138.00; Wester Middleton (Tex) £136.00; Auchenrivoch & Woodhead of Aberdalgie (Tex) £135.00; Harviesmailing (BTex) £138.00; South Ballaird (BTex) £134.00; Mid Derry (BTex) £133.00; Lintibert (BTex) £129.00 x2; Little Raith (Suf) £129.00; Kilmux (Suf) £128.50; Little Raith (Suf) £127.50; Crofthead (Suf) £126.50; Roughlands (Lley) £129.00; Harviesmailing (Cont) £126.00; Mid Derry (Blue Tex) £124.00; Drimsynie (Cha) £123.00; Bangour (Cha) £118.50; Shanry (Cha) £113.50; Blackcastle (Dor) £117.00; Ardgate (Mule) £94.50; Ardgate (BF) £91.00.

New Season Lambs (2,745) - High Milndovan & West Balgair (Tex) 305.00ppk; Easterton (Tex) 303.00ppk; South Dundonald (Tex) 300.00ppk; Hardiston (Tex) 293.00ppk; Harviesmailing (BTex) 294.00ppk; Oatfield (BTex) 292.00ppk; Cretlevane (BTex) 289.00ppk; Oatfield (BTex) 288.00ppk; Mid Derry (Blue Tex) 279.00ppk; Crofthead (Suf) 276.00ppk & 269.00ppk; Ardoch & Threepland (Suf) 266.00ppk; Wester Middleton (Tex)

265.00ppk; Shanry (Cha) 273.00ppk; Bangour (Cha) 260.00ppk x2; Shields (Con) 267.00ppk; Harviesmailing (Con) 252.00ppk; Blackcastle (Dor) 244.00ppk; Ardgate (Mule) 226.00ppk; Ardgate (BF) 222.00ppk.

Ewes (748) - Elmscleugh (Tex) £186.00; Tillyrie (Tex) £170.00; Westhall (Tex) £168.00; Wester Balgair (Tex) £151.00 x2; Wester Middleton (Tex) £141.00; Wester Balgair (Tex) £140.00; Lochend (BFL) £150.00; Dunbrach (BFL) £111.00; Blackcastle (Suf) £138.00; Wester Middleton (Suf) £134.00; Catcune (Suf) £132.00; Drimsynie (Cont) £139.00; Tillyrie (Cont) £132.00; Glenrig (Cont) £131.00; Shanry (Cont) £130.00; Drimsynie (Suf) £128.00; Fulfordlees (Suf) £124.00; Halkerston (Suf) £117.00; Assloss (Mule) £125.00; Tillyrie (Mule) £124.00; Wester Middleton (Mule) £120.00; Stacks (Mule) £118.00; Lossit (Chev/Mule) £124.00; Cowdens (Zwa) £119.00; Balthayock (Lley) £113.00; Elmscleugh (BF) £119.00 & £98.00; Island View (BF) £90.00; Dykeneuk (BF) £89.00.

Tups - Westhall (Suf) £169.00; Nether Birkwood (Tex) £164.00; Elmscleugh (Tex) £160.00; North Deanhead (BFL) £140.00.

**United Auctions, Stirling, Monday July 26**, sold 6,006 store lambs and feeding sheep at their opening sale.

Averages: TexX- £88.45 (+£15.37) on the year BTexX- £87.39 (+£16.00) on the year SuffX- £87.25 (+£11.43) on the year Chev- £76.00 (+£16.00) on the year Mule- £81.10 (+£7.24) on the year Chev/Mule- £81.64 (+£10.47) on the year Leading prices: Store Lambs- Low Craigton (Suf) £104.00 & £100.50; Duntuim (Suf) £94.00; Nether Moneynut (Suf) £92.00; Falgunzeon (Tex) £112.00; Ashfield (Tex) £104.00; Nether Moneynut (Tex) £102.00; Townhead (BTex) £98.50; Low Tirfergus (BTex) £98.00;

Kinburn (BTex) £97.00; Woodyett (Chev) £76.00; East Mitchelton (Mule) £92.50; Auchentiber (Mule) £88.00; Ardgate (Mule) £87.00; Low Tirfergus (Chev/Mule) £85.00.

**Caledonian Marts Ltd, Stirling, Monday July 26**, had forward 312 Store Cattle at their fortnightly sale.

Bullocks averaged 224ppkg selling to 250ppkg for a pen of Herefords from T M Drummond, Low Barbeth, Leswalt and to £1430 for a pen of Limousins from I Methven, Cattermills, Croftamie. Heifers averaged 221ppkg selling to 241ppkg for a pen of Limousins from W J F Ramsay & Sons, Cardryne, Stranraer and to £1210 for a Simmental from D McKenzie, Ardgate, Gartocharn. Black & Whites averaged 189ppkg selling to 200ppkg from Low Barbeth, Leswalt and to £780 from A H S Drummond, Glenside, Stranraer. Other leading prices Bullocks per Head £1,480 Cattermills £1,460 & £1,330 Hill O' Harthill £1,270 Hill O' Harthill & Inshanks £1,220 Camregan £1,150 Inshanks £1,150 Cairney & Cardryne Heifers per Head £1,210 Ardgate £1,190 Ardgate & Cardryne £1,160 Ardgate £1,110 & £1,100 Camregan Bullocks per kg 250p Low Barbeth 249p Glenside Farm 247p Lochnell 245p Cardryne & Glenside 244p Inshanks Heifers per kg 241p Cardryne 237p Camregan (Twice) & Inshanks 232p & 231p Cardryne 230p Back Of Moss

Our next sale of store cattle will be on Monday August 9.

**United Auctions, Stirling, Wednesday July 21**, sold 536 store cattle, 107 rearing cattle, 151 out of spec cattle, cast cows and bulls, and 243 breeding sheep. Bullocks (254) - averaged 239.15p to 277.50p per kg for a 382kg SimX from Newpark, and to £1410 for a 627kg CHX from Mains. Dairy

Bullocks (34) - averaged 194.07p to 204.00p per kg for a 429kg HFX from Mahaar, and to £1190 for a 625kg HFX from Mains. Heifers (231) - averaged 227.09p to 276.30p per kg for a 418kg CHX from Mahaar, and to £1385 for a 654kg CHX from Mains. Young Bulls (17) - averaged 228.15p to 232.70p per kg for a LimX from Gateside, and to £1140 for a LimX from Gateside. Beef Cows and Bulls (119) - averaged 159.92p to 232.00p per kg for a LimX from Newpark, and to £1570 for a LimX from Newpark. Dairy Cows (28) - averaged 126.50p to 144.30p per kg for a HFX from Balgownie Mains, and to £1130 for a MOX from Claylands. Out of Spec Cattle (4) - averaged 217.36p to 225.10p per kg for a AAX from Towncroft, and to £1730 for a Lim from Newhouse of Glamis. Bullocks: Up to 250kgs - Colmslie £560, 231.40p; 251-300kgs - Colmslie £745, Gateside 225.30p; 301-350kgs - Townhead £865, 266.20p; 351-400kgs - Newpark £1060, 277.50p; 401-450kgs - Mahaar £1130, 263.40p; 451-500kgs - Cowans £1335, 275.60p; 501-551kgs - Cowans £1340, 254.80p; 552-601kgs - Dykehead £1400, Snaigow 248.20p; 602-651kgs - Mains £1410, 224.90p. Heifers: Up to 250kgs - Colmslie £560, 231.40p; 251-300kgs - Gateside £855, 256.00p; 351-400kgs - Gateside £1010, 257.70p; 401-450kgs - Mahaar £1155, 276.30p; 451-500kgs - Low Drummore £1125, 239.40p; 501-551kgs - Laigh Glenstockadale £1190, 222.00p; 552-601kgs - Crookedstonemuir £1360, 246.40p; 652-701kgs - Mains £1385, 211.80p. Young Bulls: 251-300kgs - Greenyards £570, 205.00p; 351-400kgs - Greenyards £820, 232.00p; 401-450kgs - Gateside £990, 230.20p; 401-450kgs - Gateside £1140, 232.70p. OTM Cows: £ per head - Newpark (Lim) £1570, Ardtornish (CH) £1550, Blackburn (Sim) £1510, Blackburn (Lui) £1370, Lindertis (AA) £1270, Towncroft

(BRB) £1250, Hunting Faulds (Sal) £1190, Claylands (MO) £1130, Muircot (HF) £1110. PPK - Newpark (Lim) 223.00ppk, Towncroft (AA) 222.40ppk, Blackburn (Lui) 210.30ppk, Balleny (CH) 209.30ppk, Blackburn (Sim) 206.90ppk, Townhead (BRB) 183.30ppk, Hunting Faulds (Sal) 163.90ppk, Auchnotteroch (HE) 161.50ppk, Balgownie Mains (HF) 144.30ppk. OTM Bulls: £ per head - Drumsleed (Sim) £1690, Drumsleed (BS) £1270, Auchendoigh (AA) £1070. PPK - 10 Beechwood Dr. (Sim) 203.80ppk, Drumsleed (BS) 172.60ppk. Out of Spec Cattle: £ per head - Newhouse of Glamis (Lim) £1730, Auchencloich (AA) £1330, Hunting Faulds (Lui) £1290.

PPK - Towncroft (AA) 225.10ppk, Newhouse of Glamis (Lim) 218.40ppk, Hunting Faulds (Lui) 205.40ppk. Rearing: Cattle: United Auctions, Stirling, sold 107 rearing cattle. An excellent show of stirks was met with an even stronger trade with an ever increasing demand for stirks once again.

The sale was topped at £785 for a pen of 3 CHX blks from M/s Mitchell, Ardtornish, St. Andrews. On milk calves topped at £470 also from M/s Mitchell, Ardtornish.

Leading Stirk prices - Ardtornish (CHX) £785; Ardtornish (CHX) £720; Newpark (SimX) £725; Newpark (LimX) £720; Glenarthy (LimX) £705; Coldcothill (SalX) £670; Holmes of Caaf (BRBX) £400. On Milk prices - Ardtornish (SimX) £470; Ardtornish (CHX) £410; Towncroft (AAX) £440; Rossiebank (LimX) £365; Barbreck (LUIX) £380; Claylands (HO) £195. Store sheep: United Auctions, Stirling, sold 233 breeding sheep. Leading prices - Gimmers: Renton Home (SufX) £198.00; Wardhead (SufX) £195.00; Renton Home (SufX) £190.00; Wardhead (TexX) £186.00 & £180.00; Kinaldy (Chev/Mule) £172.00. Ewes & lambs: Claylands (Suf ewes and Suf lambs) £112.00 per life.

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Web: <https://www.theglenlivet.com/en-UK>



# Education in the West Your Future! 2021

**The Oban Times** & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES **LOCHABER TIMES**

We need to educate ourselves for the way we live now and the way we are going to earn that living post-Covid and guess what? For once the Highlands and Islands has the advantage.

While other universities and colleges have had to come to terms with students and tutors social distancing and switching to remote learning we have been doing it for years and to great success.

The University of the Highlands and Islands comprises 13 colleges and research institutions delivering higher education via 70 learning centres throughout the Highlands and Islands and into Moray and Perthshire.

As the UHI justifiably boasts: 'The university has some of the best online learning technologies meaning you can study many of our courses from home or work, wherever you are in the world.'

Whether you are a school leaver setting out in the world; someone who is mid career and realising that they need new skills or retired, or close to retiring, and looking to learn for the sheer joy of it, get out there and do it. None of us is as smart as we like to think we are and nothing learned is ever wasted.

And do not just think of academia as the beginning and end of education; new skills can be learned via private businesses. You can invest in your own career, for example, in the beauty industry, catering, haulage and construction. Training to enhance your skill set is money well-spent.

Another area to consider is learning business basics, or going on a course aimed at starting your own business. Maximizing your potential by up-grading your IT and social media skills is another area of learning to consider.

There is a whole world of learning out there waiting for you and in times of uncertainty, expanding your knowledge and skill set is the smart thing to do.

#### Counting down to August 10

The SQA, Scottish Qualifications Authority, will announce Scottish Higher grades on Tuesday August 10.

SQA decided that all Scottish Higher students will receive teacher-assessed grades in 2021.

The grades are awarded on a student's performance in mock exams and course work; grades will be decided on the basis of up to four pieces of work from each student.

Then a different teacher, a member of the local authority and, in some cases, an SQA employee will double-check the grades to ensure consistency and quality of the decisions. National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher students will be able to appeal their grades.

#### Let's get this clear

Clearing is how universities and colleges fill any places they still have on their courses through UCAS, the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service.

'Students can expect to be well supported by UCAS and universities as they make their decisions over the summer. Universities and colleges continue to be flexible, as they have been throughout the pandemic, and have worked hard to be able to welcome

more students onto their courses,' Clare Marchant, chief executive of UCAS, has said.

'Whatever their individual circumstances, there will be a range of options for students to choose from. Thousands of undergraduate courses have vacancies in clearing, and our apprenticeship service is also ready to help students who are considering this career pathway. UCAS is ready to help students make the right choices for them, leading to the next successful steps in their learning and careers.'

From July 5 to October 19, you can apply for a course using UCAS if you do not already have an offer from a university or college and the course still has places.

You can use UCAS clearing if you:

- apply after June 30
- did not receive any offers, or none you wanted to accept
- cannot meet the conditions of your offers

#### A 'trades' career could be for you?

A career in the world of trades services and engineering can give you practical and useful skills, incur less student debt, and allow you to earn experience as well as an education. Trades are always in demand and pay well. If you think you have the skills (or potential skills) to work in construction, home improvements, utilities or design, this could be the way forward for you (even if you are already an adult and still not sure what you want to do with your life!). There is more about construction training on page 7 of this feature and look out for next week's Oban Times where we talk about modern apprenticeships, skills development and on the job training as options for your future career.

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## Cùrsaichean Ceum aig Sabhal Mòr Ostaig – Cuir iarrtas thugainn airson 2021/22!

A bheil thu am beachd do chuid Gàidhlig a thoirt air adhart gu ìre oilthigh? A bheil ùidh agad ann an eachdraidh is cultar na Gàidhlig no a bheil meas mòr agad air ceòl traidiseanta agus am bu mhath leat barrachd ionnsachadh? No is dòcha gum bu mhath leat Gàidhlig a theagasg agus a toirt do dhaoine eile?

'S e Sabhal Mòr Ostaig (Oilthigh na Gàidhealtachd is nan Eilean) an aon cholaiste san t-saoghal anns an urrainn dhut cùrsaichean ceum gu lèir a dhèanamh tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig. Tha dà chùrsa bhogaidh ann: An Cùrsa Comais agus Gàidhlig is Conaltradh. Tha na cùrsaichean seo a' mairsinn ochd mìosan, bhon t-Sultain chun a' Chèitein, air an làraich, aig Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, anns an Eilean Sgitheanach. 'S urrainn dhut an dèanamh fad bliadhna a-mhàin air neo mar a' chiad bhliadhna de chùrsa Ceum le Urram, ann an Cànan is Cultar, Leasachadh, Foghlam no Ceòl. Tha An Cùrsa Comais agus Gàidhlig is Conaltradh stèidhichte air sgilean sgrìobhaidh is labhairt tro mhodalan riatanach: sgilean conaltradh; cànan foirmeil is dreuchdail; agus eachdraidh, litreachas is cultar, cho math ri modalan roghainneil air òrain is sgeulachdan, na meadhanan, ceòl agus Gàidhlig sa choimhearsnachd.

'S e cùrsa dha fileantaich is luchd-ionnsachaidh adhartach a th' ann an Gàidhlig is Conaltradh a tha airson piseach a thoirt air sgilean sgrìobhaidh is còmhraidh, agus tha an Cùrsa Comais ag amas air luchd-ionnsachaidh eadar-mheadhanach a tha ag iarraidh a bhith fileanta anns a' chànan. Tha dùil gum bi oileanaich a' bruidhinn agus a' cleachdadh na Gàidhlig air taobh a-staigh is taobh a-muigh nan clasaichean, bho latha gu latha. Gheibheadh tu cothrom an cois nan cùrsaichean greis-gnìomhachais a dhèanamh ann an Gàidhlig le, mar eisimpleir, sgoiltean, companaidhean riochdachaidh is craolaidh is buidhnean Gàidhlig a tha a' brosnachadh agus a' leasachadh cànan is cultar na Gàidhlig.



Ma tha ceist sam bith agad no ma tha thu airson barrachd fiosrachaidh fhaighinn air na cùrsaichean againn dha fileantaich is luchd-ionnsachaidh na Gàidhlig, no fiù 's iarrtas a chur thugainn

airson ro-shealladh, cuir post-d gu [iarrtas@smo.uhi.ac.uk](mailto:iarrtas@smo.uhi.ac.uk), fòn gu 01471 888304 no rach chun na làraich-lìn againn aig [www.smo.uhi.ac.uk](http://www.smo.uhi.ac.uk)



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## Undergraduate courses at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig – Apply now for September 2021

Do you want to continue with Gaelic at university level? Are you interested in exploring the culture and history of the language, maybe you are passionate about Gaelic traditional music and wish to learn more? Or would you like to teach Gaelic and pass the language on to others?

Whether you are studying on campus, or through distance learning, Sabhal Mòr Ostaig (University of the Highlands and Islands) is the only college in the world where you can complete a degree entirely through the medium of Gaelic. Sabhal Mòr Ostaig offers two immersion courses: An Cùrsa Comais and Gàidhlig is Conaltradh.

These courses run over eight months, from September to May, on campus at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, in the Isle of Skye. You can complete the course as a stand-alone Cert HE or as the first year of an honours degree in Language and Culture, Development, Education or Music.

An Cùrsa Comais and Gàidhlig is Conaltradh are both based on writing and speaking skills through core modules: communication skills; formal and professional language; and history, literature and culture, as well as optional modules in song and folklore, media, music and Gaelic in the community. Gàidhlig is Conaltradh is a course for fluent speakers and advanced learners who want to improve their writing and conversation skills, whilst An Cùrsa Comais is aimed at intermediate level learners who would like to become fluent in the language. It is expected that, with encouragement, students will speak and use Gaelic, every day, inside and outside of classes. As part of the courses, you will get the opportunity to undertake a work experience placement in Gaelic with, for example, schools, production and broadcast companies and organisations which are active in promoting Gaelic language and culture.

If you have any questions, would like more information about the range of courses available for fluent speakers and learners of Gaelic, or wish to request a prospectus, please email [iarrtas@smo.uhi.ac.uk](mailto:iarrtas@smo.uhi.ac.uk), phone 01471 888304 or visit our website: [www.smo.uhi.ac.uk](http://www.smo.uhi.ac.uk)



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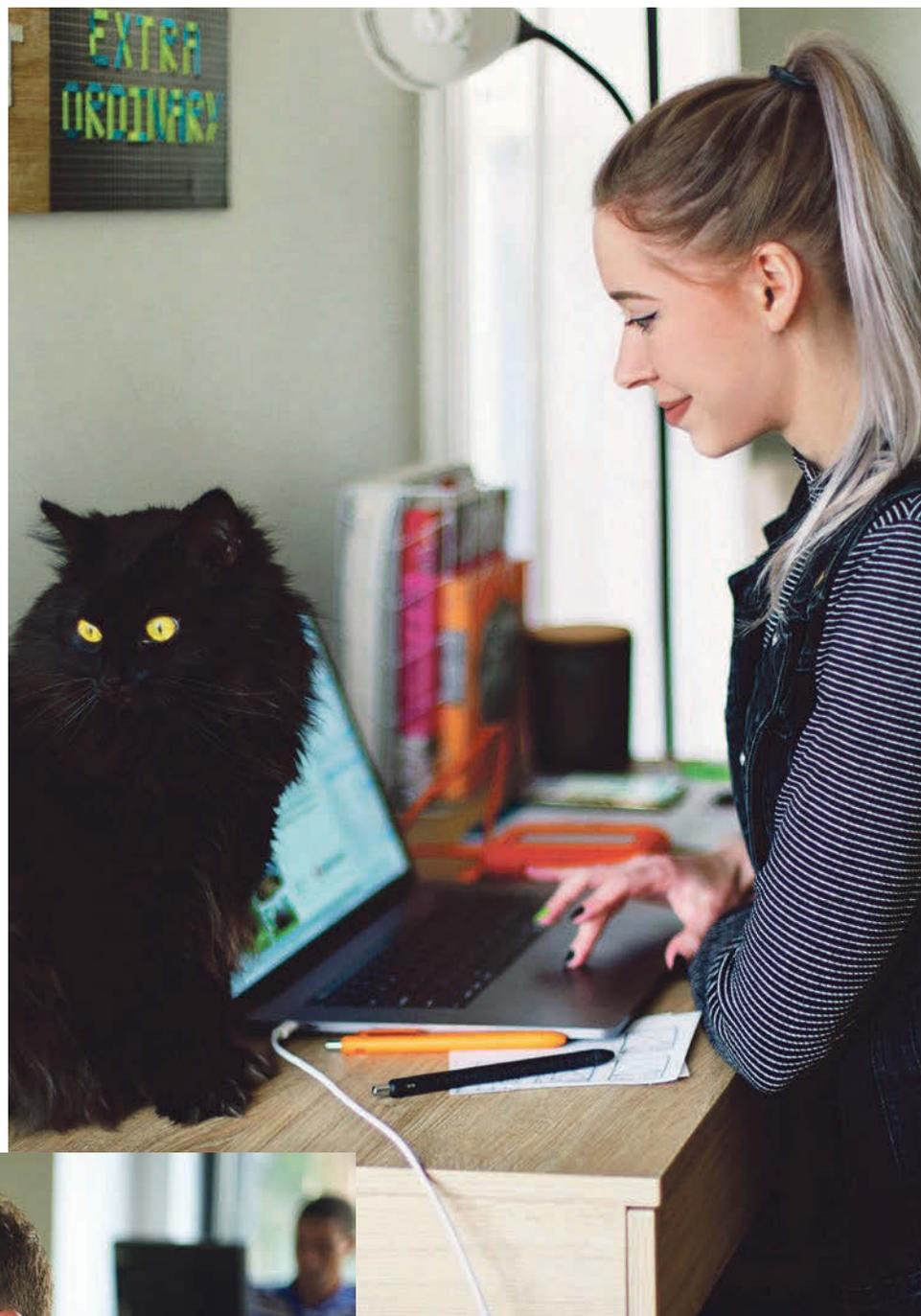
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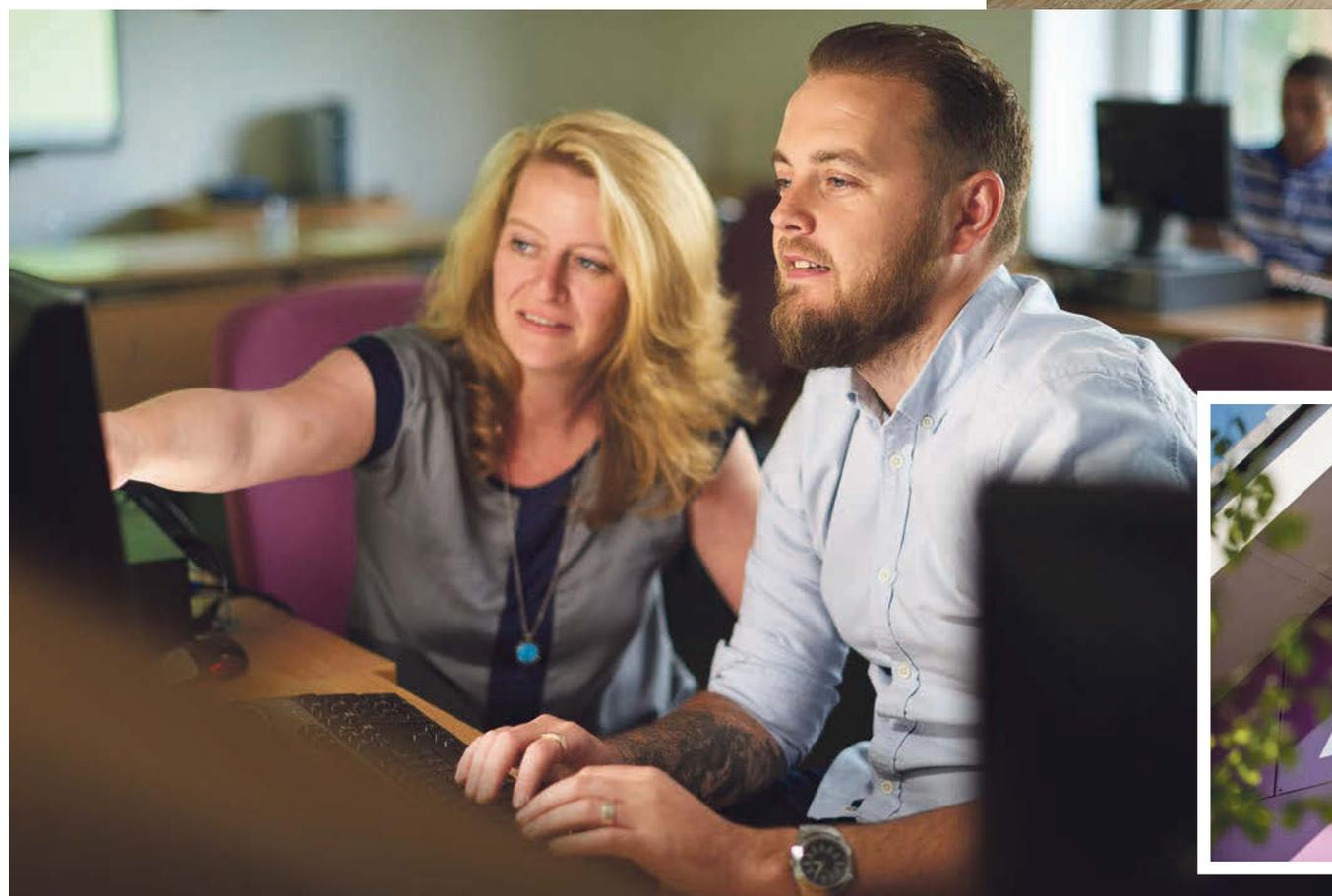
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We're ready to welcome you back: either on campus for some courses, or with a choice of studying from home or in one of our centres for others. Whether you're just starting your student journey, retraining or upskilling we have a wide range of programmes and apprenticeship opportunities from access level, NC/HNC/HND through to degrees and beyond. We have over 10 years' experience of successfully welcoming students into our college centres, or connecting students using online classrooms to create a positive learning environment. Whatever your choice, we're here to support you.

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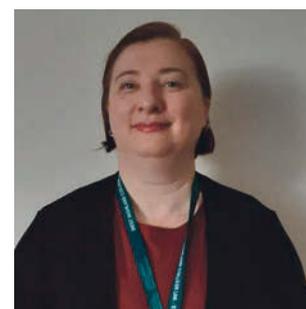
### Ben Alderton NC Music

*"I've enjoyed the opportunity to be a part of a team to create an album from concept, to marketing, to production. I have also enjoyed being able to record music with others and experiment in different genres I wouldn't usually play."*



### Alexandra Oancea: HNC Childhood Practice

*"I am studying HNC Childhood Practice to gain insight into the realities of an Early Years Practitioner through the placement offered with the course and as a stepping-stone to pursue a PGDE as a teacher. I have enjoyed the exposure to online learning. The course was a good mix of team working online and self-study."*



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# Why choose a career in the construction industry?

There have rarely been more employment opportunities in the UK construction industry than there are at present.

Companies are crying out for a new generation of qualified workers due to a skills shortage driven by new infrastructure projects, the UK government's plans to build 300,000 homes a year, digitalisation of the industry and a rate of retirement that's outstripping recruitment.

This skills shortage brings with it a host of opportunities, including great employment prospects, job security and an exciting and varied career.

There are so many employment opportunities within Argyll and the surrounding areas within industries including housing, forestry, marine, agriculture, aquaculture, quarry and infrastructure.

## Job satisfaction

Few careers are as rewarding as those in the construction industry.

The satisfaction of seeing your work develop in front of your eyes is one of the most fulfilling aspects of working in construction. You can watch a building transform and grow into the finished product, knowing you have made an important and lasting contribution to the landscape.

## Competitive pay

The construction industry is highly competitive, meaning that the salaries are, too. Most technical trainee roles can start on £25,000 a year, while more experienced technical workers can

earn £45,000 and above. Trades roles including plant operation, bricklaying, scaffolding, groundworks, benching, paving and kerbing also pay well, generally, with higher skilled workers earning from £14-£20 per hour.



## Variety and choice

The construction industry is extremely varied and offers something for everyone – from carpenters, plasterers, plumbers and bricklayers, to engineers, surveyors and project managers. What's more, no two jobs are the same or in the same location. This means you can work in a huge variety of projects during your career, and will have the opportunity to work across the country and, possibly, abroad.

You're always being challenged – physically and mentally – and required to find solutions for new problems both as individual and part of a tight-knit team.

## Progression opportunities

The wide variety of roles and projects brings many opportunities to progress. Construction is also viewed as a very meritocratic industry where hard work pays off – after all, many company CEOs started out at the bottom. And, unlike other sectors, construction workers are frequently presented with opportunities to gain new skills and move into different roles.

## Innovation rewarded

The construction industry is constantly evolving, as client expectations grow, projects become more complex, and technology improves. Companies continuously need to find more innovative ways to design, build and deliver, which creates opportunities for new employees with fresh ideas and methods.



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SVQ in Plant Operations Extractives at SCQF  
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# New Crofting Commission convenor

Lochaber's Malcolm Mathieson has been appointed convener of the Crofting Commission following the resignation of Rod MacKenzie.

## Lochaber's Malcolm Mathieson appointed following resignation

Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and Islands Mairi Gougeon invited Commissioners to select a new convener after the East Highlands commissioner stepped down from both roles.

This change will remain until the election of a new board in 2022.

Commissioner Mathieson said he was disappointed that Rod had resigned but said he would carry on the progress his predecessor had achieved over the past four years.

'Like all organisations, the past 12 months have been difficult with very little access

to Great Glen House and staff having to adjust to home working,' he added.

'This has brought about challenges to the commission, but our staff have risen to that challenge and there are some exciting projects currently being undertaken which will continue to improve our operating performance over the next nine months.'

An accountant with extensive board experience across large multi-national organisations,

Commissioner Mathieson is also a partner in Moy Farm, an 1,800-acre hill farm near Fort William. In addition, he is the owner of Lochaber Lodges, a diversification project of Moy Farm.

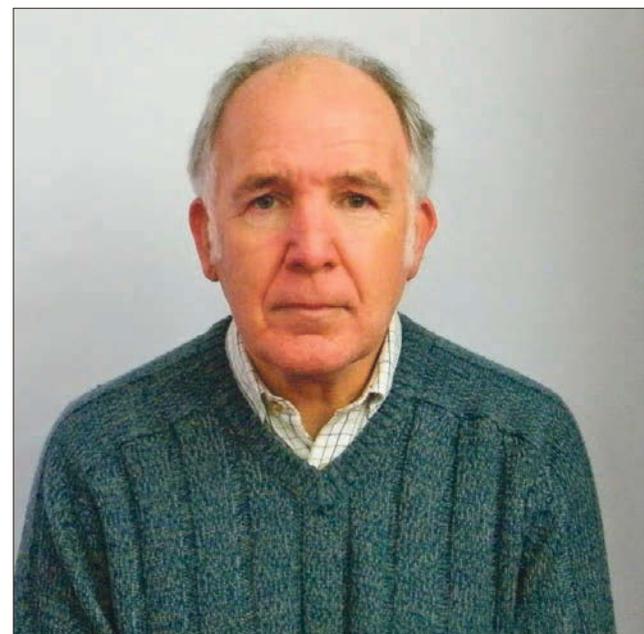
Malcolm understands crofting issues and crofting communities due to his family ties to Skye and North Uist.

Prior to his appointment as convener, he was vice chairman of the commission's audit and finance committee and under-

stands the challenges currently facing the organisation.

Bill Barron, chief executive officer of the Crofting Commission, commented: 'The management and staff of the commission were disappointed that Rod decided to leave the post of convener but are delighted continuity has been achieved by Malcolm being appointed as his replacement.'

'We look forward to working with Malcolm in driving forward the continuing progress of the commission.'



Right: Malcolm Mathieson is the Crofting Commission's new convenor.



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**WANTED MOTOR HOMES**

Caravanettes and camper vans, all makes and models considered. Also touring caravans and statics, instant decision, same day payment. Social distancing measures in place.

**Contact William 07730 130284**  
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All types of 4x4's, Landrover Toyota, Nissan etc. We also buy MOT failures and accident damage vehicles. Anything considered.

**T: 07885 203020 or**  
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Tel: 07861 247237

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Landrover, Toyota, Isuzu, All single and double cab pickups. Any age or condition considered. Also buying motorhome and caravans. Immediate payment and collection

**Please call or WhatsApp James on**  
**07789 138028/ 07487 548703**  
**Email: wanted4x4s@gmail.com**

**WANTED**

All types of 4-wheel drive vehicles & pickups, Landrovers, Toyota, Mitsubishi, Kia, Ford and MOT failures, non-runners, etc. Will travel and collect.

**T: 07546 788945**

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**Our current West Coast campaign consists of the following options**

1. Call and make your booking. Visit us on the day of your appointment and wait with a coffee while your car is being looked after. Continue on with your day.

2. Call and make your booking. Visit us on the day of your appointment, collect your free courtesy car and go about your business. Collect your car at the end of the day.

3. Call and make your booking. Visit us on the day of your appointment, collect your free courtesy car and return home to the

West Coast. We will deliver your car home to you and collect the courtesy car for an additional fee of £50.00.

4. Call and make your booking. Visit us on the day of your appointment, if you are going on holiday and flying between Monday-Friday, between 8am-5pm we would be

more than happy to drop you at Glasgow airport and make further arrangements for your return.

Visit our websites for more information or give our service desk a call and speak with Veronica, Andrew or Andy who will happy to assist.

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We can deliver all you would expect from a franchise dealer and more. Not only do we achieve that, we can save you up to 30 per cent on labour cost! Regardless whether your car is a lease car, personally owned, new or old or still under manufacturer's warranty we can take care of it. We deal directly with most major motor groups

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and promise to deliver you unbeatable value for money. It has now been five years since we introduced our West coast Driver campaign. As this has been tremendously successful for us and we would like to grow our customer base further in the West Coast area.

**WANTED**



Looking for motorhome or caravan.  
First time buyers.  
Any make or condition considered.

**Tel: 07537 840381**

**WANTED**

All touring caravans and motor homes, campers etc, high mileage, MOT failures or damp, all considered, any make or model, will travel.

**Tel: 07546 788945**



**WANTED 4X4S FOR CASH**



**WANTED ALL 4X4'S & COMMERCIAL VEHICLES**

We buy for retail, breaking and export so no matter the age or condition we can make a cash offer. Young or old, all makes and models, engine problems, farm used, accident damaged, mot failures etc.

**WON'T BE BEATEN ON PRICE, FAST PAYMENT AND COLLECTION. TEL: 07789 855381**

**WANTED**

All types of motor homes and caravanettes. Any age or condition. We also buy water damaged or in need of repair. Also all types of touring caravans from 95 onwards. We do not dispose.

**T: 07885 203020 Email: gbplantsales@hotmail.co.uk**

**RECRUITMENT**



**Collections Assistant**

This is a 2-year project funded post ideally suited to a new graduate with the possibility of further extension.

**£25,000 per annum 37.5 hours per week**

Kilmartin Museum are seeking a full-time Collections Assistant to assist the Director/Curator with general day-to-day curatorial work and additional work required to develop the collections, prepare and install a new exhibition and assist with the move back into the Museum's new facilities.

For further information and to apply, please visit [www.kilmartin.org/jobs](http://www.kilmartin.org/jobs).

**Closing date: 5pm 16th August 2021  
Interviews: c24th & 25th August 2021**



**Salmon Processor  
Highland Smoked Salmon**

Fort William  
£10.50 to £11.50 per hour  
Rate starting £10.50 rising to £11.50, circa £24,570 - £26,910 per annum  
Full time, permanent

Highland Smoked Salmon, a leading producer of Premier Smoked Salmon are looking to recruit a number of operatives in its production facility based in Fort William, Scottish Highlands.

Duties would focus upon processing salmon, smoked salmon and preparing the product for despatch.

Candidates should be good timekeepers and have a willingness to learn new skills.

Full training, including hygiene and health and safety will be provided. Applicants should be able to work well in a team and will be required to work some flexible shifts when required.

In return we offer a leading financial package increasing with experience.

A workplace pension scheme is also available. We look forward to you joining our team.

**Please send your CV to [info@highlandsmokedsalmon.co.uk](mailto:info@highlandsmokedsalmon.co.uk) or alternatively contact the factory on 01397 703649 for an application form**



**Accounts Assistant  
Full-time (Maternity Cover  
- Fixed Term 12 months)**

We are looking for an individual to join our accounts team for a fixed term. The candidate should have a pleasant and professional manner. The role involves preparation of financial accounts to draft stage for a varied portfolio of clients. Being qualified or part qualified as AAT, CA or similar would also be advantageous. Salary offered will depend on level of experience and qualifications.

Please send CV and a covering letter by 9 August 2021 to:

**The Staff Partner at  
Albany Chambers, Albany Street,  
Oban PA34 4AL  
or by e mail to [mail@simmers.co.uk](mailto:mail@simmers.co.uk)  
[www.simmers.co.uk](http://www.simmers.co.uk)**

**Care Support Staff Required**

We are looking for Support Staff to work on the Isle of Luing - Seil and Oban area  
Staff will need to be drivers - car can be provided if required

**Enhanced Work Conditions**

- Start Up Bonus paid
- Paid Holidays - 28 days per year
- Block Hours per day (12hrs)
- Staff Pension Scheme
- All Travel Expenses
- All Training Provided
- Free Accommodation in the area

If Interested please contact: **Careplus ( Bute )**  
**Tel: 01700 502650 Email: [info@careplusbute.com](mailto:info@careplusbute.com)**



**Evening Kitchen Staff**

We are looking for evening kitchen staff to help us develop and serve a new takeaway menu. Exiting opportunity to help create something new. Enthusiasm and experience required.

**Call for more information or email [jobs@mkmacleod.co.uk](mailto:jobs@mkmacleod.co.uk)**

Your Career Right Here

The Scottish Salmon Company

**Marine Operatives**  
Location: Loch Fyne Area

**Salary: Up to £27,509.76 per annum dependent on experience, inclusive of 1 in 3 weekend enhanced payment plus enhanced payment for weekday overtime.**

**Why work with us?**

- £150 million turnover
- 650 + employees
- We sell to over 26 countries around the world
- We are an internationally recognised pioneer in Aquaculture
- Sustainability is at the core of all our activities

The Scottish Salmon Company produces Scotland's Finest Sea Loch Fresh Salmon with Pride and Passion. With our head office in Scotland's capital, Edinburgh, we breed, rear and process superior salmon exclusively in the pristine waters of the Scottish Western Highlands and Islands. Our customers appreciate our product quality, service excellence and provenance guarantee. We are also the proud recipients of multiple industry awards recognizing our commitment to Scotland, our industry and employees. We are always looking for ambitious and motivated individuals to join our passionate team so if you want to test yourself in a challenging workplace, look no further... Due to significant investment within the company we are looking to recruit Marine Operatives to work as directed by the Marine Site Manager in the day-to-day operations in order to meet the needs of the business.

**Duties:**

- Feeding & movement of feed
- Sea lice identification and reporting
- Sampling, weighing and grading of fish
- Disease and parasite control
- Site maintenance including net changing etc.
- Boat handling
- Stock movements

**Employee Benefits**

**Skills/Experience:**

- Interest in aquaculture and fish husbandry
- Full clean driver's license
- Ideally have experience of working within the marine industry
- Follows safe working practices
- Ability to understand site KPI's and supports the site team
- Experience of working on and around boats

**In return we offer over 15 employee benefits, including:**

- x1.5 or x2 time for premium overtime rates
- Competitive salary package
- Market leading pension scheme
- Cycle to work scheme
- Retail discount scheme
- Employee assistance program
- Critical Illness Cover – also for Spouse or Partner
- Occupational Health Service
- Professional Development Opportunities

**How to Apply:**  
Please ask your local HR Advisor for a copy of our application form and send to [workwithus@scottishsalmon.com](mailto:workwithus@scottishsalmon.com)

**Closing Date:**  
Wednesday 11th August 2021.

You can also check out our current vacancies on our website [www.scottishsalmon.com](http://www.scottishsalmon.com)

**west highland housing**

**WEST HIGHLAND HOUSING ASSOCIATION**

West Highland Housing Association is a charitable organisation working in the Oban and Lorn area. In part due to an expansion in the number of properties under management, we are recruiting for the following staff for our office based in Oban (some of our staff are currently working from home due to the Coronavirus restrictions).

**Digital Lead, EVH Grade 6 Salary £28,766 - £31,448**

You will support the Association through the development of ICT&D and work with the Group's ICT&D to ensure consistency where required in relation to data security, Microsoft 365, data integrity, business information and telephony. You will assist with the review, design, mapping, and improvement of business processes using appropriate technologies or smarter ways of working to free up resource capacity

**Repairs Lead, EVH Grade 6 Salary £28,766 - £31,448**

This is a new role in our Organisation. The purpose of this customer focused role is to lead a small team delivering the customer facing and administration aspects of our reactive repairs service. Your team will be responsible for repair diagnostics, customer support and advice, logging, issuing and tracking repairs and representing the customer's best interest. You will be experienced in a customer service environment and have access to your own vehicle.

**Asset Planning Assistant, EVH Grade 5 Salary £25,044 – £27,832**

This is also a new role in our Organisation. You will provide a data collection and input role ensuring the organisation has an up-to-date information database on its assets and be the main user of our spatial information system, Cadcorp. You will be involved in procurement, our planned and cyclical programmes, and undertake a range of site inspections. We will want you to demonstrate good ICT skills and an ability to manage a diverse workload. You will need access to your own vehicle.

**Finance Assistant Trainee, EVH Grade 3 Salary £17,756 – £20,429**

As part of a team of four, you will learn to carry out a range of finance functions including updating the purchase and nominal ledger, bank reconciliation, accounts receivable and petty cash. You must be numerical, keen to learn new skills, good on detail and enjoy working with others.

In return West Highland Housing Association is offering an excellent remuneration package which includes 25 days paid leave per year plus 15 public holidays and a contributory pension scheme. The organisation is a gold accredited Investors in People organisation and is committed to developing its staff team.

If you want to speak to us about any of these posts, please contact us on 01631 566451 and we will be delighted to talk further about our work and our expectations.

**Job packs can be downloaded from our website at [www.westhighlandha.co.uk](http://www.westhighlandha.co.uk)**

**We will only consider completed job applications – no CVs. please Applications should be received by noon on 17th August 2021 Interviews will be held in early September 2021**

**THANK YOU**

for continuing to support your local newspaper

**The Oban Times**

Available in print and online [www.obantimes.co.uk](http://www.obantimes.co.uk)

Research shows that for every £1 spent with a local, independent business, between 50p-70p circulates back into that local economy

So every time you pick up a copy of The Oban Times you are not just helping one local business but a whole range of local businesses



Oban Times Oban Times  
RECRUITMENT RECRUITMENT

**North Argyll House**

Bealach an Rìgh, Oban, Argyll PA34 5TG  
Currently recruiting for:

**Senior Carer**

Qualification; Nursing or SVQ level 3 in health and social care essential. £12.12 per hour

**Care Assistant**

From £9.50 to £10.00 per hour

**Housekeeping Assistant**

£9.00 per hour

Salaries under review.

Full and part-time permanent positions.

For an application form contact 01631 562168

Email [info@northargyllhouse.org](mailto:info@northargyllhouse.org)



# RECRUITMENT

## Chief Reporter



The Oban Times Newspaper Group wants to recruit an experienced, dynamic, and ambitious senior journalist to take up the role of Chief Reporter of the Group's stable of weekly newspapers in the West Highlands.

This role has been created for a talented and ambitious manager to lead the reporting teams at Head Office in Oban and various satellite offices. The successful candidate will be a clear thinker, who will add further zest to our team, and have the ability to use their knowledge and expertise to mentor, encourage, and develop the reporting staff.

They will require:

- A good news sense, be organised, and have an impeccable eye for detail
- A passion for accuracy and able to understand and conform quickly to house style
- Ability to work effectively and enthusiastically, leading the team on several projects simultaneously
- Experience of working on digital platforms
- Effective communication skills
- Digital and social media awareness
- A full driving licence is essential

The Chief Reporter's duties will include:

- Sourcing major news stories and developing investigative reports
- Working with the editor and sub-editors to ensure all titles are published on time and that the news desk runs smoothly and efficiently
- Ensuring that all articles are subbed and are ready for publication
- Sourcing the most appropriate images for articles
- Making best use of social media

The successful candidate will live and work in one of the most beautiful areas of the West Highlands, and local knowledge would be an advantage. Other benefits include a generous salary, contributory pension scheme and resettlement assistance.

Please apply by email, sending your CV, plus a covering letter and some examples of your work to: [personnel@wyvexmedia.co.uk](mailto:personnel@wyvexmedia.co.uk)

## Reporter



An exciting opportunity has arisen for a bright, passionate and self-driven reporter to join The Oban Times' busy team.

The person we are looking for will have an NCTJ or similar qualification, including shorthand, and be multi-media literate. Previous experience of subbing copy would be an advantage.

We are passionate about good local journalism and like our reporters to get out into the local community, meeting people face-to-face, sourcing the best stories.

You should be bursting with ideas and have an eye for a good story, understand the importance of fostering great contacts and knowing your patch, and be capable of working on your own initiative as well as part of a team.

As the position will be based in Oban, knowledge of the area would be an advantage.

A full driving licence is essential.

As well as writing for the newspaper of record for Argyll and the West Highlands, you will be expected to take photographs on the job, as well as contribute to our social media channels and podcasts.

In return for all this we offer a competitive salary, great experience and training, as well as an enhanced pension.

Please apply by email, sending your CV, plus a covering letter and some examples of your work to: [personnel@wyvexmedia.co.uk](mailto:personnel@wyvexmedia.co.uk)

**MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010  
MARINE FARM, DUNSTAFFNAGE, LOCH LINNHE**

Notice is hereby given that Scottish Sea Farms Ltd has applied to the Scottish Ministers of the Scottish Government, under Part 4 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, in respect of the deposit of a marine farm at:

Cost	£3,500,000	
Location	Latitude	Longitude
Dunstaffnage,	56° 27.032 N	005° 28.374 W
Loch Linnhe,	56° 27.316 N	005° 27.754 W
Argyll	56° 27.128 N	005° 27.476 W
	56° 26.845 N	005° 28.095 W

(WGS84)

Plans showing the position of the works may be inspected at <https://bit.ly/3fyrACC>.  
Objections relating to safety of navigation in respect of the application should be made by email to: [MS.MarineLicensing@gov.scot](mailto:MS.MarineLicensing@gov.scot) within 28 days of the date of this notice, quoting reference: 00009251 and Scottish Sea Farms Ltd.

**Fair Processing Notice**  
The Scottish Government's Marine Scotland Licensing Operations Team (MS-LOT) determine applications for marine licences under the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 and the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009. During the consultation process any person having an interest in the outcome of the application may make representation to MS-LOT. The representation may contain personal information, for example a name or address. This representation will only be used for the purpose of determining an application and will be stored securely in the Scottish Government's official corporate record. Representations will be shared with the applicant and/or agent acting on behalf of the applicant, any people or organisations that we consult in relation to the application and, where necessary, be published online, however personal information will be removed before sharing or publishing.  
A full privacy notice can be found at: <https://www.gov.scot/policies/marine-and-fisheries-licensing/marine-licensing-operations-team-privacy-notice/>. If you are unable to access this, or you have any queries or concerns about how your personal information will be handled, contact MS-LOT at: [ms.marinelicensing@gov.scot](mailto:ms.marinelicensing@gov.scot).

**MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010  
MARINE FARM, LISMORE WEST, LOCH LINNHE**

Notice is hereby given that Scottish Sea Farms Ltd has applied to the Scottish Ministers of the Scottish Government, under Part 4 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, in respect of the deposit of a marine farm at:

Cost	£3,000,000	
Location	Latitude	Longitude
Lismore West,	56° 30.429 N	005° 33.024 W
Loch Linnhe,	56° 30.687 N	005° 32.327 W
Argyll	56° 30.494 N	005° 32.094 W
	56° 30.237 N	005° 32.789 W

(WGS84)

Plans showing the position of the works may be inspected at <https://bit.ly/3c8Z9cm>.  
Objections relating to safety of navigation in respect of the application should be made by email to: [MS.MarineLicensing@gov.scot](mailto:MS.MarineLicensing@gov.scot) within 28 days of the date of this notice, quoting reference: 00009247 and Scottish Sea Farms Ltd.

**Fair Processing Notice**  
The Scottish Government's Marine Scotland Licensing Operations Team (MS-LOT) determine applications for marine licences under the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 and the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009. During the consultation process any person having an interest in the outcome of the application may make representation to MS-LOT. The representation may contain personal information, for example a name or address. This representation will only be used for the purpose of determining an application and will be stored securely in the Scottish Government's official corporate record. Representations will be shared with the applicant and/or agent acting on behalf of the applicant, any people or organisations that we consult in relation to the application and, where necessary, be published online, however personal information will be removed before sharing or publishing.  
A full privacy notice can be found at: <https://www.gov.scot/policies/marine-and-fisheries-licensing/marine-licensing-operations-team-privacy-notice/>. If you are unable to access this, or you have any queries or concerns about how your personal information will be handled, contact MS-LOT at: [ms.marinelicensing@gov.scot](mailto:ms.marinelicensing@gov.scot).

# PUBLIC NOTICES

[www.highland.gov.uk](http://www.highland.gov.uk)

The Highland Council  
Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997  
PLANNING (LISTED BUILDING AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997**

The applications listed below, along with plans and other documents submitted with them, may be examined online at <http://wam.highland.gov.uk>;

Written comments should be made to the EPC at the contact details below within the time period indicated from the date of this notice. Anyone making a representation about this proposal should note that their letter or email will be disclosed to any individual or body who requests sight of representations in respect of this proposal.

Reference Number	Development Address	Proposal Description
21/02430/FUL	Seaview, Strontian, Acharacle, PH36 4HZ	Erection of self-contained unit (family use) and boat shelter
21/02961/PIP	Land 100M NW of Lephin Cottage, Ardour	Erection of house (Plot 2)
21/03029/PIP	Land to South East of Tom-Na-Moine, Kilchoan	Erection of two Houses
21/03473/FUL	Kilmallie House, Corpach, Fort William, PH33 7JJ	Siting of self-catering accommodation pod

**Time period for comments is 14 days**  
ePlanning Centre, The Highland Council, Glenurquhart Road, INVERNESS IV3 5NX  
Email: [eplanning@highland.gov.uk](mailto:eplanning@highland.gov.uk)

## Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES

**Argyll and Bute Council**

**PLANNING**

The applications listed below together with the plans and other documents submitted with them may be viewed electronically through Argyll and Bute Council website at [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk). Having regard to Schedule 6, Part 3, s10 of the Coronavirus (Scotland) Act 2020, documents are only available to inspect electronically at this time. Customers requiring assistance can contact us by e-mail: [planning.hq@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:planning.hq@argyll-bute.gov.uk) or tel. 01546 605518.

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT**  
**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 (AS AMENDED), RELATED PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997**

Ref. No.	Proposal	Site Address
21/00798/PP	Formation of access and upgrade of existing access	Land North West Of Ishriff, Glen More, Isle Of Mull, Argyll And Bute
21/01294/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse, installation of septic tank and formation of vehicular access	Land West Of Clachaig, Gruline, Isle Of Mull, Argyll And Bute
21/01290/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse with ancillary dwellinghouse for guest accommodation, detached garage/car port, formation of vehicular access and installation of septic tank	Plot 3, 4 And 5 Deer View, Taynuilt, Argyll And Bute
21/01283/PPP	Renewal of planning permission in principle reference 18/01778/PPP (Site for the erection of dwellinghouse)	Land West Of Starchmill Farm (Plot 1), Bridgend, Isle Of Islay, Argyll And Bute
21/01284/PPP	Renewal of planning permission in principle reference 18/01779/PPP (Site for the erection of dwellinghouse)	Land West Of Starchmill Farm (Plot 2), Bridgend, Isle Of Islay, Argyll And Bute
21/01286/PPP	Renewal of planning permission in principle reference 18/01784/PPP (Site for the erection of dwellinghouse)	Land West Of Starchmill Farm (Plot 3), Bridgend, Isle Of Islay, Argyll And Bute
21/01285/PPP	Renewal of planning permission in principle reference 18/01785/PPP (Site for the erection of dwellinghouse)	Land West Of Starchmill Farm (Plot 4), Bridgend, Isle Of Islay, Argyll And Bute
21/01305/PPP	Renewal of planning permission in principle 18/00977/PPP (Site for the erection of dwellinghouse)	Land At Poll A'Chapuill 3 Claddach, Portnahaven, Isle Of Islay, Argyll And Bute

Written comments can be submitted online <http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/find-and-comment-planning-applications> or to Argyll and Bute Council, Development Management, Kilmory Castle, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8RT within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence. Any letter of representation the Council receives is considered a public document and will be published on our website. Anonymous or marked confidential correspondence will not be considered. A weekly list of all applications can be viewed on the Councils website. Customers are requested to use electronic communication where possible during the coronavirus pandemic as our ability to process postal mail is restricted.  
To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us at: [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk)  
Comhairle Earra – Ghàidheal agus Bhòid

**CROFTING COMMISSION  
COIMISEAN NA CROITEARACHD  
DECROFTING APPLICATION**

1. C MacKinnon, 16 Balevullin. 0.1ha Site for a new dwelling house (108881)

Comments from any member of the crofting community within the locality of the croft and any expressions of demand for the croft (which may be made public), may be sent to the Crofting Commission by 27/08/21 at [info@crofting.gov.scot](mailto:info@crofting.gov.scot) / Crofting Commission, Great Glen House, Leachkin Road, Inverness IV3 8NW.

find us on  
**facebook**  
[www.facebook.com/obantimes](http://www.facebook.com/obantimes)

## Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES

# PROPERTY

# CLASSIFIED

**Highland Cottage Guest House, 24 Breadalbane St,  
Tobermory, Isle of Mull, PA75 6PD**



ASG Commercial are delighted to present this Stunning 4-Star (Gold) (VisitScotland) business, trading mainly on a bed and breakfast basis. Trades 6 attractive, en-suite bedrooms, also includes separate 2-bedroom owners accommodation.

Traditionally strong turnover and consistent profitability within a business model that would suit a range of operations (B&B or small hotel)

**Offers Over £525,000 (Freehold)**

For more information or to request a viewing contact ASG Commercial, on 01463 714757 or email; [jackie@asgcommercial.co.uk](mailto:jackie@asgcommercial.co.uk) [www.asgcommercial.co.uk](http://www.asgcommercial.co.uk)



## Dunheanish, Oban B&B, for rent.

Practical experience tenant wanted.

Please send detailed applications by email: [falko.steinberg@web.de](mailto:falko.steinberg@web.de)

Oban Times  
PROPERTY  
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PROPERTY

### METALS WANTED

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DEATHS

**CAMPBELL** - Peacefully on Wednesday July 14, 2021 in her 92nd year, Charlotte Campbell (Lottie), beloved daughter of the late James & Jessie MacCallum, dear sister of the late Duncan and a much-loved auntie to Fiona, Kate, Lindsay, Deirdre, and Gilly. Also, a much-loved great Auntie and great, great Auntie. Lottie was a well-known and much-loved character in Oban and will be missed by all who knew her.

**INGLEBY** - (nee Craig). Elizabeth 'Tooshie' Blackwood, formerly of Braighbhaille, Crae, latterly of Braeburn, Edinburgh, aged 83, died peacefully on July 20, after a long illness. Private service.

**MACPHERSON** - In Perth WA, on July 13, 2021, (Alexander) Patrick, formerly of Caol, Fort William, beloved husband of Anne Marie, devoted father and grandfather, much loved by his sisters Catriona (Kearney), Mary (Murray) and their families.

**SIMPSON** - Suddenly but peacefully passed away on Friday July 23, at Lorn and Islands Hospital aged 64 years William Duncan Simpson beloved Son of the late Joey and Cathy Simpson. A Special Cousin and friend to many.

MEMORIAMs

**MACDOUGALL** - In loving memory of Ian, a dear son, brother, uncle and dad who died August 1, 2014. Also Duncan 'Dochie', a loving husband, dad and grandpa who died August 3, 2018.

In our hearts you will always stay Loved and remembered every day.  
We miss you both very much.  
- Jean, Fiona, Michael, Rebecca and Matthew.

**MACKINNON** - Treasured memories of our much loved dad, grampa and great grampa Iain, who passed away July 29, 2012.

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- Lachie, Margaret, Christine Fiona, Linda, Alastair and all their families.

**MACLELLAN** - In loving memory of my dear brother James, who passed away on July 4, 2017.

Memories of you are fondly kept  
Too precious to ever forget.  
RIP  
- Sister Jean and family at home and away.

**STEWART** - In loving memory of Alistair, a loving husband, devoted father and grandfather, who passed away August 1, 2008.

Deep in our hearts your memory is kept  
To love and to cherish and never forget.  
- The Stewart family

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# SCOTTISH FIELD

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# Camera-dodging osprey chicks finally on view

Two Lochaber osprey chicks that dodged the gaze of online fans this summer are finally on view with the release of photographs and video taken when they were ringed.

A nest camera supported by players of People's Postcode Lottery has been showing live action from Loch Arkaig Pine Forest since 2017.

This year, only one of the adult ospreys returned and was lured away by a new mate to another nest several kilometres away in the forest.

The camera nest has lain empty for most of the summer and fans of the livestream have been deprived of viewing an osprey family at Loch Arkaig this year.

But now the two chicks have been filmed and photographed by ringer Lewis Pate, who also built the nesting platform where they were raised. Woodland Trust Scotland shared the images with expectant osprey fans on Monday.

The two chicks are believed to be male and have the ring numbers LW3 and LW4.

George Anderson of Woodland Trust Scotland said: 'Even though we didn't get to see all the action on our nest camera this year, it is great to know osprey life has



Two chicks have been filmed and photographed by ringer Lewis Pate.

continued successfully at Loch Arkaig Pine Forest. Fingers crossed for a successful 2022 season and if the osprey fates could smile on us, back in front of our camera please.'

This year's chicks have yet to be named. Groups of online camera

fans will be given the task. Arkaig Community Forest aims to restore native woodland habitats and to re-connect people with the management and stewardship of the site and to use the woodlands to underpin sustainable rural development

in the community of Achnacarry, Bunarkaig and Clunes.

Later this year Woodland Trust will begin extraction of 70,000 tonnes of non-native timber to free up the remaining ancient Caledonian pine trees to recolonise the site.

# Police issue warning as four die in Loch Lomond

Police chiefs have reiterated the dangers of open water swimming following four deaths in Loch Lomond which brought the total in Scotland over the weekend to six.

On Friday July 23, a 16-year-old boy died after getting into difficulty at Balloch Country Park at the south east end of the loch just before 6pm.

Then on Saturday, a man, aged 41, a woman aged, 29, and a boy, aged nine were pronounced dead at Pulpit Rock, Ardlui, at its north western end.

Police had been called out at 6.40pm and a seven-year-old boy remains in intensive care from the same incident, said police. It marked a tragic weekend in Scotland with an 11-year-old boy also dying on Saturday at Larkhall, then a 13-year-old boy in a river in Lanark on Sunday.

Assistant Chief Constable Mark Williams said: 'The number of deaths in open water this weekend is hard to comprehend and my thoughts are with the families and loved ones of those affected.'

'The warm weather can make open water swimming and

**'The warm weather can make open water swimming and paddling very inviting but it is extremely dangerous, even for the most experienced swimmers.'**

paddling very inviting but it is extremely dangerous, even for the most experienced swimmers or supervised children.

'The conditions can change very quickly and there are often hidden risks like deeper water and strong currents.'

'The message I want to send to everyone is exercise extreme caution. It is better to keep a safe distance from water if possible. Tragically, this weekend has highlighted that open water is very, very dangerous.'

'If you see someone in the water and distressed call 999 immediately. Remember, you could get into difficulty yourself trying to help so please take care and seek help as soon as possible.'

## FUNERAL DIRECTORS

An advertisement for D&amp;A Munn Ltd. Funeral Directors. It features two men in suits standing in front of a scenic view of a town and water. The text includes the company name, 'Owned and run by Ian MacInnes &amp; Son | Est. 1880', '24 hour Family Run Business', and contact information: 'D&amp;A Munn Ltd, Breadalbane Street, Oban, PA34 5NZ', 'Tel: 01631 562562', and 'Email: ian@munns-oban.co.uk'. There is also a logo for the National Association of Funeral Directors and a Golden Charter logo.

## CHARITY DONATIONS

An advertisement for Macmillan Cancer Support. It features the text: 'WE ARE MACMILLAN. CANCER SUPPORT', 'Working towards a time when every person in Scotland has equal and ready access to the best information, treatment and care for cancer', 'Fundraising Office Macmillan Cancer Support PO Box 24040 Edinburgh EH3 1DZ', and 'Tel 0300 100 0200 In memory of Dawn Joyce'.

An advertisement for The Dove Centre. It features the text: 'THE DOVE CENTRE', 'By Oban Hospice', 'Donations always gratefully received', '24 Stevenson Street Oban PA34 5NA', 'Tel: 01631 561315', and 'www.obanhospice.org.uk @obanhospice'.

An advertisement for Cancer Research UK. It features the text: 'CANCER RESEARCH UK', 'Together we will beat cancer', 'Help bring forward the day when all cancers are cured', 'DONATE TODAY: Treasurer, Cancer Research UK Oban &amp; District, Glenside, Polvinister Road, OBAN, PA34 5TN Tel: 01631 564420', and a logo for the Cancer Research UK Fundraising Regulator.

An advertisement for Marie Curie Cancer Care. It features the text: 'MARIE CURIE CANCER CARE', 'Oban &amp; Lorn Fundraising Branch', 'Donations always gratefully accepted', and 'Please contact Marie Curie Care Mannin, 2/5 Lismore House Station Road, Oban 01631 571009'.

OT

# Shinty round up

Nine teams are into the Tulloch Homes Camanachd Cup quarter final draw following the shinty action on Saturday July 24.

## South shinty

**Tulloch Homes Camanachd Cup - second round**

**Southern Section**

**Fort William 0**

**Oban Camanachd 1**

Oban Camanachd are into the Tulloch Homes Camanachd Cup quarter finals after beating Fort William 1-0 at An Aird.

Fort William were missing the injured Alexander MacMillan, whilst Sean Cameron took a place on the bench.

The Oban side had Garry Lord back and their bench consisted of Evan MacLellan, Scott MacMillan and Ross Campbell.

Oban Camanachd deployed defender Daniel Sloss on a marking job on Fort danger man Arran MacPhee and he stuck to the task through a few positional changes.

The tie's defining moment came within the first minute when Malcolm Clark played the ball forward to Connor Howe who found Daniel Madej. The Oban side kept the ball moving as Madej slipped possession to the right of the 'D' where Daniel MacVicar beat his man before turning to his left and sending a low shot across the keeper and into the far corner of the net.

Malcolm Clark came within a whisker of making it 2-0 when his shot from distance on the left came crashing back off the crossbar.

Fort William had a period of pressure in the second half but couldn't get the equaliser they craved.

Daniel MacCuish sent a shot just the wrong side of the post following a rehearsed free-hit during the closing stages.

Paul MacKay was the busier of the two keepers, although Cameron Sutherland made a notable save with his foot. Oban Celtic and Oban Camanachd play their Artemis Macaulay Cup quarter final tie at Mossfield on Wednesday July 28 with the winners likely to face Kyles Athletic in the semi finals on Saturday July 31.

Speaking after the tie, Oban Camanachd boss Stephen Sloss said: 'It was 30 degrees out there so it was tough for the players but I thought our fitness was very good which was important and we used the rolling substitutes to good effect.'

'We have experience across the park, although we are still



**Oban Camanachd goalscorer Daniel MacVicar, left, in action on Saturday.** Photograph: Neil Paterson.

essentially a young side. We have a good team who have played in a lot of finals.

'We were pretty dominant and their keeper, Paul MacKay, had a number of good saves in the first half in particular. It is always nerve-racking when it's only 1-0 but we got over the line.'

**Kyles Athletic 4 Inveraray 0**

Kyles Athletic took early control of their tie against neighbours Inveraray before running out 4-0 winners in their 3pm throw-up at the Playing Fields, Tighnabruaich.

There was a minute's silence ahead of throw-up following the passing of former Inveraray goalkeeper Charlie Bell. In a shinty career that spanned the 1960s and 1970s, Charlie was a Glasgow Celtic Society Cup winner, a South Division 1 winner and a member of the Inveraray side which were Camanachd Cup runners-up in 1964 when they lost to Kilmallie in Fort William and 1967 when they were beaten by Newtonmore in Glasgow.

Roddy MacDonald put Kyles ahead on six minutes and Ross MacRae made it 2-0 on 12 minutes.

Roddy MacDonald got his second on 17 minutes to make it 3-0 and there was no further scoring until Colin



**Victor Smith, Fort William, left, up against Scott MacKillop, Oban Camanachd.** Photograph: Neil Paterson.

MacDonald make it 4-0 a couple of minutes from time.

**Kilmallie 4 Bute 2**

Kilmallie saw off Bute, winning 4-2 in their 3pm throw-up at Canal Parks.

Kilmallie's Steven Stewart started a two-match suspension following his red card against Kinlochshiel a fortnight earlier, whilst Daniel Stewart was out injured.

Kilmallie skipper Innes Blackhall gave his side the lead on six minutes. The ball broke to Blackhall from the left and he sent a backhand shot into the bottom corner of the net.

Leon MacMillan drew Bute level on 18 minutes and it remained 1-1 until the break.

Kilmallie regained the lead on 54 minutes, with Lewis Birrell finishing from inside the penalty spot.

Ryan Stewart made it 3-1 on 62 minutes with the goal of the match - a volley which screamed into the net, similar to his strike against Fort William earlier in the month.

Craig MacIsaac added a fourth from just outside the 'D' with 20 minutes remaining and although Leon MacMillan got his second for Bute on 79 minutes, it was Kilmallie's day.

The winning margin could have been bigger with full forward Michael Rodger twice denied by very good saves.

Kilmallie manager Martin Stewart was delighted to be through to the next round. He said: 'It's fantastic to be in the quarter finals and it's now an open draw. I'm sure we'll be the team most clubs want to get, but we are a good side on our day.'

'The game was scrappy at times. We gave Bute full respect. I watched the video of their win over Ballachulish the previous week and I thought they played better than that

against us.

'It was also pleasing to field three of our under 17 players. Dylan Monk made his debut at wing back and he has a real physical presence. Aiden Love and Ben MacKinnon also started and all three did really well.

'We hope to have Daniel Stewart back for the game against Glasgow Mid Argyll this Saturday.'

## Mowi Senior League C

**Glasgow Mid Argyll P**

**Oban Celtic P**

Glasgow Mid Argyll and Oban Celtic were due to meet for the second successive Saturday, this time at Peterson Park. However, the Oban side was unable to raise a team for the journey south.

**Alvanore British Aluminium Balliemore Cup - first round**

**Ballachulish 5 Tayforth 3, after extra time**

It took extra time to separate Ballachulish and Tayforth in their tie at the Jubilee Park.

Ballachulish were without Cian MacPhee who began a two-game suspension for a disciplinary points accumulation. Tayforth started well, with former Lochaber player Conor Sweeney on eight minutes and Brendan Duggan on 11 minutes giving them an early 2-0 lead.

However, Ballachulish turned the tie in their favour with Dan MacLean scoring on 24 minutes to make it 2-1 at the break and two goals from Lewis Bryson on 48 and 55 minutes gave them a 3-2 advantage.

Tayforth's Donald MacInnes made it 3-3 on 80 minutes and it stayed that way until full-time so referee Des McNulty took the tie into extra time.

Lewis Bryson of Ballachulish completed his hat-trick on 94 minutes and Liam Stewart Fraser made it 5-3 on 115 minutes to send Ballachulish through to the next round.

**Aberdour 1 Col Glen 0**

Aberdour edged out Col Glen 1-0 at Silversands.

It was a much-changed Aberdour side, with five players missing.

Joe Burns made the most of his opportunity as he came in from the wing to notch a debut goal on 23 minutes.

## HIS Sutherland Cup - first round

**Kyles Athletic 2 Glenorchy 1**

The Kyles Athletic second team beat Glenorchy 2-1 in their noon throw-up at the

Playing Fields, Tighnabruaich. Luke Thornton scored the only goal of the first half on 13 minutes and Kieran Chrystal made it 2-0 five minutes after the re-start.

Arik MacKechnie halved the deficit on 71 minutes, but Kyles stayed in front to take their place in the next round.

## HIS Sutherland Cup - second round

**Lochside Rovers 4**

**Fort William 3**

Holders Lochside Rovers had to work hard for their 4-3 victory over the Fort William second team at Mossfield.

This was Lochside's second outing in less than three days, following their midweek league victory over Tayforth but they showed no ill-effects.

Fort William's pacey forward line almost broke the deadlock after two minutes but Lochside keeper Dougie MacDonald made a diving save, keeping the ball out with the inside of his thigh, to deny Alan Knox who had fired a shot in from wide on the left.

The opening goal came at the other end. Kenny Wotherspoon, given a starting place following his appearance from the bench against Taynuilt, sent an 18-yard shot from wide on the right, low into the net after 18 minutes.

Innes Jackson added a second four minutes later. Kenny Wotherspoon was involved again as his shot from the right was saved by Stuart Disher but Jackson, who initially ran past the ball, checked back before knocking the ball home from the back post area.

Kenny Wotherspoon had to come off midway through the half with a groin problem so Robbie Brown took his place.

Lochside's Keith MacMillan had to leave for work at the interval and he was a miss. Kenny Wotherspoon managed to come back on and Louis MacFarlane went to full centre, where he was outstanding.



**Robert Baxter, Kyles Athletic, left, and Allan MacKechnie, Glenorchy, during their Sutherland Cup first round tie.**

Photograph: Stephen Lawson.

Fort William introduced substitute Mark Fraser and he pulled his side level with shots from distance on 53 and 59 minutes. Fraser's second was a great effort, a 40-yard strike which flew into the roof of the net.

Both sides had chances. Wotherspoon twice went close, as did Lewis Buchanan, whilst Dougie MacDonald made another brilliant stop to deny Mark Fraser a hat-trick.

Lochside regained the lead with 13 minutes remaining. Kenny Wotherspoon saw his low shot saved by Stuart Disher but just as the keeper was about to clear the danger, Robbie Brown flew in with a blocking challenge and the ball deflected into the net to make it 3-2.

A trademark Lewis Buchanan finish, when he was allowed too much space around the penalty spot, increased Lochside's lead on 83 minutes. Fort William did not let their heads drop, however, and Cameron Stephen's shot from wide on the left a couple of minutes later deceived keeper MacDonald and squeezed into the net at the near post.

Fort William finished strongly without really troubling Dougie MacDonald so it is Lochside who go into the next round. Lochside manager Gareth Evans said: 'It was a brilliant game which could have gone either way. Fort William are developing into a good team and John Macleod has a good set-up there.'

**Kilmory P Inveraray P**

Kilmory's 2pm throw-up with the Inveraray second team at MacRae Park was postponed on Friday evening because of Covid restrictions.

## Mowi South League A

**Taynuilt 1 Lochside Rovers 5**

Lochside Rovers beat Taynuilt 5-1 in their 7pm throw-up at Taynuilt Sports Field on Wednesday July 21.

Taynuilt lost to Col Glen on the opening day of the season and a mix of travel and Covid restrictions meant they hadn't played since.

Lochside were without Jamie Anderson, Jordan Kerr and Innes MacMillan but boss Gareth Evans called on Scott MacMillan, who was given game time at full forward, full centre Ross Campbell and the evergreen Kenny Wotherspoon who took a place on the bench. There were first Lochside starting slots for 14-year-old Daniel Pearson in defence and 13-year-old Matthew Sloss at half forward. Alexander MacDonald was on the wing.

Lochside took advantage of Taynuilt's recent inaction, catching them cold as Scott MacMillan scored after two minutes. MacMillan linked up well with Lewis Buchanan and when he took possession between the penalty spot and the 'D', he spotted keeper George Reid racing from his line so flicked the ball over the Taynuilt custodian and into the net. It was Scott MacMillan again on 25 minutes, this time punishing the home defence for allowing him too much time, and he sent a rocket-shot past a helpless keeper to make it 2-0.

Taynuilt came back into it and Lochside keeper Dougie MacDonald did really well to keep out Scott Dempster's lofted effort from around 30 yards out, wide on the right. MacDonald turned the ball away from just under his crossbar. However, the hosts continued to press and former Lochside player Dempster wasn't to be denied as he pulled a goal back with three first half minutes remaining. Dempster lost his marker and fired a 22-yard shot just over head-height into the net to make it 2-1 at the interval.

Gareth Evans made changes at half time, introducing Callum Kirsop, Robbie Brown and Kenny Wotherspoon, with the latter making only his second Lochside appearance since leaving for Oban Celtic 2006. Lewis Buchanan restored Lochside's two-goal cushion on 65 minutes when he finished well from outside the 'D'.

Two goals in two minutes

added to Lochside's lead near the end of the match with Robbie Brown on 85 minutes and David Cameron a minute later making the final score 5-1.

First Robbie Brown caught the ball well from just right of the penalty spot and his waist-high shot beat keeper Reid. Then David Cameron, who has been a great addition since his return to Lochside from a spell playing rugby and was probably their best player on the night, took a pass from Lewis Buchanan and from just left of centre, he scored his first goal for the club.

## Mowi South League B

### Mowi Central League Kilmallie 5 Oban Celtic 2

The Kilmallie reserves beat the Oban Celtic reserves 5-2 in their noon throw-up at the Canal Parks.

Stuart Ross gave Kilmallie the lead on six minutes before a Cam Ross brace on 23 and 29 minutes made it 3-0.

Oban Celtic youngster Ewen Campbell pulled a goal back on 32 minutes to make it 3-1 at the break. Jordan Campbell on 50 minutes and a hat-trick goal from Cam Ross on 75 minutes increased Kilmallie's advantage before Pearce Mcbeth netted a minute from time to make the final score 5-2.

### Bute P Aberdour P

The match between the Bute seconds and the Aberdour seconds at the Meadows was postponed because of the current travel restrictions.

## WCA round-up

The Women's Camanachd Association is back under way with most of the matches played on Sunday July 25.

### WCA Mowi West

#### Senior League Ardnamurchan A P Skye Camanachd B 0

The clash between Ardnamurchan A and Skye Camanachd B at Strontian was called off because of Covid restrictions.

### Ardnamurchan B P Kinlochshiel P

The match between Ardnamurchan B and Kinlochshiel at Strontian was postponed due to Covid restrictions.

# Saints are a Thorn in the flesh

Oban Saints	1
Thorn Athletic	0
Pre-season friendly	

Former Scottish Amateur Football League rivals Oban Saints and Thorn Athletic met last Saturday at Oban's Community 3G pitch in the first friendly match between the sides.

League and cup encounters between the two have always been highly competitive, giving an extra edge to this eagerly anticipated friendly meeting which should stand both sides in good stead when the real action starts in August.

Thorn will feel they deserved to take something from a game which they dominated for long periods and if it wasn't for an inspired performance from goalkeeper Murdo MacKenzie and a defensive master class from Dene Cassells and Steven MacLeod they would have done so. With manager Willie Gemmell and assistant Ross Maitland both unavailable, secretary David Buchanan and coach Peter MacCallum were in charge of team affairs and had former managers Alex Craik and Donald Campbell alongside them on the touchline.

Full credit to both sets of players who, despite the high temperature, maintained a high tempo.

Saints opened the scoring in the 16th minute when Matty



**Murdo MacKenzie made a string of fine saves during the match.** Match report and photographs: Derek Black.

Kelly stepped inside Jack McDougall on the Saints right and threaded a diagonal ball for Cammy Hill to run onto. Hill outpaced Thorn right back Martin McInnes before drawing keeper Ryan Ward and squaring to Martin Bonar. Always with a keen eye for goal, Bonar made good ground to get up in support of central striker Hill and with the goal at his mercy made no mistake from ten yards.

The visitors were almost back on level terms straight from the re-start through skipper Ryan Crawford. The Scottish Amateur International midfielder was given time and space to fire off a sweetly struck right foot shot from 35 yards which had goal written all over it.

Saints keeper Murdo MacKenzie, standing in for the unavailable Graham Douglas, had other ideas, however, and



**Martin Bonar is congratulated by Cammy Hill, Rory Dowd and Matty Kelly after his goal.**

produced the first of a string of excellent saves leaping high to his right to push Crawford's effort over his crossbar.

On the half hour, Myles McAuley was penalised for a late challenge on Ryan Crawford 28 yards from goal. Saints were relieved dead ball expert Paul Young was on the touchline, however, Muir McCluskey lifted a good left footed strike over the Saints wall forcing Murdo MacKenzie to make another fine save.

Saints' temporary management team of Buchanan and MacCallum made their first change for the closing stages of the first half sending on Alex Craik to replace Kerr Newbigging at right back.

The visitors were quickly on the attack at the start of the second half, but it was Saints who came closest to adding to the scoring with a swift counter-attack. There was a welcome sight for Saints loyal home support when Donald Campbell made his first appearance in almost a year, replacing Martin Bonar in midfield for the closing half hour. The former co-manager, who has re-joined the playing staff and is currently working his way towards full match fitness, used his experience to good effect alongside Myles McAuley who put in another excellent midfield performance.

Kenny Black replaced the injured Gavin Forgrieve with 16-year-old Kyle Cooper also getting a run-out up front in place of Cammy Hill.

It's Caledonian League Premier Division opposition again this Saturday, July 31, when Stenhousemuir Community come visiting in Saints' penultimate friendly match before the new season kicks off on Saturday August 14. This Saturday's game will be played at Glen 2 with a 2pm kick-off.

Continued from page 48.

and co-ordinating large scale events outwith rugby.

Speaking to The Oban Times earlier this week, Jonathan said: 'It's quite exciting to be named as one of the first RugbyForce ambassadors.

'Hopefully the programme will really take off and I will be able to look back and say 'I was there right at the start'.'

The 10 winners, who will receive funding for their projects, were recently welcomed to the inaugural Young Ambassador forum by former Scotland international Rory Lawson.

Speaking via Zoom, Rory revealed details of the training and behind the scenes experiences with the Scotland international squads that the winners will receive over the next few months.

The training provided will help Young Ambassadors develop key skills for club management including financial and social media capabilities and guidance on how to help their clubs attract members. The announcement comes as the Scottish Government confirms the move to level zero and the relaxation of many of the current covid lockdown restrictions.

Delivered in partnership between Scottish Rugby and Royal Bank of Scotland, the Young Ambassador project is the latest extension to the RugbyForce programme.

Last season, to support clubs that were forced to close due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Royal Bank developed a toolkit for clubs when operations had stalled. 'Return to Rugby' kits were also provided to help clubs prepare for re-opening.

Malcolm Buchanan, chairman, Royal Bank of Scotland, Scotland Board, said: 'Jonathan fully deserves the award and we're looking forward to supporting him in achieving positive societal change through the Young Ambassador programme.'

# Club makes a splash with third award

A student water sports club based in Oban has been named the University of the Highlands and Islands' best sports club for the third year running.

The Wind and Wave Club won Sports Club of the Year in this year's Highlands and Islands Students' Association (HISA) Awards, despite spending limited time on the water because of the Covid-19 lockdown.

Club commodore Iain Walsingham and yachting co-ordinator Jamie Rodgers, who both study at the Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS) UHI, were also highly

commended in the Above and Beyond - Student Award category.

In the absence of organised sailing competitions in the past year, the club arranged group sailing for members based in Oban, alongside activities run by club partner Oban Sailing Club. There has also been online training and social events, as well as 'virtual' races.

Iain, who finishes his BSc Marine Science studies at SAMS UHI this year, said: 'I was pleasantly surprised to hear we had won the award again and I'm really thankful to all the club members who took the time to keep the

club going in really difficult circumstances.

'It was a real team effort and hopefully I've left the club in a position to move onto bigger and better things.

'We were heavily impacted by the Covid-19 lockdown. With the ability to attend online lectures from home, many of our club members were spread all the way from America to Germany, so we required a big online effort to accommodate everyone.'

During the past year the club was able to access HISA grants to clear all club debts, meaning the Wind and Wave Club now owns its firefly racing dinghies.

An integral aspect of the university calendar, the HISA Awards give recognition to staff and students who dedicate their time to making the institution more diverse and inclusive for everyone.

This year, more than 600 nominations were received with submissions praising staff and students of the University of the Highlands and Islands for their support.

The awards allowed students to nominate in various different categories and entries were judged by a panel consisting of staff, students and student officers from across the university.

## Camanachd Cup quarter final draw

The draw for the quarter final of the Tulloch Homes Camanachd Cup took place at Inverness Castle on Monday July 26 as follows:

Kinlochshiel vs Oban Celtic  
Oban Camanachd vs Skye or Lovat  
Beaulys vs Kyles  
Kingussie vs Kilmallie

The quarter finals will take place on Saturday August 7, with the draw for the semi finals being made week commencing Monday August 9, with ties due to take place on August 28 and September 4.

More at [www.obantimes.co.uk](http://www.obantimes.co.uk)



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\*You must be 18 or over to attend the event.

## Sailors make welcome return to West Highland Yachting Week

Craobh, Oban and Tobermory are ready to welcome the return of sailors competing in this year's West Highland Yachting Week (WHYW) from July 31 to August 6.

WHYW is a key sporting event in the west coast calendar attracting sailors to enjoy a unique regatta that moves between the three host ports. Two days are raced from Craobh, Oban and Tobermory, with passage racing linking each venue. The event offers a mix of racing for spinnaker and white sail classes, from top class racing yachts to family cruisers.

In common with many other sporting events, this year's regatta will be slightly different.

The mainstay of the event will be passage racing and there will be no social apres-sail programme. Two classes for double handers to sail in a small 'bubble' have been added.

Gavin Marshall, chairman of The Joint Regatta Committee, organisers of the regatta said: 'Despite the uncertainty, we were determined WHYW 2021 would go ahead so we've made some changes to the format to accommodate restrictions. We hope this year's event will be a great success.'

'We thank all our sponsors for their support, in particular our headline sponsor Tunnock's and we look forward to some good competition on the water.'

Daily results will be posted on [www.whyw.co.uk](http://www.whyw.co.uk)



## CUP AND LEAGUE SHINTY ACTION

SEE PAGE 46

Thomas Whyte, Kyles Athletic, left, and Lewis MacNicol, Inveraray, in action during their Tulloch Homes Camanachd second round tie on Saturday.

Photograph: Stephen Lawson.



Bob MacIntyre.

## Bob narrowly misses the cut in Minnesota

If ever there was an example of the fine margins that operate in elite sport, it was Bob MacIntyre's missed cut at the 3M Open in Minnesota last weekend.

Having holed a putt the previous Friday to make the cut in the 149th Open, the Oban left-hander was faced with an almost identical scenario in the USA a week later. This time his putt failed to drop and Bob missed only his second cut of the season and his first since the prestigious Players Championship in March.

With the Olympic Golf taking place in Tokyo this week, Bob has a week off to prepare for his next tournament, a World Golf Championship (WGC) event, the FedEx St Jude Invitational played in Memphis Tennessee starting on Thursday August 5.

With no cut at WGC events, Bob knows he will definitely have four rounds to help close in on a European team Ryder Cup spot.

# Jonathan leads the way at Oban RFC



Jonathan Sayer.

by Fiona Scott  
[fscott@obantimes.co.uk](mailto:fscott@obantimes.co.uk)

Oban Lorne Rugby Football Club's Jonathan Sayer has been named as one of 10 winners of the inaugural Royal Bank RugbyForce Young Ambassador programme.

In a drive to get more young people into club boardrooms and to improve diversity and representation in rugby,

the Young Ambassador programme sees grassroots heroes aged 18-35 from amateur clubs across Scotland put forward ideas for projects that will help their club create stronger connections with their communities, build a legacy and make positive societal change.

Coming out on top against competition from across the country, Jonathan's Young Ambassador programme will see him run a recruitment cam-

paign to increase membership at the club which traditionally faces challenges with player retention and consistency due to its rural location.

Emerging from the pandemic, the 27-year-old will also aim to further ties between the club and the community and engage with all age groups across the men's and women's game by promoting the use of the clubhouse for functions.

Continued on page 47.



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The Oban Times: 95p



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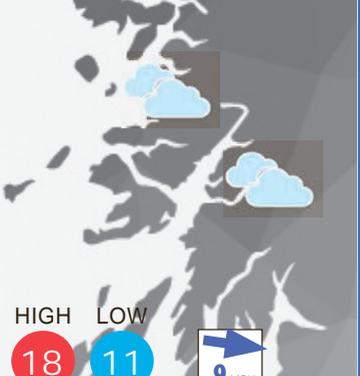
Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday 29 July, 2021** are listed below with differences for major ports listed alongside. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

<b>29</b>	0318 1.2 0853 3.3 TH 1526 1.1 2120 3.5	<b>31</b>	0440 1.6 1005 3.0 SA 1649 1.6 C 2246 3.1	<b>2</b>	0628 1.8 1216 2.8 M 1840 1.9	<b>4</b>	0253 3.0 0844 1.7 W 1508 3.0 2146 1.9	Ardrishaig -5.35 Campbeltown -5.30 Crinan -0.47 Islay Port Ellen 2.00 Lochboisdale +0.30 Mallaig +0.25 Portree +0.55 Tobermory +0.16 Dover +5.30
<b>30</b>	0357 1.4 0927 3.2 F 1605 1.3 2200 3.3	<b>1</b>	0529 1.7 1055 2.9 SU 1740 1.8 2348 2.9	<b>3</b>	0125 2.9 0735 1.8 TU 1359 2.8 1955 2.0	<b>5</b>	0349 3.1 0945 1.6 TH 1558 3.2 2240 1.7	

### OBAN WEATHER

<b>Thursday</b> Light cloud and a moderate breeze Temperatures 13°C to 18°C.	<b>Friday</b> Light cloud and a gentle breeze Temperatures 12°C to 18°C.	<b>Saturday</b> Light cloud and a moderate breeze Temperatures 10°C to 16°C.	<b>Sunday</b> Light cloud and a gentle breeze Temperatures 10°C to 16°C.
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------

### FRIDAY FORECAST



HIGH 18 LOW 11 9 MPH



# LOCHABER TIMES

## & OBAN TIMES

No 8574

Thursday 29 July, 2021

www.lochabertimes.co.uk

95p

### New shinty pitch in player's memory

### INSIDE: Education in the West - Your Future 2021



On his last engagement before retiring on August 2 as Lord-Lieutenant of Inverness, Donald Cameron of Lochiel CVO presented the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service to West Highland Museum on Monday. Sonya MacLachlan accepted the accolade on behalf of the museum.

See pages 12 and 13 for a special pictorial tribute to Lochiel's time as Lord-Lieutenant.

Photograph: Iain Ferguson alba.photos

# Urgent plea to tackle beach chaos

## Highland Council and Police Scotland have adequate existing powers to enforce regulations, says MSP

Highland Council and Police Scotland have adequate existing powers to implement and enforce any new restrictions needed to tackle dirty camping and traffic chaos along the beaches and roads at Arisaig and Morar.

So said MSP Kate Forbes responding to further scenes of traffic problems along the B8008 as well as more reports of open fires, human excrement being left behind and discarded rubbish.

Last Wednesday, regular visitor Hope Blamire said she counted 230 cars parked on the road between Traigh beach

and the sands at Morar. She also highlighted the existence of Facebook groups with more than 100,000 members where people were encouraged to camp on these particular beaches.

Caol and Mallaig ward councillor Ben Thompson said there was a serious question to be answered about how police resources had been reduced in the area over the past decade.

'I'm told by retired officers that Mallaig used to have six Continued on page 5.



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# Plea as Maxwell trust and museum face crisis again

Author Gavin Maxwell and his otter, Teko, relaxing on Eilean Ban.

Photograph: Eilean Ban Trust.



by Mark Entwistle  
mentwistle@obantimes.co.uk

The future of the Eilean Bàn Trust and the museum dedicated to Ring of Bright Water author Gavin Maxwell, who lived on the small island nestling under the Skye bridge, is again under threat.

In a plea issued in the last few days, The Eilean Bàn Trust warned it is in danger of closing down.

To avoid this, it urgently needs a new hands-on management team to take over from the current ageing cohort of four trustees, three of whom are now in their 80s. Without a new management team, the trust told the Lochaber Times it will be forced to close.

'This will mean the loss of the Bright Water Centre in nearby Kyleakin and the management of the six-acre Eilean Bàn reverting to the Scottish Government which, given its past attempts, may well put it up for sale again,' said the trust in its statement.

'The trust has twice prevented the island from being sold off by the Scottish Government, thus preserving it as a community resource, museum, tourist attraction and holiday let.

'Access to the lighthouse and the Gavin Maxwell Museum would be lost and the unique collection of artefacts contained in the museum would be dispersed. The buildings would fall into disrepair and the grounds would become completely overgrown.'

Maxwell bought the Eilean



Bàn cottages in 1963 from The Northern Lighthouse Board, after the automation of the lighthouse.

However, Maxwell only came to live on the island in January 1968, after a devastating fire ravaged his cottage at Sandaig - which Maxwell called Camusfearna in his books to keep its location secret. He remained on Eilean Bàn until his death less than two years later in September 1969.

In his book 'Raven Seek Thy Brother', Maxwell wrote: 'I felt drawn to Kyleakin as I had too few places in my life... I felt as if I were coming home.'

The trust said over the years it has had support from a 'wonderful group of trustees and volunteers' initially from the local area but that 'natural wastage' has now taken its toll.

The trust continued: 'It is saddening our attempts to attract new trustees have had so little success. People show an initial interest but do not follow up to become trustees.

Now our volunteer helpers come from much further afield but they are not in a position to make a commitment as a hands-on management team.'

Providing a new team can be found, the current trustees say they would stay on for a short while to ensure a smooth handover. However, as things stand, they will still have to close the Bright Water Centre at the end of this year because they are unable to keep up the current level of activity.

The trust told the Lochaber Times: 'All our resources would be focused on Eilean Bàn which would remove one of the few remaining attractions in Kyleakin. Once this happens the fate of the building will be in the hands of Highland Council. We find ourselves wondering if it is really worth the effort in postponing what will eventually be the complete closure of the trust.'

Anyone can help is asked to contact the trust via email at enquiries@eileanban.org



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## NEVIS HILLWALKING CLUB

**Meall Corranaich (1,069m, Munro) — crooked hill**  
**Meall a'Coire Leith (926m, Munro) — hill of the grey corrie**

Sunday August 1, Loch Tay. Two easy Munros, rough or boggy in places at first, with the option of continuing a pleasant ridge walk to Bridge of Balgie in Glen Lyon.

Start from the highest point of the public road at NN593416, where limited parking is available just west of the Cairn. Take the track north east for about 0.5km then turn south east following a line of fence posts. Continue following the fence-line up steeper ground, curving north

east to the summit of Meall Corranaich.

Head along the north spur for 1Km to a small summit, 1018m ex, shortly after which it splits into two ridges enclosing Coire Gorm. Veer north east, keeping to the north ridge, following the edge of the east escarpment and the rim of Coire Liath.

Climb north to the summit of Meall a'Choire Leith, 926m.

Continue north down the ridge to Sron Eich. Avoid the steep rocky ground on the north aspect of the nose by descending east, resuming a north course when the gradient eases to reach a track at a sheepfold.

Head west on the track to a junction and turn north to reach Balmenoch. Follow the track west to the Post Office at Bridge of Balgie, NN577468. Transport required.

\*For a shorter route which also avoids car-sharing, descend south west from the summit of Meall a' Choire Leith. Cross the burn issuing from Coire Gorm and aim for the Intake\*\* on the Allt Gleann Da Eig at NN6011442551, just north west of the Shielings. Cross the burn and climb south west about 60m to reach the outward track at NN5965641965. Return to the start. 16km, 749m ascent \*10km, 809m ascent.



Craig and Bruno raise a glass at Inverloch Castle Hotel.

Photographs: Iain Ferguson, alba.photos.

# Craig and Bruno trip the light fantastic in Lochaber

Inverloch Castle and Lochaber are no strangers to celebrities and well-known personalities.

Over the years, film stars including Burt Reynolds and Mel Gibson and royalty such as the King of Jordan and his family have enjoyed spending time in the area for work and pleasure.

More recently, two well-known faces from television have combined both, thanks to an ITV programme currently being screened.

Easily recognisable as judges on *Strictly Come Dancing*, Craig Revel Horwood and Bruno Tonioli take to the roads from Cornwall to the Highlands in a six-part series which sees them visiting various locations and immersing themselves in local culture.

The final programme in *Great British Road Trip* will be broadcast in mid-August

and takes the dynamic duo to Inverloch Castle where, amongst other things, they enjoy sampling the hotel's own brand of whisky while boating on the exclusive lochan.

Inverloch Castle manager Jane Watson said: 'We were happy to give them a great Highland welcome and enjoyed having them here as they never stopped joking.'

'The weather was good and they were very impressed by their surroundings and loved our whisky. I am looking forward to seeing the programme.'

An ITV press release said: 'Originally hailing from Australia and Italy, Craig and Bruno have each lived in Britain for many years but travel around their adopted homeland has so far been limited to showbiz tours and performance schedules.'

'In each episode of *Great British Road Trip*, they



Strictly Judges Craig Revel Horwood, left, and Bruno Tonioli filmed part of their latest show at Inverloch Castle Hotel.

immerse themselves in a different part of culture, from the South of England to the Scottish Highlands, featuring breath-taking scenery, fascinating stories, incredible adventures led by local experts and a shared passion for good food and spontaneous dance

moves. This is a trip that promises to be as much about the journey as the destination.'

Craig and Bruno's *Great British Road Trip* is currently airing on ITV on Wednesday nights at 8pm. Episodes one and two are available on catch up on the ITV Hub.

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The first league match to be played on the newly-opened Fraser's Field was an under 14 tie between Fort William and Kilmallie. All photographs: Iain Ferguson, alba.photos NO F31 Fraser's field 02



Richard Gall, left, of Fort William Shinty Club presents an engraved black caman to Sandy Slater in recognition of the work he did in securing funding for Fraser's Field.

# New pitch opens in memory of former Fort shinty player

A new shinty field dedicated to the late Fort William junior shinty player Fraser MacPhee has been officially opened.

The new pitch, the first in the area for many years, was declared opened on Saturday by Fraser's parents Duncan and Rosemary MacPhee, writes Iain Ferguson.

An area of waste ground adjoining the main pitch at An Aird has been transformed into a purpose-built training pitch which meets requirements for junior league shinty matches.

It is one of only a few shinty parks in the Highlands to have floodlights.

In recognising the long-term

commitment to the club by the MacPhee family, both on the board and on the pitch, it was proposed by club members to name the new field after Fraser, a highly talented and well respected player, with friends across the shinty world.

Unveiled by Mrs MacPhee, a sign carries a message for all using the field and for everyone participating in any sport: 'For when the one great scorer comes to mark against your name, it matters not if you won or lost, but how you played the game.'

For several years a north/south junior tournament, organised by the family, has been held in Fraser's memory

and it is hoped the new field will provide a home for this in the future.

The pitch has already been used by youngsters participating in the Shinty Street League and following the opening, a Fort William v Kilmallie Under 14 league match was played. After a hard fought battle, it was won by the home side.

At half time, an inscribed black caman with silver fittings was presented to Sandy Slater by Fort William Shinty Club for his work in securing £200,000 from various bodies, including the European Leader Fund, which allowed the project to go ahead.

Members of the MacPhee family who attended the opening of Fraser's Field.





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## Urgent plea to tackle beach chaos

Continued from page one. officers, including a sergeant. Now it is only three. I don't see how the local police, having to respond single-crewed, can cope, despite the huge efforts they put in,' said Mr Thompson. 'The answer might not require the original force of six to be put back in place, but when the population of rural areas quadruples in summer, the police resource should be sufficient and flexible enough to follow that to some extent.'

Fellow ward councillor Allan Henderson believes it is a few who are spoiling great days at the beach for the majority and said local politicians and responsible landowners must provide alternatives instead of constantly criticising.

'This is no easy task as consent of usable land is seen as a concession, but frankly we need to convince ourselves that the campervan and 'wild camper' - in their eyes - are not going anywhere fast so we need to develop alternative facilities for them

and quick.' Mr Henderson said the council was putting out as many bins as it can collect.

But Ms Forbes said more can and should be done. 'Elsewhere in the constituency, like Aviemore, steps have been taken to ban fires to reduce the amount of overnight camping. That should be done now,' she said. 'Between Highland Council and Police Scotland, there are adequate powers to implement and enforce new restrictions. I would strongly encourage these steps to be taken in Arisaig and Morar.'

Police Scotland's Area Commander for South Highland, Chief Inspector Jen Valentine, said: 'We are aware of the ongoing issues regarding inconsiderate parking near the beaches at Morar and Arisaig.'

'Officers carry out routine patrols in these areas and we are working closely with Highland Council. We urge people to be responsible and considerate to the areas they are visiting.'

# Glencoe Museum gets £74k lottery boost

Glencoe Folk Museum has confirmed it has received funding to the tune of £74,000 from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, to begin design work on its redevelopment project, writes Mark Entwistle.

The cash boost will help the museum progress its plans to apply for a full National Lottery grant in the near future.

The project will extend the museum, reinterpreting and improving access to its historic 18th century cottages while creating new visitor facilities including toilets.

An outreach and education programme is also planned which will help the museum play an active role in the local area, while a new community gallery will create space for local groups to meet and produce their own exhibitions.



Redevelopment Manager David Rounce and Curator Catriona Davidson inside the current museum.

year so this news gives us a lot of optimism for the future.

'Lottery funding will allow us to begin working with architects and exhibition designers as well as recruiting a learning and engagement officer to really embed the museum in the community.'

Catriona Davidson, Curator, added: 'We've an amazing collection and this is such an exciting opportunity to bring Glencoe's unique heritage to life. From conserving our Eilean Munde 'coffin boat', to a new exhibition set on the night of the massacre, to getting artefacts digitised and available across the world, we can't wait to get started.'

Founded in the 1960s by members of the local community, Glencoe Museum is housed in two Category B-listed 18th-century properties which are the only surviving genuine heather-thatched cruck-framed structures in the area.

Its collection of c6,000

objects spans the 17th to 21st centuries, chronicling the infamous 1692 massacre and Jacobite rebellion, daily local life and work right up to the Covid pandemic.

Commenting on the award, redevelopment manager David Rounce, said: 'Like many museums we've had a challenging

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## VIEW FROM THE CHAMBER

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Lochaber Chamber of Commerce hosts the Developing the Young Workforce (DYW) West Highland programme and the team wish to hear from you as part of a social media campaign that will aim to show young people there is 'no wrong path'.

With a huge potential for growth and job opportunities in Lochaber across multiple sectors including food and drink, creative industries, such as digital, sustainable tourism and energy, to name a few, you can help share your story in this DYW West Highland social media campaign.

The social media campaign #NoWrongPath seeks to

inspire and reassure young people that even in these most recent difficult times, exam disruption and the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, there are still opportunities to progress.

DYW West Highland is reaching out to organisations and individuals who have travelled along many pathways to get to the point they are at now and who can share their story. This can be done through a photograph, video or case study which can then be shared and promoted across social media using the campaign hashtag #NoWrongPath. The team can supply a template to be printed or you can make your own.

The DYW West Highland team is also keen to engage with organisations who may be offering apprenticeships, jobs or training, either now or in the near future. Get in touch by emailing [info@dywesthighland.org](mailto:info@dywesthighland.org) and check out their latest content across social media on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter @DYWestHighland and online at [www.dywesthighland.org](http://www.dywesthighland.org).

# Oyster beds restoration on menu at Lochaline

Oysters were once so abundant they were used as currency to pay taxes at Ardtornish Estate on Morvern.

But since the 1800s, populations of the much sought-after shellfish delicacy in Scotland have decreased by a staggering 95 per cent, writes Savannah Cobb Thomas.

The usual suspects, pollution, over-exploitation and climate change, are to blame.

Oysters are integral to marine ecosystems as they increase biodiversity by creating habitats for other marine life as they cement together and if allowed to multiply, oyster populations can establish into reef-like structures providing protection for juvenile marine species. They also work as filters purifying the water they live in, which particularly enables the growth of seagrass, a key defence against climate change as it can absorb carbon



The first batch of oysters will total 20,000, with the first 10,000 already in the nursery cages.

Photograph: CAOLAS.

35 times faster than tropical rainforests and is responsible for 10 per cent of the ocean's annual carbon absorption.

Despite this, to most people oysters are still thought to be inert features of the sea and are more commonly recognised as expensive aphrodisiacs.

It is not surprising there is a lot of excitement around a project at Lochaline to restore its native oyster (*Ostrea edulis*) populations. This particular species is famed for its tannic flavouring and found to be su-

perior to the American oyster in taste, the native oyster now being aquafarmed in America. And thanks to the success of the previous oyster restoration project at Loch Craignish and grants from the Highlands and Islands Environment Foundation, Fauna and Flora International and the William Grant Foundation, Community Association of Lochs and Sounds (CAOLAS) in partnership with Seawilding have announced plans to expand these seawilding trials

in Lochaline, whilst working closely with authorities to ensure the strictest bio-security measures.

To restore Lochaline's native oyster population, they must first be grown in cages hung underneath floating pontoons. They will begin life in these cages not much larger than the size of a button and once they reach maturity, they will be released onto the seabed of Lochaline and the process will be repeated. 'In the face of a nature crisis and climate crisis, the Lochaline native oyster restoration project shows that communities which care about the health of the marine environment can take action,' said Annabel Lawrence, chairperson of CAOLAS.

'This project is putting something back to help biodiversity restoration which will be of benefit to our community and future generations.'

## Luke endures horsefly hell to raise cash for Ganges dolphins

Luke Coleman and his dog Tuke are walking the length of the UK from John O'Groats to Lands End to raise money for a project working to save the Ganges Dolphin, writes Sandy Neil.

Luke reached the summit of Ben Nevis on Saturday July 17, and so far has raised more than £1,400. He seems to have spent most of his journey so far in the north of Scotland quite pleasantly, foraging for mushrooms, wild garlic, trout, seaweed, winkles, and mussels.

However, all that seemed to change in Lochaber on July 19, as told in a Facebook post titled 'horse fly hell'. 'Oh man, it's like a torture chamber out there!' Luke said on his Facebook page, Walking the UK to save the Gangetic Dolphin.

'Seriously, there are so many horseflies. I've found myself a hill with a breeze. I've lit myself a fire, and I seem to get away from them, but as soon as I get down there, they are all over me, and it's hard, man. It's really hard. So, I'm waiting for the sun to go down and I am going to kick on. I have not made much ground today because I have been hiding up here away from the flies!'



Luke Coleman is walking the length of the UK to help save rare freshwater dolphins in the Ganges River.

Why is Luke enduring such hell? Well, it's a cause close to his heart, if not to Lochaber, concerning the River Ganges 4,000 miles away.

'The Gangetic Dolphin is a species of freshwater dolphin found in the Ganges River which flows through India and Nepal,' Luke explains on his gofundme page: 'Sadly this little known species is at risk of extinction due to pollution, river construction projects such as dams and climate change. The Ganges Dolphin is one of only three species of fresh water dolphin left, since the extinction of the Yangtze Dolphin. Once present in tens of thousands, its numbers are dropping at a worrying rate,

from about 4500 as recently as 1982 to an estimated 1800 now. There are many strains on the population, including dam building, pollution and depletion of river water.

'I have written a children's novel about the Gangetic Dolphin aimed at raising awareness of these beautiful creatures amongst the next generation in India, and I am walking from John O'Groats to Lands End to raise money to publish this novel, which will then be donated to schools along the Ganges River.'

You can learn more on Luke's website [www.savethegangeticdolphin.org](http://www.savethegangeticdolphin.org), and follow his walk via instagram @lukeandtuke.



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# Re-imagining Lochaber's uplands

Dr Jon Mercer of Glenloy Wildlife puts his case for improving biodiversity

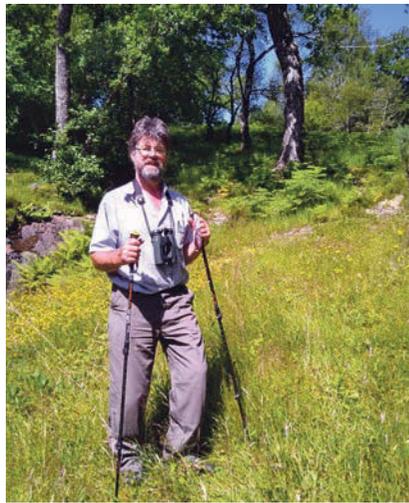
Wherever you look in Lochaber, we are surrounded by magnificent upland scenery.

Here is the dilemma. What we take for granted as the normal state of things is an artificial construct, a managed environment created by man.

The lower slopes of the mountains, together with smaller hillsides, should have been scattered with trees.

The Highlands look like they do today because the trees were felled, mostly after the Jacobite rebellion only 250 years ago, and replaced by sheep and deer, whilst the land was cleared of the people who lived and worked there.

We are facing unprecedented global threats in terms of climate change and the loss of biodiversity, both of which are closely entwined. Prime habitats in terms of soil, grasslands, peat bogs and woodlands all store atmospheric carbon and contribute to the reduction in



Dr Jon Mercer, who says improving local biodiversity and the bio-economy is a 'no-brainer'.

global warming. In Lochaber, where perhaps 80 per cent of the land can be classed as upland, this comprises an area of around 4,000 km sq. At present our bare hills actually release carbon as peat erodes or is still inappropriately planted with conifers. This loss accounts

for 113Kt CO<sub>2</sub>e - kilotonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent - emissions per year, making a significant contribution to global warming.

If we were to restore only a quarter of our uplands to woodland and active peat bog - a gain of 50,000ha of

each habitat - this would be estimated to store as much as 202Kt CO<sub>2</sub>e per year.

There are many views of how the Lochaber uplands might look in the future; the following is only one possible scenario:

In 50 years, we will live in an area where upland habitats will have been restored. The lower slopes of our hills will be covered by a mixture of native woodlands, mixed species forestry plantations, upland grasslands, active peat bogs and restored riparian habitats.

A transition zone with mountain willows and dwarf trees will buffer the more productive woodland from the higher slopes.

To achieve this, there will be fewer deer, but the stags that remain will be larger and have better antlers. Cattle will have been restored to the hills, in carefully controlled numbers, and those sheep that remain

will be traditionally managed to prevent over-grazing, providing quality meat to be sold at a premium. Neither deer nor livestock will be at a density that prevents regeneration of vegetation. Wildlife will be flourishing.

There will be plenty scope for new jobs and still be a place for traditional agriculture, forestry and stalking.

There will be greater opportunities for agri-forestry, the establishment of woodland crofts and a proliferation of jobs relating to the harvesting and use of timber and other products, such as wild berries and fungi, from mixed and broadleaf woodlands. Green energy will be important, as will supply of water and carbon storage and offset schemes.

Tourism, particularly eco-tourism, will have increased significantly. New communities will have become established, housed in carbon

neutral buildings alongside new factories and businesses manufacturing environmentally friendly products.

There are several projects currently on the go including the Saving Morvern's Rainforest project, the Nevis Landscape Partnership and a co-ordinated approach to restore and increase some of last remaining pinewoods in Lochaber, including Arkaig Forest, currently managed by the Woodland Trust and Arkaig Community Forest.

There is room for a step change, however, to increase the scale of these developments. Certainly, this will take political will as well a change in thinking. Changes of this magnitude will also only take place if there is support from the community. Feel free to let your councillors, MSP and MP how you feel on these issues and do your bit to save the planet.

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\*You must be 18 or over to attend the event.

# Rare connection unveiled as remote plot goes up for sale

Few places on earth can claim a link to an elite killing squad and Jemima Puddle-Duck, or at least one that isn't a classified government secret.

The remote Roshven peninsula between Lochailort and Glenuig in Moidart has one such rare connection. Now the lucky buyer of an 18-acre house plot there, for a mere £450,000, can boast about it over dinner, backdropped by a stunning 270 degree sea view of Rum, Eigg, Muck and the Cuillin of Skye.

Over the years, Roshven's wilderness has attracted a curious bunch of humans.

The as-yet unbuilt four-bedroom house, which already has planning permission and an architect's design with curved towers and turrets to fit in with existing Roshven Estate buildings, is called Commando Rock.

## Elite killing squad and Jemima Puddle-Duck linked on Roshven

The site's last owner named it so after the tree-trunk ladders, now long gone, that the famous green-bereted special forces soldiers had left behind on a dramatic rocky outcrop called Creag na Speireig, the 'Crag of the Sparrow Hawk', during training in the Second World War.

A century earlier, the Crag of the Sparrow Hawk was the scene of a more peaceful covert mission, to capture the ways of the Highlands' wild and rural life in paint and pencil. In 1854 the Roshven Estate became home to one of Victorian Britain's most popular illus-

trators Jemima Wedderburn Blackburn, and her husband Hugh, a professor of mathematics at Glasgow University.

During her life there, Blackburn created a priceless legacy of paintings covering every facet of the life and customs of her time. The best of her work is to be found among her paintings of Roshven's wildlife. Once she had been a pupil of Sir Edwin Landseer, who declared that 'in portraying animals, I have nothing to teach her'. She was a keen observer of bird behaviour, once sketching the ejection of nestling meadow pipits by a blind



Roshven peninsula.

and naked hatchling common cuckoo – a phenomena earlier described as impossible by the naturalist Charles Waterton. Charles Darwin refers to Blackburn's observations in his sixth edition of On the Origin of Species. She drew compulsively, illustrating 27 books in her lifetime, most famously Birds Drawn From

Nature in 1868. This was the book given to a young Beatrix Potter, which further impelled her blossoming devotion to wildlife. Potter recalled years later, in her journal: 'I remember so clearly – as clearly as the brightness of rich Scottish sunshine on the threadbare carpet – the morning I was ten years old – and my father

gave me Mrs Blackburn's book of birds drawn from nature, for my birthday present. The book was bound in scarlet with a gilt edge. I danced about the house with pride [that] never palled.'

The two women met in 1891 and 1894. Potter found her heroine 'a broad intelligent observer with a keen eye for the beautiful in nature. She was as impressed by Blackburn's personality as by her painting: 'I have not been so much struck by anyone for a long time,' Potter wrote in her journal.

The botanist Mary Noble argues persuasively that Potter modelled Jemima Puddle-duck, at least in name if not ornithological behaviour, on Jemima Blackburn. Now this dream coastal retreat on a private peninsula is under offer, only time will tell what a new owner will bring to Roshven's unique story.

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# Three-year whale enigma solved

A mystery to solve the identify of a pod of killer whales, spotted in Watersay in Scotland and Børøyfjorden in Norway, has finally been solved using data from the Norwegian Orca Survey and the Scottish Killer Whale Catalogue.

Previously unknown to Scottish and Norwegian scientists, the pod has now been identified using records responsible for the first killer whale match made between the two countries.

The story begins in Scotland off Watersay on the west coast on June 23 2018 when a confirmed sighting of a killer whale pod was made by the Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust. The animals were spotted 300 metres away from the charity's research yacht Silurian.

The trust's science officer Becky Dudley was on board and took photographs that – three years later – made the Norwegian match possible.

The breakthrough came on Saturday July 10 this year after citizen scientist Asmund



Aasheim photographed a pod of six whales in Børøyfjorden and sent his images to the Norwegian Orca Survey, where Dr Eve Jourdain found the killer whales were not familiar from Norwegian records.

As the colouration on the animal's backs – known as a saddle patch – looked different to that of killer whales normally seen around Norway, Dr Jourdain looked further afield, comparing the individuals against other national records. She found a match

in the Scottish Killer Whale Catalogue – a key research document containing the best available images of all known living killer whales seen in Scottish waters.

'From the moment I first took a look at Asmund's photos, I knew these killer whales were 'different' from our Norwegian killer whales,' said Dr Jourdain.

'Following our routine protocols, I tried to identify them from our Norwegian catalogue but, as expected, I found no

## Some of the mystery killer whales encountered in Scotland in 2018.

match. When it came to mind that I should browse through the Scottish catalogue, I had a strong feeling I would find them there. It was incredible to find this first photographic match between Norway and Scotland.'

Science officer Becky Dudley, who contributed her sighting to the Scottish Killer Whale Catalogue, said: 'The encounter with this group of killer whales in 2018 was one of the most amazing experiences I've had on Scotland's west coast. It was made even more exciting when, despite much investigation and collaboration with other organisations, the identity of this pod remained a mystery.'

'I am thrilled the group has been matched to the group seen in Norway over three years later. It highlights how

much there is to learn about the marine life in our oceans.'

Anyone can get involved to help track the movements of individual animals and contribute to marine conservation efforts by sending in sightings and photographs of whales, dolphins, porpoises and basking sharks. Sightings for the west coast of Scotland should be registered with the Hebridean Whale and Dolphin

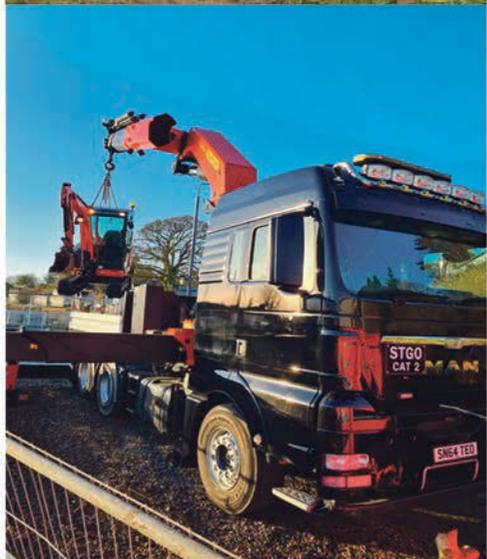
Trust via [www.whaletrack.hwtdt.org](http://www.whaletrack.hwtdt.org). With marine mammals at risk from human activities including climate change, entanglement, pollution, underwater noise and habitat degradation, ongoing and long-term research is crucial to improve understanding of the impacts on whales, dolphins and porpoises – collectively known as cetaceans – and how to protect them.



A close-up image of killer whales showing the saddle patch which helps identify the creatures.

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**CITY PLUMBING**

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In his role as Lord Lieutenant of Inverness, Lochiel welcomed Prince Charles to Lochaber and accompanied him on a visit to a Marine Harvest, now Mowi, Fish Farm. Photograph: Iain Ferguson, alba.photos



The Duke of Kent and Lord Lieutenant Donald Cameron of Lochiel on a visit with Lochaber Mountain Rescue team. Photograph: Iain Ferguson, alba.photos.

# Tributes as Lochiel steps down from high profile role

Tributes have been paid this week to Donald Cameron of Lochiel CVO as he prepares to step down as Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Inverness after nearly two decades in the high profile role.

Lord-Lieutenants must retire when they reach the age of 75 and Lochiel - as Mr Cameron is widely known - will reach that milestone on Monday, just a year short of 20 years' service.

The 27th hereditary chief of the Clan Cameron, who lives at Achnacarry, attended his final official engagement as Lord-Lieutenant on Monday when he presented the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service to the West Highland Museum in Fort William.

The Queen has appointed Inverness lawyer James Wotherspoon to succeed Lochiel. Mr Wotherspoon is currently senior Partner of Macandrew & Jenkins WS, a family legal firm based in Inverness.

He has been Clerk to the Inverness Lieutenancy, which encompasses the districts of Inverness, Badenoch and Strathspey and Lochaber, since 2002 and a deputy lieutenant since 2009.

Paying tribute this week, Caol and Mallaig ward councillor Allan Henderson said Lochiel would be 'greatly missed' in the role of Lord-Lieutenant.

'He is a figurehead who graces any event he attends

## Donald Cameron retires after almost two decades as Lord-Lieutenant

and has a wonderful personal touch with a great interest and empathy of his fellow human beings,' added Mr Henderson.

'It was my privilege to be in Lochiel's company on numerous occasions when I held the provostship of Lochaber and, while he was a great listener, I always came away enriched with some pearl of wisdom or history.'

**'His rank did not mean it was difficult to have discourse with him, in fact, the opposite was the case. He just has that wonderful personal touch which can be rare in public figures.'**

'His rank did not mean it was difficult to have discourse with him, in fact, the opposite was the case. He just has that wonderful personal touch which

can be rare in public figures.' MSP Kate Forbes commented: 'I warmly and sincerely commend Donald Cameron of Lochiel for his many years of service to the Highlands and to Her Majesty The Queen.'

'He has been a much-loved and respected figure across the West Highlands, in particular, and beyond for many years. I'd like to pay tribute to his support to many initiatives and communities over the years.'

Convener of The Highland Council Councillor Bill Lobban told the Lochaber Times: 'On behalf of The Highland Council, fellow councillors and staff, it is a great honour and a privilege to wish The Lord-Lieutenant, Donald Cameron of Lochiel, a long and happy retirement on his last official engagement.'

'I wish to thank him for his extensive and dedicated commitments to public service. His official presence will be sorely missed at the many events over which he presided such as the annual Remembrance Parade in Fort William and at the many community events

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Each year Lochiel takes the salute in Fort William High Street, as military and former military personnel march to the war memorial.

Photograph: Abrightside Photography.



which he was always pleased to support. We extend our best wishes to him on his retirement.'

Mr Wotherspoon said it had been a great pleasure being one of Lochiel's deputy lord-lieutenants as well as clerk to the lieutenantcy during Lochiel's time in the role. 'Throughout his period as Lord-Lieutenant, I have really admired everything he has done. He has been extremely popular and much respected and that is

due to his personality and the effort he has put in, involving himself in every sphere of community life. I am just full of admiration for him,' said Mr Wotherspoon this week.

As for Lochiel himself, he told the Lochaber Times this week that his 19 years as Lord-Lieutenant had been very enjoyable. 'I have thoroughly enjoyed it and been able to meet a huge number of people. It's been a great pleasure doing things like presenting awards

to local organisations and groups. But you do have to step down when you reach 75 and for me that's next week so Monday's presentation to the museum was my last official event.'

Despite retiring from the role, Lochiel's responsibilities as chief of Clan Cameron and at Achnacarry Estate mean he will still be kept busy. 'Very much so. But it has been very enjoyable serving as Lord-Lieutenant. It's been good fun.'

**Above: Lord Lieutenant Donald Cameron presents the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service to Nevis Radio chairman John Weller last week, who accepted it on behalf of volunteers past and present at the station's AGM in Caol Community Centre.** Photograph: Iain Ferguson, alba.photos



**Donald Cameron of Lochiel switches on the Christmas lights in Fort William with Chief Town Team Elf, Moira Robinson.** Photograph: Iain Ferguson, alba.photos.

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# pause & breathe

## Isle of Mull retreat 6-11th September



Many people are feeling tired, run-down, overwhelmed by all of the changes we've all experienced over the last 16 months. You may well be feeling the same.

On top of that, it's been difficult to get some downtime – many places in the UK are fully booked, or have extortionate prices. Travelling abroad doesn't yet feel right for many of us, even to those countries on the "green" list.

There may be an answer slightly nearer to home. Susie & Phil from Pause & Breathe CIC (<https://www.pauseandbreathe.co.uk/>) are running a retreat on the Isle of Mull from 6-11th September. This retreat will bookend each day with some Mindfulness & Qi Gong. Don't worry if you haven't practiced either before, this retreat is suitable for absolute beginners.

Mindfulness is all about being in the moment – learning how to unhook from the busy mind, and be present in life. Susie will be offering some mindfulness meditations,

mindful walking and mindfulness in nature during the retreat. She'll also be sharing some practices focused on deep rest.

Qi Gong is a form of mindful movement. We align slow movements with the breath, to move stuck energy around the body. Qi Gong can help to lower stress and anxiety and to help improve balance and increase focus. Phil will be sharing movements from a variety of Qi Gong sets, and plans to have some sessions in the open air, on the beach which help increase the feeling of energy.

There will be plenty of time during the day to have some downtime on the island, and to explore at your own leisure. There are optional additional trips, such as a boat trip to Staffa and a walking tour on Iona.

At the end of the week, you are bound to feel like you have completely unwound, with a reduction in feelings of stress and worry and an increase in feelings of calm and relaxation. Mull is such a beautiful island, and the slower pace of life really helps us to slow down.

There are just two spaces left on this retreat – either a single supplement (£695pp) or a space in a shared room (£550pp). It's also possible to book for two people in a shared room (£925 for

two people). If you can't join the retreat, but you're interested in trying Mindfulness or Qi Gong, they run regular online sessions, get in contact with them to find out more.



**Get in contact with Susie if you'd like to book in, or to request a brochure: [susie@pauseandbreathe.co.uk](mailto:susie@pauseandbreathe.co.uk)**

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## LETTERS

Write to us: send your letters to [editor@obantimes.co.uk](mailto:editor@obantimes.co.uk)  
or The Editor, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB

## Dedicated service

'Lochiel', as he is affectionately known across Lochaber and the wider world in his role as chief of Clan Cameron, has served for almost two decades as Lord Lieutenant, Her Majesty The Queen's representative in this area.

The fact that people, including councillors and politicians of various political persuasions, were delighted to pay tribute to his time in office when asked by the Lochaber Times tells you much about the man.

As do the countless photographs in our archive from which we selected just a few for our special tribute this week.

A true son of Lochaber, he will be much missed at such functions in the future.

## Disappointing decision

This week we report on the disappointing decision by the Highland League to order Fort William Football Club to play all their league and cup games in the new season away from home due to the condition of its Claggan Park ground. The club has done everything it can to improve its pitch and clubhouse but due to Claggan Park's status as a public space, it cannot be secured against vandals. A solution to this Catch-22 situation needs to be found and quick.

The editor welcomes letters of approximately 300 words in length for publication on this page.

However we reserve the right to shorten, to amend or to refuse to print them. Names and postal addresses must be supplied, including on emails, to indicate good faith. A daytime phone number is also required for verification. Anonymous letters will not be printed. Please email: [editor@obantimes.co.uk](mailto:editor@obantimes.co.uk) or write to: Letters page, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB.

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## Accident thanks

May I, through your letters page, express my sincere thanks to all the emergency services who attended my accident on Ganavan beach on July 14.

I would also like to thank those who attended to me prior to the emergency services arriving. I don't know who they were, but I believe there was a paramedic, physiotherapist and even a doctor at the scene.

Thank you for your reassurance which helped keep me calm.

Wilson Meredith.

## Time for a charity tea

As someone who has recently lost a loved one to breast cancer, I've seen first hand the devastating impact this disease can have.

Four days before the UK went into national lockdown, I lost my beautiful mum to secondary breast cancer. I was 11 weeks from giving birth to my daughter, Sofia Lily. She would have been my mum's first grandchild.

The Covid-19 pandemic has been an unprecedented situation for us all, but losing my mum and grieving during this time has been incredibly difficult.

I desperately want to do everything I can to support Breast Cancer Now, which provides essential support services so that people living with the disease, like my mum, are supported the whole way through their breast cancer experience. But they can only do so with your help.

Since the start of the pandemic, Breast Cancer Now has faced huge disruption. Their researchers lost thousands of precious hours in the labs and they've been forced to cancel hundreds of community support events - taking away a crucial lifeline for many.

That's why I'm joining the thousands of others across the UK and having an Afternoon Tea this August.

Whether it's a cuppa in the garden or delivering delicious treats to friends, anyone can take part. And no matter how you choose to have your Afternoon Tea, all money raised will help Breast Cancer Now provide world-class research and life-changing support for anyone affected by breast cancer.

So, if there was ever a time to pop the kettle on and get baking, that time is now. Fundraisers can register to claim a free fundraising pack at [breastcancernow.org/cuppa](http://breastcancernow.org/cuppa)

Andrea Springthorpe, Breast Cancer Now supporter.

## Beachd Ailein

ALLAN CAMPBELL

[ailean@obantimes.co.uk](mailto:ailean@obantimes.co.uk)



Mar ghàirnealair neo-dhreuchdail fhuair mi beagan faochaidh nuair a dh'innis caraid nach robh am buntàta tràth air fàs ro mhath dha am bliadhna, faochadh à fios nach mise an aon neach dha nach do shoirbhich air na chur mi dheth.

Dh'fhàg aimsir fhuar earraich gun robh an siol beagan fadalach a' dol dhan talamh agus thug e ùine a' gobachadh agus bha e cho slaodach a' tighinn às dèidh sin gun d' fhàs na chuir mi cola-deug nas fhaide air adhart seachad air! 'S ann gu math fadalach a thog mise am buntàta tràth, agus bu shuarach na bh' agam às. Ach abair coltas fallain air an dàrna cuid a chuir mi, agus ma nì bàrr bun tha còir gum bi toradh ann! Cha chreid mi gum faca mi riamh flùraichean a' leantainn cho fada air barran, chan eil fios am bheil sin ag innse dad ach thig fios le foghar.

Bidh mi tric a' smaoinichadh air mar a bhiodh croitearan a' bhaile ri farpais agus cliù ga ghabhail à cò bhiodh air toiseach a' rùsgadh phuill-mhònach, neo ri treabhadh, neo buain. Saoilidh mi gun robh na farpaisean sin nam brosnachadh dha daoine a bha claidhte le obair chruaidh gun chus duais, agus 's neònach mur e sin a dh'fhàg seanfhaclan mar "'s e farmad a nì treabhadh!" Ged a tha sinn ann an saoghal glè eadar-dhealaichte an-diugh tha beagan spòrs, agus moit, anns an fharpais le caraidean a thaobh 's mar a bhios toradh a' ghàrraidh, gun ghuth air tlachd a bhith ag ithe na thig às! Ma smaoinicheas tu ma dheidhinn, tha sinn uile

bhon àm a thig a' chiad mhothachadh dhuinn nar beatha air ar brosnachadh le beachd agus moladh dhaoine eile, agus gu ìre tha leithid sin de mhisneachadh cudromach dhuinn fad ar beatha. Aig an aon àm cluinnear bitheanta daoine a' cur an aghaidh farpais, aig Mòdan mar eisimpleir, mar gum b' e droch chleachdadh a bh' ann agus gun aire sam bith air ìre a' mhisneachaidh a tha daoine a' faotainn às a leithid.

Nuair a bha mo mhac na dheugaire bha e na fhìor dheagh lùth-chleasaiche agus a' farpais aig ìre nàiseanta an Alba, agus tha cuimhne mhath agam air mar a bhiodh an sgioba-trèanaidh a' brosnachadh nan cleasaichean le bhith ag iarraidh orra a bhith farpais nan aghaidh fhèin, daonnan a' feuchainn ri bhith nas treasa agus nas luaithe. Bha mi a' smaoinichadh air sin a' coimhead toiseach, agus ciad fharpaisean, nan lùth-chleasan Oilimpeach ann an Iapan. Tha e cho fìor thàmailteach dhan dùthaich gum bheil bacadh air luchd-amhairc anns na lannan-cluiche brèagha a chaidh a dheasachadh aig cosgais cho mòr, agus theagamh nas tàmailtiche buileach nach eil brosnachadh a' mhòr-shluaigh aig prìomh chleasaichean an t-saoghail 's iad a' farpais ann am prìomh thachartas lùth-chleasachd na cruinne. 'S e tachartas car aonaranach a bhios ann am fèin-fhiosrachadh na farpais dha mòran, agus feumaidh iad cuimseachadh air farpais riutha fhèin cho math ris na bhios mun cuairt orra!

Allan Campbell, [ailean@obantimes.co.uk](mailto:ailean@obantimes.co.uk).

## Guinea Pig Club anniversary

Eighty years ago in July 1941, a group of young men who had sustained severe burns in aircraft crashes during the Second World War came together to form The Guinea Pig Club. They took this name in honour of the ground-breaking techniques of pioneering plastic surgeon, Sir Archibald McIndoe.

Upon leaving hospital following their lengthy treatments, members established new careers, married and raised families, challenging the opinions of those who questioned their abilities. These young men quickly became a beacon of hope and their perseverance and tenacity continues to inspire burns survivors today.

The RAF Benevolent Fund is proud to have supported The Guinea Pig Club since its formation 80 years ago and has provided assistance to many of its members over the years.

However, just six members of the Guinea Pig Club remain, so the Fund is taking this important anniversary to highlight the inspiring story of the Guinea Pig Club to ensure its legacy lives on.

I urge your readers to pay tribute to those who served and sacrificed their lives during the Second World War by visiting [rafbf.dedication-page.org/gpc80](http://rafbf.dedication-page.org/gpc80) where they can share memories, photographs, and thanks.

Air Vice-Marshal Chris Elliot, Chief Executive of the RAF Benevolent Fund.

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# DISTRICT NEWS

## GLENFINNAN



The popular Dragonfly Walk at Glenfinnan.

Photograph: National Trust for Scotland.

### Popular boardwalk and bridge closed for repairs

The Dragonfly Trail path from just opposite the National Trust for Scotland (NTS) visitor centre at Glenfinnan has had to be closed because of safety issues with the bridge and boardwalk.

The popular wooden boardwalk, which takes people across the River Callop towards the east shore of Loch Shiel, will remain closed until the autumn, say the NTS.

People can still access the forestry track beside Loch Shiel and the Pinewood Trail up the knoll of Torran Dubhais with a longer walk in, ap-

proximately 1.5 miles, from the Callop parking area off the A830, east of Glenfinnan.

A Forestry and Land Scotland spokesperson told the Lochaber Times: 'A recent structural inspection of the timber walkway at the Dragonfly Trail, Glenfinnan, [south end of the bridge] revealed some timbers and fixings were no longer fit for purpose.

'We are still carrying out a full assessment and as a safety precaution have decided to close the walkway. Once we know what repairs are needed, we will consult with local stakeholders on possible solutions.'

## LOCHABER

### Fort William hospital plans take shape amid shake-up

Plans are progressing for the new hospital in Fort William which forms part of the wider re-design plans for health and social care services in Lochaber.

The latest update includes the creation of a new programme board and projects team and a number of senior medical staff.

In a monthly NHS newsletter aimed at keeping the community informed of progress and plans, health officials confirmed the creation of the new programme board and projects team, which, along with chief officer Louise Bussell who will oversee the overall re-design, will ensure plans are on track and that the needs of all stakeholders are met.

These new groups, along with the steering group made up of representatives from community councils, local groups, organisations and health and social care staff – will become the stakeholder group for the Lochaber health and social care re-design.

Following a recruitment campaign, the group has also confirmed the appointment of two



Chief officer Louise Bussell is responsible for the overall redesign and will oversee plans to ensure they remain on track.

surgeons and an anaesthetist. An emergency practitioner and two physician posts are still being advertised.

Patient and service users have been asked about their experience of hospital and community health service appointments to find out what matters most to them about health and care services.

Young people, those affected by mental health, disabled people and people who live in supported accommodation, people who have migrated here from another country, and homeless people will also be included in these surveys.

The feedback and experiences gathered will help people working on developing plans to understand the challenges as well as what will be needed for the new building.

NHS Highland plans to submit the initial agreement for the new hospital, to the Scottish Government by the end of November 2021.

## LOCHABER

### Lochaber MRT on multiple call-outs over weekend

It has been a busy period for Lochaber Mountain Rescue Team with five call-outs to Ben Nevis on Saturday plus the rescue of seven stranded hillwalkers from the mountain on Friday.

Friday's call-out ended at 5am but actually started 12 hours earlier when the team was alerted to the seven people who had become crag fast after gearing up for a traverse of the Càrn Mòr Dearg Arête.

The team posted: 'Somewhat off the route, the group were located on dangerous ground in the area of Good Friday climb – a classic winter line on Ben Nevis. With assistance from R151, a number of the team were lifted to the summit to retrieve the summit ropes and begin rigging a rope system, while further members were lifted up to the CIC hut.

'With dangerous loose rock above the party, a decision was made for a small number of team members to access the group from below and move them over to a safer position where they could be accessed from above and moved safely up to the summit. Another 12-hour epic with everyone getting back to base for an early breakfast at 5am.

'Not counting the other call-outs already this week, this shout carried on with the theme of unpleasant places to be on the North Face, following a call-out on Tuesday afternoon to a cragfast man in Observatory Gully.

'Once again, a strong effort by everyone involved and a big thanks to the crew of R151 for their much appreciated assistance.'

Saturday's five call-outs were also all to Ben Nevis, with three being heat-related. Coastguard helicopter R151 and RAF Lossiemouth Mountain Rescue Team also assisted.

## Summer volunteer work parties planned for Ben Nevis and Glen Nevis

It's looking like a busy summer in Glen Nevis and on Ben Nevis.

And the Nevis Landscape Partnership seasonal ranger team has been working hard to reduce the impact of large numbers of visitors to the area and keeping the place in as good condition as possible.

A number of volunteer events are planned during August and September for anyone wishing to help. There will be two events per month, one on a weekday and one on a weekend, helping with essential tasks including path maintenance and bracken bashing in the Future

Forests tree planting enclosures.

There will also be some Monday morning litter picks on the footpaths in the lower glen on alternate Mondays in August.

Work parties will be led by Rory Stewart, volunteer co-ordinator of Nevis Landscape Partnership and

Friends of Nevis and/or some of the Nevis Landscape Partnership Seasonal Ranger team.

If you are interested in taking part, visit [www.friendsofnevis.co.uk/events.html](http://www.friendsofnevis.co.uk/events.html) or <https://www.nevislandscape.co.uk/local/events/> the events page to sign up or register

as a volunteer. There will still be some precautionary Covid arrangements in place, including online sign-up for events, pre-event screening questions, meeting at or near the work sites to avoid meeting indoors and appropriate personal hygiene and distancing guidance during work parties.



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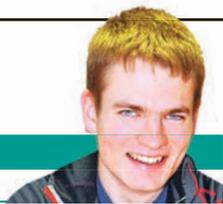
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# Robert in lockdown

**ROBERT ROBERTSON**

robert.d.robertson@hotmail.co.uk



Desperate to get away to the sun, myself and a few pals last week decided to write off the Mediterranean for another year and head, instead, to the Hebrides.

We flew out to Tiree on Tuesday evening and the holiday that followed was better than anything the Med could have offered. In the almost 10 years I have been going to Tiree, I have never seen the island quite like I saw it last week. A full week of wall-to-wall sunshine, the hottest day since 1991, and unmatched hospitality made it a week to remember.

My first thank you has to go to our good pal, Ian Smith, who picked us up, took us to the beautiful Reef Inn for dinner, and then hosted us in his house all week.

The handy thing about Ian's house is that it happens to be right next door to his distillery - which made it particularly suitable accommodation for the type of week we had in mind.

Ian and his business partner Alain Campbell have built up something quite amazing with



the Isle of Tiree Distillery in West Hynish, and (as we sat out on the decking of their gin bar being served cocktails by Calum MacArthur) we could easily have been in the Caribbean.

The only noticeable difference was that the background music was 2/4 Marches rather than Reggae.

Thanks also to Ian's mother, Margory, for inviting us into her neighbouring garden for a dram or two and absolutely no thanks to Ian's brother Bernie who, when I was lying sunbathing on his paddle board in the bay, thought it would be funny to swim up and place two live crabs on my chest.

In the days that followed, we

went out to Coll on Smithy's boat for a wonderful meal in the Coll Hotel. We then came alongside Steptoe MacLean from Tobermory whilst he and his grandsons were fishing for mackerel off the Cairns of Coll. Whilst we were there, a pod of dolphins swam right across our bow.

We returned to a Tiree beach party with a cracking barbecue and were taken back out to sea on a Banana Boat being towed by Angus MacKinnon.

Afterwards, we warmed up round a bonfire whilst the moon shone down onto the ocean - as Archie Bear said - just as Calum Kennedy would have imagined it in The Moonlight on Bonnie Tiree.

A real highlight was the night we were kindly invited out to Duncan and Allison MacArthur's yacht, the Re-Tyree. As I lay in a hammock, I asked the boys: 'If someone was to offer us the chance to be dropped anywhere in the whole world right now, what would you say?'

Their reply was unanimous: 'Just leave me exactly where I am.'

# Film festival reels in young islanders for film festival

Our Island Stories, the first film festival for young islanders in Scotland, is inviting submissions for its online showing on August 28, writes Sandy Neil.

The festival is seeking short films of up to three minutes in length from filmmakers aged 12-25. Submissions will open from August 2-14. Films must focus on life on a Scottish island, and can be in English, Gaelic or Scottish dialects.

'The project will support young people to make their films, find their voice and share their personal experiences of life on their islands,' the organisers said.

'The films can take a number of forms and filmmakers are encouraged to be creative and use various techniques. Filmmaking provides a unique and creative way for young people to be heard and to express what they want for their future, how to move forward and improve their lives, how to encourage others to stay on islands and attract others to move there.'

Films already created by young islanders from Islay, Arran, Lewis, Orkney, Shetland, South Uist, Colonsay, Eigg, Tiree and Mull



The festival is seeking short film submissions from Scottish islanders aged 12 - 25 to form its first programme.

during Our Island Stories workshops earlier this year cover a vast range of topics, from tourism to LGBTQ+ safe spaces, second homes to marine litter.

'To support young people to take their filmmaking skills to the next level, Our Island Voices has created a range of video tutorials, covering shooting with a mobile phone, composition tricks, editing, adding music, animation and more. The videos are all free to access and can be viewed at screenargyll.co.uk'

The project is delivered

in partnership with Youth Scotland and the Scottish Island Federation, with Screen Argyll working with Youth Scotland to reach and support young people as part of the Young Islanders Challenge.

Jen Skinner at Screen Argyll said: 'We are so excited to be working with the Scottish Island Federation and Youth Scotland on this project, for the potential it has in reaching out to young people in our communities, connecting them through film and giving them a voice. We can't wait to hear what they have to say!'

# HIGHLAND CINEMA

FRI 30TH JUL - THUR 5TH AUG



**FRIDAY 30TH JULY**  
 Space Jam: A New Legacy (U) 10:15am.  
 Jungle Cruise (12a) 10:30am, 1:30pm, 4:15pm + 7:15pm.  
 The Suicide Squad (15) 1:15pm, 4:30pm + 7:30pm.

**SATURDAY 31ST JULY**  
 Space Jam: A New Legacy (U) 10:15am.  
 Jungle Cruise (12a) 10:30am, 1:30pm, 4:15pm + 7:15pm.  
 The Suicide Squad (15) 1:15pm, 4:30pm + 7:30pm.

**SUNDAY 1ST AUGUST**  
 Space Jam: A New Legacy (U) 10:15am.  
 Jungle Cruise (12a) 10:30am, 1:30pm, 4:15pm + 7:15pm.  
 The Suicide Squad (15) 1:15pm, 4:30pm + 7:30pm.

**MONDAY 2ND AUGUST**  
 Jungle Cruise (12a) *Bairns at the Box Office: 10:15am.*  
 Space Jam: A New Legacy (U) 10:30am. The Suicide Squad (15) 1:15pm, 4:30pm + 7:30pm. Jungle Cruise (12a) 1:30pm, 4:15pm + 7:15pm.

**TUESDAY 3RD AUGUST**  
 Highlands From The Air (U) 12:30pm.  
 The Suicide Squad (15) 1pm, 4:30pm + 7:30pm.  
 Jungle Cruise (12a) 1:30pm, 4pm + 7pm.

**WEDNESDAY 4TH AUGUST**  
 Space Jam: A New Legacy (U) 10:15am.  
 Jungle Cruise (12a) 10:30am, 1:30pm, 4:15pm + 7:15pm.  
 The Suicide Squad (15) 1:15pm, 4:30pm + 7:30pm.

**THURSDAY 5TH AUGUST**  
 Space Jam: A New Legacy (U) 10:15am.  
 Jungle Cruise (12a) 10:30am, 1:30pm, 4:15pm + 7:15pm.  
 The Suicide Squad (15) 1:15pm, 4:30pm + 7:30pm.

**COMING SOON!**

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# FOCUS



## Know your levels!

### Level Zero is here

As of 19 July, Scotland has moved into Level Zero as restrictions continue to ease across the United Kingdom.

### What has changed?

You can meet friends and family socially in groups:

- of up to 8 people from 4 households in your home or theirs – and can stay overnight
- of up to 10 people from 4 households in an indoor public place like a café, pub, or restaurant. Hospitality settings will be required to close at midnight.
- of up to 15 people from 15 households outdoors
- Keep a minimum social distance of 1 metre

### Face coverings

You must wear a face covering when you go inside public areas including bars, cafes, shops and on public transport. You can take off your mask when sitting down in a bar, for example.

### Testing

Everyone is encouraged to get tested, as around 1 in 3 people with COVID-19 do not have symptoms. For home test kits, testing stations and more information, please head online to [gov.scot/communitytesting](https://gov.scot/communitytesting)

### Keeping transmission rates low

To keep transmission rates as low as possible, you are advised to:

- Avoid crowded shops
- Use the available hand sanitiser and sanitising stations
- Try to avoid touching goods unless you intend to buy them
- Be polite. Please ensure that you are considerate to staff and abide by their guidance and instructions.

We're looking forward to welcoming you to our beautiful destination, to enjoy our waterways, glens, beaches, and activities.

As we get more and more used to being out and about, please do remember to book ahead with businesses so they can ensure they're meeting social distancing limits and remember to cancel if you can't make it. This small courtesy can make a big difference to a business.

If you're a local business who'd like to benefit from the support of Lochaber Chamber of Commerce and the promotional opportunities of the 'Outdoor Capital of the UK' marketing, please get in touch on [membership@lochaberchamber.co.uk](mailto:membership@lochaberchamber.co.uk). We're here to help!

# Capture those moments for the 'gram in Lochaber



**Ardnamurchan point**

Explore Lochaber this summer and tick off some 'bucket list' views by capturing those 'Instagram favourites' and memories of a lifetime. We've compiled a number of spots to help you move around the Outdoor Capital and enjoy the glorious Highland views.

### Glenfinnan Viaduct and Loch Shiel

Visit the magical and famous Glenfinnan Viaduct, a spot famous with photographers for the Harry Potter films and its magnificent beauty. You can watch the Jacobite Steam Train travelling over the viaduct with its puffing steam engine too. Follow local signage to the viaduct viewpoint plus head over Glenfinnan Monument, opposite car parking at the Glenfinnan Visitor Centre, for loch-side views and more.

### Corpach Basin

Great for views of Ben Nevis, Loch Linnhe, and the Caledonian Canal. Corpach basin is at the end of the Caledonian canal and gives off a brilliant view of Ben Nevis, the shipwreck, and the locks of the canal, plus Neptune's Staircase as you walk up the canal and away from the car park area towards The Moorings Hotel direction.

### Commando Memorial Spean Bridge

The Commando Memorial in Spean Bridge is dedicated to the British Commando forces raised during World War Two. The monument of three soldiers overlooks the training area of the Commando Training Depot established in 1942 at Achnacarry Castle, it's one of Scotland's best known monuments as well as giving fantastic views of Ben Nevis, Aonach Mor and the Grey Corries.

### Mallaig Harbour

The Road to the Isles is filled with worthy pullovers and places to just stop, look and absorb the scenery - you'll

even capture a memory or two! From the Polish Church at Lochailort all the way to Mallaig Harbour you won't be disappointed at a day spent snapping and admiring.

### Glencoe Lochan

Glencoe Lochan is a forest area located in an idyllic setting, just north of Glencoe Village. You can choose a walking route of your choice, leading you through a forest experience and also to the picturesque lochan, surrounded by a looping walk and conifer trees with that 'Instagram-ready' view point and plenty of areas to help you create your own memories of this wonderful spot.

### Glencoe Three Sisters and Rannoch Moor

This magnificent location has some of the most popular, rugged, and resonant views in Scotland. You will pass through Glencoe Village towards Kingshouse Hotel and Glencoe Mountain Resort on your way. A favourite to snap is of Buachaille Etive Mór, heading to Glen Etive for loch-side landscapes and a sweeping view of the Rannoch Moor landscape.

### Sanna Bay

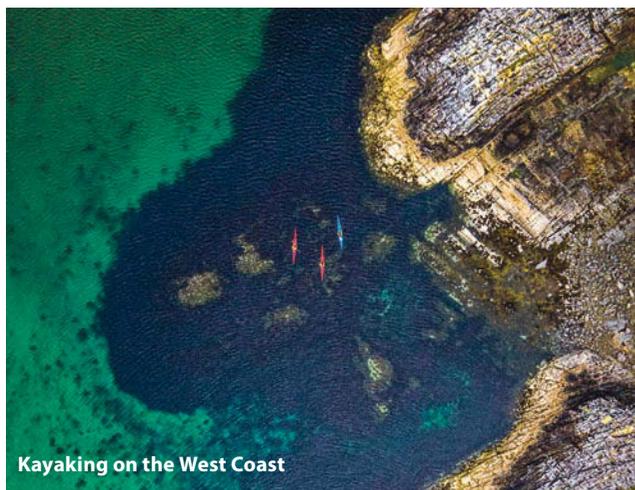
Sanna Bay is located on the Ardnamurchan Peninsula and is the most westerly point in mainland Britain, renowned for its stunning scenery, white sandy beaches, and clear water. The bay also offers some fabulous views of Ardnamurchan point and The Small Isles. With its mix of white sand, beautifully coloured water and West Coast wildlife you'll be sure to capture a memory or two.

## Looking for more inspiration?

Head over to [www.outdoorcapital.co.uk](http://www.outdoorcapital.co.uk) for watersports, walks, adventure and more!



# Be safe, enjoy responsibly



Kayaking on the West Coast

School's out for Summer...and we're looking forward to helping you share family adventures in Lochaber!

With so many of us holidaying at home this year, we're very lucky that Lochaber is the perfect place for a fantastic summer experience.

If you're staying close to home this summer, there's lots to see and do in our own back garden - after all, it is one of the most amazing natural playgrounds in the country! You don't have to venture far to find a new adventure to enjoy with the family or to share with friends and more.

This year, more than ever, we all know that we need to take care of our surroundings and communities while we're out and about.

As part of Lochaber Chamber of Commerce's work to support local business, we promote the area using Lochaber's destination brand 'The Outdoor Capital of the UK'. If you haven't had a look at the Outdoor Capital recently, check us out on Instagram, Facebook and at [www.outdoorcapital.co.uk](http://www.outdoorcapital.co.uk). You'll find loads of great ideas for the summer holidays and beyond!

Throughout the pandemic and recovery, we've been working with VisitScotland and other key tourism partners to support local tourism businesses and to create a new Scotland-wide visitor management plan and marketing activity that will encourage people across Scotland to enjoy our outdoors in a respectful way.

We can all do simple things to help protect our landscape and communities.

Please remember to:

- Pick up litter; and take it home with you
- Avoid crowded areas and move on if a location is too busy
- Park responsibly and safely
- Clean up after your dog
- Keep your dog on a leash around farmland
- Do not disturb natural flora, fauna or animal habitats
- Follow current guidance

Follow the Outdoor Capital of the UK on social media for lots of inspiration to help you discover great summer holiday activities, and share the inspiration with others to explore local, shop local, and enjoy local...responsibly! Use the hashtag #MyOutdoorCapital and be sure to tag us in your adventures.

Here's to our summer of adventure!

## Working for the future: Hospitality needs you

The Outdoor Capital of the UK released its Destination Strategy in 2020 detailing how, as a destination organisation, we will work with Lochaber stakeholders, community and employers to make Lochaber the destination of choice to live, work, visit and stay.

A big part of this commitment is how we utilise opportunities to support sectors to be sustainable but also how we can be agile and react to those business challenges.

Through Lochaber Chamber of Commerce and Developing the Young Workforce West Highland we have brought employers to the forefront and enabled young people, and those interested in the hospitality industry, together to see the opportunities on offer.

This industry collaboration builds on the current initiative - #DoWhatYouLove hospitality job opportunities campaign - driven by the Scottish Tourism Alliance and VisitScotland to highlight work opportunities within this sector and to help fill these vacancies so that our industry can prosper.

This campaign will enhance our work within industry to support businesses in recruiting talent for the diverse range of positions which are currently available. Plus, it will look to inspire young people to play an important role in the recovery of Scotland's valuable tourism and hospitality industry, by choosing a job within the sector. You can find more information on this work by heading to <https://bit.ly/3eQk6tX>



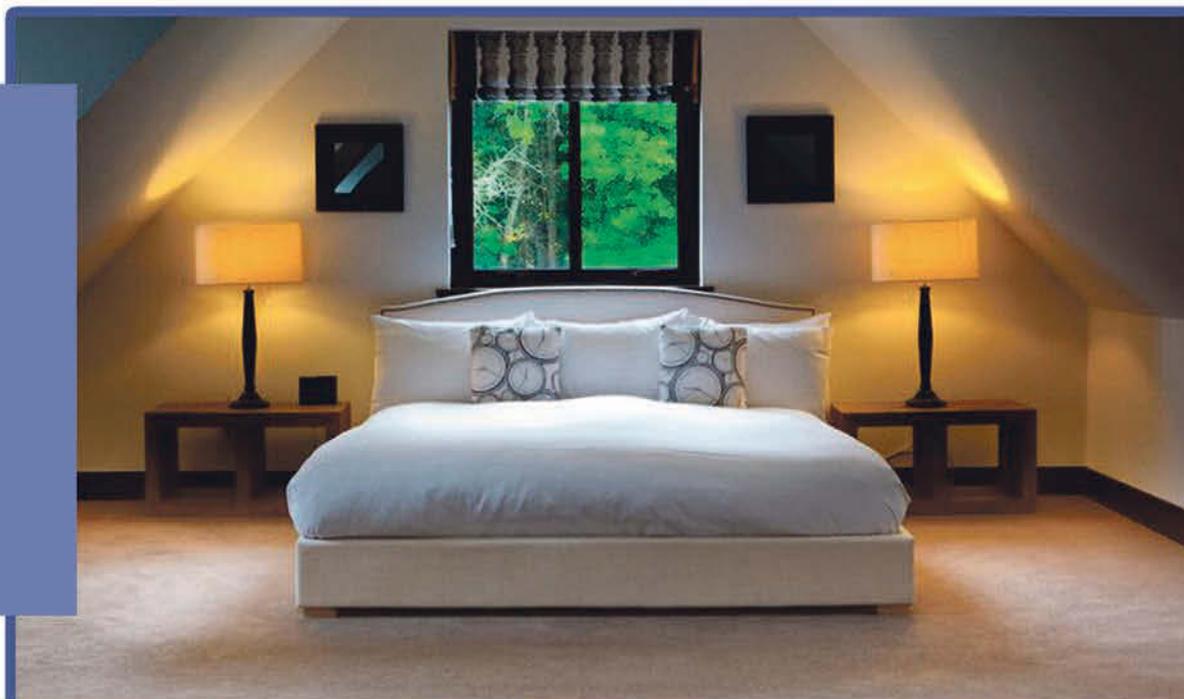
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LT

# Heat soars at An Aird as Fort frozen out of Camanachd Cup

Plus a round-up of all the week's shinty matches across the Highlands

## Tulloch Homes Camanachd Cup – second round

### Southern Section

#### Fort William 0

#### Oban Camanachd 1

Oban Camanachd are into the Tulloch Homes Camanachd Cup quarter-finals after beating Fort William 1-0 at An Aird.

Fort William were missing the injured Alexander MacMillan whilst Sean Cameron took a place on the bench.

The Oban side had Garry Lord back and their bench consisted of Evan MacLellan, Scott MacMillan and Ross Campbell.

Oban Camanachd deployed defender Daniel Sloss on a marking job on Fort danger-man Arran MacPhee and he stuck to the task through a few positional changes.

The tie's defining moment came within the first minute when Malcolm Clark played the ball forward to Connor Howe who found Daniel Madej.

The Oban side kept the ball moving as Madej slipped possession to the right of the D where Daniel MacVicar beat his man before turning to his left and he sent a low shot across the keeper and into the far corner of the net.

Malcolm Clark came within a whisker of making it 2-0 when his shot from distance

on the left came crashing back off the crossbar. Fort William had a period of pressure in the second half but couldn't get the equaliser they craved.

Daniel MacCuish sent a shot just the wrong side of the post following a rehearsed free-hit during the closing stages.

Paul MacKay was the busier of the two keepers although Cameron Sutherland made a notable save with his foot and Oban Camanachd did enough to win.

Oban Celtic and Oban Camanachd play their Artemis Macaulay Cup quarter-final tie at Mossfield on Wednesday July 28 with the winners likely to face Kyles Athletic in the semi-finals on Saturday July 31.

Speaking just after the tie, Oban Camanachd boss Stephen Sloss said: 'It was 30 degrees out there so it was tough for the players but I thought our fitness was very good which was important and we used the rolling substitutes to good effect.

'We have experience across the park, although we are still essentially a young side, and we have a good team who have played in a lot of finals.

'We were pretty dominant and their keeper (Paul MacKay) had a number of good saves in the first half in particular. It is always nerve-wracking when it's only 1-0 but we got it over the line.'

#### Kilmallie 4 Bute 2

Kilmallie saw off Bute, winning 4-2 in their 3pm throw up



Another 'almost' goal for Fort as the efforts of Victor Smith are countered by Oban defender Scott Mackillop under the of goalkeeper Cameron Sutherland. Photograph: Iain Ferguson, alba.

photos

at the Canal Parks. Kilmallie's Steven Stewart started a two-match suspension following his red card against Kinlochshiel a fortnight earlier whilst Daniel Stewart was out injured.

Kilmallie skipper Innes Blackhall gave his side a six-minute lead.

The ball broke to Blackhall out of the left and he sent a backhand shot into the bottom corner of the net.

Leon MacMillan drew Bute level on 18 minutes and it remained 1-1 until the break.

Kilmallie regained the lead on 54 minutes with Lewis Birrell finishing from inside the penalty spot.

Ryan Stewart made it 3-1 on 62 minutes with the goal of the match; a volley which screamed into the net, similar

to his strike against Fort William earlier in the month.

Craig MacIsaac added a fourth from just outside the D with 20 minutes remaining and although Leon MacMillan got his second for Bute on 79 minutes, it was Kilmallie's day.

Indeed the winning margin could have been bigger with full forward Michael Rodger twice denied by very good saves.

Kilmallie manager Martin Stewart was delighted to be through to the next round. He said: 'It's fantastic to be in the quarter-finals and it's now an open draw. I'm sure we'll be the team most clubs want to get but we are a good side on our day.

'The game was scrappy at times. We gave Bute full respect. I watched the video of their win over Ballachulish the previous week and I thought they played better than that against us.

'It was also pleasing to field three of our U17 players today. Dylan Monk made his debut at wing back and he has a real physical presence. Aiden Love and Ben MacKinnon also started and all three did really well. We hope to have Daniel Stewart back for the game against Glasgow Mid Argyll this Saturday.'

## Artemis Macaulay Cup – quarter final

### Kinlochshiel P Lovat P

Kinlochshiel requested a Covid-related postponement for their tie against Lovat at Ràraig. The tie has now been rescheduled for Wednesday

August 4 2021 at a neutral Craigard, Invergarry.

## Mowi Senior League B

**Caberfeidh 3 Newtonmore 4**  
Newtonmore eventually edged out Caberfeidh 4-3 in an exciting 3pm throw up at Castle Leod.

Liam Symonds was free to play for Cabers but he misses Friday evening's Mowi Senior League B match against Beaully after passing the disciplinary points threshold.

Newtonmore's Iain Richardson was sidelined through injury whilst Kenny Ross took over from Owen Fraser in goal.

Newtonmore hit the front with Struan Ross scoring on 10 minutes but Craig Morrison levelled just 60 seconds later.

Scott McLaughlan gave Cabers a 38-minute lead before a second from Struan Ross made it 2-2 with just four first-half minutes remaining.

When referee Andy MacLean awarded the visitors a penalty just five minutes into the second half, Steven MacDonald stepped up to score from the spot. However Kevin Bartlett pulled Cabers back level on 70 minutes to make it 3-3.

It stayed that way until 4 minutes from time when Struan Ross scored to complete his hat-trick and give 'More the win. 'More will be concerned about an injury to Max Campbell with Saturday's cottages.com MacTavish Cup tie against Kingussie in mind.

**Kingussie 6 Strathglass 0**  
Kingussie continued their winning streak with a 6-0 victory over Strathglass at the Dell.

There was a minute's silence ahead of throw up to mark the recent passing of legendary keeper Rab Muir.

The Kings worked hard to break Strathglass down and James Falconer put them in front on 36 minutes with a hard, low shot into the corner of the goal.

Referee Alex MacVicar awarded Kingussie a penalty on the stroke of half-time and Alexander Michie slammed the spot-hit home.

James Falconer got his second just three minutes after the restart, taking a pass from Rory MacGregor – who played at full forward with Craig

Dawson in goal – and Falconer beat his man before scoring.

Roddy Young added a fourth on 69 minutes with MacGregor again the provider.

Fraser Munro added his name to the scoresheet on 79 minutes and Roddy Young got his second a couple of minutes later after a great solo run.

## Alvance British Aluminium Balliemore Cup – first round

### Skye Camanachd 5 Lochcarron 0

Skye Camanachd were 5-0 derby winners against Lochcarron at Pairc nan Laoch, Portree.

Will Cowie remained on the Skye injury list whilst John Gillies was unavailable. Martin Pringle and Ross Gordon were also missing so the Skye bench consisted of Chris Rose, David Grant and boss Kenny MacLeod.

Lochcarron boss Murdo John Fraser was also without a number of players including Sean MacCuish and Liam Arnott, who is in Boston. They travelled with just 12 players.

Skye opened the scoring after 17 minutes when William MacKinnon made a run to get onto Jordan Murchison's low cross from wide on the left and MacKinnon netted from right in front of goal.

James Pringle made it 2-0 on 37 minutes with a fierce shot from left of centre which went low into the net.

Jordan Murchison stroked the ball home from the front of the D after a nice passing move on 57 minutes whilst William MacKinnon's second on 62 minutes was the goal of the game. MacKinnon fought to win possession in the middle of the field before surging forward and juggling the ball before driving it past the keeper to make it 4-0.

Jordan Murchison got his second three minutes from time, turning home a rebound after James Pringle's initial effort was saved.

### Glenurquhart 1 Beaully 3

Beaully continued their good run with a 3-1 victory over Glenurquhart in their 3pm throw up at Blairbeg.

Beaully's Ryan MacKay was free of a two-match suspension. Euan MacCormick gave

## Camanachd Cup quarter finals

The draw for the quarter finals of the Tulloch Homes Camanachd Cup took place at Inverness Castle on Monday July 26.

The draw is as follows:

Kinlochshiel vs Oban Celtic

Oban Camanachd vs Skye or Lovat

Beaully vs Kyles

Kingussie vs Kilmallie

The quarter finals will take place on Saturday August 7, with the draw for the semi-finals being made week commencing Monday August 9, with ties due to take place on August 28 and September 4.



Oban's Evan McLennan in action against Fort's Ruaraidh Shaw. Photograph: Iain Ferguson, alba, photos

Beauly the lead on 15 minutes when, from just right of centre, he slammed a pass from a short free-hit low into the net on his left side.

Ross Forbes made it 2-0 on 20 minutes when he finished off a quick counter-attack, taking the ball to the edge of the D before slipping it past the keeper to make it 2-0.

However Glen's Connor Golabeck pulled a goal back a minute later.

The goal came from a set piece with Golabeck gathering a low ball forward before turning and striking the ball on his left side, over the keeper's right shoulder and into the net.

The Glen had good periods of pressure but were just unable to take their chances.

Ross Forbes restored Beauly's two-goal cushion just four minutes into the second half. Forbes burst forward on the Beauly left, holding off a challenge and although his initial effort on his left side was blocked, the Beauly attacker swept the rebound into the net on his right side to notch his second goal of the afternoon, making it 3-1.

## HIS Sutherland Cup – first round

### Glenurquhart 0 Skye Camanachd 1 (after extra-time)

A goal from substitute Ally 'Digg' MacDonald gave the Skye Camanachd seconds a 1-0 extra-time victory over the Glenurquhart seconds in their noon throw up at Blairbeg.

An under-strength Skye side travelled with just one substitute and they were forced to introduce MacDonald in the first half when William James Sutherland was hit under the chin.

With both teams just five minutes away from the dreaded penalty shoot-out, Ally 'Digg' MacDonald, who is recovering from injury and only travelled because of a shortage of players, scored the only goal of the game. MacDonald gathered Gilleasbuig MacDonald's hit-in from the right and, with his back to goal, he controlled the ball before turning and firing home on his left side, across the keeper from 15 yards range to send Skye through to the second round where they will face their Kinlochshiel counterparts at Réaraig this coming Saturday.

## HIS Sutherland Cup - second round

### Caberfeidh 1 Aberdeen University 4

Donnie MacRae scored four times as Aberdeen University were 4-1 winners against the Caberfeidh second team in their noon throw up at Castle Leod.

Donnie MacRae made the

difference in this tie and he notched a first half hat-trick with goals on seven, 18 and 40 minutes and he claimed his and the students' fourth goal on 51 minutes.

Ruaraidh MacLeman gave Cabers some consolation with a strike on 85 minutes to score for the third successive Saturday.

### The SCOTS P Beauly P

The tie between forces side The SCOTS and the Beauly second team was postponed due to travel restrictions.

The Beauly seconds go through to the next round.

### Newtonmore 2 Kingussie 4

The derby between the Newtonmore colts and the Kingussie colts at the Eilan went the home side's way.

Both teams went into the tie having won all their games this season and 'More raced into a 2-0 interval lead with an early Craig Macleod goal on three minutes and Glen MacKintosh's effort on 37 minutes.

Kingussie came back to level the tie with Dylan Borthwick on 47 minutes and Martin Dallas just three minutes later making it 2-2.

Former Scottish international Glen MacKintosh sent Newtonmore through to the next round when he completed his hat-trick with goals on 70 and 75 minutes to make it 4-2.

### Lochside Rovers 4

### Fort William 3

Holders Lochside Rovers had to work hard for their 4-3 victory over the Fort William second team at Mossfield.

This was Lochside's second outing in less than three days; following their midweek league victory over Tayforth but they showed no ill-effects.

Fort William's pacey forward line almost broke the deadlock after just two minutes but Lochside keeper Dougie MacDonald made a diving save, keeping the ball out with the inside of his thigh, to deny Alan Knox who had fired a shot in from wide on the left.

The opening goal came at the other end and it was Kenny Wotherspoon, given a starting place following his appearance from the bench against Taynuilt, who send an 18-yard shot from wide on the right, low into the net after 18 minutes.

Innes Jackson added a second just four minutes later. Kenny Wotherspoon was involved again as his shot from the right was saved by Stuart Disher but Jackson, who initially ran past the ball, checked back before knocking the ball home from the back post area.

Kenny Wotherspoon had to come off midway through the half with a groin problem so Robbie Brown took his place.

Lochside's Keith MacMillan had to leave for work at the interval and he was a miss.

Kenny Wotherspoon was able to come back on and Louis MacFarlane went to full centre where he was outstanding.

Fort William introduced substitute Mark Fraser and he pulled his side level with shots from distance on 53 and 59 minutes. Fraser's second was a great effort, a 40-yard strike which flew into the roof of the net.

Both sides had chances. Wotherspoon twice went close as did Lewis Buchanan whilst Dougie MacDonald made another brilliant stop to deny Mark Fraser a hat-trick.

Lochside regained the lead with just 13 minutes remaining. Kenny Wotherspoon saw his low shot saved by Stuart Disher but just as the keeper was about to clear the danger, Robbie Brown flew in with a blocking challenge and the ball deflected into the net to make it 3-2.

A trademark Lewis Buchanan finish, when he was allowed too much space around the penalty spot, increased Lochside's lead on 83 minutes. But Fort William did not let their heads drop and Cameron Stephen's shot from wide on the left a couple of minutes later deceived keeper MacDonald and squeezed into the net at the near post.

The Fort finished strongly without really troubling Dougie MacDonald so it is Lochside who go into the next round.

Speaking afterwards, Lochside manager Gareth Evans said: 'It was a brilliant game which could have gone either way. It was two really young sides and they served up a great tie in the heat.

'Fort William are developing into a good team and John Macleod has a good set-up there.

'The draw for the next round is still to be made and we'll await that with interest but we do know the next round is to take place on Saturday 14 August 2021.'

### Strathglass 2 Lovat 5

The Lovat second team overcame the Strathglass second team 5-2 at Cannich.

Fraser Gallacher gave the visitors an 11-minute lead and Raymond Rennie netted twice on 21 and 33 minutes to make it 3-0.

Strathglass fought back and when Steven Hyslop scored on 35 and 50 minutes, Lovat's advantage was reduced to a single goal.

But Ryan Ferguson scored on 57 minutes with Gary Marshall firing home on 80 minutes made the final score 5-2.

## Mowi North League A

### Glengarry P Kinlochshiel P

The clash between Glengarry

and the Kinlochshiel second team at Craigard was postponed because of Covid restrictions.

## Mowi North League C

### Beauly P

### Strathspey Camanachd P

The game between the Beauly seconds and Strathspey Camanachd at Braeview Park was called off on Friday as Strathspey were unable to field a team.

## Mowi Central League

### Kilmallie 5 Oban Celtic 2

The Kilmallie reserves beat the Oban Celtic reserves 5-2 in their noon throw up at the Canal Parks.

Stuart Ross gave Kilmallie a six-minute lead before a Cam Ross brace on 23 and 29 minutes made it 3-0. Oban Celtic youngster Ewen Campbell pulled a goal back on 32 minutes to make it 3-1 at the break.

Jordan Campbell on 50 minutes and a hat-trick goal from Cam Ross on 75 minutes increased Kilmallie's advantage before Pearce Mcbeth netted minute from time to make the final score 5-2.

## WCA round up

The Women's Camanachd Association is back underway with most of the matches played on Sunday July 25.

## WCA Mowi North Senior League

### Glenurquhart 0 Lochaber 4

Lochaber won 4-0 against Glenurquhart at Blairbeg in a match played on Thursday 22 July 2021. Missy Cameron scored twice whilst Claire Delaney and Hannah MacDonald got the others.

### Strathglass 0 Badenoch 6

Badenoch were 6-0 victors against Strathglass at Cannich.

Hope Borthwick bagged a brace with Kirsty Grant, Zoe Reid, Rhona McIntyre and Lenka Nagle getting the others.

### Lovat 0 Badenoch B 7

Kirsty Deans scored five times as Badenoch B beat Lovat 7-0 at Balgate. Eilidh Ross got the other two goals.

## WCA Mowi West Senior League

### Ardnamurchan A P

### Skye Camanachd B P

The clash between Ardnamurchan A and Skye Camanachd B at Strontian was called off because of Covid restrictions.

### Ardnamurchan B P

### Kinlochshiel P

The Ardnamurchan B and Kinlochshiel match at Strontian was postponed due to Covid restrictions.

# It's all uphill for Lochaber AC runners

The first hill championship race in 18 months was back on Saturday with the first of the Scottish Hill Runners' championship events at Dollar.

A scenic 15 km run with 960 metres of ascent in cloudless and scorching conditions proved a real heat test with more than 200 of Scotland's top hill runners taking part.

Lochaber Athletic Club's contingent were just glad to be back out on the hill though and were rewarded with some outstanding performances.

The ever-improving Andrew Barrington, fresh from a fifth place in the long Lairig Ghru race in June, finished seventh in one hour 21 minutes and seven seconds in a very competitive field.

Next up for Lochaber was former junior north cross country champion Callum Fraser in 35th place in 1:30:26.

Callum seemed happy with his run as he had not raced for well over a year. Matt MacDonald was close behind in 42nd place in 1:32:35.

First vet for Lochaber was Gregor Davidson who was 65th overall in an impressive 1:41:06, with vet Ben Dodman close behind in 1:45:07.

The Lochaber women's challenge started with



Andrew Barrington.

Amanda Blackhall 10th woman overall and second in her W50 category in 1:50:05.

Amanda has proved to be one of the leading and most enthusiastic runners for Lochaber AC over the years and this must rank as one of her best races on the hill.

Isla Mackay also had a good run to finish in 1:56:23.

Hill racing is back and runners can enter most hill races on EntryCentral; several are fully booked already but applications can be made to be placed on the waiting lists.

Runners are advised to book races well in advance as there are limited race numbers due to current health restrictions.

## Fort miss the mark in season opener

Continued from page 48.

The skipper continued: 'They had their chances throughout the game and a couple of silly mistakes in the latter stages cost us and Rothes sealed the win.

'I know it is early but the fight and team spirit with this group of lads is something else. I have no doubt we have a successful season ahead of us.'

Line-up: Hunter, Wallace, Scott, White, Caulker (Munro, 71 mins), McConnell, Mackenzie, Brew, Avraam, Moore, Mackintosh(C) (Rydings, 87 mins)

Next up for Fort William is Fraserburgh FC on Saturday July 31.



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\*You must be 18 or over to attend the event.

# Fort told to play away as Claggan fails inspection

Fort William FC fans are reeling from the news that all of their club's Highland League and cup fixtures will have to be played away from home for season 2021-22, writes Mark Entwistle.

The bombshell came after an emergency meeting on Sunday night of the Highland League's league management committee. This followed a meeting between league officials and the club on the Friday and an inspection of the club's Claggan Park the previous day.

In a statement on Sunday the league explained: 'Early this week the league was contacted by a member of the public to express concern regarding the condition of Claggan Park, Fort William. In view of that description, it was decided that the league should undertake a ground inspection as a matter of urgency.'

It said the park had been inspected on Thursday July 22 and as a result evidence indicated the club was in breach of League Rule 7.6.1.



'A meeting took place on Friday July 23 when the club accepted without reservation that it was in breach of Rule 7.6.1 which places a requirement on clubs to ensure that their pitch is in good condition and provided with an efficient and effective drainage system. 'The ensuing discussion between the club and the office bearers included explanation of the circumstances that have led to the situation at Claggan Park and consideration of the options available to Fort

William FC,' continued the statement. The matter was referred to an emergency meeting of the League Management Committee on Sunday July 25 when the agreement for season 2021-22 was reached. 'This means that all Highland League and Cup fixtures will take place at Fort William's scheduled opponents' grounds.' The league statement concluded: 'Furthermore, historically, there have been a high

number of match postponements due to the condition of the park, a matter which has previously been the subject of correspondence between the league and the club, most recently in March 2020.' Fort club vice-chairman Colin Wood said: 'Claggan is an open park and any remedial work has been hampered in the extreme through vandalism to our tractor, wrecking the sprinkler system etc.' The work 'unfortunately' was not going to be finished

**The Fort William FC 2021 squad who will have to play all their matches away from home. For the full line-up see [www.lochabertimes.co.uk](http://www.lochabertimes.co.uk)**

Photograph: Iain Ferguson, alba.photos

in time to fulfil the first set of home games. He said the Highland League had been 'as accommodating as possible' and also offered a year out.

'We obviously asked for more time but the way the fixtures are set out and with the league now under way, the best option available was to play our fixtures away,' he said, adding his thanks to member clubs for their patience.

'Ashley Hollyer [first team manager] and his team have done tremendous work to get the team to this point and travelling away is a real blow obviously. The challenge that was in front of us has just got a lot harder but we will endure and overcome. FWFC will continue on our journey and I invite all fans to follow us.'

## Lochaber RFC training restarts

Some exciting news at Lochaber RFC, where they have started ladies' training again in the hope of resurrecting the ladies 1st XV.

There is already a good group of locals and students going along to training on a Tuesday evening at 7pm, and the Banavie club says no experience is necessary so just go along if interested.

Meanwhile, the men's 1st XV are back at full training Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 7pm as well and, with good numbers in recent weeks, everything is looking good for the start of the season.

They would also like to invite players old and new along.

On Saturday August 7, Lochaber men's and ladies' teams will be making the short trip to Oban for their Tower 10s/day of rugby with the usual tournament shortened to just four clubs. Then the men's 1st XV renew old rivalries when they welcome a combined Highland RFC 2nd and 3rd XV to Banavie on August 14 followed by Moray RFC on August 21.

They will then have a week off before kicking off their league season when they welcome Loch Lomond RFC to Banavie on September 4.

## Fort miss the mark in season opener against experienced Rothes

Rothes	3
Fort William	0
Highland League	

Saturday signalled the start of the new season for Fort William FC as they travelled to Rothes to get their Highland League campaign up and running, writes Ally Rowantree.

On what was a hot day in Rothes, it was the home side who almost took the

lead hitting the bar in the 21st minute. Luckily goalkeeper Ryan Hunter was on hand to gather the rebound safely.

Not long after a much-needed water break, the deadlock was broken when Michael Finnis of Rothes rose highest to head home the opener from a corner in the 31st minute.

The Fort were moving the ball around well when in possession but were unable to unlock the Rothes defence and went into the half-time break

trailing 1-0. A couple minutes into the second half, the Fort broke through the defence but Connor Moore had his shot blocked resulting in a corner which was gathered by the Rothes keeper.

After 68 minutes played, Rothes doubled their lead through Jack Brown. Fort looked to bounce back and came into the game with one of the better second-half chances falling to Jack McConnell on the 75th minute but he was unable to keep his free kick down

as it sailed over the bar.

Rothes were then reduced to 10 men after a second booking was picked up by Gary Kerr for simulation in the 82nd minute.

The Fort looked to take advantage of the extra player going close through Marios Avraam whose shot was just curled wide of the post and substitute Robbie Rydings forced the Rothes

Continued on page 47.



The Lochaber Times: 95p



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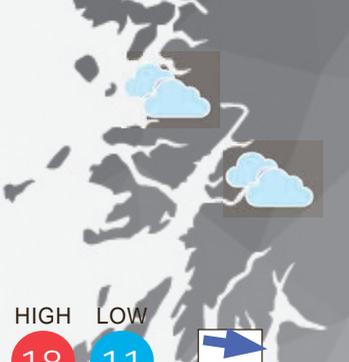
Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday 29 July, 2021** are listed below with differences for major ports listed alongside. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

<b>29</b>	0318 1.2 0853 3.3 TH 1526 1.1 2120 3.5	<b>31</b>	0440 1.6 1005 3.0 SA 1649 1.6 C 2246 3.1	<b>2</b>	0628 1.8 1216 2.8 M 1840 1.9	<b>4</b>	0253 3.0 0844 1.7 W 1508 3.0 2146 1.9
<b>30</b>	0357 1.4 0927 3.2 F 1605 1.3 2200 3.3	<b>1</b>	0529 1.7 1055 2.9 SU 1740 1.8 2348 2.9	<b>3</b>	0125 2.9 0735 1.8 TU 1359 2.8 1955 2.0	<b>5</b>	0349 3.1 0945 1.6 TH 1558 3.2 2240 1.7

### FORT WILLIAM WEATHER

<b>Thursday</b> Light rain and a gentle breeze Temperatures 13°C to 18°C.	<b>Friday</b> Light cloud and a gentle breeze Temperatures 11°C to 18°C.	<b>Saturday</b> Light cloud and a gentle breeze Temperatures 9°C to 15°C.	<b>Sunday</b> Light cloud and a gentle breeze Temperatures 9°C to 15°C.
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------

### FRIDAY FORECAST



HIGH 18 LOW 11

7 MPH