

# The Oban Times

## & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Established 1861 No 8030

Thursday 17 February, 2011

www.obantimes.co.uk

75 pence



### Zumba takes Oban by storm

### Feathers fly at schools badminton tournament

# HOMES & INTERIORS



Also inside this week: More Bonnie Babies • Second Sea Life token to collect • Black Lynn clean up starts

### Islanders bid to run Tiree care home

MORE than 100 of Tiree's residents have supported moves to form a community company in a bid to take over the island's care home.

Last Thursday's meeting at An Talla saw almost unanimous support from islanders to form the social enterprise business, and a steering group has been formed to quickly take the plans forward.

The group has also received a grant of £4,500 from Scottish Power Renewables to help the scheme along.

The hope is that, by May, the new company will be able to submit a competitive tender for the island's older peoples' services and community care.

Dr John Holliday is the man behind the plan. He said: 'It's a tight timeline, but do-able.'

'The grant money was a little bit controversial, but voted through by majority. It gives us the money to gear up and go through all the financial and legal loopholes.'

Dr Holliday said the steering group will consult the community every step of the way before tendering for the services.

### Concern over bicentenary bash

RESPONSIBILITY for organising Oban's bicentenary celebrations could be removed from the town's community council and taken over by the local authority.

The Oban Lorn and Isles Local Area Committee will take a final decision at their March meeting, after concerns were raised that the event's co-ordination has been lacking, with not a single application for funding lodged and only five months to go.

However, the community council chair, Marri Malloy, said some of the comments made, were unfair given the local authority asked the community council to lead the project.

Area committee chairman, Duncan MacIntyre, said: 'I would have thought there would have been at least one application for funding to us. We simply have to get this right.'

Afterwards Mrs Malloy, who isn't on the bicentenary sub-committee, said: 'I really feel it's a community council project. It should be us that co-ordinates it.'



A bit too rich - Adam Henson with the champion bull at Oban's annual Highland Cattle Show. Full show report - pages 16, 17. 16\_107adam1

### Why Countryfile's Adam is feeling bullish

ADAM Henson, a popular presenter on the nation's favourite rural affairs programme Countryfile, made an appearance at the Highland Cattle Society's annual show in Oban - and went home with an Argyll bull.

Adam, who has seven Highlanders in his

fold already, came to film for a programme with the intention of buying a bull.

He explained that he farms on high land in southern England in an area that is course and sparse, not unfamiliar to the kind of land animals in Scotland are used to.

He didn't buy the champion bull, which was 'too rich' - he instead paid 'much more than he meant to' for a three-year-old bull he 'really liked' from Ormsary Fold in Lochgilphead. The bull will feature in a future edition of Countryfile.

### Bridging loan sought for isle's new care centre

CRISIS talks to secure the future of an island's new care centre are under way.

Mull's hospital and elderly accommodation, which is being built in Craignure may be under threat, due to a delay in funding for the housing element of the project due from the Scottish government.

This move was announced in last week's leader's speech to the full council. Councillor Dick Walsh said: 'In November of last year the funding was confirmed for the £8.1million contract for the Mull and Iona Progressive Care Centre (PCC).

'The housing association has now approached the council indicating it may

require bridging finance of some £1.9 million as the Scottish government cannot confirm when the grant may be drawn down over the next five years.

'In the past the funding has been drawn down during stages of the project.'

#### Difficulty

Murray Sim, chairman of West Highland Housing Association, said: 'The grant to the association may not be paid when we thought it would.'

'We are working with the Scottish Government and Argyll and Bute Council to deal with this difficulty. Obviously we want to protect all of our projects as they deliver

more housing in Argyll and help to protect local construction jobs.'

Contractor Andy Knight, of Torosay Sandpit Limited (TSL), said: 'The PCC is well under way with a considerable spend every month. TSL is faced with huge costs, currently with no prospect of getting these refunded, which is obviously not sustainable in the long term.'

#### Armageddon

'If we are not careful, the area is faced with an Armageddon of construction redundancies, due to the withdrawal of these funds.'

The Scottish government was unable to comment at the time of going to press.

### Mull firm wins £2.5 million Coll centre contract

WORK is set to start on Coll's £2.5million community centre, An Cridhe, next month after a contractor was appointed.

Negotiations with preferred bidder, Mull contractor TSL, were completed on Monday after two weeks of talks, but a number of changes have been made to the specification of the build in order for the project to come in on budget.

Chairman of the An Cridhe project, John Fraser, is delighted with the completion of negotiations, saying the savings won't impact

on the overall quality of facilities that will be provided.

He added that An Cridhe's architects are now in talks with the council's planning department to discuss some material changes to prior consent, but the group is hopeful that work will start on March 7.

Mr Fraser said: 'The good news is that TSL has been officially appointed as contractor for An Cridhe and they are looking at a start date of March 7.'

'Revisions to the project as part of the ten-

der negotiations have resulted in no change to the hall in respect of size and provision of facilities.'

'The integrity of the facility in terms of what is provided remains much the same. So a satisfactory outcome we believe and looking forward to work getting underway.'

Earlier this month, Mr Fraser confirmed that all grant funding already approved for the build remained in place, adding that the parent group, Development Coll, had no need to carry out extra fundraising for the hall.

## Additional £3 million for road repairs

REPORT  
by LOUISE LEE  
llee@obantimes.co.uk

A WHOPPING £3 million of additional investment to repair Argyll and Bute's crumbling roads was approved by the council at its budget meeting last week. The Oban Times can reveal.

The cash will not only secure in-house employment but will make a significant difference to both main routes and rural roads, according to the council's executive director of development and infrastructure.

After the harshest winter in more than 100 years, highways workers have been hard at it since October - their earliest start date ever - to treat roads.

As the cold snap continued for a prolonged period drainage and the effects of 'frost heave' or melting ice has caused chaos to weak areas on the roads.

As a consequence of this, the network has been left in an undeniably poor condition - with an increased number of potholes and extended sections of crumbling surfaces.

Sandy Mactaggart, executive director of development and infrastructure and Graham Brown, roads operation manager, were in agreement that the cash injection would not solve all the road problems in Argyll and Bute.

But they said it was hoped that a responsible approach could be taken to considering many of the

most pressing problems. Pointing to the £42 million spent last year, Mr Mactaggart said: 'The spend last year was recognised as making a visible impact upon areas where the works were carried out.'

'Proposals in the capital investment budget, due to be set in March, alongside prudential borrowings of £3million will allow us to take an authority-wide look at the roads.'

'Alongside day-to-day maintenance of roads, we will be able to make permanent repairs to our high-speed network to ensure our roads network is safe.'

'Through careful planning, and in consultation with councillors through local committees, we will be able to prioritise our

programme of works to make the biggest impact we can with our budget.'

'We will be ensuring that the work we undertake is of best value to the people of Argyll and Bute - therefore, in the most part, the work we undertake will be of a permanent nature.'

Mr Brown confirmed this meant giving roads a life of 20 to 25 years.

He continued: 'We will endeavour to look at all roads in the network to make sustainable improvements.'

The officials said they were committed to working with the 'very experienced team' who have a 'strong in-house capability'. Mr Brown said: 'It is the team that can deliver great improvement to roads in Argyll and Bute.'

The council is also exploring a partnership arrangement with contractors for outlying areas such as Kintyre, Islay and Mull to supplement works already carried out in these areas. This work will still remain under control of the council.

While there will be no extra staff the money will be spent on materials. Mr Mactaggart confirmed: 'Overtime payments will continue to be paid to complete road works where a business case exists and where it is prudent to do so.'

*"We will make permanent repairs to ensure our network is safe."*

Sandy Mactaggart

### Flood-hit high school 'back to normal'

OBAN High School was to be 'back to normal' yesterday as the pupils returned to the classrooms, despite a flood closing down an entire block.

Work by Scottish Water in Combie Street last Thursday caused the school's water to run out, however when the network was restored at 7pm, taps that had been left on began flooding the third floor of the block, which is used for science, home economics, art, drama and RE lessons.

The block was closed first thing Friday morning, which meant six

classes were moved to another part of the building.

Argyll and Bute Council said on Monday it was too early to say what damage had been caused but stressed the block would be open when the children returned to school. A Scottish Water spokesman said: 'On February 10 we performed routine maintenance to the water network.'

'This involved a planned closure from 10am to 2pm, but due to complications with the work the water supply was not fully restored until 7pm.'

'During this time some cus-

tomers in high-lying areas may have been off supply and other properties may have received low pressure.'

'The next day we shut down the water again from 10am to 2pm and the work was completed.'

'We apologise to any customers who may have lost their supply or experienced low pressure as a result of this work. The water supply in Oban is now more secure as a result of this essential maintenance work.'

The spokesman said Scottish Water would have given 48 hours' notice of the work.



"Yes Sir... I know we say we can store anything... but NO!! We cannot possibly keep your mother-in-law in a container!!"

### Self Store

We store almost anything!!

Caravans, boats, cars, trailers, plant and machinery, mobile homes, motorbikes, all household items, pianos, antiques, paintings, delicacies, valuables, awkward items.

24 hour access  
Packing materials, bubble wrap, cartons, tape, huge range!  
Archive storage

MacQueen Self Store Ltd  
Tel 01631 564848  
Fax 01631 570627  
www.info@macqueenstores.com

### Ruling alliance forces through budget

A BUDGET 'like no other' was passed at a full council meeting at Kilmory last week.

A series of measures to save £55 million during the next three years was debated and passed by a majority vote of Argyll and Bute councillors.

The decision will see the loss of 494 posts, cuts in funding to homeless and recycling services and a rise in service charges as the cash strapped council tries to balance its books.

While opposition councillors argued for more time to go over budget papers, motions brought by SNP, James Robb and Argyll First were over-ruled by the ruling Alliance group of Independent, Liberal Democrat and Conservative councillors.

Council leader Dick Walsh was eventually given the backing of the

alliance to write to John Swinney cabinet secretary stating that he can meet the commitments asked of it by the Scottish government.

#### Quality of life

Councillor Walsh said: 'Our budget is about so much more than the way in which the council spends its money. It is more about our people, their services and how any change impacts on their quality of life.'

'Argyll and Bute Council, with no fault on its part, has a double whammy inflicted upon it through what has been referred to by civil servants as 'unintended consequences'.

'Because of this we are facing a 4.94 per cent cut to our budget - almost twice the Scottish average, the worst in Scotland.'

'Our proposed budget outlines a three year prudent approach to the

financial management of the council's affairs.

#### Listened

'We've listened to what the communities have said and have managed to reflect the majority of concerns expressed to us in this budget. We've taken a low-to-medium risk approach for the future which reflects our priorities of education, social work and economic development, and positively addresses the acute infrastructure issues with our roads.'

After the budget was agreed, an Argyll and Bute spokeswoman added: 'We agreed to protect essential services, invest in the roads infrastructure and continue supporting some of the most vulnerable groups in the community.'

A last minute decision by the ruling

alliance saw the council drop plans to move community facilities, such as Oban's Corran Halls, into community trusts, whilst insisting: 'We are still willing to look at all options.'

#### Rejected

Councillors also rejected plans to close libraries, agreed to fund Christmas lights for one more year, continue to provide music tuition and reduce the physical education budget by 50 per cent rather than remove it altogether.

Services highlighted in last week's Oban Times, such as Blue Triangle, Quarriers Rooftops, Action for Children and Cowal and Bute HELP were hit by a 33 per cent cut in funding rather than the 100 per cent allocated in the budget.

□ Budget round-up - see page 5

### OPEN DAY SATURDAY 26TH FEBRUARY

Come and have a look round, meet the team and see the launch of our fantastic new programmes

• Zumba Toning - Join Argyll's 1st Zumba instructor Magdalena Sadlik and combine body-sculpting techniques and Zumba dance moves for a super fun workout!

• Combat for Kids - Fun fitness for the kids whilst you enjoy your workout.

• NEW - Monday night bootcamp, 8.30pm

energie fitness clubs  
17 Lochavullin Road, Oban, Argyll PA34 4PL  
Tel: 01631 565000 www.energiefitnessclubs.com

**OBAN** **mic**  
HARDWARE  
& LOCKSMITHS LTD  
17-19 Lochside St, Oban.

**Full key cutting service**  
**Free security check of your house, guest house, hotel**  
**Upgrade of your locks for Insurance purposes**  
**No call out charges**  
**Lost keys? Locked Out? We will get you in with no damage to your door**  
**Give us a call on 01631 562395/565930 Or 07876438957**

**The Oban Times & West Highland Times**

THE REGIONAL NEWSPAPER FOR THE WEST HIGHLANDS, ISLANDS AND ARGYLL



The Oban Times is the best-selling weekly newspaper in the Highlands and is distributed via 1742 newsagents every week

Lochavullin Industrial Estate, Crannog Lane, Oban, PA34 4HB  
Tel: 01631 568000  
www.obantimes.co.uk

## Residents tap into support of local community council

A GROUP of rural residents affected by substandard water quality were facing a financial headache – until they tapped into the help of their local community council.

The villagers were told grants to fit modern filters to improve their supply were available, but only if they paid for the work and then claimed the cost back.

That meant the six households affected would have to find £5,000 before getting the job done.

The houses, in Achindarroch, Duror, near Appin, get their water supply from a spring, which feeds into a 500-gallon tank.

An investigation by Highland Council's environmental health department found the supply

was at risk from bacteriological contamination and warned residents that unless it was filtered, all water for drinking, preparing uncooked food, such as salads, and making ice, should be boiled first.

**Bridging loan**

Maggie MacDonald, one of those affected, brought the issue to the attention of Duror and Kentallen Community Council and asked if members would help with a bridging loan to enable the filters to be fitted to the homes eligible for the grants.

The community council agreed, much to Maggie's delight.

'There have always been issues with the water. It is not too bad, but it fails the tests that are done on it,' said the mum-of-four.

Currently, she has to use a hand held jug fitted with a filter to cater for her family's needs.

'The community council has saved us a big financial headache and come to our rescue. It is very nice of them to help out.'

Maggie said she got the idea of approaching the council because posters had been circulated in the village highlighting that money was available for projects which would be of community benefit and asking for suggestions.

The community council's decision means the residents will now contact contractors for quotes.

Once the filters have been fitted, if there is any grant money left over, they hope to use it for maintenance to the water tank.

## Cash available for village projects

A PLEA has gone out to residents of Duror and Kentallen to come up with projects which could benefit the community.

The villages' community council has £8,000 to spend and wants to hear suggestions on how it could best be used.

The council currently helps to support a number of local initiatives, such as the community website and some Duror and Kentallen village centre projects.

However, community council members say they would welcome more ideas.

Chairwoman Morag MacNeil explained that some of the funds available come from a legacy from the Duror Hydro scheme.

'The main criteria is commu-

nity benefit and a commitment to be involved in seeing the project through,' explained Morag.

'In other words, we aren't just looking for ideas, we are looking for people with some time to put ideas into practice if we provide the funds and whatever guidance and support may be needed.'

The issue was discussed at the community council's February meeting.

Member Jean MacLeod said one idea she had been looking at was to develop heritage signs for the villages, pointing out various areas of interest to visitors.

She also suggested part of the village hall could be used as a 'historic centre'.

She said she had been in touch with Historic Scotland seeking

advice on how a project such as this could be developed and was currently awaiting a reply.

'If we had some advice, we could then consider if we wanted to go ahead with it. It's not committing us but it would give us an idea of the costs,' said Jean.

Morag said another idea could be to upgrade equipment in the play park – although there may be other sources of funding available elsewhere.

Posters have been put up in the area and on the community website www.durorandkentallen.co.uk advertising the availability of the money and calling for ideas.

The community council agreed to consider all suggestions for projects at its March meeting.



Maggie MacDonald shows how her water is currently filtered. Help from the local community council means modern filters will be fitted to the supply to six houses in Duror. 15\_107maggie01

**Beachd Ailein**  
Ailean Caimbeul

THA E NA CHOHFHURTACHD ann an dòigh neònach gum bheil na gearraidhean ann an seirbheasan poblach a' bualadh air cùisean Beurla cho math ri feadhainn Ghàidhlig, ach aig an aon àm tha e na fhior adhbhar iomagain a bhith a' faicinn buaidh phoileasaidhean an Rìghaltais a' tighinn am follais.

Chan urrainn dha Comhairlean gearraidhean a sheachnadh le milleanan mòra aca ri a' chaomhnadh gus an cuid maoin a chothromachadh agus le còrr air trian de na tha iad a' cosg a-dol air foghlam, feumaidh an sporan sin a chuid fhèin den chràdh a ghiùlan. Cha b' iongnadh ged a bhiodh tomhas de thruas againn dha na Buill Comhairle air am bheil uallach cho-dhùnaidhean dhoirbh a' dèanamh.

Ach mar a' thear an seanfhacl, 's e goirteas a chinn fhèin as mìosa do gach neach agus nuair a thig e gu bhith a' dìon chòirichean, tha coimhearsnachdan dualach fàs sgìreachdail is gun chus lèirsinn air dealbh mòr. Ach an-dràsta, air feadh an t-saoghail, tha daoine a' seasamh an aghaidh riaghaltasan nach eil nam beachd a' toirt dhaibh ceartais agus chan eil teagamh nach bi an seòrsa ar-a-mach sin na mhisneachadh dha mòran eile.

Nochd pàrantan às an Eilean Sgitheanach agus ann an Inbhir Nis an cuid mi-rùn le planaichean Chomhairle na Gàidhealtachd luchd-taice thidsearan sna bun-sgoiltean a chur às an dreuchdan gus faisg air millean na shàbhailadh. Tha mi a' sgrìobhadh seo is fios air nochdadh gum bheil a' Chomhairle air dail a chur ann an co-dhùnadh. Gun teagamh, chan eil an sin ach gleidheadh thar tamaill oir feumaidh na caomhnaidhean tachairt, ach a-nise tha a' Chomhairle air aontachadh gun gleidh iad luchd-taice deatamach. Abair dùbhlair agus feum air glicias Sholaimeh gus leithid sin a dhèanamh! Thuir Cathraiche an Fhoghlaim gun do dh'èist na Buill ris an t-sluagh! Nach bu chòir dhaibh a bhith a' dèanamh sin dail na h-ùine?

Fhuair Comhairleichean cuideachd dearbhadh follaiseach de tha daoine a' smaointinn air plana na Comhairle taic airgid Sgoil-Chiùil a' Phluic a' Phluic, rud a dh' fhaodadh an Sgoil a dhùnadh. Chan eil a' Chomhairle air seo a leigeil às ach a rèir coltais, tha dòchas aca airgead fhaotainn à àiteigin eile a fionas a' bheàrn. Ach co as a thig a' chobhair is a h-ùile meang den t-saoghail poblach a' fulang?

PEOPLE in many places will take courage from seeing people-power in action across the world, and councils will undoubtedly also experience it as they struggle to manage massive budget cuts forced on them by government policies aimed at quick reversals of Britain's fiscal crisis.

Highland Council 'listened' to parents protesting at plans to cut all classroom assistants. The council will now evaluate and, with Solomon wisdom, retain essential posts.

They have also seen and heard public views on plans to withdraw funding from the Plockton School of Traditional Music, and while they have not changed their plans they are hoping to find alternative funding. But who can help with every public purse under pressure?

Ailean Caimbeul (Allan Campbell)  
ailean@obantimes.co.uk

**Editorial**

**Editorial Director**  
Stewart MacKenzie  
editor@obantimes.co.uk

**Deputy Editor**  
Stuart Laundry  
slaundry@obantimes.co.uk

**Northern Editor**  
Stephen Norris  
snorris@obantimes.co.uk

**Chief Reporter**  
Euan Paterson  
epaterson@obantimes.co.uk

**Senior Reporter**  
Louise Lee  
lleee@obantimes.co.uk

**Senior Reporter**  
Steven Flanagan  
sflanagan@obantimes.co.uk

**Reporter**  
Christine McCartney  
cmcarterney@obantimes.co.uk

**Reporter**  
Edel Kenealy  
ekenealy@obantimes.co.uk

**Reporter**  
Richard Haddock  
rhaddock@obantimes.co.uk

**Web Co-ordinator**  
Marian Miller  
mmiller@obantimes.co.uk

**Newsdesk**  
01631 568060  
editor@obantimes.co.uk

**Advertising**

**Advertising Sales Manager**  
Fiona MacInnes  
fmacinnes@obantimes.co.uk

**Advertising Sales Person**  
Rhona McKillop  
advrnts@obantimes.co.uk

**Advertising Sales Person**  
Fiona Bennett  
fbennett@obantimes.co.uk

**Advertising Sales Person**  
Vanda MacDonald  
copy@obantimes.co.uk

**Advertising Sales Person**  
Margaret Freytag  
advrnts@obantimes.co.uk

**Advertising Sales Person**  
Claire Firth  
cfirth@vwyxmedia.co.uk

**Advertising Sales Person**  
Kevin Summers  
ksummers@vwyxmedia.co.uk

**Branch Offices**

**Fort William**  
Tel 01397 703003  
Fax 01397 702495

**Lochgilhead**  
Tel 01546 602345  
Fax 01546 602661

**Campbeltown**  
Tel 01586 554646  
Fax 01586 553006

**Arran**  
Tel 01770 302142  
Fax 01770 302121

www.obantimes.co.uk

## D-day for 'vital' Barra air link to Benbecula

FLIGHTS to and from Barra could be saved this week, if Western Isles Council moves to find savings of £211,000 to maintain the current subsidy.

Comhairle nan Eilean Siar's transport committee last week approved a report that would see its own departments find half of the sum required to save the service, with the policy and resources committee set to approve the same report to find the remaining cash at a meeting this Thursday.

**Ratify**

The full council will then consider that evening whether or not to ratify the proposals and save the flights.

Chairman of the transportation committee and Barra councillor Donald Manford said he is hopeful that the 'vital' air link to Benbecula will be saved.

He said: 'The decision will be taken this week. I'm hopeful, but it is still too early to say if it will be saved.'

Mr Manford reemphasised how important the air service was to everyone on the island, not just commuters.

'There are huge implications

for the health service. I'm still disappointed that the subsidy could have been identified for savings without a proper assessment of impact.'

SNP MSP for the Western Isles Alasdair Allan said: 'I don't envy the task which the Comhairle has in making its budgets balance in these difficult times.'

**Lifeline**

'However, I urge the Comhairle to heed to calls in Barra for their lifeline air service to Benbecula to be maintained.'

'To their credit in the past, the Comhairle has recognised the need to ensure that the Western Isles becomes a cohesive unit and overcomes major historic transport problems between islands. Part of this has been their involvement in supporting air services which make it possible to get from Stornoway to Barra in a few hours, a service which is appreciated, not least, by those attending hospital.'

'I would urge the Comhairle this week, in the strongest possible terms, not to pull the plug on this service; a move which I believe would set back transport links in the Western Isles.'

# Bleak outlook for successful ferry service

## Lack of cash places question mark against Jura crossing

THE FUTURE of the Jura passenger ferry service looks to be in doubt after Argyll and Bute Council, the principal funder, decided it could not renew financial support for the project.

The service, which runs between Tayvallich and Craighouse on Jura, was last year voted a huge success by islanders at the conclusion of a three-year pilot.

However, the service relies on subsidies to survive and with financial constraints at local, national and European level, islanders have admitted their search for funding will be a difficult one.

Already HITRANS and HIE have ruled themselves out as potential funders and, following a recent meeting at Kilmory Castle with Jura representatives, Argyll and Bute Council has indicated it could not approve the current funding application from Jura Development Trust. The trust is now exploring the possibility of Scottish Government funding.

Argyll and Bute Councillor Robin Currie, who lives on the neighbouring Isle of Islay, said he had not given up hope for the service, which he describes as a 'tremendous boost' to Jura.

Mr Currie said: 'I was at the meeting in Kilmory and I was

REPORT  
by EUAN PATERSON  
epaterson@obantimes.co.uk

disappointed with the outcome. Maybe I'm too much of an optimist but I think there is still a chance to get money from the council's community grants fund.

'There has been a very successful trial over the past three years, which was used by day-trippers and people who have homes on the island. It also generated extra activity on the island for the hotel and the shop. I am really keen that there is

something in place for this year – the service should start on April 22 – because if you stop these things for even a year, you lose that momentum.'

Councillor Currie noted there was still money in the council's community grants fund which, he said, would be suitable for the ferry project.

He said he was surprised at the council's response and estimated it could meet at least one quarter of the estimated £100,000 required to run the service. The rest of the costs could be met by fares (50 per cent) and other revenue.

Tony Jarvis, HIE's senior development manager for transport, told Jura Development Trust: 'I am quite sympathetic to the cause, but there is no way HIE can provide ongoing revenue support for this service, which is what I understand is required.'

'This is not a position specific to Jura - in general, HIE is not able to provide revenue support for ferry services - this clearly being the responsibility of the relevant local authorities and/or Transport Scotland.'

On completing its three-year pilot, the Jura passenger ferry had carried more than 7,200 passengers, 25 per cent of whom were Jurachs.

## Firefighters' tentative first steps to Mongolia

TREE firefighters Craig Watson and Andy Phillips have taken their first steps to Mongolia after raising £438 with their first sponsored walk at the weekend.

The island huddled together in support for the pair prior to the 12-mile walk from the island's radar station to Caolas on Saturday, helping them raise the first of the £10,000 they hope to achieve by walking 100 miles across the Gobi Desert in September.

While the pair need to raise a minimum of £2,000 each just to get there and join up with Gobi United FC, the first wedge of cash is certainly helping them towards their goal.

And as Craig explains, it was as much a family event as a community one.

He said: 'Our walk - on a typical cold and windy Treet day - was attended by my wife Sharon and our four kids, Robert, 17, Ashleigh, 12, Lynzie, nine, and Calum-Craig, 19 months, who was wheeled all the way, and family friend Andrew. Andy was joined by his fiancé Mhairi and family friend Rona.

'Andy and I were delighted with the response but not surprised

as there is still a great sense of community spirit on Treet and everyone pulls together when required.'

Andy and Craig have taken yet another significant step towards Mongolia after receiving backing in the form of two corporate sponsors, Scottish Power Treet Array and security firm G4S.

They will now embark on a more rigorous training programme to fully prepare them for the rigours of the journey across one of the world's most demanding terrains.

The Rangers supporters will split the cash between Motor Neurone Disease Scotland in tribute to Celtic's greatest player Jimmy Johnstone, who died from the disease, and the proposed Davie Cooper Centre in Clydebank for children and adults with special needs, set up in tribute to the former Rangers and Clydebank wing-kick of the same name.

The charity walk across the Gobi desert is the brainchild of former Black Watch soldier Jock McInnes who wanted to bring together fans from both sides of the Old Firm and Motherwell to raise money for good causes.

## Staff cook up a tasty £293 for pipe band

Staff at the Lynnside Day Care Centre helped to raise £293 for Oban Pipe Band by hosting a coffee morning at the centre. Margaret MacLennan, whose husband Angus is a stalwart of the band, said she and her colleagues were happy to help the band, which will return to competition after an absence of five years.

The band's Pipe Major Euan Dewar thanked the staff for their hard work and support and said the money would go towards funding new equipment.

The volunteers were: Margaret MacLennan, Helen Reid, Senga Clark, Deborah Brassington, Jenny Hodgson and David MacKechnie.



## Council tax refund scam reaches Western Isles

FRAUDSTERS claiming to offer council tax refunds in an effort to obtain bank details have started targeting households the Western Isles.

Several residents have contacted Comhairle nan Eilean Siar's Trading Standards department to complain about the scam, which has been rife in the Stirling and Perth and Kinross regions in recent weeks.

The con artists tell people that, thanks to a government scheme, they are entitled to a refund on their council tax, which will be

processed once they have handed over their bank details.

**Reminder**

A spokesman for the council said: 'The Comhairle would like to advise residents there is no such government scheme. Anyone receiving a similar telephone call is reminded that they should not give out their bank account details.'

Anyone with concerns should contact the Comhairle's council tax office direct on 07900 256 110 or Trading Standards department on 01851 822694.

## Can you help deliver gifts to the Gambia?

A NORTH Connel couple are appealing to Oban Times readers to help them deliver gifts to the people of The Gambia after ill health prevented them from travelling themselves.

Cyril and Christine Scott were due to make their 16th visit to the African country at the beginning of the year with glasses, clothing, make-up, handbags and other possessions.

Despite suffering from the bone marrow cancer, Myeloma, Cyril was determined to make the trip because of the number of donations received from people across Argyll. But after Cyril caught pneumonia and was hospitalised shortly before they were due to travel, the couple decided the long haul to Africa would be too much of a risk to their health.

'It would be a step too far but we now feel very guilty,' explained Christine.

'People we barely know have been coming to hand things in and we would often come home to bags of donations lying at the back door.'

Since their first trip to the region in 1979, the Scotts have become well-known faces in the Gambian town of Bakau, Cape Point, and have been nicknamed 'Daddy' and 'Boss Lady' by the locals.

However, they have now called time on their 'holidays' to The Gambia and are appealing for help to transport the heaps of donations to the country.

If you can help the Scotts, contact them on 01631 710380, or email epaterson@obantimes.co.uk

**Police files**

**Teenager assaulted**

POLICE are investigating after an 18-year-old man was assaulted in Oban on Sunday morning. Enquiries are continuing into the incident, which took place at around 3.50am at Glenshellach Terrace.

**Breach of peace**

A SEVENTEEN-year-old man was arrested in Angus Terrace, Oban, after an alleged breach of the peace at 3.45am on Sunday.

**Report to fiscal**

A MAN has been reported to the Procurator Fiscal after allegedly vandalising a shop in George Street at 1.25am on Sunday morning.

**Suspect held**

POLICE arrested a 24-year old man in Portsonachan on Saturday in connection with an alleged assault, breach of the peace and vandalism.

**Electric car powers into town for roadshow**

AN ELECTRIC car is expected to visit Oban next week as part of the two-day AllEnergy Electric Car Roadshow.

Arranged in conjunction with Allied Vehicles and Argyll and Bute Council, the Peugeot eExpert Tepee will travel from Dunoon to Oban and back again over two days, a combined journey of just over 200 miles. The roadshow will provide an opportunity for anyone thinking of investing in an electric vehicle to have their questions answered.

The car is expected to arrive in Oban at 5pm on Tuesday, before resting for an overnight charge and appearing at the Co-operative on Soroba Road between 9am-10am.

It will then visit Oban High School and Argyll College before returning to Dunoon. The eExpert Tepee has a range of 100 miles and a top speed of 65mph, costing 3.5pence per mile to run.

**Ex-Celtic star to attend trust dinner**

TWO OF Scottish football's best-known figures will be guests at this year's Ryan MacPhail Memorial Trust charity dinner in Oban.

Former Scottish Football Association chief executive Gordon Smith and ex-Celtic star Frank McAvennie will attend the event on March 11 in the Argyllshire Gathering Halls.

Mr McAvennie's fame is for his footballing exploits but also partly thanks to comedian Jonathan Watson's satirical portrayal of him in *Only An Excuse*, where he coined the immortal catchphrase 'Where's the birds?'

Gordon Smith is currently a football agent and television pundit.

**Action group fears over windfarm plan**

KINTYRE Offshore Windfarm Action Group says it fears the Scottish Government will ignore its own consultation when it reveals its draft plan for offshore wind power.

A spokesperson for the group said it thinks the Kintyre site will remain part of the final plan, despite huge local opposition to the proposals.

A spokesman for the group said: 'This means that the site will undergo the new consenting regime where all the cards are stacked in favour of the power generators and against the communities whose quality of life will be sold off.'

'We will needlessly lose our unspoiled seascapes for a generation.'

'We only wish for ministers to truly listen and not be slavishly hitched to green targets, heedless of the consequences of the Kintyre element of their draft plan.'

**Man forced his way into house**

A MAN admitted kicking in a door and forcing entry to a house in Oban when he appeared from custody at Oban Sheriff Court this week.

Mark Edgar, 57, of Flat 3-1, 79 Baston Street, Glasgow, had sentence deferred until March 14 for reports.



Should we do it ourselves? From left: David Watson, Dalavich; David Condie, Kilchrenan; the Rev Robert Brookes, Taynuilt; Rob Stevens, Kilchrenan; and Roy Parish, Kilchrenan, survey the damaged road outside Kilchrenan Church. 15\_107kilch02

**We'll fix road ourselves, say fed up villagers**

**Crumbling route has blighted communities for 20 years**

RESIDENTS of Kilchrenan and Dalavich say they are losing patience with Argyll and Bute Council - nearly 20 years after they first complained about the crumbling road through the villages.

They are now asking whether they should put the Prime Minister's 'Big Society' idea into practice and fix the road themselves.

However, they are waiting to see if part of the additional £3m the council has allocated for emergency road repairs will be coming their way.

The two villages have a combined population of around 300 and the single-track B845 that connects them to the A85 main road at Taynuilt is also regularly used by haulage vehicles. As a result of heavy traffic and a lack of maintenance the road is subsiding in some parts and is riddled with potholes; some parts are so bad drivers are forced to a crawling speed.

Former Avich and Kilchrenan community council secretary Marylin Henderson said: 'The state of the road was on the agenda at every meeting during my 17 years as community council secretary and it still is today.'

'That was because every time I would go into the village shop or

**REPORT**

by EUAN PATERSON  
epaterson@obantimes.co.uk  
pub that's what people would ask me about.'

The parish minister, Rev Robert Brookes, who regularly travels between Taynuilt, Kilchrenan and Dalavich, said: 'Living in a rural place like this means you pay a lot for fuel and these potholes are doing damage to cars.'

'On Sundays when I go around the houses people are always talking to me about roads.'

Dalavich resident David Watson fears a tourism shutdown if the road condition continues to worsen.

*"We have met visitors who love the area but don't want to come back because of the roads."*

**Dalavich resident David Watson**

'I know the road well so I know where the worst of the potholes are but we have met visitors who say they love the area but don't want to come back because of the roads.'

'I saw a motorcyclist on the road the other day and I felt so sorry for him. He was crawling along and watching the potholes, rather than the road ahead!'

Bus driver Andrew Campbell said: 'The B845 is like a dirt road. Part of it is falling away into the River Nant. It should be a priority for the council because it is well used and is a school bus route.'

A spokeswoman for Argyll and Bute Council said: 'It has been a while since extensive overlay work has been undertaken on this particular section of this route.'

'Any major resurfacing works would (and will) be funded through the capital budget. Whilst we in roads operations are generally responsible for undertaking the capital works it is only the revenue budget for which we have direct control.'

'In terms of road maintenance we tend to undertake limited sections of overlay to failed road surfaces. The last time anything significant (on the B845) was completed was surface dressing in 2004.'

**Stage is finally set for Luings panto**

PLANS for the panto on the island of Luings were thrown into disarray when the amateur thespians were told their normal stage was being used for a Zumba dance class.

For the past two years they have borrowed a stage from an Oban primary school but due to the exercise class taking place the platform was not available.

Undeterred, panto director Alison Robertson phoned round the village halls on Seil and Easdale to see if their staging would be available, but worryingly they were either too high or low. It was then that Alison got on the phone to engineer David Ritchie to ask: 'Can you build us a stage?'

He faces a busy time to get it ready for curtain up on Thursday February 24.

Alison then took the group's plight to Oban's MGM Timber merchants which gave the group a fantastic deal on the materials needed for the project. Next on her list were carpet tiles, which Homebase gifted to the venture.

The whole cast is grateful to David who set to work last Sunday to get the stage ready for rehearsals. Characters Dame Petunia, Muddles and Titch dropped by to lend a hand and hurry the process along.



Helping hand: Dave Ritchie gets to work with the help of members of Luings panto cast.

**Loganair to operate Sunday flights to Barra and Tiree during summer**

SUNDAY flights to the islands of Barra and Tiree are to be introduced this summer.

Loganair, which operates its scheduled services under a franchise agreement with Flybe, will add the new services between July 3 and August 28.

Flights to both islands are timed to provide connections via Glasgow to UK regional and London-bound services operated by Flybe and Loganair's code-share partner, British Airways.

**Weekend break**  
The new service to Tiree will leave Glasgow at 2pm, arriving at 2.50pm and then departing from Tiree at 3.10pm, landing into Glasgow at 4pm. It will be operated by 33-seat Saab 340B aircraft.

Airline officials say the flights operate three hours later than the regular weekday and Saturday schedule to allow passengers the opportunity to enjoy a full weekend break at their destination before heading home.

Loganair's 15-seat Twin Otter aircraft will operate the two round trip flights between Glasgow and Barra each Sunday.

The services will depart Glasgow at 11.45am and 2.55pm and leave Barra at 1.15pm and 4.25pm, although timings may change subject to tides on Traigh Mor beach.

The Sunday services are in addition to the Monday to Saturday flights on the Glasgow-Tiree and Glasgow-Barra routes operated under the Public Service Obligation air scheme.

**Commercial risk**  
Loganair is undertaking the new service at its own commercial risk and will receive no additional subsidy for the Sunday flights.

Transport Minister Keith Brown said: 'These new summer Sunday services are excellent news for our island communities, tourists and the Scottish economy.'

lifeline Public Service Obligation routes have provided the foundation that provides these important air services and we are pleased to see Loganair delivering these new Sunday services from within their own resources.'

**Privileged**  
Loganair's chief operating officer Jonathan Hinkles said: 'Loganair has been privileged to operate the air services to Tiree and Barra for more than 35 years under the Public Service Obligation structure.'

'2011 sees a major development with the reintroduction of Sunday flights to Barra after a break of almost 20 years and to Tiree for the first time.'

'We are delighted to be adding the new flights to meet peak summer travel demand, and expect that the services will prove popular with travellers, who up to now have had to use the Oban ferry if they wish to travel on a Sunday.'

**Trees removed as Black Lynn clean-up starts**



BID4OBAN organised for 30 foot trees to be removed from the Black Lynn on Saturday morning. 16\_107BID01

A TEAM of volunteers got together in the cold and windy weather on Sunday morning to begin the clear up of the Black Lynn which runs through the centre of Oban.

The first phase of work saw 30-foot trees growing at the edge of the burn removed under the supervision of Technical Tree Services.

Graham MacQueen, chairman of Oban Business Improvement District (Bid4Oban) said: 'Bid4Oban has reconstituted Oban Litter Busters initially to deal with the Black Lynn. Sunday saw our first phase of work completed and the biggest hardest tree taken out of the water.'

On hand to undertake the works were Iain MacKinnon, health and safety officer at Argyll and Bute Council, Alexander MacKinnon, from the Community Environmental Initiative and Ian Dougal. The plan is to make the area attractive and usable for the whole town.

Volunteers to continue the work along the length of Black Lynn should contact Graham MacQueen on 01631 564848.

**Fears Oban roads cash may be lost**

OBAN, Lorn and Isles Area Committee is concerned that some or all of the £2million earmarked for revamping Oban's roads network will be lost to budget cuts.

Scotland Transerv has so far not committed to carrying out the extensive road works in the town this October, despite all the required utilities and preliminary work being completed in anticipation of the date.

The local area committee will now invite Transerv's roads manager John Wrigley to its March meeting for further discussions.

**Rejected**

Having rejected previous invites, hopes are not high that he will accept until such time as the money is either in place, or not.

At last Wednesday's meeting, member Roddy McCuish asked if the money was still allocated, to which the council's area roads and amenities manager, Neil Brown, said he was unsure, due to widespread budget cuts.

Mr McCuish said: 'Very disappointing. We're all ready to go and then discover the money might not be there?' He also posed the question of whether the committee would be happy with £1million of work instead, even if Transport Scotland said 'that's your lot for the next 10 years.'

**Fishermen guilty of brutal assault**

TWO FISHERMEN have been found guilty of carrying out a brutal assault on a 'chivalrous' Oban man trying to protect a female companion.

Donnie Lopez was described as a 'coward' for his part in the assault, after kicking his grounded victim's head into a metal pole, causing a cut that required stitches.

Russell MacLennan had been found guilty of flooring the man by punching him on the head and body, also to his injury.

The pair had denied the charges when they appeared at Oban Sheriff Court on Monday, saying that the witnesses had concocted their statements to get Lopez in trouble.

MacLennan, 22, a mussel fisherman, from 18a Dalnart Drive, Oban, was making his way home with Lopez, 23, a trawlerman, now of 13 Hynish Crescent, Oban, on April 2 when they were spotted shouting in the street at about 1.45am by a group of two women and a man.

One of the women knew Lopez and approached him to say something, believing they were arguing.

A scuffle broke out between Lopez and the

woman and her male companion stepped in to protect her.

MacLennan then intervened and sent the man to the ground before running away. Lopez aimed one or two kicks at the man's head, causing it to collide with a pole, before walking away.

The victim was left with a large cut to his ear which required several stitches as a result.

Addressing Lopez, Procurator Fiscal David Glancy said: 'What do you think of someone that kicks someone on the head when he's on the ground? It's rank isn't it?'

Lopez said: 'It's pretty low.'

'That's why this is a problem for you. It really brings no credit to you if you battered a defenceless guy when he was on the ground. You are basically a coward.'

'[The man] was being chivalrous, gallant - if that's something you can get your head round. 'Then Mr MacLennan punched him on the left side of the face. He fell to the ground and you kicked him.'

Sheriff Eric Brown deferred sentence until March 14 for reports.

**SAVE OVER 28%**

**LOOKING FOR THAT PERFECT SOMETHING FOR THAT PERFECT SOMEONE?**

**CHOOSE FROM THREE OF OUR AMAZING OFFERS:**

- 3 issues for £1, thereafter £9.99 per quarter, saving over 28%
- Give a one year gift subscription for only £43.20 subscription and receive 1 issue free
- Buy 3 one year subscriptions and receive another one year subscription absolutely free

Then choose one of three easy ways to pay:

- Call 01631 568000 or
- Complete and send the form below or
- Click www.scottishfield.co.uk

**REASONS TO SUBSCRIBE**

- Pay by direct debit and save more than 28% over a 12 month period
- Never miss an issue
- Free delivery within the UK
- Free delivery direct to your door
- Beat any price increases for one year
- Convenient payment options

OT

Lorn Lines

OBAN Mountain Rescue Team had to turn people away from a fundraising slideshow event because it was too busy. Deputy team leader Neil McGougan's slideshow on mountain rescues and scenic shots from around Scotland and Norway's Lofoten Islands proved to be a popular one with around 70 people packed into the hotel.

THE SUBJECT of Oban Photographic Club's meeting on February 7 in the Regent Hotel, Oban, was the Scottish Photographic Federation's Digital Image Portfolio. The images were the best submitted from clubs all over Scotland and everyone enjoyed seeing and commenting on them.



Ilona George and Olwyn Rowland enjoy a 'bit of a do' in Oban's Oxfam Shop. 16\_107ofam1

The Oxfam shop in Oban had a 'bit of a do' on Saturday to launch a month of fundraising in the run up to International Women's Day's 100th anniversary in March. There was a party atmosphere in store as staff and volunteers celebrated the achievements of women the world over.

A QUIZ night is being organised by the fundraising committee of Oban Pipe Band tomorrow (Friday) in the Masonic Lodge, Albany Street.

Campbeltown man jailed after Oban bottle threat

A DRUNKEN man who brandished a bottle at another man in Oban and demanded drugs and money has been jailed for six months. Thomas MacIntyre, aged 29, of Flat 9, 26 Main Street, Campbeltown, appeared from custody at Oban Sheriff Court last Tuesday on a deferred sentence after admitting the assault on December 12 last year.

MaIntyre went to pick it up, the victim went to the nearby police station. The incident occurred after MaIntyre was told, in no uncertain terms, by the complainant to go away when he asked for the drug valium. After being refused, MaIntyre brandished a Buckfast bottle, which he had been hiding behind his back, and demanded drugs and money.

now live in America. However, she added: 'He has had problems with alcohol and on this occasion was intoxicated.' Sheriff Douglas Small backdated MaIntyre's sentence to December 16 when he first went into custody.

Councillors add their names to Royal wedding card



The Oban, Lorn and Isles area committee chairman Duncan MacIntyre adds his name to the scroll, watched by the rest of the councillors on the committee and Oban RNLI Fundraising Group treasurer Les Stewart. 15\_107scroll1

COUNCILLORS from Oban, Lorn and the Isles have added their names to the 40-foot Royal 'wedding card' touring the area in aid of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI). The councillors added their names to the scroll before last week's meeting of the Lorn and Isles Area Committee at the Corran Halls.

Woman passenger critical after collision on A82

A WOMAN is in a critical condition at Paisley's Royal Alexandra Hospital after a road crash on the A82 last Friday near Firkin Point. The incident occurred at about 5.40pm when a green coloured Volvo V40 Estate, travelling north, collided with a green coloured Citroen Xsara Picasso travelling in the opposite direction.

Chef given three months to find job

A SHERIFF has reluctantly granted a joyriding chef more time to gain employment before enforcing a compensation order. Paul Robertson, aged 22, of Barnhill, Dundee, and his co-accused Carl Jordan, 23, of Folkstone, previously pled guilty to stealing and damaging two buses from Bowman's Coaches from the company's Craignure yard on Mull on October 4, when they caused a total of £21,500 of damage.

Public urged to help counter terrorist threat

REPORT by LOUISE LEE llee@obantimes.co.uk

PICTURESQUE Oban may not appear to be an obvious terrorist target. However, senior officials from a range of agencies who met in the town last week urged residents and visitors - particularly those in the maritime sector - to remain vigilant to any suspicious behaviour.



Project Kracken was launched in Oban by a team of special forces officers from Strathclyde Police, supported by some of the UK's top border control officers. 16\_107kracken1

The meeting was to launch Project Kracken, an initiative aimed at getting people to work together to fight crime and terrorism. Among those present was an agent from HM Border Control who addressed the meeting on the type of threats currently being tackled. He said: 'We are expert in detecting drug and terrorism crime on the south coast. This has a knock on effect of pushing criminals further up the coast.'

for the force. Argyll and Bute has not experienced a terrorist attack and remains relatively free from serious crime in general. This initiative will encourage people to work together with the police and it's hoped that, as a result, the local maritime community can help prevent incidents of this nature occurring in the future by reporting anything they believe may be suspicious.

The message from officers is they want to know of any unusual behaviour. An example of fighting crime in the south coast came down to a librarian noticing a page was missing from a reference book after two men had been using it. She reported it to the police and it was the last piece of a jigsaw that stopped a number of electricity sub-stations in London being blown up.

Officers explained that profiling on situations, people and incidents is going on all the time and to create a full picture the eyes and ears of the community in the islands are required to complete the information. Area Commander, Chief Inspector Glen Bland, who helped organise the event, said: 'A key element of policing activity in Oban is to minimise the risk from terrorism so that people can go about their daily lives and business freely and with confidence.'

'The meeting in Oban provided the ideal platform to highlight to members of the local maritime community how they can help minimise the risk of their waters and ports being used for criminal or terrorism-related activities.'

Two held after raid at caravan park

A DRUGS bust at an Argyll caravan site resulted in two men being detained by police and a quantity of drugs recovered. The police operation, involving armed officers, was at Glenfinart Caravan Park, Ardentinnay, last Friday morning. The raid on a number of properties also involved dogs branch officers and uniformed police. Two men, aged 42 and 46, were detained and have been 'assisting officers with inquiries'.

Father fined £60 for court outburst

AN OUTBURST in court during his son's trial led to an Oban man being fined. Stephen Kelly, aged 46, of Room 4, Dunmore Lodge, Albany Street, appeared at Oban Sheriff Court last Wednesday charged with disrupting a trial in court one and committing a breach of the peace in another part of the court building on February 8. After shouting and swearing in the courtroom, Kelly was removed by the duty police officer, however, his continued tirade could be heard outside the courtroom and he was arrested. Last Wednesday, Kelly pled guilty to the offence and apologised to the procurator fiscal and other court officers. Defence agent Edward Thornton explained his client was full of remorse for his actions. Honorary sheriff Graeme Pagan fined Kelly £60.

Shunned seal Brendan finds a friend at last

A COMMON seal shunned by his own kind has finally found the affection he craves at The Scottish Sea Life Sanctuary in Barcaldine. Problem seal Brendan has moved into the sanctuary where resident female Lora appears totally smitten by him. Abandoned days after birth, Brendan was rescued by an Irish seal sanctuary where, unfortunately, he grew too accustomed to human kindness. After six months he was transferred to a centre in the UK and released into the North Sea in May 2010. 'He was soon in trouble again,' said Sea Life manager Alastair Law. 'He had clearly failed to integrate with other wild seals and ended up begging for fish from a sympathetic fisherman. 'Within a month he washed up half-starved and when a rescue team arrived to collect him he was being cradled in a woman's arms on the beach.'



Brendan who struggled to cope in the wild has now found love.

Brendan soon gained strength and stamina again with the help of the animal care team at Scarborough Sea Life Sanctuary but staff there noted that unlike other rescued pups he failed to bond with the resident adults. 'It was beginning to look like

Brendan considered himself more human than seal, but Lora has changed all that in an instant,' said Alastair. 'She was born here in 2007 and is a couple of years Brendan's senior, but they hit it off from the word go.' Having been released into the wild

unsuccessfully once, his carers are reluctant to take the risk of a second attempt. 'Happily, you only have to watch him with Lora for a few minutes to realise he would not want to be anywhere else.'

Work together, committee tells groups

THE AREA committee for Lorn and the Isles has told local organisations to work closer together, rather than make repeated applications for equipment funding. The call comes after the committee refused to give cash to the Hope 2 Oban Group to buy five laptop computers and software for a new photography group, having recently granted a similar application from another Oban-based youth organisation. Instead, they will try to help Hope 2 Oban in kind, and have asked officers to look at the possibility of giving the council's own redundant and disused computing equipment to groups who

require new equipment. Speaking at the meeting, SNP councillor Roddy McCuish said: 'I support this, but about one year ago we funded another organisation for photographic equipment. Why can't they share their facilities? Also, why does it have to be new equipment all the time? Does it have to be new laptops? 'There must be hundreds of laptops sitting in the council that maybe could be reused.' Liberal Democrat councillor Neil MacKay agreed: 'Maybe there should be a bit more joined up thinking; not just share equipment but knowledge as well.' The committee also considered

three applications from Atlantis Leisure for different projects. Two of the proposals, towards the Play Sports' archery class and new Zumba coaching sessions, received grants of £400 and £300 respectively, but the decision on an application for £2,000 to go towards the centre's new £56,000 soft play area was deferred to the committee's March meeting. Meanwhile, the committee approved funding applications from the Kerrera Development Trust for £1,000 to progress community developments, and £1,082 to the Ardentinnay Fundraising Committee, part of Park School's Parent Council, to send 35 P7 pupils to a four-day

outward bound course at Ardentinnay Outdoor Centre. Crossroads (North Argyll) received £1,000 towards a 'fitness and laughter' programme for elderly people, £133 to North Argyll Carers Centre for creative therapy sessions and £473 to Kilmelford and Kilmilver Community Association to replace two notice boards. The Oban Addiction Support Information Service (OASIS) received a grant of £3,000 towards new day programmes for addicts, helping them reintegrate into the community. A request from Oban, Lorn and the Isles RFC for funding for a woodchip playing surface will be considered at the committee's March meeting.

2011 Calendars advertisement. Features three calendar options: Scottish Field (£3.83), The Oban Times (£2.62), and Scottish Field Mini (£2.62). A large '1/2 price sale!' banner is prominent. Below are more calendar options: East Coast Scenes (£2.62), Isle of Arran (£2.62), and West Coast Scenes (£2.62). Text at the bottom states: 'Only available via our office at The Oban Times, Lochavullin, Oban, Argyll or by calling us on 01631 568000. Order online at: www.scottishcalendars.co.uk. \*All prices exclude worldwide postage and packaging, which is an extra £2.'



**Torrent of abuse aimed at police**

A MAN who was arrested by police only one week after being released from prison shouted a 'torrent of abuse' at officers in Oban town centre.

Paul Nicol, aged 29, of Ty an Mor, Oban, appeared at court on a deferred sentence last Tuesday after pleading guilty last month to a breach of the peace on November 26.

Procurator Fiscal David Glancy explained that on the date labelled, police officers saw Nicol in Station Square with an open bottle of Buckfast.

As they began to search him he warned the officers he had uncapped needles in his possession. Concerned by his claim, they handcuffed him and took him to the police van.

Mr Glancy added: 'At that point he became aggressive and directed a torrent of abuse at the officers. That caused concern to those within the area.'

Defence solicitor Heather Wilson, who said Nicol had only been released from prison on November 19, explained her client's reaction was as a result of drinking too much alcohol.

Nicol was fined £400 by Sheriff Douglas Small for the breach of the peace, which breached his bail granted at Dunoon Sheriff Court on August 19 for another offence.

**Teenager told to complete work**

A TEENAGER has been ordered to complete the remaining hours of his community service in six months after failing to turn up.

Oban Sheriff Court had heard that Ruairidh Duncan, aged 19, once of Oban and now of Flat 2/1/1, Mafeking Place, Campbeltown, had also only completed 83½ hours of his 120 hour community service order since it was imposed 17 months ago. He missed three appointments last year, although was able to provide a reasonable excuse for failing to attend on December 14 2010.

Sheriff Eric Brown told Duncan that six months would be more than enough time to complete the order, which has now been transferred to Campbeltown Sheriff Court.

**Car slipped into ditch on Islay**

A MOTORIST on Islay had some hard luck on a soft verge on Sunday evening.

The driver hit a soft verge near Bowmore and their car slipped over into the ditch. No one was hurt.

**Chimney fire**

FIREFIGHTERS were called out to deal with a chimney fire at a house in Bridgend, Islay, on Wednesday evening last week.

**Argyll and Bute Council Budget round-up**

**'Work together for greater good'**

INFIGHTING between councillors needs to come to an end in order to do the best for the residents of Argyll and Bute, claims the deputy leader.

Councillor Ellen Morton spoke to the whole council at last week's budget meeting to say enough-was-enough. 'It is time to work together.'

'For the sake of justice, equilibrium and the greater good of the area we need to support one another to meet local aspirations.'

'We have been given a

piddling £1.3 million extra by the Scottish government leaving us with a budget deficit of £10 million.

**Gravity**

'We are cutting jobs here, my husband was unemployed for three years when we had small children, I understand the gravity of these decisions. Choices, previously unthinkable now must be made.'

'To do the best we must pull together and stop all the backbiting. Together we can get the best for residents in Argyll.'

**A meeting - yes... but no to a lift!**

AN OFFER to set aside political differences was made when the leader of Argyll and Bute Council was offered a 'lift' by his ex-deputy to visit the cabinet minister for finance.

Councillor Robert MacIntyre, who was the leader's right hand man until November, offered council leader Dick Walsh a seat in his car for the drive to Holyrood to meet John Swinney in order to secure a better deal for people in Argyll and Bute.

**Meeting**

Councillor MacIntyre said: 'I am happy to use my colleagues in the Scottish government to secure a meeting, and I am also willing to offer the leader a lift.'

Councillor Walsh replied: 'I am happy to take up the offer to attend a meeting.' But as for the lift, he politely declined, saying: 'I have seen your driving, Robert.'

**CAB plea for delay falls on deaf ears**

WORKERS from a young person's homeless charity, Cowal and Bute HELP, and Argyll and Bute Citizens Advice Bureau (ABCAB) put their case to councillors at the beginning of the full council's budget meeting for more time before making a decision on their funding.

ABCAB manager Geraldine Day said: 'Never has there been such a time that it is necessary for the people of Argyll and Bute to have a service such as ABCAB.'

'To withdraw the service would be unfortunate timing. We can

demonstrate an increased demand for our service.'

Councillors Roddy MacCuish, SNP, and Douglas Philand, Argyll First, confirmed with the charities that there had been little or no consultations with the council before the proposals were published.

Jane Fowler, head of improvement and HR said the council had complied with statutory obligations.

As it turned out, councillors agreed not to cut the grant for ABCAB, but HELP's budget was cut by 33 per cent.

**Leader confirms extra £1.316 million**

COUNCILLOR Dick Walsh, leader of the council, confirmed the Scottish government had awarded the council an additional £1.316 million from its supporting people funds.

The final settlement was after discussions between the council, CoSLA and the Scottish Government, enabling the council to reconsider some of the proposals under consideration to make the budget balance.

**Opposition condemns 'rushed' series of measures**

**'No time for proper scrutiny of worst case scenario budget'**

OPPOSITION councillors condemned the three-year budget plans, calling the £55 million three-year package of measures a 'debacle'.

SNP Councillor Donald Macdonald, from Oban North and Lorn, said: 'The budget meeting has been somewhat of a debacle with some of the budget papers being handed out during the course of the meeting with no time for proper and effective scrutiny.'

'My SNP group on the council submitted an amendment that decisions be deferred for some three weeks to enable the proposals to be fully examined by all the councillors.'

'I understand the legal deadline for a balanced Budget to be agreed is March 10.'

**Important**

'We could have confirmed our intention to accept the Scottish government's council tax freeze and started preparations, so I am unsure why we needed to rush things through on February 10.'

'The budget was particularly important this year when money is so tight.'

'It was therefore vital that we undertook proper scrutiny of the proposals and that we tried to ensure budget priorities were the best we could devise and agree.'

'I regret this was just not possible during the course of the meeting and as a result a number of organisations and individuals will now suffer considerably.'

'This new administration has again politicised council business for no good reason and this has worked against the interests of all our constituents.'

'We should have been working together on the budget issues and it is a matter of considerable

regret that this was not allowed to happen.'

James Robb, the only non-aligned member of the council, added: 'This was a short term political budget that failed to balance the books for next year. It is good spin to focus on what has not been cut or the proposals included only because they would be withdrawn later, such as libraries.'

'The coalition seems to think it can borrow its way out of debt and deplete reserves. 'It makes heroic assumptions that future Scottish Governments will offer the same level of protection to local services.'

'The Conservative-Liberal Democrat-Independent Coalition, despite all its bluster, has failed to tackle the tough choices leaving the council finances precariously exposed to a volatile political and economic situation.'

'We can expect to see a raft of additional cuts smuggled

through in executive papers or via operational decisions that will escape member scrutiny in the coming year and huge Council Tax rises in the future.'

'With a little intelligent thought or foresight the fiasco at CoSLA over Supporting People funding could have been avoided.'

'CoSLA had every opportunity to correct the "unintended consequences" of its decision but has failed to do so. If the council leader cannot negotiate a fair share of the Scottish Government bail out at CoSLA he should support my call for the Scottish Government to distribute this money directly to councils on a fair basis.'

**Disaster**

George Freeman and Gordon Chalmers, of the Argyll and Bute Independent Councillors group, said: 'Even if we receive £1.3 million towards alleviating the former Supporting People funding cuts, this cannot be considered as good news. Even if the cut is reduced to £4.3 million, this is still a disaster for Argyll and Bute.'

Councillor Donald Kelly, of political grouping Argyll First, said: 'No one in the opposition voted for the budget.'

'We still don't know what final amount of money Argyll and Bute has; still not yet had the full and final settlement from Scottish government or potential extra cash from CoSLA. This budget was set as a worse case scenario.'

'We face great problems and I feel very strongly there should have been some seminars before hand so there could be full and frank debate with all 36 councillors in respect of the potential effect of the budget at local level.'

*"It was vital we undertook proper scrutiny of the proposals... I regret this was not possible."*

**Councillor Donald Macdonald.**

**At a glance**

THE COUNCIL agreed a series of measures which will result in savings of £55 million of cuts during the next three years.

In doing so there is no area of council life that will remain unaffected.

An Argyll and Bute Council spokeswoman said: 'Revised proposals, combined with some additional funds from the Scottish government, means the council can balance its budget and meet its savings target, while still providing many of the services which are important to residents.'

Among the measures included in the budget are:

A four per cent increase in charges for services such as commercial waste disposal, dog wardens and certificates;

Reduction in overall budgets for travel, subsistence, venue hire, consultants and advertising;

Libraries in Tarbert, Cardross, Rosneath and Lochgilphead will remain open. The mobile library service in Lorn will be removed;

Continued £60,000 grant to the Citizens' Advice Bureau;

Suggestions to close 11 public toilets rejected.

Corran Halls in Oban and Queens Hall in Dunoon will continue to be managed by the council;

No change to funding for music tuition;

School attendance officers to remain;

Funds available to pay for swimming lessons and transport to sports activities will be reduced by 50 per cent;

50 per cent cut in funding for speech and language therapy;

School meals increased by 15 pence;

Adult literacy services preserved;

One year's notice for removal of funding for Christmas lights.

Reduction in funding for public transport providers in rural areas;

Reduction in funding for third sector companies providing recycling schemes during 2011-12 - then funding withdrawn;

Housing support services from HELP (Dunoon) and Quarriers (Oban) - funding reduced by a third;

Council-wide reduction in councillors' allowances for travel, consultants fees, hospitality and hire of venues;

Increased fees and charges for some of its services by four per cent, and by 6.5 per cent where VAT is applied;

Council tax remains unchanged, with Band D properties paying £1,178 per year.

Catering, cleaning and janitorial teams will move from full year to term time only contracts;

Grants allocated to leisure facilities under service level agreements will be reduced by five per cent.



Left to right: Kate Salmon, Chief Executive Officer of Scottish Wholesale Achievers; John Forteith; Peter Baird from award sponsors Cadburys and BBC TV news presenter Catriona Shearer at last week's awards ceremony.

**National awards a major achievement for Forteith**

OBAN business Forteith Foodservice received one of the highest accolades it can at the Scottish Wholesale Achievers awards in Edinburgh's Sheraton Grand last week.

The business was named 2011's Best Foodservice Wholesaler-Delivered in Scotland and was highly commended in the Best Marketing Initiative category for its West Highlands and Islands Tradeshow - which takes place this week at Oban's Corran Halls.

Senior partner of Forteith Foodservice, John Forteith, received the awards at the capital on Thursday.

He said: 'This is the highest award we can get in this industry in Scotland and it was a big surprise.'

'There was quite an intensive audit process, three visits from independent auditors in all.'

'To me, it's the realisation of all the hard work put in by everyone here over the last number of years.'

Mr Forteith said recent projects such as creating unique supply partnerships with local producers was one of the areas judges picked up on.

The judges were also impressed with the scale of the independent company's tradeshow, he said, which is now in its 32nd year and now classed as one of the largest food and drink shows in Scotland.

He said: 'I think there was a view that not everything in this industry is about price, price, price, but it is absolutely about providing added value.'

Around 1,000 trade customers are expected to visit Forteith Foodservice's West Highlands and Islands Trade Show at the Corran Halls this week.

**Vulnerable 'held to ransom' over charges**

RESIDENTS of Aberfeldy say that the community's most vulnerable residents are being 'held to ransom' after the village's only chemist started charging to supply medicine in dosage trays.

Davidson's Chemists, one of Scotland's largest pharmacy chains, this month started charging £2.25 per week for the Community Monitored Dosage System (CMDS) service from six of its branches - including Aberfeldy - saying that budget cuts and financial restraints forced the move.

However, the pilot scheme has only been introduced in those areas where there are no rival pharmacies and locals say the new charge - totalling £112 per year - holds its most vulnerable residents to ransom.

A total of 250 patients across the six chemists have been affected by the move, which could yet be rolled out across Davidson's 28 nationwide branches.

A number of GPs have written to Davidson's Chemist to express concern over the move.

Aberfeldy's Jurek Dolzanski regularly collects pills for his wife from the chemist. He said the scheme is motivated by profit and nothing else.

**Motive**

He said: 'What isn't easy to understand is Davidson's motive.'

'If it's to save money, what is the medication to be dispensed in? Bottles, I was told.'

'My wife alone would need eight bottles a week, 32 bottles a month, 416 bottles a year - all labelled.'

'How long will it take before Davidson's say this is too time consuming; you'll have to pay for the bottles?'

'Davidson's are holding us to ransom. They are preying on the infirm, disabled and elderly residents of Highland Perthshire for one thing, profit.'

**Resources**

However, Davidson's managing director Allan Gordon claims it was not an easy decision for the company to start charging for the service, which he says is a major draw on pharmacist and technician resources.

He said: 'On average, those people who receive CMDS are receiving around 10 medicines. In terms of cost, we do four packs per patient per month.'

'The time taken on average to prepare the packs is around 30 minutes to an hour for the technician, then another 30 minutes to one hour for the pharmacist. 'These are not minimum wage staff,' he added.

**Profit margin**

The service is not NHS funded and therefore paid for by the business, but Mr Gordon said it actually saves the NHS millions of pounds by helping patients to take their medicine properly, thus avoiding the need for hospitalisation.

With pharmacies across the country facing a cut in profit margin because of increased costs and lower funding, many other pharmacists may think about introducing a similar charge or removing the CMDS, he warned.

Mr Gordon said: 'We would like to see this service properly funded by the NHS and we are working closely with MSPs and GPs to see what pressure can be brought to bear.'

**ALIENERGY**  
Argyll, Lomond & the Islands Energy Agency

Yes, we know you've heard it all before - change your lightbulbs, turn down your washing machine...but we're the Affordable Warmth Team and we can do magic tricks like getting you onto a cheaper electricity tariff... come and have your own personal consultation with us to see how we can help you, and perhaps even walk away with a free 'A' rated household appliance!

**Lochgilphead Community Centre**  
24th Feb, 12 - 3pm

101 Ways To Save Money On Your Energy Bills - gadgets and guides

Refreshments and drop-in advice surgery 1 - 3pm

This event is FREE and EVERYONE is welcome

---

**BritishEco Scotland Are Coming to Mull on Friday 25th February!**

We are an MCS qualified supplier and installer of renewable energy systems.

Are you considering a Wind Turbine, Solar panels, Biomass Boiler, or a Heat Pump? We are independent and not tied to one product or manufacturer.

To arrange a Free Survey or for more information call Felicity on 0845 543 9501 or email felicity.anderson@britisheco.com

**www.britisheco.com**

**BRITISHECO**  
RENEWABLE ENERGY SOLUTIONS

**business gateway**  
slighe gnothachais

**Business workshops to boost your business**

Business Gateway offers practical help and advice for new and existing businesses, including a range of free workshops

**Make the most of online trading and marketing**

Learn how to exploit online trading and marketing opportunities for your business. This FREE workshop will help businesses develop their online presence and increase online sales. It is aimed at those who already have a little experience now looking to increase the amount of trading they do online, or for those businesses new to online trading but keen to exploit the opportunity.

The workshop covers everything from online shops, payments and legal aspects to effectively marketing and advertising your business online. The format of the workshop is part presentation, part discussion and part hands-on, with the opportunity to ask questions about developing these opportunities for your particular business.

Monday 28 February 2011 - Scottish Association for Marine Science, Dunbeg, Oban - 10.30am - 4.00pm  
Wednesday 2 March 2011 - Hunters Quay Hotel, Dunoon - 10am - 3.30pm  
Thursday 31 March 2011 - The Argyll Hotel, Inveraray - 10am - 3.30pm

**Build your own business website**

Learn from scratch how to build and manage an attractive and effective website for your business. This FREE workshop will show you how simple it is to develop your own business website and keep it up to date yourself. It is ideal for businesses that don't have their own website yet, or for those who do but want to take control of managing it themselves.

No prior knowledge or skills other than basic web browsing and text editing skills are required to use this simple but powerful website building tool.

Tuesday 1 March 2011 - Scottish Association for Marine Science, Dunbeg, Oban - 10am - 3.30pm  
Thursday 3 March 2011 - Hunters Quay Hotel, Dunoon - 10am - 3.30pm  
Friday 4 April 2011 - The Argyll Hotel, Inveraray - 10am - 3.30pm

**The "Practical Basic Book-keeping" workshop**

Book-keeping is a core business skill, and, even if someone else does it for you, you still need to understand and value the process. If you want to know the starting point for good record-keeping, this is the course for you. Those new to business and with little or no formal training in book-keeping will particularly benefit.

Tuesday 29 March 2011 - Queens Hall, Dunoon - 10am - 3pm  
Tuesday 5 April 2011 - Fyne Homes, Rothesay - 10am - 3pm  
Tuesday 12 April 2011 - Argyll Hotel, Inveraray - 10am - 3pm  
Thursday 14 April 2011 - ACHA, Menzies House, Glenellaich Business Park, Oban - 10am - 3pm

To book your place on any of the above workshops please call 01546 605459 or e-mail us at business.gateway@argyll-bute.gov.uk

Places are strictly limited to 12 so we advise you to book early.

**Argyll & Bute COUNCIL**

**Islay Letter**

**Crime writer Ruth Rendell to appear at bookfest**

ONE OF Britain's best known crime writers will be among the literary luminaries appearing at this year's Islay Book Festival.

Novelist Ruth Rendell will take part in the island festival in September and will be revisiting these shores after an absence of 40 years.

Ms Rendell, who also writes as Barbara Vine, penned her first novel 'From Doon with Death' in 1964.

She went on to write a string of best sellers and won the Sunday Times Literary Award in 1990.

A year later she was awarded the Crime Writers Association Cartier Diamond Dagger for her outstanding contribution to the crime writing genre.

Her books have been translated into 26 languages and have been published with acclaim in the United States. She was awarded the CBE in 1996 and became a Life Peer in 1997.

This is an honour which she shares with Lord Robertson of Port Ellen who has been largely responsible for the crime writer's appearance at the local book festival which is now in its sixth year.

**Annual youth festival in full swing**

FÈIS Òighridh Ile 's Dhiùra, the annual youth festival, is ongoing at Ionad Chalium Chille Ile.

It also features a fèis bheag section which caters for pre school age children and for

those under eight years of age. A tutors' ceilidh takes place tonight, Thursday February 17, at the Gaelic college which will also be the setting for the students' jamboree on Friday night.

This will be a festival of Gaelic song and traditional music and the tutors engaged are all leaders in their field.

**New Baptist minister**

THE ISLAND'S Baptist congregations will be in celebratory mood on Saturday February 19 when Jim MacNulty is inducted as their new pastor at a special service in the Baptist Church in Port Ellen's Lennox Street at 7pm.

A warm welcome awaits members from all the congregations on the island.

**Nonagenarian Margaret celebrates**

HEARTY congratulations to Margaret MacDougall of Bowmore who celebrated her 90th birthday on February 14.

Marking this special milestone in the life of the retired primary school teacher was the presentation of a basket of flowers from the congregation of the Round Church where Margaret is a regular worshipper. She was also the guest of honour at a special tea party attended by her concert and ceilidh going 'golden girl' compatriots. This took place in the Lochside Hotel on Monday and was hosted by the proprietors Roberta and Duffie MacNeill.

Meal ar naidheadhd a Mhairead agus Iathain sona eile. **Hugh Smith, 4 Flora Street, Bowmore, Islay, PA43 7JX. Telephone: 01496 810658.**

**ISLAY**

A WORKSHOP was held at Ionad Chalium Chille Ile last Saturday to train Islay and Jura volunteers in researching the Gaelic place-names of the two islands.

Jake King and Michelle Cotter of Ainmean-Aite na h-Alba led an enthusiastic team who will be busy researching place-names throughout Islay and Jura over the next two months.

The workshop is part of a joint project under the direction of Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) in partnership with Ainmean-Aite na h-Alba (AAA) - Gaelic Place-names of Scotland, the national advisory partnership for the correct and appropriate Gaelic forms of names for maps, signs and general use in Scotland.

The project is being directed on behalf of SNH Gaelic Communications Officer Emily Edwards, who co-ordinated Seanchas Ile, Islay's Folklore Project.

The project draws on local skills and knowledge; local researchers will interview Gaelic speaking members of the community, work with schools and investigate secondary sources.

Their findings will be published in a book due out in the autumn. The publication will be similar in style and content to SNH's recently launched Gaelic and Norse in the Landscape: Place-names in the Caithness and Sutherland, by Ruairidh MacIleathain.

It is hoped that a launch event will take place at Ionad Chalium Chille.

The project is funded by SOILLSE, Bòrd na Gàidhlig's new initiative to support Gaelic in the community and in learning, and Comunn na Gàidhlig through Iomairt Ghàidhlig Ile agus Diùra.

For more information about the project contact Emily Edwards on 01463 725148 or email emily.edwards@snh.gov.uk.



A community bingo event at the Crianlarich Hotel last week raised £220 for the Search and Rescue Dog Association. The full house winners are pictured with Tainnuit's own search and rescue dog, Sky, who herself was rescued by Argyll Animal Aid and adopted by Stephen Austin. The next bingo will be held on Monday March 7 - in aid of Strathfillan Parish.

turned out marvellous in the end. There was a lot of effort put into their stories, and it showed.

The characters were half human, half animal, and some were quite strange and looked hilarious. In each of the stories the characters had a fall-out, but in the end they made up with each other.

All the books were either set in a deep dark forest or a lovely mysterious forest. They were focusing on using adjectives, adverbs and conjunctions.

The children studied 'First Aid for Fairies and Other Fabled Beasts' by Lari Don to help to learn about writing.

**PORT CHARLOTTE**

PRIMARY five and six pupils from Bowmore Primary School wrote their own books and read them to fellow pupils as part of the school's book festival.

The festival, held on January 12, was heralded as a great success.

The pupils worked on their books for quite a while, and they

PUPILS at Port Charlotte Primary School have been getting their hands dirty with a series of car washes.

At the first of the three car washes, the primary six and seven pupils and friends of the school raised £192 and washed more than 30 cars.

**LISMORE**

IT WAS with great sadness that islanders heard of the death of Jessie Stewart, of the Mill, Balmagowan, where she had lived all her life.

Jessie was the daughter of the late Dugald and Alice MacCormick and was well-known on Lismore and beyond for her kindness to islanders as well as visitors.

Before marrying Joe Stewart and raising her three daughters, Jessie worked in the island shop as well as the mobile shop for many years.

She was also active in island affairs. She is survived by two daughters, Anna and Janette, six grandchildren and one great granddaughter. Her oldest daughter Alison died last year.

The very well-attended funeral was held in Lismore on one of the stormiest days of the winter but nevertheless the church was packed as was the hall afterwards as many people

conveyed their sympathy to the family.

ON SATURDAY January 29, Caroline Willis held a coffee afternoon in aid of Oban cinema.

It was a drop-in affair at which she hoped to raise £200 for a Lismore seat in the cinema.

Attendance exceeded expectations with many locals and even visitors from Dunstaffnage and Denmark going along.

Beth closed the cafe and brought all her energy, plus scones and pancakes, to help. Visitors were invited to come along as themselves or as their favourite film character which inspired, among others, Mother Superior from The Sound of Music, Lawrence of Arabia and Captain Jack Sparrow.

Caroline would like to thank everyone for their great support. They collected £300 on the day but, as donations have continued to come in, she now hopes there may be money for two Lismore cinema seats.

**DUROR**

A MEETING of the community council was held on Wednesday March 9 at the community centre, during which a number of items were discussed.

THE COUNCIL is awaiting delivery of a replacement bin at Cuil Bay.

Members had been informed that Highland Council was due to receive a new type of bin. Members were told there was still no new bin. Community council member Kim Malcolm agreed to follow this up with Highland Council.

THE COMMUNITY council is to add its voice to the campaign to save the Stornoway Coastguard base.

An online campaign has been launched and it was agreed that council member Jonathan Baxter would log in to the site to note Duror and Kentallen's objections to any proposed closure or downgrading of the station.

MEMBERS have agreed to buy the BT telephone kiosk at Duror for a token price of £1.

BT had approached the community council and asked members if they were willing to take the kiosk of its hands.

The telephone company will remove all its equipment and the community council would then be responsible for its maintenance. At its previous meeting, the community council agreed to go ahead and take on the kiosk and it was agreed that member Jonathan Baxter would complete and return the form to allow the transfer to go ahead.

THE POSTAL service in the villages during Christmas and New Year had been a cause for concern.

The meeting was told this had been because of low staff numbers. However, there had been no notice displayed informing residents of any change to the service and it had been previously agreed that a complaint should be sent to the Royal Mail. Members were told the letter had been drafted and was now ready to be sent.

COMMUNITY council chairwoman Morag MacNeil confirmed her intention to step down from the post at the March meeting.

Jonathan Baxter, the current vice chairman, said he was willing to take on the job and there was discussion as to whether he and Morag could share the post.

However, members agreed this would be an unsatisfactory way to progress.

Kim Malcolm said rather than simply appoint the vice chairman to the post, he should be proposed, seconded and formally voted in. This would allow anyone else wanting to be considered to put their name forward. 'We must do it constitutionally,' he said.

Members agreed to resolve the issue at the March meeting. Morag said she planned to continue as a member of the council.

**TOBERMORY**

TOBERMORY Harbour Association could soon be the new owners of the Main Street toilets.

Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee said it would support a proposal to sell the Mull toilets to the association for a nominal fee and has asked a report to be brought forward at its March meeting.

The news will come as welcome news to the community, which sometimes finds itself caught short during popular events, such as during the Mishnish Music Festival or the Mull Rally.

Speaking at last week's meeting of the area committee, Mull councillor and new committee vice chairman Mary Jean Devon said: 'The Harbour Association are more than willing to take it on for £1 and run it as a public toilet. It's not really good for anything else.'

'The Harbour Association have staff and are willing to open it earlier in the mornings and close it later at night.'

Asked if a new report could be brought forward to the committee to allow such a move to go through, council officer Neil Brown said: 'In principal, I don't see any problem.'

**Is your report here?** To include items in our District News email editor@obantimes.co.uk or call 01631 568000

# THE STUDIO

## HAIR & BEAUTY

Tel: 01631 563630

**THE STUDIO hair and beauty salon is offering the whole package to old and new customers in the town.**

High quality service and customer satisfaction have long been a trademark of the Breadalbane Street salon but after a refurbishment and relaunch this week the salon has gone one step further by offering top to toe treatments for women, men and youngsters.

The friendly hair and beauty salon has successfully served Oban, Lorn and the islands for many years. When new owner Donald Addison took over the salon at the beginning of the year he decided that he would like to give it a little bit of a makeover itself.

This allowed manager Iain Bruce-Low to look at extending the treatment offered to clients. He said: 'The refurbishment of the salon has allowed us to extend the range of services we offer to our customers. We offer treatments in the salon that are not available elsewhere, such as our Botox treatments.'

'Doctors from Glasgow will be coming to town once a month or so to offer the simple and safe treatments. Stylist Annmarie had the treatment at the open day and she can vouch for the pain-free treatment.'

Iain said: 'The salon was able to offer clients so much more than ever before. Our refurbishment has opened up not only the space we are working in but also the number of treatments we are offering.'



Studio Manager Iain Bruce-Low and Head Stylist, Annmarie

Looking at the new menu of treatments the highlights include professional skincare such as makeup from I D Bare Essentials Mineral Makeup (with products not available on the counters of Debenhams and John Lewis stores) and MD formulations for facial care. They also have an extended range of hair treatments from stylists and senior stylists including the latest fashion colouring, setting, bridal and occasion hair styling. Male grooming, a growth area of most modern salons, is now on offer. Although the boys may not admit it - more and more of them are coming forward to the salon for great haircuts and quality advice on skincare and treatments.

Of course the salon continue to offer the on-going service for people who need a little extra care, such as cancer patients or those with extreme hair loss. This service is second to none in the town, and under the attention of Annmarie is confidential and caring.

Iain said: 'We appreciate that clients continue to put their trust in us and we want to make them feel as special as they are. Our stylists and beauty therapists will always ensure accommodating individual needs is our number one priority.'

The rapidly expanding client base shows that the quality of professional service, whether you're after just a little pampering, a touch of elegance or a whole new you, our renowned hair salon and extensive beauty salon will always produce the desired results.

Iain continued: 'Our team of professional hair stylists and beauty therapists are at the heart of our salon and offer a one to one service with clients, providing the very best creative advice and assistance when making those important hair and beauty decisions.'

There are also a full range of relaxing body treatments, waxing, eye treatments, safe tanning and Jessica products for hands and feet - including Hollywood Toe Gels that will last up to four weeks.

Another new venture for the salon is Princess Parties for kids aged between five and 14 - Annmarie says it is a 'great way to celebrate a birthday, or a special occasion - kids leave the salon all pampered and feeling like princesses.'

Please call our reception team on 01631 563630 to book an appointment and find us on Facebook: The Studio (Hair and Beauty).



The Studio's expert team of professional stylists and beauty therapists.

**NEW TREATMENTS NOW AVAILABLE:**

Minx Nails, High Gloss Hair Treatments, Indian Head Massage, Botox, Grow your own eye lashes product.

**PLUS! Champagne Nail Bar** (Saturdays) Standard manicure with complimentary Champagne

**All this in our newly refurbished salon**

Stockists of:

Find us on Facebook

**GLENCOE**

THE NATIONAL Trust for Scotland's Glencoe Visitor Centre is the first stop for a travelling photographic exhibition depicting life on the Isle of Canna.

The exhibition, which includes archive photographs, as well as images taken by world-famous Scottish photographer Colin Prior, runs at the centre until the end of May.

It then moves to the West Highland Museum in Fort William before opening at Mallaig Heritage Centre.

Glencoe Property Manager Scott McCombie hoped visitors 'from near and far' would stop in to see it.



Music played a big part in the Gaelic open day at Sheilbridge Hall

**Musical Gaelic open day at Sheilbridge Hall proves success**

SHEILBRIDGE Hall Acharacle recently hosted a Gaelic open afternoon to raise awareness of the benefits to children of learning through the medium of Gaelic.

The event, organised by Comann Nam Pàrant, saw Acharacle Primary School and Ardnamurchan High School pupils and staff bring along examples of their work, resulting in a varied and informative two-hour Gaelic session. Pupils from pre-school to

secondary school played music, sang and talked to parents and members of the public.

Children from pre-school stage up to sixth year displayed their work along with a range of the Gaelic medium resources available to teachers, parents and pupils.

Prospective parents and others found out more on how Gaelic medium education works and were very enthusiastic about the range of opportunities available for children of all ages.

Parents were pleased to learn that Gaelic medium pupils going on to Ardnamurchan High School have the opportunity to take two additional subjects through Gaelic in first and second year.

Retired teacher, Mairi MacMaster, Mingary, praised the event and efforts of all involved.

She said: 'It was very encouraging to hear so many young people speaking Gaelic - and they sang beautifully.'

guest band will be The Craig Paton Scottish Dance Band. - John Grundy

**SLEAT**

GAELIC college Sabhal Mòr Ostaig (SMO) is to host a family learning week for Gaelic-speaking families beginning Monday July 4.

The five-day event is open to families with children being educated through the medium of Gaelic.

It offers parents the chance to attend one of the college's language courses while their children take part in sports, arts and other activities through the medium of Gaelic.

Last year more than 30 families from across Scotland took part.

For more information e-mail the project co-ordinator on flw.clad@yahoo.co.uk or phone 0797 273 5413.

**KILMELFORD**

MELFORD Ukeleles held its first band practice on Sunday when eight beginners took up the challenge.

Anyone interested in joining the band and learning to play the ukelele should go to Kilmelford Village Hall in Degnish Road at 2.30pm on a Sunday and discover the wide range of tunes to suit all tastes that they will be playing.

The band is hoping to have about 25 members in total and more musicians have promised to come this Sunday. New ukeleles will be available to buy from the club, courtesy of the Oban Music shop.

There is no age restriction but a tuneful singing voice is preferred. A weekly fee of only £1 is requested.

The hunt is on also for additional instruments.

If anyone has an old ukelele or a banjo-lele in the attic that they would be willing to donate or sell, please contact the band leader Peter Salmond on 01852 200787, who will ensure it finds a good home.

**ISLE OF SEIL**

ONE OF the Isle of Seil Golf Club's founder members David Nathan of Ellenabeich has been short listed for the Scottish Golf Union's (SGU) Volunteer of the Year Award.

The Annual SGU Awards Ceremony takes place on Friday February 18 in Glasgow and David will be attending with his wife.

**CRAIGNISH**

CRAIGNISH Village hall will be the home of Scottish Opera on Thursday, March 3, at 7.30pm.

The national company's tour hits the road with a selection of opera highlights from around the world. Four young singers

**INVERARAY**

INVERARAY and District Local History Society returned to its usual meeting place in the Nicoll Hall on February 1 after the frozen pipe which had put the hall out of action had been fixed.

A small but appreciative audience gathered to hear a talk by the group's treasurer, Colin Stevenson on *The Highland Tours of Boswell and Johnson*. Samuel Johnson, always known as Dr Johnson and famed for his English dictionary, had a considerable dislike for Scotland and Scots, but nonetheless a fascination for the Highlands.

To facilitate a visit, he enlisted his younger friend and admirer, the lawyer heir to the Ayrshire estate of Auchinleck, James Boswell.

Using extracts from the journals of both travellers, Colin described how in the second half of 1773 they went up the east coast, across to the west, and via Skye and Mull south into Argyll, with a stop at Inveraray.

Boswell had offended the Duchess of Argyll by his participation in the 'Douglas Cause', a protracted legal battle involving her family, but the Duke was very welcoming to the pair, having them to dinner and providing a decent horse for the remainder of the journey.

The two books provide different, but equally informative accounts of the lives of people at the time, still affected by the '45. The vote of thanks was moved by Jack Dunnigan.

**CRINAN**

THE CRINAN Gallery, housed within the Crinan Hotel, is looking forward to a busy year of exhibitions.

Well-known painter, Francis MacDonald, has excelled herself in attracting some top artists to the gallery.

Next month will see work by a selection of well-known Scottish artists exhibited.

These include: Sam Cartman, Simon Laurie, Ronnie Smith, Gordon Mitchell.

In April Glen Scouller, Jock MacInnes, Connie Simmers

and Patricia Cain, as well as local artists, Sian MacQueen, Rob Walker, Rebecca Barnett, Ross MacDonald Ryan and Frances Macdonald exhibit.

And then in May visitors can enjoy a selection of watercolours from the annual exhibition of the Royal Scottish Society of Paintings in Watercolours (RSW).

The Royal Glasgow Institute of the Fine Arts annual summer exhibition will take place in June.

August will see the annual Artmap Argyll Open Studios event take place, with both Francis and her son, Ross MacDonald Ryan, taking part.

The year will be rounded off with the Scottish Gallery exhibition, which will showcase a selection of gallery artists selected by Guy Peplow.

**TAYNUILT**

TAYNUILT SWRI held an open night on January 12 in Taynuilt Village Hall.

President Jessie Servant welcomed 17 members and three visitors and wished everyone a good new year.

Unfortunately no other institutes were able to attend as a result of severe winter weather.

The president introduced Graham MacQueen, speaker of the evening, who spoke about MacQueen Brothers Charitable Trust and how with their unpaid volunteers they have raised thousands of pounds each year for good causes in the community.

Mr MacQueen was thanked for giving of his time to speak to members and for giving everyone an insight into the good work being done.

Proceed of the sales table and raffle, £100, were given to Mr MacQueen towards the charity.

Tea was served by committee members.

The branch would like to say a big thank you to Argyll and Bute Council for the grant received towards its 90th anniversary celebrations last year.

A happy time was had by everyone.

**THE PIPING SCENE**

By HUGH MACCALLUM

**Kintyre Piping Society**

KINTYRE Piping Society is celebrating its 60th anniversary this year and is holding a dinner in The Argyll Hotel Campbeltown on March 6.

The society was founded in 1951 by a group of piping enthusiasts in the Kintyre area. Pipe Major John M MacKenzie was honorary secretary of the society and the president was Captain J Maxwell MacDonald of Largie.

The objective was to encourage piping in the area, to provide a platform for local pipers to perform and to hear invited guest players.

The first recital was held in St Kieran's Church Hall in Campbeltown on April 14 1951. Guest player was Seumas MacNeill of The College of Piping, Glasgow. His programme included a lecture on the growth and development of piping in Scotland since the Jacobite Rising of 1745. Mr MacNeill played a selection of light music and two piobaireachds - *The Carles with the Breeks* and *MacIntosh's Lament*.

He also spoke of the possible connection between MacIntosh's Lament and some of the airs in *Dvorak's New World Symphony*.

Usually the format for those recitals was a local night one month alternating the following month with a guest recital. Most of Scotland's top players were invited over the years to travel to Campbeltown to give recitals.

I remember as a young boy going along with my father to hear these leading players. Great players such as the late John D Burgess and Pipe Major Ronald MacCallum, 8th Argylls, gave extensive recitals.

This revised edition contains a facsimile of the original, as well as historical background to the music. This book may not appeal to all pipers and, indeed, states in the preface that it is aimed mainly at students and players of Ceol Mor. I think that is fair comment. It is a beautifully presented book and reading it is an interesting, if sometimes perplexing, experience. It is, however, a good buy for students of the Great Highland Bagpipe.

Joseph MacDonald's *Compleat Theory of the Scots Highland Bagpipe* is available from The College of Piping, 16-24 Otago Street, Glasgow, G12 8JH, priced £25 plus postage.

**Forthcoming events**

ARCHIE Kenneth Quach Amateur Piobaireachd Contest, March 6, The Royal Scottish Pipers Society, Edinburgh.

Uist & Barra invitational piping contest, Saturday March 12, The College of Piping, Glasgow.

Piobaireachd Society Conference, March 16 to 18, Fisher's Hotel, Pitlochry.

**Down your Way**

**This week - Craignure**

KEYS for Mull and Iona Community Trust's state-of-the-art building in Craignure will be handed over in the next few weeks.

With the completion of the building the community of Mull and Iona will have a multi use building offering opportunities not only to islanders but also for mainlanders who may want to use the facilities the centre will have to offer.

Sian Scott, project manager of the building, is keen to show people around the building as it goes through its final stages.

She said: 'The centre will provide new offices, a treatment and counselling room, a training and seminar room space and facilities, an interview room, a new larger retail area for the Island Castaways Charity Shop, a community resource library; an office for The Community Trust, reception services, fax, photocopying, printing facilities, internet and PC access.'

'All facilities will be available to hire on a flexible, hourly, half-daily and daily basis.

The Trust would like to hear from anyone who is interested in using the resources in the new centre.

'Already we've had a number of enquires about usage of the building so please get in touch and reserve your space.'

To contact Sian phone her on 01688 302815.



Children from Lochdonhead School enjoy a school visit from drama group CAST.

**Lochdonhead Primary School**

AFTER the severe winter weather, this year's Eco School work towards the school's Green Flag recommenced when the children took part in the RSPB Big Schools Bird Watch.

Along with Debby Thorne from the RSPB children made bird cakes prior to looking out for the many birds visiting our school conservation garden.

Amongst this year's visitors we spotted bramblings and goldfinches along with our resident chaffinches, coal tits, bluetits, great tits and sparrows.

This year's topic is 'Our Island' and currently we are researching the old castles on

Mull. We were lucky to have Meg Douglass into school to support research about Aros Castle and are looking forward to a visit from Findlay Christine to tell stories old and new of local legends.

In addition we are currently taking part in an exciting drama project with Alasdair Satchel and Rachael Rogers. The three workshops organised through CAST, called My Shoes Your Shoes ask the pupils to think about needs, feelings and the connection between the two in order to facilitate meaningful and respectful interactions. Pupils say the project is 'brilliant, amazing' and 'it is really fun.'

THE MESS Island Castaway Charity Shop in Craignure, alongside its sister shop in Bunnassan, continues to go from strength to strength.

Some say the MESS (Mull and Iona Environmentally Sensitive Solutions) shop is where anything can be found - certainly treasures are always being picked up there.

From clothing, handbags and shoes to pottery, crafts, books and even some larger items the shop has become a hub for people's castaway goods.

In doing so the group puts 50 per cent of all surplus money back into the community.

Last year the group gave away a total of £6,000 to community groups on Mull and Iona.

Hazel Cowe, manager of Island Castaway, said: 'We are delighted to offer grants to local community groups, made possible through our sales at Island Castaways. By spending money in the shop and donating items, locals and tourists alike are generating money to be distributed back into the local community.'

'We fully appreciate the community support, especially the work of the volunteers who help out at the shops.'

To volunteer in the shop, giving an hour or two weekly, fortnightly or monthly, contact Hazel on 01680 812526.

CRAIGNURE Village Hall has announced the dates of the producers market for 2011.

After a successful year in 2010 and a growing number of stalls and retailers from the island this year there will be a monthly Sunday market between April and November.

Dates for the diary are Sundays 2pm to 4pm on April 24, May 29, June 26, July 24, August 21, September 4 and November 27.

Anyone wishing to sell at the producer's market should contact Gilbert Dougans on 01680 81205.

The Isle of Mull Gaelic Choir welcomed three new members this year: altos Georgina Durie and Sarah Anderson and tenor Francis Adie.

Members are hoping that tenor Lyle Kennedy will sing with the choir this year, he joined at the end of last year and promised to return despite difficulties in attending rehearsals with us all the way from Falkirk.

Donna Dugdale, choir member, said: 'Our choir membership is looking fantastic this year, we finally have almost even numbers of men and women and the balance is wonderful.'

'We all enjoyed last year's Mod in Thurso, and happily came away with several trophies, having won Gaelic, Music and overall score for the Ladies' Rural Choir competition, and both Music and overall score for the Rural Choirs Mixed competition.'

'We are all enthusiastically looking forward to travelling to Lewis this October to sing at the Royal National Mod this year... and hopefully to bring the trophies back to Mull again.'

'In the meantime we are filling our diaries with ceilidhs, fundraisers and workshops to keep us busy. Our first workshop is Ceol nan Coisair, and it is open to all choirs.'

The workshop is held in the Isle of Mull Hotel in Craignure and is followed by a fantastic ceilidh.

If you would like more information, please contact choir secretary, Tina Scopa, via website: www.mullgaelicchoir.co.uk.

**Next week DOWN YOUR WAY visits Connel with deputy editor Stuart Laundy you can contact him at - 01631 568000 or email slaundy@obantimes.co.uk**

Follow us on facebook  
www.facebook.com/obantimes



Hannah and Josh McFatrige show off their new bikes with runners-up Kerr Mackin and Ross MacLean.

IT WAS a family affair at Ballachulish Primary School's recent prize raffle in aid of school funds.

Two gleaming new bikes were on offer for the winners and a couple of speedometers for the runners up.

Pupils had organised the raffle into two separate draws, one for an adult bike and one for a junior bike, and when the draw was made at weekly assembly everyone was amazed when brother and sister Josh and Hannah McFatrige won both of them! Fellow pupils Kerr Mackin and Ross MacLean took home the speedometers.

A total of £190 was raised for the Children's Hospice Association for Scotland.

**ARISAIG**

A SURGE in applications to Highland Council to build homes in the Rosbheinn area of Moirdart has been noted by Arisaig Community Council.

Secretary Maureen MacColl told The Oban Times some 13 housing bids had been lodged in recent months.

'People are wondering why it's become such a popular area to build in', Ms MacColl said. 'There are only 40 houses there just now and another 13 would considerably raise the size of the community. It's a question of why so many people have decided that Rosbheinn is the place to go.'

A WHIST drive held in the Astley Hall in aid of St Mary's School Skiing Trip raised £101.

Six tables played under the guidance of cardmaster Tommy MacEachern and prizes were presented by Cathie MacDonald and Ciara MacDonald.

Ladies: 1 Marian MacMillan 2 Mary Ferguson 3 Susan Carstairs, Consolation Angela MacEachern

Gents: 1 Judy Budge, 2 Andrew Carr 3 Elizabeth Fleming, Consolation Tommy MacEachern.

**PLOCKTON**

SKYE and Lochalsh Sports Council met in Kyleakin hall on Monday, January 24.

Financial assistance totalling £1,481 was given to Skye Badminton Association, Kyleakin Indoor Bowling Club and Kinlochshiel Shinty Club.

Lochalsh schools co-ordinator June Sanderson gave a comprehensive report of her work. Next financial year will see a cut of 20 per cent in the annual grant from Highland Council. The next meeting in Portree on March 22 will combine the final meeting with the AGM.

Meanwhile, a coffee morning in Plockton Inn on January 29 raised £250 for Plockton Football Club.

On weather matters, at Plockton there were 5.5 inches of rain in January. This compared to 3.25 inches for the same month in 2010. Warmest temperature was 12C and coldest -4C.



Guest band The Iain Cameron Trio strike up a fine tune: left to right, Alistair Beaton, Iain Cameron and Murdo Cameron.

**TIREE**

LEGENDARY Celtic rock group Wolfstone is the first group to be confirmed for the second annual Tiree Music Festival.  
The event will be held on July 23 and 24, with many more acts to be announced in the coming months.  
Last year's event was a massive success, with tickets to catch exciting acts such as Sandi Thom, The Fortunate Sons and Skerryvore rapidly selling out.  
The event is held in the grounds of the An Talla community hall in Crossapol.  
More information can be found at [www.tireemusicfestival.co.uk](http://www.tireemusicfestival.co.uk).

**NORTH UIST**

NORTH Uist is to host its first school reunion for pupils who attended Paible School up until 1980.  
A dinner dance at Carnish Hall on April 8 will begin at 7pm followed by a dance to the music of the Calum Ian Band.  
Only 150 tickets are available and a bus will run from Lochmaddy to Carnish if there is demand. Guests should indicate if they would like to book a seat on the bus when ordering tickets.

There will also be a photo exhibition in Paible School.  
The exhibition will be held on April 6, 7 and 8 from 10am to 4pm and entry will be £3, including tea and shortbread.

The organisers are hoping to hear from anyone with relevant photos who would loan them to the exhibition. They ask that people send the photos, including their own contact details and descriptions of who is in the photos, to John MacDonald, Reunion, c/o Taigh Chearsabhagh, Lochmaddy, North Uist, HS6 5AA, before March 1.

Volunteers are still needed to help with the photo exhibition. It is hoped they will offer to do a minimum of two hour-long stints.

Any partners free to help at the reunion by serving food or tidying up, selling raffle tickets or helping at the door are also asked to contact Seonag Anderson.

For further details, please contact Seonag on [seonaganderson@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:seonaganderson@hotmail.co.uk) or Alex Macdonald on [galtersay@gmail.com](mailto:galtersay@gmail.com).



Winners of Oban High School's annual Smokehouse Challenge.

**Enterprising pupils win Smokehouse Challenge**

SECOND year pupils at Oban High School took part in the annual enterprise challenge arranged in conjunction with Inverawe Smokehouse, near Taynuilt.

The Smokehouse Challenge brings education and local business together, introducing pupils to the real life demands of the food industry.

In September 200 pupils, working in teams of four, were set the task of designing and manufacturing a food product suitable to be served as an accompaniment for a smoked food item, design packaging, web sites and adverts with music for their product.

From each class of 20 pupils, one team of four was selected by the participating

subjects to represent their class at a trade fair. Each of the 10 selected teams had to produce, present their products and promote their product through their trade stand to a panel of four judges: head teacher Peter Bain, Emma Harrington from the Kitchen Garden, Robert Campbell-Preston of Inverawe Smokehouse and Lucy Thornhill, Inverawe Smokehouse's technical manager.

The standard of work was considered even higher than before and pupils impressed the judges with their teamwork and enthusiasm.

The final winners, representing 2.2, were Antony Capper, Allyson Boyd, Lauren Angus and Lewis MacPhee

with their cheesy choux buns. The second and third placed teams will join the winners to experience the real trade fair environment when they visit the Royal Highland Show at Ingliston, near Edinburgh, in June.

Morag MacKinnon, Principal Teacher of Food Technology at the school, said: 'This project continues to offer pupils an opportunity to work on a project which connects and brings together skills from a number of their subjects in a realistic context. As well as giving the pupils insight into the food manufacturing industry, a variety of skills are tested - such as team work, problem solving, web design, graphic

design and communication. I feel very proud of every one of them.'

Mr Bain thanked all the pupils for their 'fantastic efforts' and noted how important it was to develop interpersonal and enterprise skills and experiences in addition to their formal qualifications.

'We are extremely grateful to Robert Campbell-Preston and Lucy Thornhill of Inverawe Smokehouse for their time and resources invested in the support of this work and enterprise project,' he said. 'We were lucky to have the support of our team of mentors who worked with and guided the teams throughout the day.'

hotmail.co.uk or Alex Macdonald on [galtersay@gmail.com](mailto:galtersay@gmail.com).

**LEWIS**

NATIONAL Lottery tickets are available again in Stornoway town centre.

The previous town centre outlet was in Woolworths, which closed at the end of 2008.

Now local firm WeeW, which is run by the former Woolworths manager and some former staff, has been successful in becoming a National Lottery outlet.

Manager Terry Ovenstone said that they wanted to get the lottery terminal because it would make it easier for their customers to get tickets while shopping and it is yet another service on their doorstep for people while they are in the town centre.

'The National Lottery has been

good for these islands. It has given a lot of money for projects like the regeneration of Stornoway town centre and for the plan to restore Lewis Castle as well as many other community and youth projects.'

The lottery body Heritage Lottery Fund will soon consider an

application for £2.6 million for the castle restoration and has already given £260,000 to help draw up the bid.

SHINTY players on Lewis are celebrating after the Camanachd Association agreed to an application from Lewis Camanachd to enter a team in this season's North Division Three.

The first home match will take place at Barvas on May 14, when the visitors will be Lochbroom, however, the islanders start their league campaign on March 5 with a trip to Braeview Park, Beauly, followed by another away fixture the next week at Battery Park, Lochcarron.

**BRIDGE OF ORCHY**

BRIDGE of Orchy residents have voiced opposition to plans to block a local road's access to the A82 as part of a housing development on Auch Estate.

Glenorchy and Innishail Community Council heard that Transport Scotland is prepared to fund and build a new junction with the A82 for the proposed 20 houses south east of the Bridge of Orchy Hotel, on condition that Station Brae is closed off to the A82.

Village residents say they are opposed to such a material change, adding that there may have been an issue with neighbourhood notification when the outline application was made.

The full plan is still pending consideration. The community council is to contact Argyll and Bute Council's planning department for an update and to see if further comments can be lodged.

**CRIANLARICH**

CRIANLARICH Village Hall will host its annual fundraising auction sale on Friday March 11 from 6pm, with viewing from 5pm.

Donations of goods such as furniture, bric-a-brac, electrical items and other items are welcome.

Collections for donations will take place on March 9-10, and the hall will be open on these days for donations to be dropped in.

Tea, coffee and refreshments will

be available during the evening as normal.

For more information, or to arrange for items to be uplifted, contact Bryan Craig on 01838 300245.

**ABERFELDY**

CONTROVERSIAL plans to establish a new hydro scheme at Aberfeldy's Urral Burn could be given the go-ahead this spring, if a new rent can be agreed.

The proposal, by Green Highland Renewables, was given planning permission in 2009, but hit the buffers after community outcry at the proposal.

A subsequent failure to negotiate a rent with the Common Good Fund, administered by Perth and Kinross Council, meant the scheme was put on the backburner.

However, Green Highland Renewables has now submitted a new rent offer to the fund and the decision will be revisited this spring.

**KENMORE**

KENMORE residents are being urged to put themselves forward for election to the community council next month.

Kenmore and District Community Council's elections will be held on Thursday March 4, with eight vacancies requiring to be filled: three for Kenmore, two for Amulree and three for Ardtalnaig-Acharn.

Local councillor Ken Lyall said the organisation is a 'shining example' of how a community council should be run and that anyone interested should contact him for further details.

**KILCHRENAN**

BARELY six weeks into 2011 and there has been four occasions when children from Dalavich, Kilchrenan and the surrounding district have been unable to attend Oban High School because of icy roads.

Pupils travelling to school have had to turn back because the bus service was unable to negotiate the icy roads. Residents claim a lack of gritting is to blame.

THIS Sunday from 12 noon there will be a buffet brunch in Kilchrenan Village Hall for hall funds.

**Your Oban Times Bonnie Babies**



**Brendan Bootsma,**  
Oban, aged 5 weeks.



**Lyam Fox,**  
Oban, aged 8 months.



**Sophie and Maya Cameron,**  
Fort William, aged 7 months.



**Aaron Braid,**  
Tobermory, aged 19 months.



**Lauchlan Martin,**  
Oban, aged 5 months.



**Johnnie Duffy,**  
Dervaig, Mull, aged 24 months.

**Everyone's favourite competition is back and The Oban Times is looking to find the west coast's bonniest baby in 2011.**

*If you think your baby is the cutest in the West of Scotland then nominate them.*

Our panel of judges will help us find our Bonnie Baby of 2011 and the top tot will be crowned Oban Times Bonnie Baby 2011 and his/her parent or guardian will receive a top prize with two runners up also receiving an award.

The deadline to enter your child is **Monday, February 28 at 5pm** and children must be two or under on **28/02/2011**.

Parent/Guardian must consent to publication of their child's photograph in our papers by signing the entry form.

Entries, including one photograph, **MUST** be accompanied by the official entry form which can only be obtained from The Oban Times. Photocopies will not be accepted.

If you wish your picture returned, please enclose a stamped addressed envelope.

Normal Oban Times terms and conditions apply and the editor's decision is final.

Send your entry to:  
The Oban Times Bonnie Baby Competition, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll

Name of parent/guardian:.....

Address:.....

Full name of child: ..... Age at 24/01/2011: .....

Signature of parent/guardian:.....



**Jodi Campbell,**  
Buerness, aged 18 months.



**Ruaridh Ireland,**  
Oban, aged 6 months.



**Lewis Douglas,**  
Oban, aged 9 weeks.



**Arran MacGregor-Anderson,**  
Oban, aged 13 months.



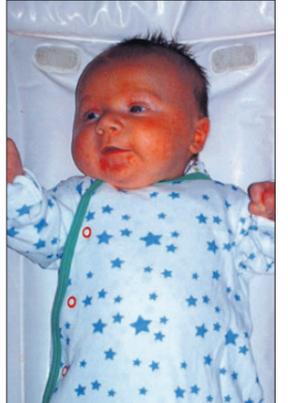
**Fraser MacGregor-Anderson,**  
Oban, aged 6 weeks.



**Ruaig Payne,**  
Sweden, aged 20 months.



**Dylan Ross,**  
North Connel, aged 9 weeks.



**Kaylen Fjortoft,**  
Caol, aged 4 months.

## Mountain rescuer's warning over single police force plan

AN EXPERIENCED Lochaber mountain rescuer has said a move to a single police force in Scotland could have serious consequences for his team.

Glencoe Mountain Rescue leader John Grieve says most mountain rescue teams in Scotland are co-ordinated and run by police, but such a system wouldn't work in the Northern Constabulary area. And he feels climbers on the hills could be put at risk if a centralised body controlled his team.

Mt Grieve told *The Oban Times*: 'We would certainly be apprehensive about a single police force; we don't know what we would end up with.'

'There is a chance it could lead to the centralised control, taking control away from the local police who have a knowledge of the mountains.'

He added: 'If an emergency is

being handled in Glasgow rather than Fort William, you won't get that same local knowledge, and local knowledge is absolutely vital - any time lost in a rescue increases the possibility of someone dying.'

Meanwhile, a survey of Northern Constabulary staff saw a large majority saying they oppose the idea of a single police force for Scotland.

Of the 778 officers who completed the questionnaire, 86.6 per cent voted against a single force, with only 13 per cent voting in favour.

Speaking at the Holyrood policing summit in Edinburgh, Chief Constable Ian Latimer said: 'The retention of a high performing, locally accountable police service for the Highlands and Islands and the north of Scotland is in the best interests of our communities.'

## Coastguard campaign wins backing

THE CAMPAIGN to save coastguard tugs and 24-hour manned coastguard stations at Stornoway and Lerwick has received backing from the Northern Joint Police Board and the Highlands and Islands Fire Board.

The bodies have written jointly to the Maritime and Coastguard Agency in Southampton in support of Highland, Orkney Islands, Shetland Islands and Western Isles councils' demand that the coastal emergency services be retained on safety grounds.

## Sneak thieves target Skye shinty players

SNEAK thieves have targeted Skye Camanachd shinty players - for the second time in two years.

The team was playing a friendly shinty match against Kingussie in Portree on Saturday when someone entered the home dressing room and rifled through the players' clothing for cash.

Portree police told *The Oban Times* four separate amounts of £130, £53, £33 and £10 were stolen some time between 12.30pm and 3.30pm.

Inspector Duncan MacLean

said the theft follows a similar incident two years ago when thieves broke into the dressing room during a match and stole money.

'It is a despicable type of crime,' he said. 'While the amount in the grand scheme of things might not have been large, for all we know that money might have been all the spare cash those people had.'

'It was an opportunist theft and the perpetrator was aware that the boys were out playing shinty, took advantage of the fact that the changing rooms were unoccupied and helped themselves to the players' hard earned cash.'

Anyone with information regarding the incident can contact Portree Police Station on 01471 612888 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

## Don't sell Glen Shira forest, urges Argyll's MP

ARGYLL MP Alan Reid has called on Scotland's SNP Government to abandon its planned sale of Glen Shira forest.

Mr Reid said: 'Two years ago the SNP proposed leasing our forests to private companies. During the consultation their proposals were overwhelmingly rejected by the people of Argyll and Bute.'

'Now the SNP are ignoring the outcome of the consultation and have offered Glen Shira forest for sale at £6.5 million. I call on them to pay attention to local people's views. Our forests must not be put up for sale to the highest bidder.'



Gassed off: Ian in the downstairs area where the ammonia gathers. 10\_1079as01

# Fort family in toxic gas mystery

A FORT William family had to abandon half their council flat after toxic ammonia gas seeped into their ground floor rooms.

Ian Buchanan, his wife Sylvia and their two children aged eight and 14 are currently confined to the upstairs living room and bedroom, where the acrid smell is not so strong.

The Buchanans, of Kennedy Road, first noticed the gas after hurricane force winds and rain on January 31. Ammonia began collecting in the downstairs toilet, bedroom and boxroom and built up quickly to an unbearable stench.

Ian says the family have suffered sore throats and headaches from the gas, described in medical journals as a 'severe respiratory tract irritant'. Death can occur even after brief exposure to high concentrations because the lungs fill with fluid.

The 47 year-old and his wife, who work as customer advisors at the Intelnet Scotrail call centre in the town, evacuated the children to the upstairs bedroom. He and Sylvia decanted to couches in the living room.

He told *The Oban Times* at his home: 'Three or four days after

**EXCLUSIVE**  
REPORT by  
STEPHEN NORRIS  
snorris@obantimes.co.uk

it happened I phoned the council and explained we had a strong smell of ammonia gas, which I knew was quite toxic. There were toxic fumes coming in and there are children in the house, but they did not bother to come out for three days.

'Two workmen came on February 7 and ripped up the bottom landing floor, but could not smell anything under the floorboards. They said it was a cracked drainpipe. The next day they ripped the whole bathroom floor up and established that it was not coming from the sewage system.'

Ian showed *The Oban Times* downstairs, where a faint ammonia smell was noticeable. Some 20 minutes later, with the doors closed and the huge air extractor on the landing wall switched off, the ammonia was much more pungent and caught the back of the throat.

An environmental health officer called round, but smelled

only 'a slight whiff' of ammonia,' Ian said. 'He said he would file a report. He was here for ten minutes max.'

Last Thursday the council offered to move the family out into a single room emergency accommodation in a local B&B, but the offer was declined.

'I asked how long for, but they said they didn't know,' Ian said. 'I thought that was a bit off - there are four of us to go into one room. If they had said we could stay in the B&B for two or three days so they could carry out a full investigation, or if somebody had come here and said 'get out, it's not safe', I would have lived in the dog kennel.'

'I can't uproot my family into a single room indefinitely - all we wanted was for somebody to come here and take a reading.'

He added: 'I was told because I had refused the offer of alternative accommodation it was now my problem.'

'Their attitude was 'you have made your bed, now you can lie in it'. I am at my wits' end.'

Despite several requests, the council was unable to provide a response to the *Oban Times* questions.

## Race on to save Plockton music school from axe

HIGHLAND Council leader Michael Foxley and chief executive Alastair Dodds will travel to Plockton High School on Monday for talks on saving the National Centre for Excellence in Traditional Music.

The crisis summit with NCETM director Dougie Pincock and Plockton High rector Duncan Ferguson will seek ways to find replacement funding, make savings and a identify wider

**EXCLUSIVE**  
REPORT by  
STEPHEN NORRIS  
snorris@obantimes.co.uk

role for the world-renowned music school. The move follows Highland Council's decision to axe the centre's £317,000 annual budget from July next year. The move shocked campaigners, but the ink was hardly dry

when Councillor Foxley stated the council aimed to secure the school's long term future.

Talks with the Scottish Government, West Highland College and other interests, he said, would explore 'how the centre may play a role in supporting wider potential development in traditional music within the region'.

And a Scottish Government spokesperson said: 'We have had

number of productive discussions about the traditional music centre at Plockton and hope to be able to resolve the situation shortly.'

An upbeat music school director Dougie Pincock told *The Oban Times* on Tuesday he had been 'instructed' to plan ahead.

He said: 'I have been contacted by the council leadership to recruit as normal in next month's round of auditions - not just for S6, but for S1 to S6, so that

is very positive.' Mr Pincock anticipated between 15 and 20 applicants would compete for the seven available places. Perversely, the crisis has sparked more applications from youngsters. 'We even had one application come in from Minard near Inveraray,' Mr Pincock said.

He added: 'We absolutely want to thank everyone for all their support. If it is the case the council underestimated the

extent of public reaction, who could blame them - I did as well. But we still have some distance to go and people's support is needed more than ever.'

Plockton Community Council chairman Charlie MacRae said local people 'couldn't believe' funding had been withdrawn.

A council budget consultation exercise at Lochcarron in November failed even to raise the issue, he said.



On patrol: Troops serving in Afghanistan have received a steady stream of parcels - including copies of the Oban Times.

## Commanding officer pays tribute to people of Oban

THE commanding officer of 5SCOTS has thanked the people of Oban for supporting his battalion throughout its tour of Afghanistan's volatile Helmand Province.

Lieutenant Colonel Adam Griffiths, who commands a number of units spread across the entirety of the UK Task Force area in Afghanistan, said the packages sent to the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, 5th Battalion of the Royal Regiment of Scotland, were and continue to be a great boost to morale and invaluable to his troops, who are approaching the end of their tour of duty.

There has been a steady stream of packages to Afghanistan since Bex and Graham Beuschier started their campaign last year, at the request of Bex's brother, the Royal Artillery's Lieutenant Colonel Andy Welsh.

Wyvex Media, publisher of the Oban Times, also sent parcels



Tribute: Lieutenant Colonel Adam Griffiths.

of newspapers and magazines to our troops to let them know what was happening back home.

Lt Col Griffiths said: 'In particular I am incredibly thankful for the parcels which have been sent to theatre for the Oban boys in the battalion throughout the tour, it is a great support for them to know that there are people in their home town thinking of them while

they are so far from home. '5 SCOTS have deployed on numerous overseas operations in the last

decade to Northern Ireland, Bosnia, Iraq, the Falkland Islands and on

three occasions to Afghanistan as well as multiple training exercises in

Kenya, Belize and other far-flung corners of the world.

'Throughout this constant period of operational activity, towns such as Oban in the traditional recruiting areas of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders have supported the battalion, not only by sending their young men to join and fight as Argylls but by providing that very necessary support network at home.'

'We see our home areas as our heartlands and look forward to returning from Afghanistan this spring and reinforcing that bond.'

Follow us on facebook  
www.facebook.com/obantimes

## Hotelier's close shave boosts cancer charity

A LOCHABER hotelier has raised more than £550 for charity by agreeing to shave off his lifelong beard and moustache.

John MacAskill, of Loch Leven Hotel in North Ballachulish, decided to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support after his brother was diagnosed with mouth and jaw cancer.

Local hairdresser Marie McLaughlin dyed John's beard multicoloured a week before she shaved it off to help publicise the impending shearing.

John's partner Hilary Wilson said she was delighted with the money he had raised, but wasn't so sure about how John looked without his facial hair.

She said: 'I'd never seen him before without the beard, apart from photographs, so it was quite a shock. Everybody says he looks 20 years younger, but I'm not so sure.'



Close shave: John MacAskill loses his beard and moustache.

## Fort homes hit by power cut

AROUND 800 homes and business in the Fort William area were without power over the weekend. The electricity cut out at 5.30am on Sunday morning after a fault developed with an underground cable.

Scottish Hydro Electric engineers restored power by 7am by rerouting the supply, and managed to fix the faulty cable later the same day. Although power was returned quickly, sales were affected at a local supermarket. They were left unable to use their chip and pin system and had to rely on old-fashioned carbon paper credit card readers. The power cut also left a local solicitors firm without phones until Monday afternoon.

## Claggan break-in warning

BUSINESSES in the Fort William area are being warned to be on the lookout after Claggan was hit by a spate of break-ins over the weekend.

Northern Constabulary are investigating five break-ins that occurred on Saturday and Sunday, which they say appear to be linked. They are telling businesses to make sure their premises are kept secure.

Police are also asking anyone who may have seen any suspicious people in the area to contact Fort William Police Station.

krisp print  
For competitively priced printing and stationery  
www.krispprint.co.uk

PHOTOS & VIDEO PLUS BREAKING NEWS  
This week on www.obantimes.co.uk  
West Coast Review  
Have you seen our webcams?  
Skykon Campbeltown - the story so far

Spring Weddings For Beautiful Brides  
The Oban Times & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES  
Wedding Feature on THURSDAY March 3rd  
Don't miss this opportunity to advertise your business to our 40,885 readers  
Call Margaret on 01631 568000

OT

**Reformed community council set for first meeting**

THE FIRST meeting of the newly reformed Kilmallie Community Council (KCC) will be held in the next few weeks.

A date for the first meeting of KCC since it folded in 2007 has yet to be set. The process for nominating members ended last week with 10 names being put forward.

Council returning officer Emma Taylor told *The Oban Times* the reconstitution process required at least eight nominations to move forward.

**Members**

She said: 'Following the nomination period ending, we have received 10 nominations. They have been duly elected members of the community council.'

At the first meeting of the community council representing Corpach, Banavie and Tomonie, Ms Taylor will put in place a chairperson, who will in turn elect a treasurer and secretary.

Local resident Gillian Clark is one of the 10 new councillors, and she feels the reconstitution of KCC is good news for the community.

She said: 'I'm really pleased it's going to happen. I hope it'll encourage a bit more community spirit, and maybe make people start caring a bit more about things that affect the whole community.'



'Big occasion': Club officials, councillors and construction workers at the ceremony. 10\_f07shiny01

**Works starts on new Kilmallie shinty clubhouse**

A SOD cutting ceremony has marked the beginning of work on Kilmallie Shinty Club's new modern clubhouse.

The £130,000 project will include changing rooms, a meeting room and a small kitchen. Construction work is expected to take around six

months, meaning it should be available for use for the second half of the shinty season.

Kilmallie will play in the Scottish Hydro Premier League after winning the north first division title last season.

Funding for the new facility, which will also be available for community use, came

from a combination of grants and the club's own fundraising.

Club committee member Hugh MacIntyre said the club had been planning the new facility for the last eight years, and described the start of construction as a 'big occasion for Kilmallie and the

community'. Provost Allan Henderson spoke at the ceremony and said: 'This is an extremely proud moment for me.'

'This has taken a long time - far too long actually.'

'Once it's finished it'll be a fantastic facility for the whole area.'

**Fury at Skye health delays**

**Three major projects could be shelved**

ISLE OF Skye health campaigners have reacted with fury to news that three major projects could be shelved because of funding cuts.

A new three-surgery dental facility in Portree, further improvements to the MacKinnon Memorial Hospital in Broadford and a new medical centre next to the hospital all face being put on hold.

Land purchase and design for the dental surgery will be completed by next month, but construction will be deferred. The Broadford schemes must await an NHS Highland survey of all capital projects to prioritise those providing the greatest benefit to patients.

Mid Highland Community Health Partnership (CHP) is to discuss an NHS Highland board paper tomorrow detailing how a cut in funding from £29.9 million to £13.6 million will affect projects in the pipeline.

Risk and impact assessments are underway on maintaining services from existing premises. The planned replacement of X-ray equipment at Broadford will also be delayed.

Only £2million remains for new projects - meaning many will be mothballed for at least a year.

Combined costs for the Skye schemes alone - over £1 million for Broadford Medical Practice, £450,000 for the MacKinnon Memorial Hospital upgrade and £1.28 million for the Portree Dental project - exceed that figure.

The Skye and Lochalsh Health Services Reference Group, set up to help plan future health services, is outraged by the delay.

Chairman Tony Moore, from Elgol, told *The Oban Times*: 'For Skye and Lochalsh this is a significant knockback. There is a huge amount of disappointment and anger about this - this is going to affect everybody.'

'Everyone locally who has been involved in the reference group has invested a huge amount of time and energy attending monthly meetings to get this through. Members have been involved in designing the new centre.'

By STEPHEN NORRIS snorris@obantimes.co.uk

'That is over a year's work that has gone to waste. The reference group meets next month - but I am afraid the horse has very much bolted.'

He added: 'This decision flies in the face of what we were told in February last year, when the CHP said funding had been approved for a new health centre.'

'Work was almost due to start at Broadford and now we have this. The funding was ring fenced, but that fence was taken down.'

'We know there is spare capacity at Kyle Health Centre and one option is to transfer some of the business across there. There will be an outcry from MPs and MSPs, there's no doubt about that.'

Mid Highland CHP General Manager, Gill McVicar said the cuts would have 'a significant impact' on planned capital work.

She warned: 'While some of this work may commence after the prioritisation process, the board paper indicates only about £2.1 million will be available to cover all schemes across the whole of the area covered by NHS Highland after legal commitments have been met.'

'We therefore need to carefully consider what this means for some of our premises and services and detailed work is now underway.'

'I know this news will be a disappointment to patients, public and staff in the areas affected and we will work to minimise the impact, but inevitably we will not be able to progress with all our plans and we will carry out a transparent assessment and prioritisation process with clinical advice.'

*There is a huge amount of disappointment and anger about this. This is going to affect everybody.*

Tony Moore.



Honoured: Ian Sykes receiving his award from Richard Else.

**Fort William man wins mountain culture award**

THE FIVE-day Fort William Mountain Festival 2011 came to an end on Tuesday after drawing hundreds of visitors from all over the UK to Lochaber.

Organisers Highland Mountain Culture Association estimate the event brought in £70,000-£100,000 to the local economy.

Highlights included Fort William man Ian Sykes MBE being given the Scottish Award for Excellence in Mountain Culture. Glencoe climbing legend Hamish MacInnes won the inaugural award in 2008.

Ian, who opened the Nevisport climbing shop chain before becoming one of the founders of Nevis Range, was honoured at a ceremony in the Nevis Centre on Saturday evening.

He told *The Oban Times* he was surprised to have been given the award.

'It was totally unexpected. I was surprised that they should choose me, but I'm pleased as punch to be honest,' he said. 'I was going off on a ski trip before Christmas and there was a pile of letters I left until I came back.'

'When I opened it I thought that's nice, someone is getting

an award'. Then I realised it was me!

One of the most popular events was the sold-out 'Best of Banff' on Monday night, which showcased a selection of films about mountain culture from the Banff Film Festival in Canada. Winter sports activities at the Ice Factor at Kinlochleven and Nevis Range also featured.

Author, broadcaster and hiker Cameron McNeish and filmmaker Richard Else delivered a talk on 100 years of mountain filmmaking on Saturday evening.

The festival closed with a ceilidh at Nevis Range on Tuesday night.

Festival committee member Andy Burton told *The Oban Times* the event had been a success, although numbers were slightly down overall on 2010.

He said: 'It's a varied event, I think there's something for everyone. It brings tourists in, gets locals out and we try and get the kids involved as well.'

'But it's not just about sitting watching the films - we like people getting involved during the day and them come and watch the films at night.'

**Waste disposal fines on cards say council**

SCOTLAND should follow England in allowing councils to serve fixed penalty notices on householders to encourage them to separate wastes and correctly use recycling bins, says Highland Council.

In its submission to the Scottish Government on the Zero Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2011, the council says penalties should also apply to local businesses in a 'zero tolerance' approach to waste disposal.

The council says it sees fixed penalties as a 'supplementary means' of reducing waste rather than 'the main weapon of attack', with the main thrust being to 'educate and convince' householders and businesses of the advantages of reducing waste.

TEC services committee chairman Councillor John Laing is 'particularly concerned' at the large amount of food thrown out - around 25 per cent of non-recyclable waste.

He said: 'There are major changes ahead, which place a

much higher duty of care on householders and businesses. The draft regulations require the separation of food from other waste and the separation of recyclables from residual waste.'

'The reduction of waste and the increase in recycling must make sense and I am confident that we will take the public with us on this one. At present, each one of us throws out £400 worth of food each year. This is a terrible waste and we must be able to do much better than this in the future.'

He added: 'The possible introduction of fixed penalty notices on people who ignore the advice we give them is a useful tool for enforcement. But this would be a last resort after a householder or business has ignored advice and warnings. Education will always be the best way of achieving our goals. We would also support and encourage the Government to examine ways that incentives can be used to encourage more recycling.'

The new regulations envisage:

- A ban on mixing separately collected recyclable materials;
- A ban on landfilling key recyclable materials.

The earliest date for the implementation of the regulations is 2013, with the requirement to sort dry recyclables as well as food waste. Landfill bans would follow in 2015.

The council intends to complete the introduction of alternate weekly collections of residual waste one week and recyclables the next by April 2012, after successful trials in Skye and Lochalsh.

The blue recycling bins accept cardboard, plastic bottles, paper and magazines and steel and aluminium cans.

Glass and textiles are disposed of in bottle and textile banks at recycling points and centres.

**Uist projects to be opened officially**

THREE new projects on the Uists are to be unveiled on Monday.

Local councillor and the Comhairle's chair of transportation Donald Manford will open the North Ford Causeway works at 10am, followed by the opening of the Lochmaddy waiting room by Uist councillor Archie Campbell at 11.15am.

The Comhairle's convener, Councillor Alex MacDonald, will then open Kallin Harbour and Icleplant at 2pm. The causeway was severely damaged in the storms of January 2005, which claimed five local lives. All three schemes have been completed for some time, but have never been officially opened.

**Danny heads for the Big Apple**

SKYE internet sensation Danny MacAskill is to film his next stunt video in New York.

Dunvegan cyclist Danny shot to fame in 2009 when a video of him performing stunts on his bike in Edinburgh appeared online. He will now perform similar tricks and jumps near the Big Apple's famous landmarks.

**Animal charity condemns trust**

SCOTLAND'S leading animal charity has heavily criticised the John Muir Trust (JMT) for slaughtering dozens of red deer on its land.

The Scottish SPCA spoke out after JMT chairman John Hutchison, in last week's *Oban Times*, sought to justify the shooting of around 40 hinds and calves around Sgurr Choinnich Beag in Upper Glen Nevis. The carcasses were left on the hill and were discovered by hillwalkers.

Mr Hutchison claimed the killings were to encourage plant growth and to achieve 'a sensible deer population'.

His arguments failed to convince the charity - and drew a furious reaction from experienced Lochaber stalkers.

SSPCA Chief Superintendent Mike Flynn told *The Oban Times*: 'Culls should only ever take place as a last resort and for public safety or animal welfare reasons. Land should be managed to prevent deer from starving from a lack of food and to prevent deer from causing damage to certain areas. We believe every option

**EXCLUSIVE**  
By STEPHEN NORRIS snorris@obantimes.co.uk

should be exhausted, including deer fencing, before a cull takes place.'

Kingie Estate stalker John Cameron said extremes of weather would always cause deer to die no matter their numbers on the ground, and to blame stalkers' management for that was wrong.

He said: 'When there is deep frozen snow covering the ground for weeks it makes no difference whether there are five deer per square kilometre or twenty-five the end result will be the same - they will starve.'

'If Mr Hutchison can't grasp this perhaps he should consider his position. He should certainly think more carefully before making wild accusations about deer deaths last winter being caused by 'current management practices.'

'Most stalkers have a great respect and regard for deer and would take

exception to that statement, especially coming from someone with no practical experience on the subject.'

Lochalsh stalker and the deputy Lord Lieutenant for Lochaber, Iain Thornber, added: 'If the JMT are seriously interested in deer and want to establish themselves as credible landowners in Lochaber, they should employ a resident, professional, local stalker on their Nevis property throughout the year instead of relying on contractors working on SNH's dated guesstimates.'

John Hutchison, chairman of the John Muir Trust said: 'In recent months the trust has made significant efforts to work with others in the deer management sector, acknowledging that they have legitimate methods and aims. We are committed to finding solutions on the ground that enable different, sometimes competing objectives to be realised. We have offered to meet with Iain Thornber to discuss the points he has raised.'

See letters - page 13.

**Glencoe classroom spotlight on Titanic**

GLENCOE Primary School pupils have that sinking feeling - but it's all in the name of an exciting classroom project.

P4-7 children have been working on the tragic story of how the Titanic went down after striking an iceberg on April 14, 1912 with the loss of 1,500 lives.

Teacher Mary Evans said: 'The children wanted to find out about the history of the ship so those that died will not be forgotten.'

'Next year will be the centenary of when the boat sank. We are planning a 'Titanic evening' at the beginning of March for parents to come along and see the children's work.'

The children have produced Titanic cards, a wall mural depicting the vessel and shoeboxes fashioned into replicas of the ship's cabins.

South Lochaber has other links to the famous liner - the public bar in the nearby Loch Leven Hotel features Titanic memorabilia.

**Club juniors enjoy cross country success**

LOCHABER Athletic Club juniors won several trophies at the North of Scotland Cross Country league meeting in Dornoch on Saturday.

Isla MacKay finished second under-15 girl to take second overall in the league, whilst Calum Fraser finished fourth under-15 boy to claim bronze overall. Craig Maclean ran well for sixth in the same race and Craig's younger brothers Bruce and Ewan fished 12th and 13th respectively in the under-13 boys race.

The juniors are back in action this Sunday at 11am for the final race of the season.



Titanic historians: Glencoe P4-7 pupils show off their work. 10\_f0718ank01

**Save YOUR cinema**  
with the Oban Times Ticket appeal

Join one of the many A-list filmstars: Harry Potter's Hagrid, Robbie Coltrane, the White Witch from *The Chronicles of Narnia*, Oscar winner Tilda Swinton, *Four Weddings and A Funeral*'s John Hannah, Scottish film director Bill Forsyth and the inimitable Mr Bean, Rowan Atkinson and help re-open Oban's Cinema

The Oban Times Ticket appeal is simple: Buy a Gold, Silver or Bronze ticket and help raise the funds needed to re-open the cinema.

Your ticket will be printed out and proudly displayed on the wall of the newly refurbished cinema along with your name, so future visitors of the cinema can see who helped raise the "phoenix from the ashes"

*"I love local cinemas. Not only because they provide, like a church or a football ground, a reason for a community to come together but because they are invariably the best places to watch a film, compared to which a trendy cinema is a miserable experience. My personal vested interest is that comedy films, in particular, benefit from the shared excitement and communal laughter of a large audience in a paper cinema. I do wish the Oban Phoenix campaign the very best of luck."*  
Rowan Atkinson

How to pledge your cash.

There are three types of ticket - Gold at £50, Silver at £25 and Bronze at £5. Every donation will be carefully invested in the future of the cinema. If for any reason the cinema doesn't get up and running all monies will be returned.

Name .....  
Address .....  
Email address .....

Pledge GOLD  SILVER  BRONZE  (Tick as applicable)

I would like to pay an extra £17.75 for the framing of my ticket as a gift.

Post or hand in to: Times Ticket, The Oban Times, Lochavullin Industrial Estate, Oban PA34 4HB  
Cheques or Postal Orders made payable to Times Ticket.

A full list of donors can be viewed in the Oban Times until the cinema is opened.

Total amount paid ..... Name you want to appear on the ticket .....

## Bargain Hunt's Anita to host valuation day in support of cinema

OBAN Phoenix Cinema campaigners are delighted that Flog It's Anita Manning will be on hand with her team of valuers to offer expert advice at an Antiques Valuation Day to be held in the town in an effort to raise cash for the group.

On April 9 between 11am and 4pm the star of BBC's Antiques Road Trip, Bargain Hunt, Cash in the Attic and STV's The Hour will be on hand to value paintings, jewellery, silver, ceramics,

coins, medals, militaria, collectors' items, glass, textiles and works of art.

The entrance price will be £5 with a maximum of three items to be valued.

Tea, coffee and biscuits are included in this cost. All monies raised from this event will go directly to the Save the Oban Phoenix Cinema fund.

Meet Anita and her team in the dining room at The Caledonian Hotel, Station Square.

## T-shirts to support Phoenix campaign

AS WELL as the opportunity to buy Times Tickets - see page 10 opposite - and join celebrities such as Judy Dench, Tilda Swinton and Robbie Coltrane in backing the Oban Phoenix Cinema project, supporters can also buy a T-shirt.

Designed by Mikey McManus, a member of the steering group, the T-shirts have the orange cinema logo on the front with the words 'I'll be back' on the reverse.

They are already selling like hot cakes.

Mikey said: 'We now have T-shirts for sale in various sizes for men and women in black or white.'

\*You can purchase these on line

at [www.obanphoenixcinema.co.uk](http://www.obanphoenixcinema.co.uk) and they will soon be available at various events around the town. They are priced £12 and have free delivery.

Pledges for chairs for the cinema are still being taken at DM MacKinnon's Office on Station Square priced at £200 and £1,000 for a VIP lounge.

Up-and-coming events to raise cash for the cinema project include an auction this Sunday at Cuan Mor Restaurant, George Street, between 2.30pm and 4pm; Jamie At Home Party at Cuan Mor on Sunday March 13, between 1pm - 3pm; and a Bring and Buy Sale at The Corran Halls on Saturday April 2, from noon - 4pm.

## Brothers bag prizes at club awards night



Fort William Shinty Club held its annual dinner dance and awards ceremony at the Ben Nevis Hotel, Fort William, on Friday night. First team player of the year Paul MacKay, is flanked by most improved second team player of the year Mark Grant and his brother Kyle, who was voted second team player of the year.

## Public launch for Duncan's debut CD

A WELL known Gaelic singer is to release his debut CD - more than 40 years after winning the National Mod gold medal.

Duncan Macdonald was awarded the medal in Oban in 1970.

Now resident in Taynuilt, he has become one of the best known and most distinctive voices in the Gaelic musical scene, whether as an accomplished solo performer or as a member of various Gaelic choral combinations.

The launch of his CD takes place at the Argyllshire Gathering Halls on Saturday February 26, from 2pm to 4pm.

Everyone welcome.

## Downhill dash as part of Mountain Festival



The summit of Aonach Mor was the place to be on Sunday afternoon for the start of a mass-start mountain dash down the mountainside. Competitors in the Mammoth Descent, part of the Fort William Mountain Festival, started at 1.190m and finished the race on foot, before heading to the Snowgoose bar at Nevis Range for the prize-giving and some well-earned refreshments. See sport for more.

# Phil and Claire are happy to be back

REGULAR visitors Phil Gault and Claire Halsin will pay another visit next week as guests of Oban Music Society.

Phil, baritone, and Claire, piano, will perform at St John's Cathedral on Tuesday February 22 at 7.30pm.

Phil studied at St Catherine's College, Oxford, and at the Royal Academy of Music.

He has performed with Scottish Opera and at the Buxton and Northampton Festival Operas and in operatic roles and oratorio throughout the UK, Europe and the US.

He first started working with Claire in 2003. Since then they have married and are performing together internationally.

Claire is from Glasgow, where she studied at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama (RSAMD).

She won a number of prizes before representing the academy in Iceland and Russia. She is a staff répétiteur at Scottish Opera and holds staff and teaching posts at the RSAMD and Glasgow University. She has performed throughout Britain and Europe. Both she and Phil are Crear Scholars. Non members of the society are welcome. Admission is at the door, £10 for adults, £8 concessions and free to those under 18.



In harmony - Phil Gault and Claire Halsin will perform in Oban.

## Exhibition will tell the story of Cairndow's 107 houses

AN EXHIBITION depicting the village of Cairndow over the years is to be displayed in the Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum.

Our Houses: Their Stories is a biography of the 107 houses of Cairndow and was created by the Here We Are community enterprise.

Here We Are's resource centre sits at the head of Loch Fyne. It is run by the community and is a development trust and social enterprise.

The exhibition starts tomorrow, Saturday, and will run in the Kelvingrove Gallery, Glasgow, until April 2.

Christina Noble, director at Here We Are, said: 'We hope the Our Houses: Their Stories project will be a model for other villages in Scotland.'

'While the work has been time-consuming and

sometimes laborious, it is clear that as the bits and pieces come together, suddenly there is a floodlight of excitement and something significant and alive emerges.'

Over the years, Here We Are has amassed a photo gallery of people who lived in Cairndow's houses.

Out of this came the idea for a major two-year project combining oral, visual, manuscript and survey sources, Our Houses: Their Stories, which received a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Colin McLean, head of the Heritage Lottery Fund in Scotland, said: 'Cairndow has a wonderful resource which not only safeguards the personal histories of the houses which make up the village but also provides a platform for learning about the influences which have shaped the community.'

## Popular Sunday rail service to run again

THE SUNDAY rail service from Edinburgh to Oban, which proved popular with day trippers last year, is to run again this summer.

ScotRail is to operate the service on 10 Sundays from June 26 to August 28 inclusive.

The train will call in both directions at Falkirk High and Dalmeir - and at stations Helensburgh Upper to Connel Ferry inclusive, with Falls of Cruachan by request. The service is timed to give passengers five hours in Oban.

Graeme Macfarlan, ScotRail's marketing manager, said: 'The trial proved its worth in 2010 and we are delighted it is not only being repeated but extended.'

Tickets for the service can be bought 12 weeks in advance.

don't miss the best of Irish country with a touch of humour

With Ireland's Little Big Band

**barry doyle**  
(Farmer Dan) duo

In B.A. Club, Fort William on Fri 4th March  
Doors Open 8.00pm Admission £10  
Tickets Now On Sale From BA Club or Tel 01463 221268  
**a great night assured!!**

**OBAN MUSIC SOCIETY**  
**CONCERT**  
Tuesday 22nd February 2011  
St John's Cathedral 7.30 p.m.  
**PHIL GAULT (Baritone)**  
**CLAIRE HASLIN (Piano)**  
With songs by Schubert, Ravel Butterworth, Barber, Keel  
Non members welcome: admission adult £10 (£8) Under 18 free.  
*Sponsored by Enterprise Music Scotland*

**gig argyll** your essential guide to live music in argyll  
**guide**

Thursday 17 February > Ceilidh Disco  
Skipinnish Ceilidh Bar 9pm-1am

Friday 18 February > Oban Mountain Rescue Team  
Skipinnish Ceilidh Bar Fundraiser with Trail West  
Tickets £7 - 9pm

Friday 25 February > Ivan Drever Solo  
Skipinnish Ceilidh Bar 8pm - Tickets £6

★★★★ The Herald  
★★★★ Scottish Daily Express  
Scottish Opera

**Opera Highlights**

**Ballachulish Village Hall**  
Tuesday 1 March, 7.30pm  
Tickets from: Ballachulish Visitor Centre  
Tel: 01855 811 866

**Craignish Village Hall, Ardfern**  
Thursday 3 March, 7.30pm  
Tickets from: Diane Steele  
Tel: 01852 500 746  
Tickets: £11 / £5 Under 26s

Find out more at [scottishopera.org.uk](http://scottishopera.org.uk)  
Registered in Scotland Number SC027231 Scottish Charity Number SC019787

[www.oban.org.uk](http://www.oban.org.uk) - the definitive web guide to Oban that enjoys 20 million hits per year.

Help us promote Oban and we'll help you promote your business.

Visit: [www.oban.org.uk](http://www.oban.org.uk) TODAY!

OBAN & LORN TOURISM ASSOCIATION

**HOLDING AN EVENT?**

The Oban Times & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Be seen by over 40,000 readers

Tel: 01631 568000  
[www.obantimes.co.uk](http://www.obantimes.co.uk)

# COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

**QUIZ NIGHT**  
In Aid Of  
Oban Pipe Band  
Friday 18th February 2011  
7.30pm  
Masonic Lodge  
Albany Street  
Entry: £3 per person

**CEILIDH DANCE**  
Loch-Awe Village Hall  
Robert Naim Ceilidh Band  
And  
Alasdair Whyte  
(Mod Medallist)  
Saturday 19th February  
8.00pm  
Admission £8 (including tea)  
BYOB

**APPIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
SCOTLAND'S CANALS AND WATERWAYS:  
Andrew Ross  
Saturday 19 February, 2.30pm  
Port Appin Village Hall  
ALL WELCOME!  
[www.appinhistoricalsociety.co.uk](http://www.appinhistoricalsociety.co.uk)  
Scottish Charity No. SC029411

**OBAN U3A**  
Tuesday 1st March 2011  
At 10.30am  
Caledonian Hotel, Station Square, Oban  
A warm welcome to members new and old for our monthly coffee and chat meeting.

An Comunn Gaidhealach MEUR CHRUACHAIN (Cruachan Branch)  
**CEILIDH**  
Saturday, 19 February in Taynuilt Village Hall at 7.45pm  
Piper Sean Riordan  
Gold Medalists Stiofhan MacIomhair and Donnie M. MacLeod  
Robert Robertson, Clarsach - Rachel Hair,  
Accordion - Alasdair MacDonaid  
Eilidh MacInnes Dancers  
Fear an Taighe: Brian Wilkinson  
Admission £3.00. £2 for Members & Children 5-16 yrs Including Tea.  
A Warm Welcome Extended to All  
(Funds collected promote The Gaelic Language, Music and Culture)

Netherlorn Piping Society  
Recital By  
World Championship Piper  
**WILLIE MACCALLUM**  
Supported by  
Oban High School Pipe Bands  
Wednesday 23rd February, 2011  
Argyllshire Gathering Halls  
At 7.30pm  
Entry: Adults £3; Children Free

OBAN BACH CHOIR & ORCHESTRA  
**COFFEE MORNING**  
Saturday 19th February 2011  
St John's Cathedral Hall  
10.30am - 12.30pm  
Various stalls including Raffle, Baking, Preserves, Books etc

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

Advertise in the **Community Notice Board** for just **£14.50** (plus VAT)  
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

**TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW!**  
**GUYS AND DOLLS**  
Curtain up 7.30pm (Matinee @ 2.00pm on 5<sup>th</sup>)  
Tickets: Adult - £9.50  
Conc. - £7.50, Family - £28.00  
**Corran Halls, Oban**  
3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> March  
RESERVED SEATING Book now to avoid disappointment!  
**CORRAN HALLS BOX OFFICE: 01631 567333**

The Scottish Sealife Sanctuary has teamed up with The Oban Times for their new passes  
Redeem your passes from 26th February to 13th March inclusive  
**seal** **SCOTTISH SEA LIFE SANCTUARY**  
**TOKEN 2**

**GUYS AND DOLLS**  
SPOTLIGHT musical theatre group  
Reserved Seating BOOK NOW to avoid disappointment  
TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW!  
Curtain up 7.30pm (Matinee @ 2.00pm on 5<sup>th</sup>)  
Ticket Prices: Adult - £9.50  
Concession - £7.50, Family - £28.00  
Visit us at [www.spotlightmtg.co.uk](http://www.spotlightmtg.co.uk) or find us on Facebook & Twitter  
**CORRAN HALLS BOX OFFICE: 01631 567333 BOOK NOW!**

# The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

## Borrowing is necessary

ALBEIT borrowed money, the additional £3m Argyll and Bute Council will use to arrest the decline of the county's roads must be welcomed.

Often described as 'disgraceful', 'of third-world standard' and even 'dangerous', Argyll's road network has been badly affected by the recent cold winter and the cash-strapped council will be the first to admit it has never had the resources to maintain every stretch of road in its care, not even the most important.

Take the A816, the main route between the tourist town of Oban and the council's administrative centre, Lochgilphead. In parts, it is close to crumbling completely as it tries to support daily commuters, workers and haulage vehicles.

Although Argyll motorists are not alone in suffering deteriorating road conditions, the importance of the network to the region cannot be emphasised enough. In a lot of areas the car is essential, rather than convenient. In these parts of the county there are no alternatives, there are no bypasses and diversions.

It is often the damage to a car, caused by sub-standard roads, that riles the motorists the most. Parts are expensive to repair and replace and, added to the rising cost of fuel, extremely unwelcome.

### GLASGOW LETTER

#### Mull and Iona Association Gathering

THE QUOTE 'the best-laid schemes of mice an' men gang aft agley' is one which will have been used at many functions in the past month.

It was certainly true for president Charlie Kirkpatrick as he put the finishing touches to the programme for this year's annual concert and dance of the Mull and Iona Association in Glasgow University.

As a result of unforeseen circumstances, the line-up had to be changed but piper Kenneth MacKenzie and Charlie's accordionist son Niall were added to the programme.

Then an accident on the A82 delayed the arrival of some of the Atomic Piseag Choir who come from different parts of Argyll.

In charge of proceedings at the informal concert was chairman Angus Johnston, past owner of the St Columba Hotel on Iona for 25 years.

Choir conductor Raymond Bremner included several songs encouraging audience participation in his solo spots in the programme and the choir also entertained in both halves.

Norrie MacIver, fresh from his exploits with new Gaelic group *Manran*, displayed his versatility accompanying himself on guitar and singing both English and Gaelic songs.

Early in the proceedings Angus Johnston and his wife Alison were presented with mementoes of the occasion by young Eilidh Jack and at the dance which followed music was provided by *Gumna Sound*.

Despite the organisational problems, the Mull and Iona committee can be satisfied that their supporters headed home after an enjoyable evening's entertainment.

#### Creative writing workshops

CREATIVE Writing workshops are being held in the CCA from 7pm-9pm for adults on Wednesday evenings and for 14-18 year olds on Thursday evenings until March 16/17.

Catriona Lexy Campbell will be in charge of the youngsters. For further details telephone 0141 287 5810.

#### Stirling ceilidh

THE AUDIENCE at the February ceilidh of the Stirling branch of An Comunn was treated to excellent entertainment from singers Catriona Watt, Stephen

#### MacLennan Motors

MACLENNAN Motors has asked *The Oban Times* to clarify that its freight business has not been mothballed.

In our report on the challenges facing small business in the edition of February 3, MacLennan Motors was said to have taken the freight arm of the business off the road because of high fuel costs. Owner Catriona MacLennan stresses this was actually a reference to just one minor job, not the freight arm as a whole.

She said that the business is running as normal and there is no likelihood of any problems in the immediate future.

### YOUR LETTERS

THE EDITOR welcomes letters of approximately 300 words in length for publication on this page. The editor also reserves the right to shorten, to amend or to refuse to print them. Names and postal addresses must be supplied, including on emails, to indicate good faith. A daytime telephone number is also required for verification. Anonymous letters or those supplied without a contact telephone number will not be printed. Please write or fax to: Letters page, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB. Fax: 01631 568001. Email editor@obantimes.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 4HB 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.



## ScotRail staff from Oban and Dalmally

This week's flashback photograph comes from the files of The Oban Times and features former ScotRail permanent way staff from Oban and Dalmally. We invite readers to send in flashback photographs. Please send prints to *The Oban Times*, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB, or email editor@obantimes.co.uk. Prints or emails must be accompanied by a caption, name, address and telephone number. Anyone wishing their prints returned must supply a stamped addressed envelope.

## Letters to the editor

PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB  
email: editor@obantimes.co.uk

Telephone: 01631 568000  
Fax: 01631 568001

www.obantimes.co.uk

#### Tiree care home must not close

Sir,  
I read your February 3 article "Tiree's care crisis" regarding Argyll and Bute Council's plan to close the Eventide Home in Scarinish.

I work on Tiree every summer and know what a strong and close community that island constitutes. I was unaware Argyll and Bute Council staff numbered anyone of such outstanding courage - or is it reckless stupidity - to inflict such a wanton and crippling act of social vandalism on this vibrant island.

Let us hope that those in the council debating such a move see the light and understand the true unacceptable consequences of such a mistake.

Peter Isaacson, Isle of Coll.

#### Oban Common Good Fund

Sir,  
I would like to expand on the real reason behind the removal of three Oban councillors from the Oban Common Good Fund (OCGF).

I recently viewed the minutes of the Oban Common Good Fund since the last elections in 2007. This has confirmed my assumptions that there has been no mention of any concerns with the administration or composition of the OCGF. The minutes are also sent to members of Oban Community Council and at all meetings of the fund a local independent accountancy firm is present to advise.

In late November the administration of the council changed.

The follow on from this is that membership of all outside bodies, including the OCGF, would eventually change.

At the fund meeting in early December, prior to any changes of membership, the SNP members coincidentally made statements and proposals that had never been mentioned before and could not be discussed at that point.

I would have to say that then, and only then, did politics enter the OCGF which I believe should not have happened. Previously

Oban, with the retention of Councillor Duncan MacIntyre, Kilmore, as chairman. There is a fourth councillor, Elaine Robertson, who has apparently also been excluded from the Oban Common Good Fund. The council paper made specific reference to the fund chairman as follows: 'That there be no change thereto without the express agreement of the council including, for the avoidance of doubt, the current arrangements for chairing.'

The needs and aspirations of the citizens of Oban are what the Oban Common Good Fund is there to serve. This has been the intent of those councillors who have now been removed from the committee. We should all be concentrating on helping to improve matters for the people of Oban. This is much more important than any one man's desire for power.

Councillor Donald Macdonald, 'Arisaig', Pulpit Hill, Oban.

#### Playground politics

Sir,  
Highland Council has voted not to fund the National Centre for Excellence in Tradition Music beyond next year.

Last Thursday, 30 former and present pupils performed to a gathering of protesters outside the council's headquarters. Seven students then took their place inside to listen to the three hours of debate on the Plockton School funding. Councillor after councillor stood to praise the school and how the word 'National' in its title brought great credit to the Gaidhealtachd, to Gaelic and Scotland's traditional music heritage.

I listened to the furious back-tracking on the threat to classroom assistants, with hope this munificence would extend to the music school.

The council convener Michael Foxley spoke of his pleasure at hearing the students playing outside, adding in 17 years on the council he had never had so many emails and protests on the threat to the school.

But then came the crunch, 43 voted in favour of withdrawing the £300,000 funding, 25 against, two abstaining. Voting was almost entirely on party lines.

The students, having missed breakfast to catch the 6.33am train, left the council chamber angry, frustrated and, back at school, despondent.

This was not how they expected democracy to operate; for councillors to say one thing in public and vote the other. Older cynics might say what else did they expect? They expected councillors to recognise their funding came from Edinburgh, to recognise them as ambassadors of the Highlands promoting Scotland's musical heritage to an international audience. They asked councillors to ensure that national money was safe in their hands. It wasn't. The message coming from the council chambers was, you're lovely people but in these hard times we can't afford you. No wonder the students felt devalued. Promises were made to 'explore all possibilities and options' of alternative ways to fund the school, enough seemingly to placate the majority of councillors.

We have 15 months to hold them to their word.

George Hendry, chairman Plockton High School Parent Council, Balnacara, Strathcarron.

#### Sort out the potholes

Sir,  
I am a 16-year-old teenager who understands the basics of politics.

In March I will be able to learn to drive. This is exciting for me but I am not looking forward to driving on Argyll roads. I overheard adults moaning about extra costs on near enough everything nowadays and I wonder where this money is going?

My main concern is the roads. The road to my home is pot-hole mania.

I would invite the council, or whoever is responsible, to take a drive down these roads and while they drive they can think about cutbacks on school transport causing more and more vehicles to destroy the roads as parents take their children to school.

When I am able to drive I don't want to worry about hitting a pothole and destroying the suspension on my car.

Lauren Stewart, Keepers Cottage, Tralee, Benderloch.

#### Admiration and irritation

Sir,  
May I comment on two items from *The Oban Times* of February 10. Firstly the further honour bestowed on Oban Saints Football Club represented by David Buchanan and his management colleagues.

I know how much work they put in and it is not for the first time that I am delighted to add my congratulations to them for the sterling work they do for the young people of Oban and district.

My second comment is not elicited from admiration but from irritation.

What are our elected council representatives playing at by allowing the Argyll Hotel to remain an anti-tourism eyesore?

We are fortunate in having entrepreneur Alan McLeod prepared to demolish and to build a modern hotel on the site. His treatment by Argyll and Bute Council is, to say the least, deplorable. So come on councillors. No more excuses. Show the planning department they report to you - not the other way about - and bring this sorry episode to a speedy conclusion.

W Raymond Shaw, Drimvargie Road, Oban.

#### Point scoring on school closures

Sir,  
With school closures having been put on hold, further argument about who said what school and how many is surely academic.

The fact this is 'on hold' will no doubt be used as a point scorer by all the candidates in the May elections.

We can be in no doubt that the people who brought about this 'volte face' by the council are the parents, teachers, children and communities who took direct peaceful action, their only motive being the education and welfare of their children.

All election candidates should be aware that the public who elect them can no longer be misled or kept in the dark about matters which affect them directly.

Blaming all our sorrows on the last lot is so very passé.

George Doyle, Ellenabeich, Easdale, Independent Prospective Parliamentary Candidate for Argyll and Bute.

#### Ferries review delay frustration

Sir,  
My Conservative colleague Jackson Carlaw, Shadow Minister for Transport, who sits on the Parliament's Transport Committee, is becoming more and more frustrated by the day by the inability of the Scottish Government to publish the Scottish ferries review.

I remember as a candidate at the last Scottish election listening to Jim Mather's pledge that there would be two new vehicle ferries on the Dunoon to Gourock route if he was elected.

He duly got a swing in Dunoon of more than 15 per cent which did get him elected as MSP for Argyll and Bute.

But not even a new rowing boat has appeared in terms of what he pledged to the people who elected him.

I can understand 'over-enthusiasm' during an election campaign but the current state of affairs regarding ferries is ridiculous and makes the current vehicle ferry service carried out by CalMac distinctly vulnerable since the numbers of vehicles carried by that service has dropped since Jim spoke out.

Out of approximately 70,000 vehicles carried annually by the two companies serving the people of Dunoon, only 60,000 have been carried by CalMac, a mere eight per cent, which has been receiving a subsidy of £2 million per annum.

In these times of drastic cuts, think what else the £2 million per year could have been spent on in Dunoon rather than subsidising

eight per cent of vehicles? Perhaps on keeping the hospice open or on town centre repairs? Why then the delay of the Scottish ferries review I hear you ask?

The word on the street is that the delay is because this SNP government review will point to a vehicle only service which the SNP believe will be unpopular with the Dunoon electorate, especially after Mr Mather's pledges before the election.

If this is not the case then the people of Dunoon who have patiently waited for Jim Mather's two new boats should now be told the truth by our SNP government.

Jamie McGrigor MSP, Highlands & Islands.

#### No change in delegated duties

Sir,  
I refer to your article 'Political carve up' at council HQ'.

I am listed as having become a member of a number of political bodies, the implication being that these appointments are as a result of the 're-shuffle' within the council.

This is not correct. I have held all the posts listed in the article since the election in 2007.

The exception is with regard to my position in the Older Persons Project Board. I have been a member 'in attendance' since this board and special committee was set up in 2008. In January 2011 my status on the board and special committee as a full member was confirmed.

There has been no change in my delegated duties. A full list of my responsibilities can be accessed on the Argyll and Bute Council website.

Councillor Elaine Robertson.

#### Don't shut up shop in January

Sir,  
I have just visited Oban for The Good Soup Guide, www.thegoodsoupguide.co.uk, and felt I should give a 'report'.

I was astonished to find so much closed in Oban in January - coffee houses, the museum, distillery, chocolate factory.

All of the town's tourist attractions were shut. Given that we're trying to promote Scotland as a tourist destination - one that is more attractive than a holiday abroad - we cannot shut shop for months at a time.

It is ridiculous. Even McCaig's Tower looked lost and forgotten at night and was not illuminated.

I think the people of Oban need to take a good long hard look at themselves and address some serious issues. Do you want people to visit you or not?

Closures in January are not the answer. Further comments may be seen online at The Good Soup Guide. We often make comments that are far from popular with local people. Our job is not to be popular but to point out shortcomings and spark debate that might lead to changes that will benefit the Scottish tourism industry.

Edward Burns, 57 Laurel Street Glasgow, G11 7QU.

#### Glencoe balloon

Sir,  
A strange sight in the sky greeted Glencoe residents in mid-February 1941.

Older residents in the glen - myself included - as children remember seeing this.

A silver barrage balloon was stationary, seemingly above Stob Coire nan Lochan. It was in fact above the head of Coire Gabhail where the cable had become stuck among the rocks. It was thought to have come from Clydebank following the devastating raids there.

It stayed suspended visible on the skyline for some weeks until the Home Guard went up and shot it down. The waterproof covering proved useful for making outdoor clothing and the silk interior for ladies' clothes. The metal cable is still lying there.

Alister Sutherland, aged 76, Glencoe.

## A view from the Tower by McCaig

#### Charge hospital drunks

IT WAS Jack - now Lord - MacConnell who, when Scotland's First Minister, said that everyone is entitled to get drunk at least once in his/her life.

This got him into severe trouble with those who have week-in, week-out to deal with those who make it a regular habit to get 'steaming' and can see no real problem with their inebriated state.

The after-effects can be unpleasant and, if the police don't want you in a cell to 'sleep it off', they can always take you to hospital where doctors and nurses have to be polite, render whatever assistance is possible, put you to bed, put up with whatever tantrums your addled mind may allow you to indulge in and generally look after you as though you are a fractious baby.

Repeat that image many times, add the female of the species who always wants to fight - with police officers especially - and you get the picture of the accident and emergency department of any hospital, any town on Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings and into the following mornings since licensing courts are hell-bent on keeping pubs and other such institutions open as long as possible.

I indeed, I know of members of licensing boards who would grant 24-hour licensing certificates on the specious argument that only those who could operate at a profit would stay open! Naturally,

the police, while they may lock drunks up for their own safety, don't really want to have large numbers of them incarcerated as they have to check on them constantly while they 'sleep it off' or shout, bawl, curse and swear as they make their unsteady way back to sobriety.

If 'the law' has the slightest doubt that they have injured themselves, then they have to be taken to hospital where no extra staff are brought on duty to cope with this problem.

If you have ever been an in-patient - as I was recently - you will know what a wonderful job staff do in coping with this extra burden while also looking after the genuinely ill who are their primary responsibility. By 3am it is these trained professionals who need the beds occupied by the 'bevy merchants'.

#### Collection a problem

A NEW report on the problem has come out this week which recommends that drunks who require hospital treatment should be required to pay for it in an effort to reduce the amount of money in their pockets and hence their ability to buy the 'demon drink'.

While I support the idea in theory I know that the bills will never be paid willingly; probably arresting wages would be the only way to get the cash. The administrative costs would be enormous.

There would still be as many drunks - especially from 18 to 30 - who see being drunk almost every weekend as a 'badge of passage' with their mates.

Is the answer a 10/20/30 year ban on being able to buy alcohol from off-licences and across pub counters the answer?

Only if you have to produce a licence, issued by the state and being cancelled for a long period if convicted of a drink offence.

Thereafter, it's 'prohibition' and we all know what a failure that has been throughout the ages.

#### No national police force

COMMON sense may yet prevail over the idea that Scotland would be better to have a 'national police force' and a greater number of current chief constables begin to realise that the only people who would really benefit would be those closest to the seat of power - the current Strathclyde Police headquarters.

They also know that those with most to lose would be those who live in rural Scotland, especially those who live in the far north, south, east and west and on the islands of the Inner and Outer Hebrides, Orkney and Shetland.

As those of us who live in his 'manor' already know he knows almost nothing about rural policing and appears to care less. But we do know that he is all for the top post.

If he is successful, he will become the most powerful policeman in Great Britain, outdoing the Commissioner of the Met where he once sat in an office.

Whether that means he gets a Life Peerage as well as the automatic knighthood that goes with being boss of Strathclyde remains to be seen.

However, we also know that he is a staunch supporter of all officers retiring after 30 years service except himself who has fulfilled his contract in that area of service.

If we were to have a national force, and I strongly oppose such as 'power corrupts' and 'total power' corrupts 'totally', the supreme post should go to someone who hasn't done his 30 years, has rural policing experience and is a Scot.

Unfortunately, the 'Scottish cringe' is still too prevalent when it comes to making top appointments.

McCaig

# Deer cull debate continues

## Overgrazing claim is 'nonsense'

Sir,  
I read John Muir Trust chairman John Hutchison's comments in last week's *Oban Times*, where he tried to justify slaughtering dozens of red deer in Glen Nevis.

I grew up in that glen. My father Sandy was a shepherd and gamekeeper in Glen Nevis and Steall.

Between Spean Bridge and through the Mamores, 30 years ago, there used to be 25,000 sheep and hundreds of deer in Glen Nevis.

Between Killiechonan and the Mamores there were 10 or 11 shepherds and three or four keepers.

Not only that, but the old British Aluminium had a farm manager there, Willie Henderson, who had 80 or 90 cattle out on the hill during the summer between the BA factory and up Glen Nevis.

Now there's no cattle, no sheep and precious few deer, so for the John Muir Trust to say that land is overgrazed is nonsense.

The whole hill now is full of white grass, rank heather and ticks because of a lack of grazing.

If you take the balance of nature away it is like taking the link out of a chain. They are destroying the hill.

I was gamekeeper for Lochiel Estate, a forestry keeper as well. I shot deer far up Glen Nevis with my father, but we carried them out through the glen - not like the John Muir Trust, which just left them lying. Not one bit of that venison was wasted.

The trust should not be shooting deer if it can't take them out. I am totally disgusted with them.

People like Iain Thornber and John Cameron are the folk it should have on the John Muir Trust to manage the deer properly, not through its contractor killers who are not keepers.

The trust is taking the wintering ground away from the deer with their fences as well. When the deer come down in the winter to get away from the snow they can't get through and die behind the fences - I have seen them. Deer are creatures of habit, they go down low because they know the snow is coming and if they can't get down, they will die.

**James Kennedy, Tigh na Feidh, Achintore Road, Fort William.**

## Trust should take on local stalker

Sir,  
I refer to the statements made by the chairman and the press officer of the John Muir Trust (JMT) in *The Oban Times* of February 10 regarding their alleged deer culling activities in Glen Nevis.

Understandably the trust feels obliged to apologise to the public but no amount of vacillating now, no matter how erudite, will remove the fact that by its own admission it leaves deer carcasses on the ground to rot.

It matters not whether this happens by the side of the path leading to the summit of Ben Nevis or beyond the Gorge. Both locations are visited by hundreds of walkers and climbers throughout the year.

Deer stalking used to be an honourable profession. Until a decade ago, except on very

rare occasions, no-one calling themselves a stalker would leave a carcass on the hill out of respect for the animal and their employer. New Age 'conservation' groups, such as the JMT, appear to have no such qualms.

For the 'crime' of eating a few saplings and treading on the hills where their ancestors roamed since the last Ice Age, the lives of many fine deer are simply wasted.

Good deer management can be achieved only by people who know the ground and have a proper understanding of deer and their movements throughout the year.

Itinerant contract stalkers, who are usually paid on each kill, seldom have the time or the inclination to consider their long-term welfare.

They may reduce numbers in the short-term but by indiscriminate slaughtering they eventually create larger problems for their neighbours who work hard to have a properly balanced herd.

If the JMT is seriously interested in deer and wants to establish itself as credible landowners in Lochaber, they should employ a resident, professional, local stalker on its Nevis property throughout the year instead of relying on contractors working on SNH's dated 'guesstimates'.

The late King George VI, who is much in the news these days, said: 'The wildlife of today is not ours to dispose of as we please. We have it in trust, and must account for it to those who come after.'

The JMT would do well to heed these wise words.

**Iain Thornber, Knock House, Morvern, Argyll.**

## Money at the root of carnage

Sir,  
It is with disbelief that I read the chairman of the John Muir Trust suggesting that 40 carcasses have been left on the hill to encourage eagles.

How much does he think they can eat?  
Inevitably, this will attract foxes and crows from miles around to this spot to feed on a sudden, unnaturally high food source.

And, as springtime looms, and the remainder of the rotting carcasses finally disappear, ground nesting birds and small mammals in that area will suffer a drastic reduction due to the pressure created by a high number of predators.

Through experience, I have seen that eagles thrive better in areas where the food supply is 'steady', such as areas where grallochs and perhaps on a rare occasion, a poor beast unfit for human consumption, were left on the hill.

What has conveniently gone unmentioned is that there are substantial amounts of public money available to be gained from controversial unfenced regeneration schemes which drain huge areas of Scotland of deer as they move into vacant territory.

As estate workers, this greatly concerns us.

Wages are paid for by landowners who pour new money into the local economy thus benefiting schools, hotels, local tradesmen and food suppliers - not simply moving taxpayers' money around mid-recession at a time when things have got so bad, that there is talk of police officers'

jobs being on the line. The questionable sustainability and far-reaching effects of this will eventually result in rural unemployment, far beyond the project sites.

Unless someone puts a 'Biodiversity Action Plan' in place for us and our families, I truly believe that this will ensure the removal of the last few people from Scotland's most remote areas.

Sadly, the evidence suggests that the reason for all this carnage, however they try to disguise it, is money.

**Davy Thomas, Black Corries, Glencoe.**

## Too many deer

Sir,  
Your story 'Trust under fire for deer slaughter', *Oban Times*, February 3, highlights the need for a statutory duty of sustainable deer management rather than continuation of the failing voluntary approach.

There are more red deer in Scotland than ever before; where densities are too high animals tend to be smaller, sicker and more vulnerable to disease and starvation. Responsible land managers, including the John Muir Trust, cull deer to maintain optimum densities.

The Scottish Wildlife Trust believes that Scotland has too many deer because of the lack of natural predation and changes in climate.

In large, unsustainable numbers they harm biodiversity principally by preventing regeneration of trees and ground flora; have a negative economic impact on forestry and agriculture and can make peat soils less efficient as carbon sinks and stores.

Much private deer management is exemplary, but poor deer management has been - and continues to be - 'completely unacceptable and irresponsible'.

We need sustainable populations of healthy deer living in healthy ecosystems and we support the John Muir Trust in its professional and humane approach to achieve this goal.

**Mark Foxwell, Scottish Wildlife Trust Highlands and Islands Reserve Manager.**

## Nothing new

Sir,  
The John Muir Trust is not doing anything new as it did the same in Knoydart a couple of years ago.

The trust's property manager Fran Lochart said a planned cull of deer had taken place over several months with neighbouring landowners and Scottish Natural Heritage.

I have worked on numerous Highland estates over the years and they carefully select and cull specific deer that have to come out of the herd.

The Oxford Dictionary defines a cull as: 'To pick out any weak, old or surplus to the herd.'

What happened here looks like a slaughter of deer regardless of sex, age or condition.

I wonder how many were cull beasts?  
Not many I bet.

Cutting their ears off and leaving them to rot on the hill is plain lunacy.

Easy money for the bounty hunters. They should all have their heads hung in shame, after all, this is public money and taxpayers' money they are using.

**J J MacDonald, Achnacarry, Spean Bridge.**



Jumping to it - Putting the fun into exercise every week are Oban Zumba instructors, from left, Eliska Homolova, Magdalena Sadlik and Larni Wright. 15\_t07zumba02

# Fitness craze that has folk jumping for joy

There can be no doubting the popularity of Zumba - the Latin-based dance fitness craze that has swept the nation - as EUAN PATERSON discovered when he was put through his paces by three of Oban's registered instructors.



All smiles - instructors Eliska Homolova, Magdalena Sadlik and Larni Wright. 15\_t07zumba05

IT'S THE worldwide fitness phenomenon that was born in Latin America but has found a home in the west Highlands.

Zumba is a Latin-based dance fitness class, more akin to a night dancing in the clubs and discos than a cardio or gym class.

Its popularity has shown no signs of slowing down since Colombian founder Alberto 'Beto' Perez forgot his music for an aerobics class in the mid-1990s and improvised using a salsa dance mix he had on a cassette.

An official Zumba programme was designed in 2001 and has already swept the globe - there

is even a Zumba sports clothing range.

Its success has been far reaching and in Oban more than 130 people came to the first Zumba class in Atlantis Leisure last autumn.

And at the recent Argyll and Bute Sports Coaching weekend held in Oban, all 76 places on the Zumba course were booked with two weeks to spare. As to emphasise its universal appeal, only 10 of those in attendance were from Argyll and Bute.

There are six registered instructors in Oban alone, three of whom regularly take classes in either Atlantis Leisure or Energie

Fitness. Their evident enthusiasm while talking about the subject seems to reinforce the notion of fun that has launched Zumba into the forefront of fitness programmes.

Larni Wright, who teaches classes in Atlantis, said: 'The great thing about Zumba is that it's for anyone and everyone. It's a fun thing to do.'

'When we started doing it we saw people who hadn't been to

the leisure centre for 10 years but came back especially to try Zumba.'

'The classes are attended by all ages, tall and short, big and small - but we need more men!'

Larni's colleague Eliska Homolova, who qualified last month, added: 'We regularly get people aged between 16 and 65 but I think the oldest person we had was 70.'

'You don't need previous dancing experience and there's no pressure to do anything because everyone develops their own style.'

'It doesn't matter how you shake your bum, as long as your having fun!'

With new members turning to Zumba all the time, more classes are being offered by instructors in Oban: Zumbatomic for children; Zumba Gold for over-50s; AquaZumba, which takes place in the swimming pool; and for those wanting more of a workout, Zumba Toning, which is coming to Oban at the end of February.

Magdalena explained: 'Zumba Toning takes the original Zumba dance to the next level using innovative muscle training and lightweight toning sticks or dumbbells.'

'The main benefit is improved muscle tone and definition.'

Magdalena, whose background is in ballroom dancing, has been teaching Zumba for nearly a year. She runs most of her classes at Energie Fitness but also does outreach work in schools.

She runs five adult classes a week and more than 10 Zumbatomic sessions for ages four to 12.

Atlantis now runs four classes per week that are each attended by as many as 80 people, although there are afternoon classes for those who prefer a smaller crowd.

Instructors change their routines every few weeks to help keep them fresh, which brings out everyone's individual tastes in music.

Larni explained: 'I had one lady asking if the class could do a routine to Beyonce's 'Single Ladies', which I thought was a great idea.'

'Even though I hate that song!' Eliska joked.

Only time will tell whether Zumba is a passing craze or here to stay but with energetic instructors and enthusiastic pupils turning out most days of the week, the smart money would be on the latter.

## Accidental birth of Zumba

AS A fitness instructor in his native Cali, Colombia, Alberto 'Beto' Perez's life took an unexpected turn one fateful day in the mid-1990s when he darted off to teach an aerobics class and forgot his traditional aerobics music.

He improvised using his own mix of music from tapes he had in his backpack - salsa and merengue music he grew up with. Spontaneously, he created a new kind of dance-fitness, one that focused on letting the music move you instead of counting reps over the music.

'Energy electrified the room; people couldn't stop smiling. His class loved it! And on that day, a revolutionary new fitness concept was born - the Zumba Fitness-Party.'

In 2001, Beto brought his new dance-fitness style to Miami, Florida, and, through a student, met entrepreneurs Alberto Perlman and Alberto Aghion.

All three hailed from Colombia and all three had

a vision to bring this dynamic dance-fitness class to the masses.

First came the DVDs, then the infomercial which introduced the Zumba Fitness-Party to the public on a wide-scale basis. Then came the demand for Zumba classes and Zumba instructors.

By 2005, Zumba Fitness spawned a fully-fledged Zumba Academy to licence Zumba instructors to teach classes.

More expansion followed with the launch of Zumbaware apparel and accessories, music CDs and, in 2008, one of the best-selling fitness DVDs ever - the Zumba Fitness Total Body Transformation System - which starred Beto.

In 2010, Zumba became the first branded fitness programme to launch a video game on all three major gaming platforms: Wii, Xbox, and PS3.

Fast-forward to today, the Zumba programme is now taught in gyms and studios all over the world to millions of Zumba enthusiasts.

15 Years Ago

## Those Were The Days

### The Oban Times

Thursday February 15 1996



## Parking protest

AN OBAN hotelier has branded the deregulation of parking restrictions on a Sunday near St Columba's Cathedral as 'stupid'.

And the owner of the Alexandra Hotel on the Corran Esplanade, Gilbert McKechnie, has launched a campaign to have the double yellow lines reinstated.

He has started his offensive by erecting an eight-foot sign warning drivers of the hazards of using the road on a Sunday, including negotiating a double bend on the wrong side of the road.

He told *The Oban Times*: 'People could be forced to drive on the wrong side of the road at the Corran Halls, Christ Church and the corner at the Alexandra Hotel and St Columba's Cathedral.'

The parking restrictions have been removed from 12.05am on a Sunday to 11.55pm, allowing cars, lorries and buses to park at any time during the day along a 300-metre strip.

The new rules are part of the Town centre Action Plan, which was discussed by a committee with representatives from the majority of the town's community bodies and were open to the public to dispute.

'I didn't make representations at the time,' admitted Mr McKechnie.

'I was more interested in further regulations, not deregulation.'

He said he had sent a letter explaining his protest to Oban police and Lochgilphead's head of traffic police.

## Drop in number of accidents on Argyll roads

THE NUMBER of people injured in road accidents in Argyll and Bute fell last year - which police believe is a reflection of their high-profile speed campaign.

The number of accidents generally in the district went down from 695 to 667 - a drop of four per cent.

But the most dramatic fall, according to Strathclyde Police Traffic Department, was with fatal and serious accidents.

The number of fatal accidents was more than halved - going down from seven in 1994 to three in 1995. And serious accidents dropped by 16 per cent from 107 to 90.

But Inspector Paul Macfarlane, based in Lochgilphead, said recent tragic accidents showed people must not be complacent.

Road accident casualties also followed the downward trend, with a 12 per cent decrease in serious casualties, down from 134 to 118, and an overall decrease of casualties by 10 per cent, from 370 to 332. 'Road safety is very much a corporate effort between Strathclyde Police, Strathclyde Roads and other interested agencies,' said Inspector Macfarlane. 'Throughout 1995, a high profile speed enforcement campaign was undertaken, which is hopefully reflected in the casualty reductions - particularly the 12 per cent reduction in serious injury,' added the inspector.

## New bid for The Crucible

A SECOND bid has been launched for Millennium funding for The Crucible, a futuristic cultural centre planned for Ganavan, near Oban.

The centre will be the first of its kind in Britain, bringing together aspects of the past, present and future of the West Highlands through a variety of media.

The £25 million project, expected to create 132 jobs on the premises and indirect employment for around another 500, aims to bring visitors from all over the UK and abroad, giving a £10 million cash injection to the local economy.

Plans for The Crucible drawn up by prominent businessmen Sandy Orr and Bill Crerar, both from Oban, were turned down for Millennium cash last year. The proposals have now been revised, presentation improved and have been lodged again with the Millennium Commission in the hope of attracting 50 per cent of the capital costs.

If successful, the cash balance for the project would be sought from other public and private bodies.

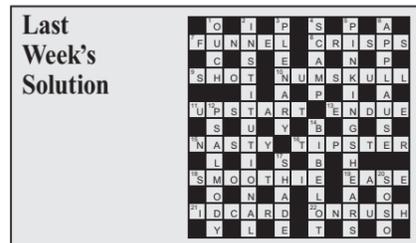
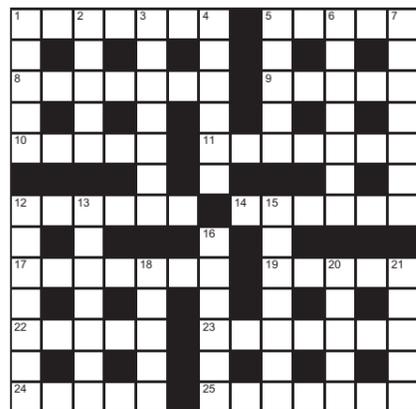
'We have re-presented our proposals, making plain the benefits to the area and the number of bodies giving support,' said Mr Orr.

'I'm very confident that if we get the support of the Millennium Commission, then the project will pass with flying colours. This is a hugely exciting project and the eyes of the whole of Britain will be on it as it brings huge economic benefits to the area.'

## GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD

- Across
- Attend to another's needs (4,3)
  - Domain (5)
  - Scams (3-4)
  - Wee one (5)
  - Crowd (5)
  - Improvement (7)
  - The final octet (6)
  - Not as bright (6)
  - Pebble-grained leather from here (7)
  - A water pipe (5)
  - Bluish gray (5)
  - Innocent test (7)
  - Apply, as pressure (5)
  - Carnivore's food, named for its colour (3,4)

- Down
- Draconian (5)
  - Colony member (5)
  - Quirky (7)
  - Light paper (6)
  - Representation of words by symbols (5)
  - Belief in souls (7)
  - Organiser (7)
  - All together (2,5)
  - Relevant (7)
  - Engine position when incorporated (7)
  - Pan used for corn (6)
  - Defraud (5)
  - Mountain ridge (5)
  - Shadow of one's former self! (5)



## Last Week's Solution





# Beaver Timber LTD

Barcaldine, by Oban  
Telephone: 01631 720 353 • Mobile: 07861 247 237  
www.beavertimber.co.uk • email: info@beavertimber.co.uk

**Established over 30 years**



**Sheds from £450 Fully fitted**

**Garages from £1750 Fully fitted**

- Summer Houses
- Sheds
- Garages
- Fencing
- Stables
- Dog Kennels
- Log Stores
- Boat Houses
- Chalets
- Bespoke Buildings

**FREE FITTING OF SHEDS IN OBAN & SURROUNDING AREA**

**BEAVER TIMBER WILL DISMANTLE YOUR OLD SHED, DELIVER AND ERECT YOUR NEW SHED**

**Brochure & Free Quotations on request**  
All our buildings are made from 19mm boards and come complete with 18mm flooring.  
**GARAGE BASES PREPARED**

### Beaver Timber

Beaver Timber has been established for over 30 years. Gary together with his wife, Paula took over the company 4 years ago, employing two full time and two part time employees including Gary's son Adam who runs the shed installation side of the business. Together they have seen a steady rise in sales doing bigger projects such as boathouses, small chalets, large workshops, while also remaining with sheds, garages, summer houses etc at the heart of the business. As well as the newly refurbished show site at Barcaldine, Beaver Timber has a conveniently placed show site at Cakebreads in Oban. Soon to be installed is a second show site at Corachie Clematis, Loch Awe and a show shed at MGM Timber.

Beaver Timber can also deliver and erect wooden buildings over a large area stretching as far down as Campbeltown, as far North as Skye and including the Islands such as Islay and Mull.

They offer high quality, low maintenance sectional garden buildings at very competitive prices, ideal for today's climate and will gladly dismantle and remove your old shed, if required. Bespoke Buildings to suit your individual requirements. Beaver Timber supply everything from picnic benches, kennels to stables!

Order your free brochure from 01631 720353 mobile 07861 247 237 www.beavertimber.co.uk or email info@beavertimber.co.uk

It's a confusing time for property owners who want to get the most for their asset and many would-be homeowners who can't afford to buy. Compared with the boom of previous years the current housing market is near stagnant and has made life difficult for both parties.

*But there is an alternative that many people have turned to.*

It may seem like a pipe dream in these challenging economic times but building your own home is a sure-fire way of getting exactly what you want from your investment and there are plenty of businesses on your doorstep to help you along the way.

And by extending your current property through building an extension, conservatory or decorative feature you can make sure your house stands out from the crowd in a competitive sellers market.

The west Highlands boasts some of the best tradesmen, landscapers, decorators and architects in the country, offering you the chance to make your new home unique and personal.

This range of expertise means you can have anything from that classic or traditional look, to the ultra-modern and eco-friendly.

However, there are a few dos and don'ts you must consider before you embark on a project.

Firstly, make a budget. Seek out estimates from construction firms and self-build specialists, many of whom you will find on these pages, to get an idea of what to expect.

The next step, for the new builds, is one of the most important: Finding a plot of land. Issues such as sunrise and sunset, flood plains and nearby facilities should be considered.

Bear in mind, too, that the romantic dream of owning rolling fields and large acres of land may not be the same in reality when it has to be maintained. Similarly, too, a small plot means you are stuck with your lot and won't have room to develop.

So, you have your dream home down on paper and you have your plot identified. The beauty of building YOUR own home is that YOU decide what it looks like. You can be as hands-on as you want to be but make sure the tradesmen tasked with bringing your vision to life know their remit inside-out.

Some people like to detail everything, down to the last plug socket but others prefer a pre-designed, or 'kit' home. These are ideal if you want to save on construction time - some can be ready in a matter of weeks - and especially if you are on a tight budget.

# HOMES &

# INTERIORS



Once you and the architect have finalised your drawings the next step is planning. This can often be a complex and drawn-out process but it is essential to check out your plot's planning status before you part with any cash. Certain plots may have been refused planning permission in the past and your whole project depends on whether you get the green light from the council.

So, it's time to build. Building work can change from day to day, so once the frame of the house is up you'll want to get it watertight as quickly as possible - a particularly important consideration in the west Highlands!

Once this is done you can focus on the interior. This means plumbing, wiring, insulating - everything we don't often consider until something goes wrong with it. It is important you don't scrimp on this specialised work, as poor workmanship will cost you a lot more to fix in the long run. As the saying goes: 'Do it once, do it well'.

Next are the walls and flooring, the kitchen and bathroom(s) and furnishings.

At last your project resembles your home but don't blow the budget just yet. A well-designed driveway and garden makes all the difference to the aesthetic quality of your home.

### Stevens & Graham

Est: 1947  
Tartan Carpet Specialists



Over 80 stock Clan Tartan carpet design  
Tartan carpet rugs made to any size  
Tel: 0141 423 3299 Fax: 0141 422 2022  
Email: info@tartanrugs.co.uk Web: www.tartanrugs.co.uk  
Worldwide Delivery

### M W PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

- Driveway Specialists
- Tarmacadam
- Monoblocking
- Chipping
- Slabbing
- Demolition & Building Of Walls
- UPVC Fascias
- Soffit Boards
- Guttering & Cladding

Call today for a free quotation  
**07879600975**  
Fully Insured

### LOWEST PRICE GUARANTEE

OVER 50 YEARS SUPPLYING THE OBAN BUILDING TRADE

UPVC WINDOWS AND DOORS

Our Lowest Price Guarantee is simple: if you find a like-for-like competitor price for Double Glazing Units in the Oban area that's lower than ours, then we will beat it.

## J & A MCDUGALL HOME HARDWARE

32-34 COMBIE ST OBAN 01631 567627

# OBAN HARDWARE



## NEW

Johnstones colour mixing machine and Dulux colour mixing machine

Full range of Johnstones and Dulux paint in stock

5L Coloured Emulsion from only £17.99

Large stock of Zinsser Primer Paint in stock all at reduced prices.

**SPECIAL OFFER!**

Dulux Matt/Silk Emulsion - Pure Brilliant White - For Walls & Ceilings - 6 Litres - **only £10.99 each**

**3 YEAR PRICE HOLD!** FROM 10th OCT 2010 TO 31st OCT 2011

Dulux Special Value Pack - Pure Brilliant White - For Walls & Ceilings - 6 Litres - **only £10.99 each**

Dulux Satinwood 1.25 Litre, Pure Brilliant White - For Wood & Metal - **ONLY £10.99**

Dulux Once Gloss 1.25 Litre, Pure Brilliant White - For Wood & Metal - **ONLY £8.19**

Dulux Non Drip Gloss 1.25 Litre, Pure Brilliant White - For Wood & Metal - **ONLY £8.19**

**TRADE AND RETAIL**

Fantastic range of paint and decorating sundries

**ALL THIS AND MORE ON SHOW ON OUR FIRST FLOOR SALES AREA.**

Lochside St, Oban.  
Telephone: 01631 562395/565930

### James Allan PAINTERS & DECORATORS

NORTH CONNELL Established 30 years

For all your interior and exterior needs. Private and Commercial.

Tel/Fax: 01631 710633  
Mob: 07887510101  
Email: jimmyallan02@aol.com

Work also undertaken in the Glasgow area by Chris Allan contact: 07787 447389

### Glen Creran Wood Scottish OAK

- Beams
- Kiln dried planks
- Rustic lintels
- Burr planks

www.glencreranwood.co.uk  
01631 730256

### William Martin Decorator

12 Angus Terrace, Oban, PA34 4EG

All decorating needs taken care of

No job too small or too large

Domestic & Commercial work undertaken

Call now for a free quotation  
Tel - 01631 562 402  
Mob - 07799 515069



CITB REGISTERED & FULLY INSURED

All landscaping services and maintenance contracts carried out. We now supply and deliver a range of materials such as Top soil, Bark, Compost and gravels.

Tel: 01866 822 652  
Mobile: 07821 582 742  
Email: RuryNeish@aol.com  
www.neish-contracts.co.uk



Follow us on facebook

www.facebook.com/obantimes



**Duncan Hunter Joiners Ltd**

- Over 20 years experience
- Professional service
- Building maintenance
- Timber frame kit construction

t: 01546 606062  
m: 07810 510884

Duncan Hunter Ltd, Unit 10, Kilmory Industrial Estate  
Lochgilthead, Argyll, PA31 8QT

**WALTON ELECTRICAL**

All aspects of electrical work undertaken

- DOMESTIC
- COMMERCIAL
- INDUSTRIAL
- NEW BUILDS
- PERIODIC & PAT TESTING

Mob - 07771 732 925  
Tel - 01631 565 812

e-mail - lorne@waltonelectrical.plus.com  
15 Airds Crescent | Oban | Argyll | PA34 5SQ

Member of SELECT

**Tom McCardel Associates architects**

the smithy studio  
barbreck  
lochgilthead  
argyll pa31 8qw  
tel 01852 500335  
tom@tomccardel.co.uk

The design of space and light to inspire the people who will inhabit it.

To design buildings which are rooted in the ground and sensitive to the environment in which they sit.



**Wetwall**

**MGM TIMBER OBAN IS A PROUD STOCKIST OF WET WALL PANNELLING - The ideal choice for modern bathroom design!**

**MGM Timber Ltd**  
Lynn Road, Oban,  
Argyll PA34 4PH  
Tel: 01631 563948  
www.mgmtimber.co.uk

**MGM Timber**

Part of the James Donaldson Group, MGM Timber (Scotland) Ltd is now Scotland's largest independent timber merchant. With 13 branches throughout Scotland, MGM Timber offers unrivalled service, quality and value for money for both trade and retail customers.

MGM Oban offers a vast range of high quality products: from timber cladding to ceramic tiles; foundations to fixings.

We have an extensive, customer friendly showroom where you can see all of our products: be amazed by the ingenious designs in our kitchen displays; view our range of stunning timber and laminate flooring; choose the paint you need with our in-store paint mixing machine; or browse our finest doors as you walk through our internal door display. Plus, once you've found what you need, we can deliver to your door.

Why not call in and look around today! Alternatively, call our friendly staff who will be more than happy to advise you.

**THE BLACKSMITH SHOP**

55, Longrow, Campbeltown,  
Argyll PA28 6ER  
Tel: 01586 551996

Wood and Multi-fuel Stoves & Range Cookers  
ESSE, ARROW, STRATFORD, ROMOTOP & FONDIS and many more.

All stove and range accessories such as flue pipes, grates, coal scuttles, wood & coal storage, companion sets and much more.

**The Blacksmith Shop**

Stephen Jones has been selling and fitting wood and multifuel stoves from campbeltown for the last 5 years. Initially they were made by himself as he is a registered farrier and blacksmith but as demand built up he started retailing stoves from the forge at Southend and then a small shop in Campbeltown.

The Blacksmith Shop in Longrow, Campbeltown opened last year. It is a quirky mixture of Ironwork, Wall Art and Gifts as well as a huge range of basketware and log holders and everything for the fireside and of course stoves which remain the core business.

Over 30 stoves and range cookers are held in stock in the shop so you can view the stove before buying. The Blacksmith Shop are main Dealers for Esse, Aarrow, Stovax, Charnwood, and Villager.

There is a complete range of enamel stove pipe in stock as well as chimney liner in 5 and 6 inch diameter.

With fuel prices sky high the business has been very busy fitting stoves especially the boiler models which can be incorporated into most existing central heating systems using the Esse centraliser. This means that your existing boiler will run the radiators if the fire is low or not lit but will cut out as soon as the stove is up to temperature so you still have a cosy house for that lie in on a Sunday or if late back from work.

Coal peat and seasoned logs are also sold from the shop as well as deliveries of bulk loads of loose logs and in cubic metre nets.

**Veracity Mortgage Services**

Call today for a free consultation and advice on Mortgages from the whole of the market.

If you're thinking of buying or selling - call us today

Telephone: 07917 332 989  
Web: www.veracitymortgages.co.uk

We do not charge you a fee for giving advice or arranging mortgage contracts as we will be paid by the lender.

**Structural Engineering Services for Residential and Commercial Projects**

**COWAL DESIGN CONSULTANTS**

Timeous, Professional Service  
Incorporating AutoCAD Drawings  
Building Warrants (In Association with various Architects)

5 Stafford Street, Oban and  
93a Marine Parade, Dunoon  
Tel. 01631 571280 & 01369 707692  
www.cowaldesign.co.uk

**Everything you need to create your own home**

We provide our customers with a unique one-stop shop service, not only for coordinating the manufacture and delivery of the timber frame structure, but also the supply of windows, external doors, internal door sets, stairs, architrave, skirtings, finishings insulation, plasterboard and a whole lot more.

Units 3:1 & 3:8, Discovery House,  
Gemini Crescent, Dundee Technology Park  
Dundee DD2 1SW  
T: 01382 561772  
www.scotframe.co.uk

**scotframe**  
timber frame | packages



**toplumbro**  
Quality Building and Renovation

The complete building service from start to finish

- New Homes
- Extensions
- Renovations & Restorations
- Foundation works
- Timber Frame Construction
- Masonry Work
- Roofing
- Internal Finishing
- Project Management
- Full Architectural Services

To discuss your requirements with no obligation or request a brochure, please call us now on 08447 365 247 or email info@toplumbro.com

www.toplumbro.com  
Toplumbro Limited, Tigharry, Black Crofts,  
North Connel, Argyll PA37 1RA  
Tel: 08447 365 247 Fax: 08447 365 378

NHBC  
Registered Number 9063

Tel: 01397 712950 (Spean Bridge)  
Mobile: 07884 260968  
www.meonmywall.co.uk

**Me On My Wall**  
creative canvas art

**Me on my wall**

At Me On My Wall we can turn any photograph into stunning canvas art for your wall. Choose from the many effects available to transform your photo into something unique. Perfect for wedding photographs, pets, children or that special event or occasion. Everything is designed and produced in Lochaber and can be delivered straight to your door.

Your image can be sent to us as a file from a CD, Mobile Phone, Print or even from 35mm slides.

Many old family photos lie damaged and tucked away in drawers or boxes. These can be professionally restored using our specialised digital techniques to bring the memories back to life. Putting your photo straight onto canvas costs from just £25.00 for a 12 x 10 ins. size. Our gift vouchers are available from £10.00 and make an ideal and original present.

We also have a range of our own designs and work with local photographers and artists to bring your original artwork to enhance any part of your home or office.

Email your photo to: myphoto@meonmywall.co.uk or call us to discuss your ideas and see if we can put something that is special to you on your wall!

**STEELWORK, RAILINGS, BALCONIES & STAIRS**



Welding & fabrication service designed to complement your self build

We can supply and erect structural steelwork, beams & fitch beams giving the freedom to be more imaginative and creative.

Call for a brochure

**Lorn Weld**  
Welding & Fabrication Service  
Tel: 01631 565533 Fax: 01631 566660  
email: info@lorn-weld.co.uk www.lorn-weld.co.uk

**Lorn Weld**

If you are planning to build your own home, add an extension or just add a feature such as a balcony or veranda than we would be more than happy to offer advise and help your dream become a reality.

Steel beams and columns within a build not only give strength but can allow you to be more creative, Or why not use them as a feature.

The use of steel frames offers you the freedom to install large glazed panels which can give you panoramic views from your rooms. Balconies and verandas come in a variety of shape and forms. From glass panels, stainless steel wires, wrought iron work. The choice is only limited by your imagination.

**Cakebreads Home & Garden**

Cakebread's Home and Garden was opened in November 2010. We are stocking Alexander Rose Quality Furniture, Fiskars Tools as well as bird care, pots and compost. Our aim with this shop is to offer the area a range of goods not easily available elsewhere. Constantly changing stock will consist of wood carvings, wooden bowls, wood root benches and seats, metal furniture, mirrors, wind chimes, cow bells, horse bells and much more.

**Choose Cakebreads Garden Centre and our Home and Garden Centre**

- 20 years experience
- Brand new premises
- Personal service
- Friendly, knowledgeable team
- Well known brands stocked
- Extensive product range
- Gift tokens
- Free local delivery

Cakebread's Home and Garden - only 100 metres from the garden centre

Cakebreads Home & Garden Centre  
Tel: 01431 358193  
www.cakebreadsgardencentre.co.uk  
Old Tweedmill, Soroba Road

**REACT ALTAIR-ENERGY LTD**

Approved supplier and Installer of 3kw-50kw turbines based in Scotland

-As we represent many manufacturers we can offer independent advice on the right turbine for you

**Our Products**

Endurance-50kw -	Output beats its 80kw rivals
Skywing10-50kw -	Upwind Turbines for Medium Wind
Westwind3-20kw-	Great reliability record
Proven 6kw and 15kw-	World wide installed base
Evoco10kw-	Best output on 10kw class
Xzeres10kw -	10 year warranty with this product
E VanceR9000 5kw-	Fantastic Performance record

Start earning your income now-Pays for itself with payback in 5 years and 20 year lifetime income guarantee and 400-500% ROI.

CALL 0208 938 3204 or  
email enquiry@altair-energy.co.uk  
www.altair-energy.co.uk

APPROVED INSTALLER  
MCS  
NAPIT

# Overseas buyers add plenty of interest to Highland cattle spring show and sale

QUALITY proved the key to success as Oban hosted the 120th Annual Spring Show and Sale of pedigree Highland cattle this week with the top end of the market attracting uninhibited bidding from a very knowledgeable audience.

Fifty-seven of the entries sold to more than 1,000gns and there was particular interest in one Isle of Mull-based bloodline, with three of the top four priced cattle having a direct blood link.

The influx of interest from overseas buyers added to the ringside tension with several of the day's top bids coming as a result of foreign investment.

By the time auctioneer Alasdair Logan's gavel came to rest for the final time on Monday afternoon, almost 20 cattle were destined for export with nine bound for farms in Germany, three to Finland, three more to Denmark, two to Belgium and two to Estonia, including one of the day's highest priced young bulls.

**Variable**  
While Monday's sale mirrored the west coast weather - very variable and subject to rapid change - the overall rise in year-on-year sale averages produced a raft of post-sale positives for breed enthusiasts.

Following the successful trade, Highland Cattle Society secretary Hazel Baxter said: 'I am delighted to see so many foreign visitors returning to Oban.



Overall Male Champion from the Senior Bull Section and winner of the Craig Sellar Trophy was Eoin Mhor 3rd of Mottistone from Mr Michael Poland, Isle of Wight. The champion was sold to J & M McConachie of the Culfoich Fold, Granton on Spey for 6000 gns.

16\_107highland4

Many of them are visiting folds throughout the country before their return home.'

She added: 'The atmosphere at this event was tremendous all the way through and, with a good realistic sale taking place, it is always encouraging to see the av-

erages increasing year-on-year.'

Judge of Sunday's show, Andrew Kirkpatrick, Beith, had selected as his male champion the yellow, rising three-year old bull Eoin Mhor 3rd of Mottistone by Eoin Mhor of Miungairigh, and out of Banarach Mhor 6th of

Kindrochaid, from the west coast fold of Michael Poland.

The young bull had earlier in the season been champion at the Lorn Show and champion male at Pollock and he also attracted the top price of Monday's sale when J & M McConachie, Culfoich,

Grantown on Spey paid 6,000gns for him.

The reserve overall champion, the black two-year old, Philip Dubh of Auchtenny from Maureen MacArthur and John Ashton's Strathpeffer-based All-learn Fold sold at 3,000gns to

Christian Kolb from Germany.

Auctioneer Logan, of Calcedonian Marts (Stirling) Ltd, required all his concentration and experience as 'buyers proved very selective' however, he also coaxed 4,800gns from Mrs D Younger, Lauder for the sire of the champion, the rising eight-year old red bull Eoin Mhor of Miungairigh by Eoin Mhor of Beinn-Latha-Ur and out of Frangach Banarach 4th of Torloisk. The champion at last year's Great Yorkshire Show and reserve champion at the Royal Highland Show also came from Michael Poland's Mottistone Fold and was expertly brought out and shown by head stockman Willie MacLean.

Estonian, Prit Kunnapas then paid 4,500gns to Mr Haydn Garton for the two-year old Jura of Thagnan, by Stuart of Lynton and out of Julie 11th of Craigmill.

Isle of Mull breeder Tom Nelson, Glengorm had the final bid on 4,200gns on Angus MacColl's two-year old red bull Eoin Mhor 2nd of Miungairigh by Eoin Mhor of Torloisk, again out of Frangach Banarach 4th of Torloisk.

**Countryfile**  
BBC Countryfile presenter Adam Henson travelled from his Cotswold farm with a film crew and returned home with a new bull for his rare breeds project. He bid 2,400gns for the reserve senior bull, Airigh Bhoicheach of Ormsary from the

Mid Argyll-based Ormsary Fold of Sir William Lithgow and Son. The rising three-year old yellow bull, by Hamish Mhor 2nd of Callachally and out of Eva 20th of Ormsary, may now become a television star.

Among the yearling bulls, the Cladich Fold of Mrs Jon H Strickland sold the black Beinn Dubhraigh of Cladich, by Whitelaw of Killochries, out of Glastig Ruadh 4th of Roisbheinn, to Germany when W Siebek paid 2,000gns for him. The Killochries Fold then sold another black bull, Calum Seoladair Dubh 3rd of Killochries at 1,700gns to G Keep from Suffolk.

**Champion**

The female trade was led by Sunday's show female champion, the stylish, white, four-year old in-calf heifer, Lady 35th of Callachally, by the very successful Ruairidh of Hyndford and out of Lady 15th of Callachally. She sold to JK and FG Smith, Ayrshire at 3,000gns. The Smith's then paid another 3,000gns for Mr KWW and Mrs EM Brown's three-year old Capleadh Glaschu of Craigmill by Russell of Balure and out of Capleadh Glaschu of Craigmill before adding the yearling heifer Gill Ruadh of Ceannacroic at 1,300gns from Dunlossit (Farming) Ltd, Isle of Islay. At 2,400gns, Sally and Michael Nairn, Perthshire took the rising

four-year old, red heifer Claire 6th of Carsaig from the fold of Lady Lithgow. The heifer, by Hamish Mhor of Callachally, was sold in-calf to the 2010 champion bull, Callum 2nd of Goldenberry.

Islay farmer Hamish Porter added to his island fold when he paid 2,400gns for the two-year old heifer Suisan Ruadh 4th of Cruach from Ewan MacKay, Glengoyne before three heifers attracted bids of 2,000gns with Falko Steinberg from Germany taking the three-year old Gruagach 37th of Ormsary - another in-calf to Callum 2nd of Goldenberry; Inverdunding Ltd bought Susan Ruadh 49th of Pollock from Glasgow City Council; and Chris Watmore, Lancashire took the two-year old black heifer Serena of Killochries before he offered 1,400gns for the top priced yearling heifer, Albanach Froach 4th of Glenglass from Mr R D Schuster.

**Good trade**  
A small number of cows attracted a good trade with Inverdunding Ltd paying 1,300gns for the 11-year old Anna Ruadh 2nd of Leys, from Glasgow City Council and sold in-calf to Andrew of Pollock, while Edgerston Estate, Jedburgh paid 700gns for the red, eight-year old Flora 2nd of Brooklyn by Rioghail of Balmoral, out of Flora of Brooklyn, from Simon Haley and his new bride of two days, Emma.



Overall Female Champion, Champion Senior Heifer and Winner of the DM Stewart Memorial Trophy was Lady 35th of Callachally. She sold for 3000 gns to JK & FG Smith, Ayrshire. 16\_107highland1

## Mart witnesses a moo-ving ceremony!

IT WAS A MOOMent of magic as a bride and groom took their vows in one of the most unusual places - the ring at Oban Mart.

Simon Haley and Emma Meadows of Eggleston, Barnard Castle, County Durham, tied the knot to each udder in front of family and friends - much to the amusement of the waiting Highland Cattle due to be shown the following day.

Simon, who made all the arrangements for the wedding, including choosing the bride's rather fetching tartan suit, said: 'The Highland Cattle Society Show is the highlight of our year. It is a real privilege to be making Emma my bride in front of all our friends we have made here.'

Emma, who has been engaged to Simon for more than four years, knew she was about to get

married and although had complied with all the legal preliminaries was not sure of the exact venue until a few days before. She said she was delighted with Simon's choice. She said: 'He is always doing something different and he has proved that today.'

The bride's two children, Marcus and Annabel, walked their mum down the aisle, past more than 150 cattle to be auctioned the following day.

Oban registrar Gemma Cummins, who conducted the wedding, told guests: 'In future when people ask me the most unusual venue in which I have conducted a wedding I will be able to say without a doubt - Oban Mart.'

Simon later took second prize in Class 21 for his cow Flora the Second of Brooklyn.

Pictured right are the happy couple.



# West Coast property service

[www.westcoastpropertyguide.co.uk](http://www.westcoastpropertyguide.co.uk)

### TO LET

**TO LET**  
3 Bedroom House, Oban  
Fully furnished, freshly decorated in walk-in-condition. Easy access to town centre. Sorry no pets, non-smoking and no DSS. Deposit and references required. £600 pcm plus Council Tax and Bills.  
Telephone 07810731968

**Cosy cottage on the Ross of Mull available from 9th April for a 12 month let.**  
Tranquil setting with wonderful views. £300 per month plus council tax and utilities. Deposit and references required.  
Please contact clare. ainsworth@gmail.com or phone 01926 748140.

**TO LET**  
The Greens, Glencruitten Road, Oban  
Available on long let, Luxury Apartment with beautiful views overlooking golf course. Accommodation comprises hall, lounge, kitchen, 2/3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 1 en-suite. Off street parking. Monthly rent £600 and all bills. References required.  
Telephone 01631 730491 or mobile 0781 6459503

**TO RENT**  
Kilchrenan, Near Traynuilt  
3 Bedroom House  
Main Bedroom Ensuite  
Unfurnished  
Oil Central Heating  
On school bus route  
Sorry No Pets or DSS  
References Required  
£600 p.c.m. + council tax & utilities  
Phone: 01866 833342 / 07771 956814

**FLAT FOR RENT**  
Fully furnished one bedroom flat in the centre of Lochgilphead  
Available for long let  
Own car parking space  
No DSS  
References required  
£420p.c.m + Council Tax  
Apply in writing to Box Number 150 Argyllshire Advertiser, Argyll Street, Lochgilphead, PA31 8NB

**TO LET**  
Four bedroom house in rural location 8 miles from Tarbert on school bus route unfurnished central heating & garden possibility of part-time work  
Tel: 01880 820 654

**DELIGHTFULLY SITUATED 3 Bedroom (1 en suite) detached house to let,**  
with integrated 50 sq metre garage/store/workshop, central heating plus wood burning stove. 10 miles Oban.  
Telephone 01631 562649

**NEW BUILD COTTAGE TO RENT**  
Taynuilt  
£650 pcm  
Fully furnished cottage situated in a great location overlooking the picturesque glen. Ideal for professional couple  
Cottage consists of Living room / Kitchen, 2 bedrooms, bathroom with shower  
Beautiful garden with decking.  
No Smokers, Pets or D.S.S.  
Please call 01631 563711 / 07799 898348

**FOR RENT**  
Single bedroom  
Semi-detached cottage  
Fully furnished  
Private parking  
Garden  
All electric  
6 miles from Lochgilphead  
Telephone 01546 605367

**TO LET OBAN**  
2 bed flats  
Un / part furnished, central location  
Period flat, fully refurbished, 2nd floor £525 pcm  
Sorry no pets. No DSS. Available now  
Ground floor, gas CH, own entrance £460 pcm  
Available April  
Both non smoking, price ex c.t./ bills, refs required.  
Tel 01631 564954

**Bell Ingram** **dm** **estates** **01631 566 122**  
2 Gibraltar Street, Oban PA31 4AY  
[bellingram.co.uk](http://bellingram.co.uk)

**Former Glencoe Hospital**  
Glencoe, Highland  
A rare opportunity to acquire a historic and extensive property set at the head of Glencoe.  
Extensive accommodation set over four floors with many period features remaining  
Variety of potential uses such as hostel, hotel and conferencing or residential, (subject to planning and listed building consents)  
Further building with development potential (subject to planning consent)  
Set in approximately 4.10 hectares (10.15 acres)  
Offers over £450,000

**Harbour Guest House**  
Main Street, Tobermory, Isle of Mull  
Extremely well located Guest House set on the sea front of Tobermory enjoying a prime trading position  
10 letting rooms  
Well appointed and spacious owners' accommodation  
Profitable business with potential to further grow turnover and profit  
Offers over £450,000  
For a free pre marketing appraisal of your commercial property or business please contact Euan MacCrimmon on 01631 567794 or euan.maccrimmon@bellingram.co.uk

**ANDERSON BANKS**  
Solicitors : Notaries : Estate Agents

**Gortan House**  
Bruichladdich, Isle of Islay, PA49 7UN

- Substantial detached cottage on the outskirts of Bruichladdich
- Superb views across Loch Indaal
- Sun Room, Lounge, Large Dining Kitchen, 3 Bedrooms
- Bathroom, Shower Room, Large Garden, Detached Garage & Shed
- Fully double glazed, Electric heating + Solid fuel back boiler

22 Argyll Square, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4AT  
Tel: 01631 563158 : Fax: 01631 565459  
[www.andersonbanks.co.uk](http://www.andersonbanks.co.uk)

**STEWART BALFOUR & SUTHERLAND**  
SOLICITORS & ESTATE AGENTS

**13 Sealand, Peninver, by Campbeltown**  
1 1/2 storey 3 bedroom semi detached chalet dwelling house situated in the corner of a small development within easily maintained garden grounds.

- Hall
- Large sitting room
- Sun room
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- 3 Bedrooms (one with en-suite wc)
- Shower room
- Double glazing
- Central heating
- Off street parking

Offers over £102,950

All our properties can be viewed on our website  
[www.sbsproperty.co.uk](http://www.sbsproperty.co.uk) Tel: 01586 553737

**WANTED**

Want to let your holiday property?  
We'll give you more bookings, less hassle

- Achieve as many as 47 bookings a year
- FREE property inspection & letting consultation
- EXPERT photos & advertising

Call today for your FREE owners pack  
**0800 915 4750**  
[www.SykesOwners.co.uk](http://www.SykesOwners.co.uk)  
**SYKES cottages**

**HYDRO**  
A small family company  
Would like to buy an old, new, or a site with planning permission  
For the purposes of generating hydro electricity  
Please call 07900 654862

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

**West Coast West Coast Property Guide**  
Property Guide Property Guide

**West Coast West Coast Property Guide**  
Property Guide Property Guide

HIGHLAND CATTLE SPRING SHOW AND SALE RESULTS AND PRICES

OVERALL Male Champion from the Senior Bull Section and winner of the Craig Sellar Trophy Eoin Mhor 3rd of Mottistone from Mr Michael Poland, Isle of Wight was sold to J & M McConachie of the Culfoich Fold, Granton on Spey for 6000 gns.

Reserve Overall Male Champion and Champion of Two Year Old Bull Section and winner of Caledonian Marts (Stirling) Trophy and the W Pearson Brown Memorial Trophy for the Best two year old.

Philip Dubh of Auchtenny bred by Mrs Ginny Stacy-Marks and owned by Maureen MacArthur and John Ashton was sold to Christian Kolb, from Germany for 3000 gns.

Class 1: 1 Eoin Mhor 3rd of Mottistone - Mr Michael Poland - sold for 6000gns to sold at 6,000gns to JM McConachie and Son, Culfoich, Grantown on Spey; 2 & Reserve Senior Champion Airigh Bhoitheach of Ormsary - Sir Wm J Lithgow, Bt & Son - sold for 2400 gns to Adam Henon, Gloucestershire; 3 Domhnall Buidhe of Glenkinglass - Mr & Mrs RD Schuster - sold for 1900 gns to M MacGregor, Glenmore; 4 Domhnull of Sheardrum - L & L Brains.

Class 2: 1 Josh of Earn - Heather Corrigall; 2 Fergus 1st of Culfoich - J & M McConachie - sold for 1000 gns to A MacGillivray, Dalnally; 3 Gordon 1 of Merkland - John & Dawn Mackie; 4 Aonghas 2nd of Munloch - RS & JM Tilford - sold to Riika Palonen, Finland.

Other prices: Ben of Tordarroch - Tordarroch Estates - sold for 800 gns to Dr W Steel, Ayrshire; Alastair Buidhe of Upper Cornabus - JJ Monaghan sold for 700 gns to Edgerston Trading Ltd, Jedburgh.

Class 3: 1 Champion two year old and reserve overall male champion - Philip Dubh of Auchtenny - Maureen MacArthur & John Ashton was sold to Christian Kolb, from Germany for 3000 gns; 2 & Reserve Champion two year old Iain of Balmoral - Balmoral Estates; 3 Jura of Thaggnam - Mr Alun Garton - sold for 2000 gns to Prit Kunnapas, Estonia; 4 Connor of Miungairigh - Mr AJ MacColl - sold for 1800 gns to Mrs A Bowie, Killearn.

Class 4: 1 Eoin Mhor 2nd of Miungairigh - Mr AJ MacColl - sold for 4200 gns to Mr Tom Nelson, Glengorm, Isle of Mull; 2 Brodie of Benmore - Mrs Judy Bowser - sold for 1000 gns to Mr E Smith, Ross-shire; 3 Solomon of Hyndford - Mr Alan Prentice sold for 1800gns to Douglas & Angus Estates.

Class 5: 1 Bhaltair of Thaggnam - Mr Alun Garton - sold for 3400 gns to Prit Kumapas, Estonia; 2 Donald of Tordarroch - Tordarroch Estates sold for 3000 gns

to Willi Bange, Germany; 3 Ruairidh Ruadh of Glengorm - Glengorm Estate sold for 2000 gns to J & M Stewart, St Andrews; 4 Pronsa of Merkland - John & Dawn Mackie.

Other prices: Ruairidh Mhor of Ardura - Ardura Estates sold for 2400 gns to Joachim Born, Germany; Calum Ruadh of Coirefuar - Mr Ewan Mackay sold for 2000 gns to Anastasia Delap, Argyll; Eilean Dubh 5th of Craigowmill - KWW & Mrs EM Brown sold for 2000 gns to Iain Graham, Kilmacolm; Bono Buidhe of Ceannacroic - Dunlossit (Farming) Ltd sold for 1000 gns to Blairlogan Highlanders; Stirling Brodie of Benmore - Mrs Judy Bowser sold for 1000 gns to Mr E Smith, Ross-shire; Bentalla of Mottistone - Mr Michael Poland sold for 900 gns to Lord Denham; Dunach Estates Urquhart of Broomrigg - Mr & Mrs DR Fountain sold for 800 gns to W Thomson, Barrhead; Aonghas Ruadh 2nd of Achnaclach - Mrs JY Nelson, MBE sold for 450 gns to Craig Finnie, Peterhead.

Yearling Bulls Class 6: 1 Champion Yearling Bull & winner of W Pearson Brown Memorial Trophy - Beinn Dubhraig of Cladich sold for 2000 gns to W Siebke, Germany; 2 Calum Seoladair Dubh 3rd of Killochries - Killochries Fold sold for 1700 gns to G Keep, Suffolk; 3 Lachlan of Murrick Park - Ms Julia Carr sold for 500 gns to Riika Palonen, Finland.

Class 7: Aged Bulls: 1 & Champion Aged Bull Eoin Mhor of Miungairigh - Mr Michael Poland sold for 4800 gns to Mrs D Younger, Lauder; 2 Brogach 1st of Culfoich - S & M O'Hara sold for 1000 gns to JM & BJ Ayres, Norfolk.

Females

Overall Female Champion & Champion Senior Heifer and Winner of DM Stewart Memorial Trophy Lady 35th of Callachally - Mr HM MacPhail sold for 3000 gns to JK & FG Smith, Ayrshire.

Reserve Overall Female Champion and Reserve Senior Heifer - Elspeth 40f Bien Esk Patricia Smith & Paul Burns sold for 2000 gns to Inverdunning Ltd, Perthshire.

Senior Heifers Class 8: 1 Lady 35th of Callachally - Mr HM MacPhail sold for 3000 gns to JK & FG Smith Ayrshire; 2 Elspeth 4th of Bien Esk Patricia Smith & Paul Burns sold for 2000 gns to Inverdunning Ltd, Perthshire; 3 Monica 30th of Pollok - Glasgow City Council sold for 1500 gns to Inverdunning Ltd, Perthshire; 4 Iseabal 15th of Carsaig - Lady Lithgow sold for 1200 gns to Michael & Sally Nairn, Perthshire;

Class 9: 1 Claire 6th of Carsaig - Lady Lithgow sold for 2400 gns to Michael & Sally Nairn, Perthshire; 2 Gruagach 37th of Ormsary - Sir Wm J Lithgow Bt & Son (Ormsary) sold for 2000 gns to Falko Steinberg, Germany; 3 Siusan Ruadh 49th of Pollok - Glasgow City Council sold for 2000 gns to Inverdunning Ltd, Perthshire; 4 Sileas 18th of Callachally - Mr HM MacPhail sold for 1000 gns to Duncan & Ashley MacGregor, Kilsyth.

Other Prices: Peigi Molach 12th of Ashmore - Ashmore & Strone Estate sold for 1600 gns to RSPB Scotland,

Islay; Monica 30th of Pollok - Glasgow City Council sold for 1500 gns to Inverdunning Ltd, Perthshire; Iseabal 15th of Carsaig - Lady Lithgow sold for 1200 gns to Sally & Michael Nairn, Perthshire; Capleadh Proiseag 2nd of Broomrigg - Mr & Mrs DR Fountain sold for 1100 gns to SK Brown, Wiltshire; Albanach Eiteag 2nd of Glenkinglass - Mr & Mrs RD Schuster sold for 1100 gns to RSPB Scotland, Islay; Anabla 15th of Callachally - Mr HM MacPhail sold for 1000 gns to Duncan & Ashley MacGregor, Kilsyth.

Three Year Old Heifers Class 10: 1 Elasaid 8th of Upper Cornabus - JJ Monaghan sold for 1300 gns to Mr C Watmore, Lancashire; 2 Proiseag Dubh 22nd of Achnaclach - Mrs JY Nelson sold for 2000 gns to Gerd Berdurfing, Germany; 3 Alma of Ardentrave - Derek Lewis; 4 Sobhrach of Ardentrave - Derek Lewis.

Class 11: 1st & Champion three year old heifer Iona 1st of Culfoich J & M McConachie; 2 Erin 1st of Bien Esk - Patricia Smith & Paul Burns sold for 2000 gns to Mr C Watmore, Lancashire;

3 Catriona 4th of Glengorm - Glengorm Estate sold for 1400 gns to RSPB Scotland, Islay; 4 Annabel 4th of Pollok - Glasgow City Council sold for 600 gns to David Miller, Caithness.

Class 12: 1 & Reserve Champion three year old Capleadh Glaschu 3rd of Craigmill - KWW & Mrs EM Brown sold for 3000 gns to JK & FG Smith, Ayrshire; 2 Edwina of Kynedor - CP & MP Bruce sold for 900 gns to Marco Oldenhof, Denmark; 3 Bess of Killochries - Killochries Fold; 4 Caileag Bheag 44th of Pennyngown - Mr DJ MacGillivray sold for 1300 gns to RSPB Scotland, Islay.

Other Prices: Alice 1st of Gray Brae - Douglas & Hilary Crane sold for 1300 gns to Mr C Watmore, Lancashire; Seonaid 5th of Killochries - Killochries Fold sold for 1300 gns to Edgerston Trading Ltd, Jedburgh; Sonasag 2nd of Labhdal - Mr DJ MacGillivray sold for 1200 gns to RSPB Scotland, Islay; Bheadareachd Nasoige 8th of Glengorm sold for 1100 gns to Edgerston Trading Ltd, Jedburgh; Annag Ruadh 2nd of Pollok - Glasgow City Council sold for 1100 gns to Edgerston Trading Ltd, Jedburgh; Ailsa 3rd of Torrie - Mrs Hilary Barker sold for 1000 gns Inverdunning Ltd, Perthshire; Sonasag Og 17th of Pennyngown - Mr DJ MacGillivray sold for 900 gns to Marco Oldenhof, Denmark.

Two Year Old Heifers Section 7 Class 13: 1 Champion Two Year Old Heifer Suisan Ruadh 4th of Cruach - Mr Ewan Mackay sold for 2400 gns to Hamish Porter, Islay; 2 Eilidh of Lyntoun - Mr DR Dickson sold for 1000 gns to Edgerston Trading Ltd; 3 Una Dubh of Mosscairn - Archie & Kay Aitchison sold for 800 gns to Mr C Watmore, Lancashire; 4 Mairi 8th of Benmeanach - Mrs A Taylor sold for 700 gns to Edgerston Trading Ltd, Jedburgh.

Class 14: 1 Princess Geal of Killochries - Killochries Fold sold for 1100 gns to Mr C Watmore, Lancashire; 2 Heather 4th of Tordarroch - Tordarroch Estates sold for 600 gns to Edgerston Trading Ltd, Jedburgh;

& Kay Aitchison sold for 520 gns to Hamish Porter, Isle of Islay; Capleadh 1st of Blairlogan - Blairlogan Highlanders sold for 500 gns to E Halford, Northumberland; Diana of Cnoc Na Sith - Mr Iain Mackay sold for 500 gns to Shona & Kerrie MacGillivray, Isle of Mull; Anna Ruadh of Cailaich - R & S Strachan sold for 400 gns to S Wreczycki, Germany; Eilidh of Drumard - Angus Mackinnon sold for 400 gns to W Thomson, Barrhead;

Class 15: 1 Feorag of Ashieburn - MD & SA Clarke sold for 900 gns to Edgerston Trading Ltd, Jedburgh; 2 Serena of Killochries - Killochries Fold sold for 2000 gns to Mr C Watmore, Lancashire; 3 Hersey 3rd of Ashmore - Ashmore & Strone Estate sold for 1000 gns to Mr C Watmore, Lancashire; 4 Osan Surachan of Killochries - Killochries Fold sold for 1000 gns to Mr C Watmore, Lancashire.

Other Prices: Monica 34th of Pollok - Glasgow City Council - sold for 1000 gns to Edgerston Trading Ltd, Jedburgh; Heather of Lyntoun - Mr DR Dickson sold for 650 gns RSPB Scotland, Islay; Mollaig 4th of Benmeanach - Mrs A Taylor sold for 600 gns to Edgerston Trading Ltd, Jedburgh; Eilidh 2nd of Cnoc Na Sith - Mr Iain Mackay sold for 600 gns to G Klöner, Germany.

Yearling Heifers Section 8 Class 16: 1st Jessica Ruadh of Ceannacroic - Dunlossit (Farming) Ltd sold for 550 gns to Mr C Watmore, Lancashire; 2 Beitidh 8th of Benmeanach - Mrs A Taylor sold for 500 gns to Mr C Watmore, Lancashire; 3 Anna Ruadh 1st of Jeddertfield - Caroline Cuthbertson; 4 Currae Na Cuthaige - HA Garton sold for 700 gns to Mr C Watmore, Lancashire.

Class 17: 1 Champion Yearling Heifer and winner of YW Mok Trophy Albanach Froach 4th of Glenkinglass sold for 1400 gns to Mr C Watmore, Lancashire; 2 Reserve Champion Yearling Heifer Gill Ruadh of Ceannacroic - Dunlossit (Farming) Ltd sold for 1300 gns to JK & FG Smith, Ayrshire; 3 Stuaigaig 4th of Benmeanach - Mrs A Taylor sold for 380 gns to A Ewing, Annan; 4 Robina Dubh 3 of Cailaich - R & S Strachan sold for 750 gns to G Keep, Suffolk.

Class 18: 1st Albanach Eiteag 5th of Glenkinglass - Mr & Mrs RD Schuster sold for 900 gns to C Kolb, Germany; 2 Ella Bhan of 3rd of Dunmor - Mr Robert Leitch; 3 Muilleach 4th of Gray Brae - Douglas & Hilary Crane sold for 480 gns to Jose Breuer, Belgium; 4 Dossan Dubh 13th of Cnoc Na Sith - Mr Iain Mackay sold for 700gns to Shona & Kerrie MacGillivray, Isle of Mull.

Class 19: 1 Mairearad Uibhist of Ardbhan - Mr & Mrs AA MacDonald; 2 Sorcha 4th of Gray Brae - Douglas & Hilary Crane sold for 500 gns to Jose Breuer, Belgium; 3 Eala Valley of Ardbhan - Mr & Mrs AA MacDonald sold for 850 gns to Mr C Watmore, Lancashire; 4 Gradh T4 of Ardbhan - Mr & Mrs AA MacDonald.

Class 20: 1 Myra Somerled of Ardbhan - Mr & Mrs AA MacDonald sold for 600 gns to Mr C Watmore, Lancashire; 2 Eiteag 20th of Hope - Braesgill Ltd sold for 550 gns to AR Muir; 3 Ailidh 2nd of Kynedor - CP & MP Bruce sold for 600 gns to WJ Grant, Turiff; 4 Margaret 2of Dunmor - Mr Robert Leitch sold for 320 gns to David Laing, Isle of Islay.

Other prices: Beatrice 2nd of Ardbhan - Mr & Mrs AA MacDonald sold for 920 gns C Kolb, Germany; Lottie 3rd of Mosscairn - Archie

& Kay Aitchison sold for 520 gns to Hamish Porter, Isle of Islay; Capleadh 1st of Blairlogan - Blairlogan Highlanders sold for 500 gns to E Halford, Northumberland; Diana of Cnoc Na Sith - Mr Iain Mackay sold for 500 gns to Shona & Kerrie MacGillivray, Isle of Mull; Anna Ruadh of Cailaich - R & S Strachan sold for 400 gns to S Wreczycki, Germany; Eilidh of Drumard - Angus Mackinnon sold for 400 gns to W Thomson, Barrhead;

Class 15: 1 Feorag of Ashieburn - MD & SA Clarke sold for 900 gns to Edgerston Trading Ltd, Jedburgh; 2 Serena of Killochries - Killochries Fold sold for 2000 gns to Mr C Watmore, Lancashire; 3 Hersey 3rd of Ashmore - Ashmore & Strone Estate sold for 1000 gns to Mr C Watmore, Lancashire; 4 Osan Surachan of Killochries - Killochries Fold sold for 1000 gns to Mr C Watmore, Lancashire.

Other Prices: Monica 34th of Pollok - Glasgow City Council - sold for 1000 gns to Edgerston Trading Ltd, Jedburgh; Heather of Lyntoun - Mr DR Dickson sold for 650 gns RSPB Scotland, Islay; Mollaig 4th of Benmeanach - Mrs A Taylor sold for 600 gns to Edgerston Trading Ltd, Jedburgh; Eilidh 2nd of Cnoc Na Sith - Mr Iain Mackay sold for 600 gns to G Klöner, Germany.

Yearling Heifers Section 8 Class 16: 1st Jessica Ruadh of Ceannacroic - Dunlossit (Farming) Ltd sold for 550 gns to Mr C Watmore, Lancashire; 2 Beitidh 8th of Benmeanach - Mrs A Taylor sold for 500 gns to Mr C Watmore, Lancashire; 3 Anna Ruadh 1st of Jeddertfield - Caroline Cuthbertson; 4 Currae Na Cuthaige - HA Garton sold for 700 gns to Mr C Watmore, Lancashire.

Class 17: 1 Champion Yearling Heifer and winner of YW Mok Trophy Albanach Froach 4th of Glenkinglass sold for 1400 gns to Mr C Watmore, Lancashire; 2 Reserve Champion Yearling Heifer Gill Ruadh of Ceannacroic - Dunlossit (Farming) Ltd sold for 1300 gns to JK & FG Smith, Ayrshire; 3 Stuaigaig 4th of Benmeanach - Mrs A Taylor sold for 380 gns to A Ewing, Annan; 4 Robina Dubh 3 of Cailaich - R & S Strachan sold for 750 gns to G Keep, Suffolk.

Class 18: 1st Albanach Eiteag 5th of Glenkinglass - Mr & Mrs RD Schuster sold for 900 gns to C Kolb, Germany; 2 Ella Bhan of 3rd of Dunmor - Mr Robert Leitch; 3 Muilleach 4th of Gray Brae - Douglas & Hilary Crane sold for 480 gns to Jose Breuer, Belgium; 4 Dossan Dubh 13th of Cnoc Na Sith - Mr Iain Mackay sold for 700gns to Shona & Kerrie MacGillivray, Isle of Mull.

Class 19: 1 Mairearad Uibhist of Ardbhan - Mr & Mrs AA MacDonald; 2 Sorcha 4th of Gray Brae - Douglas & Hilary Crane sold for 500 gns to Jose Breuer, Belgium; 3 Eala Valley of Ardbhan - Mr & Mrs AA MacDonald sold for 850 gns to Mr C Watmore, Lancashire; 4 Gradh T4 of Ardbhan - Mr & Mrs AA MacDonald.

Class 20: 1 Myra Somerled of Ardbhan - Mr & Mrs AA MacDonald sold for 600 gns to Mr C Watmore, Lancashire; 2 Eiteag 20th of Hope - Braesgill Ltd sold for 550 gns to AR Muir; 3 Ailidh 2nd of Kynedor - CP & MP Bruce sold for 600 gns to WJ Grant, Turiff; 4 Margaret 2of Dunmor - Mr Robert Leitch sold for 320 gns to David Laing, Isle of Islay.

Other prices: Beatrice 2nd of Ardbhan - Mr & Mrs AA MacDonald sold for 920 gns C Kolb, Germany; Lottie 3rd of Mosscairn - Archie

Mackay sold for 300 gns to Marco Oldenhof, Denmark; Mollaig 5th of Benmeanach - Mrs A Taylor sold for 300 gns to W Thomson, Barrhead; Eiteag 18th of Hope - Braesgill Ltd sold for 280 gns to W Thomson, Barrhead;

Section 9 Cows Class 21: 1st & Champion Cow Annag Ruadh 2nd of Leys - Glasgow City Council sold for 1300 gns to Inverdunning Ltd, Perthshire; 2 & Reserve Champion Cow Flora 2nd of Brooklyn - Simon Haley & Emma Meadows-Smith sold for 700 gns to Edgerston Estate

Unaltered Section; Canach Ruadh 2 of Ardoran - Ardoran Marine sold for 700 gns to Connaglen Estate, Fort William; Rainald 2nd of Ardoran - Ardoran Marine sold for 600 gns to Edgerston Trading Ltd, Jedburgh. Best Pair of Females and winner of MacLean of Duart Trophy: Patricia Smith & Paul Burns Reserve: Derek Lewis.

Averages: Males Senior Bulls 7 sold 2043 gns Two year old bulls 16 sold - 2175 gns Yearling Bulls 3 sold - 1400 gns. Females: Senior Heifers 12 sold 1659 gns Three Year Old Heifers 15 sold 1360 gns Two Year old heifers 14 sold 1025 gns. Yearling Heifers: 32 sold 557 gns. 57 animals were sold over 1000 guineas.

TRACTOR FOR SALE



Massey Ferguson 35, TAV 153, 1960 Model Fully refurbished with new parts, road legal, V5 doc, good working condition, excellent for ploughing. Can deliver to Oban

£4000 ono

Tel: 07767642833

FORD 6610



fwd sq done 4900 hours cw auto hitch

double spools clean tractor

Tel: 07766522751 for info

FORD 4610



2wd cw wide weels 2900 hours nice tidy tractor.

Tel: 07766522751 for info

3 SAMIE 80



fwd cw grays loader and bucket

Tel: 07766522751 for info

COVENTRY for FENCING

Scotland's No. 1 WIRE, STOCK FENCING, BARBED, HIGH TENSILE, MILD STEEL BEST PRICES. TIMBER DIRECT FROM OUR SAWMILL. Depots throughout Scotland • Delivery available. For a competitive quote please call 01631 566866

Clear from 10 to 10,000

Starlings

BirdGard Humane! Effective! INEXPENSIVE! Distress and predator calls with four random modes to prevent habituation. FREEPHONE for BROCHURE. 0800 988 0499. See BirdGard in action on BirdGard.co.uk

HAY AND STRAW DELIVERED

Round and Square Bales. Telephone: N Robertson 07768 506826

Oban Times FARMING Oban Times FARMING

ADVERTISE YOUR PROPERTY FOR THREE WEEKS IN OUR NEW PROPERTY PAGE STARTING FROM ONLY £220.

All prices include full colour, all photographs and are inclusive for 3 weeks. Prices are exclusive of VAT

All adverts include free web listing until sold www.westcoastpropertyguide.co.uk

OPTION 1 14cm x 3 columns

3 WEEKS was £1,670.76 NOW £340 Prices are exclusive of VAT

3 WEEKS was £1,193.40 NOW £280 Prices are exclusive of VAT

OPTION 2 10cm x 3 columns

OPTION 3 7cm x 3 columns

3 WEEKS was £835.38 NOW £220 Prices are exclusive of VAT

The Greens

Soroba Road, Oban

Semi detached 3 bedroom property in a central location, close to shops. Excellent local bus service.



Pic 1



Pic 2



Pic 3

- 3 bedrooms (1 en-suite)
- Entrance hall, Lounge, Kitchen with Dining area, Bathroom
- Modern fully fitted kitchen
- Fully double glazed
- Electric storage heating
- Off street parking
- Garden and front and rear

Offers Over £140,000

For more information or to arrange a viewing call 01631 568000

West Coast property service

The Greens,

Soroba Road, Oban

Semi detached 3 bedroom property in a central location, close to shops. Excellent local bus service.

Pic 1

Pic 2

- 3 bedrooms (1 en-suite)
- Entrance hall, Lounge, Kitchen with Dining area, Bathroom
- Modern fully fitted kitchen
- Fully double glazed
- Electric storage heating
- Off street parking
- Garden and front and rear

Offers Over £140,000

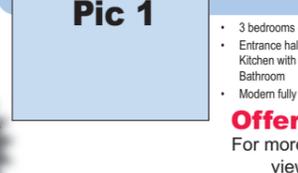
For more information or to arrange a viewing call 01631 568000

West Coast property service

The Greens

Soroba Road, Oban

Semi detached 3 bedroom property in a central location, close to shops.



Pic 1

- 3 bedrooms (1 en-suite)
- Entrance hall, Lounge, Kitchen with Dining area, Bathroom
- Modern fully fitted kitchen
- Fully double glazed
- Electric storage heating
- Off street parking
- Garden and front and rear

Offers Over £140,000

For more information or to arrange a viewing call 01631 568000

West Coast property service

To find out more about living and working in argyll & bute visit us @ [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk)



**COUNCIL TAX 2011/2012**

As required by Section 96 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, notice is hereby given that the Council Tax has been set by Argyll and Bute Council in terms of Section 93 of that Act and the amounts payable in respect of chargeable dwellings in each valuation band are as follows:-

Valuation Band	Property Values	Council Tax £
A	Up to £27,000	785.33
B	£27,001 to £35,000	916.22
C	£35,001 to £45,000	1047.11
D	£45,001 to £58,000	1178.00
E	£58,001 to £80,000	1439.78
F	£80,001 to £106,000	1701.56
G	£106,001 to £121,000	1963.33
H	Over £121,000	2356.00

**COMMUNITY SERVICES: EARLY YEARS**

**IS YOUR CHILD ELIGIBLE FOR FREE PRE SCHOOL EDUCATION PROVISION?**

Pre School Education from August 2011 will be available for:-  
 Four year old children whose birth date falls between 1st March 2007 and 29th February 2008  
 Three year old children whose birth date falls between 1st March 2008 and 28th February 2009  
 A list of current pre school education providers, including those offering Gaelic Medium, is displayed at the following locations:  
 All Primary Schools  
 Health Visitors/Doctors' Surgeries  
 All Council Offices  
 Libraries  
 Playgroups & Day Care Centres  
 Information leaflets will be available from pre school education providers at the time of registration and parents can obtain further guidance from the Pre School Education Helpline, Argyll and Bute Council, Argyll House, Alexandra Parade, Dumoon PA23 8AJ (Telephone 01369 708503/708560).  
 Parents of eligible children should register at their preferred pre school education provider during week commencing 21st February 2011 during the normal operational hours of the unit.

**PLANNING**

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2008 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT**

Applications for planning permission listed below together with the plans and other documents submitted with them may be examined at 67/69 Chalmers Street Ardrishaig PA30 8DX and the location detailed below between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday to Friday and by logging to the Council's website at [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk) and clicking on Online Planning Applications. Written comments for the following list of applications may be made to Planning and Regulatory Services Lorn House Albany Street Oban PA34 4AR by the 10/03/2011

● **Ref No: 11/00140/PP**  
 Applicant: Bruichladdich Distillery  
 Proposal: Siting of 2 silos, 1 modular building and 1 skid assembly (retrospective)  
 Site Address: Bruichladdich Distillery Bruichladdich Isle Of Islay Argyll And Bute PA49 7UN  
 Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Port Charlotte  
 Argyll and Bute Council maintain a Register of planning applications which can be viewed between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. at Planning and Regulatory Services, Dalriada House, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8ST. An extant list of planning applications can be viewed on the Councils website [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk).  
 A weekly list of applications can be viewed at Planning and Regulatory Services, Dalriada House, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8ST and Argyll and Bute Council Libraries.

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2008 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT**

Applications for planning permission listed below together with the plans and other documents submitted with them may be examined at Lorn House Albany Street Oban PA34 4AR and the location detailed below between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday to Friday and by logging to the Council's website at [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk) and clicking on Online Planning Applications. Written comments for the following list of applications may be made to Planning and Regulatory Services Lorn House Albany Street Oban PA34 4AR by the 10/03/2011

● **Ref No: 11/00132/PP**  
 Applicant: Mr Glenn Catto  
 Proposal: Erection of dwellinghouse and detached garage, installation of septic tank and formation of new access.  
 Site Address: Land North Of Knockvologan Farm Isle Of Mull Argyll And Bute PA66 6BN  
 Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Fionnphort

● **Ref No: 11/002139/PP**  
 Applicant: Island Parrot Sanctuary  
 Proposal: Erection of wooden chalet  
 Site Address: Land North Of Horsehoe Bay Cottage Kerrera Oban Argyll And Bute PA34 4SX  
 Location of Plans: Oban Area Office

● **Ref No: 11/00078/PP**  
 Applicant: Highland House Developments Ltd.  
 Proposal: Demolition of existing building and erection of backpackers accommodation.  
 Site Address: 41 Stevenson Street Oban Argyll And Bute PA34 5NA  
 Location of Plans: Oban Area Office

● **Ref No: 11/00105/PP**  
 Applicant: Mr Iain S MacLean  
 Proposal: Erection of Dwelling House  
 Site Address: Plot 6 Ossians North Connel Oban Argyll And Bute PA37 10X  
 Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Ledaig

● **Ref No: 11/00109/PP**  
 Applicant: Ladbroke Betting And Gaming  
 Proposal: Installation of replacement shop front and installation of air conditioning unit.  
 Site Address: 7 - 9 Stevenson Street Oban Argyll And Bute PA34 5NA  
 Location of Plans: Oban Area Office

● **Ref No: 11/00135/PPP**  
 Applicant: Mr John Mackay  
 Proposal: Erection of dwelling and formation of access.  
 Site Address: Land South Of Mambeg Dervaig Isle Of Mull Argyll And Bute  
 Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Dervaig

● **Ref No: 11/00139/PPP**  
 Applicant: Mr Michael O'Sullivan  
 Proposal: Erection of dwellinghouse and detached garage and installation of septic tank  
 Site Address: Plot 2 Deervue Land East Of Heather Cottage Ichrachran Taynuilt Argyll And Bute  
 Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Taynuilt

● **Ref No: 11/00169/PPP**  
 Applicant: Dr Norman MacDonald  
 Proposal: Site for the erection of dwellinghouse with stables and riding arena  
 Site Address: Arle Aros Isle Of Mull Argyll And Bute PA72 6JS  
 Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Aros Isle Of Mull

● **Ref No: 11/00184/PP**  
 Applicant: Mr Ivor Ingram  
 Proposal: Erection of garden shed  
 Site Address: Land Adjacent To 20 Jarvisfield Road Salen Isle Of Mull Argyll And Bute PA72 6LA  
 Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Aros Isle Of Mull

● **Ref No: 11/00187/PP**  
 Applicant: Mr S O'Byrne And Ms K Webster  
 Proposal: Erection of ancillary dwellinghouse and store  
 Site Address: Garden Grounds Of Ardroma Barcalidine Oban Argyll And Bute PA37 1SE  
 Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Ledaig

● **Ref No: 11/00189/PPP**  
 Applicant: Dr Norman MacDonald  
 Proposal: Site for the erection of 3 dwellinghouses and installation of septic tank.  
 Site Address: Arle Aros Isle Of Mull Argyll And Bute PA72 6JS  
 Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Aros Isle Of Mull

● **Ref No: 11/00204/PP**  
 Applicant: Mr Colin Kennedy  
 Proposal: Erection of a 50kw wind turbine (18m to hub)  
 Site Address: Land South West Of Caolais Isle Of Coll Argyll And Bute PA78 6TB  
 Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Isle Of Coll

● **Ref No: 11/00205/PP**  
 Applicant: Mr Colin Kennedy  
 Proposal: Erection of 50kw wind turbine (18m to hub)  
 Site Address: Croft 2 Arinagour Isle Of Coll Argyll And Bute  
 Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Isle Of Coll

Argyll and Bute Council maintain a Register of planning applications which can be viewed between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. at Planning and Regulatory Services, Dalriada House, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8ST. An extant list of planning applications can be viewed on the Councils website [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk).  
 A weekly list of applications can be viewed at Planning and Regulatory Services, Dalriada House, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8ST and Argyll and Bute Council Libraries.

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 (AS AMENDED), RELATED 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 67/69 Chalmers Street Ardrishaig PA30 8DX, at the location detailed below and by logging on to the Council's website at [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk) and clicking on Online Planning Applications. Anyone wishing to make representations should do so in writing to 67/69 Chalmers Street Ardrishaig PA30 8DX within 21 days of the appearance of this notice. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence.

**SCHEDULE - DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION PLANS**

● **Ref No: 11/00141/LIB**  
 Applicant: Bruichladdich Distillery  
 Proposal: Siting of 2 silos, 1 modular building and 1 skid assembly (retrospective)  
 Site Address: Bruichladdich Distillery Bruichladdich Isle Of Islay Argyll And Bute PA49 7UN  
 Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Port Charlotte

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 (AS AMENDED), RELATED 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 Lorn House Albany Street Oban PA34 4AR, at the location detailed below and by logging on to the Council's website at [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk) and clicking on Online Planning Applications. Anyone wishing to make representations should do so in writing to Lorn House Albany Street Oban PA34 4AR within 21 days of the appearance of this notice. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence.

**SCHEDULE - DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION PLANS**

● **Ref No: 11/00110/LIB**  
 Applicant: Ladbroke Betting And Gaming  
 Proposal: Installation of replacement shop front, installation of air conditioning unit and re-painting of building.  
 Site Address: 7 - 9 Stevenson Street Oban Argyll And Bute PA34 5NA  
 Location of Plans: Oban Area Office

● **Ref No: 11/00166/PP**  
 Applicant: Mr And Mrs Hugh D MacInnes  
 Proposal: Alterations and change of use from former coastguard station into holiday accommodation  
 Site Address: Coastguard Office 27 Breadalbane Street Tobermory Isle Of Mull Argyll And Bute PA75 6PD  
 Location of Plans: Tobermory Area Office

● **Ref No: 11/00178/PP**  
 Applicant: Mr Bepko Buchanan Smith  
 Proposal: Erection of detached building for staff training and guest cookery demonstrations  
 Site Address: Garden Grounds Of Isle Of Eriska Hotel Isle Of Eriska Bendochoch Oban Argyll And Bute PA37 1SD  
 Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Ledaig

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 AS AMENDED BY THE PLANNING ETC. (SCOTLAND) ACT 2006**

**Requisite notice under section 35**  
**Proposed development at Plot 2 Deervue Land East Of Heather Cottage Ichrachran Taynuilt Argyll And Bute**  
**Planning reference number: 11/00139/PP**

NOTICE is hereby given that an application is being made to Argyll and Bute Council by Mr Michael O'Sullivan for erection of dwellinghouse, detached garage and installation of septic tank  
 Any owner (being any person who, in respect of any part of the land, is the proprietor of the dominium utile or is the lessee under a lease thereof of which not less than 7 years remain unexpired) of the land to which the application relates, who wishes to make representations to the above-mentioned Council about the application should make them in writing not later than 10th March 2011 to the Council at Planning and Regulatory Services, Lorn House, Albany Street, Oban, PA34 4AR  
 Any letter of representation the council receives about a planning application is considered a public document.  
 Please therefore note that representations will be made available for public inspection and, under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act, will be copied on request. They will also be published on the council's web site.  
 The author of such a representation is solely responsible for its content and accuracy.  
 Anonymous representations will be "shredded" and those marked confidential will be returned to the sender. Neither will be taken into account when the application is being considered.  
 Details of representations we receive on planning applications can be viewed on the council's website at [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/publicaccess](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/publicaccess)

**COISIR OG OHAIL RIATA**  
**Successful Established Gaelic Youth Choir**  
 ages 12 - 18  
 Require **Music Conductor**  
 Weekly practice during school term.  
 Knowledge of gaelic not essential  
 For more information please contact  
 Lena Ferguson 01546 603552  
 Christine Johnston 01546 602024

**Forestry Commission Scotland**  
**Two medium Term Winch Fell and Extract Contracts**  
 available at West Argyll FD and Lochaber FD  
 Tenders and brief business plan required for approx 5,000 m³ obf. per annum each  
 Details available from [procurementlochaberargyll@forestry.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:procurementlochaberargyll@forestry.gsi.gov.uk)

**Connel Eye Clinic**  
 Private consultations provided by Dr Lennox Webb  
 held monthly in Connel Surgery  
**Please Call for Details**  
**01631 710229**

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997**

The applications listed below, along with plans and other documents submitted with them, may be examined between the hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays) at the AREA PLANNING AND BUILDING STANDARDS OFFICE, FULTON HOUSE, GORDON SQUARE, FORT WILLIAM, PH33 6XY; online at [www.highland.gov.uk](http://www.highland.gov.uk) and, where given, the alternative location(s).  
 Written comments should be made to the EPC at the contact details below within the time period indicated from the date of this notice. Anyone making a representation about this proposal should note that their letter or email will be disclosed to any individual or body who requests sight of representations in respect of this proposal.

Reference Number	Development Address	Proposal Description	Alternative locations where application may be inspected
11/00126/FUL	Balachulish Primary School Gortan Road Balachulish	Siting of demountable classroom unit	Lochaber Area Planning & Building Standards Office (14 days)
11/00254/FUL	Land 180m North East of Church Isle of Canna	Temporary erection of bell tent and installation of composting toilet facility	Mallaig Service Point (14 days)
11/00327/PIP	Fishermans Cottage Onich	Erection of house and associated car park (Renewal of 05/00389/OUTLO)	Lochaber Area Planning & Building Standards Office (14 days)
11/00330/PIP	Plot 3 to rear of former filling station Onich	Erection of house and associated car park (Renewal of 05/00391/OUTLO)	Lochaber Area Planning & Building Standards Office Section 60 Affecting Setting of Listed Building (21 days)
11/00389/FUL	Land 420m NE of Achnolaa Ardgur	Erection of a house (amendment to 10/03717/FUL)	Lochaber Area Planning & Building Standards Office (14 days)
11/00422/FUL	Ardchaille Glasnacardoch Mallaig	Part demolition, alterations and extension to house	Mallaig Service Point (14 days)

PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW ADDRESS  
 ePlanning Centre, The Highland Council, Glenurquhart Road, INVERNESS IV3 5NX  
 Email: [eplanning@highland.gov.uk](mailto:eplanning@highland.gov.uk)

**THE GOVERNORS OF CATHERINE McCAIG'S TRUST McCAIG 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 September 2011. 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 2011 and Forms of Application may be obtained from the Clerk to the Governors.  
 ANNE F WILSON  
 Clerk to the Governors, c/o McLeish Carswell  
 7 Admiral Street, Kinning Park, Glasgow, G41 1HP  
 Email address: [afw@mclcl-law.co.uk](mailto:afw@mclcl-law.co.uk)

**Proposed Division of a Croft Tenancy**

Mrs Margaret Ann Steele is applying to divide the croft at 67/68 Aird, Bernisdale, Isle of Skye into two parts.  
 The purpose of the application is to assign a new croft extending to 0.94 hectares, to Mr Angus Campbell MacFarlane of 3 Coolin Drive, Portree, Isle of Skye.  
 If you are a crofter, shareholder or owner of a croft in the township or if the Commission consider that you have a direct interest in this application, you may submit comments on the proposal in writing or other permanent form to the Crofters Commission, Great Glen House, Leachkin Road, Inverness, IV3 8NW (email: [info@crofterscommission.org.uk](mailto:info@crofterscommission.org.uk)) by 17 March, 2011.  
 Please note that any comments received by the Crofters Commission are part of an open process and will be made available to myself and any interested parties. Your comments would also be released under a Freedom of Information enquiry. Frivolous, vexatious or unreasonable comments cannot be accepted.

**Oban Times Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLIC NOTICES**

**RECRUITMENT**

**dawnfresh**  
**Seawater Farm Manager: Loch Etive**  
 Basic Remuneration Package £35k - £40k

Dawnfresh Farming Ltd, part of the Dawnfresh Seafoods Group, is the largest Trout Farming Company operating in the UK. Our Marine and Freshwater farms are located throughout Scotland, England and Ireland.  
 We are currently looking to identify a suitably experienced Farm Manager for our multi-site seawater farm at Loch Etive, nr Oban.  
 Reporting to the Production Manager, you will be fully responsible for all aspects of growing around 1,200 tonnes of large trout per annum. In time, Loch Etive is expected to produce in excess of 2,500 tonnes.  
 The ideal candidate will be a natural leader, with have a proven track record in fish farming at managerial level and have good communication and interpersonal skills. You should have a sound understanding of fish husbandry, biology, welfare and containment, as well as competence in finance, budget control, problem solving and planning. Competence in the promotion of Health and Safety is essential.  
 Candidates must possess excellent computer skills. In addition, applicants should have a full driving licence.  
 In return the successful candidate will benefit from a competitive salary package. Assistance with relocation will also be available, if required.  
 If you are interested in applying for this position please send your CV to:  
 Lindsey Elder, HR Assistant, Dawnfresh Seafoods Ltd, Bothwellpark Industrial Estate, Uddingston, G71 6LS, by the closing date below.  
 Email: [lindsey.elder@dawnfresh.co.uk](mailto:lindsey.elder@dawnfresh.co.uk)  
 Tel: 01698 810008  
 Closing Date: Friday 5th March 2011

**INVERAWE**  
 Smokehouse & Fine Foods  
**Shop Manager**

We are looking for an enthusiastic, fun and friendly person to organise the day to day running of Inverawe's thriving smokehouse shop, tea-room and Exhibition.  
 This is very much a hands on role and you must be organised, efficient, flexible and show a great eye for detail.  
 A food hygiene certificate would be an advantage but is not necessary as training will be provided.  
 This is a full time position covered by an annual hours agreement.  
 Please apply in writing to Christopher Cox, Inverawe Smokehouses, Taynuilt, PA35 1HU or by email to [jobs@inverawe.co.uk](mailto:jobs@inverawe.co.uk)

**CHALMERS of OBAN**  
**STORE MANAGER**

We are a successful retailer with an ongoing commitment to investment in our employees and our business. We have an exciting opportunity in our Chalmers of Oban store for a Store Manager who can achieve profitable results through motivating and inspiring a team to be customer focused, and passionate about delivering excellent service.  
 The successful applicant will be offered good working conditions and all the other benefits associated with a successful and progressive retail company.  
 To apply send your CV and covering letter to: Jane Griffiths, HR Department, The Edinburgh Woollen Mill Group Ltd, Waverley Mills, Langholm, Dumfriesshire, DG13 0EB; or email information to [jane.griffiths@ewm.co.uk](mailto:jane.griffiths@ewm.co.uk)  
 We are an equal opportunities employer.

**THE TREE SHOP**  
 Cairndow, Argyll  
**Seasonal Vacancies**  
**Full Time Plant Area Assistant**  
 To assist with the day to day running of the plant area  
**Weekend General Assistants**  
 Duties include serving customers, cash handling etc.  
*Previous experience preferred but not essential*  
 For more details Contact  
 The Tree Shop, Cairndow, Argyll, PA26 8BL  
[treeshop@scottishtrees.co.uk](mailto:treeshop@scottishtrees.co.uk) 01499 600263

Energetic self motivated couple required for property on Loch Fyne.  
**Full time gardening and estate help for the man.** Chain saw certificate and clean driving license required. Partner to undertake **part time housekeeping and cooking** for semiabsentee owners.  
 Good salaries and 3 bedroom cottage provided. Career details to Denzil How 23 Ladbroke Square London W11 3NB or [Denzil.how@btconnect.com](mailto:Denzil.how@btconnect.com)

**Oban Times RECRUITMENT**  
**AJC Civils Ltd**  
 Require experienced 360° experienced machine operator for sites in Campbeltown and Lochgilphead.  
 Telephone **07768 250677**

**YOUR LOCAL PAPER**  
**51% of people turn to their local newspaper first when looking for a new job.**  
 The regional press is the best medium to use when looking for local jobs.  
Source: Recruitment Guide, The Newspaper Society 2008

**Oban Times Oban Times Oban Times RECRUITMENT RECRUITMENT RECRUITMENT**

**LOOKING FOR NEW STAFF?**  
**The Oban Times & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES**  
 Be seen by over 40,000 readers  
 Tel: 01631 568000  
[www.obantimes.co.uk](http://www.obantimes.co.uk)



S&S Services Subaru

Tel: 01292 880080/880440

www.sandsservices.co.uk

# PICK-UP A NEW PLATE

## THE NEW 11-PLATE RODEO IS AVAILABLE TO BUY



THE NEW RODEO RANGE.  
FROM £12,649\* CV OTR

- ONLY £200 ROAD TAX, UNLIKE MOST 4X4s
- CLASS LEADING FUEL ECONOMY & EMISSIONS
- LOWER RUNNING COSTS THAN MOST 4X4s
- IN BUSINESS? YOU CAN CLAIM THE VAT BACK



**'03 SMART CAR**

Tax May '11, Mot Sept '11. 65935 miles. FSH. Both keys. Dash clock and rev counter, boot divider, spare wheel.

**Contact**  
John or Anne  
01496 850540 / 07799 271903

**£1500 o.n.o.**

**VW POLO 1996**

56000 miles only. MOT until Oct 2011. Excellent runner but beginning to look a little untidy.

**Telephone:**  
01631 720073

**£395**

**STATIC CARAVAN 1996 WILLERBY GRANADA**

35x12, 2 bedrooms, open plan kitchen/living area. Currently situated at Resipole, Acharacle (new build close to the camp site)

**For further information contact Jeff or Alex Forrester**  
01967 431698 / 07918640355 jeff.forrester@btinternet.com

**£6000 o.n.o.**

**VOLKSWAGEN TOURAN 1.9 TDI S 105**

5dr Diesel Estate (Black)  
2007 (57 Reg) Manual Transmission, 26,000 Miles  
MOT - October 2010 & Tax - Aug 2011

**Tel: 07768 472953**

**£8900 o.n.o.**

## new car index

**TOYOTA Helensburgh**  
5 John Street, Helensburgh  
Tel. 01436 672779  
www.helensburgh.toyota.co.uk

**RENAULT W.D Semple**  
Inveraray & Lochgilphead  
Tel. 01499 302150

---

**ISUZU S & S Services**  
Old Bridge Road, Heathfield, Ayr  
Tel. 01292 880080 / 880440

**SUBARU S & S Services**  
Old Bridge Road, Heathfield, Ayr  
Tel. 01292 880080/880440

**TO PROMOTE YOUR NEW CAR DEALERSHIP PLEASE CALL: 01631 568000**

**MITSUBISHI L200 ANIMAL AUTOMATIC DI-D**

2007, mileage only 20k. Smart Nav, leather seats, electric windows, CD changer, PAS, air con, top box, alloy wheels, almost mint condition.

**Telephone:**  
07595 337172 (Campbeltown area)

**£10,750 o.n.o.**

**WANTED**

All types of 4 x 4 vehicles, Landrovers, Toyotas, Daihatsus, any 4 x 4, also considered non-runners or MOT failures.

**Telephone:**  
01250 884306 or mobile 07885 203020

**WANTED**

**Motor Homes or Caravanettes, any age or condition.**

**We also buy damaged or damp ones. Instant Cash.**

**Telephone:**  
01250 884 306 or 07885 203032

**VAUXHALL CORSA**

Very Good Condition, Low Mileage, Taxed till Nov '11.

**Telephone:**  
01586 554097

**£4000**

**VAUXHALL VECTRA DTI 16V**

2003, 6 months MOT, 6 months tax, Diesel. Extremely good condition, FSH, CD player, (60mpg)

**Tel: 01546 602134 or 07771 680855 (Lochgilphead)**

**£2395 o.n.o.**

**AUTOTRAIL MERCEDES CAMPERVAN**

1989, 2.3TD 110,000 miles and 1 yr MOT. 4 berth, spacious with all comforts. Ready for season.

**Telephone:**  
07795 202099

**WANTED**

**Caravan, Camper Van or Motor Home, any make model or condition considered.**

**Telephone:**  
07900 882331

**WANTED**

All 4 wheel drive vehicles, Hi Lux, Land Cruiser, Land Rover, Mitsubishi etc, Pick Ups, 2 and 4 door, 1990-2010, High Miles, any condition, Immediate Payment and Collection.

**Telephone:**  
07703 490572

**TOYOTA AVENSIS T3-S 2003**

Manual, petrol, Full Toyota dealer service record, MOT & Tax Sept 2011, ABS, air con, in built sat-nav, 55-60 mpg. Very good condition apart from slight body damage rear panel. 92,500 miles.

**Tel: 01880 820015**

**£2500 o.n.o.**

**CITROEN XSARA LX HDI**

2001, Very Good Condition 70,300 miles. Mot till 11 November 2011. Taxed till 04 November 2011. CD Changer. Very Good on Diesel.

**Telephone:**  
07717481589

**£1200 o.n.o.**

**TRANSIT 110 T260S, 2198CC**

57 Reg (2008) 28,000 miles, Metallic Blue, 6 Seats, 11 months MOT, 11 months Road Tax. Excellent condition. See website for full details: <http://sx57bnb.webs.com/>

**Tel: 01397 712147**

**£9,750**

**WANTED**

Landrover 90 or 110, new or old models, also Toyota Hilux and Land Cruiser, Range Rover and all Japanese models, high miles, damaged, anything considered, motorhomes and caravanettes also required.

**Contact James**  
07866 590583 or 07966 293996.

**PREPARE FOR AN UNRIVALLED DRIVING EXPERIENCE, THE NEW WRX STI IS HERE.**

**CALL IN OR CALL US TODAY.**

**AIRD MOTORS**  
HIGH STREET, BEAULY, HIGHLAND, IV4 7BP  
TEL: 01463 782266 WWW.AIRDMOTORS.CO.UK

UNCOMMON ENGINEERING  
UNCOMMON STABILITY  
UNCOMMON ROADHOLDING  
UNCOMMON SENSE

**WRX STI range fuel consumption in mpg (L/100km):**  
Urban 20.0 (14.1). Extra urban 33.6 (8.4). Combined 26.9 (10.5). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions 243 (g/km).

**S. D. MacDOUGALL AUTOSERVICES CAR OF THE WEEK**

**2002 Vauxhall Astra Ls 1.4**  
£2275.00  
62,031 miles, MOT & Service at time of purchase

Unit 6 Lochavullin Estate, Oban PA34 4HB  
Tel 01631 566502 Fax 01631 566470  
VAT Registration Number 717 2772 26

**Ben Nevis Motors**

**Focus 1.6 Sport**  
**£13,495**

Metallic Paint | Sat Nav | Rear Parking Sensors | Auto Headlights  
Auto Wipers | Heated Windscreen | Alloys | Air Conditioning | BlueTooth

10 Ford Fiesta 1.6 Zetec	£9,995
S Sea Grey Alloys A/C CD Player Ex Demo	£9,995
08 Ford Mondeo 2.0 TDCi	£9,995
Silver Titanium Cruise Control Climate Control	£9,995
09 Ford Focus 1.6 Titanium	£8,895
Blue 1 Owner CD player Heated Screen	£8,895
09 Ford Ka Style White	£6,995
Ex Demo Alloys Privacy Glass Spoiler £30 road Tax	£6,995
06 Ford Mondeo 2.0 Titanium X	£5,495
Black Leather Interior Heated Screen Climate Control Alloys	£5,495
06 Ford Focus 1.8 TDCi Sport	£4,995
Silver Alloy Wheels A/C Great Miles Per Gallon	£4,995
05 Subaru Impreza 2.0 WRX	£7,995
Grey Stunning Car only 27,000 Miles Full Service History	£7,995
06 VW Golf 1.9 TDi SE 5 Dr	£8,495
Blue Alloys Remote Central Locking A/C Only 44,000 Miles	£8,495

Check out our website for full list of used cars available to buy.  
[www.bennevismotors.co.uk](http://www.bennevismotors.co.uk)

Ben Nevis Motors North Road Fort William Tel: 01397 700110

**Buyers should note where standardised silhouettes are used they do not accurately represent the vehicle being sold**

**SELLING YOUR OLD VEHICLE?**

**The Oban Times & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES**

Be seen by over 40,000 readers

**Tel: 01631 568000**

**Need an MOT?**

From Cars to Light Commercials

Contact Donald or Neil  
Quarry Road MOT Centre  
Quarry Road, Oban  
Tel: 01631 564614

**Motoring Times**

For the latest local deals on new and used cars

In association with Quarry Road MOT Centre

**The Quarry Road MOT CENTRE**

www.westcoastclassifieds.co.uk

NOW ONLINE

Advertise your unwanted items in either The Oban Times, Campbeltown Courier or Argyllshire Advertiser and your ad will also appear online at www.westcoastclassifieds.co.uk.

LOCAL services

ANTIQUES AND COLLECTABLES

EARLY VICTORIAN CHAIRSE LONGUE fluted legs, brass/porcelain castors. 69"Lx 24"W x 17"H, very good condition, £700 Telephone 07789 914001 Can deliver.

GEORGIAN OAK CORNER WALL Cabinet shaped shelves(2), marquetry/carving, height 36, vgc, £500 Telephone 07789 914001 Can deliver.

BABY EQUIPMENT

BABY BATH WITH TOP NAIL BOWL yellow Winnie the Pooh design good condition, £5 Telephone 01631 564558.

BABY WALKER hardly used, the seat has red star patterns on it, good condition, £10 Telephone 01631 569678.

BRITSTARTS bouncing chair musical vibrates with toy bar to suit boy good condition, £12 Telephone 01631 564558.

COT TOP CHANGER Universal, saps bending down to do nappies/Wooden. Takes most changing mats. Benderloch, £10 Telephone 01631 720305.

GRACO INFANT CAR SEAT black with green inlay good condition, £15 Telephone 01631 564558.

IKEA COT pine 2 position cot. Well used but looked after, solid. (Mattress also for sale for £10) Benderloch, £35 Telephone 01631 720305.

JANE ENERGY STROLLER red, umbrella fold with rain cover, 5 position lie-back seat, suitable for newborn, adjustable footrest. Very good condition, £30 Telephone 07909 881229.

MAMAS AND PAPAS PRAM BUGGY purple turquoise check design matching cosy toes apron and rain cover, older model still plenty of use left, £35 Telephone 01631 564558.

MOBILE Fisher Price Lights and Music Travel Unit. Projects lights and plays melodies. Stand alone unit. Ideal for holidays, £5 Telephone 01631 720305.

QUINNY BUZZ CARRYCOT Red, Mosquito net rain cover & blanket included, cost new £155, £49.99 Telephone 01586 810465.

TOMEE TIPEE BABY MONITOR With sensor mat, parent unit and night light. Including instruction booklet, £20 Telephone 01631 720305.

BICYCLES

BIKE TRAILER Avenir Mule Utility Trailer, capacity up to 40 kg, RRP £140. Virtually unused. Buyer collects from Campbeltown, £40 Telephone 01586 551508.

CYCLE HELMET Apex Zephyr red/black/silver, very good condition size 54-58cm (Child to small adult), £5 Telephone 01880 821109 or 07771 532563(Tarbert).

BUILDING / DIY

25 GALLON COLD WATER LOFT TANK 690x515x520mm with all required fittings including float valve and lid. Used but in good condition. Can drop off within Oban, £35 Telephone 01852 500651.

CHIMNEY COWL birdguard, new, aluminium & s/s, strap fixing, £15 Telephone 01880 730326.

COMBI SET SDS drill bit, 12 piece, with case, £15 Telephone 01880 730326.

COMBINATION LADDER aluminium, 3 x 6 rung x 4.8m, £99 Telephone 01880 730326.

DOOR HANDLE SET brass door handle set boxed, brand new, £7.50 Telephone 01546 870229.

DOUBLE GLAZED DOOR used, good condition, mahogany effect with opaque glass at top, 900mmx2065mm, collection only, £45 Telephone 07595 337172 (Campbeltown).

ELECTRIC MIXER Belle mini 150, £135 Telephone 01880 730326.

FLUORESCENT BATTEN 1600mm, 60w, new, £30 Telephone 01880 730326.

HAMMER DRILL SDS, power craft, case, £45 Telephone 01880 730326.

SAWHORSE folding pr, new boxed, £15 Telephone 01880 730326.

STAINLESS STEEL SINK (secondhand), good condition, SB/SD with taps and waste fitting. Collection only, £4 Telephone 07595 337172 (Campbeltown).

STAIRCASE SPINDLES turned pine spindles, brand new, 25 for £49.99. Telephone 01546 870229.

WATER PUMP (dirty), long cable and hose, £10 Telephone 01880 730326.

WEST MORLAND SLATES excellent quality, 1700, 16 x 10, £2200ono Telephone 07824 323752.

WHITE WALL TILES Boxed new white wall tiles 10x8", bargain, ceramic Cosmo 45 Ideal for kitchen or bathroom, £30 Telephone 01631 720369.

WORKSHOP HEATER wood burning, flue pipe also available, £25 Telephone 01880 820714.

CAR ACCESSORIES

ALLOYS set of four 15 inch alloy wheels to fit Audi 80, 90 etc, four stud fitment, few scuffs otherwise clean condition, £45 Telephone 07999 676050.

ROOF BARS Thule - to fit Subaru Legacy, £15 Telephone 01880 821109 or 07771 532563(Tarbert).

CARS AND CAR PARTS UNDER £250

MICHELIN PILOT PRIMACY 205/55 R16 91H on 6 1/2 steel rim. Brand New £75. 2 Gislaved Nord frost, mud and snow 205/50R 165, 3 months use £50 each. 4 164/65R 13 77T on 4 stud wheel rims, £20. Telephone 01838 400277.

CD'S, DVD'S AND VIDEOS

DVD RACKS chrome, free standing, 1 x 30 DVD, 1 x 25 DVD £5 each or £8 for both. Telephone 07771 532563 (Tarbert). Telephone 01880 821109.

ASSORTED CLOTHES Women's size 10 and 12 clothes, T-shirts, tops, trousers etc. Will need to be viewed, £20 Telephone 07811 491016.

WEDDING DRESS Ivory, 2 piece, sash around waist and zip. Bought but never worn, comes with two clear dress bags, Skirt - 39 inches long, £49.99 Telephone 01631 720493.

DOMESTIC APPLIANCES

BREVILLE JUICER chrome finish, very good condition, hardly been used. All accessories included. In original box, £10 Telephone 07067 558304.

HOTPOINT ICE DIAMOND upright freezer, good condition, £45 Telephone 01631 566475 or 07834 640989.

NEW WORLD DOUBLE OVEN and grill built in, electric, excellent condition, £49.99 Telephone 01546 870229.

TRAVEL IRON Morphy Richards, travel iron 110v / 220v, £5 Telephone 01880 821109 or 07771 532563(Tarbert).

ZANUSSI UPRIGHT FRIDGE good condition, £45 Telephone 01631 566475 or 07834 640989.

DOMESTIC PETS

BLACK LABRADOR PUPS 3 dogs, pedigree, raised in family home. Telephone 01700 811569.

DALMATION PUPPYDOG Black spots, KC Registered, Toilet Trained, Ready Now. Telephone 01838 300315 (Crianlarich).

ENGLISH SPRINGER SPANIEL Puppies one dog, one bitch, both black and white, working or pet as home reared with Badgercourt and Rytex working lines. Wormed and ready to go to new homes. Telephone 01631 710366 anytime.

SIBERIAN HUSKY PUPS dogs and bitches, KC reg, Dad French import, off national and international champions, vet checked, wormed, inoculated, insured, with puppy pack, £600 Telephone 07814 987305.

EQUESTRIAN

PONY reg Highland pony, mare, Madeira of Millfield, grey, 14hh, rising 16 years. A traditional type Highland, who gives a forward going ride. She is sensible and easy to do, would make good hack for competent family. £1,800 including basic tack. ilcene@highlandhorsriding.com Telephone 01880 820583.

PONY 15HH approx grey gelding, 12 years, part bred Highland. A happy chap with character and substance, gives forward going but sensible ride. Been used mainly for hacking and trekking, would make good family hack or competent teenagers project. £1,800 including basic tack. ilcene@highlandhorsriding.com Telephone 01880 820583.

STUNNING MARE 15.1HH TB x Welsh rising six. Well schooled, jumping nicely. No vices, suit small adult or confident teenager. 5\* home essential. Telephone 01680 300201.

FIREARMS

RIFLE AND MODERATOR CZ 22-250 rifle + moderator fired 500 mds from new, FAC holders only, £200 ono Telephone 01631 563235.

FURNITURE

CHAIRBED single size fold-out foam chairbed. Green and orange check. As new, £20 Telephone 01631 563452.

COFFEE TABLE wood, tiled top, shelf underneath. Needs some TLC. Telephone 07771 532563 (Tarbert), £6 Telephone 01880 821109.

DISPLAY CABINET dark wood, double leaded glass doors. Additional storage underneath, double solid doors, £30 Telephone 01880 821109 or 07771 532563(Tarbert).

DROP LEAF TABLE 4'x3', solid, good condition, £20 Telephone 01397 712320 Spean Bridge.

DUCAL ANTIQUE PINE DRESSER 4 cupboards and 4 drawers in base unit with 2 glass display cupboards and open shelving in top unit. Excellent condition, £150 Telephone 01852 200362.

ELECTRIC SINGLE BED and mattress, £30 Telephone 01631 564848 Office Hours.

FIRM MATTRESS single bed, 3ft wide by 6ft long. Owner wants softer mattress, used once. Offers. Telephone 01546 850287.

LOUNGE SUITE pale green, 3 seater settee, 2 seater settee, 1 lounge chair and 1 pouffe, £250 Telephone 01546 606085.

LOUNGE / GLASS DOORED UNIT and bookcase, both items in good condition 180x82cm each, small Hi Fi unit with glass door to match free, £45 for both Telephone 01880 770319.

METAL FUTON BUNK BED single top bunk and double bottom base, £20 Telephone 07833 121924.

MODERN CIRCULAR DINING TABLE, £12 Telephone 01631 564848 Office Hours.

SINGLE BED Antique style single bed with brass knobs white metal bed and mattress. Choice of two. Telephone Office Hours, £49.99 Telephone 01631 564848.

SINGLE DIVAN BED with mattress and wooden headboard, £35 or nearest offer Telephone 07811 491016.

SOFA dusky pink three seater sofa, £9 Telephone 01631 564848 Office Hours.

TALL MAHOGANY BOOKCASE four shelves, in very good condition, £49.99 Telephone 01631 570809.

THREE PIECE SUITE good condition, plain fabric, mink, £49.99 Telephone 01631 563269.

WOODEN STEP STOOL pine, very substantial, height 64cm, £10 Telephone 01397 703928.

TAMWORTH SOW Cross Tamworth Sow, 2 1/2 yr, easily handled, Appin, £150 Telephone 07771 588688.

WEANERS Saddleback X, Oxford Sandy Black, £50 each Telephone 01631 720394.

WEANERS FOR SALE ready now, Gloucester Old Spot/White. Telephone 01586 830217.

MAIL ORDER SCOTTISH FIELD CALENDARS, featuring spectacular photography of some of our most scenic lochs, rivers, beaches and mountains. Always a popular gift for family and friends at home or abroad. Order on-line at www.scottishcalendars.co.uk

HOBBIES AND CRAFTS

SINGER SEWING MACHINE pedal operated, perfect working order, £49.99 Telephone 01866 822730.

HOME ENTERTAINMENT

AGATHA CHRISTIE MISS MARPLE VHS Tapes complete collection of the BBC production with Joan Hickson. 14 VHS tapes (12 stories), £20 Telephone 01866 822747.

HI-FI SPEAKERS Pair of Tannoy 607 Mk II bi-wired speakers, with separate spiked stands. Speakers 50cm high x 32cm x 24cm. (Ballachulish), £40 Telephone 01855811879.

JVC DVD PLAYER Model XV-N210B region 2 with remote and instructions, £18 Telephone 01866 822747.

PHILIPS COLOUR TV 14" portable Model No. 14PT156B/25 with remote and instructions, £20 Telephone 01866 822747.

SONY 28" TRINITRON TV with stand plus Freeview Box, £40 Telephone 01499 302374 Buyer collects.

SONY COMPACT HI-FI CD radio cassette, remote control + operating instruction book fantastic sound hardly used, £30 Telephone 01880 770319.

HOME FURNISHINGS

3FT FLOWER LAMP, £15 Telephone 01631 563935.

9 SHELVES FREE STANDING 70" x 33" light wood, suit books/storage, £25 Telephone 01631 563935.

PINE FRAME MIRROR 21" x 25", £25 Telephone 01499 500216(Furnace).

POST BOX classic, red, flap over slot, hinged locking door, £15 Telephone 01880 730326.

ROLLER BLIND Ikea 160x195cm white blackout blind still in box, £6 Telephone 01880770319.

HOME OFFICE

ARGOS BEECH EFFECT DESK nearly new, (H)76,(W)130,(D)60cm. Cupboard one side, 2 drawers and shelf on top, and pull-out keyboard, £30 Telephone 07729 738436.

COMPUTER DESK large stained pine computer desk, £9 Telephone 01631 564848 Office Hours.

FILING CABINET four drawer metal filing cabinet, £15 Telephone 01631 564848 Office Hours.

GLASS COMPUTER DESK and matching chair, brand new, £20 Telephone 01631 562318 or 07769 614570.

LARGE MODERN DESK, £25 Telephone 01586 553511 (evenings) or 07789 680551.

OFFICE CHAIR swivel office chair with arm rests (Argos), nearly new, £15 Telephone 007771 920682.

OFFICE DESK substantial office desk with drawers, £12 Telephone 01631 564848 Office Hours.

JEWELLERY AND WATCHES

GENTS WRIST WATCH radio controlled, steel case, leather strap, £20 Telephone 01583 421321.

KITCHEN AND BATHROOM

STAINLESS STEEL PEDAL BIN 12 lts, £5 Telephone 01499 500216(Furnace).

WC SEAT new, boxed, plastic, £15 Telephone 01880 730326.

LIVESTOCK

PULLETS brown, black or pure breeds, ducks, geese, feeders, drinkers, hen sheds, Telephone 01470 572213.

WEANERS Saddleback X, Oxford Sandy Black, £50 each Telephone 01631 720394.

WEANERS FOR SALE ready now, Gloucester Old Spot/White. Telephone 01586 830217.

MAIL ORDER

SCOTTISH FIELD CALENDARS, featuring spectacular photography of some of our most scenic lochs, rivers, beaches and mountains. Always a popular gift for family and friends at home or abroad. Order on-line at www.scottishcalendars.co.uk

OBAN TIMES WEST HIGHLAND CALENDAR, fabulous views of the West Highlands portrayed in this handy and conveniently sized calendar. Ideal for home offices or as a gift. Order on-line at www.scottishcalendars.co.uk

MISCELLANEOUS

BEN 10 ASSORTMENT clothes age 7-8, 8-9yrs, jacket, hooded tops & lots more, inline scooter, holdall & wallet, duvet cover & lampshade, £20 Telephone 07868 481242.

GREETING CARD SALES RACK good condition, £40 Telephone 01586 553511 (evenings) or 07789 680551.

SUITCASE, £10 Telephone 01631 563935.

MOBILITY

ELECTRIC STAIR LIFT Free, pick up only. Telephone 01631 750179.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

DRUM KIT hardly used, 7 piece, £200ono Telephone 07824 323752.

OUTDOOR SPORTS EQUIPMENT

ANCHOR and 7 metre chain, £30 Telephone 07786 112126.

KARRIMOR MOUNT LOW WEATHERTITE men's black walking trainers. Size 8.5. Brand new, never worn. RRP £69.99, £20 Telephone 07909 881229.

OARS 8ft as new, £25 Telephone 07786 112126.

PET ACCESSORIES

AQUARIUM 125 LITRES complete with fish, brand new condition, £160 Telephone 07824 323752.

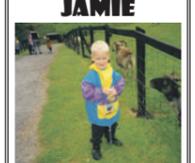
AQUARIUM LIGHT super bright Aqua-Glo 40w light tube length 42" diameter 1" boxed, £5 Telephone 01631 720369.

PERSONALS

THANKS

Cathie Clayton would like to thank Mr Yadav, medical team, nurses and staff of Wards A and B, Lorn and Islands Hospital, also ambulance staff, for their care and kindness shown to her whilst in hospital. Thanks also to all family, friends and neighbours for their good wishes, flowers and visits since her return home, all of which helped speed her recovery. Thurrock, Croft Road, Oban

HAPPY 21ST JAMIE



LOVE MUM, DAD, DANIEL AND LEWIS

Oban Times PERSONALS

Oban Times PERSONALS

Oban Times PERSONALS



Your Digital Edition is AVAILABLE ONLINE NOW at www.obantimes.co.uk/digital

Frustrated waiting for your Oban Times? Our new E-Edition is delivered directly to your inbox on the day of publication.

CARAVANS

www.argyllholidays.com Caravans for Sale ON SITE CARAVANS from £8,950 OFF SITE CARAVANS from £1,095

JOINERS AND FUNERAL DIRECTORS

HAMISH HOEY & SON Joiners & Funeral Directors 37-39 Stevenson Street, Oban Telephone: 01631 562269 24-HOUR SERVICE

D & A MUNN Joiners, Builders & Funeral Directors Family run business Breadalbane Street, Oban Telephone 01631 562526 01631 562203 24 hour call out

TRANSPORT

ALBA TRANSPORT AND TRADING (Argyll) Household removals, Light Freight, House Clearances, Antique Valuations, Furniture Transportation. Glasgow-Stirling-Inverness WEEKLY Tel: 01631-720 339 Mob: 07789 914001

REMOVALS & STORAGE

MACQUEEN BROS LTD Removals/Storage & Self Storage Full range of packing materials Glengallan Road Oban, Argyll PA34 4HG Tel: (01631) 564848 www.macqueenbros.com

WINDOW BLINDS

Chris Craft window blinds 01852 300174 01855 831480 FREE MEASURING / FREE ESTIMATES FREE FITTING / MADE IN SCOTLAND ALL BLINDS MADE TO MEASURE FREEPHONE 0800 371250 Check out our Customer Views at www.customers.chriscraft.co.uk

CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE FOR ADVERTISEMENTS

YOUR attention is drawn to the following terms and conditions which relate to the placing of advertisements in all publications owned by Wyvex Media Limited. Parties to this agreement are the Publisher, Wyvex Media Limited Limited on the one part and the Advertiser on the other part. The Publisher publishes newspapers, magazines, books and provides advertising space therein or provides for the delivery of advertising materials to the public within these publications. 1. Advertising copy shall be legal, decent, honest and truthful and comply with the British Code of Advertising Practice and all other codes. 2. The Publisher does not guarantee the insertion of any particular advertisement. 3. The Publisher reserves the right to cancel or alter the advertisement by giving reasonable notice. 4. An order for an advertisement shall be deemed to be made on acceptance of the advertisers' order by the Publisher whether placed by telephone, mail, fax or in person. 5. Cancellation of display advertising must be received by the Publisher before the publishing deadline, failing which, the publisher reserves the right to invoice the customer in full for the whole cost of the advertisement. 6. The parties submit to the jurisdiction of the Scottish Courts and Scots Law. In the event of any dispute or action by the Publisher to recover payment from an advertiser, it is agreed that matters will be settled in the Oban, Argyll Sheriff Court or such other Court as the Publisher may choose. 7. The Publisher shall not be liable for any loss or damage occasioned by any total or partial failure (however caused) of publication or distribution of any newspaper or edition in which any advertisement is scheduled to appear. In the event of any error, misprint or omission in the printing of an advertisement or part of an advertisement, the Publisher will either re-insert the advertisement or relevant part of the advertisement, as the case may be, or make reasonable refund or adjustment to the cost. No re-insertion, refund or adjustment will be made where the error, misprint or omission does not materially detract from the advertisement. 8. Errors must be notified to the Publisher in writing within fourteen days of publication. In no circumstances shall the total liability of the Publisher for any error, misprint or omission exceed the amount of a full refund of any price paid to the Publisher for the particular advertisement in connection with which liability arose or the cost of a further or corrective advertisement of a type and standard reasonably comparable to that in connection with which liability arose. 9. The Advertiser/Advertising Agency agrees to indemnify the Publisher in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the publication as the result of legal actions or threatened legal actions arising from the publication of the advertisement in any one or more of a series of advertisements published in accordance with copy instructions supplied to the publication in pursuance of the Advertiser/Advertising Agency order. 10. Advertisers under the value of £75 must be paid on acceptance of order by the Publisher. All advertising on a credit basis must be agreed with the Publisher in advance. 11. Payment of any invoice raised by the Publisher will be due 15 days from the date of invoice or as otherwise directed on the invoice. In the event of non-payment the Publisher may charge late payment interest at a rate of 2% and this is chargeable on a daily basis from the due date until the bill is paid. In addition the Publisher may charge a late payment levy of £10 as an administration fee. In the event of late payment the Publisher reserves the right to disallow any discounts given and to raise an additional invoice for the discount which will be treated as though it has been raised with the original invoice. 12. Request to insert an advertisement assumes acceptance of our conditions.

CLEANING

1ST CHOICE CLEANING SPECIALISTS Carpets and upholstery cleaning at its best! All work guaranteed Telephone: 07815 036684 or 01631 720322 01631 720297 Evenings

FENCING

All types of fencing and stonework supplied and erected, orders taken for bracken cutting, also sheep fanks erected. Competitive prices, distance no object. Telephone 01764 663115. Town and Country Services

PLUMBING & HEATING

We install and maintain plumbing systems We install and maintain all types of central heating We maintain all types of boilers We install underfloor heating systems JG J M Gillies Ltd Plumbing & Heating Contractors Unit 8 Tweedmill Soroba Road Oban Argyll PA34 4HG Tel: 01631 565635 Fax: 01631 564724 Email: info@jmgillies.co.uk

Oban Times LOCAL SERVICES Oban Times LOCAL SERVICES Oban Times LOCAL SERVICES

A TOUCH OF SCOTLAND EVERY WEEK! The Oban Times SUBSCRIPTION RATES (one year) U.K.....£58.00 Rest of World.....£100.00 The Oban Times Ltd P.O. Box 1 Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB Scotland, UK www.obantimes.co

**BIRTHS**

**MACDONALD** - James and Gemma (née Reilly), are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter Alice Menzies, on February 7, 2011. A little sister for Gregor and Alexander, grand-daughter for James and Moria Reilly, Balquhitter and Malcolm and May Macdonald, North Connell. Special thanks to all at RAH and Oban Maternity Unit. Deo Gratias.

**WALKER** - Drew and Anne would like to announce the early arrival of their son, Max Peter Walker, born January 27, 2011.

**DEATHS**

**BEATON** - Grace (née Cameron), Glasgow, aged 83 years, peacefully at the Western Infirmary on February 11 2011, beloved wife of the late Archie Beaton (Bunessan, Isle of Mull), dear mother of Anne and Morag, much loved granny and great granny. Funeral service to be held at Woodside Crematorium Paisley on Thursday Feb 17, at 11am, interment at Bunessan at a later date. Family flowers only please.

**BLACK** - At home, Isobel J., aged 90, daughter of the late Donald and Barbara Black, sister of Curstan, Nancy and the late Catherine. Sadly missed by all the family. Funeral will take place from the Free High Church, Oban on Thursday February 17, at 1.30 pm. Thereafter to Pennyfuir Cemetery. Family flowers only please. Retiring collection / donations if desired to Ronnie MacKillop, Oban Lifeboat Station, Oban.

**BRYSON** - Peacefully at St Clare's Nursing Home, Lincoln on January 24, 2011, Charlotte (Daisy), beloved wife of the late John, much loved mother and gran and a wonderful sister and aunt.

**CAMERON** - Peacefully at the Lorn and Isles Hospital on February 10, 2011, in his 83rd year. Duncan Cameron, Salen Isle of Mull. Dear Brother of Margaret, Jessie, Jeannie and the late Nan and Rosemary. Brother in law to Dominic, Addie and the late Alasdair. Much loved Uncle and Grand Uncle. Sorely missed by all the family. Funeral service to be held at Salen Parish Church, Isle of Mull on Thursday February 17, 2010 at 12.00 noon. Thereafter to Pennyfuir Cemetery.

**CAMPBELL** - Peacefully at Lorn and Isles Hospital, Oban on February 14, 2011, Alexander (Alastair) of 26 Glenfoot Terrace, Oban. Much loved husband of the late Margaret, father of Jim, Alison, Gordon, father-in-law, grandad and great grandad. Funeral service at Kilmore and Kilbride Parish Church, Oban on Friday February 18 at 1pm followed by interment at Pennyfuir Cemetery. Family flowers only. Donations if so desired to British Heart Foundation.

**MACLEAN** - Christina Ann (Annag 4), Kinlochleven, aged 89, passed away peacefully on February 10, 2011, at Belford Hospital, Fort William, after a short illness.

**CHARITY DONATIONS**

**Oban Hospice**  
CARING FOR THE FUTURE  
Donations always gratefully accepted  
Please contact David Mudie (Treasurer) Oban Hospice Ltd The Croft Kilmore

**WE ARE CAMMILLAN. CANCER SUPPORT**

Working towards a time when every person in Scotland has equal and ready access to the best information, treatment and care for cancer  
West of Scotland Fundraising Office  
1st Floor, Erskine House  
North Avenue, Clydebank  
Business Park, Clydebank G81 2DR  
Tel 0808 100 6000  
In memory of Dawn Joyce

**CANCER RESEARCH UK**

**Fighting Cancer on all fronts...**  
CRC Scotland spends more on research than any other organisation  
Commitment of over £15 million each year  
Cancer Research UK Scotland  
Suite 1/1, Unit 4 Blair Court  
Clydebank Business Park  
Clydebank, G81 2LA

**FOR THE BLIND CHILDREN OF SCOTLAND'S ACADEMIC TUITION AT THE ROYAL SCHOOL IN EDINBURGH**

Please give your financial support by donation, deed of covenant or legacy  
Please send to Appeals Department, Highland Arts Effort, Royal Blind Asylum School, R.O. Box 500, Gillespie Crescent, Edinburgh, EH10 4HZ

**MACLEAN** - Surrounded by his family at the Lorn and Isles Hospital, Oban on February 9 2011, Kenny beloved husband of Penny, much loved dad of Penny and Kevin, and adored Chen of Ross and Emma. Sadly missed by all the family.

**MACPHEE** - Peacefully on February 11, 2011 at Lynn of Lorne Care Home, Daisy (née Sheard), aged 85 years, beloved wife of the late Roderick, much loved mother to Kathleen, Kenneth, Alison and Roderick.

**RIGBY** - James Gordon beloved husband of Joan, loving father of Steven, Philip, Ian and Susan, dear brother of Ken and a much loved father-in-law and grandfather. Funeral will take place on Friday, February 18 at 12.30pm at Duror Parish Church. Family flowers only donations if desired to the Belford Hospital, Fort William.

**ROY** - Suddenly at the Western Infirmary, Glasgow, after a short illness, on February 14, 2011, John Glen Roy aged 73 years of 18 Linnet Court, Ardriahga. Much loved and loving father of Kenneth, Helen, Norma and Johan. Beloved son to Hector and of the late Jackie. Cherished brother of Norma, Jackie and the late Nan, and dear uncle to all the family. A good neighbour and dear friend, and former work colleague to many British Waterways and Forestry Commissions' staff. Funeral service will be held at Ardriahga Parish Church and thereafter to Clydebank Crematorium. Date and times still to be announced. Family flowers only please. Donations to British Heart Foundation and Royal Air Force Association.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**  
**CAMERON** - The family of the late Dugald Angus Cameron would like to thank family and friends for their kind expressions of sympathy, cards and telephone calls. Thanks also to Mike McFall, Funeral Director, for all the support and arrangements and to Rev Lamb for lovely service, thanks also to Kilchoan Hall for the excellent buffet. Thanks again.

**MACINNES** - The family of the late Nan MacInnes would like to thank everyone for all their support, cards, flowers and phone calls following their sad loss. To all staff on Cruachan Ward for their loving care, to Catriona, James and all at Hamish Hoey for their excellent help at this sad time, to Rev G Cringles and everyone at Dunbeg and St Orans Churches. The sum of £416.34 was gifted to Dunbeg Church following the funeral. Also to the staff at Soroba House and Petals for their excellent service. Thanks to all.

**IN MEMORIAM**  
**BARRIE** - In loving memory of our dear father Matthew, who passed away on February 14, 1984. It matters not how many years Today, tomorrow our whole life through We will always remember you  
- Wendy, Matthew and Clelland  
**CAMPBELL** - Remembering with love our devoted dad, John, who passed away on February 20, 1986. Memories most precious.  
- Avril and John.  
**COOPER** - In loving memory of Billy who died suddenly on February 17, 2009, devoted husband, dad and granddad to Kathryn, Andrew, Douglas, Pauline, Zoe and Abby.  
**FORBES** - My darling mother, Rosina, who died February 20, 1991, also my beloved father, Albert Francis, died October 25, 1991. Both loved and remembered every day.  
- By their loving daughter, Annette.

**MACLEAN** - Christina Ann (Annag 4), Kinlochleven, aged 89, passed away peacefully on February 10, 2011, at Belford Hospital, Fort William, after a short illness.  
- From Kath, Annie, Robert and kids.  
**POULTON** - In loving memory of our beautiful baby son and brother Danny who died on February 15, 1992, aged three days. Forever in our hearts  
- Mum and Hannah, Bunessan.  
**POULTON** - In loving memory of my dear grandson and our dear nephew Danny, who died on February 17, 1992. Always in our hearts  
- Freena and family, Iochdar, Bunessan, Mull.  
**SUTHERLAND** - Treasured memories of our dear nephew and cousin, Innie, who died on February 14, 1999, aged 21. Today tomorrow Our whole lives through We'll cherish the memories we have of you.  
- Love Robert, Julie, Sibhan and Robbie x.

**MACLEAN** - Christina Ann (Annag 4), Kinlochleven, aged 89, passed away peacefully on February 10, 2011, at Belford Hospital, Fort William, after a short illness.  
- From Kath, Annie, Robert and kids.  
**POULTON** - In loving memory of our beautiful baby son and brother Danny who died on February 15, 1992, aged three days. Forever in our hearts  
- Mum and Hannah, Bunessan.  
**POULTON** - In loving memory of my dear grandson and our dear nephew Danny, who died on February 17, 1992. Always in our hearts  
- Freena and family, Iochdar, Bunessan, Mull.  
**SUTHERLAND** - Treasured memories of our dear nephew and cousin, Innie, who died on February 14, 1999, aged 21. Today tomorrow Our whole lives through We'll cherish the memories we have of you.  
- Love Robert, Julie, Sibhan and Robbie x.

**JOHNSTONE** - Precious memories of my much loved daughter, Catherine, who died February 18, 2005. Missing you and loving you always.  
- Mum.  
- Treasured memories.  
- Neil and Daniel.  
- Always in our thoughts.  
- Raema, Graham, Jamie and Paul.

**KELLY** - In loving memory of my son-in-law and our brother-in-law, Vincent, who died on February 13, 2006 and my grandson and our cousin Charles, who died March 16, 2007. RIP.  
- 118 Kilmallie Road, Caol.  
**LAMONT** - In loving memory of my dear sister Joanne, passed away February 17, 2009. Love and miss you always, Ann  
**LAMONT** - In loving memory of a much loved mum and granny Joanne, Always remembered, John, Lisa and family.

**MACARTHUR** - In loving memory of John, who died on February 21, 2010. The house is so quiet without you  
And we miss you in every way  
But in God's own time we will meet you  
In that land that is fairer than day.  
- From all the family at Middleton.  
**MACCALLUM** - In memory of our dad Alasdair taken too soon on February 11, 2010.  
His daughter's first love  
His son's first hero  
Then now and always  
Sorely missed.  
- Rioma and Neil xx  
Remembered with love  
- Treena x  
**MACGILLIVRAY** - In fond and loving memory of our dear parents Flora who died February 14, 1997 and Neil who died December 4, 1981.  
Loved and remembered every day.  
- Mary, Donnie, John and families, Oban, Islay, Bulgaria and Dubai.  
**MACKINNON** - In loving memory of Mary, a much loved wife, mum, mother-in-law and granny who passed away on February 20, 2007. Forever in our hearts.  
- Willie, Fiona, Robert, Janet and families.  
**McCLOUNNAN** - Precious memories of my dear dad, father-in-law, grandpa David, who sadly passed away on February 17, 2006. Dad, no words, no verse could ever say  
How much we miss you every day  
A loving thought, a silent tear  
For ever wishing you were here.  
We miss you Dad, we always will.  
- Christine, Lachie, David, Karen and Joe.  
**McKICHAN** - In memory of Annie, who passed away February 16, 2002. Never forgotten.  
- Kath, Annie, Robert and the kids.  
**McKICHAN** - In memory of Don, died February 15, 1998. Sadly missed.  
- From Kath, Annie, Robert and kids.  
**POULTON** - In loving memory of our beautiful baby son and brother Danny who died on February 15, 1992, aged three days. Forever in our hearts  
- Mum and Hannah, Bunessan.  
**POULTON** - In loving memory of my dear grandson and our dear nephew Danny, who died on February 17, 1992. Always in our hearts  
- Freena and family, Iochdar, Bunessan, Mull.  
**SUTHERLAND** - Treasured memories of our dear nephew and cousin, Innie, who died on February 14, 1999, aged 21. Today tomorrow Our whole lives through We'll cherish the memories we have of you.  
- Love Robert, Julie, Sibhan and Robbie x.

**MACARTHUR** - In loving memory of John, who died on February 21, 2010. The house is so quiet without you  
And we miss you in every way  
But in God's own time we will meet you  
In that land that is fairer than day.  
- From all the family at Middleton.  
**MACCALLUM** - In memory of our dad Alasdair taken too soon on February 11, 2010.  
His daughter's first love  
His son's first hero  
Then now and always  
Sorely missed.  
- Rioma and Neil xx  
Remembered with love  
- Treena x  
**MACGILLIVRAY** - In fond and loving memory of our dear parents Flora who died February 14, 1997 and Neil who died December 4, 1981.  
Loved and remembered every day.  
- Mary, Donnie, John and families, Oban, Islay, Bulgaria and Dubai.  
**MACKINNON** - In loving memory of Mary, a much loved wife, mum, mother-in-law and granny who passed away on February 20, 2007. Forever in our hearts.  
- Willie, Fiona, Robert, Janet and families.  
**McCLOUNNAN** - Precious memories of my dear dad, father-in-law, grandpa David, who sadly passed away on February 17, 2006. Dad, no words, no verse could ever say  
How much we miss you every day  
A loving thought, a silent tear  
For ever wishing you were here.  
We miss you Dad, we always will.  
- Christine, Lachie, David, Karen and Joe.  
**McKICHAN** - In memory of Annie, who passed away February 16, 2002. Never forgotten.  
- Kath, Annie, Robert and the kids.  
**McKICHAN** - In memory of Don, died February 15, 1998. Sadly missed.  
- From Kath, Annie, Robert and kids.  
**POULTON** - In loving memory of our beautiful baby son and brother Danny who died on February 15, 1992, aged three days. Forever in our hearts  
- Mum and Hannah, Bunessan.  
**POULTON** - In loving memory of my dear grandson and our dear nephew Danny, who died on February 17, 1992. Always in our hearts  
- Freena and family, Iochdar, Bunessan, Mull.  
**SUTHERLAND** - Treasured memories of our dear nephew and cousin, Innie, who died on February 14, 1999, aged 21. Today tomorrow Our whole lives through We'll cherish the memories we have of you.  
- Love Robert, Julie, Sibhan and Robbie x.

**MACARTHUR** - In loving memory of John, who died on February 21, 2010. The house is so quiet without you  
And we miss you in every way  
But in God's own time we will meet you  
In that land that is fairer than day.  
- From all the family at Middleton.  
**MACCALLUM** - In memory of our dad Alasdair taken too soon on February 11, 2010.  
His daughter's first love  
His son's first hero  
Then now and always  
Sorely missed.  
- Rioma and Neil xx  
Remembered with love  
- Treena x  
**MACGILLIVRAY** - In fond and loving memory of our dear parents Flora who died February 14, 1997 and Neil who died December 4, 1981.  
Loved and remembered every day.  
- Mary, Donnie, John and families, Oban, Islay, Bulgaria and Dubai.  
**MACKINNON** - In loving memory of Mary, a much loved wife, mum, mother-in-law and granny who passed away on February 20, 2007. Forever in our hearts.  
- Willie, Fiona, Robert, Janet and families.  
**McCLOUNNAN** - Precious memories of my dear dad, father-in-law, grandpa David, who sadly passed away on February 17, 2006. Dad, no words, no verse could ever say  
How much we miss you every day  
A loving thought, a silent tear  
For ever wishing you were here.  
We miss you Dad, we always will.  
- Christine, Lachie, David, Karen and Joe.  
**McKICHAN** - In memory of Annie, who passed away February 16, 2002. Never forgotten.  
- Kath, Annie, Robert and the kids.  
**McKICHAN** - In memory of Don, died February 15, 1998. Sadly missed.  
- From Kath, Annie, Robert and kids.  
**POULTON** - In loving memory of our beautiful baby son and brother Danny who died on February 15, 1992, aged three days. Forever in our hearts  
- Mum and Hannah, Bunessan.  
**POULTON** - In loving memory of my dear grandson and our dear nephew Danny, who died on February 17, 1992. Always in our hearts  
- Freena and family, Iochdar, Bunessan, Mull.  
**SUTHERLAND** - Treasured memories of our dear nephew and cousin, Innie, who died on February 14, 1999, aged 21. Today tomorrow Our whole lives through We'll cherish the memories we have of you.  
- Love Robert, Julie, Sibhan and Robbie x.

**MACARTHUR** - In loving memory of John, who died on February 21, 2010. The house is so quiet without you  
And we miss you in every way  
But in God's own time we will meet you  
In that land that is fairer than day.  
- From all the family at Middleton.  
**MACCALLUM** - In memory of our dad Alasdair taken too soon on February 11, 2010.  
His daughter's first love  
His son's first hero  
Then now and always  
Sorely missed.  
- Rioma and Neil xx  
Remembered with love  
- Treena x  
**MACGILLIVRAY** - In fond and loving memory of our dear parents Flora who died February 14, 1997 and Neil who died December 4, 1981.  
Loved and remembered every day.  
- Mary, Donnie, John and families, Oban, Islay, Bulgaria and Dubai.  
**MACKINNON** - In loving memory of Mary, a much loved wife, mum, mother-in-law and granny who passed away on February 20, 2007. Forever in our hearts.  
- Willie, Fiona, Robert, Janet and families.  
**McCLOUNNAN** - Precious memories of my dear dad, father-in-law, grandpa David, who sadly passed away on February 17, 2006. Dad, no words, no verse could ever say  
How much we miss you every day  
A loving thought, a silent tear  
For ever wishing you were here.  
We miss you Dad, we always will.  
- Christine, Lachie, David, Karen and Joe.  
**McKICHAN** - In memory of Annie, who passed away February 16, 2002. Never forgotten.  
- Kath, Annie, Robert and the kids.  
**McKICHAN** - In memory of Don, died February 15, 1998. Sadly missed.  
- From Kath, Annie, Robert and kids.  
**POULTON** - In loving memory of our beautiful baby son and brother Danny who died on February 15, 1992, aged three days. Forever in our hearts  
- Mum and Hannah, Bunessan.  
**POULTON** - In loving memory of my dear grandson and our dear nephew Danny, who died on February 17, 1992. Always in our hearts  
- Freena and family, Iochdar, Bunessan, Mull.  
**SUTHERLAND** - Treasured memories of our dear nephew and cousin, Innie, who died on February 14, 1999, aged 21. Today tomorrow Our whole lives through We'll cherish the memories we have of you.  
- Love Robert, Julie, Sibhan and Robbie x.

**MACARTHUR** - In loving memory of John, who died on February 21, 2010. The house is so quiet without you  
And we miss you in every way  
But in God's own time we will meet you  
In that land that is fairer than day.  
- From all the family at Middleton.  
**MACCALLUM** - In memory of our dad Alasdair taken too soon on February 11, 2010.  
His daughter's first love  
His son's first hero  
Then now and always  
Sorely missed.  
- Rioma and Neil xx  
Remembered with love  
- Treena x  
**MACGILLIVRAY** - In fond and loving memory of our dear parents Flora who died February 14, 1997 and Neil who died December 4, 1981.  
Loved and remembered every day.  
- Mary, Donnie, John and families, Oban, Islay, Bulgaria and Dubai.  
**MACKINNON** - In loving memory of Mary, a much loved wife, mum, mother-in-law and granny who passed away on February 20, 2007. Forever in our hearts.  
- Willie, Fiona, Robert, Janet and families.  
**McCLOUNNAN** - Precious memories of my dear dad, father-in-law, grandpa David, who sadly passed away on February 17, 2006. Dad, no words, no verse could ever say  
How much we miss you every day  
A loving thought, a silent tear  
For ever wishing you were here.  
We miss you Dad, we always will.  
- Christine, Lachie, David, Karen and Joe.  
**McKICHAN** - In memory of Annie, who passed away February 16, 2002. Never forgotten.  
- Kath, Annie, Robert and the kids.  
**McKICHAN** - In memory of Don, died February 15, 1998. Sadly missed.  
- From Kath, Annie, Robert and kids.  
**POULTON** - In loving memory of our beautiful baby son and brother Danny who died on February 15, 1992, aged three days. Forever in our hearts  
- Mum and Hannah, Bunessan.  
**POULTON** - In loving memory of my dear grandson and our dear nephew Danny, who died on February 17, 1992. Always in our hearts  
- Freena and family, Iochdar, Bunessan, Mull.  
**SUTHERLAND** - Treasured memories of our dear nephew and cousin, Innie, who died on February 14, 1999, aged 21. Today tomorrow Our whole lives through We'll cherish the memories we have of you.  
- Love Robert, Julie, Sibhan and Robbie x.

**MACARTHUR** - In loving memory of John, who died on February 21, 2010. The house is so quiet without you  
And we miss you in every way  
But in God's own time we will meet you  
In that land that is fairer than day.  
- From all the family at Middleton.  
**MACCALLUM** - In memory of our dad Alasdair taken too soon on February 11, 2010.  
His daughter's first love  
His son's first hero  
Then now and always  
Sorely missed.  
- Rioma and Neil xx  
Remembered with love  
- Treena x  
**MACGILLIVRAY** - In fond and loving memory of our dear parents Flora who died February 14, 1997 and Neil who died December 4, 1981.  
Loved and remembered every day.  
- Mary, Donnie, John and families, Oban, Islay, Bulgaria and Dubai.  
**MACKINNON** - In loving memory of Mary, a much loved wife, mum, mother-in-law and granny who passed away on February 20, 2007. Forever in our hearts.  
- Willie, Fiona, Robert, Janet and families.  
**McCLOUNNAN** - Precious memories of my dear dad, father-in-law, grandpa David, who sadly passed away on February 17, 2006. Dad, no words, no verse could ever say  
How much we miss you every day  
A loving thought, a silent tear  
For ever wishing you were here.  
We miss you Dad, we always will.  
- Christine, Lachie, David, Karen and Joe.  
**McKICHAN** - In memory of Annie, who passed away February 16, 2002. Never forgotten.  
- Kath, Annie, Robert and the kids.  
**McKICHAN** - In memory of Don, died February 15, 1998. Sadly missed.  
- From Kath, Annie, Robert and kids.  
**POULTON** - In loving memory of our beautiful baby son and brother Danny who died on February 15, 1992, aged three days. Forever in our hearts  
- Mum and Hannah, Bunessan.  
**POULTON** - In loving memory of my dear grandson and our dear nephew Danny, who died on February 17, 1992. Always in our hearts  
- Freena and family, Iochdar, Bunessan, Mull.  
**SUTHERLAND** - Treasured memories of our dear nephew and cousin, Innie, who died on February 14, 1999, aged 21. Today tomorrow Our whole lives through We'll cherish the memories we have of you.  
- Love Robert, Julie, Sibhan and Robbie x.

**MACARTHUR** - In loving memory of John, who died on February 21, 2010. The house is so quiet without you  
And we miss you in every way  
But in God's own time we will meet you  
In that land that is fairer than day.  
- From all the family at Middleton.  
**MACCALLUM** - In memory of our dad Alasdair taken too soon on February 11, 2010.  
His daughter's first love  
His son's first hero  
Then now and always  
Sorely missed.  
- Rioma and Neil xx  
Remembered with love  
- Treena x  
**MACGILLIVRAY** - In fond and loving memory of our dear parents Flora who died February 14, 1997 and Neil who died December 4, 1981.  
Loved and remembered every day.  
- Mary, Donnie, John and families, Oban, Islay, Bulgaria and Dubai.  
**MACKINNON** - In loving memory of Mary, a much loved wife, mum, mother-in-law and granny who passed away on February 20, 2007. Forever in our hearts.  
- Willie, Fiona, Robert, Janet and families.  
**McCLOUNNAN** - Precious memories of my dear dad, father-in-law, grandpa David, who sadly passed away on February 17, 2006. Dad, no words, no verse could ever say  
How much we miss you every day  
A loving thought, a silent tear  
For ever wishing you were here.  
We miss you Dad, we always will.  
- Christine, Lachie, David, Karen and Joe.  
**McKICHAN** - In memory of Annie, who passed away February 16, 2002. Never forgotten.  
- Kath, Annie, Robert and the kids.  
**McKICHAN** - In memory of Don, died February 15, 1998. Sadly missed.  
- From Kath, Annie, Robert and kids.  
**POULTON** - In loving memory of our beautiful baby son and brother Danny who died on February 15, 1992, aged three days. Forever in our hearts  
- Mum and Hannah, Bunessan.  
**POULTON** - In loving memory of my dear grandson and our dear nephew Danny, who died on February 17, 1992. Always in our hearts  
- Freena and family, Iochdar, Bunessan, Mull.  
**SUTHERLAND** - Treasured memories of our dear nephew and cousin, Innie, who died on February 14, 1999, aged 21. Today tomorrow Our whole lives through We'll cherish the memories we have of you.  
- Love Robert, Julie, Sibhan and Robbie x.

**ECCLESIASTICAL NOTICES**

**SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH ANGLICAN COMMUNION**  
Sunday 20 February 2011  
Epiphany 7  
St John's Cathedral, Oban  
Holy Communion.....08.00  
Sung Eucharist.....10.15  
Sunday School and Crèche Loop System  
Large Print Hymn Books  
All Welcome  
Norman MacCallum, Provost.  
(01631) 562323  
St Columba, Gruline, Mull  
Mattins.....11.00  
St Columba, Bishop's House, Iona  
Holy Eucharist.....10.00

**ASSOCIATED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, OBAN**  
Campbell Street Church  
Sunday 20 February 2011  
11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.  
Phone-In 'Worship Link' available  
Rev. Archie McPhail MA, MTh  
(01631) 567076  
All welcome

**LORN CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP**  
Sunday  
Oban High School  
Main Hall  
10:30am  
All Welcome  
Telephone  
07836 342 622  
www.lorncf.org.uk

**Stokes Memorials**  
Serving Argyll and the Highlands & Islands for over 35 years  
Established 1973 - Fraser Downie, Master Sculptor  
• New and traditional memorials. • Work carried out in any cemetery.  
• Additional lettering. • Delivery to all islands.  
• Cleaning and renovations. • Free estimates and advice.  
• Pat memorials. • House signs.  
317/214 Argyll Street, Dunoon • Tel/Fax 01369 702162 • Email: info@stokesmemorials.co.uk



From left: New Mull monitor farmers Iain and Helen MacKay with daughters Kate, aged 2, and Eilidh, 4, joined by facilitators Niall Campbell, left, and Donald MacKinnon.

**Quality Meat Scotland unveils monitor farm for Mull**

A MONITOR farm for Mull was unveiled by Quality Meat Scotland, with the first meeting set to take place on March 9, at 10.30am.  
Torloisk Farm near Ulva Ferry, run by Iain MacKay and his wife, Helen, has been selected as Mull's newest monitor farm.  
The MacKays run a total of 3100ha, predominantly hill grazings, comprised of 2880 rented hectares at Torloisk, with a further 200 ha at Torranns on the Ross of Mull rented seasonally. A further 20 ha near Perth is also rented seasonally.  
The cattle enterprise is made up of 51 Highland cows, served by Highland and Simmental bulls, with most of the progeny sold store and some heifers sold for breeding.  
The 850 strong flock of ewes is comprised of 400 Blackface ewes kept purebred and served by Blackface tupes and 400 Blackface ewes served by Cheviot tups, with replacements being retained from this cross. The MacKays also run 50 pure Cheviots from which they breed their own tups. Hogs are retained for replacements with the remaining lambs sold store.  
Torloisk was selected by a panel of local farmers and the project facilitators, Niall Campbell and Donald MacKinnon from SAC Oban.  
Funding is provided by QMS and the Scottish Government under the Skills Development Scheme with support from NFUS and the Argyll and Bute Agricultural Forum.  
Meetings are free but those interested in attending should contact SAC Oban on 01631 563093 to allow numbers to be known for catering purposes.

**Lochaber Shepherds Annual Stock Judging competition**

LOCHABER Shepherds Annual Stock Judging Competition 2011 was held on Friday 4 February at the Lochaber Rural Complex.  
Classes on the night were judged by Mr Colin Cameron. Some 75 competitors took part and helped to raise £650, which is to be shared between Moss Park Care Home and Shoptability Lochaber.  
Results: Open Competition - 1, Sybil MacPherson 383 points; 2 George MacPherson 382, 3 Robbie Campbell 379; 4 Rhona Cameron 368; 5 Chris Cameron 366. Children 5 - 16 - 1, Grace MacIntosh 353 points; 2 Chloe Cameron 349; 3 Cheyenne Cameron 341; 4 Ben Fulford 339; 5 equal Anna Berardelli and Fergus Berardelli 321.  
Ladies' Competition - Sybil MacPherson 383 points. Highest Placed Local - Robbie Campbell 379 points. Team Competition - 1 George and Sybil MacPherson 765; 2 Euan Cameron and Robbie Campbell 740; 3 Roddy MacLeod and Chris Cameron 726. Tup Lamb Competition - 1 and 3 Kenny Mathieson, Milton of Aberarder; 2 J H Weir, Invernahyle. The evening was rounded off by an excellent tea before the raffle and prize winners were announced.

**Impressive day for Robertson at Aberfeldy**

UNITED Auctions sold 708 store cattle at Aberfeldy Show and Sale on Friday.  
Starylne Animal Feeds champion, as judged by Walter Dandie, of Learielaw, was a 576kg animal from John Robertson, Newton of Logierait, which fetched £1,050.  
It capped an impressive day for Robertson, who also won the Reserve Champion, Champion Pen of Four, Single Stot, and Pen of Four Stots titles.  
The single heifer and pen of four heifers titles were won by Monzie Farms.  
Bullocks averaged 179.1p to a top of 232.8p per kilo for a 408kilo Limousin Cross from Newton of Logierait and £1,220 for a 660kilo Charolais Cross from Mid Derry.  
Heifers averaged 171.9p to a top of 271.5p per kilo for a 372kilo Limousin Cross from Mains of Creuchies and £1,090 for a 582kilo Charolais Cross from Aberbothrie.

**'Be honest over Trident' urges Church of Scotland urges Westminster government**

THE CHURCH of Scotland called for more honesty from the Government on the amount of money being spent on the Trident nuclear weapon system.  
Despite the Westminster government promising not to look at replacing the system after the next election it is spending over £2 billion on whether it will go ahead, the Kirk says.  
Reverend Ian Galloway, convener of the Church of Scotland's Church and Society Council, said: 'We are very concerned that the Ministry of Defence (MoD) appears to be committed to spending over £2 billion of our money on submarines to carry Trident before the official decision on whether or not to go ahead with it.  
'This will mean that many will argue that, having spent all this money, we can't cancel Trident.'  
The Church of Scotland minister continued: 'The defence review indicated that a decision on whether or not to build a new generation of nuclear weapons would be delayed until 2016.  
'Spending all this money now will prejudice that decision, and we'll get to the 2016 vote only to find out that we're already tied into various contracts.'

**Steady trade for Luings at 46th Premier Sale**

THE LUING breed experienced a steady trade at the Society's 46 Premier Sale held on Friday February 11 at Wallets Marts, Castle Douglas. Prices held up well given the much higher number forward of 204 (up 32 on the year). Once again there was a total clearance of all of the females forward. Luing bulls were sold to a top price of 7,800gns with an average of £4,110.00 - down £26 on the year for two more sold; in-calf Luing heifers were bid to 2,800gns (with an average of £1,792.99 - down £225 for 10 more sold) with Luing bulling heifers bid to 2,600gns (£1,176.62 - down £455 for 24 more sold).

**Caledonian Marts to host new open spring show and sale**

CALEDONIAN Marts (Stirling) Ltd will host a new Open Spring Show and Sale of cattle for future showing in conjunction with Clyde and Central Young Farmers Calf Rally on Saturday, April 2.  
Judging the event will be Donald MacPherson, Mill Farm, Benderloch and Castlehills, Berwick on Tweed.  
Auctioneer John Kyle said that this new event would be an ideal opportunity for competitors and purchasers, with entries anticipated at more than 100 head.  
'The day will follow the format of our very successful Premier September Show and Sale,' said John.  
Sponsors of the Open Show will be Natural Stock Care who will present £200 to the overall champion and £50 prizes to the first prize class winners.  
The Young Farmers Rally will commence at 11.30am and will be immediately followed by the Open Show.  
The sale will start at 3pm and the deadline for entries has been set for Friday, March 25 at 12 noon.

**Texel lambs from Nevis sell to £107 at United Auctions**

UNITED Auctions sold 4,642 prime sheep including 3571 hogs averaging 182p/kg (-4.6p) plus 1071 ewes and rams at Stirling last Thursday.  
Texel lambs from Nevis sold to £107, with Beltex from Luckenburn to £95. Blackfaces from Dalbrack fetched £80.  
Texel ewes from Nevis sold to £126, with Suffolks from Guardswell to £98.

**Lambs sell to £62 for pen of Blackfaces from Blarmacfoldach**

DINGWALL and Highland Marts sold 527 sheep of all classes at Fort William last Thursday when all stock attracted a fair trade.  
Lambs averaged £41.33 and sold to £62 for a pen of Blackfaces from Blarmacfoldach, Fort William.  
Ewes averaged £28.80 and sold to £70 for a Texel from Armadale Farm, Isle of Skye.  
Feeding sheep averaged £38.25 and sold to £50 for a Blackface wedder from Insh Farm, Spean Bridge, while cast rams averaged £40.49 and sold to £82 for a Suffolk from Traigh Farm, Arisaig.

**FORT WILLIAM Dingwall and Highland Marts**

Lambs:  
Blackface: Blarmacfoldach, £61;  
Cheviot: Ardtornish Farms

# Ali makes the feathers fly at schools badminton competition in Oban



Lochgilhead's Ali McDonald swept the boards in the under-18 section. 15\_107bad06

ARGYLL'S best junior badminton players served up a thrilling competition in Oban's Atlantis Lesuire as the county selected its team for the national schools final.

School pupils from Oban, Lochgilhead, Campbeltown, Hermitage (Helensburgh) and Dunoon brought teams to the event last Friday, although special mention was made of Islay's Ruairidh Scott, who was the sole Islay representative.

Player of the day was Lochgilhead's Ali McDonald, who swept the boards in the under-18 section as singles champion, doubles champion with partner Cameron Kirk and mixed doubles champion alongside Tess Donald.

After retaining his singles title, Ali, who is ranked at national level, paid tribute to his coaches, including the late Donella Crawford.

'I remember when I was younger watching Donella, Charlie Ellis and Dochie MacBrayne and they inspired me to take up the game. They really helped me improve from a young age, so I owe a lot to them.'

**Successful**

Campbeltown's Calum Hooper had a successful day in the under-14 section, winning the singles over Oban High's Stewart Mobey and the boys' doubles with Mehboob Hossain.

Oban's Gregor Brydon and Eilidh MacLean were the stand-

performers in the under-16 age category; both won their singles competitions and paired up with Craig Livingstone and Erin Kelly respectively for victories in the boys' and girls' doubles.

From the 15 competition winners, Argyll must pick 11 representatives to attend the national finals in Perth next month.

Winners  
Under-14: Girls singles - Georgia Hepburn, Lochgilhead; boys singles - Calum Hooper, Campbeltown; girls doubles - Samantha Stirling and Kirsty Woodcock, Dunoon; boys doubles - Callum Hooper and Mehboob Hossain, Campbeltown; mixed doubles - Rachel McPhail and Ryan Deans, Campbeltown.

**BADMINTON**

Under-16: Girls singles - Eilidh MacLean, Oban; boys singles - Gregor Brydon, Oban; girls doubles - Eilidh MacLean and Erin Kelly, Oban; boys doubles - Gregor Brydon and Craig Livingstone, Oban; mixed doubles - Chris Coates and Georgia Hepburn, Lochgilhead.

Under-18: Girls singles - Claire Clark, Dunoon; boys singles - Ali McDonald, Lochgilhead; girls doubles - Yvonne Seaton and Claire Clark, Dunoon; boys doubles - Ali McDonald and Cameron Kirk; mixed doubles - Tess Donald and Ali McDonald.



Oban High School's Eilidh MacLean won the under-16 singles and doubles events. 15\_107bad03



Calum Hooper from Campbeltown won two events at under-14 level. 15\_107bad05



Oban's Gregor Brydon won two events in the under-16 age group. 15\_107bad04



Under-16 doubles winners were Oban's Eilidh MacLean, left, and Erin Kelly. 15\_107bad07



Under-16 doubles runners up were Gina McMurchy and Rachel MacPhail. 15\_107bad08

## Argyll Sports Hall Athletics final to be held at Atlantis

ATLANTIS Leisure in Oban is the venue on February 26 for the Argyll Sports Hall Athletics Final.

The competition starts at 1pm in the games hall at Atlantis with young athletes from most parts of Argyll taking part in various running, jumping and throwing events.

The final is the last of a series of competitions held in the district this winter starting with local events on Mull and Lochgilhead and finishing with the Oban and Kintyre qualifying competitions in January.

Successful qualifiers from the local contests will now come together in Oban with as many as 140 young athletes aged between seven and 16 participating in what should be an enthralling competition.

Athletes are reminded to register after noon on Saturday, with the first events starting an hour

**ATHLETICS**

later. As well as trophies for the first three athletes in each age group, medals will be awarded for fourth to sixth place and in addition there will be four cash prizes for the two boys and two girls achieving the most Argyll Age Standards.

After the four local competitions Ben Coates of Park Primary leads the boys event with six standards ahead of Rhys Casci from Ardrishaig Primary. Emma Curtis from Lochgilhead and Abbie Catto from Bunessan lead the girls, both with five standards.

The Argyll Sports Hall competitions are promoted by Mid Argyll Athletic Club with support from all the other athletic clubs in the district.

For more information on the Argyll Final please phone 01546 602 664.

Follow us on facebook  
www.facebook.com/obantimes

## New Argyll rowing club to be formed

A FORMER international rower hopes to raise the profile of the sport in Argyll by forming a new club in the area.

Elaine Morrison, who competed for Scotland and won British Championship medals, is now a qualified coach.

And having moved to Kenmore, on the shores of Loch Fyne, from Perthshire, she is determined to ensure rowing is not overlooked by Argyll folk. Sailing and kayaking are the area's dominant watersports.

'It struck me as mad that we don't have a lot of boat-based activity around Argyll, apart from sailing,' said Elaine.

'There is not much for children, for example, and we have so much water here.'

Elaine has organised the inaugural meeting of Argyll Community Rowing Association to be held in Lochgilhead Joint Campus on Monday.

The group would take part in coastal rowing, which requires specially designed skiffs.

It will therefore be proposed at the meeting that an initial fundraising target of £6,000 is sought through sponsorship and grants.

Speakers at the meeting will include representatives from the Scottish Coastal Rowing Project. Elaine continued: 'The vision is

for every community and secondary school in Argyll to have its own boat and crew to participate in inter-community regattas here in Argyll and with crews from across Scotland.

'The Argyll Community Rowing Association will provide the support needed to make this

happen and to act as the link with the wider rowing community, allowing crews to get on with the business of rowing and having fun on Argyll's beautiful waters.'

'There are already 33 skiffs either on the water or nearing completion in Scotland from Ullapool to North Berwick - it's time for

**ROWING**

Argyll to make its mark.'

If you are unable to attend the meeting but wish to get involved or have any enquiries in general, please contact Elaine Morrison by email: argyllrowing@gmail.com



Skiffs like these could be seen regularly off the coast of Argyll.

## Dookers through to cup quarters after cup cracker

Jimmy Marshall Trophy  
2nd round

Castlemilk 4 Tarbert 4

(Tarbert won 4-3 on penalties) TARBERT travelled to Rutherglen last Saturday to take on Castlemilk Amateurs in the Jimmy Marshall 2nd round.

The opening quarter was an even affair, and it could be argued that the Dookers had the better of the possession.

The Tarbert lads were defending well as a team, and it was an excellent finish from the home striker that finally broke the deadlock.

Tarbert soon found themselves two down with the home side's next attack.

Tarbert did get back into the tie, it was down to a piece of individual brilliance by player/manager Prentice.

The game was now end to end with both teams surging forward at every opportunity, and just before half time the home side scored to make the score 3-1.

The away side pulled a goal back when Johnson was fouled on

**FOOTBALL**

the edge of the area. Prentice hit a wicked free kick that the keeper could not deal with, and when the ball bounced out Iain Mackinnon was first to react and finish from close range.

With time ticking down the Dookers equalised, and it was well worth the wait. Unbelievably Tarbert were not finished there, and only minutes later they were in front.

The game entered injury time with the Dookers desperately trying to defend their slim advantage, but with almost the last attack of the game, Castlemilk managed to find an equaliser.

Straight to penalties to decide who would go into the draw for the quarter finals. Scorers for Tarbert were Nikki MacDougall, David Ronald, Iain Mackinnon and Craig Johnstone. It came down to the final kick and keeper John Martin pulled off a cracking save to win it for Tarbert.

This was an excellent scalp against a premier division team.



The Oban Celtic squad pictured before Saturday's Robert Wylie Memorial Cup match against Inverness. 16\_107shinty1

## Celtic and Inverness serve up a friendly cracker

The Robert Wylie Memorial Cup  
Oban Celtic 3  
Inverness 4

THE annual Robert Wylie Memorial Cup was played in near perfect conditions at Mossfield last Saturday.

After the initial sorties, Inverness struck devastating blows to the home side within two minutes.

James Cameron pounced first, picking up on a free hit awarded just outside the Celtic area and firing into the net past a stranded Alan Duncan. Then, with only eight minutes on the clock, Duncan did well to stop a fiery angled shot, but lost his stick in the process and was to see Cameron bundle the loose ball across the goal-line.

Stunned by the early onslaught, the home squad gradually played their way back into the game. Aly Nudds and John Hill began to assert their authority in defence allowing some penetrating wing play that finally brought their team back into the game.

After 19 minutes, a shy sent in from the left, deep in Inverness territory, was controlled by Kenny Wotherspoon at the edge of the area, the ball slipped on to Alan Duffy who drove into the box before drilling home Celtic's first goal.

Inverness looked to have regained their two goal lead five minutes later, having the ball in the Oban net, but not before referee Billy Wotherspoon had blown for a penalty - the resulting

strike well stopped by Duncan's outstretched foot. On 28 minutes Kenny Wotherspoon drove along the right wing. Looking to have held onto the ball for too long, he cut in towards the Inverness area, evading two tackles before tumbling to the ground, his final push of the ball deflected into his own goal by an unlucky defender.

The second half started well for the Oban boys, but they slowly lost a grip on the centre ground and too much of their passing lacked the precision to open up the visitor's defence. Inevitably, on the hour, Inverness struck back with a well taken goal from Craig Hazell, from just outside the Celtic area.

On 71 minutes the match was put further out of Celtic's reach,

**SHINTY**

after scrappy defending allowed Gordon MacKenzie to fire in Inverness' fourth goal.

Consolation came with the last hit of the game from David Duffy, a low strike from midfield that shot through defenders and attackers alike, and somehow had enough momentum left to deceive keeper MacLeod and cross the goal-line.

A deserved win for Inverness, but an equally testing and useful encounter for Oban Celtic, who will be saddened to see the cup travel north this year.

Lorna, Robert's sister, was present to hand over her brother's Memorial Cup and medals to the victorious Inverness squad.

Got a Story?

SEND US THE DETAILS BY VISITING  
www.obantimes.co.uk  
24 hours a day 365 days a year



# Silly mistakes prove costly for Fort

## Plenty of positives from the performance against Huntly

FORT William manager Calum MacLean says having to take on Cove Rangers on Saturday without goalkeeper John Campbell is 'a big blow.'

Campbell, who was awarded the man of the match award against Huntly at Claggan Park last weekend, will miss the game due to work commitments.

But Calum said there are positives to take from his side's performance against Huntly, despite being on the wrong end of a 4-0 scoreline.

He told The Oban Times: 'The performance in the first half was very good. But we threw it away in the end with two silly mistakes, which is annoying. Cove are a

very tough side, and we'll have to battle away and keep it going for 90 minutes to get anything from the game. They've got a lot of good players and they're are very good at home.'

The Lochaber men started the match against Huntly brightly with Sean Ellis and Kyle Maclean both going close in the first 10 minutes.

Huntly came into the match as the half progressed and forced a number of good saves from keeper John Campbell.

The home side fell behind a minute into the second half when Russell Guild put the ball into the net from 10 yards. Eight minutes later the referee awarded Huntly

### FOOTBALL

a penalty when Campbell fouled Stuart Soane. The keeper soon made amends with a fantastic save, but penalty taker Michael McGinlay was on hand to knock in the rebound.

Wing wizard Sean Ellis nearly got Fort back in the game when he weaved his way into the box but his shot from six yards went over the bar.

Two further Huntly goals from Grant Campbell and Peter-Alexander Bruce sealed the win for the away side and condemned Fort to their 15<sup>th</sup> defeat of the season.



Fort striker Michael Ellis in action against Huntly.

## Underdogs lead cut after defeat by the Likely Lads

### TEN PIN BOWLING

UNDERDOGS lead at the top of the 10 pin bowling league has been cut after they lost 3-2 to Likely Lads at the Nevis Centre on Sunday evening.

Second-placed Alleycats moved to within three points of top spot with a 5-0 defeat of Fairway Fillies. Council, who beat Bowlix 5-0, remain three points further back in third.

Underdogs are also top in the handicap division despite a 5-0 loss to Likely Lads. Alleycats won 3-2 against Fairway Fillies and moved to within two points of first, whilst Rotavators and a further seven points back in third.

Alleycats scored the top scratch team game of the week with 583 whilst Rotavators had the top handicap game with 810. Top two game scratch series went to Alleycats with 1,123.

Alleycats' Pam Weller still holds the top scratch average with 146 with Brian Stewart close behind on 145.

## David retains his Mammoth Title

### SKIING

THE FIRST 'Mammoth Descent' for four years was held at Nevis Range on Sunday afternoon, with 11 skiers braving the conditions.

Bad weather has meant the mountain dash from the summit of Aonach Mor has been cancelled the last three years.

Competitors have to ski as far as they can down the slope before exchanging their skis for running shoes and finishing the race on foot.

Although the upper lifts were on hold in the morning due to high winds, the race was able to start as planned from the top of the summit tow at 1190m and finish at Sgurr Fionnig-aig at 663m.

Reigning champion David Biggin held onto his title with a winning time of six minutes 40 seconds. Close behind in second was Robert Hyde, who finished in seven minutes and 15 seconds.

Keir Copeland was the winner in the junior section, finishing in a time of 10 minutes and seven seconds.



Competitors line up after their crosscountry races at Glencoe Lochan on Friday. 10\_107race02

## St Bride's run off with the honours

ST BRIDE'S Primary School ran off with all the top honours at the inaugural south Lochaber primary schools crosscountry championships on Friday.

P7 winner Stephen Dent and Robin MacMillan claimed the boys and girls titles, respectively,

helping St Bride's to victory in the overall schools competition.

Around 20 pupils from St Bride's, Glencoe, Ballachulish, Duror and Kinlochleven raced over the hilly 1.2km course at Glencoe Lochan, cheered on by mums and dads.

### CROSS COUNTRY

Kinlochleven High School pupils volunteered as marshalls and front and rear runners, while Forestry Commission Scotland staff also helped on the day.

Organiser, South Lochaber Active Schools' coordinator Tracy Jeffrey, said the event had sparked a lot of interest in the sport.

'Quite a lot of the kids are wanting to do more running,' she told The Oban Times. 'It has really encouraged them to take up the sport.'

'It was our first year and it went really well. All the kids really enjoyed it.'

Results: Fastest boys - 1, Stephen Dent 5:35; 2, Calum MacLean 6:21; 3 Robbie Heriot 6:55.

Fastest girls - 1, Robin MacMahon 6:56; 2, Nicole Farrell 7:08; 3, Dora Shepherd 7:08. Schools: 1, St Brides 10 points; 2, Kinlochleven 18 points; 3= Duror and Ballachulish 30 points.



St Bride's winners Stephen Dent and Robin MacMillan show off their medals. 10\_107race01

## Ben wins Riverbank Race

LOCHABER runner Ben Thompson battled the weather to win the Riverbank Race in Fort William on Sunday.

The contest, which was postponed in January, attracted 48 runners who took on the 'splodge route' in the rain and sleet.

Ben crossed the line at Claggan Park in a time of 30 minutes and 44 seconds, 12 seconds ahead of second-placed Donald Peterson.

Dawn Scott was the first woman home in a time of 34 minutes 33 seconds. Amanda Blackhall, who competed in the Carnethy Hill race near Edinburgh on Saturday, finished second with a time of 36 minutes and one second.

In the men's over 60 category, Mick Tighe was leading the field for most of the way but was piped to the finish by Johnny Banks, who finished the race in

### ATHLETICS

38 minutes 21 seconds.

The closest battle at the finish line was between Biff Gow, Dave Ford and John Grant. Dave said he was just beaten to the line by Biff who 'silently' crept up and overtook him.

Lochaber Athletic Club would like to thank everyone who helped out on the day.



Sadden: Ben Thompson navigating another puddle in the Riverbank Race.



## Success for Mallaig Bowls quartet

A MALLAIG quartet has won the rinks event Scottish Short Matt Bowling Championships at Barony College, Parkgate, Dumfries.

Pictured above are Alan and

Dennis Eddie, Bill Robertson and Bob Burt with their winners medals and shield.

Runner-up Dave Harrigan from Kylekin Indoor Bowling Club was run-

### BOWLS

ner-up in the singles competition. Entries came from all over the country for the annual event.

## Good home win for Lochaber

### RUGBY

LOCHABER Rugby Club came out on top of a high scoring friendly at Banavie against Ross Sutherland on Saturday, winning 54 to 27.

The match was organised as a farewell to Lochaber number 12 Tristan Sanders, who was playing his last game for the club as he is moving back to New Zealand.

It was a goodbye to remember for the Kiwi as he scored four tries to help his side to victory.

Meanwhile, Lochaber's regional bowl game against Shetland RFC on Saturday has been cancelled due to travel problems. The tie will now be decided by the tossing of a coin.

## Athletic club hold Duror winter race

### ATHLETICS

MANNY Gorman of Westies won Lochaber Athletic Club's winter league race at Duror in a time of 51m 45secs.

Lochaber runners filled the next three places with John Binnie coming home in 51:50, Tim Brand in 53:39 and Oli Blomfield in 54:43.

Alan Smith of Deeside was sixth in 56:05, with Lochaber's Andy Dale and Tark Gunn next. LAC men Ronnie Turner and Graham MacNab completed the top ten, with Graham just failing to break the hour mark by two seconds.

First woman home was Lochaber's Lucy Prins in 62:48 with clubmate Lyndsey Shaw second in 65:13.

SHINTY BALL

Spot the

Competition

**All you have to do**

We have removed the shinty ball from the photograph opposite. Now look carefully at the position of the players and use your skill and judgement to place a cross at the exact point where you think the centre of the ball was. You may have a maximum of 20 attempts on this coupon at a cost of £1.

If you wish to have more attempts, you must enter on separate coupons.

The game starts with a jackpot of £500 and will increase by £50 per week until it is won outright. To win the jackpot, the centre of your cross must be in the exact centre of the ball. If the crosses overlap the entry will be void. Prizes will be shared between those submitting correct entries.

If no correct entry is received, two 'near miss' prizes of £25 will be awarded. When the jackpot is won, no other prizes will be awarded that week.

**Easy to enter**

Cut out your completed coupon and put your entry plus £1 per 20 attempts into a sealed envelope and post it to reach 'Spot the Shinty Ball' Competition, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB by 12noon Tuesday.

You may hand it into The Oban Times Head Office, Lochavullin, Oban by the same time. Otherwise all entries must be posted.

**Competition Rules**

No responsibility will be accepted for entries which are delayed, mislaid or lost, and proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery.

The Company's decision is final on all matters relating to the competition and no correspondence will be entered into. The final decision rests with the Company.

In the event of more than one correct entry, the jackpot will be shared equally between all winning entries. Any decision regarding the awarding of a prize is entirely at the discretion of the Company.

The Company reserves the right to declare the competition null and void at any time, subject to its discretion and to make full refund of the price of the coupon to any person who has entered the competition at that time.

Employees of The Oban Times Limited, their immediate relatives and any person otherwise connected with the competition are ineligible to enter.

WIN £600

LAST WEEK'S SHINTY BALL WAS HERE...

I enclose £1 (note) for 20 crosses (tick box)  The maximum number of attempts on this coupon is 20, but you may enter on separate coupons as many times as you wish. No photocopies allowed. You agree to abide by the rules.

How to enter: Mark your crosses using a ballpoint pen. Twenty crosses may be put on this coupon for £1.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Tel No. \_\_\_\_\_

Send to 'Spot the Shinty Ball' Competition, The Oban Times, P.O. Box 1, Oban PA34 4HB

This week's nearest the ball winners, who each receive £25 are: I Campbell, Pulpit Hill, Oban and D Cruickshank, Kames, Tighnabruaich

## Oban lose out in close encounter with Lenzie

### Lorne pay heavy price for conceding two early scores

Scottish Hydro Regional Bowl 3rd Round  
**Oban Lorne 20**  
**Lenzie 24**

A BRIGHT, sunny and almost spring-like day was the surprising bonus for the teams as they lined up in this Scottish Hydro Regional Bowl 3rd round match which was unusually played on a home fixture for Scotland in the Six Nations.

Oban Lorne had Andy Park, Gus Munro, Chris MacDonald and Cammy Smith all return to the team having been unavailable the previous week. Lenzie were unbeaten in competitive matches this season so the men in green knew they were in for a big match.

The visitors showed their intent from early on with their backs showing crisp handling as they moved the ball wide where they had a lot of pace. Oban's pack was competing well at this stage with some good forward rumbles. However Lenzie struck on 10 minutes with full back Jones joining an attack to finish off a move in the left hand corner for a try converted by stand off Schouler.

Oban continued to press and were awarded two penalties in succession for ruck infringements, the second of which was converted by Gus McCallum to reduce the leeway and give a 7-3 score.

The match was being played

at a lightning pace with Lenzie continuing to look threatening with lots of pace on display from their forwards and backs.

From a lineout on the 10-metre line the visitors managed to score with worrying ease as they outstripped the home defence with winger McBride scoring for another converted try in the left hand corner.

Oban had the ascendancy in possession and territory now and McCallum stroked over another penalty for a ruck infringement to keep the points coming.

Against the run of play the visitors broke out to score through a converted try for Kennedy leaving a lot for Oban to do at 21-6.

**Morale Boosting**

The home forwards were making big inroads now and after several phases of great rucks Cammy Smith finished off beneath the posts for a morale boosting score that put Oban right back in the match at 21-13. HT.

The second half continued at the same frenetic pace with the only stoppages being for injuries to the visiting team with two players unfortunately having to make the trip to hospital on the day.

The visitors had been guilty of illegally slowing down the ball at rucks to prevent Oban from building more momentum and eventually referee Wilson sent their openside flanker to the sinbin.

Oban capitalised on this when

Cammy Smith again finished off a great break to score beneath the posts giving a 21-20 scoreline.

The match had definitely swung Oban's way and when the forwards had driven in to the visitors 22 it looked like a score was certain until they were penalised for playing the ball on the ground and the danger was cleared. Lenzie then battled back down the pitch and were given a further penalty award which Schouler converted to settle this pulsating match and give a final score of 24-20.

Oban had contributed hugely to the most enthralling match of this season and really did not deserve to lose but they did pay a heavy price for conceding those two early scores.

What was so encouraging was the never say die attitude and real belief from the whole squad that they could get a result right up until the final whistle. Lenzie were certainly very clinical and took any opportunity that was presented to them to turn pressure into points.

This result means that Oban are knocked out of the bowl and will only have the league to concentrate on now.

Lenzie return to Oban on February 26 on league business for what is sure to be an interesting game.

This Saturday Oban travel to Ayr to play Millbrae in a tricky fixture, kick off 3pm.



Lochgilhead High School's Ali McDonald executes a jump-smash during his under-18 boys final. See Page 22. 15\_107bad09

### Saints youth results and fixtures

#### YOUTH FOOTBALL

LAST weekend's results:  
 Under 13s 5, Torrance Thistle 1.  
 Scoring for Saints were Jamie MacPherson, Ross MacMillan, Keiran Hendry and Stuart Munro.

Kilpatrick 2, Under 14s 1 (played as a friendly). Douglas Tyrell-Bunge was on target for the Oban lads.

Ardencaple v Under 15s postponed.

Dumbarton Rock 3, Under 16s 1. Netting for Saints was Niall MacFarlane.

This weekend's fixtures:  
 Torrance Thistle v Under 13s;  
 Kilpatrick v Under 14s; Port Glasgow v Under 15s; Blair Thistle v Under 16s.

### Over-35s Indoor League

#### FOOTBALL

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Trialists	6	0	0	0	18
Taynuilt	6	5	1	0	16
Hydro	5	4	0	1	12
Spartak	6	3	0	3	9
WCM	6	2	1	3	7
Teachers	6	2	1	3	7
Emergency	6	2	1	3	7
Seil	5	2	0	4	6
Clan Trees	6	1	0	5	3
Owen Sails	5	0	0	5	0

Results: Owen Sails 3, West Coast Massive 10; Clan Trees 0, Spartak 3; Emergency 2, Trialists 5; Seil 4, West Coast Massive 6; Owen Sails 1, Teachers 5.

### Lorne ladies defeat Grangemouth

#### RUGBY

DONNA Smith scored 39 points as Oban Lorne defeated Grangemouth in the final game before the SWRU National Development League split.

Donna's five tries and seven conversions on Sunday helped her team to a 49-0 away victory, with Audrey Barr and Fiona Steele tries adding the other 10 points.

### Atlantis Leisure indoor league

#### FOOTBALL

League A	P	W	D	L	Pts
Carpet Fitters	8	8	0	0	24
Atlantis Leisure	8	7	0	1	21
RM Builders	9	5	0	4	15

League B	P	W	D	L	Pts
Oban Times	10	5	0	5	15
Hydro	10	4	1	5	13
Dunollie	10	3	1	6	10
Oban High	10	3	0	7	9

### Weekend amateur league fixtures

#### FOOTBALL

THIS Saturday's SAFL fixtures: Premier Division - Oban Saints v Inverclyde. Premier Division One - Rolls Royce EK v Campbelltown Pupils 'A'. Premier Division Two - Dunoon v Tarbert. Division One - Lochgilhead Red Star v Inverkip. Division Three - Campbelltown Pupils 'B' v James-town.

## Defeat puts dent in Saints' title hopes

Scottish Amateur League Premier Division  
**Greenock HSFP 1**  
**Oban Saints 0**

OBAN Saints travelled to the tail o' the bank last Saturday to take on old rivals Greenock High School FP in a premier division league match, but unfortunately the Oban lads found themselves on the wrong end of a 1-0 scoreline.

This defeat puts a dent in the Oban side's hopes of retaining the premier title, but they still top the league table albeit having played more games than their nearest challengers.

Manager Iain Jackson made three changes from the team who lost out to Thorn Athletic in the Jimmy Marshall Cup with Allan MacKay, Jamie Graham and Mattie Rippon coming into the starting line-up.

The games between these two teams always prove to be close with good football being played and this one was no exception.

The early exchanges were pretty cagey as the teams settled down, but it was the home team who looked more comfortable in possession.

Saints were giving the ball away a lot which meant they had to work doubly hard to get it back again.

Neither goalkeeper was trou-

bled very much as the defences were generally on top although Graham Douglas had to make a save low down to his right from a Chris MacFarlane shot.

Saints lost the services of Allan MacKay after 20 minutes with an ankle injury.



Willie Gemmell came close with a last minute header.

Although the home side had the majority of the possession they never really troubled the visiting defence too much.

The half time whistle arrived with the scoreline blank.

The Oban management team was more of the same, but to stop giving the ball away so cheaply.

However, Saints were hit with a sucker punch five minutes

after the restart when Greenock midfielder Jamie Bradley wasn't closed down quickly enough and he drilled a superb right foot drive low down past a helpless Graham Douglas and into the net.

Saints were stunned by this goal but they came storming back into the game and Craig MacEwan came close with a shot that went just past the post.

At the other end Jamie Bradley, the best player on show, was unlucky when another fine effort clipped the outside of the post.

The game was flowing from end to end now and Willie Gemmell had a good chance but he screwed his shot past the upright.

The home side had a penalty claim turned down when Gary Louchran went down in the box after a challenge from Marc MacCallum, but referee Alessandro Saverese waved away the appeals.

Saints brought on Myles McAuley as the game wore on and this made a difference as his strong running started to cause the Greenock midfield and defence some problems.

Mattie Rippon created a great chance when he sent over a superb cross from the left, which whizzed tantalisingly across the face of the goals, but there was nobody on hand to take advantage.

#### FOOTBALL

Saints kept pushing for an equaliser and they had the home side defending in the closing stages of the match, forcing a number of corners in quick succession.

In the final minute they had a great chance to equalise when Donald Campbell sent over a deep cross from the left to the far post. Willie Gemmell outjumped his opponent but the ball went agonisingly past the post.

The home side managed to run down the clock to hold on for a narrow 1-0 victory.

Manager Iain Jackson said: 'I was a bit disappointed at the way we gave the ball away, especially in the first half, but I thought we gave Greenock a good run for their money in the second 45 minutes and with a bit of luck might have come away with a point.'

This Saturday Saints play their first home game for three months when they take on Inverclyde. The teams met earlier in the season in Gourock with Saints winning 4-2. Inverclyde are going well at the moment reaching the sixth round of the Scottish Amateur Cup, so a close game is anticipated on Saturday. The match will take place at Glencruitten with a 2pm kick-off. Referee John Campbell from Glasgow is in charge

## Lochaber defeat Lochside in Spean Bridge friendly

Friendly  
**Lochaber 4**  
**Lochside Rovers 1**

THE Oban side travelled to take on Lochaber in their first friendly match under new managers Tony Howlett and David MacInnes before the season starts in a couple of weeks.

The game got off to an exciting start with both teams creating chances, but it was the home team who took the lead in 16 minutes with a well taken goal.

However, this did not affect the visitors who continued to battle back and in the 25th minute a wonder strike from David Devine brought Lochside level.

The half time interval arrived with the score standing at 1-1 and little to separate the two teams.

After a positive first half performance, the Oban side continued to pile on the pressure with David Lafferty hitting the post in the 51st minute and going close again minutes later with a shot that whistled over the bar.

Lochaber were still creating chances of their own and in the 63rd minute were awarded a controversial penalty.

The home side comfortably converted to take a 2-1 lead.

Four minutes later Lochaber netted again to make the score 3-1 after a mix-up in the Lochside defence.

The visitors came close to pulling a goal back through Drew Walker, who was denied by the post, followed by a great effort from young Malcolm Kerr which

#### SHINTY

#### SHINTY

was met by an equally great save from the Lochaber keeper.

Both teams seemed to be suffering from tiredness as the game drew to a close and with just minutes remaining the home side netted again to make the final score 4-1.

Despite the scoreline the new Lochside management team were very happy with the performance, especially from Ewan MacCorquodale and Jamie Kerr who won the Lochside man of the match award.

The Oban team, sponsored by Cuan Mor, travel up north again this Saturday to take on Inverness in another pre-season friendly.

## Sutherland Cup draw takes place

THIS SEASON'S Aberdeen Considine Sutherland Cup final will be played in Aberdeen as part of Aberdeen University Shinty Club's 150th anniversary celebrations.

The cup draw was made on Monday at the University of Aberdeen by University Principal, Professor Ian Diamond, and Aberdeen Considine partner, Ritchie Whyte.

**First Round**

First round (to be played on April 9): The SCOTS v Lovat; Glenurquhart v Newtonmore; Kilmallie v Lochside Rovers; Lochcarron v Beaulie; Inverness v Lochaber; Kingussie v Strachur; Aberdeen University v

#### SHINTY

Lochbroom; Glengarry v Bute; Col Glen v Inveraray; Taynuilt v Tayforth; Skye v Fort William; Boleskine v Caberfeidh.

Byes: Kyles Athletic, Glasgow Mid Argyll, Kinlochshiel, Strathglass.

### Weather

Sponsored by  
**NANCY BLACK** Ships' Chandler  
 Telephone: 01631 562550

#### Thursday

Cloudy.  
 Winds light, east north easterly.  
 Temperatures 5°C to 7°C

#### Friday

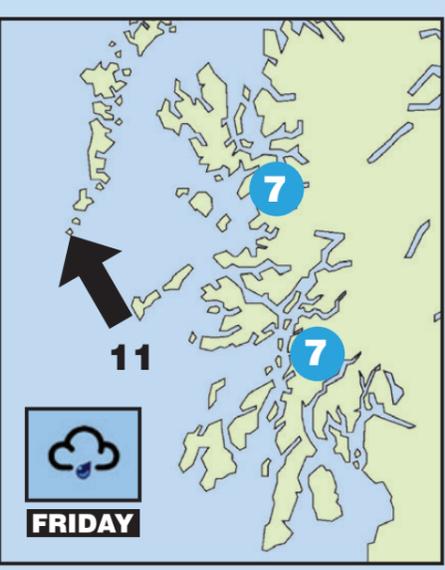
Light rain.  
 Winds strong, south easterly.  
 Temperatures 2°C to 5°C.

#### Weekend Outlook

Heavy showers.  
 Winds moderate, south easterly.  
 Temperatures 7°C to 7°C.

#### Ferry Crossings/Sea States

Oban to Barra/South Uist - Moderate  
 Oban to Coll/Tiree - Moderate  
 Kennacraig to Islay - Moderate



### Tides

Sponsored by  
**NANCY BLACK** Ships' Chandler  
 Telephone: 01631 562550

Tide tables for Oban during the week from  
**Thursday, February 17, 2011**  
 are listed below with differences  
 for major ports listed beneath.  
 All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am	pm
Thur	04.59 3.9 11.29 0.9 17.29 3.8 23.22 0.5	
Fri	05.38 4.1 12.09 0.6 18.03 4.0 ** ** *	
Sat	00.05 0.3 06.15 4.3 12.47 0.4 18.37 4.1	
Sun	00.48 0.1 06.52 4.3 13.25 0.4 19.12 4.1	
Mon	01.31 0.1 07.30 4.2 14.03 0.5 19.49 3.9	
Tues	02.14 0.2 08.08 4.0 14.44 0.7 20.28 3.7	
Wed	03.00 0.5 08.47 3.7 15.28 1.0 21.10 3.5	

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

Ardrihaig	-5.35	Lochboisdale	+0.30
Campbeltown	-5.30	Mallaig	+0.25
Crinan	-0.47	Portree	+0.55
Islay Port Ellen	2.00	Tobermory	+0.16
		Dover	+5.30

**Your Digital Edition is AVAILABLE ONLINE NOW at**  
[www.obantimes.co.uk/digital](http://www.obantimes.co.uk/digital)

Frustrated waiting for your Oban Times?  
 Our new E-Edition is delivered directly to your inbox on the day of publication.