



## OBAN MAN IN SHELL LIVEWIRE FINALS

## £90 MILLION FOR A82 10-YEAR PLAN

## MULL & IONA IN FOCUS



# Scottish Water says 335 new houses can be connected in Argyll immediately

SCOTTISH Water is working to tackle development constraints in Argyll and Bute and says 335 new houses can be connected immediately to its systems. Chief Executive Jon Hargreaves said he had met

with Argyll and Bute Council leaders to explain how the organisation was tackling the constraints. Mr Hargreaves said: 'I appreciate that the last four years have been frustrating as Scottish Water has often

had to say no to many applications for development. 'However, with the required funding now in place, £137 million over the next four years, I can assure that from now on we will do our utmost to

help enable development.' He said it was a long-term plan and would not resolve all the constraints overnight but it was a start. 'For example,' he said, 'in Oban we can allow 67 new homes to connect to the

water and waste water infrastructure immediately, which is good news.' Argyll and Bute Council has identified areas where such 'growth only' projects would release more than 2,486 homes and

91.8 hectares of industrial land. Council leader Allan Macaskill said: 'A number of our main towns and settlements are affected by constraints and I am pleased Scottish Water will

work with us to provide some early solutions over the next four-year period.' But to be on the safe side, the local authority has set up a 'local network group' to liaise with Scottish Water to ensure that its priori-

ties are taken on board during the preparation of the water authority's investment programme from now until 2014. The council's Strategic Policy Committee was recently updated on Scottish

Water's list of priorities. Some areas, which are of concern to the council in terms of future development, did not feature on Scottish Water's list at all like Gigha, Craighouse and Minard.

## Loch Fyne yacht rescued as it takes on water

TWO lifeboats and a coast-guard boat were launched to the aid of a 42-foot yacht that was taking on water on Tuesday afternoon at the southern end of Loch Fyne, near Ardlamont Point.

Troon all-weather and Tighnabruich inshore lifeboats as well as MC Hawk were asked to attend by Clyde Coastguard after it received a call from a mobile phone saying the Shantaco, a Sunsail charter sloop out of Largs, had lost power and was taking on water.

Helicopter Rescue 177 from Prestwick was scrambled and picked up a pump from Troon lifeboat while it was on route.

Three of the seven crew were taken on MC Hawk and four remained with the yacht while it was taken to Inchmurnoch Bay and moored in shallow water and the hole secured.

Troon lifeboat took all seven crew, believed to be from the Aberdeen area, and the yacht on tow back to Largs but had to transfer one of the sailors to Largs lifeboat, along with a companion, after he became ill.

## Cuckoo - I've arrived

IT IS definitely spring - the first cuckoos of the year have been heard.

The first reported sound of that familiar 'cuckoo, cuckoo' was heard in Benderloch on Monday, April 17 and another was heard on Saturday April 22 in North Connel.

Another visitor for the summer has also been reported - the return of the swallows.

Now all that is needed is for the weather to catch up by warming up another few degrees, unless this is it, thanks to global warming.

## Spot the Shinty Ball jackpot hits £2,550

THE Spot the Shinty Ball jackpot has reached £2,550.

For your opportunity to win the money this week, turn to page 22 and get your entry in!



Three-year-old Ellie MacInnes was one of the young ones who stole the show. (17/04/06)

## Move over Elle as Ellie takes the stage

IT might have been adults who packed into the Argyllshire Gathering Halls for the Oban Friends of Anthony Nolan Trust fashion show, but it was the young ones who made the impression. Only slightly daunted by the 300-odd people at the

Oban venue, who eagerly watched the summer fashions provided by George at ASDA Dumbarton, two babes-in-arms were the first through the door, closely followed by some reluctant and over-awed toddlers. But by the end of the hour-and-a-

half long show, the children had got the hang of it all and there was no holding them back as the dressing-up costumes were donned and the crowd applauded as a princess, a fairy with wings and Bob the Builder took to the stage and danced the night

away. The show raised a staggering £1,700 for the Anthony Nolan Trust which recruits bone marrow donors for its register and carries out research into improving bone marrow transplants for those suffering from leukaemia. See page seven for more.

# Committee backs wind farm plan

ANOTHER Argyll and Bute Council committee has given its blessing to plans for the Carrraig Ghael wind farm overlooking Loch Awe.

Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee gave its recommendation for approval earlier in the month and on Thursday last week the Public Services and Licensing Committee added its support.

In doing so the six members of the committee ignored a recommendation from Angus Gilmour, head of planning, that the council object to the wind farm.

As the wind farm would produce more than 50mw of electricity the final say lies with the Scottish Executive; the council can only give its recommendations.

Mr Gilmour advised councillors to object to the plans as they would be detrimental to the Loch Awe Scenic Area; it projects above the hillsides rather than being located in the folds of the landscape and as a result would be unduly prominent. Also the wind farm had a cumulative impact when the

neighbouring Beinn Ghlas wind farm was brought into the equation. The access by road to Carrraig Ghael would follow the route to Beinn Ghlas through Fearnoch Forest and then a new section of track would be added.

'It is really down to landscape and visual impact being the deciding factors and the cumulative impact is a significant factor in this area,' said Mr Gilmour.

## Councillors ignore senior planner's advice

His report featured photographs taken from viewpoints around Loch Awe, both locally and from a distance, with computer enhancement to demonstrate what the turbines would look like.

Councillor for the area Allan Macaskill pointed out that the area committee had been unanimous in its support, after a site visit to the locations involved. 'The

area committee raised no objections and for another council committee to do so would send a very curious signal to the Scottish Executive.'

Councillor Macaskill proposed a recommendation of approval.

Mr Gilmour said that a letter had been received from Alan Thomas objecting on behalf of Glen Orchy and Innishail Community Council. Councillor Macaskill said: 'We should treat that objection with great caution; as far as I know there was no debate by the community council.'

He added that the community council had a 'muddle' over its elections. The licensing committee was also told that the Scottish Executive had received 161 letters of support for the wind farm, 67 per cent of which were from Argyll and 357 letters of objection, of which 24 per cent came from outwith Argyll.

The fate of Carrraig Ghael Wind Farm will be determined by the Scottish Executive; it could be six months for the decision to be made.

# Nàdair Trust stalwart to retire - again

ONE of the driving forces behind the Nàdair Trust is retiring but is hoping not to be giving up his input into the project altogether.

Dugie Bannatyne of Tainuill, a former building society manager and banker, joined the trust in 2001 and has overseen and helped 26 island community projects totalling more than £4 million come to fruition and has been involved with the next three years-worth of projects that received funding last November.

Having taken early retirement from banking and administration six times, Dugie

told *The Oban Times* that the job of project manager and latterly development director of Nàdair 'seemed to be the job for me' because he belonged to Oban, loved the islands and had a background in finance and administration.

'It's the best job I ever had,' he said.

He is hoping to become a director of Nàdair and trust manager Eleanor Shaw said, with his good humour, astonishing memory and ability to see the big picture, Dugie would be sorely missed by his colleagues.

## Barra doctor's pay claims - 'a bit of mischief'

THE PORTRAYAL of a Barra doctor as the biggest earning GP in the UK on a salary of £300,000 has been described as 'mischievous' by the island's councillor, who believes it has not done the image of the health service in the Western Isles any favours.

It was reported in the national press that Dr David Bickles was 'staggered' to discover he had earnings of £300,000.

Dr Bickles had reportedly told the medical website doctors.net about his salary which had increased because he was the only resident doctor on Barra.

The news came hot on the heels of reports that some doctors in England and Wales were earning up to £250,000 a year on the NHS.

However Barra Councillor Donald Manford told *The Oban Times* this week he believed the coverage had been a 'bit of a mischief'.

Councillor Manford said: 'I am unable to confirm the accuracy of the £300,000 figure but if it is correct then it is more likely to be for the entire practice.'

The councillor said that money would obviously involve paying for staff, vehicles and premises as well as 24/7 out-of-hours emergency medical cover. He said: 'Although the post of second doctor has still to be filled, that work still needs to be covered, usually by locum doctors who have to be paid from the available resources.'

'The inaccurate portrayal of this situation is most unfortunate,' said Councillor Manford, who believes people on Barra also felt the figures had been distorted.

As *The Oban Times* went to press, Dr Bickles was on holiday and unavailable for comment.

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## Sailing in circles off Kerrera

OBAN lifeboat was called out on Friday morning just after 8.30am after a fishing boat was seen off the back of Kerrera, in the Firth Lorn, drifting around in circles.

The call was made to Clyde Coastguard by the fishing boat *Kiaren* which was in the area and had tried to get close to the *FV Morvern* OB37 but could see no signs of life on board.

Oban lifeboat was quickly on the scene and saw the boat drifting at about six-seven knots. She managed to manoeuvre alongside and as a member of the lifeboat crew went on board the *Morvern*, which had left Oban earlier that morning, one of her crew, whom it is thought may have been asleep, appeared in the wheelhouse.

The lifeboat crew member ascertained that all was well after which the lifeboat returned to its berth in Oban.



Marion and Peter MacCuish celebrate those golden years.

## Oban couple celebrate 50 years together

OBAN couple Peter and Marion MacCuish celebrated 50 golden years together yesterday (Wednesday) with a family get-together at the Soroba House Hotel.

Peter and Marion first met at a dance in Oban's Corran Halls and were married on April 26 1956 at the Old Esplanade Hotel. Mr MacCuish worked for the Hydro Board, where he stayed until he retired. Mrs MacCuish originally worked for D and

M MacKinnon, when she first met her husband, but went on to be a nurse, working at Dalintart Hospital in Oban and latterly Lorn and Islands District General Hospital.

The couple, who live in Dalintart, have three children, Bobby, Peter and David, four grandchildren, Claire, Daniel, Andrew and Jenna and one great-grandchild, Aiden.

## Stevenson St shop site filled

THE EMPTY shop unit on the corner of Stevenson Street, Oban, will soon be filled bringing four new part-time jobs to the town.

The residential flats and shop units on the corner of Stevenson Street and Combie Street were constructed on a gap site and the former site of Luigi's and The Poly, newsagents.

One of the units was taken by Kranenburg Fine Art and the other two are now in the hands of Val Gray, who is expanding her women's wear business, *Desirables*, to Oban from Callander.

She said she had been looking for premises for around a year and kept getting pulled back to the shop on the corner.

Having got the keys for what Val described as a 'concrete box' at the beginning of April, she has had an ambitious turn-around to get it open for May 1.

'I can honestly say I have been so impressed with the people of Oban. There have been lots of problems but no-one flinched and they have never been negative, which is so refreshing.'

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# Hospital opening delayed by month

THE OPENING of the new Mid Argyll Hospital in Lochgilphead is to be delayed by a further month, NHS Highland has revealed.

Work at the new building on Manse Brae was due to be completed by April 17, when the hospital was to be handed over by contractors the Cammore Partnership. But it was announced this week that the building will now be handed over on May 15, almost a month later than originally planned.

Stephen Wilson, project manager at the new building, said: 'The £18.4 million new Mid Argyll community hospital will replace the previous 100-year-old wooden building and will bring together a range of local health and social care services. The new hospital will deliver not only state-of-the-art facilities, but also a new model of integrated care for the local community. The handover will be followed by a commissioning period to enable all staff occupying the building to familiarise themselves with the building and its systems and ensure equipment is fully tested before the hospital becomes operational; thereafter services and staff will be moving in.'

The new building, which will be officially opened this summer, will also house Lochgilphead's general practice surgery and dental surgery.

# Inveraray forms Burns club

INVERARAY, the most northerly point reached by Robert Burns on his West Highland tour, is to honour the memory of Scotland's bard by forming its own Burns club.

Burns suppers have been held in the area for many years and by numerous clubs, but these keep alive his memory for just a few weeks of the year.

Plans for a club honouring Burns' life and works throughout the year were first hatched by three enthusiasts at a Burns Supper in the George Hotel in January this year.

Jim McCulloch, manager of Argyll Caravan Park, a native of Ayrshire and lifelong Burnsian, said: 'Not everyone knows that Inveraray was the furthest north Burns travelled on his West Highland tour in 1787.'

'It is only fitting that when there are hundreds of Burns clubs scattered throughout the world, that he is remembered in this way in Inveraray.'

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The mess of wire and scorched rock at Back beach near Dunbeg. 117dun02

# Dunbeg's 'Back' beach blighted

BACK beach at Dunbeg, close to the historic Dunstaffnage Castle, has been blighted in recent weeks with the burning of scrap metal and rubbish.

Now the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) says it is investigating the mass of wire that has been left on the popular strip of sand and pebble beach.

One Dunbeg resident, who did not wish to be named, told *The Oban Times* he and his neighbours were distressed with the mess that had been created.

'The rock has cracked from the heat,' he said. 'It is a disgrace because people walk along there and it is the only sandy beach nearby for children to play on in the summer.'

The rock at the north end of the beach has been scorched for 20-feet along its base as the result of fire. Masses of wire and burnt pieces of plastic and other rubbish have been left among the seaweed drying at high tide level.

Councillor Duncan MacIntyre, in whose ward Dunbeg lies, pledged to go and investigate himself along with an

environmental health officer from Argyll and Bute Council.

'It is disappointing, if that is what is happening, because we are looking at ways to improve the beach for the community. The beach is one of the main amenities for the area.'

'It is totally irresponsible at a time when we are trying to improve the area,' he added.

A spokesperson for SEPA said: 'The Scottish Environment Protection Agency is aware of an incidence of fly-tipping at Dunbeg beach and is liaising with the local environmental warden at Argyll and Bute Council.'

'We take all incidents of fly-tipping very seriously. It is a crime; it blights our countryside, affects our economy and is completely unnecessary.'

'The Dumb Dumpers Stoptone, 0845 2 30 40 90, is a crucial tool in combating illegal dumping and SEPA encourages anyone who has been affected by fly-tipping to call this number and report the Dumb Dumpers.'

# Argyll windfarm watchdog aims to stop Largie plans

ARGYLL'S windfarm watchdog is campaigning to try and stop plans going ahead for a windfarm near Tayinloan.

Argyllwindfarms.com (AWF) is in favour of renewable energy and supports appropriately sited wind farms such as Beinn An Tuirc and Deucheran Hill.

However, AWF claims that plans by Eurus Energy UK to construct seven turbines on Largie Estate will destroy Kintyre's economy.

The turbines each measure 110 metres - almost double the height of

those at Tangy - and AWF is concerned about the impact these could have on tourism and the Greenland whitefronted geese which overwinter in the area each year. Eurus Energy UK first tried to get planning approval for the site in 1994 but it was turned down.

**Revised**  
The company has now submitted a revised application reducing the number of turbines in the development.

A spokesman for AWF said: 'AWF is aware that the monetary benefits to local communities and the importance of Vestas as an

employer in Campbeltown can make many local residents feel guilty if they do not support each and every wind farm development in Kintyre.'

'However, with hundreds of wind farm proposals already in the pipeline for Scotland, AWF believes it is crucial that only appropriately sited wind farm applications should be supported.'

'The site is a mere 1.25 miles inland and the wind turbines proposed are on an unprecedented scale: each one is about the height of the Forth Rail Bridge. To locate a windfarm on the

stretch of coastline between Ronachan and Tayinloan, which affords spectacular views across to the Paps of Jura, Gigha and Islay, could well threaten Kintyre's tourist economy.'

**Damage**  
Chairman of the Mount Stuart Trust John Colum Bute is also concerned about the effect the proliferation of windfarms will have on tourism on Bute after 10 years of regenerating the tourism industry on the island.

'I strongly believe that a significant increase in operational windfarms in our area will fundamentally damage the natural beauty of our environment as well as seriously affecting the future of a growing local industry - tourism,' he said in a letter of objection to the Largie proposal.

He believes that eventually small tourism-related industries like cafes and hotels could be put out of business.

'It would undo years of hard work by many people,' he added.

**Visibility**  
Tim Kirbie from Ecogen, Eurus Energy's partner company, said: 'The turbines are not very visible and most of it is in forestry areas.'

'Visibility really isn't that high even though the turbines are quite large.'

'There was a tourist study done two or three years ago about the impact of wind farms and more than half those questioned said they hadn't even spotted them. A lot of people even go and visit them.'

'As for the geese, we've been very careful about that.'

'We've been working with Central Science Labs, a government agency which deals with the protection of birds from airports and the likelihood of collision, and it says there's no threat to the geese at all.'



The young footballers enjoy their impromptu bath. 116mdu04

# Tyndrum pitch opens

A JUNIOR football competition, Easter bonnet parade and a barbecue were held by Tyndrum residents on Easter Sunday to mark the opening of the children's kick-about pitch in the village.

The whole area was seeded after new drains had been laid to turn a boggy piece of ground into a level playing field for the children but heavy rain showers meant that the young players from Tyndrum and Killin all got very muddy.

**Mud**  
By the end of play it was hard tell the teams apart, or the boys from the girls for that matter, under the thick coating of mud - so much so that the stream at the rear of the pitch became an impromptu bath to get off as much of the mud as possible before the car journeys home.

'The next thing we'll need to do is get some showers!' said Joyce Russell from Strathfillan Development Trust, which masterminded the events.

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# Funds welcome but A82 time concerns raised

PLANS to spend £90 million on improvements to the A82 Tarbet to Fort William trunk road over the next 10 years have been broadly welcomed.

But there has been some disquiet at the 10-year time span of programme.

The plans include a by-pass for the western side of Crianlarich and the removal of the 'bottleneck' on Loch Lomond side at Pulpit Rock, where the 20-odd-year-old temporary traffic lights are, by tunnelling a new road through the rock.

These are part of improvements for which design work has already been approved and will be part of £16 million-worth of investment over the next five years.

On top of this the executive says the route action plan will include safety measures such as better signs and road markings, antislide surfacing, drainage improvements and work on carriage widths and junctions.

Chairman of Strathfillan Community Council John Riley said that on the whole villagers would probably welcome a by-pass at Crianlarich but had some



Fergus Ewing MSP: 'No promises'.

the A84 and A85 from the central belt.

A82 Partnership co-ordinator Stewart Maclean said: 'We have to be grateful for small mercies. This announcement will make a significant improvement to the road between Fort William and Tarbet - most notably at Pulpit Rock and Crianlarich.'

But he added: 'The report does not make any mention of the road further north to Inverness which is also a cause for concern.'

The action group, which is made up of local business and community representatives, has been driving forward road improvements since it was set up six months ago.

Mr Maclean said: 'This road is the lifeblood of the local community both from a business and social standpoint. It is the main artery between Fort William and the central belt for locals and visitors and is of huge economic importance.'

'Our objective is to get a route with a guaranteed journey time and know that if there is an accident or branches fall off trees it will not close the road.'

'We have been able to raise our concerns with the transport minister - recently presenting him with a birthday cake to mark the 30th year of the temporary traffic lights near Tarbet - and it is obvious from this announcement he considers the A82 to be a priority.'

Transportation spokesman at Argyll and Bute Council Duncan MacIntyre said it was great news and that all the partners at local, regional and national level had been working hard to 'make it happen'.

'The commitment to an early spend to remove the bottlenecks at Pulpit Rock on Loch Lomond side and around Crianlarich is particularly welcome and the council will be working closely with Transport Scotland and the national park to ensure that we achieve this in a sustainable and environmentally sympathetic manner.'

He said the condition of the existing road had been a major constraint on economic prosperity in the west Highlands but with

this route action plan and the Hitrans economic study there was a strong case for investment.

Lochaber's MSP has questioned whether the executive has made any commitment to upgrade the A82 at all saying that it is not clear when the £16 million promised will be spent.

Inverness East, Nairn and Lochaber MSP Fergus Ewing said: 'The announcement by the labour-liberal Executive last week on the A82 was heralded as a pledge to a major upgrading. That is the impression they wished to convey.'

'However, a close reading of the precise wording used reveals that there has been

'That is despite a massive budget on transport. They have chosen to spend our money elsewhere.'

However, chairman of the Highlands and Islands transport partnership (Hitrans), Councillor Charlie King was happy with the investment.

He said: 'I think it's good news. I think that it shows that Hitrans economic assessment showed a drastic need to improve the road and we are happy with the £16 million that has been secured in the short-term and the £90m over 10 years for Fort William. In the initial stages I am sure that everyone who travels that road will be glad with the improvements.'

'The Scottish Executive's route action plan only covers the A82 but the Hitrans economic study was wider-based because people use the road to access ferries and the islands, which are all fed off the A82. So there are wider benefits. It is not just a road to Fort William.'

Highlands and Islands MSP Jim Mather was critical about the timescale with which improvements on the road were to take place.

'There seems to be a lack of urgency about these improvements that will not meet local demand or trigger an early economic recovery.'

'The Scottish government's claim that the traffic lights at Pulpit Rock have only been there for 20 years, when they have just had their 30th birthday party, highlights the fact that low ambition and slow pace can mean a life-time of waiting,' he added.

Newly-installed Highlands and Islands MSP Dave Petrie, who has campaigned in the past for improvements to the A82, has also called into question the 10-year programme.

'The section between Tarbet and Inveraman is of paramount importance and must be tackled at the earliest possible date,' he said.

His fellow Tory Highlands and Islands MSP Jamie McGregor welcomed the proposals for the traffic light section, adding: 'However, I am disappointed that recent so-called improvements to the A85 between Tyndrum and Dalmlach have not included re-alignment of the road.'

'This is widely accepted as a crucial factor in preventing accidents at this notorious blackspot.'

'More must be done to prevent accidents in the future on this dangerous stretch of road. Simply putting down more tar on the road is not enough and is like putting a sticking plaster on a gaping wound.'



Duncan MacIntyre: 'Partnership'.

reservations about the route, which previously had shown it going through the community woodland.

'It was first mooted about 10 years ago or so and was voted on by the general public as being very desirable,' he said. 'It is very good news for the majority of people in Crianlarich - the community council previously supported it - but the community would feel very strongly that the section between Tarbet and Inveraman should be properly done.'

Stirling Council councillor for the area Tony Ffinch pointed out that amount of traffic going under the westerly railway bridge would not necessarily be reduced significantly by a western by-pass.

'They will still have to negotiate the bridge if they come via the A85,' he said. Many HGV companies do not let their vehicles go via the A82 because of the state of the road and instead use



Charlie King: 'Happy'.

no commitment made to such an upgrade.

'In fact, the only promise is to carry out design work on the Loch Lomond section, and further analysis of other work. Nor is it clear in which year or years the sum of £16 million is intended to be spent - ie when the work is expected to go ahead.'

'Nor have Transport Scotland, the new quango set up by the executive in Glasgow at vast expense, yet bothered to provide answers to me on these points - though I will most certainly obtain them and inform *Oban Times* readers of the truth behind the spin.'

'But no promise of a major upgrade of the A82 has been made at all - despite the impression which the Scottish Executive wished to convey. This reminds one of the quote, 'Oh what a tangled web we weave when first we practise to deceive'.'

'I have raised the A82 issue in Parliament on over 20 different occasions. I will press the minister on it again.'

'But the truth is that for the whole period they have had in power, since 1999 the labour and liberal coalition has not delivered any major improvement - nor even planned any major improvement to the A82 the A9 or A96, the three main trunk roads connecting the North of Scotland to the rest of the country.'

# Road tolls not the way forward

A HIGHLANDS and Islands MSP has said any proposals to put tolls on the A82 or A9 to speed up improvements would be 'madness'.

Jim Mather, SNP shadow enterprise minister, said: 'Having waited far too long for road improvements, this suggestion merely adds insult to years of economic injury and would price many Highlands and

islands goods, services and jobs out of existence.'

He said in a 'normal country' main lifeline routes would have been improved years ago and would have rewarded the government with higher tax revenues as more people visited and moved to the area.

'The imposition of tolls would result in increasing costs on working and

retired people in a low wage part of the country that is already suffering as a result of fuel costs that start at significantly higher levels than the national norm and are escalating further with present world trends,' said Mr Mather, adding that the detail in the investment package implied such a possibility.

He said he agreed with Highland councillor

Charlie King, chairman of Hitrans, the regional transport agency, that they had waited for long enough for something to be done on the A82.

'My only difference is that I am not going overboard in welcome for some vague and unspecified intention of improvement, sometime in the future, be it five or 10 years hence, that the section between Tarbet and Inveraman could be improved so that the traffic lights that have been there for 30 years can be taken away and the narrow sections, the flooding problems, the poor sightlines and other faults sorted,' he said.

He added that the A82 was substandard for miles - including the Onich to Fort William section.

# Highland women could be on top of the world

YOUNG women from Lochaber could be on top of the world if they take part in a new three-year project which aims to take women from the Highlands to the foothills of Mount Everest.

Wild Walks, a Highland walking project, has successfully secured a £200,000 grant from the Active Futures Big Lottery Fund to run an exciting health and personal development programme with groups of women aged between 16 and 25.

The young women involved will progress from local walks through to trans-Scotland expeditions and beyond, gaining

confidence, learning new skills and improving their fitness as they go.

As participants step out to tackle the challenges of each walk, they will be working towards a range of qualifications and awards such as the John Muir and Duke of Edinburgh's Awards and nationally recognised mountain leader and walking qualifications.

The project will be managed by a partnership consisting of White Mountain Dreams, based at Glenmore Lodge, Aviemore, The Highland Council, the Highland Award Partnership and the local Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Scheme. Project Manager Issie Inglis, who runs White Mountain Dreams, said: 'This is an exciting and inspiring project which offers unique challenges. It will stretch participants to their limits but with training and new confidence I believe all the goals are achievable.'

'We are now looking for young women from communities across Highland to become involved. We are not looking for currently active and competent outdoor enthusiasts but we want young women, who might never have considered taking a walk but who will

see this as a chance to do something special and make a difference to their lives and health to apply.'

Anyone women interested in taking part in the project should write to Issie Inglis at WMD, Glenmore Lodge, Aviemore, PH22 1QU.

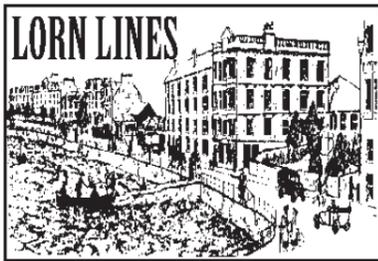
see this as a chance to do something special and make a difference to their lives and health to apply.'

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# Hunt on for banner photos

RECENTLY formed group Kintyre Connections is asking people to hunt through their attics and photograph albums for old photographs to use in a banner project.

The project will include villages from Whitehouse and Carradale down as far as Southend, as well as Campbeltown itself. The group is confident that there is a wealth of heritage in Kintyre which could be displayed on banners throughout the peninsula. People wishing to submit pictures for the Kintyre Connections Banner Project should leave them at the council offices in Dell Road, Campbeltown, with Elizabeth Kelly or Linsay MacPhail.



You can email your Lorn news to [lornlines@obantimes.co.uk](mailto:lornlines@obantimes.co.uk)

LORN Gaelic Partnership continues to do an excellent job in encouraging adults to learn Gaelic.

The partnership, which has a long history, organises classes for adults in Oban High School at both beginner and intermediate level and these are reportedly attracting growing support.

The organisation last week announced a change of office bearers. Donald Morris, who has been chairman for two years, recently moved to Inverness because of his job and has been succeeded by Joy Dunlop, Gaelic Development Officer for Argyll and the Isles with An Comunn Gaidhealach. The new secretary is Ewan MacPherson, originally from Skye but now Oban based. He succeeds Donald MacLeod, who belongs to Lewis but now lives in Oban. Continuing in office is treasurer Alan Coulthart. They are supported by an enthusiastic committee.

Anyone interested in taking up the language should contact Joy Dunlop on 565475. She is due back this week from Letterkenny in Ireland where she has been attending the Pan Celtic Festival.

**AMONGST 400 delegates from all over Scotland who attended the recent Church of Scotland Conference at Aviemore were Roy Clunie and Ken MacColl from Kilmore and Oban Church and the Rev Geoff McCormick, Ardchattan.**

The conference set out to provide, in the relaxed and comfortable setting of the MacDonald Hotels Complex, an opportunity for ministers and other congregational motivators to engage with the four main themes of the 'Church Without Walls' report. Workshops and stalls abounded.

The Guild Coffee Morning held in March raised £580 which has been donated to Oban Hospice.

The Congregational Board decided last autumn not to organise the annual bazaar as it was felt it had lost some of its appeal. Instead, the church has made a direct appeal to the congregation which is currently going ahead.

The church's outdoor group visited Kerrera on April 8 and plans to visit Inveraray, via the Shira Dam, on Saturday May 13.

SAHARAN trekkers Avril Lamont from Dunbeg and Alex Milligan from Oban, returned recently after yet another fund-raising encounter with this vast desert, Avril's fourth and Alex's fifth.

Arriving at Marrakesh Airport, they were met by a group of Berbers who recognised them immediately, greeting them in traditional Berber fashion. The Berbers are the local tribe who lead such treks, looking after their charges in an area where weather conditions can change dramatically.

This time the pair found themselves challenged by sandstorms. The duo undertake such trips to raise cash for Macmillan Cancer Relief. Cash pledged so far has been boosted by several car boot sales which the pair organised in the Co-operative car park.

In total they hope to raise several hundred pounds for this worthy cause and would like to thank everyone who has supported them in their fund-raising efforts for the charity. Immediately after the trek two of those taking part, Avril Lamont and Mary Morgan from Northern Ireland, were interviewed by a reporter from 'My Weekly' which is to publish an extensive article on the work of Macmillan Cancer Relief to be published in the April 29 issue.

**CONCENTRATING**

intently, the small group of young women carry out their tasks with quiet efficiency, sewing a range of items from cushions to blinds, curtains to dresses.

The venue is Connel Hall and the inspiration behind the venture is Sharon Pirie, an expert, college-trained seamstress, who recently moved into the area after her marriage.

Keen to revive what has become a dying skill, Mrs Pirie launched a sewing class in Connel which attracted eight ladies. The first 10-week course finishes on May 25.

If there is sufficient interest she would be willing to hold another course in August or September.

Mrs Pirie said: 'Those who have attended the initial course have obviously enjoyed it and it would be nice if this interest could be sustained and extended.' Mrs Pirie emphasised that the classes were very relaxed and that her guidance was available on a completely informal basis.

Anyone interested should contact Mrs Pirie on 564087.

**EASTER** weekend proved a busy one for Oban Congregational Church.

Saturday found the church decorated with displays of flowers to which were attached messages, each offering its own specific reflection on the significance of Easter.

The display included a special children's corner. Everyone, including visitors, was welcome to come into the church and reflect on the message which the flowers epitomised and large numbers did.

On the Sunday, Pastor Carol Leech conducted a well-attended special family service in which children played a role.

They included Victoria and Helen Tinney, Oban; Gillian McKechnie, Easdale, and Kirsten MacMillan, Oban. Afterwards the youngsters enjoyed Easter cake and everyone left with a small gift.

On the Monday the church hall was the setting for a coffee morning at which a large attendance included many visitors.

The ladies of the congregation had ensured that there was a wide choice of delicious home baking. The venture raised £150 which will go to the funds of the church.

On April 9, a car ramble organised by Beatrice Keenan, ably assisted by Lillian Wren, attracted participants from a number of local churches who, led by clues, followed a route which took them out to the Black Castle.

They returned to afternoon tea at the church hall.

**IF YOU** thought March was a relatively dry month in Oban you were right.

Statistics collated by a local lady indicate that the total rainfall for the month was 90mms with the wettest day occurring on March 13 when 17mms fell.

Last year the town experienced a total rainfall in March of 112mms as against the average over a 14-year period of 136mms leaving last month's total at 34 per cent below average.

During January, February and March, Oban's rainfall totalled 35 per cent below average. Contrast this with 1994 when Oban's March rainfall amounted to a depressing 336mms.

The highest temperature during March this year was 15°C and that was recorded on March 27. The lowest temperature was minus 1°C.

There was a total of 14 dry days throughout the month. The wettest day occurred on March 15

## 'Jailed for life' Oban rapist is back in court after Perth stalking

A CONVICTED rapist subjected a Perth teenager to a terrifying ordeal as she walked home through deserted city streets late one January night.

Chilling images from CCTV cameras were shown at Perth Sheriff Court as the 18-year-old phoned a friend to say she was being followed.

### Oban man admits 20-year-old sex offence

AN OBAN man had his sentence deferred after admitting using lewd, indecent and libidinous practices and behaviour towards a young boy more than 20 years ago.

John Kirkpatrick of 8 Lorn Avenue pled guilty in Oban Sheriff Court this week to using lewd, indecent and libidinous behaviour at 8E Colonsay Terrace sometime between January 1 1983 and December 31 1985.

His victim was aged between six to eight years old during that time.

Kirkpatrick, aged 46, was placed on the Sex Offenders Register by Sheriff Douglas Small and sentence was deferred until May 22 for background reports.

### Isle of Coll driver had no vehicle insurance

A COLL man has been fined £350 and had his driving licence endorsed with seven penalty points after admitting driving his father's car without insurance.

Oban Sheriff Court heard how Jason Brooker, aged 20, of 18 Carnan Road, Aringour, had assumed he was insured for the car.

Brooker already had three penalty points on his driver's licence for a speeding offence.

Sheriff Douglas Small said Brooker was now in a very 'precarious position' with regards to holding on to his licence.

'I suspect quite a number of people don't appreciate that driving without insurance is an offence that could lead people to being disqualified from driving,' said Sheriff Small.

### Bonawe man fined after Christmas axe incident

A BONAWE man has been fined for a breach of the peace after he admitted running an axe in his hand after a Christmas ceilidh.

Oban Sheriff Court heard Kenneth MacKenzie, aged 51, pled guilty this week to committing a breach of the peace by holding an axe in the presence of Ronald Campbell at 14 Kenmore Cottages, Bonawe.

Procurator Fiscal Clifford Most told the court that villagers had been at a ceilidh on December 10 2005 at the hall behind Ardchattan Priory. Mr Most said: 'The accused was noticeably drunk and staggering about.'

He said he was going to fight Mr Campbell. Mr Campbell left because he felt the accused was just out to fight with him.'

The fiscal said Mr Campbell's wife spotted MacKenzie holding an axe on the street outside 14 Kenmore Cottages and became alarmed. Mr Campbell's son telephoned the police while his father went to attempt to disarm MacKenzie, of 1 Kenmore Cottages.

'Mr Campbell punched the accused in the head and he fell to the ground still holding the axe. His son assisted him in holding him [MacKenzie] down,' said Mr Most.

Duncan Durbin, defending, said MacKenzie had no recollection of the incident having been 'very drunk'.

Mr Durbin said his client was unable to work after undergoing a quadruple heart bypass a few years ago.

Sheriff Douglas Small said: 'It seems to me that this was just a drunken incident that probably just got out of hand. There is no suggestion he was brandishing the axe and in all other respects you are a respected member of the community.'

Sheriff fined first time offender MacKenzie £275.

Thirty-year-old David McMillan, of Carnegie Place, Muirton, Perth, who is currently subject to a 15-month probation order, was seen to run after the girl.

But the police were alerted by the vigilant CCTV operator who recognised the accused and was aware of his criminal record.

The female just made it into her home as police cars raced to the scene and arrested McMillan as he stood near a wall, just yards from her house.

McMillan was jailed for life in 1996, when he was aged just 19, for the rape of a frail, 73-year-old in Oban. Lord Milligan branded the crime 'appalling evil.'

But that sentence was later reduced to nine years after the Court of Criminal Appeal in Edinburgh ruled that it was 'excessive'.

But McMillan pled guilty at Perth Sheriff Court to a charge of continually following the teenager through various Perth streets on January 16, shouting at her and running after her.

His actions placed her in an 'extreme state of fear and alarm, causing her to believe he intended to attack her'.

The charge had originally alleged that he caused her

to believe that he intended to 'sexually assault' her but these words were deleted in an agreed plea between the prosecution and the defence.

A not guilty plea to a charge of approaching another female in South Methven Street, Perth, on January 14, propositioning her for sex and placing her in a state of fear and alarm was accepted by the Crown.

A similar plea was accepted to a second charge which alleged that McMillan had heroin in his possession in the city's South Street on January 16.

An advocate for the accused said that he had only been released from a four-month prison sentence on January 14, two days before he followed the girl.

Sheriff Lindsay Foulis deferred sentence until May 16 for social inquiry, community service and psychological reports.

The advocate asked for bail on McMillan's behalf as he had managed to secure a place on a hairdressing course at Perth College.

Because of the nature of the charge, however, his conviction in 1996, his record and the fact he was on probation at the time, Sheriff Lindsay Foulis remanded him in custody.

## Coll and Colonsay airstrip runways take shape

WORK on the new runways on Coll and Colonsay is proceeding apace, with large amounts of aggregate from Bonawe Quarry arriving by barge regularly on both islands.

Islanders have been watching with interest as the aggregate piles have grown larger and the lorries have been trundling back and forth.

The new airstrips are part of Argyll Air Service, which will link the two islands with Oban Airport, which is also undergoing an upgrade by contractors Enstone Thistle.

The news of the upgrade on Colonsay's west side caused a bit of concern to the island's golfers, after Colonsay Golf Club was told the golf course could not be used while the work

was on-going and a couple of holes would be lost thereafter.

But an enterprising young golfer on Colonsay, Steven MacAllister has managed to come up with an alternative nine-hole course meantime.

'We have had to move two of the greens and a couple of tees but nothing major,' he told *The Oban Times*.

'I had a look at it and thought about it and then drew it out and showed it to the other people on the golf committee,' said Steven, who has been playing the Colonsay course for three years and the odd round in Oban.

The nine holes will be mostly to the west of the airstrip on the spit of land between two bays but once

the work on the airstrip is finished, the 18-holes will go round the airstrip.

Argyll and Bute Council has already offered a sum of money to re-instate a couple of holes that will be lost permanently as a result of the new runway.

The 'natural' golf course is popular with visitors to

the island, some of whom have been somewhat anxious about what will happen during construction work.

The council also has an archaeologist on site at Colonsay, checking that no damage will be done to any archaeological findings during the work.

A spokesman for the



Large amounts of aggregate have arrived on Colonsay. Picture courtesy of Colonsay Concrete



The size of the vehicles used to move aggregate on Colonsay is limited. Picture courtesy of Colonsay Concrete

council said the size of vehicles being used to move the aggregate on both islands was limited and any damage to the roads would be repaired as and when it occurred as part of the works.

The two contracts for the island all-weather runways and Oban are due to be completed by September and tenders are out for the work to build terminal buildings.

At Oban, runway 03/21 is in use on a temporary basis and provides 690m at most, according to the council.

Argyll and Bute Council transportation spokesman Duncan MacIntyre said: 'The creation of these licensed aerodromes to support scheduled flights has been a council priority for some time and when complete will provide improved transport choices for our island communities which in transport terms are among the most remote in the Inner Hebrides.'

Scheduled air services will be able to operate to Tirez, Coll and Colonsay later this year from Oban as a result.

## Chainsaw case likened to Tarantino film

A JURY at Oban Sheriff Court heard a case likened to a Quentin Tarantino film this week.

On trial is Christopher Campbell, aged 21, of 9B Westcliff, Dumbarton, who denies assaulting John Reilly and Steven Dillon by pursuing them with an operating chainsaw causing them to fear for their safety and flee.

Campbell, also known as Christopher McConnachie, also denies using a chainsaw to smash a car's windows, headlights and puncture its tyres; both at Scammadale on September 24 2004.

Campbell's defence advocate Joseph Barr lodged a special defence on behalf of his client claiming that he acted in self-defence in the alleged assaults and said it was two other people who were responsible for the vandalism of the car.

The jury was told that John Reilly, aged 41, and Steven Dillon, 42, from the Coatbridge area had travelled to Scammadale for a weekend's fishing.

Mr Reilly said they met Campbell earlier in the day and arranged to meet later.

Mr Reilly said: 'Him and his two mates and a lassie came in a rowing boat. He [Campbell] went away in the boat and came back in the car. He parked up next to our car.'

**Drinking**

An evening of drinking followed and Campbell and his girlfriend began to get intimate in Campbell's car. Mr Reilly said Campbell's friends joined the couple in the car. 'His two mates were on either side of the car. It seems that the three of them were trying to touch her up,' he said.

Mr Reilly alleged the girl then began sobbing and he felt things were going to go 'pear shaped'. He said Mr Dillon shouted at Campbell asking him why he was letting his friends become intimate with his girlfriend. Mr Reilly said they took pictures of the two men and car so they could show what happened to police.

Mr Reilly said: 'The next thing I know the chainsaw is going.' Mr Reilly threw his jacket at Campbell and ran.

Mr Dillon told Sheriff Douglas Small he was 'terrified'. He ran into the water and ended up having to swim to get away. Both men stayed 'on the hill' in the dark for four hours.

When they returned to the car they found the lights and windows smashed. They drove until they could get a mobile phone signal and called the police.

But Joseph Barr challenged Mr Dillon's evidence: 'You saw Mr Campbell and his girlfriend in the car. You approached that car and you tried to take a photograph and clapped the window and you were laughing. You saw the other young man at the car and you had one thing in mind: that you would have sex with this girl.'

When Campbell gave evidence he admitted that both he and his girlfriend and two other friends were drunk: 'She had drunk almost a bottle of vodka,' he said. When they were in the car he said he realised the two anglers were watching and, 'just laughing and joking and making comments and shining torches in and basically 'perving' for lack of a better word.'

Campbell said he had tried to laugh it off and gone back to have a drink with the others but later heard his girlfriend scream and discovered one of the men had been attempting to touch her.

The two anglers produced fishing knives, the younger of Campbell's friends also produced what the accused believed was a knife.

Campbell said he tried to calm the situation down but his girlfriend was becoming hysterical and 'kicking off'.

The situation deteriorated with both sides yelling at the other to drop their knives.

Campbell said he panicked, drove back to the girl's parents' farm and an axe. On his return he ran at the two anglers 'for three seconds'.

They then decided to disable the car to prevent the Reilly and Dillon coming after them. The girl hit the car with an axe, one other friend smashed the windows.

Procurator Fiscal Clifford Most said: 'I have this picture in my head of a scene from a Quentin Tarantino film: everyone holding knives and shouting drop it, drop it.'

He challenged Campbell: 'You are making this up as you go along aren't you?'

The case was continuing as *The Oban Times* went to press.

**Police files**

**4x4s stolen**

STRATHCLYDE Police are appealing for information after two 4x4 vehicles were stolen in Oban and Lochgilphead at the weekend.

The vehicles were stolen on Saturday and Sunday April 22-23.

DC Peter Jarvis would like to hear from anybody who saw anything suspicious and in particular is looking for information on a silver BMW 3 Series and a blue Vauxhall Vectra which is described as being 'fairly new'. Both cars were seen in the area.

DC Jarvis can be contacted at Oban Police Station on 01631 510500.

**Hit and run**

POLICE are keen to track down the driver of a green Citroen Xantia which left the scene of an accident in the afternoon of Saturday April 22 on Combie Street, Oban.

**Breach of the peace**

AT AROUND 6.45am on April 22, two women were arrested on Stevenston Street, Oban.

They were charged with an alleged breach of the peace.

### Smoking ban problems may rise

THE SUMMER influx of visitors to Oban could see problems created by more people congregating outside pubs to smoke, Inspector Neil Wallace told the town's community council this week.

Inspector Wallace said there had been complaints of noise at one pub in the town centre and that police foot patrols in the town have been stepped up as the area gets busier. However, Inspector Wallace said he was pleased that it was illegal to drink on the street in Oban as he believes this would encourage fewer people to stay out smoking.



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Welcome aboard the famous *WAVERLEY* - cruising amidst the spectacular scenery of the Western Isles. See and hear the mighty steam engines. Dine or relax in the warmth of the beautifully restored lounges and restaurant. Owned by a Scottish Charity and Registered for over 800 passengers. Recapture happy memories, visit new places and bring family and friends, young and old, for a trip to remember!

### THIS WEEKEND EXPLORE LOCHS AND ISLES from OBAN - North Pier

**ISLE OF TIREE**  
SATURDAY APRIL 29 Leave 10 a.m., back 8 p.m.  
Join us aboard the famous *Waverley* on her first visit to Oban in 2006! Steam through Sound of Mull to visit Tobermory; £18.95, SC £16.95. Or stay aboard and enjoy a cruise to the Inner Hebrides - sail the coast of Coll and visit Tirez; £33, SC £29.95. Or stay aboard for an afternoon cruise from Tirez; £35.95, SC £32.95. Steam home to Oban via Treshnish Isles.

**SUNRISE CRUISE**  
SUNDAY APRIL 30 Leave 7 a.m., back 12.15 p.m.  
Spectacular cruise sailing the peaceful waters of Loch Linnhe viewing Corran Narrows and Ben Nevis steaming to Fort William; £13.95, SC £12.

**FOUR LOCHS AND A WHIRLPOOL**  
SUNDAY APRIL 30 Leave 12.15 p.m., back 5.30 p.m.  
Sail past the Isles of the Sea and cruise the four lochs of Shuna, Melfort, Craignish and Crinan as *Waverley* steams to the famous Corryvreckan Whirlpool; £22.95, SC £19.95.

**EVENING CRUISE**  
SUNDAY APRIL 30 Leave 5.30 p.m., back 9.30 p.m.  
Enjoy a stunning evening cruise on Loch Linnhe viewing Corran Narrows and Ben Nevis as you steam to Fort William. Inclusive coach return from Fort William; £14.95, SC £12.95.

**IONA and IONA ABBEY**  
MAY DAY MONDAY 1 Leave 11.15 a.m., back 7.30 p.m.  
Enjoy this unique cruise to the Sacred Isle of Iona - there's time ashore to visit the historical Iona Abbey and soak up the atmosphere of this world-famous island; £33, SC £29.95. Landing on Iona is by ferry and may not be suitable for the less able.

**MULL OF KINTYRE via CORRYVRECKAN**  
TUESDAY MAY 2 Leave 9 a.m., back 7.30 p.m.  
Steam past the Isles of the Sea and the famous Corryvreckan Whirlpool; view the islands of Jura, Islay and Gigha and sail round the scenic Mull of Kintyre to Campbelltown to join inclusive coach for the return journey to Oban; £23, SC £19.95.

**from TOBERMORY Pier - MULL ISLE OF TIREE**  
SATURDAY APRIL 29 Leave 12 noon, back 6 p.m.  
Don't miss the only cruise aboard the famous *Waverley* from Mull in 2006! Steam to the Inner Hebrides - sail along the coast of Coll and visit Tirez; £21, SC £19. Or stay aboard to enjoy an afternoon cruise from Tirez; £23.95, SC £21.95.

**from TIREE AFTERNOON CRUISE**  
SATURDAY APRIL 29 Leave 2.15 p.m., back 3.15 p.m.  
Welcome aboard the famous *Waverley* for the only cruise from Tirez in 2006. View the island's coastline from the decks of this magnificent steamship on a wonderful afternoon cruise - only £5!

**CHILD Under 18 - Half Fare; Under 5 - Free**  
BE SURE OF YOUR TICKETS - CALL 0845 130 4647

BOOK ONLINE [www.waverleyexcursions.co.uk](http://www.waverleyexcursions.co.uk)  
Buy tickets from TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRES at Oban and Tobermory or from Lodge Hotel in Gait Bay, Tirez. Cheques to Waverley Excursions Ltd., Waverley Terminal, Glasgow G3 8HA.  
or Buy Your Tickets On Board When You Sail  
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Ronald MacKillop, (senior), Sandra Grieve, lifeboat coxswain Ronnie MacKillop, Jim Kirkpatrick, John Grieve and Donnie MacKenzie with the cheque for £250. (17ch901)

### Gardeners come to aid of RNLI

OBAN lifeboat's coxswain has been delighted once again to receive a cheque for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) from one of the town's organisations.

This time Ronnie MacKillop was given a cheque for £250 from Oban and Lorn Horticultural Society from the proceeds of its auction at the end of the annual summer show.

President Jim Kirkpatrick, treasurer Sandra Grieve and committee members Ronald MacKillop (senior), John Grieve and Donnie MacKenzie were on hand to

give the cheque to Ronnie at the lifeboat station on Tuesday.

'It is a very deserving cause,' said Mr Kirkpatrick. 'We give it to a different charity each year and this year it was the turn of the lifeboat.'

The money will be used to help with the on-going costs of running Oban lifeboat station.

The horticultural society is gearing up for its first show of the year on May 13, which is the annual local rhododendron show and the summer show will be later in the year on August 19.

# Teenage dangerous driver crashed into shop at Lochaber beauty spot

A BOY racer who crashed into a shop in Fort William after failing to negotiate a bend has been warned he is lucky to be alive.

Shaun MacDonald, aged 18, of Achaphubuil, had already pled guilty to the offence when he appeared at an earlier hearing at the town's sheriff court but sentence was deferred for background reports until last Thursday.

He was charged with driving dangerously and at speed on the unclassified Glen Nevis road on October 16 2005.

The court heard that the accused - who also admitted driving without insurance - failed to negotiate the bend, clipped the verge, mounted the pavement, bounced over bushes and smashed into the wall of the shop after losing control of the car.

Procurator Fiscal Alison Wylie said pedestrians in the area, which is near a beauty spot popular with walkers, had to run for their lives. She said police investigators estimated that the teenager, who was accompanied in the

car by a friend, had been travelling at 78mph on a road with a 60mph speed limit. The court heard MacDonald had been given a two-year road ban two months ago for earlier driving offences. Defence agent Hamish Melrose blamed a break-up of his parents' marriage for his client's behaviour. He pointed out that, after being involved in a serious road accident himself as a passenger, the accused realised the seriousness of his stupidity and appealed for him to be spared prison. Mr Melrose said: 'My client is

well aware of the consequences of stepping out of line.' As a direct alternative to custody, Sheriff Desmond Leslie further disqualified MacDonald from driving for two years, to run concurrent with his current ban, and ordered him to carry out 100 hours of community service.

Sheriff Leslie told MacDonald: 'For someone who has been badly injured in a road traffic accident themselves, it beggars belief that you were driving in this manner - risking your own life and that of others.'

## Hawk to scare off 'flying rats'

PIGEON droppings are making a mess of Fort William's popular pedestrian precinct, according to local community councillors.

Fort William Community Council has suggested that the Highland Council, which is responsible for the upkeep of the area - a tourist hotspot in summer - should buy a Sparrow Hawk to scare off the birds it brands 'flying rats'.

The local authority confirmed it had employed the bird of prey during a pilot project in Inverness where it had been a success, and could consider extending the trial to Fort William.

Fort William's community council chairwoman Patricia Jordan said: 'The pigeons are just disgusting - something needs to be done.'

## Lochaber hotels take top awards

LOCHABER'S hotels were among the winners in the Scottish hotel of the year awards announced this week.

Inverloch House near Fort William was named as the luxury hotel of the year while Ballachulish House was highly commended in the romantic hotel of the year section.

Glenfinnan House was the winner in the 'sensationally Scottish' category, while Glenfinnan Hotel was highly commended in the same category.

The Three Chimneys on Skye was runner-up in the housekeeping award which recognised outstanding attention to detail in bedroom preparation.

Matthew Gray at Inverloch Castle and Allan Donald at Ballachulish House were very highly commended in the chef of the year category.

Norbert Leider at Inverloch Castle was also commended in the hotel manager of the year category.

# Invernevis home plan unsafe

CALLS have been made for Invernevis House in Fort William to be removed from a list of six care homes being offered by Highland Council to the private sector.

A public meeting has also been called in Fort William by an action group fighting to keep the elderly care home in council hands.

Councillor Brian Murphy said that past experience with private sector care provision in Lochaber had not been a happy one and that the council should now build a replacement care home.

At a meeting last week the council's care home sub-committee, which is preparing the tender documents for bids, was warned by the Care Commission that it could face enforcement action next year on some of the homes.

Commission director Liz Norton said: 'By the end of 2007 ministers have made it clear that all residents should have single rooms, with high standard facilities. There is flexibility on some aspects of improving the quality of facilities, but with this there is no flexibility.'

Councillor Murphy said that the council's privatisation proposals were totally inappropriate for Lochaber.

He said: 'There is almost unanimous opposition to privatisation of care in Lochaber. Invernevis House should be removed from the tendering process and we should be looking at a con-

tingency plan to see if we could get a new home built. We do not have the luxury of a number of other private sector providers in Lochaber. A number of years ago a couple of private operators got into difficulty and Invernevis had to step in to help out.

**Robust**

'In the past few weeks staff from Invernevis have had to help out Abbeyfield run its home in Ballachulish. The private sector in Lochaber isn't robust enough to do what's expected of it. What is being proposed is unsafe and I don't want to see a private facility opened in Fort William and then closed two years down the line, with residents then forced to move to Inverness or Nairn.'

'There is no public support for this and some of my colleagues should stop listening to officials and start listening to the people who

elected them.'

Invernevis House Action Group (IHAG) is holding a public meeting in Caol Community centre on Monday May 1 at 7pm. The group is angry that three invitations to attend the meeting have been ignored by the council's social work committee.

A spokesperson for IHAG said: 'If the top and paid officials from Inverness choose not to appear, then should it not be delegated to the Lochaber area social work department.'

'We hope the Lochaber community will have the opportunity to discuss with the social work officials and councillors, who have also had letters of invitation, and that an interesting and fruitful meeting will take place.'

Councillors will make a decision on the care home privatisation at a full meeting of the council on Thursday, May 4.



Some of the volunteers who helped clean up Caol beach this week. 11774603

## Caol youngsters lead clean-up for blue flag status

EFFORTS are continuing to transform a local beach from a rubbish dump into a beauty spot.

Around 30 youngsters, local primary school children and Sea Cadets, were joined in the clean-up of Caol Beach on Saturday, as

part of its continued regeneration. They filled more than 50 bin bags with rubbish, including a 20-year-old milk carton, and many more tractor loads of unsightly seaweed was taken away for composting.

Local residents, who are

sprucing the area up in time for a summer beach party, are aiming for Caol, which is nestled in a scenic spot on the northern shores of Loch Linnhe, to achieve Blue Flag status - a prestigious tag reserved for only the cleanest of

beaches. Caol Regeneration Company's spokesman Kim Cameron said: 'A lot of residents don't realise what a great natural asset they have on their doorstep and for years it has been neglected. We arranged the litter pick to get the worst

of the litter off the beach and the idea is we're going to keep the beach tidy with a view to achieving Blue Flag status.'

'There is still a lot of work to be done but we are grateful to those who turned up for their help.'

## Fort to lead oil exploration

FORT William could be at the cutting edge of deep sea oil exploration as the town's Underwater Centre recently took delivery of a new underwater Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV).

The £60,000 ROV is used to train ROV pilots on The Underwater Centre's extensive dive site and is a key tool in preparing students for the industry in realistic sea conditions.

Steve Ham, The Underwater Centre's marketing manager, said: 'With the price of oil continuing at a high level, the upturn in oil exploration that we're seeing is dramatic. This in turn has led to a big increase in demand for ROV pilots, and we're delighted to have the facilities to be able to train them so well. Our new Seaeye

Falcon ROV will allow us to offer students even more hands-on flying time, preparing them even more effectively for industry.'

The ROV is used by the offshore oil and gas sector, subsea civil engineers, scientists, environmental groups, and surveyors as well as several NATO navies and Special Forces in the Middle East.

Paul Bury, senior ROV instructor, said: 'We have been extremely busy training students for the ROV industry, and those students have a superb record of getting a job on leaving us. I've found the industry very willing to take on new recruits, and we are frequently approached by recruitment agencies and large and small ROC companies looking for ROV pilots.'

## Ski worker claims £2m for crushed leg

A GLENCOE man who lost a leg in a ski lift accident is claiming compensation of £2 million from his former employers.

Steven Campbell, aged 32, from Lower Carnoch, Glencoe, is suing the Glenshee Chairlift Company over the accident which happened in January 2000 at the Glencoe Centre.

He gave evidence at a trial at the Court of Session in Edinburgh this week saying that he had almost died from hypothermia after being trapped for four hours after the accident.

Mr Campbell lost a leg and suffered other serious injuries when he was drawn into the machinery of a ski lift at the centre.

Mr Campbell told the court on Tuesday April 25 that he was working 3,600 feet up the mountain, at the top of the t-bar tow, helping skiers to come off safely.

The t-bar jammed and as he went to release it the machinery was re-started and he was dragged in.

The trial continues this week.

## New head for Lochaber high

AN ACTING head teacher has been appointed at Lochaber High School as a result of the absence, through ill health, of head teacher Donnie Campbell.

Jim Sutherland, currently head teacher at Kinlochleven High School, will take up his new post on May 2. Originally from Shetland, Mr Sutherland taught at Lerwick, Berwick and Thurso high schools before moving to Kinlochleven five years ago.

## Strontian hosts climate change conference

A ONE-DAY community conference is taking place at the Sunart Centre, Strontian, to raise awareness of climate change issues in west coast communities.

The event will also showcase a range of energy efficiency measures and renewable energy technologies and signpost relevant sources of funding.

Anyone with an interest in tackling the current energy challenge is invited to attend the conference, which will be chaired by Councillor Ian Ross, chairman of Highland Council's sustainable development committee.

The event will demonstrate how computer technology can be used to link communities in remote rural areas, while at the same time eliminating the need for travel, which in turn limits carbon emissions.

Westray, one of Orkney's most northerly islands, is using a diverse range of renewable energy technologies to sustain the island's economy. These include the production of bio-diesel for transport, small-scale wind turbines that generate electricity, heat generation from ground source heat pumps and a bio-waste digester that converts agricultural waste into heat and fertiliser. Following a

DVD presentation on Westray's use of renewables, the conference audience will be invited to put questions by video-link to Colin Risbridger from the Westray Development Trust.

The conference will also feature a presentation from Professor Graham Shimfield, director of the Scottish Association for Marine Science, highlighting what the marine environment can tell us about climate change and its implications for Scotland, and in particular, the west Highlands. Other speakers include Hugh Raven, sustainable development commissioner for Scotland, and Eric Dodd, manager of the Highlands and Islands community energy company.

Conference workshops will cover energy efficiency and different renewable energy technologies including solar heat and power, micro hydro schemes, woodfuel, ground source heat pumps and small scale wind energy. There will also be a workshop on setting up a community renewables scheme. Councillor Ross said the event was a welcome step towards raising awareness of climate change on the west coast.



Iain McInnes and Les Cuthbertson, committee members of the Lochgoil Community Trust, hand over the keys of a new minibus to chairman Jimmy Sim. The trust has a brand new 15-seat minibus for use by local groups and people and hopes that other communities in the Cowal area will make use of the bus as well. It has been financed by the Scottish Executive Rural Transport Initiative and Whelk Leader + in Fort William. Help was given by Will Ferguson of the Lochleven Community Minibus Association.

## New MSP from Oban relishing job ahead

A FORMER Oban High school teacher who has been sworn in as a MSP to the Scottish Parliament says he has got a hard year's work ahead of him but is relishing the opportunity.

Dave Petrie has replaced Mary Scanlon as the Conservative list MSP for the Highlands and Islands after she entered the Moray by-election following the death of Margaret Ewing MSP.

Mr Petrie was sworn in with North East SNP list MSP Maureen Watt. Mr Petrie will cover a huge area from Campbeltown to Orkney and will deal with issues which affect the Highlands and Islands. He said: 'It was

10 times better than I expected and I couldn't believe the welcome I got from everybody to Tommy Sheridan to Jack McConnell.'

Mr Petrie was shown the ropes by Conservative chief whip Bill Aitken who took him to his new parliamentary office, introduced him to his assistant and showed him the 'massive' amount of mail that MSPs receive.

The new MSP is already setting his sights on his former employers Scottish Water and believes there is a simple solution to the 'ridiculous' situation of housing developments being held up by the company on the west coast.

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### MP spent £2,000 on make up

LOCHABER MP Charles Kennedy spent more than £2,000 in the run up to the General Election last year - on his make up.

The expenses of the former leader of the Liberal Democrats, who represents Ross, Skye and Lochaber at Westminster, were revealed by the Electoral Commission this week.

Mr Kennedy used the party funds to visit the same make-up artist used by former Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. He also spent £5,000 on six suits, and £355 on six shirts in a bid to woo voters at the polls.

The MP, who later resigned as leader of the Lib Dems after admitting a problem with alcohol, also spent £100 on a drinks bill in two nights.

The revelation has highlighted the debate on whether political parties should be funded by the taxpayer in future.

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01631 568000

### Police set up shop in Caol

POLICE in Fort William would finally start next month.

The new building, which will be situated on the site of the former nursery school, was expected to be under construction by the turn of the year but has been hit by rising costs.

Meantime, residents in Banavie and Caol - where the ageing police stations were sold to help pay for the project - have been without a police presence and will continue to be covered by officers from Fort William.

Chief Inspector Ian Bryce said: 'There has been a delay in building the new station in Caol but I am confident it will be operational by this time next year.'

PC Brad O'Neill, police board vice chairman Donald MacLean, Caol Councillor Olwyn Macdonald, chief inspector Ian Bryce, Highland Council area manager John Hutchison, senior surveyor Stephen Simpson and chief constable Ian Latimer. 11774601

### Sound of success on Isle of Rum

FOLLOWING the resounding success of the first Sound of Rum music festival last year, Rum Community Association has decided to host another event this May.

Preparations are underway on the island for another weekend of traditional music.

The 2006 festival will be similar to last year's event with performances from Croft Number Five, Salsa Celtica, The Peatbog Faeries, Daimh and mystery band Frog in the Throat.

Workshops on music, Scottish dance, art and traditional woodland crafts are free and other attractions include axe-throwing and chainsaw sculpture. All the profits from the event go back into the community fund to provide more music and arts activities on the island.

The organisers hope to build on the success of last year's festival to bring more visitors to the island and sustain the flow of cultural events on Rum.

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## An cuala sibh seo?

### Cothrom bho chumhachd nan tonn

Tha molaidhean gan cur air adhart a dh'fhaodair leanntaim chun chaid pròiseact sna h-Eileanan Siar a chleachdas cumhachd nan tonn airson dealan a chruthachadh.

Tha an sgeama fo stiùireadh Chomataidh Calla Shiadair, bho taobh shìair Leòdhais, agus thatar an-dràsta a' rannsachadh na chosgais agus ciamar a gheibh a chur air adhart.

Tha a' chomharsnachd gu mòr airson cidhe a' bhaile a leasachadh agus an deidh còmhraidhean le Murchadh Moireach, a b' àbhaist a bhith na stiùiriche teicnigeach aig Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, thàinig e am bàrr gur dòcha gum b'urrainn a chur an lùib sgeama eile airson dealan a chruthachadh bho chumhachd nan tonn.

A reir Iain MhicLeòid bhon chomataidh ionadail 's e a' phrìomh amas a tha aca-san feum a dhèanamh dhen chidhe, agus iad ag amas gu sònraichte air cur-seachadan mara.

Ach, thuir e gum biodh e sònraichte fhèin math nam faigheadh iad air sin a dhèanamh agus aig an aon àm sgeama a chur air adhart airson cumhachd nan tonn a chleachadh.

'Bho thaobh na coimharsnachd, 's e a' phrìomh rud a' chidhe a leasachadh,' thuir Mgr MacLeòid.

'Tha e ro fhìadhaich agus ro fhosgailte airson a chleachdadh an-dràsta, ach nam faigheadh air fàs ghadh a chur ris, gheibheadh sinn air an taobh a-staigh a chleachdadh airson iomadach rud.'

*Proposals have come forward which could lead to the first ever project in the Western Isles to generate electricity from wave power.*

*The scheme is being overseen by the Shader Pier Committee, from the west side of Lewis, and they currently investigating its costs and how it can be brought forward.*

*The community has expressed a strong desire to develop the village's pier and following talks with Murdo Murray, the former director of technical services at Western Isles Council, it emerged that it may be possible to incorporate it into another scheme to generate electricity from wave power.*

*According to Ian MacLeod from the local committee the main aim is to make use of the pier, in particular with an eye to the leisure industry.*

*However, he said it would be extremely beneficial if they were able to do that while at the same time develop a wave power scheme.*

*'From the community's point of view, the main thing is to get the pier re-developed,' said Mr MacLeod.*

*'It's too wild and exposed for use at the moment, but if we were able to get a barrier for protection the inside could then be used for a wide range of recreational purposes.'*

### Margaidh bheathaichean a' fuireachd fosgailte

Fhuair croitearan ann an Leòdhais na Hearadh deagh naidheachd bho chionn ghoirid nuair a thàinig e am bàrr gur iongantach mura tig ionad-margaidh bheathaichean an eilein a chumail fosgailte.

Bha ceist mu choinneimh de thachradh dhan ionad as dèidh dhan chompanaidh a bha ga ruith a dhòl ann an lèmhann luchd-trasaidh nam fiach bho chionn ceithir bliadhna.

Bhon uairsin tha a' mhargaidh air a bhith fo stiùireadh buidheann de luchd-saor-thoilich agus iad dhen bheachd nan dùnadh an goireas gum adhbhraicheadh e droch bhuille dhan ghnìomhachas.

Ach, a-nis tha cùisean a' coimhead gu math nas dochasaiche an dèidh do Stòras Fearann na h-Alba £46,555 a thoirt seachad airson a' ghnòthaich a chumail a' dol. Thèid an goireas cuideachd a thabhan airson buidhnean coimharsnachd eile a tha airson feum a dhèanamh dheth.

Thuir stiùiriche a' mhargaidh, Tormod MacIomhar: 'Bha e uabhasach riatanach gum faigheadh sinn air a' mhargaidh a cheannachd airson a dhìon san àm ri teachd agus tha sinn air leth taingeach airson taic an stòrais, a thuilleadh air a bhrosnachadh a fhuair sinn bho na daoine a tha a' cleachdadh a' mhargaidh fhèin.'

*Crofters in Lewis and Harris received a welcome piece of news recently what it was revealed that the island's auction mart will remain open.*

*A question mark hung over the future of the facility after the company which operated it went into receivership four years ago.*

*Since then the mart has been under the stewardship of a group of volunteers who were of the view that its closure would result in a devastating blow to the industry.*

*However, the situation now looks a good deal more promising after the Scottish Land Fund awarded £46,555 to keep it open. The facility will also be offered to other community groups who can make use of it.*

*Mart co-ordinator Norman MacIver said: 'Purchasing the mart was absolutely critical to the long-term survival of the facility and we are extremely grateful for the support offered by the land fund as well as the encouragement from those producers who use the mart.'*

### Argyll hotel wins romance award

ARDANAISEIG Hotel near Kilchrenan, Argyll, has won the title of Scottish Romantic Hotel of the Year Award 2006.

The hotel makes a feature of its romantic bedrooms and has recently completed a luxury conversion of the boat shed into accommodation.

Manager Peter Webster was also highly commended as Hotel Manager of the Year 2006.

He said: 'We are thrilled that Ardanaiseig has done so well again in the awards. Scotland has so many excellent hotels these days and to be voted top by both the public and well-travelled judges is an enormous privilege and credit.'

The awards were judged by a panel of 16 expert judges and the biggest public online vote on hotels in the UK; more than 25,000 votes were logged for this year alone. The Scottish Hotels of the Year Awards is one of the largest national awards events for the hotel industry.



Park Primary School's eco-group in tree-planting action. 117mc01

## Primary school planters boost Oban woodland project

OBAN primary school children got their wellies, gloves and spades at the ready as they spent a morning planting trees.

The 15-pupil strong eco group at Park Primary School dug for victory at the 'Witches' area of Dunollie Estate Woodland planting

beech, horse chestnut and hazel and holly shrubs.

### Eco-group

Assistant headteacher Irene Bisset said the primary four to seven pupils were very keen on their work in the eco-group which includes looking af-

ter their own area in the school grounds and carrying out recycling projects.

Bob Black of Dunollie Estate was on hand to show the pupils how to plant the trees which he said were specifically selected because they could thrive in a woodland with a lot of shade.

Margaret Cullen of West Highland Housing Association said it had received £1,000 from the Argyll and Bute Bio-diversity Partnership for the planting project which replaced 200-year old trees which had to be cut down in the area after they started to decline.

## Luing Community Trust on the lookout for land

ISLE of Luing Community Trust has written to all the landowners on the island signalling the trust's interest in any land that could be bought for community use.

The trust heard recently that it has gained £108,527 from the Scottish Land Fund towards buying the remnants of Natalie MacDonald's estate and the mineral rights over much of the old quarrying areas around the village of Cullipool.

Aside from this the trust is involved in raising funds to build a museum and for environmental improvement projects. The management committee is to press ahead with the design of a building and planning permission so that once funding is available, the building can go ahead

with no further delays. Chairman of the trust Alastair Fleming said: 'We can only urge patience on all concerned. We are as frustrated by the difficulties and lack of progress on the building as anyone else.'

But the most difficult aspect, he said, was the environmental improvements, restoration of the old quarries at Cullipool and use of waste slate as a community asset for work around the conservation village. 'This aspect is the most difficult to achieve,' said Mr Fleming, 'involving aspects of land ownership, availability of material of the right quality and of the different approaches to the engineering issues involved with the consequen-

tial serious difference in costs.' He said it remained an important objective of the trust, which has just recently had its first annual general meeting, but would not be achieved quickly. When the trust was first set up, the management committee had hoped to see a building take shape by the end of last year but quickly realised that it was not going to be that simple - not least because grant-funding is no longer as readily available. What has been achieved is part-funding to set up interpretative panels, picnic tables and benches around the island from WHELK Leader+ with Scottish Natural Heritage asked to provide the balance of funding. More news is expected in May.

## Tiree alarm at timetable proposals

TIREE'S councillor Ian Gillies has expressed surprise that the fourth daily ferry service to the islands of Tiree and Coll has not been included in Caledonian MacBrayne's (CalMac's) 2006-07 draft winter timetable.

The service was trialled last winter with £30,000 funding from HiTrans and the Scottish Executive.

Mr Gillies said: 'It also appears from other correspondence I have seen that the Scottish Executive will not be considering any radical changes to existing timetables in advance of the forthcoming tender exercise.'

The island's Argyll and Bute Council member said he was surprised that a ferry service had been 'forced' on an unwilling Isle of Harris population because of 'public demand' but CalMac did not consider there was a similar demand from other island communities.

'I really am at a loss as to why the company would consider that there is not a similar demand on Coll and Tiree,' said Mr Gillies.

'The situation is scandalous and I am doing everything I can to reverse this decision and achieve the fourth sailing that we so desperately need,' he added.



Elizabeth Fairlie Ramsay, Tobermory lifeboat, was damaged along its D-fenders, fenders and rails after the Hebridean Princess hit her. Photography courtesy RNLI

## Tobermory lifeboat tangles with a 'princess'

TOBERMORY lifeboat was out of action for a short time after being hit by the luxury cruise ship Hebridean Princess while coming in to berth at Mull's capital.

**Port and starboard**  
The D-fenders and fenders of the Elizabeth Fairlie Ramsay were damaged on both port and starboard side when she was hit by the stern of the Hebridean Princess as she lay at her usual berth in Tobermory.

John Wilshire, lifeboat operational manager in Tobermory, told The Oban Times: 'The Hebridean Princess was making for the berth at the Caledonian MacBrayne pier and was taking it in the wrong direction and as soon as she came abreast of the lifeboat the stern swung against the lifeboat.'

'We put her on a restricted service but when our inspector saw the pictures of the damage they say she

should go back into service until we got a relief lifeboat.'

### Inspected

A Royal National Lifeboat Institution surveyor inspected the boat for structural damage last Thursday and deemed that she was usable but the £2 million Severn-class lifeboat will have to go into dock for repairs this week and will be replaced by a vessel from Buckie.

The lifeboat has been at its present berth in

Tobermory for the last five years and the Hebridean Princess regularly comes in and out of Tobermory Bay over the summer sailing season.

A spokeswoman for the Hebridean Island Cruises said: 'This is a port that we frequently use.'

'It was a sudden gust of wind that caused the ship to move in the way that it did.'

'No passengers or crew were injured.'

'Hebridean Island Cruises

is going to pay for the damage [to the lifeboat] under its own insurance, which is already being organised,' she added.

HM The Queen is due to travel on the Hebridean Princess this summer as part of her 80th birthday celebrations. The cruise is expected to end in Aberdeen to allow The Queen to spend some time at Balmoral, as she traditionally did before the Royal Yacht Britannia was decommissioned.

## Lochawe sewer system row rumbles on

ARGYLL and Bute's MSP is calling for the local authority to repair a sewerage system in St Conan's Road, Lochawe, so it can be adopted by Scottish Water.

But Argyll and Bute Council says that it legally only has responsibility for 1/28th of the costs because it only owns one of the 28 houses in the street.

George Lyon says the council has a 'moral responsibility' to repair the system because documents from the Hydro Board indicate that the previous district council was the 'major entitled proprietor of the Oxygest Sewage System'

when it was handed over from the Hydro Board.

### Paying for years

The sewerage system has fallen into disrepair and also needs to be cleaned out before Scottish Water will agree to adopt it and thereafter be responsible for it. Residents also claim that they have been paying the council, erroneously, for sewerage services over a number of years.

Mr Lyon said: 'Local residents have said to me that they are willing to forego any reimbursement of their sewerage charges which were erroneously collected from them by Argyll and

Bute Council, provided the monies are used towards the cost of the repairs to the system.'

'This matter is causing great concern to residents at St Conan's and I hope that Argyll and Bute Council will shoulder its responsibilities and take action to finally resolve this matter.'

Mr Lyon said he had written to Chief Executive James McLellan asking the council to undertake the work. The council has said it has no legal or moral responsibility to repair the system on behalf of the remaining private owners, but has proposed that the resi-

dents get agreement from all the house owners to share the cost of emptying the system.

'The council will arrange for this to be carried out when agreement has been received,' said a spokesman for the authority.

'The council has further proposed that the residents obtain quotes for the cost of

restoring the system to working order.

At present the council does not have figures in respect of the cost of this work.'

### Willing

He said Scottish Water had indicated that it was willing to adopt the system if it was restored to working order that was compli-

ant with European Community (EC) regulations and Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) guidance.

'Monies already collected in respect of sewerage charges would go towards historical costs, details of which have been indicated to each home owner,' added the spokesman.

## Bottling it up on Tiree

TIREE is a haven for sea birds of all kinds but sometimes nesting spots can be difficult to find because of a distinct lack of trees.

Some of the more adaptable species have discovered that the perfect spots out of the wind and rain are the island's post boxes. But this isn't terribly convenient for the islanders or the postmen - or the birds when letters drop on their nests.

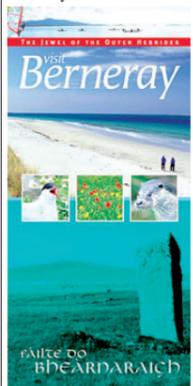
So a simple deterrent has been introduced - a plastic bottle in the slot to discourage the wee feathered souls from venturing in at all.

Visitors and islanders alike are being asked not to remove the bottles from the slots permanently but to replace them when they have posted their letter.

## New leaflet on Berneray

THE ISLAND of Berneray has its first tourist information leaflet.

The A3 leaflet, produced by Berneray Development Group, is designed to encourage tourists to the tiny Hebridean island and particularly focuses on environmental tourism. 'More and more people are visiting Berneray each year, especially during the summer months,' said Gloria MacKillop, chairperson of the group. 'However, we feel the potential is still under-exploited. By attracting more tourists to visit Berneray, we aim to ensure that tourism becomes a cornerstone of the local economy in the future.'



Among Berneray's many attractions, according to the leaflet, is the seal colony at Bays Loch, the west beach and machair, walking, cycling, watersports and archaeology. A section of the leaflet is devoted to Nurses' Cottage, the visitor information centre run by the development group, which is open five days a week.

For the first time this year it will offer internet access for visitors, as well as being a source of historical and natural history information.

The leaflet can be seen at www.isleofberneray.com.

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# LEISURE TIMES

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7.30 until WEDNESDAY, 8.30 THURSDAY, 2.15 SATURDAY MATINEE  
**IF THE TRUTH GETS OUT, THEIR LIVES COULD BE AT RISK**  
**Alien Autopsy** 12A

6.30 DAILY, INCLUDING SUNDAY - 2.00 SATURDAY MATINEE  
**TALE OF A TIBETAN SHEEPDOG**  
**THE SHAGGY DOG** U  
TIM ALLEN as a man who tries to lead a normal life, despite the fact he sometimes turns into a sheepdog!

7.30 DAILY from THURSDAY 4 MAY - 1.30 SATURDAY MATINEE  
**MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3** 12A

**STUDIO CINEMA** 01397 705095  
CAMERON SQUARE - FORT WILLIAM

7.15 DAILY, INCLUDING SUNDAY - 2.15 SATURDAY MATINEE  
**Ice Age 2: The Meltdown** U

7.00 until WEDNESDAY, 5.30 THURSDAY - 2.00 SATURDAY MATINEE  
**THE PINK PANTHER** PG

7.30 DAILY from THURSDAY 4 MAY - 1.30 SATURDAY MATINEE  
**MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 3** 12A

**At the Cinema**

**TIM ALLEN** is



**THE SHAGGY DOG**

**RAISE THE WOOF. MARCH**  
The Shaggy Dog showing at the Highland Theatre, Oban

**ALIEN AUTOPSY**  
12A Certificate  
95 Minutes  
OBAN HIGHLAND THEATRE  
7.30 FRIDAY TO WEDNESDAY - 8.30 THURSDAY - 2.15 SATURDAY MATINEE

This movie, although a comedy, has fake gory images and some strong language. On a visit to the United States from the UK, best pals Ray and Gary stumble upon a piece of top secret military film, which could change the way man perceives his place in the universe forever. A media frenzy, which catapults the two pals into the limelight, in a very big way. The twist however is that they share a bigger secret and, if the truth does get out, their lives could be in serious danger.

Directed by **Johny Campbell**, this not to be missed comedy stars **Bill Pullman, Declan Donnelly** and **Ant McPartlin**.

**THE SHAGGY DOG**  
U Certificate  
99 Minutes  
OBAN HIGHLAND THEATRE  
6.30 EVERY DAY (INCLUDING SUNDAY) 2.00 SATURDAY MATINEE

TIM ALLEN plays an attorney, living with his family in an extremely large house. He has a problem however because, despite trying to lead a perfectly normal life, he has the rather awkward habit of sometimes turning into a shaggy dog!

When in this strange reincarnation (or maybe when something else takes over) he finds himself drying off after a shower by shaking vigorously and when eating his breakfast cereal, he dunks his face into the bowl and chops. All just a little crazy, this is a comedy that is entirely different than children will certainly lap up!

**MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE 3**  
UK and WORLD PREMIER  
THURSDAY 4 MAY - 12A Certificate  
(Running time awaiting confirmation)  
OBAN HIGHLAND THEATRE and FORT WILLIAM STUDIO CINEMA  
7.30 EVERY DAY, FROM THURSDAY 4 MAY (INCLUDING SUNDAY) 1.30 SATURDAY MATINEE  
(Please note: 1.30 Matinee on Saturday only)

**THE PINK PANTHER**  
PG CERTIFICATE  
93 Minutes  
FORT WILLIAM STUDIO CINEMA  
7.00 EVERY DAY, FRIDAY TO WEDNESDAY - 5.30 THURSDAY - 2.30 SATURDAY MATINEE

A famous soccer manager has been murdered and his priceless ring has been stolen. The French Government require a master detective to solve the crime but he is not available, so they are forced to recruit Inspector Clouseau!

Steve Martin stars in this Clouseau comedy escapade with, a stunning pop star (Beyonce), a soccer star and, for good measure, a Chinese assassin. Clouseau and his trust assistant Ponton must unmask the murderer to keep their boss Dreyfus from taking the credit, all without bringing the French legal system to a grinding halt.

**ICE AGE 2: THE MELTDOWN**  
U CERTIFICATE  
90 Minutes  
FORT WILLIAM STUDIO THEATRE  
7.15 EVERY DAY

## Skye fiddle and accordian club leaves standing room only

SUCH was the enthusiasm of a Skye musician at the island's accordion and fiddle club's monthly ceilidh he had to leave the stage after the strap on his accordion snapped.

Accordion player John MacGillivray was reported to have tried to seek out a pair of ladies tights or baler twine to replace the strap but the seasoned accordion performer returned to the stage later!

It was standing room only at Portree's Well Plaid despite a large gathering of traditional music enthusiasts from the Feis who were holding an informal ceilidh in the lounge bar at the other end of the Royal Hotel.

Accordion players Alan Palmer and Lorraine Gillies and Donald John Campbell on drums opened the ceilidh with some fine jigs and marches followed by young Morayshire fiddler Donna Bethune who played *Huntingtower* and *Mairi's Wedding*.

Glenn brothers, Iain and Murdo Cameron on accordion, teamed up with Uig piper Neil Beaton and Portree drummer Alastair MacPherson to give a lively band sound which set feet tapping in. Young Invernesian accordionist Erin Hall-Gardiner then played a selection which including the beautiful *Dear Edinbane*.

**Heartland**  
First time visitors to the club, husband and wife duo John and Kate Masson, collectively known as *Heartland* were joined by John and Fiona Wilson to entertain with some fine reels. Kate and Fiona on fiddles and the two Johns on guitar and drums respectively brought a different sound to the evening which was much appreciated by the audience and it is hoped that they will become regular attenders and performers at future club nights.

Forfar's Deirdre Adamson guested at the ceilidh and proved a hit with the audience delivering an impeccable and well balanced performance which included traditional, classical and continental numbers, 4/4 marched and in particular *Anda Campbell's March* and a beautiful set of waltzes. From one of her earliest recordings *Magic Fingers* was next on the menu followed by a set for *Trip to Bavaria*. Deirdre featured one of her own compositions, the slow air *Lonely Glencoe* along with the *Glencoe March* and the reel *Moving Cloud*. After several more fine sets Deirdre finished the first half of the evening with that old favourite *The Kerrera Polka*.

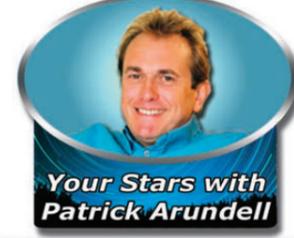
Cailean Hall-Gardiner, Erin's brother, gave a much appreciated selection on the pipes while Alan Palmer teamed up with James Stewart on second box and Donald John Campbell on drums for some great sets followed by Sam Stewart on accordion, son James still on second box and Donald John Campbell on drums for some fine 2/4 marches.

Then it was time for Deirdre Adamson to return and she gave a wonderful selection of performances ranging from Burn's melodies through classical and continental numbers to a beautiful rendition of *The Crags of Tumbledown Mountain*, all played with precision, style and great feeling to the very evident enjoyment of the audience.

All too soon it was time for the final stramash with the group of players being joined by John Carmichael who had come through from the Feis festivities.

The next club night will be on May 4 when *The Lomond Ceilidh Band* will be performing.

**Your Stars with Patrick Arundell**



**ARIES** (Mar 21 - Apr 20) 09111 767 272  
Finances may not be far from your thinking this week, or will it be the things you would like to indulge yourself with? Yet if money making schemes appeal, should you follow the pack or follow your instincts? Perhaps it's time to have confidence in your own unique talents. Call me now to find out how Venus can bring its helpful magic to you, as it enters your sign...

**TAURUS** (Apr 21 - May 21) 09111 767 273  
You can be tremendously motivated, but this could take someone by surprise who's more used to you playing a certain role and they may not like it if you try to change the status quo. This can see one to the starting to drift if you feel unsupported or will that old flame reappear? Call me now, to find out how the New Moon can guide your moves for months to come...

**GEMINI** (May 22 - June 21) 09111 767 274  
Try not to get frustrated if you feel you're having to bide your time. Someone could provide some excellent advice as far as planning your finances but it just may all take a time to come to fruition. You can feel brighter but the weeks close. Call me now, to find out who you should trust with such confidential matters or who you should steer well clear of...

**CANCER** (June 22 - July 22) 09111 767 275  
Getting together with friends may always be a pleasure, but your networking skills are going to be in tip top order and this can be great for getting to know new pals and fresh contacts at work too. You may also find yourself doing a good deed for charity. Have you been unsure about your future? Call now, and I tell you the dates that are best to power forwards on...

**LEO** (July 23 - Aug 23) 09111 767 276  
An ambitious kind of Leo? Around any issue of importance it will be vital to get influential faces on-side using a good ally or ally. If you're seen, unfairly, as being too pushy your path could be blocked. In love, you can be attracted to someone with a little mystery about them. Call me and I can tell you how an Aries can be so important for your love moves...

**VIRGO** (Aug 24 - Sep 23) 09111 767 277  
This can be a trailblazing week and you'll have a real desire to be on the move, or make your everyday life more interesting and varied. One friendship linked to travelling with can feature too. Your financial fortunes could be boosted by a legacy, inheritance or a partner's generosity. Love can get sultrier too. How? Give me a call and find out what racy Mercury can do for you...

**LIBRA** (Sept 24 - Oct 23) 09111 767 278  
Your enterprising instincts are aroused and it could be by linking up in a partnership that you can flourish best. It's going to be your ability to shrewdly see the angles, as well as your charm and gracious manner which open the doors of business and financial opportunity. In love, you reach make or break time. To hear your love scope in detail, call me now...

**SCORPIO** (Oct 24 - Nov 22) 09111 767 279  
Even if things have been better between you and that special person, by the weeks end things can change. A good way to revive things would be to get away from it all. A trip to the coast or booking a holiday can cement progress. However, it's going to be by talking that provides the clue. Call me now to find how having a frank heart to heart can unlock the solutions...

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov 23 - Dec 21) 09111 767 280  
Mercury is going to sharpen up your thinking and even if the small details of life sometimes bore you rotten, your grasp will be excellent. You usually have a real feel for the big picture so with these two working in tandem, you can make real progress. Continue to try to get life well organised as you can. Call your starline now for a more in-depth predictions...

**CAPRICORN** (Dec 22 - Jan 20) 09111 767 281  
Even the most dedicated of couch potatoes can find themselves bursting into active life. And the superb link between Mars and the New Moon suggests a lack of energy will pose few problems in the weeks to come. In fact, you could be absolutely bursting with the stuff. Call me now to find out how using your sense of humour can help to unlock recently bottled-up emotions...

**AQUARIUS** (Jan 21 - Feb 19) 09111 767 282  
Are there sensitive subjects that need talking through? Are you or someone close putting these off? Once get down to the discussion, you'll feel relieved. A decorative or repair job may also feature and it'll be a good week to enter into negotiations with a trades person, get quotes or get the job started. Call me now to find out how the shift of Venus can be so lucky for you...

**PISCES** (Feb 20 - Mar 20) 09111 767 283  
Is the week when your expectations around your love life can start to settle down? Don't be easily kidded by what someone tells you. You'd be right to look at what's meant - not what's said. You'll also find yourself fitting around quite a bit too as your attention span is likely to be on the low side. Call me now to find out how the fab Sun/Mars angle is set to do to help you...

**At the Cinema**

**TIM ALLEN** is



**THE SHAGGY DOG**

**RAISE THE WOOF. MARCH**  
The Shaggy Dog showing at the Highland Theatre, Oban

**ALIEN AUTOPSY**  
12A Certificate  
95 Minutes  
OBAN HIGHLAND THEATRE  
7.30 FRIDAY TO WEDNESDAY - 8.30 THURSDAY - 2.15 SATURDAY MATINEE

This movie, although a comedy, has fake gory images and some strong language. On a visit to the United States from the UK, best pals Ray and Gary stumble upon a piece of top secret military film, which could change the way man perceives his place in the universe forever. A media frenzy, which catapults the two pals into the limelight, in a very big way. The twist however is that they share a bigger secret and, if the truth does get out, their lives could be in serious danger.

Directed by **Johny Campbell**, this not to be missed comedy stars **Bill Pullman, Declan Donnelly** and **Ant McPartlin**.

**THE SHAGGY DOG**  
U Certificate  
99 Minutes  
OBAN HIGHLAND THEATRE  
6.30 EVERY DAY (INCLUDING SUNDAY) 2.00 SATURDAY MATINEE

TIM ALLEN plays an attorney, living with his family in an extremely large house. He has a problem however because, despite trying to lead a perfectly normal life, he has the rather awkward habit of sometimes turning into a shaggy dog!

When in this strange reincarnation (or maybe when something else takes over) he finds himself drying off after a shower by shaking vigorously and when eating his breakfast cereal, he dunks his face into the bowl and chops. All just a little crazy, this is a comedy that is entirely different than children will certainly lap up!

**MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE 3**  
UK and WORLD PREMIER  
THURSDAY 4 MAY - 12A Certificate  
(Running time awaiting confirmation)  
OBAN HIGHLAND THEATRE and FORT WILLIAM STUDIO CINEMA  
7.30 EVERY DAY, FROM THURSDAY 4 MAY (INCLUDING SUNDAY) 1.30 SATURDAY MATINEE  
(Please note: 1.30 Matinee on Saturday only)

**THE PINK PANTHER**  
PG CERTIFICATE  
93 Minutes  
FORT WILLIAM STUDIO CINEMA  
7.00 EVERY DAY, FRIDAY TO WEDNESDAY - 5.30 THURSDAY - 2.30 SATURDAY MATINEE

A famous soccer manager has been murdered and his priceless ring has been stolen. The French Government require a master detective to solve the crime but he is not available, so they are forced to recruit Inspector Clouseau!

Steve Martin stars in this Clouseau comedy escapade with, a stunning pop star (Beyonce), a soccer star and, for good measure, a Chinese assassin. Clouseau and his trust assistant Ponton must unmask the murderer to keep their boss Dreyfus from taking the credit, all without bringing the French legal system to a grinding halt.

**ICE AGE 2: THE MELTDOWN**  
U CERTIFICATE  
90 Minutes  
FORT WILLIAM STUDIO THEATRE  
7.15 EVERY DAY



Craig Espie, fiddle; Martin Gillespie, pipes; Fraser West, drums, Daniel Gillespie, accordion; and Alec Dalglish, guitar, are *Skerryvore*. 1175kel01

## Skerryvore at the Argyllshire

IF you didn't make it along to the Argyllshire Gathering Halls on Friday night to hear the inimitable *Skerryvore*, then don't worry the organisers have been smart enough to book them again for later in the year.

Smart, because every weekend from now until the end of the year the two Three brothers who started *Skerryvore* and their friends, who now make up the complement of the band, are booked solid.

The new Glasgow-based band, once the duo of Daniel and Martin Gillespie, are rapidly becoming THE band to book for a ceilidh or wedding dance or for some all-round entertainment. But don't just think traditional ceilidh band, these guys perform with a twist, a raw edge that brings a new feel to the traditional songs and dance music of the ceilidh. They may do a Gay Gordons, but the combination of guitar, pipes, and bass drum added to the more traditional fiddle and accordion takes it to a bolder level.

Sporting t-shirts with the legend 'Three's answer to A Westlife' these guys set the machair on fire and are loving doing it too.

On the back of their first CD, which was produced last summer, and word of mouth, *Skerryvore* will be in Belfast, Islay, Skye, Stornoway, Middlesborough, Edinburgh and London and many places in between over the coming months.

They will, however, be returning to Three in May for A Bhui - The Homecoming - the gathering of Tireachds from all over the world.

**The Oban Times & West Highland Times**  
**What's On Guide**

Saulmore Farm Shop open again for the season. Lots of new lines. Open 9am - 5pm Mon-Sat; 9am till 7pm Thursday. Tel: 01631 710247

**Thursday 27th - Sunday 30th April**  
Highlands and Islands Music Festival  
**Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th April**  
Scottish Disc Golf Open, 9.30am at 4 Fannore, Isle of Mull  
Contact Gremlin 01688 500253

**Sunday 30th April**  
Car Boot Sale, Taynuilt Village Hall, 1.30pm

**Monday 1st May**  
McTavish's Restaurant and Scottish Show, Opening for the coming season. Oban - Monday 1st May, Fort William - Friday 28th April

**Wednesday 3rd May**  
Slimming World Classes, Lorne Resource Centre, Soroba Road, Oban, 5-6.30pm

**Sunday 7th May**  
ABCD 10K race starting from the Lorn and Islands District General Hospital at 1pm

**Saturday 29th April**  
Loch Etive Shoreline Clean-Up, Start Ardchattan Church, 1-3pm. Further information 01631 569188

**Sunday 7th May**  
Stramash, Orienteering Event, Craig Mhic Chailein, between the railway bridge over the main A85 road between Connel and Taynuilt, from 10 am till 12 noon.

**Sunday 28th May**  
Mail of Kintyre Half Marathon. Entry form from Atlantis Leisure

**Saturday 22 July**  
Taynuilt Highland Games, Sports Field, Taynuilt

**WHAT'S ON GUIDE**  
CONTACT - 01631 568000

**forthcoming events**

**Tuesday 6th June** Oban Maternity User Group meeting, Day Centre in the Lorn and Islands Hospital

**Friday 30th June** at 8.00pm Helensburgh and District Highland Association DANCE: Band - Donnie & Diane. Contact John Wilson 01389 841205

**Tuesday 4th July** Oban Maternity User Group meeting, Day Centre in the Lorn and Islands Hospital

**Saturday 22nd July** Taynuilt Highland Games

**Tuesday 8th August** Oban Maternity User Group meeting, Day Centre in the Lorn and Islands Hospital

**Tuesday 5th September** Oban Maternity User Group meeting, Day Centre in the Lorn and Islands Hospital

**Tuesday 10th October** Oban Maternity User Group meeting, Day Centre in the Lorn and Islands Hospital

**Tuesday 7th November** Oban Maternity User Group meeting, Day Centre in the Lorn and Islands Hospital

**Tuesday 5th December** Oban Maternity User Group meeting, Day Centre in the Lorn and Islands Hospital

**GET YOUR EVENT LISTED**  
CONTACT 01631 568000

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**RHODODENDRON SHOW**  
The Scottish Rhododendron Society is holding its annual show and plant sale at  
**The Corran Halls, Oban**  
**Saturday 6th May, 2006**  
**between 12:00 and 16:00**  
Admittance Prices - Adults £1.50, Family £3.00, Pensioners £1.00  
Entries are welcome from non members, staging is between 16:00 and 19:00 on Friday 5th May and between 08:00 and 10:00 before judging on Saturday 6th  
Advice will be freely available to anybody requiring it  
Teas and Coffee available to visitors  
For further information contact David Stark on 01880 770257 or 07850180254

**KILMARTIN HOUSE MUSEUM**  
Kilmartin's Rock Art within a British Framework  
an illustrated talk by STAN BECKENSALL  
Wednesday 10 May  
7.30 - 9pm  
for further information, booking and diary of events contact 01546 510278 www.kilmartin.org

**Clay Pigeon Shoot**  
Kingairloch Estate  
Saturday 29th April  
at 10:30am  
£10 Entry  
For more info call David Sturrock on 01967 411 211 or Bobby MacKellar on 01967 411 216

**SNX-SUNDAY NIGHT EXTRA**  
Modern informal worship led by H2O Praise Band with a talk from Rev. Derek Morrison  
7.30pm 30th April  
Corran Esplanade Church  
All welcome - no church, any church.

**CAR BOOT SALE**  
Sunday 30th April  
at 1.30pm  
Taynuilt Village Hall  
Please phone Beth Morse on 01866 822091 to book a table  
Proceeds to Taynuilt Village Hall

**SALE OF PERENNIAL PLANTS**  
Half of the normal price  
In aid of Scottish International Relief  
2pm - 5pm  
Sunday 7th May 2006  
Craig Lodge Dalmally  
Telephone 01838 200216  
Teas and home baking

**An Tobar Artists Surgery**  
with Gerry McGowan  
Friday 28th April  
An Tobar : 8 - 10pm  
Saturday 29th April  
Creich Hall : 11am - 4pm  
By appointment. Book on 01688 302211  
An Tobar - Tobemary Arts Centre  
Argyll Terrace, Tobemary, Isle of Mull

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This section is available to charitable organisations with a charity number. All AGM's will be placed on the Public Notice Page  
Please ask for details

**Metal Detecting**  
Anyone interested in forming a club for meetings and outings call  
Richard 01631 770259  
Alan 07796390411  
after 6 pm

**To advertise in the WHAT'S ON COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD**  
Telephone: 01631 568000

**Eye to Eye**



with John Wallace

## The computer damaged my eyes

I HAVE lost count of the number of patients I see who believe that using a computer has damaged their eyes.

Let me stress right now - computers cannot damage your eyes! Computer use will, however, highlight any vision problems, however subtle, that you may have.

There are a variety of issues surrounding computer use. Computer screens are often thought of as radiation sources and, as such, cause eye damage. Not true. The level of emissions from a computer screen is tiny and harmless. Swedish research has proved this repeatedly.

A more common complaint is of sore eyes or blurred vision after using a computer. The human vision system was never designed for prolonged close work. The eye at rest focuses in the distance. Humans were originally hunter gatherers who relied on good distance vision to spot prey. Intensive close work is a very recent development.

There is some evidence that excessive close work can induce myopia, short sightedness. In Singapore and Hong Kong there is an epidemic of myopia due to excessive close work. A myopic eye typically focuses at the same distance as you hold a book or look at a computer screen and is therefore relaxed at this distance.

So how can you limit vision problems associated with computer use? Firstly, have regular eye examinations, normally every two years. Secondly, do use any spectacles your optometrist recommends for computer use. Thirdly, limit your exposure to 30 minutes per session. You can have multiple sessions per day but please take a five minute break and focus in the distance to relax your eyes between each session.

If you are employed and use a computer for several hours per day your employer has to provide regular eye examinations and, in certain situations, spectacles specifically for use with a computer. Your optometrist can advise on your entitlement.

John Wallace BSc (Hons), FCOptom, DipCLP  
John Wallace Optometrists & Podiatrists  
11/12 Argyll Square, Oban  
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## Scots do well at Pan Celtic Fest in Letterkenny

SIXTEEN-hundred visitors from all over the world flocked to Letterkenny in County Donegal last week to take part in the 35th International Pan Celtic Festival of music, dance and pageantry.

The event was being hosted for the first time by a town in the north of Eire.

Singers, musicians, dancers, and sports players from Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Isle of Man, Cornwall and Brittany took part in the cultural festival with stunning performances from Scottish competitors featuring highly in the prize lists.

Pan-Celtic President and Royal National Mod representative, John A MacIver praised the warm welcome extended to festival-goers by Pan-Celtic organisers and the town of Letterkenny and said he was delighted with the high profile successes of Scottish competitors.

**Celtic languages**  
He was especially pleased to see them strengthen the links between the Celtic nations which helps promote Celtic languages and culture and encourages inter-Celtic tourism, trade and commerce.

Scottish triumphs included singing group 'Fionnair' who took the trophy for best traditional group. The youngsters, who hail from Ross-shire, Inverness, Glasgow, Oban, Fort William and Ardrishaig are under the musical direction of Highland Council's Mairi Mhor Fellow and 2005 Royal National Mod Gold Medallist, Fiona MacKenzie of Dingwall and are Catherine Tinney, Katie MacKenzie, Lauren Tait, Amanda MacMillan, Ali Buchanan, Davina MacIntyre, Mairi Kerr and Eilidh Ramsay. Mairi Kerr

**Piping**  
Lochaber Mod convener, Charlie MacColl proved he has passed on his musical talent when his son Calum won the March, Strathspey and Reel. Other young pipers Martin MacBeth and Christopher MacKenzie both took second place in their competitions.

The open traditional dancing competition was won by An Comunn Gaidhealach Development

Officer, Joy Dunlop from Connel, against very stiff competition. Joy's Scottish step dancing caught the judges' eye in a field which included expert Irish and Welsh dancers.

In the choral competitions, Scottish choirs swept the boards this year by impressing the international panel of adjudicators and delighting audiences with the quality of their singing. The area choirs section was won by Stirling Gaelic Choir, conducted by Seamas Campbell.

Scottish choirs also took both first and second places

in the rural choirs competition. The second place spot went to Strath Gaelic Choir from Skye, conducted by Heather Harvey, who had also won over the local hearts earlier in the week with an open-air rendition of 'Eamonn An Chroic' in Irish Gaelic.

First place was won by an amalgamated Lewis Gaelic choir, under the baton of Ronnie Murray, who also took the overall trophy for best choir in the festival. The Ladies' choir trophy was retained by Argyll representatives, Atoaig Piseag, who delighted audi-

ences with an up-tempo Neil Houston arrangement of 'Rubh' nan Cudaigean', memorably conducted by Raymond Bremner, Cathiness.

The friendly spirit of the Pan-Celtic Festival was demonstrated when the audience and choirs spontaneously broke into massed singing in Gaelic, Gaelige and Welsh during the wait for the adjudicators decisions.

Scottish adjudicator, Beathag Morrison said that for her, it was one of the highlights of a very successful festival.



**the pierhouse**  
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Nick Horne, the Proprietor of The Pierhouse in Port Appin, wishes to thank all those who so generously donated to his London Marathon 2006 Charity Appeal. He raised over £2000 and completed the Marathon in 3 hours and 38 minutes. All funds will go to The Scientific Exploration Society, to provide fresh water aid in North West India, the refurbishment of a derelict school and urgent provision of a medical clinic.

Thank you for all your support.  
THE PIERHOUSE HOTEL & SEAFOOD RESTAURANT  
Tel: 01631 730302.  
www.pierhousehotel.co.uk

## Charity fashion show raises more than £1,700 - by George!

NEARLY 300 people packed into the Argyllshire Gathering Halls on Sunday evening for the Anthony Nolan Trust fashion show courtesy of George at ASDA in Dumbarton.

Nine months in the planning, the fashion show was a resounding success, raising £1,723.90 for Oban Friends of the Anthony Nolan Trust.

A total of 21 people, from the Oban and Lorn area, aged from six months upwards, volunteered to model the clothes after the Dumbarton branch of ASDA agreed to stand in for the fashion show after another company couldn't make it.

Carol Turnbull, who organised the hall-free, courtesy of John MacGregor - models and music, phoned ASDA and asked if the company could help.

'It is the first major fund raiser that has been organised and it has been one of the most successful,' she said.

Eilidh Hoyland, events organiser for ASDA in Dumbarton, said that the Oban show was the furthest from a store that any George fashion show had been held, which presented particular problems of its own. Usually the clothes at the show are available to buy immediately afterwards by Eilidh said they realised that rather than a transit van to carry all the different sizes of clothes that would be needed, it would take two of ASDA's articulated lorries to carry the range they would need. Instead people were asked to order the clothes after the show and pre-paid items would be delivered in four weeks or if not paid for in advance picked up from the Dumbarton store.

'Carol and I have been speaking on the phone for a couple of months,' said Eilidh. 'We had to get the outfits and sizes right because we couldn't just nip back to the store if we forgot something.'

'One of our colleagues on the check-out is a donor for the Anthony Nolan Trust and we raised money last year for her expenses to pay for her to go and act as a donor,' explained Eilidh, 'so we were already involved with the Anthony Nolan Trust and that made us say yes even quicker to coming to Oban.'

Carol said that the money raised would be added to the other funds raised over the year at various events and presented to the Anthony Nolan Trust at the Daisy Ball, in Glasgow, later in the year.

The next fund-raising event on the Oban friends' calendar is a coffee morning, but look out also for four of the volunteers walking the Great Glen Way, the charity shop in Oban Youth Café in George Street and the abseil down St Columba's Cathedral on June 10.



Milkmaid Cilla, Scarecrow Gary, doty farmer Kevin and cowhand Artie meet some of their young audience at the Corran Halls in Oban before the start of the show. t17kat01

## Singing animals, singing audience, Singing Kettle

ONCE again The Singing Kettle was in Oban, bringing its own colourful brand of music and entertainment to the young ones of the area.

This time milkmaid Cilla (Fisher), scarecrow Gary

(Coupland), doty farmer Kevin (MacLeod) and cowhand Artie (Trezise) have been left in charge of Old MacDonald's Farm, where they have been left with a list of jobs to do and

some singing animals. The result is a hilarious adventure, with a few well-known songs along the way, like Old MacDonald's Farm, Three Crows and Music Man. Some of the children

in the audience had come dressed up or with face paint to take part in the show. Artie told *The Oban Times* that Oban's Corran Halls had one of the most lively participating audi-

ences and was sometimes a little 'wild'. The Singing Kettle has been performing to young audiences all over the country for many years and the performers still love doing it and have a unique rapport with their young audiences. 'I like this particular tour,' said Artie. 'We have done it every spring and it is a great way to see Scotland. We see it before the tourists come and at the best time.' The Singing Kettle's eight-strong crew has already seen Rothesay, Campbeltown and Dunoon and is heading south of the border in May and June.



All the volunteer models were given a rapturous round of applause at the end of the evening's show - especially the children. t17no03

## Ballet West welcomes back Amanda

Ballet West outreach programme is so glad to welcome Amanda MacArthur-Sloss back after her maternity leave.

Amanda, now a mum of two beautiful children, will be back on May 1 2006 to teach all of her old classes. Ballet West are all looking forward to seeing her, and are sure her little dancers will feel the same. She is a very talented teacher who has a special gift for bringing out the best in her dancers from tiny tots to the senior students. Anyone who has been taught by Amanda is sure to agree.

Her classes are great fun and new dancers are always

welcome, classes are designed for all age groups and abilities.

The outreach timetable has classes in Oban, Taynuilt, Fort William, Campbeltown, Connel, Gairloch and Ullapool. There has never been a better time to take up dance. For further information on all Ballet West classes - 01866 822641

**McTavish's**  
OBAN AND FORT WILLIAM  
Restaurants and Scottish Show  
**OPENING FOR THE SEASON**  
Fort William - Friday April 28th  
Oban - Monday May 1st  
For further information  
Tel: 01631 563064 (Oban)  
01397 702406 (Fort William)



Karen MacPhee and Vincent Kennedy bravely volunteered to be models at the fashion show. t17no01

## Bach Choir performs for Oban evening

OBAN Bach Choir and Orchestra performed two major pieces on Saturday evening for a small but appreciative audience in the Church of Scotland, Oban.

Handel's Ode for St Cecilia's Day opened pro-

ceedings with conductor Norman Nicholson also playing organ and harpsichord. Following a short interval, the second half of the programme was William Boyce's Ode to St Cecilia. Cecilia is the patron saint of

music and widely depicted by various musical instruments, particularly the organ and many artists and poets found inspiration in her. Her feast day, November 22, became a tradition firstly in London, then further afield.



Oban Bach Choir and Orchestra performs at the Church of Scotland Centre in Oban. t17 bac01

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**Kyle of Lochalsh**

Your correspondent is Charlie MacRae: 01599 544359



**Work starts on Plockton pitch**

AFTER an 11-year campaign, the first turf has been cut for the new Plockton High School/community synthetic pitch.

On a very wet morning, with ducks swimming on the Ross Memorial Pitch which is to be replaced, speeches were held in Plockton High School.

Eight young pipers then entertained guests and led them out to the pitch. Duncan Ferguson, headmaster, thanked everyone who had made it an historic day for the school and the community, thanking especially Highland Council, Skye and Lochalsh Enterprise and the Lottery Fund.

Robert Anderson, treasurer of Lochalsh Sports Association, also spoke. He was deputising for chairman Hugh Macquarrie who was unable to be present.

Two third-year pupils, Lee Butcher and Innes Thompson, cut the turf and the company then enjoyed refreshments in the hostel.

John F Munro MSP was also present along with councillor Biz Campbell, who had campaigned vigorously for the pitch, and Drew Miller Portree.

**Concert fun**

PLOCKTON Drama Club held a concert in Plockton Hall on March 27 to raise funds.

Plockton Primary School



**Pedal power boosts lifeboat funds**

Members of The Beach in Oban have been on their bikes for a very good cause. They were sponsored to ride exercise bikes and pedalled their way to an impressive £1,200 for Oban lifeboat station. Robin and Denise Morton, far left and right, presented the cheque to lifeboat coxswain Ronnie Mackillop and Lorraine McCracken of the Oban lifeboat committee.

and Plockton Drama Club both presented the plays they had performed at recent festivals.

The following evening in Plockton Hall, Lochan presented Stellar Quines, the women's contemporary Scottish Theatre Group, with its latest production *Perfect Pies* by Judith Thompson, directed by Maureen Beattie. An audience of 52 people enjoyed the evening.

**Drama finals**

THE HIGHLAND division drama finals took place recently over three evenings at the Assembly Rooms, Wick.

**Potato passion**

PLOCKTON Hall was full on Saturday April 1 when Plockton and District

Horticultural and Arts and Crafts Society presented Allan Roman's illustrated lecture 'A Passion for Potatoes'.

He was introduced by Marion Love and thanked by Iain Matheson.

The event winners were Thurso with Wick second and they will go forward to the Scottish finals at Pitlochry. Stornoway were third.

**Weather at Plockton**

WITH just over eight inches, March proved the wettest month so far this year and was double that of March 2005.

The highest temperature was 11°C and lowest -4°C.

The producer was Jill Charnley and the stage managers Kathleen Webster and Dave Charnley.

The men made a short visit to Scalpay village where they called at a knitwear shop looking for a gent's hand-knitted sweater. I was the shopkeeper at the time.

**Weather at Plockton**

WITH just over eight inches, March proved the wettest month so far this year and was double that of March 2005.

The highest temperature was 11°C and lowest -4°C.

will be coming to Mallaig in mid June with author Diane Lacombe, the writer of three historical romances set around the mythological Mallaig Castle in the 1400s. A reception in the local hall is being organised.

**Mallaig**

Your correspondent is Robert MacMillan: 01687 462154

**Mallaig Community Council**

A MEETING of Mallaig Community Council, chaired by Mr J MacMillan, was held recently in the community hall. Among the items discussed were:

**Marine National Park:** Council members agreed that because of a lack of consultation an objection to the Scottish Natural Heritage plans for a west coast Marine National Park should be made.

**Visitation:** Around 40 French Canadian visitors

attending school/college in Fort William.

However the proposed evening return time of 17.10 leaving Fort William was not so well received with councillors agreeing a time of 17.40 or 17.45 would be more appropriate.

**Parking stays:** Jim Tolmie of TEC Services is to be contacted regarding parking bays in Loch Nevis Crescent.

**Litter:** A joint initiative with Morar Community Council regarding the placement of litter bins along the A930 between the villages is being actively pursued.

**Climate change:** A community conference on climate change is to be held in Strontian next month.

**Scalpay**

Your correspondent is D Morrison: 01859 540217

**A voyage more or less**

I RECALL years back a sloop calling into the North Harbour and berthing by the landing stage, with three male crew members coming ashore and a female navigator left on board.

The men made a short visit to Scalpay village where they called at a knitwear shop looking for a gent's hand-knitted sweater. I was the shopkeeper at the time.

**Advantage of good weather**

YOUNGSTER Kevin MacDonald, aged 16, of Scalpay, a pupil of Sir Edward Scott School, Tarbert, took advantage of the recent good weather. Kevin climbed Beinn-a-Chaolais, one of Harris's highest peaks, in the good weather.

He made it to the top of the mountain, overlooking the sound of Scalpay and Scalpay Bridge.

Bein-a-Chaolais is the modern name for this mountain. Its original name was Uishveal, derived from the old Norse when the Norwegians occupied the Western Isles.

that they were scuba divers.

On arriving at Rockall, they had gone out in a rubber dinghy to the base of the rock and two divers had jumped into the sea and pulled themselves ashore while the other person stayed in the dinghy.

The lady navigator stayed on board the sloop until the mission by the three men was accomplished and then they set sail for Harris.

The two men who arrived at the top of the rock saw the plaque Tom McLean had left.

On the sloop's arrival at the outer or western opening of the Sound of Harris, a coastguard vessel approached and made inquiries to be told of the sloop's mission. When the coastguard officers were satisfied with their interview, they left the sloop to follow on until its arrival in the North Harbour, Scalpay.

Unfortunately I forgot to ask the name of the sloop or their names, but perhaps if they see this they could respond to me at home.

**Around the Rurals**

**Tobermory**

AFTER business matters, members of the Tobermory branch of the Scottish Women's Rural Institute (SWRI) moved across the road to An Tobar for art appreciation and experience.

Lee Hedrick, art director, took members round the current exhibition by Mhairi Killin called 'Long Night Moon' and explained how artists translate their experiences and inspiration into pictures and objects.

Everyone then sat down to paint the flat stone they had been told to bring. The challenge was to describe what they had done that day in a design on the stone.

Needless to say every stone was different; all were imaginative.

The ladies were then challenged to make the stones into a sculpture. First of all the ladies arranged the stones in a close group, then like a question mark and finally in a random scatter, all of which summed up a very interesting evening.

**Fionnphort**

MARGARET Whitton made a welcome return to Fionnphort SWRI for the April meeting when she demonstrated the art of 3D decoupage.

Margaret explained the different techniques and illustrated these with examples of her own work. Particularly striking was a box-framed cascading fuchsia, which illustrated not only her skill as an artist, but just one of the different ways of using the art form.

**Morar**

NINE ladies attended the April meeting in Lady Lovat School. The theme for the evening was dolls' houses.

Edith Knowles from Fort William brought some examples of her fascinating hobby. She described how she uses almost anything to build the fixtures and fittings. The detail was amazing, from the beautiful little hat shop and florists to the hardware shop she built inside a box file. Thank you once again Mrs Knowles.

The usual business was discussed at the end of the evening. Competitions: decorate an Easter egg: 1 Dorothy Simpson; 2 Ann Currie; 3 Christine Haynes; 4 Linda MacLean. Victoria sponge: 1 Eileen MacPhie; 2 Heather Simpson; 3 Mary Ferguson; 4 Dorothy Simpson.

**Torosay**

THE ANNUAL general meeting of Torosay SWRI was held on Tuesday April 4 when the president, Janet Ackroyd, welcomed members to the meeting.

After the statement of accounts and the minutes had been approved, Elma Tyson was elected as treasurer to replace the retiring treasurer Pam White.

The president thanked Pam for all her hard work and efficient handling of the accounts. Business completed, members enjoyed a cheese and wine party, always a popular event to round off the year's activities.

A suggestion was made by a member to change the times of meetings in November, December and February as these months are the most likely to have dark, stormy weather making members disinclined to travel.

It was agreed to adopt this system next year with meetings being held in the afternoons from 2.30 to 4.30pm, possibly on a Saturday.

**Salen**

ALL BRANCH members enjoyed the annual dinner at The Bellachroy Hotel, Dervaig, where they said farewell to Carol Casey as she is moving to Dundonnell, Wester Ross.

She was presented with one of Ingrid Cable's beautifully crafted cockerels.

Kathryn Campbell of Tobermory SWRI was welcomed to the April meeting to demonstrate the Dutch craft of 'iris folding'.

She brought with her some of the delightful cards she had made previously and demonstrated how she used colourful insides of envelopes and coloured wrapping paper to create different shapes. The effect is not dissimilar to the iris of a camera lens.

Everyone attempted to make their own creation and the results were most impressive.

Anne and Eileen provided tasty refreshments and the competition for 'an arrangement incorporating items from the sea shore' was won by Eileen Storach, with Jan Fuller in second place.

A year of most interesting speakers will be rounded off with the annual general meeting on May 3 at 7.30pm in Salen Church when there will be a display of community work.

**Dervaig**

ON APRIL 5, members were entertained by an illustrated talk by Dr Bill Clegg.

He described walks that he had enjoyed and photographed. These ranged from wild and not-so-wild parts of Mull, through the Scottish mainland to spectacular locations in Madeira, Cyprus and Spain.

As ever his superb photographs were not just of the countryside but included detailed shots of the local flora and fauna.

The intimate details of the beautiful flowers that he knew and had recorded were especially entrancing.

Tea was served by Joan Davies and Mary Corsar.

The next meeting is the annual general meeting on Wednesday May 3 in the church hall.

**Kilbrandon**

THE APRIL meeting of Kilbrandon SWRI was held in the small hall, Easdale.

Speaker for the evening was the Rev Liz Gibson, associate minister of Kilmore and Oban, and hospital chaplain.

Liz shared her enthusiasm for Fairtrade, with which she has been involved for more than 20 years. Fairtrade is not a charity, but it guarantees producers a fair and stable price for their products that covers their costs and enables them to support their families and invest in a better future.

By relating first hand accounts of those whose lives have been transformed by Fairtrade, Liz reminded members it is a powerful and effective way to help people struggling to survive.

With more than 1,000 products carrying the Fairtrade mark, from coffee to cotton and roses to rum, there is something to appeal to everyone. Each purchase makes a real difference, so members were pleased to be given the opportunity to buy the range of products Liz had brought with her.

The vote of thanks was given by Julie Ferris.



**Work starts on new Plockton pitch**

Pictured at the turf cutting ceremony for the new community all-weather pitch at Plockton are Duncan Ferguson, headmaster of Plockton High School, pupils Innes Thompson and Lee Butcher and Robert Anderson, treasurer of Lochalsh Sports Association.

**Girls' concert boosts funds**

TWO YOUNG wildlife enthusiasts from Bonawe put on an outdoor concert on the shores of Loch Etive.

Roisin McGillivray and Tierney Carter, both aged nine, sang and performed with their guitar and recorder. Practising for weeks beforehand they then asked local

**North Argyll House daffodil tea**

people, walkers and cyclists to come along for the show.

Their two concerts raised a total of £64 for the Scottish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds Scotland.



Cakes, flowers and refreshments were provided by helpers at the annual daffodil tea at Oban's North Argyll House. Pictured above, left to right, are Janice Kincaid, Fiona McKillop and Maureen Munro. 115da002

**Choir leads way on Gaelic**

AN EAST coast Gaelic choir, which includes a number of native speakers, has agreed to follow a 'Gaelic policy'.

Lothian Gaelic Choir regularly competes in the Royal National Mod and is working harder on promoting the language at all times. It will spend more rehearsal time on conversational skills and learning the language and use Gaelic materials as much as possible.

The choir says it wants to contribute to national efforts to resurrect Gaelic to 'its former status as a community language'.

**Choir leads way on Gaelic**

Choir president John MacLeod said: 'I'm confident we will be able to give our members increased confidence to use and develop their knowledge of Gaelic.'

Choir conductor Jackie Cotter said: 'We have a good number of native speakers and fluent learners already so this is a good opportunity to help those keen to improve their language skills.'

Lothian Gaelic Choir won the prestigious Lovat and Tullibardine Shield at the National Mod in Fort William in 1999.

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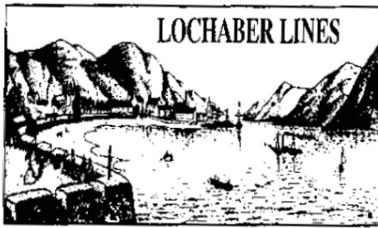
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INVERNEVIS House Action Group has sent out a mayday call for the future of care services at the council-run care home.

The group formed to fight the council's proposals to close Invernevis and hand over the care of the elderly to the vagaries of the private sector is holding a rally on Monday May 1 at 7pm in Caol Community Centre.

It is hoping that many of the 4,000 or so who signed a petition in support of the status quo will attend and send out a Belford Hospital-style message which the politicians and officials would be foolish to ignore.

MSPs and councillors have been invited to attend but don't hold your breath on all attending.

Chairwoman of Highland Council's housing and social work committee councillor Margaret Davidson informed an action group member: 'I don't do public meetings.'

To be fair to Mrs Davidson, who claimed £26,625.98 in allowance and expenses last year, spring must be a busy time at her Abriachan Nursery.

The chances are that Fergus Ewing MSP will attend as it seems the man is prepared to work day and night for his constituents. According to a northern weekly tabloid, Fergus is holding surgeries in Caol and Fort William tomorrow (Friday) between 12.30pm and 3.30am. See you in Caol on Monday night.

UP IN Inverness last week, when a fellow heard we were from the Fort he felt compelled to relate his gastronomic experience in the Gearasdan.

After a hard day trying to sell cars the Invernessian and a female colleague retired to a town centre hotel where they enjoyed a bar meal of ample proportions. The saleswoman, although satisfied, was unable to eat half of her main course. The couple sat back waiting for the plates to be removed and for an offer of sweets. They waited and waited as the barmaid tripled-up as waitress and receptionist in the hotel, which has an award for investing in people!

After 15 minutes or so a young man supping a pint at a nearby table approached and, looking directly at the lady, asked, 'did you enjoy your meal?' Assuming he was an off-duty member of staff assisting the harassed barmaid they jointly replied, 'yes, thanks,' with the young lady adding, 'it was just too much for me!' The pint man lifted up the half-eaten meal, returned to his table and shouted over 'waste-not, want-not, that's what my mother told me,' as he ravenously tucked in to the leftovers.

FOR YEARS FWCC stood only for Fort William Community Council but with the formation of the cricket club we will have to think twice when we see those initials.

The cricketers are working hard in preparation for their debut season in the northern league. Rob Cameron, ex-northern counties player, member of Middlesex county Cricket Club, thespian, public announcer and 68-year-old retired school teacher, has been tempted back.

Rob told us that training is more strenuous than he remembers and cited the fielding exercises for being unable to rise from his seat to buy a round at the bar when out with friends. Perhaps Rob should stick to a bottle of claret in his members' enclosure at Lords.

IN THE future it might be the sound of leather on willow and not hickory for Fort shinty supporters as there are claims that the pitch at An Aird is in such a poor state that the club may have to play all its games away from home.

For those unable to follow the Gearasdan globetrotters it may be Saturdays spent at the BA sportsfield, at the Castle End, with a picnic hamper and sharing Rob's claret.

For whatever reason, be it an infestation of rabbits or blocked drainage, An Aird has, in a short space of time, been turned from a showpiece surface into the worst ground in shinty.

Time for ex-groundsman John Sandison to be brought back as a consultant?

CHARLIE'S Challenge 2007: At this time of year the Modfather's thoughts turn to the Scottish Six Days' Trial and for Billy Voisey and the boys he has come up with phrases to get them out of trouble.

Can you give me a push? 'An urrainn dhubh mo putadh?' (Uhn ur-ing yeev moh fut-ugh?)  
I have a flat tyre. 'Tha taidhit iséal agam' (Ha tier eeshal ak-am).

The engine is overheating. Tha an t-einnsean a' fas ro theth' (Ha uhn tain-shin uh faas ro hai).  
Mod lotto numbers for last week were 3-14-17 but with no winner tonight (Thursday) the jackpot reaches £1,000.

Lochaber Past Times - from the archives of The Oban Times 100 years ago

THE SEA harvesters are on the move through the Caledonian Canal from east to west to the fishing grounds to the north and west of Ireland.

The east, or Buckie, wind prevails, and the passage west is very much facilitated by this seasonable occurrence - a sort of Caledonian Canal monsoon or trade wind.

Members of Knoydart Shinty Club enjoyed their annual match at Inverie.

Captain Stewart's team beat Mr Huggans' side by two goals to one.

Shareholders of the Fort William Town Hall Company agreed to sell the town hall for the sum of £710 to Fort William Town Council.

Lochaber District Council considered the road surveyor's report that a sum of £712, the cost of a town hall, was required to widen and improve the Fort William to Ballachulish road.

The work was needed since demand had increased because of a motor car service run by West Highland Railway Company and the large number of vans and other wheeled vehicles passing over it in connection with the water works at Kinlochmore.

As this would mean a large increase in rates, the council sanctioned only a small expenditure with a view to seeing how the road would stand the traffic during the drier summer months.

40 years ago

TRAFFIC management occupied the town council with an investigation into the possibility of building a multi-storey car park at Viewforth Place and a survey, conducted by Lochaber High School pupils, which looked at parking patterns in the High Street in the proposed meter zone area.

A record crowd at the Bught, Inverness, watched a thrilling MacTavish Cup Final between Kilmallie and Newtonmore.

With virtually the last hit of the game Kilmallie's Dougie MacLachlan scored a dramatic equaliser.  
'Lochaber Football Rumpus' ran the headline for the story that Kinlochleven United FC had its application to join the Fort William and District League turned down for late submission.

Newly-elected president of the club Alan McLean said: 'We will join the Oban league. We're finished with Lochaber for good.'

# Supermarket could sink waterfront

AMBITIOUS plans for a multi-million pound redevelopment of Fort William's waterfront could be sunk if developers are granted planning permission to build a new supermarket on the edge of town.

At a meeting of the Highland Council's resources committee in Inverness last week, councillors agreed to move forward with plans to create a new town centre development along the shore of Loch Linnhe in Fort William by inviting local companies to bid for the work.

However, Fort William Community Council has voiced concerns that the plans, which are anchored by a new supermarket, could be blown out of the water if proposals to build a new superstore in the town's North Road, which are currently out for consultation, are approved.

Community councillors agreed that while they are not in the business of turning new developers away from the town, the plans for the waterfront, which includes a mixture of retail and housing development, as well as offices, a hotel and a marina, remained the community council's priority.

The community council believes a new out of town supermarket would empty the High Street instead of enhancing it.

**Rejuvenate**  
Meanwhile, it feels the proposed waterfront development would rejuvenate Lochaber.

Fort William Community Council chairwoman Patricia Jordan said: 'If a new supermarket is looking to come into town we want it to be at the waterfront to enhance what we already have instead of taking busi-

ness away.' However, despite supporting her colleagues, community councillor Mary Bruce said: 'A lot of people in the town view the waterfront development as pie in the sky and they don't think it will ever happen.'

The Highland Council is confident the long-awaited waterfront development, which has been dogged by controversy, will be built in Fort William - regardless of whether a new supermarket is built elsewhere in the town.

Local Councillor Neil Clark, who was at both the Highland Council meeting in Inverness and community council meeting in Fort William last week, said: 'We have agreed to put out to tender the development of the waterfront and hope to be able to make an announcement by the end of May.'

# Police tackle rising motorcycle deaths

POLICE are tackling the rising number of accidents involving motorbikes in the Highlands.

In 2004 six motorcyclists lost their lives in road accidents in the Highlands and reducing casualties was the key concern of a motorcycling safety seminar held this week in Inverness.

As the number of motorcycles in Scotland and the Highlands increases year by year, so does the number of accidents involving motorcyclists.

A new government road safety strategy, Tomorrow's Roads: Safer for Everyone, sets out casualty reduction targets for 2010 including achieving a 40 per cent reduction in the number of people killed or seriously

injured on Britain's roads. Northern Constabulary and Highland Council jointly organised the day-long seminar to highlight the extent of the problem and to look at practical ways of how they can reduce the statistics.

Delegates will hear presentations on a variety of road safety issues, including education, engineering and other issues relating to safety and examining changes to the motorcycle test in 2008.

There will also be information about schemes already in place across the Highlands and Islands, such as Bike Safe and Bike Aid. Northern Constabulary road safety officer Laura Fisher said: 'One of the force's strategic priorities is

## Fort William Sheriff Court

### Driving ban for Caol teenager

A CAOL teenager who broke his back in a road accident has been banned from driving for one year after being caught behind the wheel without a licence.

Brian Tolmie, aged 16, of Camesky Road, Fort William, admitted a series of road traffic offences when he appeared at the town's sheriff court last Thursday wearing a full body brace.

He was charged with driving without a licence or insurance, and with a fraudulent tax disc, in Caol's Moss Road on December 17 last year. The accused also pled guilty to driving without insurance in nearby Moor Road on December 20 2005.

Defence agent Hamish Melrose said his client had bought a car for £150 and was taking it in turns with his mates to drive around the car park behind the Caol Co-op.

Mr Melrose said: 'My client was employed by a local cleaning firm but is currently signed off sick and is not expecting to be able to return to work for at least another year.'

In addition to the driving ban Tolmie was fined a total of £300.

Sheriff Desmond Leslie said: 'If it's not been brought home to you the dangers of driving without a licence or insurance then it ought to have by now.'

### Selling fireworks costs shop keeper dear

SELLING fireworks to children has cost the owners of a Fort William shop fines totalling £400.

Richard Grant, aged 35, and his partner Deborah Grant, 34, who run the Spar shop in Claggan, pled guilty to the offence in a letter to Fort William Sheriff Court last Thursday.

The pair were charged with selling a box of fireworks to two teenagers, both aged 16, on two separate occasions last year - October 31 and November 1 2005.

The court heard that the shop was caught on camera by trading standards officers working undercover during a national campaign to clampdown on the sale of fireworks to young people under 18.

Prosecutor Fiscal Alison Wylie said that although the accused may not have handed the fireworks over the counter themselves, they were ultimately responsible.

Sheriff Desmond Leslie, who noted that the shop owners had decided to ban the sale of fireworks in their store in future, fined both Richard and Deborah Grant £200 each.

### Butchers' van caused Duror accident

A CAR was sent spinning off the road near Duror after a butcher's wife drove a three-and-a-half tonne refrigeration van on the wrong side of the road and collided with oncoming traffic.

Bed and breakfast owner Sheena Wynne, aged 51, of Fassifern Road, Fort William, admitted a charge of careless driving when she appeared at the town's Sheriff Court last Thursday.

She was driving the vehicle on the A828 road between Connel and Ballachulish on February 22 when she crossed over the solid double white line and smashed into the side of two vehicles travelling in the opposite direction - sending one car down a grass embankment.

The court heard that no-one was hurt but all the vehicles involved in the incident suffered some damage.

Prosecutor Fiscal Alison Wylie said: 'The accused

stated she could not believe what she had done and thought she may have drifted off at the wheel.'

Defence agent Hamish Melrose blamed a 'momentary lapse' in concentration for his client's driving on what is a relatively straight part of the road and pointed out that she had been driving for 32 years without incident.

He explained that the accused had been driving the van, which belonged to her husband's butchers business, back to Fort William from his shop in Oban.

Mr Melrose said: 'Mrs Wynne is embarrassed and nervous about appearing here in court.'

Sheriff Desmond Leslie also fined the accused £150.

### Man threatened to shoot boy

A FORT William man who threatened to shoot a nine-year-old boy has been admonished after staying out of trouble.

David Logan, aged 37, whose address was given as Lochaber Road, Upper Achintore, was charged with conducting himself in a disorderly manner when he appeared at the town's sheriff court last year.

He was accused of threatening to shoot the boy, who cannot be named for legal reasons, and making actions as if firing a gun. His sentence had been deferred for a year to allow him to be of good behaviour.

### Lithuanian driver banned

DRIVING in Caol without insurance on New Year's Eve has cost a Lithuanian man a £150 fine.

Ramunas Sakurskas, aged 23, of Annat View, Corcaph, pled guilty to the offence when he appeared at Fort William Sheriff Court last Thursday.

He was charged with driving a vehicle without



Councillor Brian Murphy and members of the council's waste strategy sub-committee at the new recycling centre.

# Recycling challenge for new Lochaber centre

A NEW recycling centre which opened in Lochaber last week will help the area recycle 18 per cent of all its waste - a challenge set by Highland Council.

It is hoped this can be achieved together with the kerbside collection of paper and garden waste in Fort William and the expansion of a recycle-point network.

Lochaber householders now have the opportunity to recycle a vast array of household items from garden waste, soil and rubble to scrap metal, cardboard, tyres, white goods and car batteries.

Around 1,000 tonnes of material will pass through the site annually and the recycling rate is expected to be around 65 per cent.

Members of the public using the site are asked to assist in making the site run efficiently by segregating their items for recycling before arriving at site.

Because of the introduction of this new service, the Fort William mobile skip service ceased with effect from Saturday April 15.

Councillor Brian Murphy said: 'I am delighted householders in and around Fort William now have a purpose-built centre for their recycling waste.'

'People can bring along a wide range of items and the more we can recycle, the less ends up going to landfill sites. I hope as many people as possible take advantage of this new, excellent facility.'

The Recycling Centre is located at the Ben Nevis Industrial Estate.

It will be open seven days a week from 10am to 5pm April to September and 10am to 4pm October to March.

# Awards galore for Argyll and islands hotels

HOTELS and guest houses around Argyll and the islands have been popping up in their scores at the annual Scottish Hotels of the Year Awards 2006.

Among the winners Cairnbaan Hotel, Mid Argyll, took the Scottish Small Country Hotel award, as well as very highly commended in the Scottish Hotel Bar Food award; Scottish Guest House of the Year was Glengorm Castle on Mull; the Ardanaiseig Hotel, near Taynuilt, was named Scottish Romantic Hotel of the Year; the Ardeoniag Hotel, Killin, was joint Scottish Hotel Breakfast of the Year winner and Highland Cottage in Tobermory, Mull, was awarded Scottish Island Hotel of the Year.

In the north, Inverloch Castle, Fort William, Glenfinnan House and a number of Skye-based hotels also picked up awards.

The winners of the prestigious awards were announced at a ceremony in The Radisson Hotel, Glasgow, on Sunday, at the start of the VisitScotland Expo Week 2006.

Not only did the west Highlands have a significant number of winners in the various categories, the judges highlighted many more as runners-up, very highly commended or even highly commended.

Among these were Port Charlotte Hotel, Islay; George Hotel, Inveraray; Dun na Mara, Benderloch; Argyll Hotel, Iona; Balmakill House, Tarbert; Airds Hotel, Port Appin; The Colonsay Hotel, Colonsay; The Royal at Tighnabruach; Swallow Oban Caledonian, Oban; Harbour Inn, Islay; Machrie Hotel and Golf Links, Islay; and Scarinish Hotel, Tisee.

The awards were not just confined to the hotels themselves but also to the people who work within them.

Robert MacPherson of the Isle of Eriska Hotel was very highly commended in the Scottish Hotel Chef of the Year; Peter Webster of the Ardanaiseig was commended in the Scottish Island Hotel of the Year category; and Paddy Crerar of Crerar Hotels was commended in the Scottish Hotelier of the Year section.

The hotels are voted for by the general public and a panel of judges and this year, after 600 votes were disallowed by an independent returning officer, 23,656 votes were counted.

More than 300 nominations were received when the process started in November last year and a wide range of organisations, including VisitScotland.com, and media, including The Oban Times' sister publication Scottish Field have been involved.

## Police files

### Rock breaker stolen

SOMETIME between the evening of Tuesday April 18 and the following morning a 'pecker' or rock breaker was stolen from the car park at Nevis Range, Anach Mor.

The pecker is an attachment for a digger similar to those found on pneumatic drills. It bears the logo 'TAKEUCHI' in red letters.

### Boatshed broken into

SOMETIME between April 12 and April 20 a boatshed on the shores of Loch Eil was broken into and damage caused to boats stored inside.

### Church pot damaged

SOMETIME between 5.30pm on Thursday April 20 and 8.55am the following day damage was caused to a large flower pot at Kilmallie Parish Church in Corcaph.

In another incident, at about 2am on Sunday April 24, a porch window was damaged at a house in Glen Nevis Road, Caol.

ANYONE with knowledge of these incidents is asked to contact Fort William Police Station on 01397 702361 or the confidential line on 01397 702000.

Members of the public may also report any crime or offence or anything suspicious by telephoning Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

# Councillors debate anti-social strategy

CONCERNS over alcohol misuse, noise disturbance and vandalism dominated a debate by Highland councillors on an anti-social behaviour strategy for the area.

A report considered by the council's resources committee outlined the final draft of a joint strategy prepared in conjunction with Northern Constabulary. The final draft of the strategy covers the period 2005 to 2008, taking into account a range of statistical information and public opinion.

It identifies five objectives; tackling alcohol misuse which contributes to antisocial behaviour; encouraging responsible driving; improving and sustaining environmental quality focusing on dog

fouling, litter, noise, neighbour complaints, abandoned vehicles and fire setting; tackling inequalities by working with specific communities more likely to be affected by antisocial behaviour and aligning public services to work better with communities and improving the planning, delivery and review of services.

With members' agreement of the draft strategy Highland Council can access funding of £855,166 over the next two financial years from the Scottish Executive.

Carron McDiarmid, Highland Council's head of policy said: 'The strategy will help tackle these and other issues in a more co-ordinated way with the relevant agencies working together.'

GLASGOW LETTER

Calum late for his own funeral

WE HAVE all used the expression 'you will be late for your own funeral'.

Usually we think that would not be possible but for Calum Kennedy it was. The service was delayed because of traffic problems and apparently this was totally in keeping with Calum's reputation as a poor time keeper.

The funeral service took place in St Columba's Church of Scotland, Glasgow, on Friday April 21 and was conducted by minister of the church the Rev Donald Michael MacInnes.

There was a large turnout of representatives from all walks of life to pay tribute to an entertainer who was probably the first to successfully bridge the gap between Gaelic and English audiences.

This was very much a service to celebrate the life of Calum Kennedy.

Neil Fraser, who also gave a Gaelic reading, talked of his 'memories of Calum', Robbie Shepherd spoke of 'Calum, the lad I knew' and eldest daughter Fiona related 'a few memories' of her dad.

Phil Cunningham and Ally Bain played some of Calum's well-known tunes, grand nephew Darren MacLean gave a beautiful rendition of *Oran do Mhacleoid Dhun Bheagain* and niece Christine Davidson (Kennedy) read a poem 'A Tribute' by Tom Aitchison.

Members of the three Glasgow Gaelic choirs contributed by singing a peur a beul and then sang Psalm 65 to the very moving arrangement of Joseph Mainzer.

Alasdair Beaton read from the Old Testament and the Rev MacInnes in his address spoke of the endearing qualities of Calum, emphasising in particular how, despite his success, he was at ease in all types of company.

It was fitting the service took place in Glasgow where Calum and his family spent so many happy years and were supporters of the local Highland scene in its hey day.

In particular they were stalwarts of Knightswood Highlander's Association and the girls were members of Knightswood Junior Gaelic Choir.

A memory of this service will be the excellence of the music, in particular the congregational singing, and I am sure this would have pleased Calum. He would also have been delighted with the piping of Pipe Major Roddie MacLeod and what could be more appropriate than the tune played at the close of the service being *Make your way to Stormoway*.

The crofter's son from Lewis had given so much pleasure to thousands throughout the world.

We extend our sympathy to his six daughters and the extended family as they mourn the loss of a wonderful dad and friend.

The 'Wee' Skye

AT ONE time it looked as if this concert would be well named but fortunately a fair number of patrons turned up and it turned out to be a most enjoyable evening's entertainment.

The proceedings were amiably chaired by Bill Innes who made sure that the link between stage and audience was one of total relaxation.

In between items he reminisced about young days in South Uist and talked about the successes of many of his classmates schooled in three rooms with corrugated iron on the roof.

In those humble surroundings they studied Shakespeare and Latin and they probably only spoke Gaelic when they went to

school! What would our modern day pupils think as they sit in their classrooms surrounded by thousands of pounds worth of technology!

Bill also expressed his delight at the resurgence of traditional music as exemplified by students of courses such as at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama and it was great that this concert should feature two such students.

Maevie MacKinnon, a graduate, sang and Fiona MacAskill, a first-year student, gave a virtuoso fiddle performance. They were ably supported by Mary MacMillan, Gordon McKeever and Calum MacArthur and with Norma MacDougall as accompanist and Scott Smart as piper the evening's entertainment was assured. Well done to everyone concerned.

Don't miss Ceol is Craic

FOR ITS April meeting Ceol is Craic has changed venue, for this event only, to The Corinthian, Slouch Bar, Ingram Street, Glasgow, where it will meet at 8pm on April 28.

And what a night of varied entertainment it promises to be. It's a Ness night and what could be better although I might be slightly biased on this one!

The strong Gaelic and artistic community that exists in the 16 villages that make up the most north westerly community in the European Union will be showcased.

With my Niseach parentage I have always been aware of the musical traditions of the area and it is extra pleasing to see that it has become possible for a wider audience to share this wealth.

Taigh Dhonnchaidh, the former Ness house of Major Duncan Morrison, is the focus within the community where adults and youngsters are able to ensure that their valuable past will not be lost to future generations. For those of us in Glasgow this is a unique opportunity to hear some of this tradition in what promises to be a wonderful evening.

Diary dates

**Friday April 28:** Ceol is Craic - see above. Helensburgh Highlander's Association, ceilidh dance, Commodore Hotel, 8pm. Glasgow Uist and Barra Association, ceilidh dance, Whitefield Road Community Hall, Ibrox, 9pm-1am.

**Thursday May 4:** Comunn a Taobh-an-Iar, annual general meeting, 7.30pm. Lesser Kessington Hall, Bearsden. Please note change of date.

**Friday May 5:** Edinburgh Argyll Association, closing ceilidh, St Mark's Church Hall, Lothian Road, 7.30pm. Cumbernauld Gaelic Choir, annual concert, guest artiste Jenna Cumming, Cumbernauld Village Hall, 7.30 pm. Tickets available at door or from Nora Morrison 0141 332 8146.

**Saturday May 6:** Clann Gaidhlig Gaelic Learners' Day, Paisley University, 9.30am - 4pm, £15. For further information telephone 01475 715 450 or email

Alasdair.law@inverclyde.gov.uk

**Tuesday May 9:** Clydebank Highlander's Association, annual general meeting. Please note change of date from Monday May 8.

Pub scene

THIS weekend Calum Iain McCorquodale will be playing in the Park Bar on Friday and Saturday with Eriskay Lilt playing on Sunday.

In the Islay Inn it will be Hell for Leather on Friday, Tir Conail on Saturday and John Carmichael on Sunday.

**Neil Murray, telephone 0141 954 8105. Email neilmurray@yahoo.co.uk.**

press policy

WE AT *The Oban Times* do our utmost to make sure that all our reports are fair, accurate and balanced, but we accept that, on occasion, mistakes can occur in the hectic process of producing the biggest local newspaper in the West Highlands. It is the policy of *The Oban Times* Group to correct any errors in print. If you find an error of fact on our pages please write to The Editor, *The Oban Times*, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 5PY giving your day-time telephone number where possible. This statement of policy will appear on this page every week along with any corrections or clarifications.

*The Oban Times* adheres to the Press Complaints' Commission's Code of Conduct.

The views expressed in *The Oban Times* are not necessarily those of this newspaper.

Alexander Paterson

THE FAMILY of the late Alexander Paterson of Oban have asked us to point out that Mr Paterson died in Inverclyde Hospital, Greenock, and not Paisley Royal Infirmary as stated by us from a press release issued by the Scottish Prison Service.

We apologise for any distress this might have caused.



Oban select football team 1957/58

This week's flashback photograph is of the Oban select football team which played Kinlochleven in season 1957/58. Pictured, back row, are: D MacInnes, J Cameron, R Galbraith, A MacCallum, D Brogan and H May. Front row: I MacCorquodale, committee, D MacIntyre, I MacPhail, A Whyte, I Campbell, M Bryan, and J Hart, committee. The photo was submitted by I Campbell, Inverlorn, Tainuilt. We would like readers to send in 'Flashback' photographs. Please send prints to *The Oban Times*, 'Flashback' Photo, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB. Prints must be accompanied by a caption, name and address, stamped addressed envelope and telephone number. Each month a photo will win £10.

Letters to the Editor

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Second home owners pay their way

Sir, Mr Macaskill believes second home owners contribute little to the local economy, despite the fact they pay his council 90 per cent of the normal Council Tax rate in return for minimal use of its services.

His major objection to an 'absentee tax' appears to be that Argyll and Bute Council would not benefit from the extra revenue generated.

He might like to ponder the fact that second home owners in Argyll are afforded no franchise unlike those, possibly Scots, owning second homes in most English counties. Clearly his objective is to squeeze as much taxation as possible out of the part-time residents of this beautiful county on the basis that they could never vote him out of office.

'No taxation without representation' was a rallying cry during the American War of Independence. It has remained a guiding principle of civilised democratic societies ever since. It is unfortunate Mr Macaskill and his colleagues should consider themselves independent of some of those helping to pay their salaries.

Easdale Island trust concerns

Sir, I must congratulate George Doyle for his witty summary of how so many residents feel on Easdale Island concerning the loss of employment for the museum curator and, in my opinion, questionable activities of Eilean Eisdale Ltd (EEL), the island's 'community trust'. To add to our disappointment I have heard that at a recent public meeting following an

alternative suggestion put forward by an island resident to an EEL proposal for waste management, the spokesman for the directors stated he believed there could be as many ideas as there were people but they, the directors, were elected to make decisions and should be left to get on with things. He also added that different residents coming up with other ideas was not helpful. How's that for involvement of our community?

As far as I know not one of us has been asked if we have any ideas for dealing with the waste problem and, he's right, there are various suggestions.

Apparently the spokesman stated that the directors would be keeping funding applications 'confidential' in future. This is not new. EEL directors have consistently refused to give residents prior information about its projects. Most recently, information was withheld about the museum purchase plan and perhaps now we know why - the job of curator has been lost. Previously, we were

denied information about the 'community' land purchase. Even earlier, very little was said when the post of hall manager was eventually lost because of a lack of income.

For those of us trying to tackle the problem of what seems to be a vocal minority pushing through schemes with deliberate exclusion of the views of full-time island residents, life becomes a mixture of being subjected to intimidation, being 'sent to Coventry' and accusations of being the authors of 'poison pen letters'. Well, yet again, I'm expressing my views. Well done George Doyle for having your say too.

Tina Jordan, Easdale Island. Right name

Sir, In *The Oban Times* of April 20 you signed me off as Gerry Doyle. *You might think me somewhat frantic Perhaps a tad pedantic I'd cross the wide Atlantic To hear my name right said*

*I used to drive the ferry My name though isn't Gerry Yes I've been to Londonderry But I'm a scouser born and bred Your error quite appalled me*

*It's George my parents called me This little bearded bald me Will be George until I'm dead.*

George Doyle, Ferry House, Easdale Island.

Support our soldiers

Sir, I refer to Mrs Janet MacDonald's letter in *The Oban Times* of April 20. Perhaps she would agree that it is not the soldiers she should be 'heartily ashamed of' but the politicians who determine the policies under which they operate.

Personally, I feel reassured we have such a professionally trained team to help protect our homes from every crackpot individual and regime that might want to take this away.

**Keith B Stephen, Merryell Park Avenue, Glasgow.**

Wrong place for turbines

Sir, The application by Largie Estates, Tainuil, by Tarbert, to erect seven wind turbines, concerns me.

I am in favour of renewable energy and accept that wind power has a role to play in a balanced energy strategy. However I am opposed to inappropriately sited turbines.

It is obvious that the longer term impact on tourism has not been adequately assessed.

Surveys of visitors demonstrate clearly that the number of potential visits into areas where wind turbines are situated will be reduced significantly - by at least 25 per cent. Such a reduction will seriously damage the economy, reduce employment and have a knock on effect on almost every other business.

The Scottish Executive is quite clear in its pursuit of renewables and in particular wind energy. It is also committed to a 50 per cent increase in revenue over the next 10 years from tourism, yet here we are with no 'joined up' policy on where wind farms should and should not be sited.

Unfortunately the tourist industry in the area is made up of many small businesses and the 'big picture effect' is not easy to assess. If, however, this development was to result in the closure of a 250-employee company, what would the decision be?

We need to ensure that those we vote in to represent our views, locally and nationally, are taking into account what the implications are of this dash for wind power at any cost. It is possible to site turbines sensitively with due regard to preserving some of the finest scenery in Europe. It is the unique scenic beauty of Argyll and Bute which is the number one reason why visitors come here and we should fight to preserve it.

**Tony Harrison, chairman, Isle of Bute Tourism Ltd.**

A VIEW FROM THE TOWER

By McCAIG



At long last

SCOTLAND'S newest Tory List MSP Dave Petrie said jokingly he was delighted that, on his first day in the Scottish Parliament, he was the obvious cause of Transport Minister Tavish Scott making his long overdue announcement that real money is to be spent on the A82 trunk road.

It runs from Dumbarton to Inverness and is the lifeline link for almost every town and village in the West Highlands and beyond.

Councillor Duncan MacIntyre, transport spokesman for Argyll and Bute Council, perhaps has a little more right to claim some of the credit as he and his colleagues on Hitrans had fought long and hard to get the A82 the priority it deserves.

Indeed, when I interviewed First Minister Jack McConnell more than four years ago about the dreadful state of the A82 he had to admit that it wasn't even on the roads priority list but he did admit it had to be included immediately.

While we may feel that it has taken an awful long time for anything requiring capital expenditure to reach the stage where a positive announcement of significant expenditure has been made, even I have to admit that the necessary backroom work has been done quickly.

Like it or not, a decade is a very short time in the planning of such major expenditure and that time frame has been beaten.

Those who have carpied about the time to be taken should be only too glad that the cash has been ring-fenced for the A82 and especially for that section from Tarbet to Inverarnam where the blind corner traffic lights are to vanish and a tunnel is to replace them. This is estimated to take five years from the date of the announcement. The probability is it will take less if the creation of the tunnel goes smoothly.

So much depends on the improvement of the A82 as the economic case, published last year, shows. Let's ensure that there are no time-wasting hold-ups by cranky objectors.

How rich is rich?

A WELL-KNOWN Sunday broadsheet has published its annual supplement of the alleged 1,000 richest people in Britain and has got it more than slightly wrong as usual.

The research that goes into compiling such is pretty facile as it does bring to public attention those who are pretty ostentatious about their wealth but fails to capture those who keep quiet about their cash and live very comfortably but not to the extent that they attract the attention of the gossip columnists.

I know some people who each year laugh at the fact

that they are far better off than some of those who appear in one or more of the 102 pages of the supplement but are sufficiently astute to keep their real wealth between themselves, their brokers, and the Inland Revenue if they must.

I also know one or two of those who have appeared in previous issues and have been credited with enormous wealth when in fact they weren't even millionaires - the late Duke of Argyll was one. He was credited with assets of £30 million when, in fact, the castle and lands are owned by a trust from which he received an income. After protest, he was dropped the following year.

This list may make fascinating reading but don't put too much credence on it as it fails to list many who are better off than those who appear in it.

'Adrift In Caledonia'

NICK Thorpe's story of how he sailed around Scotland on 50 boats that did not belong to him gives rise to the subsidiary title: 'Boat-hitching for the Unenlightened'.

It's a terrific yarn and judging by its sales is heading for the best-seller lists and merits an award far more than some of the pretentious volumes that have been honoured.

When I met Nick recently we had a terrific time as we both love the sea and have gained great pleasure from it, but have always had that regard and respect for it that allows us to enjoy it without coming too near to losing our lives.

Wherever Nick went he encountered people who had a particular story to tell. I liked his encounter with George Parsonage, who has pulled more suicide victims out of the Clyde than Burke and Hare ever stole from graveyards.

When asked why he used a rowing boat rather than a motor boat Mr Parsonage explained that cries for help can be heard above the splash of oars but not of a motor.

In and around the Oban area and the Hebrides the greatest enemy was the voracious midge. How he and his fellow sailors coped with them you must read for yourself. But be warned sea kayaking from Oban to Fort William really tests anyone determined to sail round Scotland and not miss out any stretch of water.

Monks in a coracle heading for Iona, a nuclear submarine, the Lighthouse vessel *Pharos* and a leaky trimaran off Shetland all play a part in Nick Thorpe's *Adrift in Caledonia - Boat-hitching for the Unenlightened*, published by Little Brown at £12.99.

*McCaig*

DE THA DOL?

An Ceanadach

DH' FHÀG sinne, Gàidheil agus Goill, slàn aig Calum Ceanadach ann an Eaglais fear ainme, Eaglais Naomh Chaluum Chille, eaglais Gàidheil Glaschu, Dihaoine seo chaidh.

Agus ged nach eil mise ag agairt naomhachd as leth Chaluum chòir bha a' cheart uimhir meas air Calum Ceanadach ann meas nan Gàidheil, is a bh' air Calum Cille fhèin.

Bha e follaiseach gun robh an cuimhneachain fhèin air Calum, mar sheinneadair agus mar charaid, aig na bha an làthair an Eaglais Naomh Chaluum Chille an lath' ud agus 's e binnead a chhùil agus Gàidhead a nàdur a bha nar cuimhne - mòran againn a bha eòlach air bho na làithean sona nuair a bha Anne, a bhean ghràdhach beò, agus an teaghlach òg man cuairt dhaibh.

'S e Super-Star a bh' ann an Calum, chan ann dha na Gàidheil a-mhàin ach dha na Goill cuideachd agus bha seo air a dhearbhadh gu làidir dhomh na b' anmoiche feasgar Dihaoine nuair a bha mi aig cruinneachdadh ann an Talla Bhaile bheag againn fhèin far an tug iomadach neach, a bha anns an Talla an oidhche sin, iomradh air an t-seirbheis agus iad air fhàicinn air an telebhisean. Bha iad a' bruidhinn air an tlachd a bha Calum air a thoirt dhaibh agus cho math is a bha na prògraman telebhisean a' b' abhaist dhaibh a bhith a' coimhead.

Bha aon boireannach ag innse dhomh mar a chaidh i fhèin is bann-charaid - Goill a bh' anna le chèile - bliadhnaichean air ais, a dh'èisdeachd Chalum ann an taigh-cluiche an Glaschu agus mar a sheas iad fad tri uairean a thide ga fheitheamh gus an tigeadh e amach is gu sgrìobhadh e ainm air na

prògraman aca. 'Cha robh sinn air a dhèanamh airson neach sam bith eile agus tha am prògram sin agam fhathast.'

Ach chaidh a' chuibhle mun cuairt agus tha ar co-fhàireachdainn leis an teaghlach a tha ga chaoidh.

Phrases

Dh' fhàg sinne slàn aig Calum Ceanadach ann an eaglais fear ainme - we said farewell to Calum Kennedy at the church of his namesake. Agus ged nach eil mise ag agairt naomhachd as leth Chaluum chòir - and although I am not claiming sainthood on behalf of Calum. Bha a' cheart uimhir meas air Calum Ceanadach ann meas nan Gàidheil is a bh' air Calum Cille fhèin - Calum Kennedy was as well liked by the Gaels as he was Saint Columba himself. Bha e follaiseach gun robh a cuimhneachain fhèin air Calum aig na bha an làthair - it was obvious that all who were present had their own memories of Calum. 'S e binnead a chhùil agus Gàidhead a nàdur a bha nar cuimhne - we were remembering the sweetness of his music and the generosity of his nature. Agus bha seo air a dhearbhadh gu làidir dhomh na b' anmoiche feasgar - and this was certainly proved to me later in the evening. Bha iad a' bruidhinn air an tlachd a bha Calum air a thoirt dhaibh - they were speaking of the pleasure Calum had given them. Agus mar a sheas iad fad tri uairean a thide ga fheitheamh - and how they had stood for three hours waiting for him. Cha robh sinn air a dhèanamh airson neach sam bith eile - we would not have done it for anyone else. Tha ar co-fhàireachdainn leis an teaghlach a tha ga chaoidh - our sympathies are with the family who are mourning him. Criosaidh Dick.

# Pennyghael's dream to kick start its economy steps nearer fruition

A DREAM to kick-start the economy of a part of Mull with the retention of a village hall has come nearer to reality with new grant funding.

Pennyghael Development Association (PDA) is to receive £66,910 towards the £85,000 needed to purchase Pennyghael Community Hall – formerly Pennyghael School – from Argyll and Bute Council.

Although a different body, Pennyghael Community Association has run the hall for the last 22 years and there was always the fear of demolition.

Now the well-used hall can be saved for future generations and exciting plans are in the pipeline to extend the premises to cater for all kinds of festivals, as well as the arts, and for local groups and organisations.

A limited opportunity for jobs is also envisaged.

One thing being considered is using the hall for tourism, possibly to meet a demand in the area for low-cost

bunkhouse accommodation and as a place for visiting earth science students.

Development association secretary Charles Pease said the PDA had been determined not to see the closure of the hall, its inevitable demolition and the loss of an irreplaceable community asset, used by many different groups, there being no other suitable building in Pennyghael.

The PDA could bring extra employment to the area with plans for a cyber-café. About 250,000 people a year passed the school which makes offering refreshments a viable proposal.

The PDA now has to raise £140,000 for repairs, which Charles Pease admits could take some years.

However, Mr Pease said: 'Pennyghael Hall is the very centre of community for Pennyghael and it's environs but it has also, in recent years, extended its involvement

and cooperation throughout Mull and Iona. Events that take place at the hall have far wider connections than just the immediate 'community'.

**Food festival**

Mr Pease continued: 'The very successful annual food festival, for example, has drawn attendees and visitors from all over the island.'

'The bi-annual art exhibition, now in its 20th year, goes from strength to strength.'

'An Tobar and Mull Theatre are eager to have connections with Pennyghael, so their world class events may reach to the Ross of Mull, giving the population on the Ross access to events that at the present time seem far away. There is a growing artistic community on the Ross of Mull and at present there exists no local outlet to exhibit their work.'

'The hall is in a prime situation to bring all these things

together and become a hub with strong links and association to the rest of the island.

'Pennyghael is ideally situated as a mid point between Tobermory and Fionnphort and Iona. This point could easily be exploited to create a place where north and south can realistically come together.'

The hall is used for many different activities including indoor games, training young athletes, wedding receptions, Christmas dinners for the elderly, Christmas parties, satellite doctor's surgery, a polling station, college courses, art and history exhibitions, ceilidhs, dances and parties, films, food festivals, coffee mornings, public talks, an emergency facility, a theatre and rehearsal hall and local business office space. Mr Pease said the PDA was indebted to Jenny Murray who gave a substantial initial sum in memory of her late husband, Dr David Murray, which enabled the project to begin.

## Recycle revival

THE MULL and Iona Community Trust charity shops are attracting so many donations they are now recruiting more staff and volunteers to help run them and to open more days of the week.

Whether it's a wardrobe, a bicycle, surf board, paperback books or good quality clothing that you want to buy the aptly named Island Castaways shops will have it in stock.

Mull and Iona Environmentally Sensitive Solutions (MESS) operations manager Mairi MacKinnon said: 'The charity shops were set up to provide an outlet for second hand goods and to promote the 'Reduce, Re-use, Recycle' message.'

'The residents on Mull and Iona have really taken the shops to heart and we're struggling to display all the goodwill donations that we receive. We are continually looking at ways to improve our displays and shopping at Islands Castaways.'

'As part of this process we are looking for an additional part time charity shop manager for Craignure, allowing our existing charity shop worker to concentrate on the Bunnessan branch of Island Castaways.'

The trust opened its first charity shop in Bunnessan in June 2003 as part of its recycling initiative - the MESS Project.

Such was the success of the shop, a second shop, opposite the Craignure ferry terminal was opened last year. Since then more than £4,000 has been donated back to good causes, and more than 16 tonnes of reusable items such as furniture, bric-a-brac and clothing have been reused rather than end up in landfill. Get in touch with the Mull and Iona Community Trust office (telephone 01688 302851) if you are interested in volunteering or the job of shop manager.

# Broadband expected in May?

THE ISLE of Iona is due to get broadband in May, but the islanders are not holding their breaths.

The island was promised the service last summer and a lot of people went out and got ready and bought ADSL micro filters and USB modems and routes only to be disappointed.

British Telecom broadband-enabled the Fionnphort exchange but this did not cross the water to Iona. It has been a sore subject ever since.

Angus Johnston, who runs the bookshop on the island said: 'As a community we were asked to sign up so they could get the necessary numbers required for the Fionnphort exchange to be viable to be broadband enabled.'

'It was supposed to happen last August and it did on the Mull part of the ex-

change but not on Iona. He added: 'You try to contact BT and you can't; it's not the same people who sell the broadband that are handling it now.'

'A week ago we were told it would be working within the next fortnight so that's now a week away but we aren't confident.'

**Wait**

'They used our declarations of interest to get the numbers to enable the exchange but we have had to wait.'

Apart from the social and entertainment aspects of broadband, the arrival of the service would have important implications for the island and be a great support to the Iona economy.

The Iona Abbey is a site of world importance; people come from far and wide to visit the cradle of Scottish Christianity.

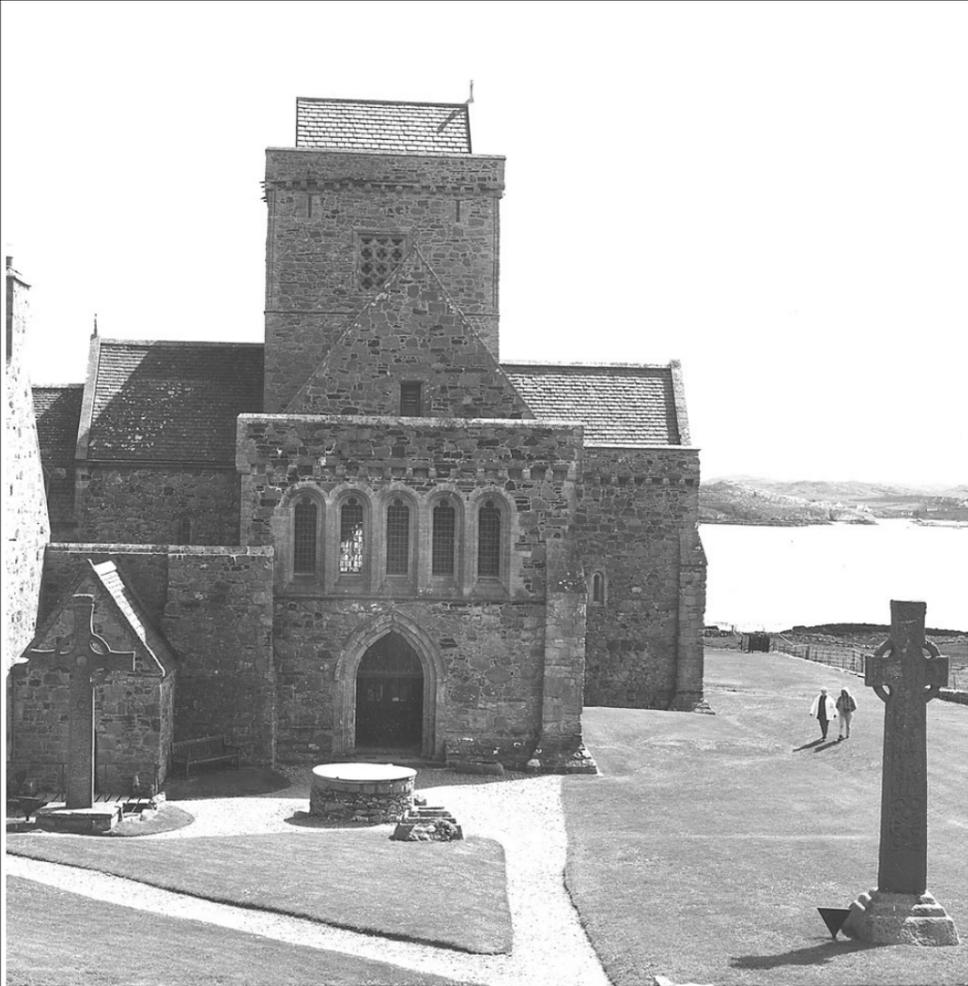
Businesses on the island would also prosper.

Mhairi Killin, the woman behind the new St Columba Steadings project told *The Oban Times* how useful broadband would be to all the crafts people who are now working out of the steadings.

'Our businesses are seasonal, without a doubt. We are all very, very busy for six months during the season then we have the Christmas gift market. Broadband would help us to develop our markets.'

The ordinary dial up service is painfully slow compared to broadband and to have the service on the island would help them all to develop their web pages and their ability to sell on the internet.

As *The Oban Times* went to press no-one from British Telecom was available for comment.



Iona Abbey continues to attract visitors from throughout the world

## Iona a 'must' for choirs

THE ISLE of Iona is fast becoming a must as a venue for choirs.

So far this year there has been a performance by the Cruachan consort on Maundy Thursday. Conductor Stephen Williams took his 'dream team' to Iona Abbey on Maundy Thursday and St Conan's Kirk, Lochawe on Good Friday. They are drawn from choirs in Manchester, York, Glasgow, Birmingham and Barcelona.

This weekend there will be a performance by the Manning Chapel Memorial Choir of Acadia University, Wolfville, Nova Scotia.

This tour, titled Pilgrim Song, will be a highlight for the choir. The original Manning Memorial Chapel Choir was formed in 1963 under the direction of Professor Leonard Mayoh and in short order received national critical acclaim.

Along with grand cathedral settings, the choir will also be presenting concerts in a number of smaller communities as well as singing for worship services at Iona Abbey, and St. Mary Abbott's, Kensington.

Later in the month the Alma College Choir of Michigan will perform at the abbey.

## Wednesday workshops at busy Iona Abbey

EASTER is one of the most beautiful times to visit Iona and the Iona Community and the Abbey reports that it had a vibrant and busy Easter.

'It's a great time to be on the island,' said Richard Sharples, warden. Amongst the people coming to the

community at the abbey this summer is Paul Chandler, the chief executive of Traidcraft, one of the original fair trade organisations.

Members of the public can also join in with life at the Iona Abbey community by attending Wednesday work-

shops. These cover a diverse range of subjects and offer people a chance to engage with members of the Iona community around issues close to their heart. They are in The Chapter House at the Abbey from 2.15pm to 3.15pm giving plenty of

chance for people to go over to the island, have a look round join in the workshop and return home.

The subjects range from ecology and prophecy; words and witness from South Africa; asylum seeking in Britain; peacemaking;

the Israel-Palestine conflict; practical Celtic spirituality and even the world of computers. On July 5 the subject is Peace, Justice and Gaelic. Murdoch McKenzie and Joy Dunlop will be looking at the connections between the three.

## Mull hosts biodiversity conference

MULL will play host to the annual local biodiversity conference for Argyll and Bute.

The event, to be held on May 30 at Craignure Hall will be opened by Hugh Raven in his capacity as director of the Soil Association and will be chaired by Ken MacDonald, political correspondent of BBC Scotland.

The conference aims to celebrate achievements in biodiversity. Conference organiser Marina Curran-Coltart told *The Oban Times* that the event promises to appeal to a wide audience from community groups, farmers, crofters, the tourism industry and those interested in marine biodiversity and the business sector.

Presentations at the meeting will include Mull and Iona Community Trust on community-led projects, Richard Fairbairns on exploring the wonders of Mull's biodiversity; SEERAD the effectiveness of agri-environment schemes and SAMS on marine biodiversity.

## Ruined farm steadings become new arts and crafts complex

IONA has a prestigious new arts and crafts complex with the superb transformation of an old byre.

It was a byre that boasted one of the best views in Scotland, in the shadow of Iona Abbey with a Bronze Age burial cairn in front.

Now, after two years in the building, the St Columba Steadings Arts and Crafts Complex is open for business.

The idea was conceived by local artist Mhairi Killin. In partnership with The National Trust for Scotland, her aim was to provide af-

fordable, well-equipped workshop and retail premises, in an ideal location, for local artists and crafts people.

At a stroke over 10 per cent of the island's resident has benefitted economically from this development.

Working to exacting standards of renovation, given its proximity to one of Scotland's biggest tourist attractions, Iona Abbey, local stonemason Colin MacDougall helped by Andy Dougall has lovingly restored the ruined farm steadings.

With internal features by Scottish artisans, the buildings themselves are a beautiful addition to the architecture of the island; Sheena Devitt created slate carvings on the internal woodwork and Brian Innes did the interior woodcarvings.

The architect was George Keith of Hugh Martin Partnership, Edinburgh, who gave his services free of charge, he was so passionate about the plans to save the old building.

The old troughs from the byre are now planted up in the garden outside.

First on board with the funding was Whelk Leader-, which offered vital support and helped secure funding from Argyll and the Islands Enterprise (AIE), The Highland Fund, The SJ Noble Trust and through the auspices of the National Trust for Scotland, The Russell Trust.

The St Columba Steading project has encouraged local people to develop their creative and business skills has offered an economically sustainable future for 11 micro businesses and has created a diverse and lively

centre of activity on Iona. The businesses are Mhairi's own business, Aosdana, a craft cooperative of nine small businesses called Oran Creative Crafts and a knitwear business, Issy on Iona.

For Mhairi it is not just the realisation of a dream it is also a chance to get her home back, as she has now moved her own business out of her front room and into the Steading. Her work features Iona silver and other jewellery from local stone and fine art textiles. Issy on Iona sells knitwork designed and made by Issy Galbraith.



Margo MacCormick, left, and George Keith declared the St Columba Steadings open at Easter

**The Oban Times GENERAL KNOWLEDGE DOUBLE CROSSWORD No. 430**

ACROSS

- 1992 Formula One motor racing world champion (5,7)
- Carlos, Argentinian president who succeeded Raul Alfonsín (5)
- 8 and 19 Across. Flagship of Columbus on his 1492 voyage to America (5,5)
- Symbol of rebellion and anarchy chained to a rock in Blake's *The Book of Urizen* (3)
- Carnivorous arthropod having a body of between 15 and 190 segments (9)
- Isaac, scientist noted for his law of gravity (6)
- Brandy, distilled from cherries, made chiefly in the Black Forest in Germany (6)
- 1651 philosophical work by Thomas Hobbes (9)
- The silver *Abies alba*, is an important timber tree of Europe (3)
- Strong light synthetic polymer used in the manufacture of textiles and moulded articles (5)
- See 8 Across
- 1991 U.S. Open golf champion (5,7)

DOWN

- Province of Canada whose capital is St. John's (12)
- Mr. Chaney, actor who starred in the 1925 film *The Phantom of the Opera* (3)
- Oval-shaped nutlike edible seed of the tree *Prunus amygdalus* (6)
- 1941 Alfred Hitchcock film starring Joan Fontaine (9)
- David, New Zealand prime minister elected in 1984 (3)
- English horror author whose works include *The Rats* (5,7)
- Large tropical American parrot with a long tail and brilliant plumage (5)
- Early type of modern man, *Homo sapiens*, who lived in Europe during Palaeolithic times (3-6)
- Capital of Bulgaria (5)
- Dylan, poet who wrote *Under Milk Wood* (6)
- Pancho, Mexican revolutionary assassinated in 1923 (5)
- Tall annual grass, *Secale cereale*, used in whiskey distillation (3)

QUICK CLUES ACROSS

- Incapability (12)
- Ravine (5)
- Lift (3)
- Blind (3)
- Pedigree (9)
- Force (6)
- Sly (6)
- Laxity (9)
- Hint (3)
- Heading (5)
- Horridy (5)
- One-sidedly (12)

QUICK CLUES DOWN

- Incoherent (12)
- In favour (3)
- Craving (9)
- Porcelain (5)
- Without pity (12)
- Brightness (5)
- Blit by bit (9)
- Surpass (5)
- Leave (6)
- Repeatedly (5)
- Equality (3)

SOLUTIONS TO LAST WEEK

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE - Across: 4 Abidjan; 8 O'Brien; 9 Felicit; 10 Ginger; 11 Hitler; 12 Auto-da-fe; 18 Humboldt; 20 Bel-Ami; 21 Drosico; 22 Seattle; 23 Saturn; 24 Cypress.

Down: 1 Douglas; 2 Granite; 3 Legend; 5 Blesheim; 6 Duluth; 7 Archer; 13 Achilles; 14 Olympus; 15 St. John's; 16 Celery; 17 Carter; 19 Boreas.

QUICK - Across: 4 Approve; 8 Render; 9 Console; 10 Dainty; 11 Relief; 12 Constitute; 18 District; 20 Cringe; 21 Arrant; 22 Opposed; 23 Parcel; 24 Primate.

Down: 1 Produce; 2 Ancient; 3 Fetter; 5 Progress; 6 Result; 7 Valley; 13 Indecent; 14 Infamy; 15 Stately; 16 Proper; 17 Inform; 19 Threat.

**20 Years Ago**

Those Were The Days  
**The Oban Times** Thursday 22 April 1986

**Jackpot winner has gone fishing**

A FORT William man who won £19,000 on the pools has put off receiving the cheque - to go fishing.

Bruce MacAuslan was checking the Ladbrokes Pools results on Saturday and knew he was in the running for a windfall.

Bruce, who lives on Henderson Row, works as a chemical plant operator at the Wiggins Teape Mill at Corpach and says he is planning a good holiday with his wife Pat after his win.

He was due to be presented with the cheque by Ladbrokes as *The Oban Times* went to press but informed the company he had already booked a day's fishing that day.

Ladbrokes agreed to postpone the presentation.

**Harbour Trust seeks bite at £39m EEC cherry**

THE BOWMORE Harbour Trust on Islay is hoping to reverse the destructive silting process which has been taking place in the harbour in the last 20 years by seeking European money.

The trust committee is seeking a slice of the £39million EEC funds allocated to Scottish islands because they want to develop the centre as a safe and sheltered moorings for yachts and water-based activities in general.

John Cameron, trust secretary, said: 'The harbour dries out completely at low tide. It is barely usable at all. We have had an estimate for the removal of sand, mud and silt and we would need an excavator and two lorries to work for 90 days.'

The pier, harbour and breakwater are under the ownership of Islay Estates Limited which said Mr Cameron 'may preclude any local involvement, financial or otherwise.'

However Mr Cameron added that in offering a lease of the harbour to the community, Islay Estates have suggested the possibility of local initiative securing financial backing from other sources.

Widespread subsidence has caused structural defects says the trust and the seaward 30metres of the pier is now approaching a condition which 'might well be considered hazardous especially to children.'

**Campbeltown Shipyard launches new £1million boat**

CAMPBELTOWN Shipyard launched its first £1million-plus boat this week, the 87-foot *Boy Andrew* which will be heading to Wick.

The *Boy Andrew* has been built for skipper Andrew Bremner and partners of the Bremner Fishing Company Limited of Wick.

The vessel, which was named by the skipper's wife Ulla Bremner, will be the most sophisticated boat of her size in the Scottish fishing fleet when she comes into service next month.

Managing director of Campbeltown Shipyard Les Howart said: 'It is an absolute triumph having got the order which would otherwise have gone to Denmark or Holland. This is the most sophisticated 87ft boat we have built at the yard and is the first to cost over a million pounds. We started building the boat last August and it will be completed at the end of next month.'

*Boy Andrew* is the first Scottish boat to be equipped with a system of conveyors between a hopper into which fish goes when the net is brought aboard, the gutting and washing areas under the shelter deck and the insulated fishroom which has a capacity of 1,800 boxes.

# Rubbish could become a source of lead poisoning warns vet

DISCARDED rubbish, old paint and car batteries are some of a long list of items that could become a source of lead poisoning for cattle, warns vets.

'With cattle due to be turned out to pasture, farmers should be on the look out for lead poisoning symptoms,' says Scottish Agricultural College (SAC) vet Colin Adams.

'Poisoning by lead is still the most common cause of poisoning in cattle.'

'Although outbreaks can occur at any time of the year, both inside and outside, the peak time of the year for incidents is from April to July.'

'Calves are more susceptible than adults, with suckler calves particularly susceptible.'

Food producing animals that have been exposed to substances such as lead, that if transferred to animal

products such as milk or meat, can be potentially hazardous to humans are subject to the Food Safety Act (1990).

The most common factor in lead poisoning incidents is access to rubbish with common sources including old, flaking, lead based paints, lead batteries, discarded sump oil, grease, putty and linoleum.

Before turnout it is a good idea to have a walk round the boundaries of all the fields that turned out cattle will have access to. Any rubbish or identified hazards should be removed or fenced off. Used motor oil should be placed in sealed containers and farm machinery should be serviced away from animals.

There have also been incidents of lead poisonings in grazing animals where high concentrations of lead in the soil have been implicated - mostly seen in areas where lead

has been mined. Cattle, and especially calves, are naturally inquisitive and have a tendency to lick novel objects meaning that a toxic dose can soon be ingested. Poisoning can result from a single ingestion of a toxic amount or from a continued ingestion of lead from the environment.

The onset of the disease and, to some extent, the clinical picture that develops depends on the dose of lead ingested, but Colin Adams says to watch out for a number of tell-tale signs.

Acute cases follow ingestion of a large quantity of lead and clinical signs develop rapidly with neurological signs such as apparent blindness, head pressing, frothing, teeth grinding, fits, and muscle tremors all being apparent. Sudden death is also common.

Subacute cases take longer to develop and animals may

be dull, with loss of appetite, ruminal stasis resulting in constipation followed by diarrhoea, and may also be apparently blind.

Chronic cases are rare.

### Diagnosis and treatment

Other diseases and poisons may show clinical signs similar to lead poisoning. If cattle show signs that suggest lead poisoning, farmers should call in their veterinary surgeon. If cattle die suddenly they should arrange to submit the carcass to their local SAC Disease Surveillance Centre for post mortem examination.

Treatment has to begin early if an animal is to be saved and will normally involve supportive and symptomatic treatments and intravenous injections of lead chelating agents.

## Skye Beef aims for May date

A CATTLE workshop on the Isle of Skye has been rescheduled after it was postponed in March.

The 'Skye Beef' event is set to go ahead next month and aims to offer advice to crofters and farmers in improving the profitability and performance of store cattle production.

Heavy snowfalls caused the cancellation of the first event but many of the original speakers will be in attendance in Sleat.

It is being organised by the Scottish Crofting Foundation (SCF) and Scottish Agricultural College (SAC) and will start from 10.30am on Thursday May 25.

In the morning it will take place at Knock Farm, Toravaig, and in the afternoon it will be at No. 9 Sasaig courtesy of Donald John and Ruairaidh MacInnes.

### Health workshop

There will be a show of stock bulls courtesy of the Crofters Commission and a workshop on cattle health, wintering, feeding and nutrition as well as talks on breeding replacement stock and choosing terminal sires for store calf production.

The SCF's Donald Murdie told *The Oban Times* that it was scheduled for a week-day because many of the speakers are also involved in a similar event in Sutherland two days later.

Mr Murdie said there could be a change from the original programme with the new emphasis on topics from the speakers given the time of year and there could be advice on growing silage.

Entry is free and everyone is welcome.



Cattle met a firm trade at Fort William last week when Dingwall and Highland Marts held their sale at Lochaber Rural Complex

## Strathlinne Charolais to 160.5p per kilo at Fort William

DINGWALL and Highland Marts held its spring sale of cattle and sheep at Fort William where all classes met a firm enquiry.

Bullocks sold to £660 for a 555kg Charolais cross from Glenfaintaig Estate and 160.5p for a 215kg Charolais cross from T MacLean, Strathlinne to average 130.1p.

Heifers sold to £480 for a 414kg Limousin from Nannan Ltd, Knockie Farm and 149.7p for a 177kg Charolais cross from Strathlinne to average 113.3p.

Cows with calves at foot sold to £850 and £820 for Limousins with bullock calf from Knockie Farms.

Young bulls to £395 and 127p for a 311kg Limousin

from Mrs A Wallace, House of Keil.

Cull cows sold to £465 and 77.5p for a 600kg Aberdeen Angus cross from R Anderson, Mucomir to average 69.5p.

Cheviot wedders from No2 Mandally sold to £39.50 and £35.50 Culmill Partners with Blackface from Killundine Estate to £31.

Ewe lambs sold to £30 for Jacob crosses from Drumbuie and 322.50 Kilmonivaig while Texel ewes with lamb at foot from Wood Cottage Croft fetched £60 and £59.50.

gimmers from Ardsheal also selling to £30.

the same home sold to £45.50 and to £28 for Suffolk crosses from House of Keil. In-lamb ewes fetched to £30 for Cheviots from Culmill Partners with Cross

gimmers from Ardsheal also selling to £30.

gimmers from Ardsheal also selling to £30.



Jacob cross ewe lambs sold to £30 at Fort William

## Balgowan bullock tops Stirling

UNITED Auctions had forward 1536 store cattle, 34 cast cows, store and breeding cattle plus 760 store hoggets, grit ewes and ewes with lambs at foot at Stirling on Wednesday.

Bullocks sold to 164p per kilo for a Limousin cross from Balgowan to average 128.9p

Heifers sold to 138p per kilo for a Limousin cross from Dyke to average 122.2p per kilo.

Cast cows sold to 96p per kilo for a Charolais cross off Lom to average at 80.5p per kilo.

## Spring lambs to £90 at Stirling

UNITED Auctions had forward 3084 prime sheep including 2322 hoggets, 102 spring lambs and 660 ewes and rams at Stirling on Thursday with Suffolk spring lambs from West Carse selling to £90.

## Market reports

**FORT WILLIAM - Dingwall and Highland Marts**

**Bullocks** up to 250kg - £345, 144.7p Strathlinne (Char X); £270 Keil Farm, 125.6p No 2 South Laggan (Lim).

251-300kg - £430 Knockie Farm (Lim) and Drumbuie (Char X); 149.8p Drumbuie (Char X); £415, 148.8p Drumbuie (Char X).

301-350kg - £430, 141p Luriginish (Char X).

351-400kg - £505, 139.9p Dhiavach (Lim); £500 Achnaconeran (Sim X) and Dhiavach (Lim), 139.7p Dhiavach (Lim).

401-450kg - £560, 137.9p Luriginish (Char X).

451-500kg - £660, 118.9p Glenfaintaig Estate (Char X).

**Heifers** up to 250kg - £325, 133.7p Luriginish (Char X); £290 Keil Farm (Lim), 124.2p Strathlinne (Char X).

251-300kg - £330, 120.9p Mucomir (Lim); £320, 124.5p Drumbuie (Char X).

301-350kg - £420, 120.7p Luriginish (Char X); £370, 114.9p Dhiavach (Lim).

351-400kg - £425, 119.7p Knockie Farm (Char X).

401-450kg - £480, 115.9p, £470, 113.5p Knockie Farm (Lim).

**Breeding cattle**

Cows with bullock calves - £850, £820 Knockie Farm (Lim).

Cows with heifer calves - £560 Knockie Farm (Sale r X).

In calf cows - £540 Crubenbeg (Shorthorn), £530 Knockie Farm (Lim).

In calf heifers - £510 Knockie Farm (Lim).

**Sheep**

**Wedge lambs**

Cheviot - £39.50 No 2 Mandally; £35.50 Culmill Partners.

Blackface - £31 Killundine Estate; £30 Wood Cottage Croft.

Cross - £24 Killundine Estate.

**Ewe lambs**

Jacob cross - £30 Drumbuie.

Cheviot - £22.50 Kilmonivaig.

Blackface - £18.50 Drumbuie.

**Ewes with lambs**

Texel - £60, 59.50 Wood Cottage Croft.

Cross - £24 Killundine Estate.

**Feeding ewes**

Texel - £45.50, 38.50 Wood Cottage Croft.

Suffolk cross - £28 House of Keil.

Cross - £25.50 Ardornish Farms, £23 Rychraggan.

Blackface - £16.50 Ardornish Farms, £14 Lundavra.

**Gimmers**

Cross - £30 Ardsheal.

**In lamb ewes**

Cheviot - £30 Culmill Partners.

**Rams**

Cross - £18 Rychraggan.

251-300kg - £430 Knockie Farm (Lim) and Drumbuie (Char X); 149.8p Drumbuie (Char X); £415, 148.8p Drumbuie (Char X).

301-350kg - £430, 141p Luriginish (Char X).

351-400kg - £505, 139.9p Dhiavach (Lim); £500 Achnaconeran (Sim X) and Dhiavach (Lim), 139.7p Dhiavach (Lim).

401-450kg - £560, 137.9p Luriginish (Char X).

451-500kg - £660, 118.9p Glenfaintaig Estate (Char X).

**Heifers** - Longyester (CharX) £725, Mossend (LimX) £600, Putechan (SimX) £580, Longyester (SDX) £575, Holmbyre (AAX) £560, Mossend (BBX) £550, West Muirhouses (BAX) £545.

**Bullocks** per kilo - Balgowan (LimX) 164p, Corsecon (CharX) 155p, Craigowmill (AAX) and Ardgate (BBX) 145p, Nether Birkwood (SimX) 144p, Craigowmill (Shx) 134p, Low Boddyston (SAX) 133p, North Cassingray and Carscallan (BF) 103p.

**Heifers** per kilo - Dyke (LimX) 138p, Glenrath (CharX) and Ardmaleish (BBX) 136p, Auchenthothie (SimX) 133p, West Muirhouses (AAX) 124p, Cast cows - Flass (BAX) £710, Flass (AAX) and Craiglaw (SimX) £655, Townhead of Arngibbin (LimX) and Flass (CharX) £635, Wester Mye (Fr) £560.

**Sheep**

Hoggets - Kirkton (BF) £32.20, Feeders - Jaw (Tex) £40, Bovain (Chev) £39, Innishaven (BF) £28.50.

Ewes with lambs at foot - Bordie (Mule and Twins) £120, West Yett (Tex and Twins) £86, Briarlans (Mule and Twins) £78, Bordie (Tex and Singles) £75, West Yett (Mule and Singles) £48, West Bracklinn (BF and Simgles) £35.

**DINGWALL - Dingwall and Highland Marts**

**Bullocks**

Up to 250kg - £385, 160.4p

Balrailan (Lim); £335, 142.6p Burnhill (Lim); £295, 143.9p Cranford (Lim).

251 - 300kg - £490, 157.1p Cranford (Lim); £420 Torrie Gorrie (Lim), 154p Whitebog (Sax); £410 Balrailan (Lim), 147.4p Torrie gorrie (Lim).

301 - 350kg - £505, 165.6p Cloy (Chx); £500, 142.9p Torrie Gorrie (Lim); £495, 143.5p Meikle Geddes (Lim).

351 - 400kg - £605, 160.5p Cloy (Chx); £595 Lower Whitebog (Lim), 154.1p 4 Bualnaluib (Lim); £580 Whitebog (Chx), 148.8p Lower Whitebog (Lim).

401 - 450kg - £630, 148p Raitcastle (Chx); £625, 147.1p 4 Bualnaluib (Lim); £610 Kinnahaird (Lim), 144.8p Lower Whitebog (Lim).

451 - 500kg - £655, 137.9p Top Park (Lim); £630 Boggiewell (Lim), 134.7p Whitebog (Chx); £625, 133p Kinnahaird (Lim).

501 - 550kg - £675, 133.1p Kinnahaird (Smx); £655 Braepark (Chx), 128.7p Springfield (Bisset) (Chx); £650 Springfield (Chx), Raitcastle (Chx) and Wester Coltfoot (Chx), 126p Wester Coltfoot (Chx).

551 - 600kg - £710, 124.6p Wester Coltfoot (Chx); £710, 118.3p Crask (Chx); £675, 119.5p Bayhead (Lim).

601 - 650kg - £765 Hanover (Lim), 123p Crask (Chx); £760 Braepark (Chx), 120.5p Hanover (Lim); £745, 118.3p Kinnahaird (Lim).

**Heifers**

Up to 250kg - £330, 139.8p Resolis Mains (Lim); £330, 132p Knockan (Lim); £290, 131.8p Slattadale (BBX).

251 - 300kg - £410, 146.4p Ardgayhill (Lim); £405, 136.4p Slattadale (BBX); £400, 145.5p Bual (Lim).

301 - 350kg - £470, 139.4p Meikle Geddes (BBX); £450, 128.6p Bual (Lim); £435 Raitcastle (Lim), 128.5p Cloy (Chx).

351 - 400kg - £600, 140.9p Meikle Geddes (Lim, BBX); £550, 137.5p Dunmaglass Estate (Chx); £510, 142.9p 4 Bualnaluib (Lim).

401 - 450kg - £635, 147.1p Conan Mains Farms (Smx); £610, 141.9p Torgorm (Lim); £595, 132.2p Wester Coltfoot (Chx).

451 - 500kg - £650, 141.3p Conan Mains Farms (Smx); £635, 134.8p Achnaannt

(Lim); £620 Wester Coltfoot (Chx), 132p Raitcastle (Chx).

501 - 550kg - £650, 118.2p Torgorm (Chx); £625, 117.9p Boggiewell (Lim).

551 - 600kg - £620, 110.7p Blackpark (Chx).

**STIRLING - United Auctions**

**Hoggs**

Guardswell (Tex) £82.50, North Lambieletham & Easter Ochtermuthill (Tex) £75, HF Arnaig (Chev) £72, Townhead (BF) £63, Bows (BF) £62, Burnshot (BF) £61.

**Hoggs** per kilo: Guardswell (Tex) 187.5p, Leuchars Castle (Chev) 155.8p, St John's Wells (Chev) 151.1p, Gilston (Chev) 152.1p, Newton Of Lewesk (SuffX) 150p, Ben Lawers (BF) 143.5p, Craigen (Mule) 142.8p, Ewes

Langside (Tex) £64, Kinaldy (Tex) £62, Clockell (HB) £59, Middle Ballat (Mule) £44

**DINGWALL - Dingwall and Highland Marts**

**Bullocks** - Up to 250kg - £360 North Calder (AAX), 142.9p Ebst (Lim); £350 Ebst (Lim), 140.8p Ardross Castle Enterprises (AAX); £345 Ardross Castle Enterprises (AAX), 131.7p Linnie (Lim).

251 - 300kg - £450 Glenaldie (Lim), 153.9p North Calder (AAX); £440, 151.7p Linnie (Lim); £425, 147.6p Brenachie (Chx).

301 - 350kg - £505, 148.5p Lyne of Urchanly (Lim); £490, 146.3p Glenaldie (Lim); £490, 145.4p Galcantray (AA).

351 - 400kg - £565 Meikle Geddes (Chx), 148.7p Glenaldie (BBX); £560 Lyne of Urchanly (Chx), 147.1p 4 Glaick (Lim); £550 Glenaldie (BBX), 146.7p Lyne of Urchanly (Chx).

401 - 450kg - £640 Lochbuie (Lim), 150.6p Lyne of Urchanly (Lim); £625 Galcantray (AA), 148.8p Lochbuie (Lim); £610 Dalmore (AA) and Lyne of Urchanly (Lim), 139.5p Galcantray (AA).

451 - 500kg - £665 Ardross (AAX), 139.4p Wester Rarichie (AAX); £650 Aiten (AA), 136.8p Braelangwell (AAX); £640 Wester Rarichie (AAX) and Dalmore (AA), 136.2p Lochduh (AAX)

501 - 550kg - £700, 132.7p Wester Fearn (AA); £695, 134.7p Dalchalloch (AAX); £690, 132.2p North Calder (AAX).

## AUCTION SALE

in Lochaber Rural Complex, Aonach Mor Road

**On Saturday, May 13, 2006 at 11 am**

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**Further entries accepted on Thursday 11th 2 - 7 pm and Friday 12th 9 am - 1 pm**

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in association with Oban Livestock Centre

on

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**Oban Livestock Centre**

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**Contact Ronnie MacCormick West Coast Auctions**

01631 570631 or 07717 435248 mobile

# FISHupdate

The new all sector industry monthly covering... catching - processing - aquaculture

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LOOK AT OBAN



School campus work going well despite delay

WORK is progressing well on Oban's shared primary school campus, despite a report to Argyll and Bute Council stating it could be 10 weeks behind schedule. Construction began in September 2005 on a campus which will see St Columba's and Rockfield primary schools and Drummore Learning Campus share a building but retain separate identities. Drummore was supposed to have decanted at the start of May but that has been postponed because of the work falling behind schedule and the council is now waiting for a revised schedule from the contractors. The council's strategic education policy committee heard a progress report two weeks ago. The report said: 'At present the estimates of how long the delays will range from the most optimistic forecast of three weeks late to the most pessimistic being 10 weeks late. 'However this cannot be clarified with any degree of certainty until the council receives and scrutinises the revised timetable.' The report added that stage two of the work did not appear to be 'compromised'. Under the Public Private Partnership (PPP) contract it is the contractor ABC Schools which is liable for the costs of any delay and the council only starts paying for the new school when it is occupied. The council's capital funding officer Mike Geraghty told The Oban Times that the council would have a better idea of the work's progress after the monthly site meeting took place with the contractors this week but he was not unduly worried about progress. He said: 'I can say that the contractors have been working very, very hard to overtake the backlog in the schedule. Just saying it is nine weeks behind doesn't actually mean it is nine weeks behind. 'The schedule is there but nobody is screaming.' Mr Geraghty said the contractors had completed some of the work in stage two of the timetable and had secured a lot of the materials needed for the next phase. The contractors have also been working Saturdays to catch up on work.



Michael Forbes, young entrepreneur.

Oban man Michael sails ahead to national Shell Livewire finals

AN OBAN boat maintenance specialist has been named Dumbarton, Argyll and Islands Shell Livewire Young Entrepreneur of the Year 2006. This takes 25-year-old Michael Forbes a step closer to becoming overall Scottish winner. Michael won £1,000 at the regional awards, which are sponsored nationally by Shell UK. Although Michael has never sailed, his interest in boats was sparked while at university as he spent summers working for a yacht charter company and a marina. After graduating and travelling the world he spotted a gap in the boat care market and set up his company Forbes Boat Care in July 2005. His company operates in the west of Scotland, carrying out maintenance and cleaning jobs on yachts and motorboats and specialises in care packages which are tailored to the needs of boat owners who don't get the chance to visit their boat regularly. Michael said: 'Winning the Shell Livewire Award is a great boost for my business and will hopefully help it grow further.'



Back, left to right, Andrew Stevenson, Andrew MacPherson, Val Willis, Craig Sinclair, Finlay Wells, Sileas Sinclair, Hector Henderson, partially hidden, and Ally MacKenzie. Middle, Hamish Napier, Deirdre Graham, Magnus Graham and Rona Wilkie. Front, Carina MacLeod, Karen Connor and Anna Massie.

Fèis Latharna a great success

FÈIS Latharna was a resounding success during the Easter holidays. With record numbers of children attending the fèis this year, combined with lovely weather, everyone from the children to the tutors all enjoyed themselves. This year the fèis ran from Monday to Friday giving the youngsters an extra day. The end of week ceillidh was in the afternoon instead of the evening and the hall was packed. All the usual instrumental subjects combined with Gaelic song and drama were taught. Older participants filmed and edited a short comedy video with the aid of tutor Magnus Graham, who has worked on the Taggart detective programmes while Val Willis from Carradale taught some of the younger children who painted some wonderful ceramic plates which may turn up in a future Antiques Road Show! Step-dancing tuition this year was provided by Hamish Napier.



Fèis Latharna fiddle tutor Anna Massie with some enthusiastic fèis students.

Cadets represent Scotland at rugby

THREE young Oban cadets have just returned home after playing rugby for Scotland. Andy said the Oban cadets had done the detachment proud. Company Commander Major Eric Wallace travelled from Glasgow to present the boys with certificates and medals for their achievements although Sandy was unable to attend. The cadets met at the Old Red Cross Centre beside Oban Distillery every Tuesday from 7pm. Boys and girls aged between 12 and 18 are very welcome to come along and find out more about the Oban detachment. There is a whole range of activities and sports on offer including athletics, swimming, hockey, field-craft and football.

Hay falls off lorry

OBAN police received two calls from the public about a bale of hay which had reportedly fallen off a lorry at Connel. The lorry, which was travelling to Oban on Friday April 14, was

stopped by police after a 'round' hay bale had been dislodged. No-one was hurt.

Noise nuisance

REPORTS of noise and disturbance on Breadalbane Street saw an Oban man arrested on April 13 at

around 1.15am. The man was arrested and charged with an alleged breach of the peace.

Car vandalised

A CAR was vandalised on Longsdale Crescent on April 16. Police are appealing for witnesses.

Advertisement for 'desirables' clothing store, featuring 'Want to be Different?' and 'Fabulous Selection for Everybody going to a Wedding!'.

Advertisement for 'Oban Lidl avoids knife sale' regarding concerns over cheap knives.

Advertisement for 'ARMY CADET FORCE' featuring photos of cadets and their officers.

Advertisement for 'Summer Sports and Activities 2006' by Stramash, listing various sports and contact information.

Advertisement for 'FREE Graphic Design' by The Oban Times.

Advertisement for 'CRAFTY KITCHEN' featuring home cooked food and a May exhibition.

Advertisement for 'FOR A DAZZLING DISPLAY OF COLOURFUL PLANTS' by Cakebread's Garden Centre.

To book this property space contact  
**The Oban Times**  
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**01631 568000**  
 or E-mail  
 property@obantimes.co.uk

# WEST HIGHLAND PROPERTY GUIDE

The largest weekly property pages, covering Argyll, West Highlands & Islands. Selling your property? Make sure your advertisement is here in *The Oban Times* - it works! (Seen by more than 40,000\* readers each week.) \*Source: JICREG Reader per copy average from ABC audit.

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 E-mail: admin@morhambro.co.uk



## 'Bridge over the Atlantic' to a charming Ellenabeich cottage!



9 Ellenabeich . . . significantly upgraded

**MODEST** it may be by comparison with some of those lavish properties which tend to grab the headlines at mind-numbing prices, but 9 Ellenabeich, a charming, traditional end-terrace cottage, has the kind of appeal certain to attract discerning purchasers in droves.

**Charm**

While significantly upgraded by the present owners, it retains much of its original charm and character, providing snug accommodation equally well suited as a holiday home or compact permanent residence.

Improvements undertaken include re-roofing and renewed insulation, re-wiring, re-plumbing and a fully relined chimney in addition to an ongoing programme of routine maintenance.

**Principal**

The picturesque conservation village of Ellenabeich is delightfully situated on the Firth of Lorne some 16 miles south of the area's principal town, Oban.

To reach its location on the lovely island of Seil involves crossing the famous 'Bridge Over the Atlantic' in an area of outstanding natural beauty. Services in the

village and surrounding area include shops, primary school, bar/restaurant, a church at Balvicar and, yes, even a golf course.

The accommodation in the cottage includes the vestibule, living/dining-room, kitchen, two bedrooms, a shower room and an attic compartment.

There is a pleasant enclosed garden.

The vestibule, with its tiled floor, leads on to the living/dining room which has windows to the front and rear, an atmospheric beamed ceiling, pine-lined walls with a built-in

cupboard with louvre doors and an operational tiled fireplace.

A compact but highly appealing kitchen displays rear-facing Velux windows and ample floor-standing and wall-mounted units.

**Carpeted**

The larger of the two bedrooms - one to the front, one to the rear - is fitted with a built-in wardrobe. Both are carpeted.

The shower room houses a Mira shower, W.C. and washhand basin and the floor and walls are fully tiled.

**Natural**

A Velux window as well as windows to the side capture natural light. A peaceful, enclosed garden, which lies across the road from the

cottage, is laid mostly to grass, the setting for a variety of mature shrubs and bushes.

**External**

It incorporates a slate patio. There is an external store and immediately to the rear of the cottage are two small yards.

A further area of ground, which flanks the roadside just before the entrance to the main street, is capable of providing ample private car parking.

Offers over £100,000 are being sought for this little gem and these should be submitted to the Oban office of the selling agents, Alexander Dawson.

With interest high, it would not do to linger too long.

www.dmkestates.co.uk  
 01631 566122



**ARDSHEILEACH, HILLVIEW TERRACE, ARDRISHAIG**  
 (Lochgilphead two miles, approximately) Splendid, ground-floor apartment, within a prominent detached Victorian Villa ideally located to take in the far-reaching views across the Crinan Canal and Loch Gilp and convenient for the town centre amenities. The sympathetically extended and well presented accommodation is surprisingly spacious and comprises: Vestibule, kitchen, dining room, living room, inner hallway, three bedrooms, bathroom and conservatory-style study. Gas central heating. Large area of mature gardens, detached garage and range of useful outbuildings.  
**Offers over £155,000**



**13 JURA ROAD, OBAN**  
 Tastefully presented mid-terrace property occupying a good location within the Soraba development and enjoying a south westerly outlook over fields to the hills at Glenshellach. Bright and airy, the accommodation comprises: Spacious entrance hall, through lounge, kitchen, three bedrooms and bathroom. Good storage. Double-glazing. Gas central heating. Gardens to the front and rear. Garden shed.  
**Offers over £98,000**



**23 ST CONAN'S ROAD LOCHAWE VILLAGE, BY DALMALLY, ARGYLL**  
 Charming semi-detached cottage situated in a slightly elevated location, enjoying southerly views over Loch Awe and the mountains beyond. Tasteful décor, with lovely wood work and finishes, the accommodation comprises: Ground floor: porch, through lounge, attractive fitted dining kitchen, with Rayburn, and one bedroom (or study). Upper floor: two bedrooms and bathroom. Double glazed. Central heating. Easily maintained gardens to the front and rear. Single garage.  
**Offers over £110,000**



**BUILDING PLOT AT CONNELL, ARGYLL**  
 This highly desirable building plot occupies a woodland setting set back from the A85 trunk road in the sought after village of Connell and enjoys partial views over Loch Etive. The plot has been cleared and has outline planning consent for a one or one and a half storey dwelling house. Services are available for connection nearby.  
**Offers over £95,000**



**DETACHED GARAGE FOR SALE (5.65m x 3.65m internal measurements) DUNCRAGGAN ROAD, OBAN**  
 Concrete panel Marley-style garage with up and over door and concrete ramp to front. Light and power.  
**Offers over £10,000**

Chartered Surveyors Land and Estate Agents  
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 F: 00 44 (0) 1631 564 764  
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 Ross House Price Guide: £385,000  
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**4 Castle Road, Dunbeg**  
 Price Guide: £98,000  
 Kitchen  
 Lounge/Diner  
 Two Bedrooms  
 Boxroom  
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 Night Storage Heating  
 Double-Glazing  
 Garden with Patio Area

Tel: 01631 565251 Fax: 01631 565434  
 www.macphee.co.uk  
 property@macphee.co.uk

MacPhee & Partners  
 8 George Street  
 Oban, Argyll  
 PA34 5SB

**Alexander DAWSON**  
**MAIN STREET, CONNELL**  
 For Sale: A successfully extended Semi Detached House conveniently situated in this popular lochsideside village. Full double glazing, oil fired central heating. The excellent family sized accommodation comprises Hall, Lounge, Spacious Kitchen/Dining Room, Utility Room, Bathroom, 3 Bedrooms. Easily maintained garden with patio and parking, sheds, store. **Offers over £140,000.**



**ANDERSON BANKS**  
**TIGH A MHONAI DH, NORTH CONNELL**  
 A well presented modern detached bungalow situated in a beautiful rural location with superb outlooks across Loch Etive towards Ben Cruachan. Fully double glazed, LPG central heating. The accommodation comprises: Hall, Sitting-Room, Dining-Room, Kitchen, Bathroom, Shower-Room, 4 Bedrooms. Integral Garage, Greenhouse, Shed, Garden Ground.  
**Offers Over £290,000**



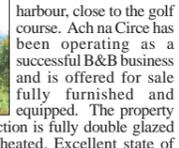
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**GROUND-FLOOR FLAT**  
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 01631 564063 or  
 07749 717 976

**CULLIPOOL, ISLE OF LUING**  
 For Sale: A charming End Terrace Cottage with excellent seascape views, pleasantly situated within Cullipooll village on the delightful and easily accessible island of Luing. Double glazing, electric heating. The accommodation comprises Living/Dining room, Kitchen, Bathroom, 2 Bedrooms. Two further attic rooms. Enclosed garden with off-street parking. **Offers over £100,000.**



**ACH NA CIRCE, WESTERN ROAD, TOBERMORY, ISLE OF MULL**  
 An appealing detached house situated above the harbour, close to the golf course. Ach na Circe has been operating as a successful B&B business and is offered for sale fully furnished and equipped. The property which is of timber construction is fully double glazed and electrically centrally heated. Excellent state of maintenance and decoration. The accommodation comprises: Hall, Sitting-Room, Dining-Room, Kitchen, Bathroom, Shower-Room, 5 Bedrooms. Parking area, Garden Ground.  
**Offers Over £198,500**



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**PROPERTY WANTED**  
**Wanted: Holiday Cottages**  
 • Payment in advance  
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 www.sykescottages.co.uk  
 01463 790540 Graham MacLean (Local Representative)  
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**WANTED HOUSE OR BUILDING PLOT ON MULL OR IONA**  
 Family looking for a home in a rural location with loch or sea views, if possible  
 Willing to restore or re-build  
**Cash buyer**  
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 Tel: 07740153045 or 07709254450

**FOR SALE - LOCH AWE**  
**Five-Bedroom Detached 1/2-Storey Property**  
 Entrance Porch, Hall, Lounge/Dining-Room, Sun Lounge, Kitchen, Utility Room, Five Bedrooms (two en-suite), Large Bathroom  
 Garden Ground with Garage  
 Residential Caravan, Greenhouse and Shed  
**Offers over £240,000 invited**  
 To view contact **01838 200672** or **07759 333140**



**GLEN ETIVE, ARGYLL**  
 For Sale: A most appealing Country Bungalow situated in seclusion amidst dramatic and unspoilt mountainous countryside and set in an attractive mature well-stocked garden with a charming timber Summerhouse. The well-appointed accommodation provides a Porch/Boot Store, Hall, Sittingroom with open fire and Dining Area, Kitchen, 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom (bath and shower). Solid fuel Rayburn and central heating, double glazing. Detached Chalet with Veranda, open-plan Livingroom/Kitchen, Sleeping Area and Shower-room. Garage/Workshop, covered Car/Trailer Stance, Fuel Store. **Offers over £150,000.**



**6 MOSSFIELD DRIVE, OBAN**  
 A first floor flat, one in a block of four situated in an established residential area and within easy walking distance of the local services and amenities. The flat is in absolute walk-in condition and must be viewed to be appreciated. Fully double-glazed, electric heating. The accommodation comprises: Hall, Sitting-Room, Kitchen, Bathroom, 2 Bedrooms.  
**Offers Over £95,000**



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 Up to £750  
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**FOR SALE - OBAN**  
**Four-Bed Detached Bungalow**  
 Lounge, Dining-Room, Modern Recently Fitted Kitchen and Bathroom, Four Good-Sized Bedrooms, W/M Heating, Built-In Wardrobes. Double-Glazing, Driveway, Mature Gardens. Quiet cul-de-sac location. True walk-in condition.  
**Offers over £195,000**  
 To view telephone 07724 028886 or 0141 642 9785, Monday to Thursday (after 6 p.m.)



**MAIN STREET, CONNELL**  
 For Sale: An attractively presented Semi Detached House offering excellent family accommodation, centrally situated in this popular lochsideside village. Full double glazing, oil fired central heating. Accommodation comprising Hall, Kitchen, Lounge/Dining Room, Attic Storage, Bathroom, 3 Bedrooms. Well stocked established garden with patio and parking, garden shed. **Offers over £130,000.**



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 Looking for flat share or room to rent from **June 1 - July 31** or part thereof if cannot offer whole time period  
 Female, non-smoker, with own transport and no pets  
 Contact Karen Hall  
**07738079267**

**For Sale**  
 New 3/4 bedroom cottages on Easdale Island.  
 Construction commencing now.  
  
 tel: 01852 300419  
 info@easdalecottages.com

**ISLE OF TIREE**  
**HOUSE FOR SALE :: HOUGH**  
 Nestling at the foot of Ben Hough, a beautifully detached bungalow in an elevated position with panoramic views from all aspects; close to beaches  
 Accommodation comprises Kitchen/Diner, Lounge, Three Bedrooms, Two Bathrooms. Electric Heating  
**Offers over £160,000**  
 To view telephone 07717 464 366



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**Argyll & Bute COUNCIL**  
**FOR SALE**  
 PORTNAHAVEN PRIMARY SCHOOL  
 ISLE OF ISLAY  
 OFFERS OVER £125,000  
 Suitable for conversion to residential use, subject to planning permission.  
 For further information contact Estates Office, Blairvadach, Helensburgh, G84 8ND. Tel: 01436 658957  
 Closing date for offers 12.30pm on Friday 23rd June 2006.

**FOR SALE AT CORNABUS VALLEY BY PORT ELLEN, ISLE OF ISLAY**  
 Distinctive elevated woodland area of one acre close to Kilnaughton Bay, with commanding views towards the Mull of Oa. Outline planning consent for one house  
**Offers over £60,000**  
 Telephone or fax 01496 302 231



**WEST HIGHLAND PROPERTY GUIDE**  
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# Drive Times

## Cars and Commercial Vehicles

**BMW 525i**

1995 auto, grey metallic, full cream leather interior, e/w/e/m/es/pas/ill/economy and sports drive, usual BMW refinements, recently serviced, RAC inspected, one years MOT, taxed till end Sept, sale due to work commitments

**Telephone**  
01852 316153  
07715 001213

**£1700 o.n.o.**

**TOYOTA COROLA**

M Reg. Blue MOT April 07 Tax Nov. 06 63,500 miles

**Telephone**  
07798 852974

**£795 o.n.o.**

**RENAULT CLIO 1.2**

(P reg) 1997 Tax August 06 Mot May 06 Two owners, 56,000 miles silver with sunroof. Ideal first car.

**Telephone**  
01631 565125  
07796 107729

**£795 o.n.o.**

**RANGE ROVER 4.6 HSE**

Automatic, Nov 1995 Good condition

**Telephone**  
01770 600242/252

**£5500 o.n.o.**

**VW TRANSPORTER VAN**

(October 03), 2.5 litre turbo diesel, 12,200 miles only, all-round windows, ideal for camper van or people carrier conversion, never used commercially and in excellent condition

**£7400**

**Telephone**  
01496 850298

**VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 16V SXI**

53 plate, tax'd Nov 06, metallic blue, low mileage, power steering, electric windows, central locking, airbags, CD player, alloys etc, very nice wee car, cheap to insure and run

**Telephone**  
07863 561471  
(Kinlochleven)

**£5500 o.v.n.o.**

**VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 8 VALVE "CLUB" ESTATE**

99T registered with long MOT with less than average miles for the year. Only group 4 insurance! Metallic Blue with Air Con

**£3,200**

Phone John Heenan on (01631) 720767 or mobile 07802 985695

**BMW 318CI**

2000 Dec Xreg, 95,000miles, Service indicator, Cruise control, Reverse parking aid, Full leather, Koni sports suspension, Air con, cd, E/W/E/M, FBWWSH, Mot Jan 07, Excellent condition

**Telephone**  
07717 745388

**£8500**

**HONDA CRV SE EXECUTIVE**

52 plate (Dec 02), 45k, long MOT & Tax (Nov 06), Metallic Blue, Leather Int, Sat Nav, AC, CD, Elec Sunroof & Windows, Extras inc. Bike rack & Roof bars, cosmetic side bars & rear spoiler. One lady owner with full service history & in excellent condition

**£10,950 o.n.o.**

**Telephone**  
07801 199947 or 01631 710881

**FORD ESCORT 55 DIESEL VAN**

2002, Post Office Red, 11 Months MOT, Roof Rack, Security Doors

**Telephone**  
07786 730716

**£2100 o.n.o. No VAT**

**BMW 530**

L reg, Mot'd August 06, no tax, replacement engine fitted, Good condition

**Telephone**  
01546 606102  
07909 541500

**£800 o.n.o.**

**VOLKSWAGEN GOLF TDI**

S Reg, metallic green, 5 door, 81,000 miles, f.s.h. 5 months tax 11 months mot, 60 mpg, e/w, e/m, c/l, stereo and excellent condition inside and out.

**Telephone**  
01855 831624 or 07855800823

**£3650 o.n.o.**

**VOLVO 460**

H Reg (1990), Taxed September 06, MOT'd July 06

**Telephone**  
01546 600423

**£300 o.n.o.**

**LAND ROVER DISCOVERY 200TDI**

1994, 3 door, 11 month MOT, 5 month tax, FSH (just had 12,000 mile service), 120,000 miles. Extras: Good condition, drives beautifully.

**Telephone**  
01838 200398  
07733 260726

**£2100 o.n.o.**

**VAUXHALL ASTRA VAN 1.7 DIESEL**

Nov. 2001, 51 Reg, MOT Nov. 06 110K miles, colour green, good condition, can deliver anywhere.

**Telephone**  
07919 654569

**£1950 no offers**

**FORD ESCORT GHIA X 1.8**

5 door, 1st Reg 1/1/98 (R), Pepper Red Metallic, 51,000 miles, Mot Dec 06, Tax'd June 06, PAS, ABS, heated w/screen, a/can, sunroof, cd/cass/radio, Alloy wheels, immaculate

**Telephone**  
01631 562090

**£1750**

**VAUXHALL VECTRA 2.5 V6 SRI**

1997, MOT till February 2007, Taxed, Perfect running order but high miles hence, no reasonable offer refused

**Telephone**  
01546 600205  
07917 888144

**FORD MONDEO 2.0L 16V**

2000 (W) reg, saloon, 110,000 miles, FSH (bar one service), electric windows, mirrors, sunroof air con, traction control, Black, MOT November 06 no tax

**Telephone**  
01546 603306  
07745 992817

**£1250 o.n.o.**

**VAUXHALL MOVANO 2.5 DIESEL**

LWB high top 2 berth camper van, red, 2000, W reg, one year MOT, 6 months tax, 112,000 mls, power steering, central locking, immobiliser, CD player, comfortable economical, in very good condition

**£5500 o.n.o.**

**Telephone**  
01852 500217

**FORD ESCORT VAN**

V REG, White, MOT'd, Good Condition.

**Telephone**  
01586 551716

**£1700 o.n.o.**

**RENAULT ESPACE 7 SEATER**

RXE D.T 2.2 Diesel, 1997, 65,000 miles, Mot to Jan 07, Tax'd July 06, 6 stack C.D/Radio, A/C, Alloys, twin sunroofs, E/W, C/L, Alarm, in superb condition. Comfort and economy

**£3700**

**Telephone**  
01631 562644 (after 6 p.m.)  
or 07748 960252

**PROTON PERSONA XLI 1.6**

R Reg 97, 5 door hatchback, Red, 61,000 miles. Service history, very economical, electric windows, PAS, taxed & mot'd, very reliable, nice condition

**Telephone**  
01546 870336

**£775 o.n.o.**

**FORD ESCORT 1.6 LX**

95 (N), Blue metallic, Sunroof, radio cassette, MOT April 07, 77,000 miles, good condition

**Telephone**  
07780 852263

**£575**

**FORD MAVERICK 2.7 TD 4X4**

1996 Seven seater one years mot full service history, 90,000 miles very good condition any inspection welcome Alloys electric windows PAS

**£2450**

**Telephone**  
01586 552283 or 07789034353

**40 FOOT TANDEM AXEL BOX VAN TRAILER**

Henderson roll up, rear door, tested till Nov. 06 4m. high, suitable for road use or storage.

**Telephone**  
Office hours  
01631 566370  
John MacLachlan Group, Oban

**AUDI 80 2 LITRE E**

1993, k reg, MOT 1 year, metallic black, rear spoiler, alloy wheels, radio/cd player, new seat covers, towbar and electric, good condition all round for age

**Telephone**  
07818 441916

**£750 o.n.o.**

**DAEWOO LEGANZA 2LTR SX**

1998, Black, mot'd and taxed, low mileage, 2 owners, e/s, air con, e/m, Sony cd with 10 disc interchanger. Excellent condition.

**£1800 o.n.o.**

**Telephone**  
07884274890

**FORD FIESTA 1.3 LX**

P reg, 5 door hatchback, dark green, sunroof, 48,000 miles, MOT March 30, 2007, no tax, ideal first car

**Telephone**  
01546 602004 (after 5p.m.)

**£820 o.v.n.o.**

**LANDROVER DEFENDER 90 2.5 TDI**

1992 Mot June 06, Tax May 06

**Telephone**  
01680 300451

**£2000**

**WANTED 4 X4 VEHICLES**

Landrover 90.110 Discovery, Rangerover and all Japanese models etc, high mileage, damaged, anything considered

Contact James on  
07866 590583  
or 07966 293996

**TOYOTA CELICA VVTI**

Blue, 2000 - 'X' reg, low mileage, 1 lady owner, long tax & MOT, service history. Premium package - climate control, electric sunroof, leather seats. CD/Radio.

**£7995**

**Telephone**  
01546 510383

**VOLKSWAGEN GOLF GTI MK3**

2.0 litre 8 valve, 1998 (R) Reg, Dark Blue, VW Alloys, electric sunroof, towbar etc, two owners from new, 130K miles but in good condition both mechanical and bodywork. MOT July 06

**Telephone**  
01546 510267  
07770 675807

**£1700 o.v.n.o.**

**FIAT PUNTO SPORT 1.2**

R Reg, 16v, 3 door, alloy wheels with 4 new tyres Sunroof, Elec Windows, CD Player, Rear Spoiler, Cheap insurance, great first driver. Fully serviced with 6 months M.O.T. 65,000 miles.

**Telephone**  
07871 056096  
01586 820226

**£1200 o.n.o.**

**WRANGLER JEEP**

Soft Top 2.5L, 1989. Taxed and Mot, Good reliable off roader. Good fun on beach

**Telephone**  
01770 600810  
07979 416372

**£1100 o.n.o.**

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**SUBARU LEGACY ESTATE**

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**Telephone**  
01546 606079

**£4800 o.n.o.**

**BMW 316 I SE**

L Reg, tax and tested bilstine shock absorber, lowered suspension etc, some history. Great fun to drive.

**£750 o.n.o.**

**Telephone**  
01866 822251 or 07774 028156

**ROVER 100**

1120cc, 3 door hatchback, Blue, 38,000 miles. MOT & Tax until November 2006

**Telephone**  
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## High risk for young drug drivers

One in five (20 per cent) of young motorists take to the road every day while high on illegal drugs, according to the RAC Foundation and Max Power Magazine - revealing the shocking results of a new survey\* today (24).

The survey, carried out by Max Power magazine and published in the May edition, found that:-

- 20% of those surveyed say they "drug drive" every single day
- 44% regularly drug drive with passengers in their car
- 59% of those surveyed have driven after smoking marijuana
- 37% have driven after taking cocaine
- 67% believe drink driving is worse than drug driving
- 46% think they are un-

likely to get caught drug driving

Drug-driving is a growing problem in the UK. 18% of drivers who died on the roads between 1996-2000 had been driving with illegal drugs in their system, compared with just 3% for the period 1985 - 1988. A major road safety campaign in 2005 found that more than one in seven drivers stopped tested positive for drugs - twice the number of those found to have been drinking. Young people are now twice as likely to be driven by someone high on drugs as someone who is over the drink-drive limit.

The RAC Foundation and Max Power are calling on young motorists to face up to the dangers of drug driving. At best, they are risk-

ing a heavy fine, a one-year driving ban or 6 months in prison. At worst - a death sentence for the driver or their mates.

Edmund King, executive director of the RAC Foundation said: "Some drivers may think that drug driving gives them a buzz, but the startling increase in the number of young drivers killed on our roads shows that the buzz soon goes flat. Only dopes drug drive and only mugs allow themselves to be driven by dopes."

John Sootheran, editor of Max Power, added: "Driving under the influence of drugs makes drivers' confidence rocket while their skill and accuracy plummet, making any drug driver a serious hazard to themselves and other road users.

"Catching drug drivers is also extremely difficult - the reality is that police do struggle to enforce the law, and with no approved roadside testing equipment, they have to rely on simple and often unreliable physical assessments."

To understand the gritty reality of "drug driving", the May issue of Max Power includes a feature called "the need for weed" where five young drivers test the effects of different drugs, including alcohol, on a specially devised off-road course. The results were startling.

The driver who took the wheel under the influence of Alcohol gave a shocking description of his experience. He said: "The more I drank the less I cared. After six cans of lager I could barely walk straight, let alone drive straight - I would have been lethal on the road."

In contrast, the Cocaine tester said: "After the first few lines I was on top of the world, I felt invincible, like no one could touch me. On the road I wouldn't care if I was reckless."

The Marijuana tester ended up driving dangerously slowly. He said: "After about three joints I felt OK to drive but was much more cautious. This feeling grew into full-on paranoia that I was going to hit something."

The driver who tested the effects of Speed said his driving was "faster and more erratic". At the same time he couldn't stop fidgeting and "just wanted to go faster". The Ecstasy tester said he would be "in a hedge in no time" if he drove on the road under the effects of the drug.

John Sootheran added: "Max Power does not glorify or condone the use of illegal drugs however it does feel it is important and in the public interest to tell its young readers what the likely effects will be should they take drugs and then drive."

## IT'S ONE FOR THE LOAD - AND ONE FOR THE ROAD!

Vauxhall unveils all-new Astravan - Developed and built in Britain

It's the van that can handle the road as well as the load! Vauxhall has pulled the wraps off its new Astravan - the latest incarnation of the company's most established van brand.

Due to go on sale in autumn 2006, the newcomer has been designed and developed in the UK, where almost 10,000 Astravans a year are sold. It has been designed from the ground up to be every inch the 'Driver's Van'.

Based on the platform of the Astra estate, New Astravan retains the dynamic abilities, style and comfort of the car but with even greater practicality. Every component has been reassessed or redesigned so it's purpose-built for commercial duties, yet from behind the wheel it still feels little different to the car.

The new Astravan will be built alongside the Astra five-door hatchback at GM's manufacturing facility in Ellesmere Port,

Cheshire. The plant was home to the current Astravan until 2004, when the line was transferred to Poland to make way for car production.

The greater commonality between New Astravan and the current Astra means it will once again be built in Britain, and will take advantage of Ellesmere Port's state-of-the-art production line and reputation for exacting quality control.

It uses the same basic design as the Astra Estate, but the rear axle has been redesigned to allow the fuel tank to be moved. This allows for extra load space and a completely flat floor without harming the driving dynamics, while the rear torsion beam has been adapted to cater for carrying heavier loads.

If you use a van as an essential tool of your work, you must have a pleasant working environment. The Astravan shares its ergonomically-designed layout with the Astra

car, offering comfort and refinement levels that most van customers would never expect.

It has a 9mm longer wheelbase than the existing model, giving improvements to handling and ride, plus extra interior space both in the cabin and the load bay.

The tailgate opens low and wide and the floor itself is 79mm longer and 6mm wider than in the current Astravan. Loads of up to 24mm higher than the outgoing model can also be stowed in the back, while the overall payload has been increased to 650kg.

Initially, New Astravan will be available with a choice of three diesel engines and one petrol.

The flagship model will use the 120PS 1.9-litre CDTi powerplant from the Astra car range, offering class leading performance, refinement and running costs. A revised version of the current Astravan's 1.7-litre CDTi unit developing 100PS will also be on offer, along with a 90PS version of Vauxhall's award-winning 1.3CDTi engine.

All three diesel units will be Euro 4 compliant from launch, as will the one petrol addition to the range. Powered by a 90PS



## NEW CAR INDEX

<b>BMW</b> Calderon Ltd Harbour Road, Inverness Tel. 01463 236566	<b>RENAULT</b> W.D Semple Inveraray & Lochgilphead Tel. 01499 302150
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<b>MINI</b> Calderon Ltd Harbour Road, Inverness Tel. 01463 236567	<b>TO PROMOTE YOUR NEW CAR DEALERSHIP PLEASE CALL: 01631 568000</b>



1.4-litre engine, the petrol Astravan makes use of GM's advanced Twinport technology. All models will have remote central deadlocking and tamper-proof protected door locks, while a perimeter alarm system and a solid rear tailgate will be offered on the options list.

One of Astravan's greatest security features, however, is in its design. Unlike most vans, you can tuck it away overnight in a conventional garage.

And to anyone who has ever had to load and unload a nearly-full van twice a day, that's one of the greatest features of all!

New Astravan will arrive at Vauxhall LCV retailers in autumn 2006. Until then, the current Astravan will remain on sale.

Prices and specifications for New Astravan have yet to be announced, but more details on the model line-up will be announced in the summer.

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# RECRUITMENT

## BÒRD NA GÀIDHLIG

'S e amas Bòrd na Gàidhlig deánamh cinnteach a seasmhachd na Gàidhlig agus a cultair an Alba san àm ri thighinn a rèir nan uallachean a tha a' nochdadh ann an A'chd na Gàidhlig (Alba) 2005.

'S e buidheann phoblach neo-roinneil a th' ann am Bòrd na Gàidhlig a tha stèidhichte le agus cunnachail de Mhinistearan na h-Alba. B' iad uallach air Bòrd na Gàidhlig airson stiùireadh is riaghladh Plana Nàiseanta na Gàidhlig.

Chaidh Bòrd na Gàidhlig (Alba) a stèidheachadh ann an 2003, agus tha e suidhichte ann an Inbhir Nis. Chaidh A'chd na Gàidhlig an gnìomh air 23mh An Gearran 2006 nuair a ghabh Bòrd na Gàidhlig thairis.



### Stiùiriche Foghlaim

Tha uallach air Bòrd na Gàidhlig ro-innleachd nàiseanta foghlaim a dhaibh mar phàirt de Phlana Nàiseanta na Gàidhlig. Bidh e an urra ris an Stiùiriche Foghlaim na h-uallachean a tha A'chd na Gàidhlig (Alba) 2005 a' cur air a' Bhòrd a stiùireadh agus adhartachadh. Tha an dreuchd seo a' nochdadh fìor chothroman dhan neach dreuchd agus do dh'fhoghlam Gàidhlig aig ìre nàiseanta. Bidh eòlas farsaing aig an tagraiche shoirbheachail air stiùireadh seirbheis foghlaim aig ìre-ìre. Coisnidh an neach seo aig ìre eadar £38,000 agus £42,000 no nas àrde a rèir eòlais. Tha am Bòrd deònach beachdachadh air tasadan cosnadh mu choinneamh nan dreuchd seo agus tha làn-fhèartachd sa Ghàidhlig agus sàr eòlas air leasachadh foghlaim Gàidhlig deatamach.

### Oifigear Nàiseanta Trusaidh Luchd-teagaisg

Tha Roinn Foghlam Rìaghaltais na h-Alba agus Bòrd na Gàidhlig ag obrachadh còmhla gus fear de phrìomh molaichean Bhuidheann Sgrùdaidh Fastadh is Treanadh Thidsearan a chur an gnìomh. Tha am Bòrd a' sireadh iarrtasan bho thagraichean airson na h-ìomairt chudromaich seo a bhios a' foillseachadh chothroman cosnadh ann an raon teagaisg is eile ann an Gàidhlig. Ged nach eil eòlas ann an saoghal foghlaim air a' mhèas deatamach airson na h-obrach seo bhiodh dùil ri eòlas ann an co-luadar is foillseachadh poblach. Tha dùil gum bi tagraichean làn fhileanta ann an Gàidhlig, tha am Bòrd deònach beachdachadh air tasadan cosnadh mu choinneamh nan dreuchd seo agus tha làn-fhèartachd sa Ghàidhlig agus sàr eòlas air leasachadh foghlaim Gàidhlig deatamach.

### Neach-Taice/Rùnaire

Bidh an àrd-rùnaire seo a' cumail taice ris a' Cheannard agus cuideachd ri Cathraiche agus Buill a' Bhùird. Bidh an dreuchd a' gabhail a-staigh obair deasachaidh choinneamh a' Bhùird, deasachadh chlàir, pàipearan-taice, sibhal, àitean fuirich agus gearr-chunntasan. Bidh dùil cuideachd gum bi an neach seo a' cumail taice ri luchd-rianachd eile mar a tha ìomhaich ann an sgioba bheag. Raon tuarastail eadar £14,178 agus £20,647.

### Rùnaire

Bidh an dreuchd seo fo stiùireadh làithiel Stiùiriche Ionmhais is Rianachd a' Bhùird, agus bidh uallachean abhaisteach rùnaireachd co-cheangailte rithe, agus cuideachd a' toirt seirbhis fàilteiche airson na h-oifis. Mar a bhiodh dùil ann an dreuchd co-cheangailte ri saoghal leasachaidh na Gàidhlig, feumaidh an neach a gheibh an dreuchd seo fileantas ann an Gàidhlig agus eòlach air rianachd. Raon tuarastail eadar £14,000 agus £18,116. Tha am Bòrd deònach gabhail ri iarrtasan airson an dreuchd seo a roinn eadar dà neach ag obair còmhla.

Ma tha na sgiolan agad agus ma tha thu den bheachd gun còrdadh e riut a bhith an sàs aig crìche ìomairt leasachaidh na Gàidhlig, cuir làn fhios gun dàil lagus aig a' char is fhalde ro 5.00f Dihaoine 05 Cèitean 2006) gu:

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### Administration Assistant

Oban

Part-time 20 hours per week, £11,170 - £13,261 per annum pro rata

Based in the Oban Network Office, your role will be to provide a comprehensive administration support service to assist the Customer Services Manager and the Business Relationship Managers. This will include assisting with providing a reception service, and also providing general administrative and secretarial support. You will also provide assistance with finance related matters and you will provide a mail administration service and assist with the compilation of reports as required. You will preferably have two years' experience of administration support/reception and a good working knowledge of all MS packages, with the ability to forward plan, work to deadlines and remain calm under pressure.

### Seasonal Customer Advisors – Tourist Information Centres

Craignure, Inveraray & Oban

£5.80 per hour

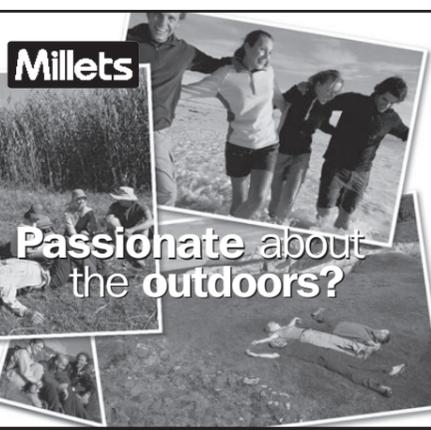
Customer Advisors in our Tourist Information Centres are often the first point of contact for visitors to Scotland. Tourism is our most important industry, so it's essential you make a good impression. It's not just about saying 'have a nice day'. It's about giving helpful, knowledgeable advice, sharing your passion and wanting the visitor to have the best possible experience. There's a commercial angle to the job too, with an eye to maximising revenue. With your customer service experience and skills, do you have the qualities that will impress our visitors?

To apply for any of the above positions, please send your CV and covering letter to [human.resources@visitscotland.com](mailto:human.resources@visitscotland.com)

Closing date: 8th May 2006.



Live it. Visit Scotland.



Passionate about the outdoors?

www.millets.co.uk

Blacks Leisure are committed to equal opportunities for all

### Assistant Manager

Oban

Supporting the Manager in the daily adventure of running the store, but with the flair and confidence to take the reins in their absence, you'll enjoy motivating the team, thrive on new challenges and possess at least 12 months retail supervisory experience.

In return we offer competitive rates of pay, bonus schemes and store discount.

To apply please call our Recruitment

Hotline on (01604) 441205

(24 hrs answerphone) or email your

CV to [recruitment@blacks.co.uk](mailto:recruitment@blacks.co.uk)

quoting reference AM5476C.

Closing date: 11th May 2006

Blacks Leisure Group plc



### Oifigear Leasachaidh: Sgìre Earra

Ghàidheal 's Loch Abair

Tha Comunn na Gàidhlig (CnaG) a' sireadh Oifigear

Leasachaidh airson Sgioba-Obrach Alba a Tuath.

Bidh an t-Oifigear a' cur an gnìomh pròiseactan

ionadail 's nàiseanta mu choinneimh amasan

na buidhne aig ìre choimhearsnachd, òigridh,

teaghlach agus gnìomhachas.

Bidh e/i ag àrdachadh ìre na Gàidhlig sa sgìre tro

dhiofar dhòighean agus a' riochdachadh CnaG air

buidhnean ionadail na sgìre mar a bhios ìomhaich.

Thathar an dùil gum bi an dreuchd stèidhte san Oban

no sa Ghearasdan a rèir suidheachadh an tagraiche.

Feumaidh tagraichean a bhith fileanta sa Ghàidhlig

le sàr eòlas air leughadh, sgrìobhadh 's conaltradh

sa chànan. Bidh eòlas air obair leasachaidh

choimhearsnachd feumail.

Tha tòrr sibhal an sàs san dreuchd seo 's feumaidh

cead-dràibhidh 's car a bhith aig an tagraiche.

Bidh an tuarastal eadar £16,000 agus £18,000 a rèir

comasan agus eòlas an tagraiche.

Gheibhear foirm-iarrtais bho Oifis CnaG aig: 5

Caolshràid Mhicheil, Inbhir Nis, IV2 3HQ. Fòn:

01463-234138.

post-d: [domhnallmorris@cna.org.uk](mailto:domhnallmorris@cna.org.uk)

Airson barrachd fiosrachaidh cuiribh fòn no post-d gu

Dòmhnall Morris aig an t-seòladh gu h-àrd.

Feumaidh iarrtas a bhith a-staigh ro 5f 15mh den

Chèitean 2006. Tha poilseachadh co-ionannachd

chothrom aig CnaG.



OBAN

offers the opportunity

to a young enthusiastic person

to join our team as a

# RECRUITMENT

# PUBLIC NOTICES



**ALCAN  
PRIMARY  
METAL  
EUROPE**

**Lochaber Smelter  
Vacancy**

We seek to appoint an Electrical Engineer at our Lochaber Smelter in Fort William.

The successful applicant will report to the Engineering Manager and will be involved in power generation, power distribution systems, high voltage switching, and plant maintenance systems. He/she will be part of a team and will also be involved in project and other disciplines of engineering.

Candidates should be qualified to HNC/Degree level and ideally have experience of an industrial site. Experience in Scada systems could be advantageous.

We operate a multi-disciplinary environment and the applicant should have a flexible approach to work, with a commitment to safety.

**Closing date for applications is Monday 15th May 2006.**

Applications should be submitted in writing to:  
Mr Iain Robertson, Engineering Manager  
Alcan Primary Metal – Europe  
Lochaber Smelter, FORT WILLIAM  
Inverness-shire PH33 6TH

**Shop Manager**  
£10,500 - £14,000 p.a. and excellent pension scheme  
Permanent, 37.5 hrs p/w • Oban

Do you have the ability to lead and motivate a team of volunteers to succeed in business?

You will be responsible for achieving sales targets, hands-on obtaining and sorting of stock, and window and interior merchandising.

You will be enthusiastic, flexible and positive. You will be ready for any challenge that Cancer Research UK can set. Your hard work and dedication will provide the financial resources for our eminent team of scientists in the battle against cancer.

To apply, please call our national recruitment line on 01403 750072, quoting reference 5209.  
The closing date is 11th May 2006.  
<https://jobs.cancerresearchuk.org/>

A culture of diversity. A focus on success.

CANCER RESEARCH UK  
Charity no: 1089464



**NEW LIFE OPPORTUNITY  
Gigha Hotel, Isle of Gigha, Argyll PA41 7AA**

The community run Gigha Hotel is looking to appoint a chef to join the team working in the hotel kitchen on our beautiful and tranquil island.

The position would suit someone looking for a new challenge and the chance to help us put Gigha on the culinary map.

We use fresh local produce where possible. We cater for up to 40 covers in our restaurant in the evening and can have a busy lunch and evening bar meal trade. We also cater for occasional functions.

This is a full time position – wage will be based on experience. May suit a couple as we take on seasonal staff for the busy summer months.

Please phone Valerie Gillies on the number below to arrange an interview.  
**t:01583 505254 e:hotel@gigha.org.uk**



**Oban Electrical Services Ltd  
require an  
Assistant Contracts Administrator.**

A good level of computer literacy is required, (Word, Excel).

Salary negotiable dependant on experience.

**Apply with copy of C.V to:**  
Sandy Dunlop, Managing Director  
19, Stevenson Street, Oban PA34 5NA



**TELESALES OPERATOR**

Full-Time position 0830 till 1700, Monday-Friday (occasional Saturday morning).

Applicants must be able to demonstrate the following-  
Be Friendly, Presentable, Hardworking, Team Player, Conscientious, Reliable, IT literate (or keen to learn), Numerate, Customer Aware.

-Immediate Start Available-

For an application form please contact-  
John Forteith  
Forteith Foodservice, Glegallain Road, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HG  
Tel- (01631) 569100 Fax- (01631) 570380  
[john@forteith.lls.com](mailto:john@forteith.lls.com)



**Happy House Christian Pre School**  
Shore Street  
OBAN PA34 4L6

**Senior Nursery Practitioner**

Required to work for 28 hrs per week during School Term.  
Qualifications: Minimum - SVQ Level 3 - Early Years Care and Education or equivalent, and willing to take further training.  
Closing date for applications: Friday 12th May 2006  
Please apply for an Application Form to:  
Happy House Christian Pre School  
Tel: 01631 562494

**Legal Secretary**

We have a vacancy for a full-time legal secretary. Previous experience and knowledge of MS Office preferred. Full time, part-time and flexible working hours will be considered. Excellent working conditions.

Please apply with CV to:-  
**John Campbell,**  
Stewart Balfour & Sutherland, Solicitors  
2 Castlehill, CAMPBELTOWN PA28 6AW  
01586 552871

**SECRETARY**

A vacancy has arisen for a full time secretary in our Campbeltown office to cover maternity leave.

Experience preferred but an ability to get on with work colleagues is also essential.

Preferred starting date May/June 2006.

All applications with details of experience to:-  
**C. & D. Mactaggart,**  
Solicitors, Castlehill,  
Campbeltown,  
PA28 6AR.



Due to continued expansion following the securing of new and existing contracts

AJC Civils require:  
**1 Experienced  
Machine Operator  
2 Experienced  
Site Labourers**

For immediate Start  
Telephone 0774 877 0858  
or 0776 825 0677

**Neach-Cuideachaidh  
Cùram-Cloinne  
Child Care Assistant**

**Tha Fàs Mòr a' sireadh Neach-Cuideachaidh Cùram-Cloinne an-dràsta, fhad 's a tha neach-obrach air fòrladh màthaireil, on Chèitean gu ruige an Dùbhlachd. Bidh ire an tuarastail an crochadh air eòlas is uidheamachd. Tha Gàidhlig riatanach.**

*Fàs Mòr is currently seeking a child care assistant, for maternity cover, from May to December. Salary dependant on experience and qualifications. Gaelic essential.*

**Airson an tuilleadh fiosrachaidh agus foirm-iarntais:**  
For more information and application form:  
Jean NicAoidh  
Fàs Mòr, Sleat, Isle of Skye, IV44 8RQ  
01471 888 366  
[sm00ja@groupwise.uhi.ac.uk](mailto:sm00ja@groupwise.uhi.ac.uk)

**Neach-Deasaiche ICT**

The Sabhal Mòr Ostaig air iarraidh neach-ICT ùr fhastadh anns an dreuchd, "Neach-Deasaiche ICT", a bhios ag obair ann an Anonad ICT taobh a-staigh Roinn Seirbheisean Corporra Sabhal Mòr Ostaig for Rianachaidh ICT. Bidh an cùmhnaidh seo làn-tìde aig tuarastail eadar £13,000 gu £20,000, a' crochadh air na sgilean aig an neach-tagraidh. Bidh an neach-tagraidh soirbheachail ag obair air fios a chur air-loidhne sa Chòlaiste, a' toirt taic don luchd-chleachdaidh sa Chòlaiste 's ag obair còmhla riutha.

Thathar a' sireadh neach a tha sgileil ann measg dhaoine agus a tha comasach air a bhith ag obair gu soirbheachail ann an sgìoba sa Chòlaiste. Bhiodh e math nam biodh sgilean coimpiutaireachd-in aig an neach-thagraidh air HTML, CSS, PHP agus air dealbhan a dheasachadh ach chan eil gach sgìl seo riatanach – cho fad 's a tha an neach-tagraidh deònach agus comasach an dreuchd ionnsachadh. Bidh a' mhòr-chuid den obair seo ann an Gàidhlig.

Gheibhear tuilleadh fiosrachaidh agus foirm-iarntais bho:  
Màrtainn Dòmhnallach air  
Fòn: 01471 888 341 no  
Post-d: [sm00md@smo.uhi.ac.uk](mailto:sm00md@smo.uhi.ac.uk)

**Sabhal Mòr Ostaig**  
Colaiste Ghàidhlig na h-Alba  
Sleite • An t-Eilean Sgitheanach IV44 8RQ • Alba  
Fòn: +44 (0) 1471 888000 Fax: +44 (0) 1471 888001  
Post-d: [sm.oifs@uhi.ac.uk](mailto:sm.oifs@uhi.ac.uk)  
[www.smo.uhi.ac.uk](http://www.smo.uhi.ac.uk)

**Gardener/  
Handyman**

with farm experience required for  
Country Estate near Lanark. Non smoker,  
clean driving licence, house available.

Salary by negotiation  
Please apply to Box No 49  
The Oban Times, PO Box 1 Oban PA34 5HB

**Messrs  
D J Campbell  
& Son**

**Achnashelloch Farm  
Lochgilhead  
Argyll, PA31 8RE**

"Campbell's Dairies" have a vacancy for a  
**STOREMAN /  
VAN DRIVER**  
at their Oban Dept. To apply please contact  
Douglas Campbell on  
**01546 605273**

**HIGHLAND  
NHS BOARD**

A meeting of Highland NHS Board will take place on Tuesday 2 May 2006 in the Board Room, Assynt House, Beechwood Park, Inverness at 10.00 am

Members of the Public are invited to attend as observers. The agenda and papers are available from the NHS Highland website – [www.show.scot.nhs.uk/nshighland/](http://www.show.scot.nhs.uk/nshighland/) or a copy of the agenda may be obtained from the Corporate Affairs Directorate – Telephone 01463 717123.

Working with you to make Highland the healthy place to be

**THE CROWN  
ESTATE**  
Creating value for us all

**The environmental impact assessment (fish farming in marine waters) regulations 1999**

**Proposed salmon farm site**

An application has been received for 2 new finfish farm sites at:-

Reference	Applicant	Location	Map Reference
XX100/118B	Lakeland Marine Farm Lt	Kilbrannan Sound	Site 1: NR 839 495 Site 2: NR 858 535

An Environmental Statement (ES) covering this site is available for inspection with a copy of the application at Skipness Post Office and at The Crown Estate, 6 Bell's Brae, Edinburgh, EH4 3BJ.

Copies of the application and Executive Summary of the ES can be obtained from The Crown Estate and copies of the ES can be purchased from Lakeland Marine Farm Ltd, Tigh Mhicleoid, Lochgilhead, Argyll, PA31 78JL at a price of £50 for a paper copy or £5 for a CD.

Written comments should be submitted within 42 days of the date of this notice to Senior Planning Officer, Argyll & Bute Council, 67 Chalmers Street, Ardishaig, Argyll, PA31 8DX.  
Dated: 27 April 2006

**CROFTERS COMMISSION**  
CROFTERS' COMMISSION

Mr and Mrs P A Boyd are applying to decroft part of the croft at 6 & 7 Comaigmore, Isle of Three extending to 0.024 ha for the purpose of providing the site for a veterinary surgery. Ref: C/14588.

Ms Linda MacGillivray is applying to decroft part of the croft at Lee, Ardrun, Kilfinichen & Kilvickeon, Isle of Mull extending to 0.134 ha for the purpose of providing the site for a dwellinghouse. Ref: C/16513.

Donald A MacCormick is applying to decroft part of the croft at Baligarve, Isle of Lismore, extending to 0.065 ha for the purpose of providing additional amenity ground for an existing house. Ref: C/1698.

Stewart MacDougall is applying to decroft 2 parts of the croft at 8 Wellfield, Creich, Kilfinichen & Kilvickeon, Isle of Mull extending to 0.061 ha and 0.053 ha respectively for the purpose of providing the sites for two dwellinghouses. Ref: C/12192.

If you consider that the decrofting of these areas will adversely affect your crofting interests or that of the local crofting community, please make written representations to the Crofters Commission, Castle Wynd, Inverness IV2 3EQ by 15 May 2006 quoting the appropriate reference. Representations will be copied to the applicant. Comments on any earlier applications cannot be taken into account on this occasion.

**A.G.M**

**Oban Tennis and Squash Club**

Thursday May 4, 2006, 7.30pm

In Squash Lounge, Atlantis Leisure

**LOCHABER AREA COMMITTEE  
PUBLIC QUESTION &  
ANSWER SESSION**

The Lochaber Area Committee of the Highland Council will be holding a public question and answer session in the Council Chambers, Lochaber House, High Street, Fort William on Monday 8 May 2006 at 7.00pm. All interested members of the public are invited to attend and participate.

Members of the public who will be attending the session are invited to submit questions to the undemoted prior to 8 May. Only Officers who have written questions will be in attendance.

A meeting of the Lochaber Area Committee is also being held on 8 May at 10.00am and is open to the public.

**John C Hutchison  
Lochaber Area Manager  
Lochaber House  
High Street  
Fort William**

**Oban Times  
PUBLIC NOTICES**

To find out more about living and working in argyll & bute visit us @ [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk)

**Argyll  
Bute  
COUNCIL**

**PLANNING  
TOWN & COUNTRY  
PLANNING (SCOTLAND)  
ACT 1997, RELATED LEGISLATION PLANNING  
(LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION  
AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997**

Take notice that the applications in the following schedule may be inspected during normal office hours at the location given below. Anyone wishing to make representations should do so in writing to the undersigned within 14 or 21 days of the appearance of this notice, whichever is applicable as indicated below. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence.

**SCHEDULE - DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION OF PLANS**

- Ref No: 06/00817/DET  
Applicant: Mr Mrs Stevens  
Proposal: Construction of new detached house  
Site Address: Land South Of An Cala Erry Road Tobermory Isle Of Mull Argyll And Bute  
Location of Plans: Tobermory Area Office  
Section 34 and Article 9 Advert 14 Days
- Ref No: 06/00793/OUT  
Applicant: Mr + Mrs R Di Caccia  
Proposal: Erection of Croft House  
Site Address: Land West Of Dunmore Airds Bay Argyll And Bute PA35 1JR  
Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Taynuilt  
Section 34 and Article 9 Advert 14 Days
- Ref No: 06/00389/DET  
Applicant: Oban Community Sensory Garden Group  
Proposal: Creation of a Public Sensory Garden  
Site Address: Chris Church Corran Esplanade Oban Argyll And Bute  
Location of Plans: Oban Area Office  
S60 Setting of Listed Bldg Ad - 21 Days
- Ref No: 06/00389/DET  
Applicant: Oban Community Sensory Garden Group  
Proposal: Creation of a Public Sensory Garden  
Site Address: Chris Church Corran Esplanade Oban Argyll And Bute  
Location of Plans: Oban Area Office  
Article 9 Vacant Land - 14 Days
- Ref No: 06/00807/DET  
Applicant: Mr And Mrs A Wheeler-Osman  
Proposal: Erection of Dwellinghouse and Garage/Workshop  
Site Address: Plot 3 Ardsblach Farm Ardmaddy Argyll And Bute PA34 4QY  
Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Taynuilt  
Section 34 and Article 9 Advert 14 Days
- Ref No: 06/00634/OUT  
Applicant: The Executors Of The Late Lord Gray  
Proposal: Outline Residential Development to Create 13 Dwellinghouses  
Site Address: Etive Filling Station Ltd Taynuilt Argyll And Bute PA35 1HW  
Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Taynuilt  
Section 34 and Article 9 Advert 14 Days
- Ref No: 06/00783/DET  
Applicant: Mr R A Campbell Gibson  
Proposal: Erection of Estate Cottage  
Site Address: Land West Of Pier Cottages Kilmelford Argyll And Bute  
Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Kilmelford  
Article 9 Vacant Land - 14 Days

**Area Team Leader Development Control, Planning Services,  
Lorn House, Albany Street, Oban**

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING  
(DEVELOPMENT CONTRARY TO DEVELOPMENT  
PLAN) (SCOTLAND) DIRECTION 1996**

The following planning applications have been lodged for determination with Argyll and Bute Council and are available for inspection during normal working hours at the local area office/Post Office identified below. The proposals contained in the application are considered to be a departure or potential departure from the Development Plan for the area concerned.

Anyone wishing to make representations about any of the applications identified below should do so in writing within 21 days from the date of publication of this notice to the Area Team Leader Development Control at the address below.

Please quote the reference number in any correspondence.

**SCHEDULE - DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION OF PLANS**

- Ref No: 06/00403/DET  
Applicant: Mr Mrs Alexander Black  
Proposal: Erection of New Dwellinghouse, Installation of Septic Tank and Formation of New Shared Access  
Site Address: Land East Of Leidaig House Bendorloch Oban Argyll PA37 1RT  
Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Leidaig  
Potential Departure from Policy H022 of the Lorn Local Plan  
A18 Local Plan Potential Departure Adv (21)

**Area Team Leader Development Control, Planning Services,  
Lorn House, Albany Street, Oban PA34 4AR**

**REMEMBER  
DEADLINE  
FOR ADVERTS  
MONDAY 4PM**

**The Oban Times**  
www.obantimes.co.uk  
Tel: 01631 568000

**ALZHEIMER SCOTLAND ACTION ON DEMENTIA**  
Oban and Lorn Branch

**A.G.M**

Thursday May 18, 2006 at 7 pm  
North Argyll Carers Centre, Albany Street, Oban

Guest speaker: Regional Manager Jan Johnston  
"Making a Difference"  
All Welcome

**COAST PROTECTION ACT 1949  
APPLICATION FOR THE REMOVAL OF THE SANDBAR  
AT THE ENTRANCE TO BOWMORE HARBOUR**

Notice is hereby given that George Rhind, on behalf of Bowmore Harbour Improvement Association, has applied to the Scottish Ministers of the Scottish Executive, under section 34 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1968, to carry out the removal of the sandbar at the entrance to the harbour at the above location in the positions(s):

Description	Latitude	Longitude
Mid point of sandbar	55 45.495N	006 17.293W
Adjoining beach position	55 45.468N	006 17.229W

Plans showing the position of the works may be inspected at Argyll & Bute Council's Service Point at Jamieson Street, Bowmore, Isle of Islay.

Objections relating to the safety of navigation, in respect of the application, should be made to: Ports and Harbour Branch, The Scottish Executive, Transport Division 4, Area 2F North, Mailpoint 2B, Victoria Quay, Edinburgh EH6 6QQ within 28 days of the date of this notice quoting reference: 25SPC.115176

George Rhind, Bowmore Harbour Improvement Association, 2 Lighthouse Buildings, Birch Drive Bowmore, Isle of Islay, Argyll PA43 7HZ

**CHARLES AND BARBARA TYRE  
TRUST SCHEME 1979**

In implementation of the objects of the above Trust, the Governing Body may in each financial year award grants of such annual value as they think fit to assist applicants of either sex:-

- to obtain qualification additional to degree associateship, diploma of certificate of a University or other institute of further or higher education already obtained.
- to train in a trade or profession other than in which they are at present.
- to undertake a course provided by the Open University for which they have registered or are about to register.
- to undertake training in leadership and initiative.
- to benefit from recreational holidays in cases of physical or mental disability, whether permanent or temporary.

In accordance with the wishes of the donors, the Government Body shall:-

- satisfy themselves that the applicant is a protestant, has completed his school education, but is not at the time of the award, more than 25 years of age, and is ordinarily resident within the area of the former County of Argyll.
- Associate the names of Charles and Barbara Tyre with each award made under this scheme.

Applications under this scheme with the full details on the foregoing matters can be obtained from and must be submitted to the Clerk to the Governors, no later than 31 May 2006, and applications received after this closing date will not normally be considered except in exceptional circumstances.

Clerk to the Governors, Charles and Barbara Tyre Trust, 160 Argyll Street, DUNOON, PA23 7NA

**CORPACH, BANAVIE AND CAMAGHAEL  
COMMON GRAZINGS**

**FORMAL INTIMATION UNDER THE  
CROFTERS (SCOTLAND) ACT 1993**

Notice is hereby given that Donald Angus Cameron has applied to the Scottish Land Court for an Order authorising resumption of approximately 0.676 hectare of the Common Grazing of the Townships of Corpach, Banavie and Camaghael, for the purpose of conveying the said area of ground to R. E. Campbell (Joinery) Limited to provide access to a residential development to the east of Riverside Park, Lochside, Fort William.

On 4 April 2006 the Court appointed this intimation by newspaper advertisement and ordered the Applicant to send to the Clerk to the Grazings Committee copies of the application, associated productions and the Court's Practise Note No. 4 (which emphasises the need for crofters to protect their own rights).

The Court ordered any shareholder or other person having a legal interest who opposes the Application or who wishes to claim compensation or a share in the value of the land to be resumed, to lodge Answers, including details of any such claim, with the Principal Clerk, One Grosvenor Crescent, Edinburgh, EH12 5ER, within fifteen days from the date of the final advertisement.

Copies of the Application, productions and Practice Note have been sent to Mrs M E Dennison, Torri, Corpach, Fort William, PH33 7JR, and these documents may be inspected either there, at the Court's offices in Edinburgh, or at the offices of the Agents. Copies of the Practise Note may also be obtained from the Principal Clerk ( Telephone 0131 225 3595).

Lindsays, WS, Edinburgh  
Agents for Applicant  
of which intimation is hereby made.  
'K H R Graham'  
Principal Clerk

**THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL  
NOTICE TO EXEMPT LAND FROM  
ACCESS RIGHTS**

Notice is hereby given under section 11(9) of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 ("the Act") that on 24 April 2006, Highland Council made the Highland Council (Leanaichan Forest - Mountain Bike Event) Exemption Order 2006 under section 11(1) of the Act.

The effect of the Order is to exempt an area of land extending to 165.7 hectares southwest of the Nevis Range Car Park, Torlundy, including the Witches Trail, all as shown outlined in red on the plan attached to the order, from the access rights which would otherwise be exercisable in respect of that land by virtue of Part 1 of the Act.

The purpose for which the order has been made is that the UCI Mountain Bike World Cup Event is being held at that location. The order will take effect from 0600 on 24 May 2006 and will expire at 2000 on 28 May 2006 unless revoked earlier.

Mr K D Falconer  
Area Solicitor/Administrator  
The Highland Council  
Lochaber House  
High Street  
FORT WILLIAM

**THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL  
FORT WILLIAM CAR PARKS  
CHARGING SEASON**

With effect from Monday, 1st May 2006, charging will be levied in all car parks within Fort William.

Residents permits are available on application by production of a valid V6 form and driving licence, both in the applicant's name, showing a permanent address within the Lochaber Area of Highland Council.

**West End Car Park**  
From 1st to 6th May 2006 inclusive, you will not be able to park in the West End Car Park as this is used for the Scottish Six Day Motorcycle event.

During this period ONLY, holders of a valid 2006 Residents Permit will be able to park free of charge in the Middle and Top Sections of Viewforth Car Park only (i.e. NOT the main car park but the sections above), provided your permit is displayed clearly throughout. Permits also apply in Airid No. 2 Car Park throughout the season.

From Monday, 8th May the West End Car Park will be available and permits will no longer be valid for Viewforth.

**Short Stay Car Parks**  
Parkcards to the value of £20, can be purchased for £10 at either of the addresses below, for use in the Short Stay Car Parks only.

For Park Cards or further information contact:-  
TEC Services, Carr's Corner, Lochybridge, Fort William - 01397 709000  
Service Point, Lochaber House, High Street, Fort William - 01397 707215

**MOTHER AND TODDLER  
GROUP (0-5)**

From 4th May Croileagan will meet every Thursday between 0945 - 1145 at the Free Church Hall (behind Rockfield School).

All welcome - no previous Gaelic required.

For further information contact Lesley MacPherson: 01631 565119

# PRIVATE CLASSIFIED

Telephone 01631 568000 to place your advert + SECOND WEEK FREE Telephone 01631 568000 to place your advert + SECOND WEEK FREE

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### Argyll & Bute COUNCIL AREA COMMITTEE MEETING

A meeting of the Area Committee for Oban, Lorn & the Isles will be held in The Council Chamber, Municipal Buildings, Albany Street, Oban, at 10.30am on Wednesday 3rd May 2006. Members of the public are welcome to attend. Any enquiries should be directed to: Kenneth Macdonald, Area Corporate Services Manager (Tel. 01631 567930).

### The Governors of CATHERINE MCCAI'S TRUST McCaig Scholarship In Celtic

A number of McCaig POST GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS of the annual value of £750 or such other sum as the Governing Body considers appropriate, tenable for one year are OPEN FOR AWARD TO MASTERS OF ARTS of any of the Scottish Universities who have included Gaelic among the subjects of their course. It is a condition of tenure of the Scholarship that the holders shall carry out a programme of study of any Celtic subject or group of subjects or of any subjects directly connected therewith, approved by the Governors after consultation with the Senatus of the University attended by the holder. Entry for Scholarship should be made on or before 15 June, 2006. Anne F Wilson, Clerk to the Governors C/o McLeish Carswell, 29 St Vincent Place, Glasgow G1 2DT

### The Governors of CATHERINE MCCAI'S TRUST McCaig's Bursaries

A number of MCCAIG BURSARIES, the value of which is at the discretion of the Governing Body, are OPEN FOR COMPETITION to students entering a Scottish University in October, 2006. The Bursaries are tenable at any Scottish University for such number of years as the Governing Body in their discretion consider appropriate. It is a condition of the award that the holder shall enrol for a University Ordinary Class in Gaelic and shall satisfactorily complete the course in that subject. One of the Bursaries is open only to natives of, or persons ordinarily resident in, the County of Argyll. Applications must be made not later than 15 June, 2006 and Forms of Application may be obtained from the Clerk to the Governors. Anne F Wilson, Clerk to the Governors C/o McLeish Carswell, 29 St Vincent Place, Glasgow G1 2DT

Argyll & Bute **Careers Network**  
**A.G.M.**  
Wed. 31st May 2006 @ 2.30pm  
**Royal Marine Hotel  
Hunter's Quay, Dunoon.**

**GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENCE**  
Fyne Game Ltd trading as Fyne Game Ltd of Unit 13 B, Kilmory Industrial Estate, Lochgilphead, Argyll PA31 8RR is applying to change an existing licence as follows: To keep an extra 2 goods vehicles and 2 trailers at the operating centre at Unit 13B, Kilmory Industrial Estate, Lochgilphead, Argyll PA31 8RR. Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Scottish Traffic Area, J Floor Argyle House, 3 Lady Lawson Street, Edinburgh, EH3 9SE stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A guide to making representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's Office.

**COAST PROTECTION ACT 1949 APPLICATION FOR 2 MOORINGS AT BONAWE, LOCH ETIVE**  
Notice is hereby given that Mr Hind has applied to the Scottish Ministers of the Scottish Executive, under section 34 of the Coast Protection Act 1949, as amended by the section 36 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1988, to carry out 2 moorings at the above location in the positions(s):  

Description	Latitude	Longitude
Moorings 1	56 27.02N	05 13.78W
Moorings 2	56 27.01N	05 13.58W

  
Plans showing the position of the works may be inspected at Benderloch Post Office. Objections relating to safety of navigation, in respect of the application should be made to: Ports and Harbours Branch, The Scottish Executive, Transport Division 4, Area 2F North, Mailpoint 2B, Victoria Quay, Edinburgh EH6 6QJ within 28 days of the date of this notice quoting reference: 2SPC/2/5/255 Mr Hind, Corpach Cottage, Corpach, Fort William Inverness-shire PH33 7JR

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**BATHROOM FITTINGS**  
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THANK YOU  
Caroline Jamieson wishes to thank family and friends for beautiful flowers, cards, gifts and telephone calls received on the occasion of her 90th Birthday celebration.

THANK YOU  
Mary MacArthur would like to thank all those who gave cards and gifts for her 90th birthday. A donation of £225 was given to Glencoe Heritage Trust.

Not so angelic now huh!

Happy Birthday Big Five-O Ian Keen-Smith

Happy 21st Yvonne 30th April

Happy 18th Birthday CRAIG

Love mum, dad and Nicola xxx

MURDO MACDONALD would like to give grateful thanks to colleagues, friends, local history societies and family historians throughout Argyll and Bute and beyond for all gifts, cards, letters and good wishes on the occasion of his recent retirement. It was a great pleasure and privilege to work with you all. A special "Taing Mhor" to Marina.

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# BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS

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### BIRTHS

**GILLIES** - Hi! My name is Lewis Alistair Gillies and I was born on April 18, 2006. My mum and dad, Catherine and Ali, are delighted I'm here at last, especially mum, as I weighed in at 9 lb 3oz. A special thank you to all the lovely staff at SCBU who looked after me in Raigmore Hospital. A big hello to all my relations, especially my grandparents from Arisaig, Gop and Marion and Aleck and Maryanne.

### ENGAGEMENTS

**CAIN - OTRANEN** - At the finishing line of the London Marathon! Ruairaidh (Acha, Isle of Seil) to Heidi (Helsinki, Finland) both now living in Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire. Both families delighted.



**McAUSLIN - HALL** - Both families are delighted to announce the engagement of James, elder son of Dougie and Linda McAuslin, Kilmartin, to Karen, daughter of David and Isobel Hall, Dalmally.



**SMITH - TAYLOR** - Both families are delighted to announce the engagement of Kerry, eldest daughter of Frances, to Craig, eldest son of Scott and Nancy, Shieldhill, Falkirk.

### MARRIAGES

**McKINNON - LACZKO** - The marriage took place in Glasgow on April 7, 2006, of Alpin, elder son on Angus Smith, Lonlia, Skipness Road, by Tarbert, Lochfyne and only son of Grace Veals, 7 Holm Road, Holm, Isle of Lewis to Timea Laczko, Reghin, Mures, Romania.  
**McMILLAN - HUTCHISON** - On March 18, 2006 in the Argyll Arms Hotel, Campbeltown by the Rev. Martin Forrest, Neil, son of the late Calum McMillan and the late Catherine Glen, to Margaret, daughter of Mrs Catherine MacKillop and the late John Hutchison.

### DEATHS

**CAMPBELL** - Peacefully at home, Moor Cottage, Balivanich, Benbecula on April 18, 2006, Angus, aged 66, dearly loved brother, uncle and great uncle. Fortified by rites of Holy Church. R.I.P. Angus will be sorely missed by family and friends. May he rest in peace.

**FOX-CROFT** - Peacefully at Lorn and Islands District General Hospital, Oban on April 20, 2006, in his 85th year, Bob, much loved husband, father & grandfather.  
**HUMPHRIES** - Peacefully at the Lorn and Islands District General Hospital, Oban on Monday April 24,

2006, Phoebe Joan, much loved wife of the late Dennis, dear mother of Juliet and Dennis, mother-in-law of Robert and Judith and grandmother of Natalie and Emma. Funeral will take place at Church of Scotland, Corran Esplanade on Monday May 1, at 10.00 am. Family flowers only please. A private cremation will follow at Cardross Crematorium.

**MACALLISTER** - Peacefully at the Argyll & Bute Hospital, on April 21, 2006, Isobel MacAllister, aged 82 years, of 47 Glenfyne Park, Ardrishaig, beloved wife of the late Archie and loving mother of Gordon and mother-in-law of Mary, much loved grandmother of Heather and Donald, dear sister and aunt to all the family. Funeral service was held in Ardrishaig Parish Church on Wednesday, April 20, followed by interment at Achnabreac Cemetery. Forever in our thoughts.

**MACDONALD** - Suddenly but peacefully on April 24, 2006, after a long illness patiently borne, Donald John, 29 Lochneil Road, Dunbeg, (formerly of 12 Achinreir, Barcaldine), beloved husband of Grace Anne, née MacPhee, much loved dad of Kenneth, Angus, Christine and Donald, father-in-law of Lorna, a much loved grandpa of Sarah, Laura, Emma and Jamie and stepdad of Greg and Claire. Sadly missed.

**MACGILVRAY** - Peacefully at Belford Hospital, Fort William, on April 13, 2006, in her 97th year, Isabella (nee Cameron), of Strontian, formerly Portuairk. Dearly loved mother, granny and great grandmother. Sadly missed.  
**McDONALD** - Peacefully after a short illness at Glasgow Royal Infirmary on April 24, 2006, William McDonald, in his 86th year, of 7B Campbell Street, Lochgilhead. Beloved husband of the late Jeanie Johnston, much loved father of Sandy, Colin, Murdo, Helen and Ishbel, a dear grandfather to all the family. Funeral service will take place today, Thursday April 27, in Lochgilhead Parish Church at 1.30pm thereafter to Achnabreac Cemetery.

**MITCHELL** - Very suddenly, in his beloved garden, at 34 Lovat Road, Kinlochleven, on Wednesday April 19, 2006, Archie, dearest husband and life long pal to Moira, truly wonderful dad to Heather, Jim, Sheena and Moira, much respected father-in-law to Michael, Bobby and Barbara. Much loved papa to Denise, Martin, Darren, Chloe, Shannon, Aaron, James, Allan and Lucy. Beloved brother of Jean, Jan, Margaret, Duncan and Kate. Sorely missed by all the family.

**SMITH** - Peacefully, at home, 20 Lady Margaret Drive, Corpach, Fort William, on April 13, 2006, Catherine (Cathy) Margaret MacCiver, aged 55 years, beloved wife of Malcolm (Calum) Smith, dear mother of Annetta and Helen and mother-in-law of Alex. Very sadly missed.

**YOUNG** - Peacefully at the Lorn and Islands District General Hospital, Oban William, dear husband of the late Catherine MacInnes, much loved father of Christine, Angus and the late Robert, grandfather of Susan and Aonghas and papa Bill of Zander, Taylor, Aonghas and Ailsa. Funeral was held on Wednesday, April 26 at St. John's Cathedral, Oban followed by interment at Pennyfuir Cemetery.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

**CLARK** - The family of the late George Clark would like to thank relatives, friends and neighbours for all their kindness, flowers, cards and support during the past few months. Their help has been much appreciated. Special thanks to doctors and nurses of Dunarros Hospital, Glasgow Royal Infirmary, Lorn and Islands District General Hospital, Oban and Salen Mull Medical Practice. Thanks to the Hoey family for the efficient funeral arrangements and the Rev Bob Nelson for a comforting service. Thanks to Salen Hotel for catering and refreshments and also to those who paid their respects at Salen church and Pennygowan Cemetery. A collection for Dunarros Comfort Fund raised £356.

**SMITH** - The family of the late Catherine Margaret Smith, would like to thank relatives, friends, neighbours and work colleagues both in Fort William and Lewis, for the many kind expressions of sympathy received at the time of their recent sad loss. Special thanks to the doctors and nurses in Lochaber who attended to Cathy in hospital and at home. Thanks espe-

cially to Rev Gordon Mair, Fort William, who travelled home to Lewis with us and provided comfort throughout. Thanks also to the Reverends Donald Morrison, Calum MacDonald, William MacLeod, Calum MacLeod, Thomas Sinclair and all church office bearers in Fort William and Miavaig, Uig. All those who came to pay their last respects in Fort William and Uig and all those in Uig who prepared for our homecoming in providing food and making other domestic arrangements. Grateful thanks also for the efficient and caring service provided by the staff of John MacLellan, Undertakers, Fort William and Mr MacRae, Undertakers, Stornoway. Donations towards Cathy's memory totalling £749 were collected and distributed to Cancer Research, Macmillan Nurses and Marie Curie Nurses. Our sincere thanks to you all - 20 Lady Margaret Drive, Corpach, Fort William.

### IN MEMORIAM

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**MACQUEEN** - The family of the late Capt. Archie MacQueen, Lonfern, Culnacnoe, Isle of Skye would like to express heartfelt thanks to all, for the kindness and sympathy shown at this sad time. To everyone that attended services in Staffin, Oban and later at Pennyfuir Cemetery. Special thanks to Rev. J MacLean for the friendship and spiritual comfort shown to Archie over the years especially during his illness and the support he gave to the family during their time of grief. Grateful thanks to all the staff at Budmor House and the Doctors and nurses at Portree Hospital who cared for him in his final months. To Donnie MacLeod (Portree) and D. and A. Munn for their efficient and caring funeral arrangements.

**McGREGOR** - The family of the late Tyson McGregor would like to thank relatives, friends and neighbours for the flowers, cards and gifts received during their sad loss. Special thanks to the nursing staff of Mid Argyll Hospital and Ardfenaig Residential Home for their care and attention over the last few weeks. Thanks also to Rev. Walter Ritchie for his comforting services, to Donald MacDonald Funeral Directors for dignified and efficient funeral arrangements, and to the Stag Hotel and Coach House Inn, Cardross for fine purvey. A final thank you to those who paid their respects at Church and Crematorium.

**PATERSON** - The family of the late Alec (Nab) would like to thank everyone for the cards, the phone calls and offers of help during the sad loss of Nab. Special thanks to Hamish Hoey & Sons, the Royal Hotel, to Jacqueline for her help in Glasgow, Fiona for her advice and to everyone at the church and graveside. Nab will never be forgotten by those who loved him.

**RUSSELL** - Jetta, Kay and the family of the late Grace Russell would like to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for all their kindness, flowers, cards and support during the past few months. Their help has been much appreciated. Special thanks to doctors and nurses of Dunarros Hospital, Glasgow Royal Infirmary, Lorn and Islands District General Hospital, Oban and Salen Mull Medical Practice. Thanks to the Hoey family for the efficient funeral arrangements and the Rev Bob Nelson for a comforting service. Thanks to Salen Hotel for catering and refreshments and also to those who paid their respects at Salen church and Pennygowan Cemetery. A collection for Dunarros Comfort Fund raised £356.

**SMITH** - The family of the late Catherine Margaret Smith, would like to thank relatives, friends, neighbours and work colleagues both in Fort William and Lewis, for the many kind expressions of sympathy received at the time of their recent sad loss. Special thanks to the doctors and nurses in Lochaber who attended to Cathy in hospital and at home. Thanks espe-

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**MACKINNON** - In loving memory of Neil, a dear husband, father, father-in-law and granddad, passed away on April 30, 1991. Always remembered. - Jessie, David, Eileen, Lisa, Helen and John.

**MACLAREN** - Treasured memories of our dear mum, gran and great gran, Isabella, who passed away on May 2, 1998. Loving thoughts of years together Hold memories that will last forever. - Mary, Alison and Archie, Sandy, Sharon and families.

**MACMILLAN** - In loving memory of Kenny, died April 25, 2001. Always remembered. - Alan and Anne, 25 Kerrera Terrace.

**McNEILL** - In loving memory of Donald McNeill, Tarbert, Argyll, died April 27, 2003 and all loved ones gone before. - Inserted by Catriona and family, Stirling.

**SIMPSON** - In loving memory of a much loved mum, Margaret, who died April 26, 2005. Precious memories never grow old Like winter leaves they turn to gold Unseen, unheard, but always near Still loved, still missed, still very dear. - Maimie and Ronnie.

**STEWART** - Precious memories of our special parents and grandpa and gran, Tommy, who passed away May 2, 2000 and Meena, who passed away June 6, 2005. They say there is a reason They say that time can heal But neither time or reason Can change the way we feel Love you always. - Your daughter Jean and grandson Garry x.

**SUTHERLAND** - In loving memory of Sandy, a dear dad and grandpa, passed away April 26, 2002. Loved and remembered always. - All the family.

**WILSON** - Treasured memories of our darling son, William Andrew, aged 16 months who passed away at 4 Longdale Cottages, Oban on April 29, 1956. Jesus came to gather flowers On the way He gathered ours. - Mum, 13 Lorn Avenue, Dunollie, Oban.

**CAMPBELL** - Fond memories of a loving husband, father, grand-father and great grand-father Angus D. Campbell who died on April 27, 1981. Just a cluster of memories Sprayed with many tears Wishing God had spared you For just a few more years. - Inserted by his loving wife and family, Bunessan, Mull.

**DOWNIE** - Treasured memories of Alister, a much loved husband, father and grandpa who died May 2, 1999. We do not lose the ones we love They only go before So smile and remember. - Margaret and Niall, Kinlochleven and all the family in Bracknell.

**DOWNIE** - Alister, died May 2, 1999. Remembering today and always with love. - Kirstie, Euan and Caitlin xxx.

**GILLIES** - In loving memory of my dear husband, Ronnie, who passed away April 26, 2003. Deep are the memories Precious they will stay No passing of time Shall take them away. - Inserted by his wife, May.

**GILLIES** - In loving memory of Ronnie, a dear father and papa, who passed away April 26, 2003. Sorely missed Always fondly remembered. - Love Theresa, Iain, Laura and Catherine.

**GILLIES** - Ronnie, died April 26, 2003. Dad, always in our thoughts. - Angela and David.

**GILLIES** - Ronnie, died April 26, 2003. Very sadly missed and always in our thoughts. - Donald, Anne, Paul and Martin.

**MACEWAN** - Treasured memories of our dear dad and granddad Ian C. MacEwan, who left us on April 23, 1977. Forever in our hearts. - From all the family.

## Church NEWS

### Droplets of H2O flow into a river of prayer

JUST over two years ago Ewen Munro, the H2O Christian Youth Worker spoke at Celtic Praise in the Corran Halls and gave out H2O 'water droplets' (small glass beads) to over 500 in the audience.

Everyone was invited to put the droplet into a purse or pocket and to pray for a young person or group of young people when ever they came across it.

**Wonderful**  
We want to thank you for every one of those prayers as the answers to prayer have been wonderful. H2O now has two full-time Christian Youth Workers with hopes of a female worker in the near future. Activities include daily involvement in the High School, a weekly youth bible study.

There are two Youth Alpha courses exploring the Christian faith running currently, alongside trips to Christian events and the annual Atlantis 'Lock In', to name but a few.

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huge wave of prayer that was continuous and unstoppable. We have made a beginning with your help, and God is answering prayer. There are thousands of young people who need our prayers. We invite you to an informal 'Prayer Supper' that takes place on the first Sunday of every month at the Well (Lochavullin) at 8 p.m. and visit our web site at: [www.hope2oban.co.uk](http://www.hope2oban.co.uk)

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Friday 28 April at 7.30 p.m.  
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Saturday 29 April at 4.30 p.m.  
Testimony: May Nicolson  
Sunday 30 April at 8.15 p.m.  
Everyone Very Welcome

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Sunday 30 April 2006  
Second after Easter  
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Holy Communion ..... 0800  
Choral Mattins ..... 1015  
Sunday School and Creche  
Parish Eucharist ..... 1130  
Loop System  
Large Print Holy Books  
All welcome  
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Sunday 11 a.m.  
New Venue:  
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All welcome  
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Campbell Street Church  
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Phone-In 'Worship Link' available  
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Prayer and Bible Ministry  
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MA, MTh  
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All welcome

**DESTINY CHURCH**  
OBAN  
Sunday 30 April  
Drummore School  
Lower Soroba  
Oban  
11 a.m.  
**The Unsung Heroes**  
Andrew McCulloch  
Telephone:  
**01631 564283**  
[www.destiny-church.com](http://www.destiny-church.com)

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Alistair MacLean  
MASTER SCULPTOR  
Glenasmole, Soroba Road  
Oban  
Designs and prices on request  
LETTERING AND RENOVATING  
DONE IN ANY CEMETERY  
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565269

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# TIMES Sport

## Indoor football

Atlantis Leisure five-a-side works league sponsored by Markie Dans

	P	Pts.
1 Forreiths	15	40
2 Atlantis	16	39
3 Foster Yeoman	15	35
4 Teachers	15	34
5 Oban Times	16	22
6 AM Transport	15	19
7 Burnside Joiners	16	15
8 Hotels	16	13
9 Hydro Board	15	6
10 Hospital	13	1

## Sailing

**Oban Sailing Club Results**  
 Race Number Seven  
 1 Alistair Olsen  
 Clewless Laser Redial  
 2 Andrew Chapman  
 Zsaapp Laser 4.7  
 3 Oban Sailing Club  
 Owen Sails Topper  
 4 Ewan Stevenson  
 Long Wave Laser  
 Race Number Eight  
 1 Andrew Chapman  
 Zsaapp Laser 4.7  
 2 Alistair Olsen  
 Clewless Laser Redial  
 3 OSC  
 Owen Sails Topper  
 4 OSC  
 Glen Engineering Topper

## Golf

**Tobermory Golf Club**  
 Captain's Prize April 23  
 1 Phil Higson 80-15=65  
 2 Graham Davidson 72-06=66  
 3 John Wiltshire 91-21=70

## Women's shinty

**Results**  
 GMA 2 Glengarry 2  
 St Andrew's v Forth w/o

**Fixtures** Sunday April 30  
 Division One  
 St Andrews v Oban  
 Division Two  
 Inveraray v Tir Conaill Harps

Glengarry's first game of the season was a tough battle against a fit Glasgow Mid Argyll who already have two wins under their belt.  
 GMA were a Katie Drain goal ahead at the interval but goals from Sarah Corrigan and Fiona Cummings gave Glengarry the lead until Katie Drain scored her second to earn a draw.

## Campbell clinches late win for Saints

Scottish Amateur League Premier Division  
**OBAN SAINTS 2**  
**KILPATRICK 1**

KILPATRICK were the visitors to Glencruitten Park, Oban, last Saturday for this Premier Division league match, but the men from Clydebank had to head back down the road on the end of a 2-1 defeat as the home side snatched two late goals to secure victory.

Saints were without regular keeper Tim Woodcock, out with an ankle injury, but his place between the sticks went to the experienced David Dunlop, playing his first game at this level for over a year, and the big keeper slotted into the defensive set-up as though he had never been away.

With heavy rain forecast, the decision was made to kick off early and this proved to be the right one as by the end of the ninety minutes puddles were starting to appear on the playing surface as torrential rain came down for most of the match.

The home side started brightly and Kilpatrick have keeper Chris Connolly to thank for keeping them in the game as he broke the hearts of the Saints players with a string of brilliant saves, the

## Football

first from Ross Maitland after only two minutes quickly followed when he dived full length to stop a Willie Gemmill pile-driver.

The visitors weathered this early storm and hauled themselves back into the game, but the Saints defence looked reasonably comfortable at the back although on a couple of occasions the marking was a bit slipshod.

Chris Connolly came to his team's rescue once again with a fine save, with the ball falling to Keith Millar, but the Saints midfielder failed to connect properly with his acrobatic overhead kick.

Saints had two great opportunities to take the lead, when Allan MacKay headed a Willie Gemmill corner wide and then Dante Lopez failed to hit the target when he outjumped the Kilpatrick defence to head a Ross Maitland corner past the post.

The visitors took the lead against the run of play in the 38th minutes after the Saints defence got into a tangle when a free kick was thumped high into the box. The ball was headed back across the goalmouth to the unmarked Domenico D'Annunzio who had the

easiest of chances to slide the ball home from close range. After the half time break Saints set about getting an equaliser, but the Kilpatrick defence were coping with everything the home side could throw at them and they were quite content to sit in, and hit the Oban side on the break and on one of these occasions David Dunlop had to sprint off his line to make a good diving save at the feet of David Reid before the Kilpatrick striker could get a shot on target.

Saints took off Scott Johnston on the hour mark and replaced him with Duncan Campbell to give the team more fire-power up front, but the Kilpatrick defence were still in good form clearing their lines at every opportunity.

With fifteen minutes left on the clock Saints drew level when Chris Connolly, who had been in tremendous form between the posts for the visitors all afternoon, could only get his fingertips to a Duncan Campbell shot and the ball fell kindly for Dante Lopez who slotted it home from close range for his first goal of the season.

Saints had their tails up now

and were certainly going for a winner and this they got when Duncan Campbell seemed to lose possession of the ball when he was bearing down on goal, but Allan MacKay fought to win it back. Allan held the ball out wide on the left before sending over a great cross to the far post for Duncan, who had continued his run into the box, to head home what proved to be the winner with five minutes remaining.

Manager Iain Jackson was delighted with the three points and the way his team played. He said: 'It was an excellent game played in horrible conditions for the players. Like ourselves Kilpatrick want to get the ball down and pass it about, the way the game should be played. I thought we deserved to win as we created plenty of clear-cut chances and they have their keeper to thank for making some brilliant saves.'

This Saturday Saints are at home again on league duty with last season's Scottish Cup finalists Gartosh United providing the opposition. The game will take place at Glencruitten, 2.30 pm kick-off, with referee Gus Yuill in charge. On Wednesday Saints travel to take on Campbelltown Pupils at Kintyre Park, kick-off 7 pm.

## Oban Lorne find the going tough at Crieff Sevens

OBAN Lorne faced a tough group section at the Crieff Sevens tournament at the weekend including Premier One outfit Stirling County.

On arrival in Perthshire, Oban Lorne found they were scratched from their original 'seeded' draw to be placed in a group with Stirling, Premier Three club Royal High Corstorphine and Madras who play in the National Four League.

The Oban 7 faced Stirling first and lost heavily conceding 50 points, but this

## Rugby Sevens

was certainly no disgrace to the eventual tournament winners.

The team then performed and produced some great 7s rugby before remarkably losing by identical 21-19 scores in both remaining matches and were unlucky not to progress due to missed conversions.

Stirling scored over 40 points in winning the final against Commando 45,

RHC won the Plate and Madras were runners up in the Mug final.

Oban can hold their heads high following their efforts and it harder to step up to the high intensity action of 7s.

This Saturday sees the first of three weekends of West Highland sevens' tournaments starting at Lochaber.

Oban Lorne will be sending two teams to this event

and will be hoping to give a good account of themselves having last won the event two years ago.

The annual club dinner dance and awards night is also being held this weekend at the clubhouse from 7pm. The guest speakers are Jim Stevenson from the SRU Council and comedian Bruce Fumey.

All the playing and club member awards for the season will be presented with tickets available from the clubhouse bar.

## County golfers slip to narrow defeat

ARGYLL and Bute's county team slipped to a narrow defeat at the hands of Renfrewshire at Gourck Golf Club despite a fine performance by Glencruitten's Alan McKie who shot a spectacular eagle.

The team of six senior team members with four youth members achieved parity during the morning foursomes with 2.5 points each.

The highlight being a stunning win for County Champ Ross Currie and his veteran partner David Howie who comprehensively trounced Keith Hamilton and Nicky Gold by four and three. The other win in the foursomes was produced by David Weir and Alan McKie who beat

## Golf

their opponents by four and two. The half point was gained by Les Pirie and Jim O'Donnell who made a great four from the trees to tie their match.

With all to play for in the afternoon Argyll and Bute started promisingly with Ross Currie again producing the goods beating Renfrewshire number one Matthew Clark. The other wins in the singles came from Les Pirie who saw off David Miller by two and one.

Oban's Alan McKie continued his fine play in the morning turning a one hole deficit after 10 holes into a four and three victory against local member

Stephen Higgins with the highlight being the eagle at the par five 13th.

The other Argyll and Bute contribution came with a half-point from Millport's Gordon Lundie who let slip a dormie two lead. This left the overall result nine points to six to Renfrewshire who gained revenge for last year's area team defeat.

The closing date for the Argyll and Bute Spring Meeting was today (Thursday) but late entries may be permitted if space permits.

Contact area secretary Graham Bolton on 0772 062 7397 for details.

The draw should be on club notice boards by Tuesday but can be viewed on [www.argyllandbutegolfunion.com](http://www.argyllandbutegolfunion.com) on Sunday night.

## Disc golf Open in Mull

### Disc golf

THE SCOTTISH Disc Golf Open is taking place on Mull this weekend with around 60 entrants from all over Europe.

The competition takes place at Gremlin Napier's croft 'Fanmore' at Torluisk which is an 18-hole golf course. The object of the sport which is believed to have been created in the 1970s is to use 'golf discs' which are a similar but a heavier version of a frisbee and go round the course by landing or hitting targets at each individual hole. As the event is part of the British Disc Golf Association, players can score ranking points. It will be held on Saturday and Sunday.



Saints on the attack - Darin Bryars and Ross Maitland race for the ball during Saturday's game against Kilpatrick.

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**PREMIER DIVISION**

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Fort William	5	4	0	1	23	7	8
Newtonmore	6	3	2	1	12	7	8
Kingussie	4	2	1	1	15	5	5
Kilmallie	4	2	1	1	8	7	5
Inveraray	5	1	2	2	10	12	4
Strathglass	5	1	2	2	7	18	4
Oban Cam	6	1	2	3	7	22	4
Lochcarron	3	0	0	3	7	11	0

**NORTH DIVISION 1**

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Beaulie	4	4	0	0	15	2	8
Lovat	5	2	1	2	12	8	5
Caberfeidh	2	2	0	0	9	1	4
Skye	3	2	0	1	5	2	4
Glenurquhart	1	1	2	3	2	3	3
Lochaber	1	1	0	4	0	2	2
Kinlochshiel	2	0	2	2	2	2	2
Aberdeen U	4	0	1	3	1	15	1
Inverness	5	0	1	4	1	20	1

**SOUTH DIVISION 1**

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Ballaichulish	6	3	1	2	14	6	7
Glenorchy	4	3	1	0	10	4	7
GMA	4	2	2	0	16	7	6
Kyles	4	1	3	0	14	6	5
Bute	4	2	1	1	5	2	5
Lochside	4	2	0	2	7	4	4
Kilmory	2	0	0	2	0	5	0
Tayforth	5	0	0	5	3	30	0

**NORTH DIVISION 2**

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Newtonmore	4	4	0	0	18	6	8
Fort William	3	3	0	0	11	3	6
Glenarry	5	2	1	2	14	10	5
Skye	4	2	1	1	14	13	5
Kingussie	3	2	0	1	13	4	4
Lovat	5	2	0	3	10	17	4
Kilmallie	4	1	1	2	9	12	3
Strathglass	2	0	1	1	5	6	1
Caberfeidh	3	0	1	2	5	13	1
Boleskine	4	0	1	3	2	14	1

**SOUTH DIVISION 2**

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Strachur	7	4	3	0	25	5	11
Kyles	4	3	1	0	24	4	7
Inveraray	4	3	1	0	7	1	7
Oban Celtic	4	2	2	0	15	3	6
Edinburgh	6	2	1	3	9	15	5
ColGlen	3	3	0	1	13	4	4
Glenorchy	4	2	0	2	11	8	4
GMA	4	0	0	4	16	0	0
Aberdeen	7	0	0	7	24	0	0

**NORTH DIVISION 3**

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Nairn	5	4	0	1	21	8	8
Lochcarron	3	3	0	0	15	1	6
Kinlochshiel	3	2	1	0	12	6	5
Lochaber	2	2	0	0	13	2	4
Kinraig	4	2	0	2	7	12	4
Glenurquhart	3	1	1	1	6	7	3
Beaulie	3	1	0	2	7	9	2
Lochbroom	3	1	0	2	7	9	2
Inverness	4	1	0	3	6	10	2
Ardnamurchan	5	0	0	5	3	31	0

**MacTavish Cup 1st Round**

Fort William 2 Lochcarron 1 AX1  
Kilmallie 3 Lochaber 1

**Tulloch Celtic Society Cup Preliminary Round**

GMA 1 Kilmory 0

**Strathdearn Cup 1st Round**

Fort William 8 Lochbroom 2  
Kilmallie v Skye

**Marine Harvest Premier Division**

Inveraray 1 Strathglass 2  
Oban Camanachd 2 Newtonmore 1

**North Division One**

Aberdeen Uni 1 Beaulie 5  
Kinlochshiel 0 Glenurquhart 0  
Lovat 1 Caberfeidh 3

**South Division One**

Skye 4 Inverness 0  
Ballachulish 2 Glenorchy 0  
match abandoned 43 min  
Bute 1 Kyles Athletic 1

**North Division Two**

Glenarry 3 Boleskine 1  
Kingussie 6 Lovat 1  
Newtonmore 5 Strathglass 1

**South Division Two**

Col Glen 3 Glenorchy 2  
Edinburgh EL 0 Inveraray 2  
Kyles 10 Aberdeen 0

**Oban Celtic 5 GMA 1**

**North Division Three**

Glenurquhart 4 Nairn 3  
Inverness 4 Ardnamurchan 1



Splash and grab at Mossfield - two quick goals gave Oban Camanachd two valuable Premier points against Newtonmore

## Camanchad sink 'More at Mossfield

NEWTONMORE arrived in Oban having not lost a league game this season - and their over-confidence was to work against them. Oban Camanachd, on the other hand, were searching for their first win - and despite having minimal clear chances throughout the 90 minutes, they took full advantage from the few created.

Heavy, driving rain welcomed the teams onto Mossfield - and by the second period it would have been no surprise if referee Graham Cameron had called a halt.

Newtonmore were camped in the Oban half for the opening 20 minutes with keeper Scott Buchanan making a series of great saves as David Cheyne, Orsten Gardiner and Paul MacArthur repeatedly carved space in the home defence. But the league's joint leaders failed to turn their outfield superiority into goals and paid for it in the end.

After 27 minutes, Camanachd stunned the visitors with two goals in as many minutes. On a rare break upfield, Ian MacMillan fired a swirling shot from the left which keeper Michael Ritchie thought was going wide of his right-hand post, until the ball curled into the net. Before 'More could recover their composure, Fraser Inglis added a second. This

90 minutes Oban played a dangerous game as they withdrew into defence and allowed Newtonmore to come at them in waves. With Gareth Evans holding the thin red-and-black line together, Cheyne fired over when it looked easier to score and Buchanan again proved his worth to deny Ricky Ross low to his left then thwarted Jamie Robinson with an acrobatic palm-away for a corner. Oban Camanachd were delighted to get full Premier points for the first time and ahead of their Celtic Cup tie against Kyles this Saturday, while for Newtonmore the result might just be the unwelcome reality check they needed before heading for the Dell this week and a MacTavish Cup quarter-final against Kingussie.

**Shinty**

Marine Harvest Premier League  
Oban Camanachd 2  
Newtonmore 1

time a fine solo effort as he was allowed to run through the Newtonmore defence, draw Ritchie off his line and slip the ball home.

Indeed, had Ritchie not been on his toes, Inglis could have added a third one minute later as a shot from the left saw the keeper turn the ball round the post for a corner.

As the relentless downpour continued, Oban adapted better to the rapidly worsening conditions but then lost a goal when Cheyne crashed an low, unstoppable shot from a tight angle through the legs of Buchanan.

With surface water clearly hampering the start of the second period, Cheyne forced Buchanan into a great stop within a minute of the restart. Fraser Mackintosh then had a golden opportunity to level the tie when put clear in front of goal - but his hurried finish cleared the crossbar.

On the hour, the crossbar at the other end was attacked as Inglis broke free but was fouled, referee Cameron played advantage, and Ian MacMillan cracked the woodwork. For the remainder of the

## Kilmallie book quarter final place

KILMALLIE and Lochaber lined up on a dry but exceedingly windy Canal Parks with the blustery conditions spoiling the tie.

Lochaber had the advantage of the strong wind for the first period as the home side struggled to clear their lines. But Lochaber failed to trouble keeper Kevin Toye and after 15 minutes were hit by a classic sucker punch.

A high ball reached 'Tottie' MacNichol, who knocked the ball over Ricky Fraser and volleyed it past onrushing keeper Angus Morrison.

Lochaber enjoyed most of pressure for the remainder of the half but their best effort was a long range drive that was expertly touched over by Toye.

**Shinty**

MacTavish Cup 1st Round  
Kilmallie 3 Lochaber 1

Just before half time Kilmallie's Fraser Massie sustained a serious facial injury in accidental clash with Andy MacDonald. He was unable to continue and was replaced by Scott Rodger.

Kilmallie nearly doubled their advantage before the break but a fine save from Morrison prevented Michael Rodger adding to his tally for the season.

The second half opened at a frantic pace with both sides looking to force the pace. Kilmallie continued to create the better chances and Morrison produced another excellent save to deny

**Shinty**

John Stewart after another good move. On the hour mark, Kilmallie eased the worries of their supporters when 'Tottie' MacNichol forced the ball home after a scramble.

Lochaber immediately went up the park and Keith Neville fired in a drive that beat Toye but rebounded of the post, however Ian Love knocked home the rebound.

Lochaber should have equalised after their best move of the match left the home defence all at sea but Neville blazed his effort over the bar when it seemed easier to score.

## Innes late winner for Fort

**Shinty**

MacTavish Cup 1st Round  
Fort William 2  
Lochcarron 1  
after extra time

GARY Innes scored in extra time winner to take Fort William into the quarter finals of this season's MacTavish Cup.

Played at the Dell, Kingussie after Fort William's An Aird was declared unplayable, Lochcarron matched Fort William throughout with keeper Michael MacMillan in outstanding form.

Gordie MacKinnon gave Fort a 33rd minute lead but seven minutes later Alan MacKenzie drew Lochcarron level and although both teams had chances to seal the win within the 90 minutes, the tie went into extra time.

Innes scored within three minutes of the first period of extra time to take Fort into this Saturday's quarter finals against Lovat.

Right: Fort William's Victor Smith and Lochcarron defender Angus MacKay in action at the Dell on Saturday



## Celtic put on a show at Ganavan

IT WAS showtime for Oban Celtic on Saturday, playing in torrential rain driven by a blustery wind, the home side did extremely well to dominate the match in such testing conditions.

From the throw-up, Oban Celtic dominated the match and it took just 11 minutes for Scott Burnett to open the scoring by lifting the ball over the Glasgow keeper and into the roof of the net.

Ten minutes later John McCormack won the ball and gave him the space to drive a low, diagonal shot inside the post, to put Celtic two ahead.

**Shinty**

Marine Harvest South Division Two  
Oban Celtic 5 Glasgow Mid Argyll 1

A minute later the Mid Argyll keeper made a great save from Lockhart, tipping the ball to safety with his stick. But he could not deny the Celtic captain after 31 minutes when the best move of the match saw the home side execute a spate of give-and-go exchanges with Lockhart powering into the area to slot the ball past the keeper.

However, Mid Argyll were to see a glimmer of hope immediately after the interval. The Celtic defence stuck in the mud while the visitors tapped the ball around them and beyond the frustrated Neil MacNab. Scorer Andy MacGhee had the chance to double his tally 10 minutes later when Mid Argyll were awarded a cheaply given away penalty, after a Celtic player was penalised for swearing, but MacGhee's soft penalty which was smothered by keeper MacNab and scrambled to safety.

**Shinty**

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