

# The Oban Times

## & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Established 1861 No 8299

Thursday 21 April, 2016

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### Chairman calls on council to focus efforts

IT IS time for Argyll and Bute Council to 'focus its efforts and deliver what is deliverable and let go of the rest', Oban, Lorn and the Isles area committee chairman Roddy McCuish said last week.

Speaking at the area committee, Mr McCuish said he was pleased a number of projects, including the Oban Bay pontoons, George Street improvements, Stafford Street pedestrianisation and Oban High School, were finally being delivered but added the vast number of potential projects was at times 'bigger than anyone can manage'.

Mr McCuish said: 'We have seen a number of projects that are finally coming to light but it goes to show the amount of time and effort that needs to go into everything we are doing.'

Referring to the number of projects currently in the pipeline for Oban through the economic development action plan, Mr McCuish said he wanted to impress on people the need for the council to deliver.

Some of the projects approved in the council papers last week were more than 10 years in the pipeline.

Mr McCuish explained that while he was ambitious for everything to be delivered in Oban, Lorn and the Isles, it was often frustrating for people to wait for them to come into being.

Mr McCuish said: 'Sometimes we can end up doing too much. That means we raise people's expectations and when we don't deliver quickly enough it becomes a problem.'

Mr McCuish referred to the small amount of officers who deliver the bulk of the planning work for projects.

He said: 'We have to start prioritising what we do and take those projects forward in a realistic timescale.'

# Community campaign to end road dangers on A85

**LOUISE GLEN**  
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A SIMPLE solution to stopping the high number of accidents on the A85 will be considered by BEAR Scotland after a community council says it is no longer willing to sit by and wait for 'yet another' accident to happen.

Saying the road between Dunbeg and Oban is 'amongst the most dangerous in Scotland', community councillors Sean MacIntyre and Gwyneth Neal, and councillor Julie McKenzie, want to bring the number of accidents to an end.

Popular Facebook group Oban and Lorn Road Watch is managed by Allan Strang junior who told *The Oban Times* that people 'already know what the problem is' - but the real difficulty is making sure people understand what to do about it.

Mr Strang, who has almost 4,000 online followers, said: 'Problems always seem to increase during 'silly season' [the start of the tourism season] and accidents can regularly be connected to overtaking.

'There is a gap on the double white lines for a short stretch of the road between Oban and the Halfway House [petrol station].

'It has a blind corner and basically people think that it is okay to pass because the road signs indicate that it is. But it isn't.

'One of my school friends died on this stretch of road some years ago, so I know from personal experience just how dangerous it can be.'

Community councillor Sean MacIntyre said he was asking for a simple solution to the problem.

He said: 'We believe there should be no overtaking on the road between Dunbeg and Oban.

'Double white lines down the centre of the road and a large



Community councillor Sean MacIntyre, above, is among those calling on BEAR Scotland to extend the double white lines and improve road signs on the A85 between Dunbeg and Oban to make the road safer and cut traffic accidents.

sign that says no overtaking for six miles would, we believe, go a long way to solving the problem.

'The number of accidents townsfolk have witnessed over the years add up to making this section of the A85 one of the most dangerous roads in Scotland.'

Gwyneth Neal, of Dunbeg Community Council, said the campaign was in response to an emotional plea by a member of the public at their last meeting.

Mrs Neal said: 'We were approached by a man who was

recently caught up in an accident on the road, who would like to remain anonymous.

'Over the years there have been a number of concerns about the road and we have at various times studied its problems in depth.

'One of the things that sticks out to us is that because of the camber of the road people are often driving over the line and as a result of the volume of traffic there is nowhere for cars to come off the road and therefore collisions cannot be avoided.'

Agreeing that staff are happy to listen to Dunbeg community councillors and councillor MacKenzie, a BEAR Scotland spokeswoman said the company wanted to engage and listen to any concerns the community council has.

The spokeswoman continued: 'Since BEAR took over the north west operating company contract in 2013, more than £800,000 has been spent on road improvements on the A85 between Oban and Pennyfuir. 'This figure includes six resurfacing schemes, patching

works, road safety sign improvements and landscaping work including scrub clearance to improve visibility on the route.

'Safety is our top priority and we will continue to work with Police Scotland to identify any safety concerns in the area.

'Weekly inspections are carried out by our route stewards, who note any defects in the route or highlight any potential safety issues.

'These are then categorised and programmed for repair as required.'

### TIMESLINE

#### FAI to be held for lost fisherman

A FATAL accident inquiry will be held in connection with a fisherman who was lost at sea off the coast of Easdale Island three years ago.

Scott MacAlister, 40, was lost after making a number of mayday calls on April 25 2013. Mr MacAlister was alone aboard the *Speedwell*, a 27ft long prawn boat, when he went missing.

Scott's father Peter MacAlister is concerned the boat will not be raised as part of the inquiry.

He told *The Oban Times*: 'If the authorities don't raise the *Speedwell* who has the marine knowledge within the procurator fiscal service to even know what should be asked? 'And who will know what is the truth of the matter?'

#### Council appoints new chief exec

CLELAND Sneddon, currently executive director of community services, has been appointed the new chief executive of Argyll and Bute Council.

Councillor Dick Walsh, leader of the council, said: 'We are delighted to welcome Cleland to the role of chief executive of Argyll and Bute Council.

'Cleland brings a wealth of experience and insight that will serve Argyll and Bute well.'

Mr Sneddon said: 'I have been proud to serve Argyll and Bute Council as executive director and am privileged now to take up the sought-after role of its chief executive.'

Mr Sneddon will take up post following Sally Loudon's departure on May 9 this year. Arrangements for filling the role of executive director of community services will be announced in due course.



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## Anger as Mull health plan on hold

TWO YEARS of consultation on emergency services on the islands has 'come to nothing' after the Scottish Government said there would be no change to its current service, Mull Community Council's chairman told a meeting last Thursday evening.

Chairman Billy McClymont said that after two years of negotiating for round-the-clock coverage for the islands of Mull, Iona and Ulva - a geographical area the size of Edinburgh and Glasgow - the island's health group was advocating the 'status quo'.

Mr McClymont, who is

also the island's undertaker, says he finds the decision 'demoralising' after he and community councillor Fiona Brown put forward a plan accepted by the majority of islanders that would have seen a 24-hour emergency service for the islands and would have cost the integrated health and social work board less money.

After the meeting Mr McClymont told *The Oban Times*: 'We have been told the final decision will lie with the locality group which is a toothless group and will be reviewed by the integrated joint board.

'We are now within our rights

to seek a judicial review of the situation here on Mull and Iona. To date we have been offered things such as another paramedic and 24-hour cover but we don't know what that entails because we have no guarantees.

'We believe the evidence the health group relied upon to make its decision is not only out of date, but also includes inflated costs for some of the work it was proposing. We believe there has been a rise in the number of calls to emergency services by one third.

'We also believe the new model of care being delivered

on the island will have an ongoing effect on the number of people who are calling on services for help.'

Councillor Mary-Jean Devon said the island community had been let down badly and that she had already made her feelings known about the Scottish Government's treatment of the people of Mull.

A Scottish Government spokeswoman said no final decision would be made until after the parliamentary elections.

She confirmed a paramedic was being sought for the post on Mull.

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## Concern as Lochaline ferry footfall declines

A MARKED decrease in the number of passengers on an Argyll ferry route is concerning a local councillor.

Reports that numbers using the mainland terminal at Lochaline to Fishnish on Mull crossing are down by at least 50 per cent were raised by councillor Mary-Jean Devon at the Oban, Lorn and the Isles area committee last week.

To use the Lochaline service, many passengers travel via the Corran Ferry, south of Fort

William, and drive down to Lochaline.

After the meeting, Mrs Devon said: 'Due to the fact Highland Council, which operates the Corran Ferry, has increased its fare to £8 per journey, on top of the £6.90 ferry cost, it is more viable for passengers to make the £13 trip between Oban and Craignure.'

'The service between Lochaline and Fishnish, on Mull, is important for connections to the north of Scotland.'



## Sad farewell as island train attraction finally runs out of steam

IT WILL be the end of the line for Isle of Mull Railway when the last carriages join the track and steam locomotive, Victoria, in Staffordshire within the next fortnight.

Mull's narrow gauge railway, which opened in 1983 and closed in 2010, will now form an extension to the Rudyard Lake Steam Railway, also owned by Simon Clarke.

Mr Clarke, who bought Mull's trains and tracks in October 2012, will add two new stations to the rideable miniature railway alongside Rudyard Lake, named Craignure and Torosay Castle, to honour the start and finish of the island's old 2km line.

The English tourist attraction, which re-opened on New Year's Day 2016, will also be renamed the Leek and Rudyard Railway, incorporating the Isle of Mull Railway, and be run by unpaid enthusiasts. Oban businessman

Graham MacQueen, who joined Mr Clarke in trying to keep the Isle of Mull Railway in the local area, said its loss is a blow to the tourist economy on Mull and the mainland.

'It's sad for business in Oban that we've lost it,' he said. 'It had 30,000 visitors on Mull. The little railway brought a large amount of people, which we need. All the children went on it locally. That's what makes it heart-tugging it's leaving the area because everyone's got memories.'

'We couldn't find somewhere local to put it - it's crazy. The saga has run on and on but it has come to an absolute end, with the track and carriages leaving the area. It's gone this time forever.'

The last pieces of the Mull Railway, currently stored in Oban, are expected to leave in the next two weeks.



## Thank you Margaret

Staff member Margaret Baird was given a wonderful send-off when she retired on April 1 after 23 years at Tobermory High School. Mrs Baird was committed to her role in supporting young children and children with complex needs.

## Craignure hosts hustings

ROADS, ferries, housing, the Crown Estate and the ambulance service were included in the list of topics put before election candidates at a hustings on Mull last week.

Candidates Mick Rice (Scottish Labour), Michael Russell (SNP), Alan Reid (Scottish Liberal Democrat), Donald Cameron (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party) and John Finnie (Scottish Green Party)

were questioned by more than 50 people in Craignure Village Hall on matters concerning the future of the islands.

Streamed live across the internet, the meeting was chaired by local councillor Mary-Jean Devon.

Candidates opened the event with a statement about their campaigns before the floor, and internet, was opened to questions to each of the candidates.

# Ferry cancellations spark fears for Skye tourism trade

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TOURISM operators in Sleat on the Isle of Skye say they are 'increasingly concerned' at the service being provided on the Mallaig to Armadale ferry route after a number of cancellations because of low tides.

But CalMac, which operates the service, says there are 'intermittent changes' it believes are manageable. It also reports a 50 per cent increase in vehicles using the service in the first few weeks of operation.

Speaking on behalf of tourism operators Sleat Transport Forum (STF), a spokesperson said problems started on the service after the regular vessel the *MV Coruisk* was redeployed to Mull.

The route began the summer timetable using two smaller vessels, with the *MV Lord of the Isles* taking over during down time

from her regular run to and from Lochboisdale, South Uist.

STF believe the vessels are having difficulty in low tides and said 12 of the scheduled services this week had been cancelled.

Tourism operators say they are now faced with uncertainty and will have to review their staffing levels as a result.

A spokesman for STF said: 'This situation was predicted by us for months prior to the implementation of this timetable, but we were unable to convince Transport Scotland of the unsustainability of their proposals.'

'The two small vessels currently deployed on the route were built to operate using fixed slipways rather than link spans and the problems with varying tidal conditions should have been foreseen.'

'This, coupled with the absence of any form of service on board these vessels, make them an extremely unattractive option for

travellers who will sadly vote with their feet, leaving local companies deprived of business which would otherwise have come their way.'

'The threat to the economic prosperity of the communities and businesses affected is already obvious to see.'

CalMac director of operations, Drew Collier said: 'CalMac appreciates that any changes to service can affect the communities we serve and we are monitoring this particular service closely.'

'In the first two weeks of the summer season, we have seen a 42 per cent increase in passengers on the Mallaig to Armadale route on the same two-week period in 2015 and a 53 per cent increase in vehicles.'

'This new timetable is carrying more people and more vehicles to Skye on this route than ever before.'

'Extreme spring tides have impacted on the Mallaig to Ar-

madale service over the last week, with seven per cent of sailings cancelled because of berthing problems caused by excessively low or high tides.'

'This will be an intermittent issue, which we believe is manageable, but even with these cancellations there were still more sailings, with more capacity on this route than at the same time last year.'

'Demand on this route has been met 100 per cent this summer season so far, with no vehicles left behind due to capacity issues on operating vessels.'

'We are confident the extra services we have laid on this summer will continue to meet demand and will, indeed, as initial figures show, encourage even more people to visit by offering more flexible travel options.'

'However, as with all routes we will continue to monitor performance and keep in close contact with communities.'

## Call for return of MV Coruisk

HIGHLAND MP Ian Blackford is now calling for the reinstatement of the *MV Coruisk* to the Armadale to Mallaig ferry crossing, after its replacement vessels proved to be having problems operating at low tide.

Mr Blackford said: 'The tides should not have been a surprise to CalMac and I'm amazed that low tides were not factored into the timetable.'

'The uncertainty of the sailings is detrimental to local businesses, particularly tour operators, and disrupts daily life for those living on the west coast.'

## Spectrum of colour lights up Salen



Reader Clifford Moisey sent us this photograph of a rainbow viewed from Salen on Mull looking up the Sound of Mull. The moment was captured around noon on Saturday April 9. Mr Moisey said: 'This is always a good view but the rainbow was spectacular.'

## Jura fire service to the rescue

TWO WOMEN were rescued unhurt by Jura firefighters after their car left the road and ended up in a ditch on Monday, writes Sandy Neil.

The island's on-call fire and rescue service was on the scene near Lussagiven, 10 miles north of Craighouse, seven minutes after being scrambled around 12.30pm on April 18, alongside the crew from Bowmore on neighbouringIslay.

The Jura unit's crew manager Stephen Walton said: 'The car was almost on its side but it was in a stable position.'

The driver was unhurt, but she needed help to get out.

'The passenger was experiencing pain and reported having previous medical issues.'

Mr Walton continued: 'A doctor arrived promptly and checked them over before handing on to the paramedics when the air ambulance arrived.'

We had an extrication plan in place in case it was needed but, after assessing the casualties, the paramedics were happy for us to help the driver out and tow the car from the ditch.

'Our firefighters made sure it remained stable as it was brought out and one of the medics stayed inside with the passenger to make sure she was safe and felt reassured.'

Neither of the women required hospital treatment following the incident.

Mr Walton, who works at the Jura Hotel but has also been a frontline firefighter on the island for nearly three decades, encouraged others to join the retained and volunteer units serving Scotland's remote communities.

'Most employers appreciate it's a vital emergency service that they and the whole community rely on, so they're understanding about their employees stepping forward to do the job,' he said.

'You obviously need to be serious about meeting the time and training commitments, but it's very worthwhile.'

## Family and friends rally to help Mull mum fund MS treatment

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A BUNESSAN mum who suffers from multiple sclerosis (MS) is trying to raise £56,000 to fund stem cell treatment in south east Asia to halt the progress of her disease.

Alex Cameron, who runs the Creel Seafood Bar at Fionnphort with her fisherman husband Andrew, was diagnosed in 2002 with relapsing remitting MS, in which symptoms appear or reappear, then fade. Her brothers Matthew and James, who also live on Mull, also suffer from the same condition.

Alex, however, has developed secondary progression.

'It gets worse and worse,' she explained: 'I use my stick all the time. Everything takes twice as long. I can only work half-a-day.'

'I have four children and we have a croft so it's the worst thing that could happen. That's why I'm so desperate. I'm determined to rid myself of it.'

Alex heard about the stem cell treatment on BBC TV's *Panorama* programme two months ago.



Alex Cameron with her children.

'It's amazing,' she said. 'It halts the symptoms. It doesn't repair the damage but allows recovery with physiotherapy. It should be available on the NHS in three or four years but by then I'll be in a wheelchair.'

Alex begins the two-to-three-month hematopoietic stem cell transplant at Singapore's Raffles Medical Centre on July 5. Chemotherapy will be used to stop the body's immune system

attacking nerve cells before and transplanted stem cells from her blood should help repair them.

'The sooner I get there, the better,' she said.

Alex said she wanted to thank local businesses for donations towards her treatment and her children who are also fundraising. Her eight-year-old daughter Gemma wants to climb Ben More with her dad, while Lauren, 20, plans to take part in the

Great Scottish Run. Son David, 15, is taking part in the Great Scottish Cycle, while 21-year-old Siobhan, who has set up a joint Just Giving page, will take part in the Great Scottish Swim in Loch Lomond.

Alex said: 'I just want to be able to do the things I used to do - just take my wee girl for a walk. You take these things for granted, but we don't know what's round the corner.'

## Community firm set up to promote Mull and Iona as top destinations

MARKETING Mull and Iona (MMI) has been launched as the new destination marketing organisation for Mull and Iona.

MMI has been established as a non-profit community interest company to reinvigorate home-grown tourism marketing and represent tourism businesses on the islands with the common purpose of marketing and promoting Mull and Iona as a world-class visitor experience and the top rural destination in Scotland.

At its annual general meeting on March 31, Holiday Mull and Iona (HMI) voted

unanimously to dissolve and support the formation of the new organisation. HMI was pioneering in its promotion of Mull and Iona, thanks to the hard work of volunteer committee members. MMI aims to build on its achievements to form a new, professional marketing company.

MMI has ambitious plans for its first year, including targeted sector events, working in partnership with the Mull and Iona Food Trail to deliver a new food festival, 'Mull Moveable Feasts', and developing a high-quality and website and engaging

PR. With paid staff working alongside the directors and support from Argyll and the Isles Tourism Co-operative, MMI is in an excellent position to encourage broader engagement across all tourism sectors on the islands.

The MMI working group, comprising representatives from a variety of local businesses, has been working on detailed proposals for the last year, along with a paid development officer. Recruiting a marketing officer will be an early priority.

Owner of Island Bakery and MMI chairman Joe Reade

said: 'We are excited about our plans. While they will take months to come to fruition, our goals are underpinned by a robust delivery plan and realistic resources to progressively roll out initiatives which match our ambition for Mull and Iona to be the rural destination of choice for visitors.'

Anyone who would like to become involved with the organisation or find out more, should contact Helen Macdonald, AITC development agent for Mull and Iona, by emailing [helenmacdonaldda@gmail.com](mailto:helenmacdonaldda@gmail.com) or call her on 07899 058016.

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## Oban Live funding at risk without council help, say organisers

ORGANISERS of Oban Live, the biggest outdoor concert to be held in the town, say funding secured for the event may be at risk if it does not receive support from Argyll and Bute Council.

Neil Mackay, event co-ordinator, told Oban, Lorn and the Isles area committee last week that while the organisers of Oban Live had been successful in gaining funding from Creative Scotland, the future of that cash may be at risk if the local authority does not show its support for the event.

Mr Mackay said: 'Just over a year ago I asked if there was any geographical equilibrium in the strategic events and festivals fund.'

Asking that the council consider funding the event, he said: 'At last year's Oban Decade, a one-day event, more than £1.3 million was brought into the town.'

Councillors agreed to consider the request at a strategic level within the local authority and said they were '100 per cent behind the event'.

Councillor Mary-Jean Devon added: 'It would be good to have a meeting with Mr Mackay over the next couple of weeks to find out how we, as a local authority, can help.'

The Oban Decade event was part-funded by BID4Oban but to date the organisation has not received an application for support for Oban Live.

## Argyll set to lose out over mobile mast failure

NO MOBILE masts have been identified for Argyll as the UK government closes its mobile infrastructure project, members of Oban, Lorn and the Isles area committee was told last week.

The news came as mobile phone provider Vodafone confirmed it was unable to deliver planned installations in Dunbeg because of insufficient broadband speeds.

The failure to provide masts in Argyll came as a blow to plans for 3G or 4G services in the region as it is highly unlikely 'another round of funding would be available in the near future', Argyll and Bute Council's development officer Anna Watkiss told elected members.

While some commitments had been made about delivering the masts in Argyll and potential sites had been located, 'transmission links into the mobile operators' networks were not available.

Meanwhile, Vodafone said it still intended to complete installation of its Sure Signal projects on Seil and Luing.

Ms Watkiss confirmed these projects had been delayed but were due to be completed in April.

# Teenager dies and four hurt in Dalavich river crash

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AN 18-YEAR-OLD student died and four passengers were injured after the car they were travelling in careered off the road and into the River Avich last Tuesday evening (April 12).

The young women had been travelling back to a holiday cabin after a visit to Oban when the accident happened.

The Peugeot car crashed through a fence into the water at Druimdarroch on the B845 just north of Dalavich, around 6.40pm.

Amy Simpson, a maths student from Cowdenbeath in Fife, who was driving at the time, was pronounced dead at the scene.

Her four friends, one aged 17 and the other three aged 18, managed to get out of the car and went to the nearest house to call for help.

Retired doctor Bill Macrae was alerted to the accident by the young women who told him



Dr Macrae says the B-road has no warning signs to alert drivers to the sharp right-hand bend.

their friend was still trapped inside. Dr Macrae, 69, dialled 999 and ran outside to help.

He told *The Oban Times*: 'There was nothing you could do.'

'It's a fast and deep river. It was heart-breaking. If you'd seen it happen, you couldn't have helped that woman. The

others got out. She didn't. It's just terrible.'

'The police came as quickly as they could. By then I was trying to keep them calm and warm. The water temperature, I'm told, was six degrees. How the four weren't injured I don't know.'

Emergency crews removed the black Peugeot from the two-metre deep water last Wednesday morning.

Amy's mum, Angela Simpson, paid tribute to her 'gorgeous girl' who 'wasn't just the perfect daughter, she was my best friend, my soul mate and my rock and she made me so proud. One day I will make her as proud of me as I was of her. I am absolutely heartbroken and it's hard to find the words at this distressing time to express just how much I will miss her. Rest in peace Toots'.

Amy's aunt Lucy McGrother also remembered 'her gentleness, genuine warmth and most of all that contagious smile'.

A Go Fund Me web page, set up to help Amy's family with funeral costs, raised more than the £4,000 target in one day. The family welcomes everyone to attend Amy's funeral in Dunfermline Crematorium, on Tuesday April 26 at 2.45pm.

Dr Macrae, who has lived at the house overlooking the accident scene for 50 years, said the bend in the road could be dangerous, especially to visitors.

He said: 'There's no road warnings to tell people there's a right-hand bend.

'It's a sharp bend at the bottom of the hill. How are people who don't live here supposed to know? If you come down quickly and hit the brakes, you can imagine what will happen.'

'Lorries come round and you can hear their wheels grating the surface. One of the policemen said it was like walking on ball bearings.'

'There have been several cars that have not made that bend. The fence wouldn't stop a bicycle, let alone a car. It wouldn't have to be fast-moving.'

Dr Macrae said his thoughts remained with the young women involved in the accident and with their families.

The former hospital doctor reflected: 'I've seen a lot of accidents. It's horrible when it happens on your doorstep.'

## Drink driver disqualified

A MAN who put his car off the road on the isle of Colonsay was more than three times over the drink-drive limit.

Chef Jan Berka, aged 28, a Czech national, works on the island during the summer with his partner.

He admitted drink-driving on September 4 last year on the road near Colonsay House when he appeared before Oban Sheriff Court last week.

Berka's car had left the road and he was seen by a police officer. He was found to be over the limit on the roadside breath-test kit. Because the island has no other facilities for breath-testing, he gave a blood sample and this gave a reading of 161 milligrammes of alcohol in 100 millilitres of blood; the limit is 50.

His defence agent, Edward Thornton, said that on the night in question Berka, of Turamin Flats, Colonsay Estate, and his partner had an argument and he left the house.

'He decided the sensible thing to do was to go to the hotel; there was accommodation to spend the night.'

But his car hit the verge; he called on someone nearby to help and then the police arrived.

'He fully co-operated with the police,' said Mr Thornton.

Sheriff Colin McKay fined Berka £400 and disqualified him from driving for 12 months.

## Flood fund

GOVERNMENT funding is now available for people affected by severe flooding between July 1 2015 and March 31 2016.

Local authorities may be able to provide a grant of £1,500 to households, businesses or community groups directly affected. A flat rate grant of £3,000 may also be paid to businesses which have been severely impacted.

For details visit [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/flooding-grant-application](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/flooding-grant-application) or email: [floodinginquiries@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:floodinginquiries@argyll-bute.gov.uk)

## Public wifi on hold due to Helensburgh trial

A FLAGSHIP project to bring wifi to Oban town centre will be on the back burner until a trial is completed in Helensburgh.

The Stafford Street pedestrianisation project was to have internet connections for people visiting the town, bringing Oban into line with many areas in the country.

But councillors were told recently that the project to open up the air waves to tourists and locals was being 'tried' in Helensburgh first.

Delivering the project to Oban will most likely happen in '2017'.

Argyll and Bute Council's development officer Anna Watkiss said: 'In November 2015, a pilot for public town centre



Visitors to Oban are put off by the lack of wifi and 4G, according to a survey by VisitScotland.

wifi in Helensburgh, operated BroadChord, commenced. Should the pilot in Helensburgh

prove successful, consideration may be given to whether a similar public wifi service would be provided to other locations in Scotland.'

Answering a question from Councillor Iain S MacLean about Stafford Street, Ms Watkiss said: 'We didn't have anyone who was willing to provide the service in Oban.'

'All the technology is in place but at the moment there is no one to provide the service.'

Ms Watkiss explained it had been hoped BroadChord would do the work.

Councillor MacLean continued: 'It is a big miss in the town centre and we are delivering a poor service to visitors because

we do not have wifi or 4G available to visitors.'

A recent survey by VisitScotland presented to the Argyll and Isles Tourism Summit, showed that more than 70 per cent of visitors were put off by the lack of wifi and 4G accessibility.

Oban Times  
newsdesks

01631 568000  
01397 703003

## POLICE FILES with Sergeant Alan Moore

### Car damaged – witnesses sought

POLICE are appealing for witnesses following a hit and run incident in the car park outside Oban's Pets At Home store sometime between 2pm and 3pm on Monday April 18 during which a blue Ford Fiesta was damaged.

Anyone with any information should contact 101.

### Biker reported for Arrivain speeding

A MOTORCYCLIST was stopped by police for allegedly driving at 80mph at Arrivain near Dalmally on Friday April 15.

The 53-year-old man has been reported to the procurator fiscal.

Police Scotland are urging people to drive safely in the run-up to the busy holiday period and say they will be carrying out speed checks in the area.



Sally Weaser holding the left side of the cheque, with Oriana Lopez and Darren Moyle, manager of the Great Western, with staff and producers. 16\_tgreatwestern01

## Cheque is child's play

THE GREAT Western Crafters and Producers Market presented Oban Community Playpark (OCP) with a £300 cheque last Saturday.

The monthly market, which is filled with handmade products, raised the money by collecting donations throughout the year and will continue to raise funds for OCP in 2016.

Sally Weaser, OCP committee member, said: 'It's been amazing. The whole town has come together to make this happen. We are now raising money to finish the under-fives play park. People who I don't even know are coming up to me in the street and saying thank you.'

'We are seeing teenagers, who would normally be at home on their iPad, playing at the park. We just need to keep the momentum going.'

Oriana Lopez, who organises the event every month, said: 'This is the first time we have provided tea and coffee in the same room as the market. We are making the most of the hotel and the room, which is available to hire.'

The next crafters and producers market will be on Saturday May 7 at the Great Western Hotel.

# Sheriff shows leniency to Kintyre men over drink-driving 'story'

TWO YOUNG men from Kintyre came close to being jailed for perverting the course of justice after they concocted a story about who was driving on a night out.

The pair were each fined £1,000 and banned from driving for six months.

They were arrested after a trial collapsed at Campbeltown Sheriff Court in February; Sheriff Ruth Anderson QC who heard that case had the matter moved to Oban to be heard by another sheriff.

Stephen Cupples and James Ronald whose addresses were given as Lorne Cottage, Tarbert, and 1 Port Avenue, Lochgilphead, respectively, were told by Sheriff Colin McKay that the offences they had committed were considered so serious that they could have been heard at the high court.

Both men admitted intending to and perverting the course of justice: Cupples, aged 23, a scallop boat skipper, that he falsely stated who was driving a car; Ronald, aged 21, a forestry worker, that he falsely stated who had been driving the car and inducing two girls to provide false statements to the police.

The pair and their girlfriends had been out for the night and were driving back to Kintyre on November 22 last year. They had pulled over into a lay-by on the A83 and all were out of the car when a police patrol stopped and talked to them. All smelled of drink, so the officers asked who was the driver.

The car belonged to Cupples, Ronald had been driving as he had had the least to drink but he had no insurance to drive

Cupple's car. Ronald feared a fine and points on his licence so the men agreed Cupples would say he was driving.

Cupples told the police: 'I was the driver; I will take the blame for it.'

Cupples failed the roadside breath test and all were taken to Campbeltown Police Station.

There Cupples persisted in the tale that he was driving and was breath-tested and charged.

At the station Ronald had urged both of the young women to keep up the pretence.

The matter went as far as Campbeltown Sheriff Court but one of the young women had gone to Lochgilphead police station and told the truth. When Cupple's drink driving case appeared before Campbeltown Sheriff Court, the prosecution did not continue with the case.

'Both Cupples and Ronald were detained on leaving the court and subsequently arrested,' said Mr Docherty.

The pair were both represented by Graeme Cunningham. He told Oban Sheriff Court last Monday: 'They were carried away in the story in an attempt to stop Ronald being disqualified; not for drink driving but totting up with another six points on his licence.'

Mr Cunningham said he appreciated that both men were 'on the cusp of custody' but both were in full-time employment. Sheriff McKay agreed that both were hard-working and from good families and this prompted him to fine rather than imprison them, saying: 'This has been prosecuted for very proper reasons. I could have sentenced you to 12 months.'

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# QUESTION TIME

## THE OBAN TIMES' FIRST HUSTINGS

Takes place at Oban Phoenix Cinema, 140 George Street, Oban on Thursday, April 28 – 7pm to 8pm

The debate will be streamed live online at [www.obantimes.co.uk/hustings](http://www.obantimes.co.uk/hustings)



## Election 2016

Argyll candidates

With the countdown to the Scottish Parliament elections now moving into the final two weeks, *The Oban Times* invited all our candidates to submit a second statement on an issue important to the people of Argyll and Bute. This week they focus on population growth. While Labour was invited to submit a piece, we had not received it at the time of going to press.

### Donald Cameron

Conservative Party



If I am elected as your MSP, I will campaign to ensure that we retain our young people and provide the investment, jobs and security to allow them to live and thrive in Argyll.

Recent statistics show that Argyll and Bute's population is predicted to fall by 13.5 per cent by 2037 (in contrast to Scotland's population rising by 7 per cent over the next 25 years). This is the second largest projected decline of any local authority in Scotland, with the working age population predicted to fall by almost 22 per cent.

So it's clear we have a fight on our hands. Improving infrastructure is crucial. In many parts of Argyll there are widespread issues with poor mobile coverage and internet connections, not to mention failing roads and the high costs of travel to and from the islands.

I will continually focus on everyday issues, too – improving our health service and creating better schools so that young and old enjoy a better quality of life, and as a result we attract more people to live in Argyll.

This all requires fresh thinking: the SNP have had nine long years in power and have been found wanting. It's time for a new approach to population growth.

### John Finnie

Green Party



To grow our population Argyll and Bute requires fair funding for its public services, jobs and houses. Greens support taxes that tackle inequalities in wealth and income; pay for public services; ask the wealthiest to pay more, and are locally controlled.

We value those who care and propose a 'Living Wage Plus' for all care staff, meaning that older people can remain in their homes and provide well paid local jobs. We also support a 50 per cent increase in Carers Allowance to £93.15 per week.

In many areas land for housing remains an issue. Our radical housing agenda will:

- give councils back the power to buy land for housing at 'existing use value', ending speculation and ensuring better housing is delivered for less money.
  - end tax reliefs which keep 27,000 homes and land across Scotland out of use.
  - make vacant and derelict land liable for non-domestic rates – raising £250million.
  - ensuring renting is fair.
  - ensure using a property as a second home will require planning consent.
- Whilst housing construction and upgrading will create jobs vital infrastructure, such as broadband and properly maintained roads, bridges and piers must be prioritised ahead of major road construction elsewhere in Scotland.

### David Coburn

UKIP



Argyll is one of the most beautiful areas of Scotland and has remained largely unspoiled.

Despite this natural beauty, the population has been in decline for many years. Indeed, estimates are that 13.5 per cent of the population could leave by 2037, including a substantial drop in working-age people.

So, the question is how to attract people to Argyll and also to encourage people to stay.

It is important to improve local infrastructure. UKIP is committed to improving broadband accessibility and speeds in rural areas which is essential to encourage businesses and families to set up and stay.

Strong, modern broadband along with investments in repairing and upgrading roads and railways enable people to communicate with and travel to major cities and beyond with ease.

Fifteen per cent of those employed in Argyll work in tourism. We hope that our business-friendly tax policies will help and support this vital sector of the economy.

We hope that these policies will encourage people to move beyond the cities and to take up the chance to live in the beautiful Scottish countryside, while still being able to travel and communicate as quickly and safely as possible.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Your business has the potential to reach more than 35,000 people every week\* with an advert in the local paper.



The Oban Times & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

01631 568000

\*Source: JICREG data 01/04/2014

### Alan Reid

Liberal Democrat



To attract people to move to Argyll and encourage our young people to stay, we must provide well paid, interesting jobs. I explained my ideas for economic development last week, such as bringing the spaceport to Machrihanish.

The lack of affordable housing in the right places is a barrier. The Scottish Government must make more money available for this and work with the council and housing associations to build more affordable houses and bring empty houses back into use.

Education is key. That's why Liberal Democrats want to invest more in schools, colleges and nursery education. Argyll College will benefit from this. It has done a very good job, but is under-funded and requires improved accommodation as well as increased teaching space, particularly in Oban.

People need a reliable and accessible health service. Our local doctors, dentists, nurses and ambulance staff do an amazing job – that is the ones who are in post. However, there is a dire need to recruit more, particularly in rural and island parts of Argyll and Bute. The rural GP shortage must be tackled. There must be more investment in recruiting more essential staff for the rural and island NHS.

### Michael Russell

Scottish National Party



Argyll and Bute is losing population faster than almost any other part of Scotland.

Some parts – like Oban – are gaining but others – such as the islands – are losing. We need an action plan to reverse population decline that is based on three things:

Firstly better connectivity – better transport systems and better digital services. The SNP in government is investing in broadband, is encouraging better mobile phone provision and is improving transport links.

Secondly, we need reformed council services so that people get better decisions made closer to their homes. That means decentralisation, less bureaucracy and a determination by Argyll and Bute Council to work as locally and efficiently as possible.

Thirdly, we need all the partners to be pulling in the same direction, so that means local and national government agreeing a way forward and supporting it over a period of years. Work has started on that with the aim of agreeing a 'Rural Regeneration' initiative that will show that the area is always open for business.

The Economic Development Task Force that reported to the council recently drew up a blueprint for action. It should be implemented without further delay. Stopping the endless council cuts would send out a better message too.

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Established 1851 No. 2207 Thursday 27 August 2015 [www.obantimes.co.uk](http://www.obantimes.co.uk) 80p

**Agenda:**  
 ● the people  
 ● the issues  
 ● the back story

**THIS WEEK Mike MacKenzie**  
 Plans to redevelop Oban's waterfront  
 Nicola's a class act say pupils as school visit leaves them on a high

**Macaulay Cup**  
 match report and photos from the 2015 final

**TIMESLINE**  
 Annual review on the cards for NHS

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Lib Dem leader Willie Rennie gave the all-clear to back independence

SCOTTISH SUN - 23/09/15

**DONALD CAMERON**  
 RUTH DAVIDSON'S CANDIDATE FOR ARGYLL AND BUTE

THE ONLY LEADER CAPABLE OF LEADING AN OPPOSITION THAT CAN HOLD THE SNP TO ACCOUNT IS RUTH DAVIDSON

SCOTTISH DAILY MAIL - 05/03/16

SNP TO LAUNCH A NEW DRIVE TO BREAK UP BRITAIN

SCOTTISH SUNDAY EXPRESS - 13/03/2016

Promoted by William Hanbury, on behalf of Donald Cameron, both of 61, Chalmers Street, Ardishaig, PA30 8DX.

RUTH DAVIDSON AND DONALD CAMERON FOR A STRONG OPPOSITION

Don't forget you have TWO votes in this election.

Scottish Conservative & Unionist  
 Ruth Davidson for a Strong Opposition

Donald Cameron  
 Scottish Conservative & Unionist

“We will NOT support a second referendum on independence in the next parliamentary term. Full stop.”  
 Willie Rennie, Leader Scottish Liberal Democrats

“Our five years will be focused on making Scotland the best again, transforming opportunity for children, and our economy, by additional investment in education, skills and mental health.” Scottish Lib Dem Manifesto.

Alan Reid was Argyll & Bute's MP for 14 years, increasing his vote last year, but finishing 2nd to the SNP, while other parties' votes collapsed. For a strong voice for Argyll & Bute at Holyrood, vote

Alan REID

Scottish Liberal Democrats

Promoted by Andrew Nisbet, on behalf of Alan Reid (Scottish Liberal Democrats) both at Ty Rhu, Station Road, Rhu G84 8LW

LORN lines



John Spicer of S&S Services presents the cheque to Iain MacIntyre of Oban Rotary Club.

Oban Rotary and S&S Services join forces to help Argyll youngsters

JOHN Spicer of S & S Services, a long-time supporter of Oban Rotary Club's annual charity golf Am-Am tournament, recently handed over a £300 cheque to Am-Am convener Iain MacIntyre in support of this year's event.

Money raised annually by the Am-Am helps support a number of local causes with the organisation recently contributing £1,000 from Am-Am funds to the Roses Charitable Trust.

This will go towards a new mini bus, which is essential to the trust's operations. S & S Services was instrumental in acquiring the vehicle for the trust at favourable terms.

The Roses Charitable Trust is based at Tavool House Outdoor Centre on Mull. Its aim is to support and develop disadvantaged and vulnerable young people by delivering challenging, personal development outdoor activity courses to groups, including young carers and young people from areas experiencing acute issues of deprivation and social exclusion.

The trust has recently benefited from a run of local fundraising success. On top of the donation from Oban Rotary, it has also received £5,000 from the Crerar Hotels Trust and £9,285 from the Big Lottery Awards for All.

The grant from the Crerar Hotels Trust will be used to help keep delivering group work to young people and the Awards for All grant will buy technology equipment to deliver IT training to young people attending courses on Mull.

Jane Sayer, company secretary of the Roses Charitable Trust, said: 'We are delighted to receive such generous support from these organisations. It is a great start to our season and will help us to develop and continue to deliver our highly-regarded courses to many deserving young people from across Scotland.'

The latest group to attend a Roses Project course was from Oban High School.

Mr Champion and Miss Speirs took 14 pupils on a residential trip to Mull. The focus was on developing respect, resilience and resolve. Many pupils surpassed their own expectations and pushed themselves beyond their perceived limits.

Miss Speirs said: 'The kids had a brilliant experience and got a lot out of the week.'

One young person attending the course said that he trusted people more now and feels more confident, while another summed up her week saying it was 'amazing, fun and scary'.

# Groups line up for EU cash despite possible delay

LOUISE GLEN  
lglen@obantimes.co.uk

A TWO-YEAR delay to European funding may halt small businesses and community enterprise in Argyll and Bute, Oban, Lorn and the Isles area committee heard last week.

But even before the Argyll and Isles Local Area Group LEADER funding has been officially launched, there have been 114 notes of interest from organisations hoping to win a share of the £4.9 million.

While the service level agreement for the project is already signed with the Scottish Government, councillors heard it may still be months before the project is open to bidders and some months beyond that until the first allocations of cash are made.

Projects funded in the past by the

previous round of LEADER money include Oban Phoenix Cinema and Tobermory Harbour Association.

Concerns raised by Councillor Elaine Robertson at last week's area committee about the delay in the latest funding round allowed council officers to explain the hold-up.

Ishabel Bremner, economic development manager at Argyll and Bute Council, said she was overseeing the completion of the LEADER funding agreements with officers, the Scottish Government and Europe.

She said: 'We signed the paperwork with the Scottish Government with some conditions late last year and since then we have been working on guidance for applicants.'

'The criteria that has to be met by groups has been prepared. We have also been working on a memorandum of understanding between ourselves

and the European Government. We are going over our work with lawyers to ensure we are submitting documents that meet the high standards of the European Government.'

'Our experience tells us that any mistake can cost us thousands of Euros and we are simply not willing to take any risks.'

Ms Bremner and her colleague, head of economic development Fergus Murray, explained that staff to deal with the funding were now coming into post.

Colin Fulcher was appointed in July 2015 as the strategic co-ordinator of LEADER funding, while two development officers and two compliance officers will be in place by the end of May.

Ms Bremner continued: 'Staff will have to look at every note of interest prior to the second stage

of application. The second stage is the application round and it has to be compliant with the funding priorities. While the actual fund is not open, expressions of interest are actively encouraged.'

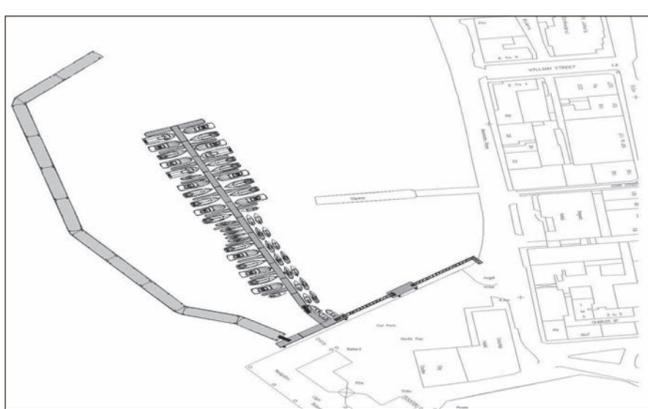
Jennie Larney, of Oban Phoenix Cinema, said: 'LEADER funding is invaluable to organisations working in the Highlands and islands.'

'While running a cinema may be perfectly viable, the set-up costs would not have been.'

'Therefore, as soon as the money comes on stream, people should be encouraged to apply for the cash.'

'While it is an onerous task filling in the compliance forms, the amount of money that can be allocated is very helpful.'

A fund for divergent businesses in the fishing industry will come on stream at the same time as the LEADER funding.



Members of the Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee voted to proceed to the detailed design stage for Option 4, which will see the pontoons attached to the north face of the North Pier.

## Clarification on siting of Oban pontoons

FOLLOWING last week's article 'North Pier pontoons given go-ahead', we would like to clarify that the 36-finger berths will not be connected to *The Oban Times* slipway as reported, but will be attached to the north face of the North Pier.

Last Monday, Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee met to discuss options for a visitor centre and transit berthing on Oban's North Pier, considering two papers - one on the design options for a new visitor centre on the North Pier and another on plans to develop transit berthing.

Councillors agreed to proceed to detailed design stage for Option 4 (pictured above). Pippa Milne, the council's executive director for development and infrastructure, said: 'Members agreed an option which will see approximately 36-finger berths attached to the north face of the North Pier. This gives the greatest flexibility and financial return for the operator.'

'This option will provide more transit

berths and a bigger, more flexible break-water, as well as keeping *The Oban Times* slip available for its current users. A development of this type will complement the existing offer in the wider Oban area.

'Combined with the new visitor centre, these are two very exciting projects. We will now look to move forward towards construction.'

'We would hope to have both the pontoons in the water and the visitor facility operational by next summer and will, of course, be keeping people informed as we go forward.'

'Over the past few months we have been working hard in the background to develop concepts for these two related projects.'

'The agreed option for the visitor facility gives us more commercial space, generating income to offset the running costs, and more toilet/shower space, making it user friendly.'

It was agreed that the area committee would meet again in the autumn to discuss progress.

## German beauties find love on web

TWO BEAUTIFUL German shepherds from Oban have won thousands of adoring fans worldwide after their owners Willie and Tracey Reid from Longdale Terrace posted their photographs on Facebook, writes Sandy Neil.

Willie and Tracey were walking Nuala and Odin near Achnalarig Stables when they met Oban photographer Willie Reid who snapped the dogs and 'got licked to death' as repayment.

On a whim, Willie submitted the photographs to US Facebook site 'I Love My German Shepherd' and went to bed.

But by Friday morning Odin, a one-year-old 'loveable oaf', had gone global attracting more than 7,500 likes, 500 shares and

hundreds of complementary comments agreeing with the post 'picture perfect!'. Over the weekend Nuala, Odin's three-year-old half-sister, also attracted more than 5,500 likes under the caption: 'Can't deny Nuala's beauty!'

Willie hopes the publicity will help dispel the breed's negative reputation which, he says, 'is very far from the truth'.

He explained: 'We're trying to get rid of the prejudice. People see German shepherds doing police work and think of them as vicious beasts, but the breed standard is even-tempered and self-assured.'

'We're well chuffed,' Tracey added. 'The comments were fantastic. One compared Odin to Rin Tin Tin, which doesn't get



Tracey and Willie Reid out walking with Odin at Ganavan Sands - one of his favourite places. 17.7175ndoglikes010din

## Marks death closes chapter in Oban drugs heist history

THE MASTERMIND behind Oban's biggest drugs haul passed away recently.

Howard Marks, known as Mr Nice, died aged 71 in Leeds. He achieved notoriety as an international cannabis smuggler and was behind a Kerrera drug-trafficking scheme foiled by Oban police officers.

Author David Leslie recorded the story in his book *The Happy Dust Gang*.

He wrote: 'The drugs were landed on the island of Kerrera off Oban on the west coast of Scotland. But customs investigators who had been tipped off were monitoring the movements of the smugglers, who panicked after overhearing by chance a radio message confirming they were under surveillance.'

'They chucked the Kerrera batch into the sea with the result that 40 bales washed up on Mull, others landing at a spot known as Grass Point.'

'Marks was arrested and although making a mockery of any suggestion he was involved in the cannabis ring, would later be jailed at the Old Bailey for having false passports.'

## Letter of thanks

THE KING of Belgium has thanked the people of Argyll and Bute for their kind messages of sympathy following the terrorist attacks that took place in Brussels last month.

The Provost of Argyll and Bute, Councillor Len Scoullar, wrote a letter of condolence to King Philippe expressing sympathy on behalf of the people, staff and elected councillors of Argyll and Bute after terrorist attacks were carried out at Brussels airport and the city's metro, killing 32 people.

In his letter the King said: 'Heartfelt thanks to you all for your warm words of concern and support in these painful moments. Your words will offer strength and comfort to the families of the injured and deceased.'

## Youth award

QUALITY Meat Scotland (QMS) is sponsoring the volunteering category at this year's Young Scot Awards in Edinburgh on April 27.

The Young Scot Awards have been honouring acts of bravery, kindness, courage, creativity and selflessness in young people for 10 years.

QMS's Jenni Henderson said: 'We are delighted to sponsor the volunteering category in this year's Young Scot Awards.'



Kay McDonald, a town ambassador, with the golden broom award. t17goldenbroom

## Bids4Oban campaign to praise businesses who keep town tidy

BIDS4OBAN has launched a new award to encourage pride in Oban.

The Golden Broom award will be presented weekly or fortnightly to local businesses to say thank you for taking care of the area around their premises and making it look as clean and welcoming as possible.

Derek Connery, Bids4Oban manager, said: 'We are hoping it will encourage other business in the town to help keep the town tidy.'

# Check out our new range for summer - perfect whatever the weather.

**Scottish Extra Thick Double Cream**  
75p 300ml

**I'm new**

**Fish Pâté**  
Choose from Trout or Salmon.  
£1.29 115g

**I'm new**

**Soup Kits**  
Choose from Thai Broth, Minestrone, Curried Carrot & Parsnip or Minted Pea & Potato with Greek Yogurt.  
£1.29 445g/525g/490g/475g

**I'm new**

**Murrays Pulled Chicken**  
Choose from Piri-Piri or Barbecue.  
£1.49 120g

**I'm new**

**Irish Bru Ripple Ice Lolly**  
£1.49 3 x 100ml

**I'm new**

**Croquettes**  
Choose from Potato or Cheese.  
£1.25 250g

**I'm new**

**Scottish Slimmers Salad Dressing**  
Choose from Hot Chargrilled Tomato & Red Pepper, Garlic & Herb or Honey & Mustard.  
99p 150ml

**I'm new**

**Tempest Brewing Co. Farmhouse Ale**  
£1.49 330ml

**I'm new**

#AldiChallenge Aldi accepts cash, Maestro, MasterCard debit and credit cards, and Visa debit and credit cards. No cheques accepted in store. All offers subject to availability. Prices correct at time of going to print. Excludes R.O.I. For details of your nearest store visit our website at www.aldi.co.uk or call our Customer Service Team on 0800 042 0800 from landlines or 0233 005 0561 from mobiles. Calls may be recorded. Check pack for warranty details. The warranty may be available via the distributor or the manufacturer. All products purchased in an Aldi store are covered by a 60 day refund policy. Goods returned to a store must be accompanied by proof of purchase/receipt and in original packaging if not defective. The Aldi refund policy does not affect customer statutory rights. In accordance with Scottish Licensing laws, alcohol may not be sold in Aldi's Scottish stores before 10am. Scottish Extra Thick Double Cream 300ml, 25p per 100ml. Specially Selected Fish Pâté 115g, £1.12 per 100g. Specially Selected Soup Kits 445g/525g/490g/475g, 24.5p/28.9p/26.3p/27.2p per 100g. Murrays Pulled Chicken 120g, £1.24 per 100g. Irish Bru Ripple Ice Lolly 3 x 100ml, 49.7p per 100ml. Croquettes 250g, 50p per 100g. Scottish Slimmers Salad Dressing 150ml, 66p per 100ml. Tempest Brewing Co. Farmhouse Ale 330ml, £4.52 per litre. [www.aldi.co.uk](http://www.aldi.co.uk) for the facts. Please drink responsibly.

**Kilbrandon**

JULIE Ferris, president of Kilbrandon Scottish Women's Institute (SWI), welcomed speaker Bill Clifford from Mary's Meals to the April meeting in Seil Island hall. Bill and his wife have first-hand knowledge of the work being done by Mary's Meals, having worked in Malawi themselves. Bill gave a moving presentation, which included a video explaining how the children benefited from the funds raised by the charity. The video showed the children attending school and receiving their meals. SWI members also witnessed the excitement and happiness on the children's faces when they opened their Mary's Meals backpacks. It was a most enjoyable evening and money raised from the raffle is to be donated to Mary's Meals.

**Barvas**

THE LEADER of Comhairle nan Eilean Siar has congratulated Urras Sgìre Oighreachd Bharabhais on the acquisition of Barvas Estate. Councillor Angus Campbell said: 'I congratulate the community of Barvas on what is an historic occasion for everyone concerned. A great deal of work has been put in by Barvas Estate Trust which has worked tirelessly to secure the funding needed. The Barvas Estate equates to a large part of the land on Lewis, 14,000 acres, and I wish the community, the trust and all the residents the very best for the future. It is great we are seeing more and more land being brought back to the people of our islands.'

**Islay**

'DON'T panic! Don't panic!' Sixty senior citizens recently 'invaded' the Port Ellen Screen Machine to watch a special screening of the film *Dad's Army*, courtesy of a grant from Foundation Scotland. People came from all over the island and 10 hardy souls made the crossing from Jura. Luckily the audience didn't have to use Mr Jones' van and everyone was delivered safely to their seats to enjoy a really splendid film that was a credit to the original TV series. There was much laughter and the obligatory sweets were passed around to sustain everyone. It was then on to the Islay Hotel for a substantial and delicious afternoon tea. Banter and blether filled the dining room and two individuals were even interviewed by a young lady about rural life which put a spring in their step! Many thanks go to the Screen Machine for accommodating the film-goers and to the Islay Hotel for their hospitality. It was truly a memorable afternoon.



Enjoying the hospitality at the Islay Hotel.



Islay photographer Mark Unsworth has been shortlisted in the global awards for food photography for the fourth year in a row. Mark, whose Islay Studios gallery sits in Islay House Square, Bridgend, is competing in the wine category of the Pink Lady Food Photographer of the Year 2016, which 'celebrates the very best in food photography and film from around the world'. If Mark wins later this month, he stands to win £1,000 and a year's supply of wine. The winners' work will also be exhibited at the Mall Galleries, London.



Caroline cutting her cake with the congregation.

**Caroline celebrates 100 years**

MUCKAIRN Church, Tainuill, celebrated Caroline Jamieson's 100th birthday with a party after the service on April 3. Many of Caroline's friends and church family attended and toasted her with a glass of bubbly before singing *Happy Birthday*. Neil Diamond's song *Sweet Caroline* was also played. Caroline is at church most Sundays and everyone was delighted to mark her birthday at a bring and share lunch. She is a true inspiration to everyone that age is only a number.



Pupils of Lochaline Primary School rehearse Gaelic songs with head teacher Keith Adams.

**Parent council's trust cash boost**

LOCHALINE Primary School's parent council has received a cash boost from the Heart of the Community Trust. The Scottish Sea Farms grant of £700 will help provide Gaelic singing tuition for annual Mòd events and pay for transporting Lochaline Primary School pupils to each event. Kirsty MacIntyre, treasurer, Lochaline Primary School Parent Council, said: 'At least 23 children are going to benefit directly from this sponsorship

so we are grateful to Scottish Sea Farms. The cash is going to cover all of our costs this year and will allow local children to continue to compete in the most cultural of Gaelic events which is so important within the Highlands and islands.' Andrew MacLeannan, manager at Scottish Sea Farms' Fiunary site, said: 'Music is hugely important in young peoples' development and we understand this project also helps to

build confidence as well as singing ability. Our Heart of the Community Trust is set up for instances just like this and we are delighted the cash will help Lochaline pupils sing out proudly on behalf of the area.' Application forms for Heart of the Community grant funding can be found on the Scottish Sea Farms website www.scottishseafarms.com together with full details of the criteria required.

**Star Kanye goes west to Skeabost**

THE SETTING was one of the most spectacular the top Grammy-awarded artist of his age has visited and his accommodation was award-winning too. American hip hop recording artist and songwriter Kanye West was on the isle of Skye to record a video to promote his new single, appropriately called 'Waves,' and chose Skeabost House Hotel to rest and refresh. One of the best-selling music artists of all time and winner of 21 Grammy Awards took half the hotel's 14 rooms for himself and his entourage, stayed

overnight, left to do the filming amid some of the island's world famous scenery and returned for a meal before heading back to Inverness Airport where his private jet awaited. The 37-year-old star's own room was the largest in the property, with a four-poster bed. Skeabost was only acquired last April by Anne Gracie and Ken Gunn, who also own Duisdale and Toravaig house hotels on the island. Skeabost House has since been extensively refurbished and was recently short-listed as Country House

Hotel of the Year in the 2016 Scottish Hotel Awards after being voted the best in the Scottish islands. Seven miles from Skye's main town of Portree, it has 23 acres of grounds with a fast flowing river popular with anglers fishing for salmon and trout and is the only hotel on the island with its own golf course. 'Kanye was the perfect guest - charming, courteous and polite,' said Anne Gracie. 'We were delighted to offer him and his companions our Highland hospitality and would welcome him back any time.'

**MORVERN lines**

**The last St Kildan**

NEWS of the recent passing of Rachel Gillies, the last of the original St Kilda evacuees, brought back many recollections in Morvern of the day she, her family and fellow islanders landed at Lochaline pier. The date was August 29 1930 and although there are few people alive today who witnessed the disembarkation from *HMS Harebell*, their arrival on the Scottish mainland is often spoken of. Given the large number of reporters and photographers who were on the pier hoping for an interview, it was apparent they and some locals anticipated meeting a race more akin to the inhabitants of a remote Brazilian rain forest than intelligent, well-educated, bilingual Gaels descended from a civilisation far older than many of them and that of their new mainland hosts. My first meeting with the St Kildans was in 1965 when, as a boy, I spent some weeks that summer making hay with Rachel's father Donald, then living at Larachbeg - a 19th century terrace of six houses on the road to Strontian.



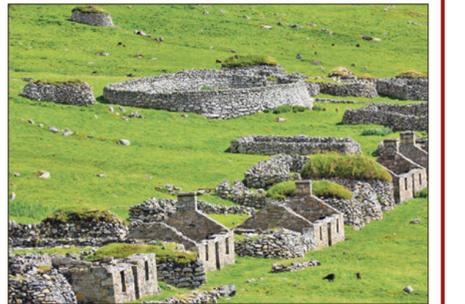
Postcard of Larachbeg, Morvern, and some of the St Kildans.

Donald had retired from the Forestry Commission which had provided employment in Fiunary Forest for himself and seven colleagues when they came to Morvern. Working along with Donald, I was privileged to be able to talk to him informally about life on St Kilda. Not that he could be drawn if he wasn't in the mood. The treatment he had received from the media and the subsequent nonsense that had been written about him still rankled but, when relaxed, his mind would go back to his old home and he would reminisce.

Donald was especially good at forecasting a change in the weather. Every day he would take careful note of the colour of the sky, cloud formations, wind speed and the behaviour of the seagulls as they flew across the fields. He would listen to the different notes of the oyster catchers and other shore-line birds. I remember one morning he heard a curlew calling from across the other side of Loch Aline and announced 'she is crying for rain', meaning it was going to rain. Despite the scornful teasing of his companions as they laboured in their shirt-sleeves under a cloudless sky, his prediction was correct and a few hours later the heavens opened.

I suppose, having lived an unhurried way of life on St Kilda, he had retained a unique sense of awareness of his natural surroundings rarely found these days. I could not say Donald was particularly energetic. He just had his own way of doing things but in a form of meticulous timelessness which suited himself. Donald and his wife Christina, nee Mackinnon, enjoyed having visitors. I spent many happy evenings with them and their daughters, Rachel and Cathie, at Larachbeg and later in their cottage, called St Kilda, at Lochaline.

Hospitality, kindness and conviviality was the rule of the house and in the course of an evening there would be not one but two set teas, preceded by a Gaelic grace and accompanied by as much food as I am sure Mrs Gillies had in her larder. I recall one night being offered a glass of rum from a small wooden cask which Donald said had been washed ashore on St Kilda. I was surprised the contents had lasted as long and now regret having declined!



Cottages on St Kilda. Photograph: William Cameron.

Although they came as strangers 86 years ago, the St Kildans are remembered in Morvern not only for the forest they left behind but for their friendliness, beautiful manners and the remarkable way they adjusted to life in a very different type of community. Crosben, a lonely spot in Morvern's Black Glen, was another congenial house which came to mind last week occasioned by the death of Alison Hollick at the age of 96. Crosben was the retreat of the Hollick family from Comberton near Cambridge. Alison's late husband, Dr Frank Hollick, was a biologist and senior fellow of St John's College, Cambridge University.

During his long academic career, he spent many years studying the flight of the common house fly. He was also interested in religion and wrote a powerful treatise on the theological impossibility of the ordination of women on the basis that they could not be admitted to the episcopate and priesthood without a consensus of historic Christendom. The Hollicks kept open house in the old Highland style. No-one, whether stalker, shepherd or walker, was allowed to pass without being offered hospitality. Impossible as it may seem today because of the poor state of the road, a Royal Mail van from Lochaline delivered the post to Crosben twice a week when the house was occupied full-time by Mr and Mrs Alan Livingstone. When Alan retired as shepherd, the road fell into disrepair until the Hollicks, like Calum Macleod, Raasay's famous road-maker, set-to. By sheer hard labour and often on their hands and knees using hand tools only, they brought the two-and-three-quarter-mile-long track up to a standard which allowed them, in their retirement, to drive their ancient VW campervan to Crosben.

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**'Fluffy fun for all' at annual fleece and fibre festival in Benderloch**

BENDERLOCH'S annual fleece and fibre festival Woolfeis promises 'the most wonderful west coast fluffy fun for all' on July 21 to 23. The three-day community event, organised by the Local Origins Rural Network, invites wool enthusiasts to learn and share skills from 'fleece to fibre and beyond'. The programme at Kintaline Farm begins at 10am on Thursday July 21 with displays of shearing, carding, spinning, dyeing, weaving and felting, a

fleece competition open to all breeds of sheep and market stalls selling crafts and food, themed on 'What can you get from a sheep?' The festival continues on Friday July 22 with fibre-craft workshops and skills-sharing in Benderloch's Victory Halls, where the festival also wraps up on Saturday July 23 from 10.30am to 4pm with a jamboree and trading day for crafty folk from around the country. Organisers ask interested stallholders, workshop

leaders and volunteers who can help set up, run and cater the events to contact them at woolfeis2016@lorn.org.uk. 'Please volunteer to help make 2016 the most fluffy fun we can,' its website appeals. 'Wherever you live there are jobs to do. There is lots to be done before the event and plenty to be done on the day. The more the merrier. Even if you cannot come to the day, you can be a huge part of making it happen.'

**Sealladh na Beinne Moire elections**

NOMINATION papers for the election of directors to Sealladh na Beinne Moire (SNBM), the community company which owns South Uist Estate, have been sent out to members, with three vacancies on the board available this year. Nomination letters were sent out to members of SNBM on Friday April 15, with nominations opening on April 22. The deadline for election nominations is noon on Friday May 13. Stephen MacAuley and John MacMillan are standing down as part of the rotating process of director retirements, though they are free to stand for re-election. Hector MacLeod has also resigned as a director due to work commitments restricting the time he could contribute to SNBM. The

board thanks Hector for the work and time he has put into the role over the past two years. As in previous years, the election will be conducted by Electoral Reform Services, which will issue the ballot papers following the completion of the nomination process. The election will begin on Monday May 23. There is still time for new members to join SNBM and be nominated for election as a director and/or participate in the ballot. Membership forms are available on the website [www.storasuibhist.com/](http://www.storasuibhist.com/) members or from Ofis Stòras. Completed membership applications should be returned by Friday May 6 to be included in the 2016 election process.

# New dawn for north women as charity seeks funding for centre

ELLIE FORBES  
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PLANS for a state-of-the-art women's centre that could revolutionise the way women live their lives in Lochaber have received a welcome boost after it was announced funding is to be sought from Scotland's largest grant-giving trust.

At a meeting of Lochaber District Partnership on Tuesday afternoon, Voluntary Action Lochaber (VAL) said The Robertson Trust could provide between £300,000 and £500,000 towards the centre, with funding possibly available in July.

VAL was approached about the building of a women's centre after Inverness turned down the opportunity and

funding support from The Robertson Trust.

VAL now plans to apply for the grant aid.

The centre will provide a safe environment for women, host a number of recreational activities and give women the opportunity to build new relationships and learn new skills. VAL has said the women of Lochaber will have input into how the centre is

designed, saying it will be a 'vital' part in the making of the new facility.

VAL consulted with 500 women in Lochaber, the majority of whom expressed their desire for such a centre.

Alyson Smith, project co-ordinator of Hope Lochaber, which has also received funding from The Robertson Trust said: 'I think it's a fantastic idea and it's much needed. I would

like to see a lot of community-led enterprises and also social enterprises coming out of it so women can take the lead on innovative women's services.'

Joyce Mathers, Scottish co-ordinator of Survivors of Bereavement by Suicide, also commented on the centre, saying: 'It would be nice if there was somewhere women could drop in to and have someone there they could talk

through their problems with, or even to talk to other women without having to queue up.'

Last year, The Robertson Trust handed out £16 million to projects in the UK, helping to combat alcohol misuse, supporting criminal justice and encouraging healthy lifestyles. Of that total £1million went to projects in the Highlands.

Meetings in connection with the project are ongoing.

## TIMESLINE

### Loch Nevis salmon farm to expand

PLANNING permission to extend one of three salmon farms on Loch Nevis has been granted to Scottish Sea Farms Limited.

Highland Council's south planning applications committee, which met last week, gave the go-ahead for an expansion to the farm north west of Ardingh Bay, allowing for a 63 per cent increase in fish stock.

### Essential Glencoe road works

ESSENTIAL road works are due to get under way on the A82 near Glencoe this weekend.

The work, by BEAR Scotland, is scheduled to begin on Sunday April 24 for three nights at Laraig Elidhe Bridge, before moving to Ba Bridge on Wednesday April 27 for a further three nights.

The road will be closed at both locations.

Eddie Ross, BEAR Scotland's North West Representative, said: 'Adverse weather has had a serious impact on the road surface.'

### A vision for town's new hospital

FORT William's new hospital should fit in with NHS Scotland's vision for integrated health care in the community.

At Tuesday's meeting of Lochaber District Partnership, Dr James Douglas, GP representative, stressed the hospital should be primarily 'a place of safety' for local people, and not simply a triage centre.

There is to be a focus on providing services as close to people as possible, although there will be cases where people need to travel to larger centres. Public and clinical consultation will be an important part of future planning.



## Hotel extension plan bulldozed

PLANS for an extension to a Fort William hotel have been bulldozed by councillors.

Owners of the Cruachan Hotel had hoped to demolish an existing one story extension and build a new one with 14 bedrooms.

Inadequate parking and an increase in noise were taken into consideration by the southern planning applications committee, which met on Tuesday.

There were objections from neighbours who argued the site was already overdeveloped. However, planning officials told the council the extension had been scaled back far enough to make the proposal acceptable. But councillors voted 10 to 3 to reject the extension of the hotel on the A82.

Dubbed the 'Golden Mile', the area is known for its tourism trade, with a number of guest houses and hotels overlooking Loch Linnhe.

Fort William and Ardnarmurchan councillor Andrew Baxter voted against the proposal and said: 'I think it is overdeveloped.'

Supporting Mr Baxter's decision was Caol and Malgair councillor Bill Clark who thought the planning committee had been wrong to recommend approval.



## Town team puts Nicola Sturgeon in the picture over pontoon plans

MEMBERS of Fort William's Town Team met Nicola Sturgeon, leader of the SNP, last Thursday.

Ms Sturgeon joined team members on the high

street where they discussed town issues with her and told her of the ongoing project for the building of pontoons at the west end of town, which the government invested in.

## Loch gears up to welcome cruise ship passengers

WORK has started on building pontoons in Loch Linnhe near Fort William's west end car park to attract cruise ships to the town.

Voluntary group Fort William Marina and Shoreline Association (FWMSA) is behind the development and its main aim is to have a permanent cruise ship berth in Fort William and to provide safe access to the shore.

FWMSA has had several meetings to gather support from Highland Council and various organisations, and the organisation was awarded a Town Centre Communities Capital Fund in November last year.

FWMSA secretary Sarah Kennedy said: 'We had a few hoops to jump through - Marine Scotland, Planning Permission, approval from Highland Council to attach to their car park - which did delay things somewhat.'

The project was then delayed until now due to the requirement for low tides, but the

area has now been prepared and H-beams and pontoons are currently being installed.

As well as giving a huge thanks to Brian Kearney and Norrie MacLean who originally set up the association, Ms Kennedy said: 'Thanks to Callum Boyd from Boyd Bros and The Underwater Centre who were at site on the huge barge with diggers on it last week. Thanks to Gael Force for provision and installation of pontoons, bridge and shore frame, and TSL for preparing the shore side work. Thanks to Hugh Logan Engineering Limited for guard rails, Boyd Bros for anchors/chains/buoys, Donationboxes.co.uk and All Round Signs.'

FWMSA expects to have the pontoons open for business in around two weeks time and a donation box will be installed, with a charge of £2 per half-hour. Berthing and overnight stays will be prohibited.

The organisation has plans for a grand opening in the summer.

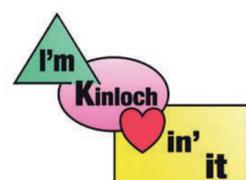
## Kinlochleven pupils' hard work pays off as social enterprise scoops £3,000

THIRD-YEAR pupils at Kinlochleven High School have been participating in the Youth Philanthropy Initiative this year. Sponsored by the Wood Trust, the project encourages youngsters to understand the important work of local charities in their communities.

The students split into seven small groups and selected a local OSCR (Scottish Charity Regulator) registered social issue charity.

Each group then researched their chosen charity and paid them a visit and spoke to the people running the charity. They did this both during school time and in their own time.

One of the groups included pupils Morgan Nicolson, Holly Mackenzie and Freyja Ward, who were researching Kinlochlovin', a new social enterprise that was set up to benefit all the young



people of the Kinlochleven catchment area.

The girls said: 'Visiting our charities gave us a much greater understanding of the work they do in our community.'

At the final, the groups all made presentations in front of S1, S2 and their fellow S3 students, as well as teachers, charity representatives and, of course, judges.

Morgan, Holly and Freyja said afterwards: 'It was very

nerve-racking as we all wanted to do well and show the charities we had chosen that we care passionately about them.'

Other charities represented by the student groups were Newstart Highland, Room 13, Lochaber Council on Alcohol, the Leven Community Centre, The Salvation Army and Lochaber Hope.

The Kinlochlovin' group won and were awarded £3,000 for their chosen charity.

The girls said: 'Afterwards we were very happy and surprised. It became very surreal that we had won, going up to hold the cheque and having Mrs Machin, our head teacher, Mrs McBride the history teacher - and the Kinlochlovin' representative started crying with joy.'

'All three of us had worked so hard to achieve something we would be really proud of, and to win was such a rush.'

## Community council news round-up

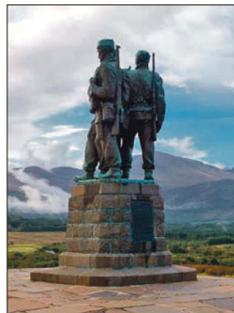
SPEAN Bridge, Roy Bridge and Achnacarry Community Council held its monthly meeting recently.

A number of items came under discussion with roadworks top of the agenda.

A representative from BEAR Scotland updated the Community Council about plans to resurface a section of the A82 north of Inverglo, and about road works at Inverloch junction, which began on Sunday and are due to run until April 29, to replace the existing junction with a mini roundabout.

The meeting was told that no progress has been made regarding secretary John Fotheringham request for a safety risk assessment audit on the Telford Bridge.

The chairman reported back on a meeting he had with the local community services manager, who had assured



The feasibility study on toilets at the Commando Memorial are scheduled to be completed on time.

him that both Leanachan and Kilmonivaig Church roads will be prioritised for recycling or machine repair when the funding becomes available.

Problems with potholes were reported in Spean Crescent and Altour Road in Spean Bridge, and underneath the railway bridge in Glenspean Park in Roy Bridge. The view was that this needs immediate attention to prevent further deterioration.

A drainage issue on the B8004 is currently under investigation with BT.

The chairman praised Alan Robinson on his work to clear litter on A82 verges south of Spean Bridge to Aonachan Crossroads.

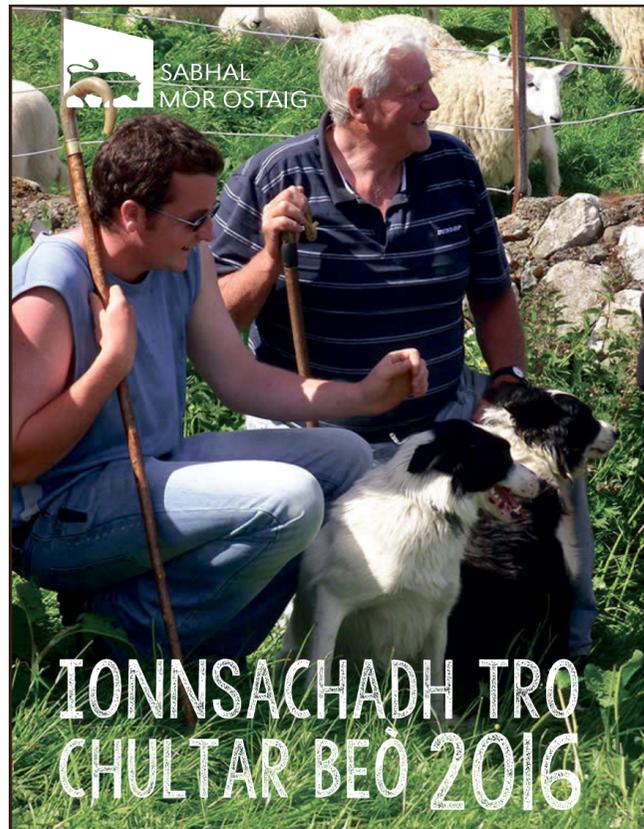
Also on the agenda was the welcome news that Vodaphone's Rural Open Sure Signal scheme to provide 3G internet connections to rural areas is now live in the Spean Bridge area. The chairman thanked all those involved in making this happen.

An update was given about progress on plans for the public toilets at the Commando

Memorial at Spean Bridge. Community councillors have had the opportunity to view plans of the proposed toilets and discussions are ongoing. The feasibility study should be completed on time.

The community council chairman also gave a report from the National LEADER (Links Between Activities Developing the Rural Economy) Conference in March, which he attended on behalf of the council.

Spean Bridge Community Centre's application to the Climate Challenge Fund was successful and a project to lower CO2 emissions is planned. This will involve working in each of the community's villages and two posts will be created. The project's aims will be to raise awareness about energy efficiency, home-grown produce and promoting greener transport and travel.



## LEARNING THROUGH LIVING CULTURE GÀIDHLIG IN FLODIGARRY, ISLE OF SKYE

20 - 24/06/2016 & 22-26/08/2016

An co-bhoinn ri Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, tha Urras Baile Fhìòdaigearraidh a' cur dà chùrsa air bhonn ann an 2016. 'S e cùrsa fad 5 làithean a th' ann le foghlam sa bhàr a-muigh is bùithtean-obrach a-staigh.

Tha na cùrsaichean ag amas air luchd-ionnsachaidh na Gàidhlig a tha aig ìre meadhanach àrd air no adhartach, (m.e. SMO ìre 6 no nas àirde). Chaidh an cùrsa seo a chur air chois airson luchd-ionnsachaidh na Gàidhlig a th' aig na h-ìrean seo a tha airson an sgilean labhairt is litreachais a leasachadh. 'S e cothrom fìor mhath a th' ann airson cuid eòlais air litreachas, eachdraidh is cultar ceann-a-tuath an Eilein Sgitheanaich fhaighinn ann an teis-meadhan na coimhearsnachd brioghmhoir Gàidhlig seo.

In partnership with Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, Flodigarry Township Trust are running two of these community based courses in 2016. The 5-day residential course is designed for advanced learners of Gaelic who wish to improve their oral and literary skills as well as deepen their knowledge of Gaelic literature, history and culture in the heart of a thriving Gaelic community in North Skye. The week includes a mixture of tutors and contributors with outdoor education and class-based workshops.

The course will also look at the local Gaelic speaking crofting community, its traditions and current practices, as well as some of the issues the people here face as a community. The course will be conducted in Gaelic and gives a unique experience and chance to meet people with a wealth of knowledge of their area and to hear the daily Gaelic spoken by the local community.

For bookings or further information on these courses or to find out more about our full list of summer courses, please contact :

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## Viewpoint

The Oban Times  
& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Established 1861 No 8216

The news this week that a Fatal Accident Inquiry is to be held into the death of fisherman Scott MacAlister, who was lost at sea after the creel boat he was working alone on sank, will be welcomed by his family and friends.

The 40-year-old father of three was lost, presumed drowned, after reporting to the coastguard that his boat was taking in water. It went down off Easdale island on

April 25 2013. On Monday, the family will mark the third anniversary.

They spoke to *The Oban Times* in January, backing a call by Michael Russell, prospective Scottish parliamentary candidate for Argyll and Bute, for an inquiry.

Let us hope this breakthrough will give them the answers they seek and help them gain closure after what must have been a very distressing three years.



## Days gone by – Cairndow Trials, Ardkinglass, August 1977

This week's flashback photograph comes from the files of *The Oban Times*. It features Catriona Baker, aged seven, proudly displaying the cup her father won at the Cairndow Trials held at Ardkinglass in August 1976. The prizes were presented by Lady Glenkinglass. Digital versions of flashback photos for *The Oban Times* can be sent to editor@obantimes.co.uk or prints sent to the editor, *The Oban Times*, PO Box 1, Oban PA34 4HB. Anyone who wishes a print returned should include a stamped-addressed envelope.

## Glasgow Letter

ROBERT ROBERTSON  
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## Trail West begin work on new album

THE TRAIL West boys have a second album in the pipeline.

I was part of a group of a dozen people who piled into a small studio in Glasgow to put backing vocals on their horo-gheallaidh track – a big set of sing-along Gaelic waltzes, with the bagpipes coming in at the end, which is going to be an absolute cracker.

The track is aptly named – it was some horo-gheallaidh we had in the studio. I'm sure I'm not the only one who still counts their last album, *The One that Got Away*, amongst my most played CDs, so I'm really looking forward to hearing their new one once they have it recorded.

## The life of a reel

ON THE subject of Trail West, I heard a lovely story recently from Bernie Smith, father of the band's accordionist Ian.

About 20 years ago, when Ian was a young lad, he used to love listening to a programme called 'Thuath Cheòl' from the Grand Ole Opry in Glasgow, presented by Donnie Finlayson.

In one episode, Donnie's pipe band at the time, Kinning Park, performed a reel that Ian, as a young toddler, couldn't stop humming.

When Donnie visited Tír, Bernie told him of young Ian's enthusiasm for the tune and asked him the name of it.

'You, of all people, should know the name of that tune!' Donnie said. 'It's *Captain Lachlann Macphail of Tír*!'

Bernie then got Donnie to sign an autograph so that he could take it home to Ian, who was delighted.

Fast forward 19 years and Bernie met Donnie again. They both recalled the autograph that Donnie had signed for young Ian almost two decades previously.

Bernie then handed Donnie a Trail West CD which contained the very



Ian Smith of Trail West holding his framed 20-year-old autograph from Donnie Finlayson and Donnie holding his signed Trail West CD.

tune, *Captain Lachlann Macphail of Tír*, that had inspired Ian all those years ago.

Donnie once again signed it for Ian – knowing that his music 20 years before had inspired a new musical legacy.

Without wanting to be too philosophical about a story that Bernie and Donnie told me in good craic, I would consider this a perfect example of how the music of the highlands will be kept alive by its undying ability to be passed on down the generations.

I dare say there are small children listening to the very same reel right now who look up to Ian and the boys in the same way Ian looked up to Donnie Finlayson.

Long may that cycle continue.

## What's on

**Friday April 29:** Glasgow Uist and Barra Association ceildh dance, Crawford Hall, Beith Street.

**Friday April 29:** An evening with Stirling Gaelic Choir, a celebration with Chic Bonar, with Pink Champagne and Fiona Johnston, 7.30pm, Victoria Hall, Dunblane. Tickets £8/£6. **Saturday April 30:** Glasgow Sky Association Annual Spring Concert (Wee Sky), Crawford Hall. **Tuesday May 10:** Glasgow Lewis and Harris Association annual general meeting, An Leanag.

## Pub scene

**Park Bar:** Friday April 22 – Eriskay Lit. Saturday April 23 – Donald Macrae and Robert Nairn.

## Press policy

WE AT *The Oban Times* endeavour to ensure that all our reports are fair and accurate and comply with the Editors' Code of Practice set by the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO). We realise, however, that mistakes happen from time to time.

If you think we have made a significant mistake and you wish to discuss this with us, please let us know as soon as possible by any of the three methods: emailing editor@obantimes.co.uk; telephoning the editor on 01631 568046; writing to the Editor at *The Oban Times*,

Crannog Lane, Lochavullin estate, Oban, PA34 4HB.

We will attempt to resolve your issue in a timely, reasonable and amicable manner. However, if you are unsatisfied with our response, you can contact IPSO, which will investigate the matter. You can

either telephone IPSO on 0300 123 2220 or email inquiries@ipso.co.uk. IPSO is an independent body which deals with complaints from the public about the editorial content of newspapers and magazines.

We will abide by the decision of IPSO.

## Memorial plan not without precedence

Sir, The proposal to move the Glencoe and Ballachulish War memorial is not without precedence, *The Oban Times* April 14.

In the 1970s, I was involved with fellow district councillor Mrs Jessie MacInnes in a project to move it to the village location.

The entire cost was going to be met by John Yeoman of Foster Yeoman Limited, Glensanda Quarry, who had a small depot in the area with the appropriate heavy-lifting equipment. The relocation, however, was halted at the last minute when it was made known to us that the ashes of a number of ex-service men had been deposited around it.

The memorial, which was evidently placed to be near the church and visible from a wide area, was unveiled on August 4, 1923 to coincide with the anniversary of the start of the First World War. The honour was given to Colonel Ian Campbell of Airds (1870-1954) CBE, the distinguished and highly-decorated commanding officer of the 8th (Argyllshire) Battalion of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

It was a beautiful summer's day. A large crowd, including padres and ministers of five denominations, came from miles around. No less than five pipers marched slowly round the monument at the close of the ceremony solemnly playing the *Flowers of the Forest*.

The proposed new site has many advantages but out of respect for the men who gave their lives for the district and to their families who requested that their ashes be laid to rest there, surely it is incumbent on those now involved to ensure they are not forgotten.

If the monument is in poor condition, the Highland Council has an obligation to repair both it and the site.

Iain Thornber, Morvern, Argyll.

## Urgent call for delay to child scheme

Sir, The Named Person scheme staggers from crisis to crisis but Nicola Sturgeon stubbornly refuses to listen to those opposed to it.

Now teachers, one of the main 'guardians' have warned that they will not perform the role at weekends or during school holidays.

This will result in councils' already under-pressure health visitors having to take on thousands of additional cases.

Those against the Named Person scheme have pointed out that this makes a mockery of the idea of "a single point of contact".

A similar scheme, 'Every Child Matters' (ECM) introduced in 2010 in the Isle of Man, was a costly disaster.

In 2013, Tristram Llewelyn Jones a Manx child liberties campaigner, warned Holyrood's Education and Culture Committee of the serious problems experienced with ECM.

He was ignored. The government must delay the scheme to enable a proper analysis

## Beachd Ailein

ALLAN CAMPBELL  
ailean@obantimes.co.uk

BIDH co-fhaireachadh aig daoine feadh na dùthcha ris an fheadhainn a tha a' fulang ri linn nan trioblaidhean a th' air nochdadh a thaobh cuid de thogalaichean sgoiltean ann an Dùn Èideann.

Gu follaiseach tha an suidheachadh doirbh dhan chloinn fhèin is am beatha làitheil agus an cuid foghlaim air a chur troimhe-chèile, agus tha uallach shònraichte air na parantan a tha aig cosnadh agus a dh'fheumas cùram-cloinne a bharrachd a lorg. Ach tha oifigich agus buill Chomhairle Bhaile Dhùn Èideann cuideachd a' dèiligeadh ri an t-àrainneachd a' feuchainn ri dleasan fòglaim a chòileanadh às aonais mhòran de na togalaichean a th' air an ciallachadh airson nan seirbheisean oideachaidh sin a libhrigeadh.

Ann an saoghal a' fhaicheadh phoilitigs cha b' e annas a bh' ann gun do thòisich cuid a' càineadh an t-siostam maoinneachaidh a chaidh a chleachdadh gus na togalaichean a chur suas, agus a' coireachadh sin airson nan uireasbaidhean a chaidh an lorg anna. Ach saoilidh mise nach eil sin idir ceart agus gum feumar cuimseachadh air an luchd-



The council has previously repaired potholes and damaged road surfaces at the crossroads on Soroba Road by the high school, but constant wear and tear means the road again needs urgent action.

of the risks and costs to take place.  
Clark Cross, Linlithgow.

## A816 requires more than quick patch-up

Sir, I regularly drive on the A816 between Oban and Lochgilhead and then on to Campbeltown on the A83, and it is like navigating the moon's surface having to avoid the many potholes on what can be a long journey at the best of times.

The large number of potholes make this drive quite dangerous as many are on tight bends and an unsuspecting motorist driving into one of these at 60mph could easily have an accident.

Soroba Road, particularly at the traffic lights at the high school; the stretches between Kilniver and Kilmelford; and between Kennacraig and Campbeltown are notably bad. It's not the first time I've hit a pothole and damaged my alloy wheel rim, giving myself a flat tyre in the process. No-one likes a flat tyre, but given that many cars no longer have spare wheels, getting one on these rural roads later in the evening where often there is only patchy – if any – mobile phone signal is a pretty stressful experience. Repairs usually end up being quite costly too.

I appreciate the council's budgets have been hit hard, but both the council and BEAR Scotland have responsibilities to maintain these roads. And given the level of freight transport as well as domestic traffic on these routes, the infrequent patching that is carried out is a waste of tax payers money.

It's time the roads were maintained properly, particularly as we head into a busy tourist season, when our roads will have to cope with holiday traffic.

Name and address supplied.

## Rural areas paying the price of centralisation

Sir, The National Health Service in Scotland is changing.

Centralisation is taking place and the friendly staff at the hospital in Oban and Lochgilhead, for whom we should be so grateful, are being further limited in the scope of their services, it seems.

Ailean Caimbeul

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

ceàird agus na proifeiseantaich a bha an urra ris an obair phractaigeach. Gun teagamh bidh ceistean cruaidh rim freagairt a thaobh cò ris a bha e an urra sùil làitheil a chumail air mar a bha an obair ga dèanamh agus ciamar a bha an smachd sin ga chur an gnìomh air na làraich fa leth. Cha leigeadh ailtirean is innleadairean dealbhadh thogalaichean air adhart far nach robh cùisean gu bhith sàbhailte agus a rèir riaghailtean stèidhichte. Tha e cuideachd doirbh dhòmhsa a chreidsinn gun cuireadh clachair cogaiseach proifeiseanta sam bith obair às a dhèidh nach robh ceart! 'S fheàrr a' ghàrr na ealain tha se-anfhacal ag ràdh agus a' comhradh ri brathair-cèile a tha ri ciallachadh chuir e beagan uamhais orm cluinnintinn bhuaite gum bheil mòran obrach thogail ga dhèanamh gun shùil smachdachaidh ga chumail air. Chuir e nam shealladh cuideachd gum faod fear-stiùiridh làrach thogail buaidh a thoirt air mar a nì leithid clachairean le bhith a' diùltadh cheanglaichean iomchaidh a thoirt dhaibh airson an cleachdadh sna ballaichean, neo fìu 's innse dhai-bh nach leig iad a leas ceanglaichean

a chleachdadh idir! Ann an leithid sin de shuidheachadh, diùltaidh cuid gabhail ri comhairle den t-seòrsa ach nì feadhainn mar a dh'iarraidh orra ged a tha fios aca nach eil an obair sàbhailte!

'S e an rud as draghaile mun sgeulachd seo gum bheil, a rèir coltais, dìth cheanglaichean anns na ballaichean air nochdadh ann an uimhir de thogalaichean eadar-dhealaichte agus mar sin a' cur an intinn luchd-amhairc gun robh am modh-obrach seo mar chleachdadh àbhaisteach aig a' bhuidheann togail. Ma tha sin fìor, chan iad na sgoiltean seo a-mhàin a bhios rin sgrùdadh is an leasachadh ach 's dòcha iomadach rud eile a thog iad cuideachd!

IT IS DIFFICULT to believe that professional tradesmen would omit the installation of appropriate wall-ties when building Edinburgh schools.

It is even harder to understand how the site supervision expected on such major contracts allowed such practice to continue.

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

## 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.

## Small Isles ferry gains top marks for food

CALMAC'S Small Isles ferry has become the latest in the fleet to achieve Taste Our Best status.

MV Lochnevis, which plies the route to the Isles of Rum, Eigg, Muck and Canna, is the latest to gain the thumbs up for her culinary prowess. The accreditation programme is run by VisitScotland and all 10 of CalMac's major vessels gained the accreditation last year.

The scheme allows customers to easily identify and trust establishments which meet the criteria of serving a minimum of 40 per cent Scottish provenance ingredients within their menus.

All eleven of CalMac's vessels which hold the award are serving more than 50 per cent Scottish produce on their menus.

Passengers on board can tuck in to the likes of Barra-landed haddock or cod, Argyll Smokery salmon salad, Stornoway black pudding, Ardgay venison burger or Lockerbie macaroni cheese.

The award sees the Mariners cafes join such illustrious company as Gleneagles in Perthshire, Martin Wishart at both Edinburgh and Loch Lomond, and The Ubiquitous Chip in Glasgow, which are also Taste Our Best accredited.

When CalMac's 10 major vessels picked up the award last year, it became the first ferry company to take VisitScotland's 'Taste Our Best' seal of approval to the high seas.

CalMac's Retail Development Manager Gordon Smith said: 'It is really important for us to serve and promote good home-grown food, drink, products, talent and opportunities on board our ships when we can.'

'We have worked hard to put together a menu which not only satisfies our hungry customers, but which is value for money.'

# Marine Harvest leads the way with hi-tech wellboat

**KATIE CARABINE**  
fort@obantimes.co.uk

A NEW wellboat has been launched for Marine Harvest at Corpach pier.

The ship was officially named *Inter Caledonia* by Eli Torassen, now designated the ship's 'Godmother', during a ceremony watched by representatives from the local community, suppliers and staff.

After the naming ceremony there was an 'open boat' when people got on board to see round the vessel.

The wellboat is 70m long and her 200m<sup>3</sup> capacity will be used to carry up to 300 tonnes of live fish. It uses reverse osmosis technology to prevent a variety of fish diseases such as Amoebic Gill Disease (AGD), which can occur in above-normal water temperatures. Natural methods are also used to eradicate sea lice.

The reverse osmosis technology involves turning seawater into freshwater and this will be done at such a rate as to fill the

“This is a major step forward.”

**Ben Hadfield**  
Managing director

ship's wells completely every 10 hours, bathing the fish in fresh water and treating them 24/7.

Ben Hadfield, managing director of Marine Harvest Scotland, said: 'This is a major step forward for Marine Harvest and part of our drive to deliver an efficient and sustainable industry.'

'The industry has used wellboats before for this purpose but they have always had to pump the fresh water on to the boat. This is the first that combines the entire operation within the vessel.'

He added: 'It's a great new tool for us and we're sure it will



Above: 'Godmother' of the new boat Eli Torassen with Havarud Grontvedt after the naming ceremony at Corpach pier.

Marine Harvest managing director Ben Hadfield, centre, with Eli Torassen and Havarud Grontvedt. Photographs by Iain Ferguson, The Write Image.

reap rewards for us by helping us maintain our fish in peak condition.'

Havarud Grontvedt, chairman of Intership AS, the owners of the *Inter Caledonia* which will be leased to Marine Harvest Scotland, said: 'We expect to set a new standard within the wellboat industry with *Inter Caledonia*, specially when it comes to fish density, gentle fish handling and hygiene.'

'With the freshwater production plant, the vessel will be a very efficient and environmentally friendly tool for the treatment of sea lice and AGD.'

*Inter Caledonia* will be used to treat fish on all the company's salmon farms across the west coast of Scotland and the Western Isles.

Marine Harvest has placed emphasis on developing natural solutions to challenges such as sea lice and as well as the fresh water in the wellboat they have started growing wrasse, natural predators of sea lice, on their farms.



Alistair MacPherson ran 120 miles from Portree to Inverness to raise more than £16,500 for Maggie's Centres.

## Portree man pounds out 120 miles to raise £16,500 for cancer care centre

ALISTAIR MacPherson, known locally as 'Ally K', has completed a 120-mile run from his hometown Portree on Skye to the Maggie's Highlands centre at Raigmore Hospital in Inverness.

The aim was to help raise awareness of the great work that Maggie's does with cancer patients and their families and to date he has raised more than £16,500 for the charity.

He left from Portree at midnight last Wednesday (April 6) and ran continuously over two

days, arriving at the Maggie's centre Friday lunchtime.

Commenting on the experience, Alistair said: 'The first night was okay. I was in good shape all the way round. But I hit low points on the second night. It's hard on your body, going two nights without sleep so I felt it a lot then.'

He went on: 'But I had a really good support team looking after me. I had a physiotherapist and a nutritionist. I had the best support and care, so when I hit a low point they gave me

caffeine or tablets to keep me going.'

'Once daylight came up we were nearly in Beaulieu and I perked right up, got a new lease of life.'

'I put in a good performance from there to Inverness,' he added.

Alistair and his team split the run into five mile sections to allow them to stop for food.

There was a lot of public support for Alistair as he ran the last few miles through Inverness to Maggie's, with

people lining the streets and cheering him on.

The Co-operative in Portree provided food and fuel for the support team, while Alistair had his organised by the nutritionist on the team.

Scotland's biggest running store, Run For It, provided trainers, waterproof socks and various types of nutrition for the cause.

To donate, visit Alistair's Ally K Runs Skye to Maggie's Just Giving page at [www.justgiving.com/skyetomaggies](http://www.justgiving.com/skyetomaggies).

## TIMESLINE

### More Sunday buses announced

SCOTTISH Citylink is to increase the number of Sunday bus services between Fort William and Inverness from next month.

The summer timetable, which comes into effect on Monday May 23, will see the 12.15pm Sunday service from Fort William replaced with a 10.45am service. There will also be a bus leaving Inverness at 10.45am and one leaving Fort William at 4.45pm on Sundays under the new timetable.

### Police recover harbour body

POLICE Scotland has confirmed a body has been found in Mallaig Harbour.

The body was recovered during a search for missing man David Chamberlain, 44, who was last seen leaving the Marine Hotel's bar on Saturday April 9. The police have yet to confirm whether or not the body is that of Mr Chamberlain, but have released a statement saying the identity will be confirmed once next of kin have been notified.

### Cash to help pool with insulation

MALLAIG and District Swimming Pool has received £500 to support its efforts to make the facility more energy efficient.

HWenergy donated the cash, which will be used to improve the heating system insulation.

Mallaig swimming pool has been working closely with Lochaber Environment Group and Resource Efficient Scotland over the past 18 months to improve energy efficiency.

Brian O'Rourke, Pool Manager at Mallaig Swimming Pool said: 'With support from Resource Efficient Scotland we have completed a full audit of the energy systems. These reports have given us a better understanding of the problems with the current energy systems and identified what measures are needed to improve them.'



Made in Lochaber members with their new map.

## Made in Lochaber point the way to arts

MADE in Lochaber has this week launched its 'Lochaber Trail Guide to Arts'.

Aimed at visitors, the guide will promote local arts in crafts in the Lochaber area.

Taking the form of a colourful map, it shows routes across Lochaber, outwith the populated Fort William centre.

The map details the best tourists attractions, sports activities, art galleries and music events in the area to entice visitors and locals to explore the area. Made in Lochaber consists of artist, craft

workers and food producers, who have come together to raise awareness of the diversity of what Lochaber has to offer visitors.

Speaking at the launch ceremony in the Ariundle Centre in Strontian, Made in Lochaber secretary, Joanne Matheson said: 'We wanted to create an eye catching, informative and quality production that people will keep and visitors will take away as a souvenir, ensuring the message is spread over a wide area for an extended time period.'

We have built on the excellent work of the Lochaber Crafts and Producers Association and now have around 130 members across Lochaber, a number which we are hoping to increase.

'We are a not-for-profit organisation which is all about bringing people together to work for the good of everyone in the business community, helping to promote their work as part of the Made in Lochaber brand and raising awareness of what is available in this area.'

## Residents urged to recycle

LOCHABER Environmental Group is urging residents to recycle more items.

The group is calling on locals to make better use of their blue bins to prevent unnecessary waste being taken to landfill sites.

When recycling, residents are asked to rinse out all items as anything which still contains food waste cannot be recycled.

The following can be put in blue bins: cardboard boxes, toilet roll tubes, egg boxes, cereal boxes, plastic milk bottles, juice bottles, detergent bottles, toiletry bottles, yoghurt pots, coloured food trays - except black - loose plastic bottle lids, newspapers, telephone directories, letters, magazines, greetings cards, envelopes - remove windows - steel tins and aluminium cans.

Plastic bags, plastic film, envelope windows, food wrappers, polystyrene, tissue paper/towel, string, wire and contaminated takeaway boxes should not be recycled in blue bins.

Glass is also not permitted but can be recycled at recycling points.

## Generous mum backs cadets with donation

ONE OF the newest civilian committee members for the 1730 (Lochaber) Squadron Air Training Corps has been independently fundraising for them.

Flo Sinclair, whose daughter Aimee is one of the air cadets, raised £215 for the Squadron by raffling off an Easter Hamper she made herself over the Easter period.

Flo would like to thank Kim at K K Camerons and the staff at the Caol Community Centre for letting her sell raffle tickets.

The money will be put towards funding a trip away for the cadets in summer.



Flo Sinclair, centre, with some of the squadron. Photograph by Anthony MacMillan Photography.

# MAY ISSUE OUT NOW



**Lee McKenzie**  
TALKS AYRSHIRE

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Best of luck to all competitors at the 33rd Highlands and Islands Music and Dance Festival

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# The 33rd Highlands Music & Dance Festival

## OBAN will be buzzing with talent when the town once again plays host to the Highlands and Islands Music and Dance Festival.

The 2016 festival runs from Friday, April 29 to Sunday, May 1. And 2016 promises to be the biggest year yet, with over 1,110 participants, 125 competition classes in 11 disciplines and new fringe events.

The Highlands and Islands Music and Dance Festival was created in 1984 and featured just four competition categories in its first year. Since then, thousands of people of all ages have participated in competitions and special events at the Festival, which now offers over 125 competition classes in 12 disciplines including piping, accordion, fiddle, clarsach, piano, recorder, woodwind and brass, singing, Scottish country dancing, Highland dancing and choreography. Competitions are held at many venues throughout the town, including St John's Cathedral, Oban High School, the Argyllshire Gathering and the Corran Halls.

The Festival aims to encourage young talent to participate in and develop the traditional and historical art of music and dance of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland.

One of the festival highlights is the Accordion and Fiddle Masters competition, which takes place at St John's Cathedral on Friday. Prize-winning fiddle players and accordionists from the main competition championships throughout the country are invited to take part in this unique competition. Accordionists perform a traditional march, strathspey and reel and hornpipe and jig while fiddle players perform a slow air, march, strathspey and reel, followed by a slow strathspey, hornpipe and jig. The evening is now an annual fixture for both competitors and spectators, providing a feast of traditional Scottish music of exceptional quality.

For Highland dancing enthusiasts, the Scottish Area Highland Dancing Finals, which take place at the Corran Halls on Friday, are not to be missed. The very best

dancers from all over of Scotland come together in this spectacular team event. Areas throughout Scotland will each be represented by a team of six dancers who have qualified by their performance at a selected championship or event.

The Scottish Area Finals are not only a competition, they are truly an 'event'. As well as providing an opportunity to enjoy dancers from all corners of this country, this is the only Highland Dancing team competition in the world. This is one of the very top Scottish Highland dance competitions, and is open to all.

On Saturday, Highland dancing competitions run all day at Atlantis Leisure and Corran Halls, with hundreds of dancers from throughout Scotland taking part.

The Scottish Choreography Challenge, which takes place over two days, is one of the true highlights of the Festival weekend. Celebrating its 24th year in 2016, the competition opens in the Corran Halls on Saturday afternoon with teams from throughout the country performing choreographed dance routines. The competition then moves to the Corran Halls on Sunday for a whole day of sensational dancing arranged in three sessions for teams of dancers aged 12 years and under, 16 years and under and 17 years and over. This is a most spectacular team event with the highest standard of choreographed highland dancing, tremendous music and fantastic costumes being enjoyed by a capacity audience. Teams of dancers compete for the prestigious title using innovative dance routines, which incorporate traditional highland dancing steps. Participants make full use of sound, lighting, costume, scenery and special effects to create a spectacle worthy of national recognition.

In addition to the competitions, there will be the ever-popular Festival Parade when Mid Argyll Pipe Band and Helensburgh Pipe Band will depart from the Corran Halls

at 2.30pm and parade through the town to Station Square where they will give a performance.

The busy day of competitions at venues throughout Oban on Saturday culminates in the 'Concert of Champions' at the Corran Halls, which will showcase champions from the festival. Following the concert, there is the annual Festival Fling dance at the Corran Halls, which is a firm favourite with locals and visitors alike. Due to the popularity of the dance, tickets are already very limited, so booking in advance is advised to avoid disappointment.

The Festival gratefully acknowledges the support it receives each year from a range of organisations and companies, without which it would not be possible to present the event. The Festival is a non-profit-making organisation with charitable status, and is organised by a volunteer committee. The Festival is self-funding through fundraising, grants, charitable donations, sponsorship, entry fees and box office income.

### Tickets

Tickets for music competitions, Fiddle and Accordion Masters and highland dancing competitions at Atlantis Leisure are available at the door of the venues. Tickets for the Concert of Champions, Festival Fling dance, Scottish Area Finals and Scottish Choreography Challenge are available by phoning the Festival Office on 07510 841198. Please book early to avoid disappointment, as tickets for the Corran Halls dance events are in high demand.



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For more information contact Victoria Maclean  
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EventScotland

**Highlands & Islands Music & Dance Festival 2016 Diary**

Scotland The Perfect Stage  
 Argyll & Bute Council

**Friday 29th April 2016**  
 Action Songs, Choirs, Ensemble, Recorder, Singing.....Corran Halls  
 Accordion & Fiddle Masters.....St John's Cathedral  
 Scottish Area Finals.....Atlantis Leisure

**Saturday 30th April 2016**  
 Accordion.....St. Columba's Cathedral Hall  
 Woodwind & Brass.....Congregational Church  
 (please note change of venue)  
 Fiddle.....Regent Hotel  
 Highland Dancing.....Atlantis Leisure and Corran Halls  
 Singing.....Glencruitten Church and Church Centre  
 Festival Family Dance 'Festival Fling'.....Argyllshire Gathering Hall

**Sunday 1st May**  
 Scottish Choreography Challenge.....Corran Halls

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# Highlands & Islands Music and Dance Festival 2016



## DIOPLÒMA ANNS NA MEADHANAN GÀIDHLIG

Chaidh an cùrsa seo a dhealbhadh airson luchd-trèanaidh ullachadh airson saoghal craolaidh an latha an-diugh. Tha oileanaich air a' chùrsa a' faighinn sàr eòlas is brosnachadh bho na diofar òraidichean a bhios a' tadhal orra, a tha ag obair gu proifeiseanta sa gnìomhachais, agus 's ann a sior fhàs a tha na cothroman an lùib a' chùrsa ionmholtas seo.

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“Bha na sgilean a dh'ionnsaich mi air a' chiad bhliadhna deatamach dhan ghrèis-ghnìomhachais air an dàrna bliadhna, agus bi iad feumail dhomh fad mo bheatha phroifeiseanta. Mholainn-sa a' chùrsa seo do dhuine sam bith aig a bheil ùidh anns na meadhanan Gàidhlig.”

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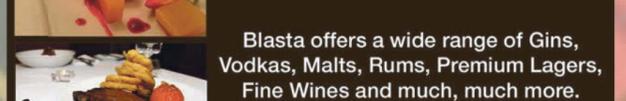
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BEST OF LUCK TO EVERYONE COMPETING



## Highlands and Islands Music and Dance Festival present...The Highland Fling 2016!!

### Friday events (29th April)

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Markie Dans, Victoria Crescent, Corran Esplanade Oban. Crooked Reel.  
Tel: 01631 564 448

The Olive Garden, Railway Pier, Oban. Ceilidh Supper with Peat Reak.  
Tel: 01631 570 347

The Loch Melfort Hotel, Arduaine, By Oban. Live Music from 9pm - 1am.  
Tel: 01852 200 233

### Saturday Events (30th April)

Creagin Inn, Appin. Rough Edges. (60s & 70s pop & Rock) 8.30pm  
Tel: 01631 730 250

Oban Chocolate Shop, 34 Corran Esplanade Oban. Live music 11 am - 5pm.  
Tel: 01631 566 099

Cuan Mor, 60 George St, Oban. Live music in the evening. Tel: 016531 565 078

The Royal Hotel, Argyll Square, Oban. Scottish Show.  
Tel: 01631 563 021

Markie Dans, Victoria Crescent, Corran Esplanade Oban. Hell for Leather.  
Tel: 01631 564 448

Poppies Garden Centre Restaurant Saulmore Shore, by Oban. Live Music throughout the day. Tel: 01631 565 718

The Barn Bar, Cologin Country Chalets and Lodges, Leraigs, Oban. Stafford Street. Outdoor showcase with live music, outdoor broadcast etc. 12pm - 4pm.

Family Ceilidh, Argyllshire Gathering Halls, Beadallbane St, Oban.

### Sunday events (1st May)

Grass Café, 1 Craigard Road, Oban. Live Music 12pm-4pm. Tel: 01631 566 143

The Barn Bar, Cologin Country Chalets and Lodges, Leraigs, Oban.

Live music in the afternoon. Tel: 01631 564 618

Oban Chocolate Shop, 34 Corran Esplanade Oban. Live music 11 am - 5pm.  
Tel: 01631 566 099

Workshops: Oban High School, 10am - 4pm (£10 cost). 07540 057 804

Gaelic Singing - Mary-Catherine MacNeil

Accordion - Clare Jordan

Fiddle - Deirdre Beck

Pipes/Chanter/Whistle - Struan Thorpe

Guitar - Robert Robertson

Other venues to be confirmed

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# Out and about

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*The Oban Times*, the local newspaper for the West Highlands and Islands, has had a base in Lochavullin for decades and was one of the first businesses to open premises on the estate.

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# Arena

## Margaret is voted Angel of the year

OBAN volunteer carer Margaret MacLeod has been named Angel of the Year, in *The Oban Times'* annual award recognising people who have made a real difference in their community.

Brenda Laird, who nominated Margaret, paid tribute to her years of service, saying: 'You are an angel without wings. Thanks from so many people. Luckily we managed to keep my father-in-law at home for five years with Margaret's help. She would go way beyond to help in difficult circumstances. Every day she helps neighbours - doing shopping, washing, gardening, and picking up elderly folk for appointments. There's so much more to this woman and she never expects any reward.'

After a panel judged 72-year-old Margaret the 2016 winner, editor Susan Windram congratulated her with a £500 cheque, trophy and certificate on Thursday, saying: 'It's very well-deserved. You should be proud of yourself.'

Margaret promised to 'treat the kids' with the prize money, referring to her five grandchildren, Kimberley, Kaitlynn, Fearn, Fergus and three-week-old baby, Faith.

Margaret, an auxiliary nurse for 32 years, recalled how her second career began 17 years ago: 'I started helping families to look after their loved ones. A girl was looking for a carer for her father-in-law, and she asked if I would do it until they found somebody. Well, I was with him for 10 years. He was in sheltered housing and it was word of mouth after that.'

She began caring full-time when she retired 11 years ago, and has now helped up to 40 people. 'The families needed help and I was there,' she explained. 'Some people had no family living here, and I just wanted to see they were being looked after. It's just bits and bobs. I saw to any needs they had. I love doing it. I feel I'm useful. I feel I'm there when I'm needed. When they're happy, I'm happy.'

Margaret also paid tribute to the support of her late husband Campbell MacLeod.

'I was very lucky that my husband, Campbell, had a great nature,' she said. 'If any of these people weren't well, and I had to look after them overnight, he never minded: he would just go with it.'

Their daughter Mhairi added: 'I'm so proud of her. She's just a very caring, sensitive, sensible person. We're very lucky.'

The two runners up, who each won £100, were Sandra Michie of Ballachulish, described by her nominee and husband Ken Michie as 'an amazing woman'.

He explained: 'Sandra is a full-time mum caring for her daughters aged 13 and 22. Our oldest daughter has learning difficulties, so she needs a lot of help, and she also looks after me as I have lots of health problems. Sandra also runs a charity called Love in a Box Lochaber which provides gifts to families at Christmas.'

The other runner-up is Elizabeth MacLean of Bunessan, Mull, nominated by Sandra Morrison. 'Elizabeth is a wonderful worker,' she said. 'She is an elder of the Church of Scotland, never misses a Sunday at church, and sometimes takes the service if there is no minister. She does a coffee morning every Friday for the church, and is a fantastic baker. She also works very hard raising money for the Oban Hospice and Animal Aid.'

'She runs whist drives, bingo nights and sales of work, up till all hours baking, hardly seeing her bed.'

'So much of her own time and money is dedicated to this and she never takes a penny back for her costs. Elizabeth will help anyone out at any time. She will be there for you.'



## Wildlife expert to talk of her life with elephants

ANTHROPOLOGIST Saba Douglas Hamilton, the TV presenter for the BBC wildlife series *Big Cat Diaries* and *This Wild Life*, comes to Oban's Corran Halls this month, on a UK tour of her talk, *A Life with Elephants*, writes Sandy Neil.

Her show, billed as 'an evening of exciting animal stories and intimate behind-the-scenes tales of life in Kenya with her young family', takes place on Tuesday April 26 at 7.30pm. Saba's story begins in Kenya where she was born and grew up, the daughter of zoologist Iain Douglas Hamilton.

She was named by local Masai women as 'Saba': the Swahili word for 'seven', since she was the seventh grandchild, born at 7pm on Sunday, June 7. Her sister Mara Moon, a film producer, is also nicknamed 'Dudu', or 'insect'.

Reserve, in Kenya's Great Rift Valley. There, she was talent-spotted by the BBC and begun her life as a TV presenter and producer of wildlife documentaries.

Most recently Saba has joined sports presenter Gary Lineker, ex-England cricketer David Gower and wildlife film-maker Simon King as an honorary vice president of the David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation, which funds projects in Africa and Asia saving critically endangered mammals in the wild.

The conservation charity's CEO Sally Case said: 'With Africa's wildlife in crisis this collaboration signals our commitment to work with other charities and experts in the field for the survival of iconic species like the elephant. Our shared support to protect Zambia's elephants is just one example of our shared passions.'

Saba lives near Nairobi, next door to a giraffe sanctuary, with her husband Frank Pope and their three young children: Selkie, Luna Giselle and Mayian Soleil. The couple run the luxury tented eco-lodge Elephant Watch Camp, which became the subject of a 10-part BBC series *This Wild Life* last autumn.

Her other TV series include *Prehistoric Park*, *Heart of a Lioness*, and *The Secret Life of Elephants*, and her UK tour *A Life with Elephants* culminates on May 3 at the London Royal Geographical Society Ondaatje Theatre and Map Room.

## Music with Jonathan Rimmer



OBAN rockers The Signal Fires have begun work on their new EP at Dunbeg Studios.

Having played their last Oban show of the year at Markie Dans on Saturday, the band say that they are turning their attentions towards recording over the next few months.

Though the four-piece initially formed as a covers band, they started writing and recording their own material last year. Their debut single *Ignorance is Bliss* was released in September, followed by *Ignite Our Fears* in December.

'We've reached the stage where we just want to see if we can actually do it,' says front-

man Andy Bruce. 'We were very proud of our first couple of attempts at songwriting and we just want to build on that.'

'Our own material has a harder edge than the cover stuff most people are used to us playing.'

'We are currently working on a track called *Alive*, which looks like it will be our heaviest track to date.'

The band are something of a family concern, with three of the band related, and have built up a reputation as a quality live act over the past few years. However, outside pressures have made it difficult for them to find the time to meet up as a

band. 'Whereas most bands will spend up to weeks in rehearsals, we tend to write and record our own parts separately before bringing it all together in the studio,' says Andy. 'It's not the most efficient way of doing things, which is why it takes us so long to get things done, but for us it works best to bring each song to completion before moving on to the next one.'

'For example, our track, *Alive*, is with our drummer Alex at the moment. He'll record from guide tracks we put in place, then we'll start building the song from there.'

'I prefer this approach because songs evolve from the initial

idea. Instead of rehearsing a song to death, this way keeps everything fresh and exciting.'

The band, who performed tracks by artists as diverse as The Killers and Guns n' Roses on Saturday, are also developing a reputation as adaptable songwriters.

With the help of sound engineer Stuart Mason, they recently completed their first songwriting commission, putting together a track for a private family event.

'They [the family] approached us wanting a song in a specific style for the event,' says Andy.

'We went back and forth with ideas for lyrics on social media

before we started putting the music together.'

'We were very pleased with the results and, more importantly, the family were delighted.'

'It's definitely something we are going to do more of in the future if we get the opportunity.'

Despite not playing any Oban shows, the band are set for several gigs and festivals around Argyll and the Highlands over the coming months, including The Crofter in Fort William, and fringe appearances at both The Mull of Kintyre Music Festival and The Tarbert Music Festival.

The Signal Fires EP is due out later in the year.

## October touchdown for Fort William Comic Con

FORT WILLIAM will be having its first Comic Con and Expo later this year.

Fort Con will be staged by events and promotions company The 57th Parallel in partnership with Highlands Entertainment on the weekend of October 22. Confirmed guests so far include: actors Simon Fisher-Becker, who will be performing his new one-man show; Ian McNiece (*Doctor Who*, *Valkyrie*), and Michael Henbury (*Harry Potter*, *Star Wars*).

Local author Barry Hutchison (*Ben 10*, *Skylanders*) will be doing book signings and running a creative workshop for children.

Exhibitors will include: Cult Empire, Shadowland Games and Chucky Dungeons amongst others.

There will be a variety of events such as a Cosplay Hotshot Contest, and gaming tournaments including Yu-Gi-Oh.

Ben Belton, creator of the event said: 'We had wrongfully assumed that the Highlands is a deterrent because of location. In fact, it is BECAUSE of the Highlands that people want to come here. We live in one of the most beautiful parts of the world and this will become part of the wider marketing campaign. We are also being contacted by celebrities and agents eager to be part of this new event and we are now listed on the major convention sites as something to look forward to.'

The convention will be held in the Nevis Centre and tickets are expected to go on sale in June.

Further information and updates available at [www.fortcon.co.uk](http://www.fortcon.co.uk).

The organising committee, from left: Robbie Jordan, Fiona Jordan, Stewart McMaster, Paul Graham, Jin Huang, Ben Belton.

Photograph: Wade Wilson.



# Arena

> cinema, radio and what's on listings > leisure ideas > local events

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Here John McNulty, Chef-Patron of the Taynuilt Hotel and Restaurant which has just won its second AA Rosette for culinary excellence, shares his recipe for Eggs Benedict – also delicious for lunch or dinner!



**Eggs Benedict:**  
For approx. 12 muffins:

**Ingredients:**  
900g strong white bread flour  
40g yeast  
50ml rapeseed oil  
35g salt  
700ml warm milk

**Method:**  
Combine ingredients and knead for 10 minutes in a mixer until you have a smooth dough. Allow dough to prove for 20 minutes. Roll dough on a clean and lightly floured worktop until 1 inch thick all round. Using a 2 inch cutter cut out muffins, re-roll excess dough and repeat.

Put a heavy bottomed pan on stove on low heat and dust with flour. Once warm, place no more than 5 muffins per pan. Once golden and risen, turn over for another 3-5 minutes. When coloured on both sides finish in the oven at 180° for 7 minutes, remove and place on a cooling rack. To make the Hollandaise sauce you will need:

3 yolks and 1 whole egg  
250g melted butter  
Teaspoonful lemon juice  
Pinch of salt to taste  
Teaspoonful of water

Separate yolks from egg whites into a metal mixing bowl and add whole egg. Add salt, water and lemon juice. Place bowl over a simmering pan of water, trying not to let the bowl touch the water, and whisk until mixture is at the ribbon stage. You want to have pre-melted the butter and slowly begin to incorporate the full amount, whisking as you go. Take care not to split your sauce.

We use our own home ham but you can use any shop-bought ham. At the Taynuilt we like to use a scented wood and just now our choice is broken-down Springbank whisky barrels.

To poach the egg ½ – ¾ fill a pot and add a dash of vinegar. Allow water to boil then reduce to a rolling boil. Stir water and crack egg in to the pot. You want a good soft egg.

If you would like to advertise in The Oban Times Food and Drink section, please call

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## Photographer Jack Lowe visits Tobermory to continue RNLI project

Jack Lowe, photographer and life-long enthusiast of the RNLI, is embarking on an ambitious project to visit all 237 RNLI lifeboat stations, whilst capturing stunning glass images along the way. Over the weekend of April 16/17 he was welcomed with open arms at Tobermory, with the Isle of Mull being the first Scottish island on his epic journey.

Grandson of Dad's Army actor, Arthur Lowe, Jack has admired the RNLI since he was a little boy and explains how the project allows him to 'follow his heart'. Speaking of his visit to Scotland, Jack says: 'This will be mission nine of the project, taking in a section of the West Coast, including a couple of the islands. It will see me visiting and photographing Oban, Tobermory, Mallaig, Portree, Kyle of Lochalsh and Helensburgh lifeboat stations.'

'My sister and I were both born in Aberdeen and despite moving away at a relatively early age, we both feel a deep connection with Scotland and there's always a sense of homecoming when we return. My sister, Nina, is now studying in Edinburgh and I'm really pleased that she has been able to join me on this leg of my journey.'

This will be the first time The Lifeboat Station Project has visited

a Scottish island and Oban will be the 50th station I've visited so far, some very significant milestones on my journey and a very important part of this project for me.'

The talented photographer has been a lifelong supporter of the charity, joining Storm Force (the RNLI's club for children) at the age of eight and raising over £6,000 for charity by completing the Great North Run three years in a row.

Photography has also been a strong passion of Jack's, ever since he received a Kodak camera from his Grandmother when he was nine.

As part of the RNLI Lifeboat Station Project, Jack plans to visit all 237 RNLI lifeboat stations, photographing the breath-taking views from each station along with the crew members. He will be using a Wet Plate Collodion, a Victorian process that allows him to record stunning images on glass. The project is predicted to take approximately five years to complete.

Whilst in Tobermory, Jack took a number of stunning pictures including that of the full-time Coxswain, David McHaffie and a number of women involved in the station in operational and management roles. Jack also had the opportunity to take part in a training exercise on Tobermory's Severn Class lifeboat,

Elizabeth Fairlie Ramsey.

Jack began the first leg of his Scottish mission on Friday (April 15) when he visited Oban RNLI Lifeboat Station. After Tobermory, he visited Mallaig yesterday (April 20), and will visit Portree on April 23, Kyle of Lochalsh on April 25 and Helensburgh on April 27.

Jack will be back in Scotland in June when he'll be heading to RNLI lifeboat stations in the far North East, including Shetland and Orkney.

Sam Jones, Deputy Launching Authority and a keen photographer herself, said: 'It was an absolute pleasure not only to host Jack and witness the creation of his stunning images at first hand, but also to introduce him to island hospitality.'

'Jack's photographs are not only beautiful pieces of art but his project is also raising awareness of the RNLI to a whole new audience.'

His unique glass photographs are to be developed in a decommissioned NHS ambulance, which he purchased on eBay and transformed into a mobile darkroom.

Jack says: 'Some of the images I have captured so far have been regarded as mesmerising and have even rendered some crew members to tears!'

Sam added: 'It was a privilege to be photographed by Jack and to be on the other side of

the camera for a change.

'I have to admit to being very moved when I saw the results being developed in the back of the ambulance.'

You will be able to check the confirmed times of the itinerary by following the link to the Project's interactive Mission Map: <http://lifeboatstationproject.com/stations/>

You can also follow Jack's RNLI photographic mission on Facebook ([fb.com/LifeboatStation-Project](https://www.facebook.com/LifeboatStation-Project)), on Twitter (@ProjectLifeboat) or on the Project's dedicated site ([lifeboatstationproject.com](http://lifeboatstationproject.com)).



## Taynuilt restaurant gets second helping from the AA

The Taynuilt Hotel and Restaurant has reinforced its rapidly-growing reputation as a dining destination by winning its second AA Rosette for culinary excellence only a few months after achieving its first one.

The recently refurb-

ished coaching inn, 12 miles south of Oban and recently voted best place for informal dining in the Lomond and Argyll region in the 2016 Scottish Hotel Awards, was acquired three years ago by young Chef-Patron John McNulty.

'The team and I are delighted to have been awarded a second Rosette so quickly,' said McNulty, 26. 'It reflects the quality of the ingredients we use as well as the passion we all share for the industry. We developed a new menu this

year specifically with the second Rosette in mind. Our customers love it as well, so our strategy has been proved right.'

In a further move towards using organic produce the Taynuilt Hotel recently installed a polytunnel to grow

its own vegetables and herbs, and it uses the services of a local forager who brings in edible plants from hills and woods around the village. The hotel also smokes its own fish and meat in-house.

The AA awarded the

first Rosette last autumn. Notifying it of the second Rosette, the inspector praised 'the accomplished cooking, home smoking, enthusiasm for foraging, and great flavours.'

Under the guidance of general manager and

sommelier David Lapsley, the Taynuilt Hotel and Restaurant is also renowned for its wine selection, and stocks around 100 malt whiskies and 50 gins.

Last year it launched a specialist wines and spirits shop, The Drammery.

### Craignish Comedy

Critically acclaimed comedian Juliette Burton will perform her award-winning docu-comedy show, **Look At Me, at Craignish Village Hall on Friday April 22.**

Juliette tackles complex and difficult issues, showing how laughter can transform dark experiences, and uses her unique style of comedy to raise mental health awareness whilst exploring identity and what defines us.

For tickets call 01852 500746 or email [artsevents@gmail.com](mailto:artsevents@gmail.com). Doors open at 7pm, show starts at 7.30pm. There will be a licensed bar.

## Amazing nature to be seen on Islay

Islay is a place where nature and history come to life; a wet and wild landscape with sandy beaches and amazing skies.

Get closer to Islay's wildlife at one of the RSPB Scotland's two nature reserves. Every October thousands of geese flock to the green fields of Loch Gruinart and stay over winter before heading back to their breeding grounds in Greenland. At the Oa there are wild sea cliffs and open moorland, providing the perfect home for magnificent golden eagles.

A walk along the trails will immerse you in the sights and sounds of Islay; from the white cotton-grass on the moor and the carpets of bluebells in the

woods to the melodic skylark or 'pee-wit' cry of lapwings in summer. Make time to simply sit and let the world go by. Your patience may be rewarded with sights of chough feeding at The Oa or the rasping 'crex-crex' call of the cornerake at Loch Gruinart.

Both reserves are working farms where agriculture goes hand in hand with wildlife, as it has done for centuries. Evidence of early farmers still mark the landscape with ancient hut circles and ruined cottages.

Discover more of the amazing sights and sounds the reserves have to offer by joining one of our weekly guided walks from April to October.



### Guided walks

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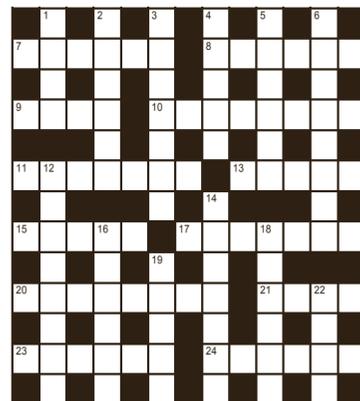
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- 11 Munitions store (7)
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- 15 One who is paid to be someone he i
- 17 Hinderance (3-4)
- 20 Exceed in value (8)
- 21 Place larger than a village (4)
- 23 Moneylender (6)
- 24 Hereditary (6)

Down

- 1 A large piece (4)
- 2 A group of complex proteins (6)
- 3 Best (7)
- 4 Eighth letter of the Greek alphabet (5)
- 5 Big step (6)
- 6 Related to sound (8)
- 12 Turn to this for help (8)
- 14 Study of industrial arts (7)
- 16 Ahead (6)
- 18 Nipping (6)
- 19 Small crown (5)
- 22 Accompanied by (4)

### LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION





## Oban Live gig will be 'homecoming' for Capercaillie

MAY'S Oban Live festival will be 'a natural homecoming' for Celtic supergroup Capercaillie, 33 years after they played their first ever gig at St Columba's Cathedral Hall. Husband and wife Donald Shaw and Karen Matheson from Taynuilt formed the band as teenagers at Oban High School, and since then Capercaillie has brought Celtic music to the world stage, in their distinctive style fusing traditional Gaelic airs with contemporary instruments.

'Karen and I spent the first 22 years of our life here,' Donald told *The Oban Times*. 'The very first place Capercaillie played was in St Columba's Cathedral Hall in 1983. It was a recording session, organised by BBC Radio Highland: the producer heard us playing in a pub at the Mull Music Festival.'

Over three decades the nine-strong band,

named after Scotland's native wood grouse, has achieved massive global success, selling over a million albums worldwide, including three silver and one gold album in the UK, the first Gaelic Top 40 single, and scoring the Hollywood blockbuster *Rob Roy*. Looking back over Capercaillie's long career, Donald reflected: 'Folk music has got a stronger sense of confidence. There's been a renaissance at grass roots level. It's nice to think of, in a small way, we've been part of that.'

'Our music was inspired by Argyll,' he added. 'We started recording Gaelic songs from Mull, Oban, Easdale, Jura and Islay, and growing up in Taynuilt influenced us: the piping style of the West Coast is very different to the Hebridean – there's a real swing to it. It feels like a natural homecoming.'

At the heart of Capercaillie's music is Karen's voice, described by actor Sean Connery as 'a throat that is surely touched by God'. The lead singer has evolved from performing in Argyll village halls, encouraged by her Gaelic-speaking mother from Barra, to one of the world's most famous Gaelic vocalists. She was chosen to sing Robert Burns' *Ae Fond Kiss* at Glasgow's 2014 Commonwealth Games, before a TV audience of almost eight million.

Donald, taught the accordion by his father who still lives by Loch Awe, won the All-Britain accordion championship aged just 16, and the following year formed Capercaillie with Karen, his future wife. Donald, now the artistic director of Glasgow's Celtic Connections festival, has also spent his career composing film and TV soundtracks – most recently for

a BBC series called *Scotland's Wild Heart*, narrated by actor Ewan McGregor, due to air in April.

This month the band is also performing at the Skye Live festival in Portree, and then, on Saturday May 14 at the Oban Live open air festival, it will play from its 'huge catalogue', Donald said, including from its latest albums *At the Heart of It All* (2013) and *Roses and Tears* (2008).

Capercaillie, composed of fiddler Charlie McKerron, bassist Ewen Vernal, Michael McGoldrick on flute, whistle and Uilleann pipes, bouzouki player Manus Lunny, percussionist David 'Chimp' Robertson, and drummers Che Beresford and James Mackintosh, will be joined by 'special guests on the day – both local and from further afield', Donald revealed.

## Skye short film project puts the focus on island life

SKYE-BASED company ATLAS Arts teamed up with Skye Live and Transit Arts, based in Glasgow, to put together a film screening programme at the Skye Live festival later this month.

The programme, entitled *Saothair*, meaning labour or toil, consists of a set of six short films which are to be shown from the back of Transit van during the festival in

Portree on April 29 and 30. Three of the films were selected through an open call to artists and/or filmmakers across the Highlands and Western Isles, and there will be two by renowned filmmakers – *The Drift Back* by Margaret Tait and *Oyster* by Margaret Salmon.

The last film is an archive film, *Salmon Fishing on Skye* from 1938, made by the

Scottish Education Film Association. There will also be a documentary auto-slideshow of local scallop farmers David and Ben Oakes which was commissioned by ATLAS Arts and created by artist Nick Hand.

The film programme is hoped to attract both festival goers and visitors, providing a chance to see films either made about Skye or shot on Skye, some of which highlight relevant issues such as the struggle faced by young crofters and sustainable farming.

Marcus Jack of Transit Arts said: 'It has been an absolute delight putting together a programme with ATLAS that combines rarely-seen archival footage with work from local filmmakers, and pieces from award-winning international artists.'

'I'm confident that



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**April 22 - 28**  
**10 CLOVERFIELD LANE | 12A | 125 MIN**  
Fri: 19:00, Sat: 15:30, Sun: 15:00, Mon, Tue, Wed: 19:00

Waking up from a car accident, a young woman finds herself in the basement of a man who says he's saved her life from a chemical attack that has left the outside uninhabitable.

**HIGH RISE | 15 | 130 MIN**  
Sat: 20:10, Sun: 19:30

High-Rise is a suspenseful adaptation of J.G. Ballard's 1975 novel about the breakdown of society within a high-rise apartment complex.

**KIDS CLUB: THE PRINCE OF EGYPT | U | 105 MIN**  
Sat: 11:00

Children's Classic. An Egyptian prince learns of his identity as a Hebrew and, later his destiny to become the chosen deliverer of his people.

**MY BIG FAT GREEK WEDDING 2 | 12A | 104 MIN**  
Friday: 21:15 only, Saturday: 17:30, Sunday: 17:15, Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday: 21:15, Thursday: 21:30

The long-awaited follow-up to the highest-grossing romantic comedy of all time. Written by Academy Award(r) nominee Nia Vardalos, the film reveals the entire returning cast of favourites, the film reveals a Portokalos family secret that will bring the beloved characters back together for an even bigger and Greekier wedding.

**SILVER SCREENING - EDDIE THE EAGLE | PG | 125 MIN**  
Sun: 14:30

Silver Screening - Concessions (age 60+) entry just £3.00! Tea and cake £1.

The film details the inspiring exploits of Michael Edwards, better known as 'Eddie the Eagle', the most famous ski jumper in British history. The film's portrayal of Edwards' never-say-die approach to the sport, celebrates the human spirit and resilience in the face of extraordinary odds and challenges. Taron Egerton, who made his feature film starring debut in *Kingsman: The Secret Service*, portrays Eddie the Eagle, and Hugh Jackman plays a ski jumping expert from Lake Placid who helps Eddie train for the Calgary Olympics.

**THE HUNTSMAN: WINTER'S WAR | 12A | 137 MIN**  
Fri: 20:45, Sat: 17:45, 19:45, Sun: 17:00, Mon, Tue, Wed: 20:45 Thu: 19:00

As two evil sisters prepare to conquer the land; two renegades - Eric the Huntsman - who previously aided Snow White in defeating Ravenna, and his forbidden lover, Sara set out to stop them.

**THE JUNGLE BOOK | PG | 126 MIN**  
Friday 2D: 16:15, 3D: 18:30, Sunday 2D: 12:00, 3D: 19:30, Mon, Tues, Wed fine, Thursday 2D: 16:30, 3D: 20:30

The Jungle Book™ is an all-new live-action epic adventure about Mowgli (newcomer Neel Sethi), a man-cub raised in the jungle by a family of wolves, who embarks on a captivating journey of self-discovery when he's forced to abandon the only home he's ever known.

**ZOOTROPOLIS | PG | 128 MIN**  
Friday: 16:30, Saturday: 13:00, Sunday: 12:30, Mon, Tues & Wed: 16:30

In the animal city of Zootropolis, a fast-talking fox who's trying to make it big goes on the run when he's framed for a crime he didn't commit. Zootropolis's top cop, a self-righteous rabbit, is hot on his tail, but when both become targets of a conspiracy, they're forced to team up and discover even natural enemies can become best friends.

### malt of the month

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I AM feeling rubbish. I have one of the most awful infections that have been burling around the Highlands and Islands.

I was disappointed as I had already survived a number of them.

I missed the one from Lochaline at the Burach choir weekend – that was a Speyside fest with Glenlivet taking the Women's Whisky Liberation Front attention.

New recruit Joanie will never be the same again.

Then the trailing infection from Carlow at the Pan Celtic – we were on Irish whisky that time and it fairly did its stuff in staving off the lurgy. Poor Moisie and Raymond were drinking Drambuie and Glayva and did not survive so well.

Then there was the reunion weekend where we were thrilled with English whisky cocktails – good and bad in equal measure.

No, it was a freezing cold night in Craignure Village Hall listening to the protestations of election candidates when the infection took hold.

The only thing to help was a wee toddy, made to Mr Lee's special and affectionate recipe. It includes whisky, lona honey, a little hot water, lemon and another whisky on the side.

He chose a nice and peaty Laphroaig 12-year-old. While he made it for me he poured one for himself. I think he fell asleep before me.

*Louise Glen*

### Lismore Gaelic Heritage Centre

'Each ruin, each knoll, carries some tale, some secret tradition unique to that spot'

The Island of Lismore is an emerald gem set at the entrance to Loch Linnhe. Only 50 minutes on the ferry from Oban or 10 minutes on the foot ferry from Port Appin, it is easily accessible to walkers, cyclists and day trippers. The island is rich in historical sites telling the story of the people who have lived here for thousands of years.

From the Oban Ferry, as it approaches Achnacroish, you get your first sight of Tirluir Castle, the Pictish Broch dominating the approaches from the mainland. Castle Coeffin on the western side has Viking connections and at the south end of the island is Achinduin Castle looking toward the sound of Mull. There are Bronze Age cairns, carved medieval grave slabs, deserted townships, lime kilns and watermills and a Stevenson lighthouse.

Between the two ferries (3 miles from Point and 2½ from Achnacroish,) on the main road, is the Gaelic Heritage Centre; a stunning ecologically friendly building with a restored cottar's cottage alongside. Inside is an accredited museum packed with information about the island – both past and present; a newly refurbished shop selling unusual and interesting items - all made in Scotland - and our bright and lively community café where you can feast on home baking, light lunches, tea and coffee. Island produce is always used in season.

Further information can be found on our website  
www.lismoregaelicheritagecentre.org and on the Community website www.isleoflismore.com.

www.lismoregaelicheritagecentre.org

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MONDAY: 0800 AM on FM, 0810 Breakfast Show, 0900 Monday Morning With Andy and Stephen, 1100 Molly Black, 1300 CLYDE 2, 1700 Drivetime With Marcus, 1900 Rosie's Highland Fling, 2000 John McLuckie's Show, 2100 David Cullen

TUESDAY: 0800 AM on FM, 0810 Breakfast Show, 1000 Ken Hunter, 1200 Memories are Made of This with Ken Hunter, 1500 Lesley Blair-Simmonds, 1700 Drivetime with Jim Lynch, 1900 Sounds Scottish with Archie Cameron, 2000 Highest Praise with Stuart, 2100 Elaine Lamb, 2300 Northern Soul with Gordon Covey

WEDNESDAY: 0800 AM on FM, 0810 Breakfast Show, 0900 Sound Scottish (repeat), 1000 Comfort Zone with Doug Carmichael, 1300 CLYDE 2, 1500 Elaine Lamb, 1700 Drivetime with Campbell, 1900 Country Meets Rock with Len & Ken, 2100 Gordon's Grooves

THURSDAY: 0800 Morning show, 1100 Molly's Mix with Molly Black, 1300 CLYDE 2, 1500 Gordon Covey, 1700 Drivetime with Stephen, 1900 Christine's Collection, 2100 Ann's Ceilidh, 2200 Margo Till Midnight

FRIDAY: 0800 Jean Ainsley Breakfast Show, 1000 Teeny and Tim Show, 1300 -1500 Weekend Warmup with Ian Blair-Simmonds, 1700 Drive Show with Jim Lynch, 1845 Sports View, 1900 Country Meets Country with Jackie Craig, 2000 Friday Night with Innes, 2100 TFI Friday with Jim Lawn

SATURDAY: 0800 Breakfast Show, 1000 Saturday Morning Live with Linda Crosher, 1330 CLYDE 2, 1800 Sports View with the Dream Team, 1900 Marcus, 2000 Dave Lewis

SUNDAY: 0900 Sunday Morning with Breege, 1100 - 1400 Sunday Brunch, 1630 Archie Darling, 1800 Ken's Friends with Ken Hunter, 1900 New Country Show with David Entwistle, 2100 Drum & Bass with Graham Scott

### COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

Oban and Lorn Dementia Support Group <b>COFFEE MORNING</b> Glencruitten Road Church Hall 23 April, 10am - 12 noon All the usual stalls Any donations gratefully accepted	<b>Craignish Village Hall</b> Ardfern Friday 22nd April Juliette Burton presents <b>'Look at Me'</b> her acclaimed docu-comedy Show starts 7.30pm Book: 01852 500746 or email cvh.manager@gmail.com	Oban & Lorn Strathspey & Reel Society <b>Fiddlers Rally Concert</b> Saturday 23 April 2016 Corran Halls, Oban, 7.30pm With Robert Robertson & Ross Wilson Of Skipinnish and Maurice Duncan, Champion Fiddler. Tickets £8 and £7.50 from Corran Halls, 01631 567333	Fasnacloich Gun Club Open shoot 23rd April 12:00 start
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## Bodach

In this series, *The Oban Times'* resident Bodach (Gaelic: old man and, by experience, often a storyteller) looks through archive material for articles and pictures that preserve moments from the past. There is always a back story – and sometimes a future one.



Get in touch with your stories at [bodach@obantimes.co.uk](mailto:bodach@obantimes.co.uk)

This week's picture shows Marion Campbell on one of her frequent visits to Auchindrain, the Scottish Highland farm township museum she co-founded in the 1960s.

Miss Campbell considered Auchindrain had the potential to be the best folk museum in the world and put characteristic effort into securing political, community and financial support in challenging circumstances.

Many observers of the time thought it a backward-looking project in an age focused on the future, and others felt the property could have been put to more productive use. History favoured Miss Campbell and the museum is still open – a working township preserved more-or-less intact and providing a glimpse of rural Scotland between the 1700s and the early 20th century.

Establishing the museum was not Miss Campbell's only achievement. Born in 1919, she published 80 works in 50 years: learned articles for *Kist*, the magazine of the Natural History and Antiquarian Society of Mid Argyll (which she co-founded and served as its first president); major contributions to the Royal Commission for Ancient and Historical Monuments Argyll Inventories (with lifelong friend Mary Sandeman); children's fiction, novels for adults, a play, Gaelic poetry and two outstand-

ing non-fiction books – Argyll: The Enduring Heartland (in its fourth edition) and Alexander III: King of Scots.

These undertakings were made in addition to managing the Kilberry estate in South Knapdale, her home for the great majority of her very full life. Marion Campbell proved to be a skilled stockwoman and her opinions on the breeding and husbandry of cattle were sought and respected. In two decades she turned an impoverished estate into a farming concern with prospects, and gained the trust and admiration of the wider Argyll agricultural community. She took an active interest in local and national politics, joining the Scottish National Party in the early 1960s and serving as Argyll branch president.

Marion Campbell's and Mary Sandeman's work on Mid Argyll's archaeological sites brought this extraordinary prehistoric landscape to the attention of academics and the general public, and in no small way inspired the creation of Kilmartin Museum. Indeed the museum is home to the Marion Campbell Library – a treasure house of reference hand-crafted by Martin Murphy of Slockavullin and visited by scholars from all over the world.

I imagine she would approve of the Argyll & Bute Economic Forum's recommendation for

Kilmartin Glen to achieve World Heritage Site status, even if she might warn against unintended consequences for existing and future residents and visitors.

After the Second World War, in which Marion served with the WRENS and Mary also ran a craft-supply business from Kilberry Castle, when time allowed the pair would identify and survey sites of historical and archaeological interest across the county.

These reports became the benchmark for official inventories and inspired countless amateurs to take an interest in their environment: prehistory, early Christian history and the Celtic church, agricultural improvements and the industrial revolution; and the impact of war, disease and clearance on communities across the region.

Her ability to make direct and relevant connections between our ancient origins, our present and our future is Marion Campbell's greatest legacy, and a talent that towers above more contemporary imitators.

Her passions for her home and heartland were real: embedded in her ancestry and immortalised in her work.

Film rights to her ground-breaking novel *The Dark Twin* were released in the 1990s and it may well make it to the big screen.



A production that blurs the boundaries between fact and fiction, past and present would be a fair and an appropriate tribute

to a unique force in Scottish literature.

Marion Campbell died in 2000, not long after the publica-

tion of her last book, *Alexander III: King of Scots*.

Notes for this work were first taken in the 1950s, so it qualifies

as a life's work. It is a big book in every sense, and a stunning epitaph for such an accomplished character.

## Unique watercolours show the diverse beauty of Chile's flora

A NEW exhibition of watercolour paintings of Chilean plants is running at the Benmore Botanic Garden near Dunoon.

The collection of 25 specially-commissioned and unique paintings, which are on display in the Courtyard Gallery, demonstrate the beauty and diversity of Chile's native flora.

They also highlight the skill of three award-winning Turkish artists, Gülnur Ekşi, İşik Güner and Hülya Korkmaz, as well as underlining the important research and conservation work undertaken by the four Gardens of the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh (RBGE).

The paintings were commissioned for the decade-long RBGE project Plants from the Woods and Forests of Chile, and they provide an insight into the richness of Chile's forested habitats.

These are some of the world's most iconic and important woodlands and are currently under huge environmental stress.

This exhibition is intended to help explain to the public why organisations such as RBGE are in a race against time to conserve these natural resources and protect the services they provide

for us.

The award-winning paintings include iconic Chilean species such as the monkey puzzle (*Araucaria araucana*) to the more exotic Chilean Lantern Tree (*Crinodendron hookerianum*).

As botanical art, the paintings contain accurate representations of dissections of flowers and fruits, making this collection an important contribution to the legacy of botanical illustration in Chile.

Martin Gardner, who heads-up the RBGE-based International Conifer Conservation Programme has worked in Chile for 30 years.

He explained: 'This exhibition – and the extended collection of paintings in the accompanying book – represents the labour and observations of three highly-talented artists who have painstakingly and accurately recorded the most minute details to bring alive the beautiful plant life from an intriguing and fascinating part of the world.'

'It provides a fantastic opportunity for our visitors to see the links between botanical art, science, horticulture and education – four disciplines for which the 345-year-old institution is

world-renowned.'

Artist Gülnur Ekşi added: 'For all the artists from Turkey, who have been involved in this unique project, it has given us an extraordinary opportunity to demonstrate our painting skills with an inspiring group of plants from a remarkable part of the world.'

Garden Curator Peter Baxter added: 'This is the most exciting botanical art project undertaken by the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh in decades.'

'Behind these magnificent water colours is the extensive programme of field work undertaken in collaboration with our Chilean colleagues, underpinning conservation work on the endangered flora of this beautiful part of the world.'

'Many of the plant species featured in the exhibition are part of the living collection at Benmore.'

'I am confident that the exhibition in the Courtyard Gallery will attract a lot of interest from visitors to Benmore.'

Plants from the Woods and Forests of Chile runs in the Courtyard Gallery from 10.30am-5.30pm.

For more information about the accompanying book visit: <http://chileanplants.rbge.org.uk>

## Argyll scenery is top of the range



Is it the Himalayas, Andes or the Alps? No, it is the east face of Ben Lui, at Tyndrum, Argyll, taken this February by reader Rob MacCallum of Oban.

## Clachaig Inn hosts brewers' event

Independent Scottish Brewers gathered in Glencoe this week to talk all things beer.

Clachaig Inn hosted the meeting on Thursday (April 14), which brought together a dozen of Scotland's likeminded brewers to discuss industry issues.

Organised by Clachaig, the idea was to bring together businesses who face very similar problems, but who rarely get to meet and chat.

There was plenty of time to share ideas and talk about the more serious aspects of the

business, but unsurprisingly, there was time for more frivolous issues – as you might expect from a networking evening with the central theme being beer.

The main event of the evening was a blind taste test, where each of the brewers provided a sample of their own brews.

Marks were awarded for each beer, with points given for appearance, aroma and taste.

With the scores totted up, the award for the best beer of the evening was given to The Hector, a smooth sweet stout from An

Teallach Ale Company in Ross-shire.

Guests were also invited to bring along presentation sample packs of their products for a raffle, which raised £210 for Glencoe Mountain Rescue.

The Clachaig kitchen served up a smorgasbord of tasters from their menu, Loch Leven sessions musicians dishing up some top tunes.

The evening was voted a resounding success, offering a great opportunity to meet and discuss Scotland's brewery industry.



Far left: Freddie MacKenzie toasts 100-year-old Caroline Jamieson in Gaelic at her birthday party held by an Amunn Gaidhealach Meur Chruachain, which took the form of a ceilidh. Freddie has been singing for Caroline since 1967 at the ceilidhs in the hall.

Left: Caroline Jamieson cuts her birthday cake at the ceilidh in Taynuilt village hall.

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# West Coast PROPERTY GUIDE

LETTINGS COMMERCIAL PROPERTY SALE PROPERTY REVIEWS PROPERTY NEWS LOCAL ESTATE AGENTS

## Buy-to-let investors storm housing market

- Estate agents report an increase in the number of buy-to-let investors trying to push sales through before April stamp duty deadline
- Influx triggers a boost in demand, which was at a 12-year high in February
- Sales to first time buyers consequently drop by five per cent

IN FEBRUARY, more than eight in ten (85 per cent) estate agents reported an increase in the number of buy-to-let (BTL) investors flooding the market to beat the stamp duty changes on second homes, according to the National Association of Estate Agents (NAEA) February Housing Market report.



The Chancellor's announcement around stamp duty for additional homes, made in last year's Autumn Statement, meant in January and February this year, 72 per cent and 85 per cent of agents respectively, saw an increase in interest from those hoping to buy second homes.

**Supply and demand**  
With added pressure from BTL investors on the market, demand for housing was the highest level for 12 years in February.

There were an average 463 house hunters registered per member branch - the highest since August

2004 when 582 were registered per branch.

This followed an increase in January when estate agents reported 453 per branch, the highest since July 2015.

The number of properties available per branch increased marginally from 33 in January to 35 in February, as the number

of sales agreed per branch in February increased too.

There were an average nine sales completed in February, back to the level seen in October 2015 and a rise from eight sales agreed per branch in January.

**First time buyers**  
A quarter (24 per cent) of total sales made in February were to first time

buyers (FTBs), a decrease of five percentage points from January, as mounting pressure from investors increased competition.

Mark Hayward, managing director, National Association of Estate Agents (NAEA), commented: 'It is evident from February's report findings that we've seen a real sense

of urgency from landlords trying to complete on sales ahead of the stamp duty reforms which come into force next week. However, the mounting pressure and increased demand for housing has meant first time buyers have had to compete with landlords for property and, as a result, they have lost out.

'We would like to say that come April things will look better for first time buyers. Schemes like the Help to Buy ISA, Help-to-Buy scheme and the new Lifetime ISA all sound great on paper and there's no doubt that some young people will definitely benefit from them.

'The crux of the problem though is that there is still a huge issue with supply and until we build more homes, and crucially the right sort of homes, we cannot fool ourselves into thinking we are doing enough to help people buy their own home.'

## Government schemes improve prospects for first-time buyers

GOVERNMENT schemes are generally well received by those aiming to get onto the housing ladder, the BSA's March Property Tracker shows, with 45 per cent of aspiring buyers saying these schemes have made it easier for them to raise a deposit.

A further 28 per cent of people who aspire to buy say the schemes have made no difference to them and a smaller group, eight per cent, say the schemes have actually made it harder for them to raise a deposit.

This quarterly consumer survey shows that those who aspire to buy with a mortgage are most commonly aiming for a 10 per cent deposit (25 per cent). A slightly smaller group (22 per cent) are aiming to save more than 25 per cent of the cost of their first home. A quarter of people think they will raise their required deposit within a year, three-quarters within five years.

While government schemes are being viewed on balance positively, with only eight per cent of people unaware of them, their existence highlights there is still a significant lack of new house building. Government schemes are helping to fuel buyer demand and aid the financial ability to buy, but do not address the underlying chronic lack

of affordable homes, which is acute in some areas. Commenting on the results, BSA Head of Mortgage Policy, Paul Broadhead, said: 'A significant proportion of aspiring homebuyers say government schemes have helped them to raise the required deposit to get on the housing ladder, which is good news.'

'However, these are clearly demand side interventions that address the symptoms and not the root cause of the problems in the housing market: the fact that affordability is becoming stretched across all tenures and the failure of successive governments to build or facilitate the building of sufficient homes of the right type, across mixed tenures in the right places. Help to Buy mortgage guarantee, which is arguably the government's most successful and high profile scheme, comes to an end at the end of this year. Some lenders, including many building societies, were active in the high loan-to-value (LTV) market before the scheme and will likely remain so when the scheme ends. It is vital the government clearly articulates its strategy to maintain consumer confidence and avoid a squeeze in the number of mortgages available at high LTVs once it is gone.'

### MOVING CHECKLIST



Some say moving home is one of the most stressful life events so be prepared for the process long before you begin:

- Decide on a moving date (usually the completion date) as soon as contracts have been exchanged. Try to avoid Fridays and bank holidays when removal firms are in high demand and may be stretched. For a less stressful move, opt for off-peak times such as mid-week. It's more likely your chosen removal firm will be available for that day.
- Call in the professionals. Ask friends or relatives who have moved recently to recommend removal firms.
- Get at least three estimates from different firms and don't automatically accept the cheapest.
- Establish a written timetable with the removal firm and check the foreman has all the necessary details.
- Make sure the removal firm has a clear map showing how to find your new home.
- Ensure your possessions are insured for transit. Most removal firms provide such insurance. Check what it covers and whether there are exclusions. Remember that anything you pack yourself may not be covered by the removal firm's insurance. If you are planning to transport any precious items yourself, check these are covered when in transit by your contents insurance.
- Hire professional cleaners to give your new place a thorough going over before you move in. Some removal firms will arrange to do this. This will make the move more comfortable.
- Before the big day, have a clear out. Valuable items that are no longer needed can be auctioned or sold to a dealer. Other items can be donated to charity shops or recycled.
- Get someone to look after the children for the day. The same goes for pets - or book them into kennels or a cattery. Make sure they have identity tags with their new address.
- Compile a fact file for the people who are moving into your property, including instruction leaflets and service information for the heating system and appliances you're leaving, together with details of rubbish collection.
- Round up all the keys to your home, including those left with neighbours, nannies and relatives, and give them to your solicitor or estate agent.
- If the move is going to be spread over a couple of days, arrange accommodation and pack an overnight bag.
- Make a scale plan of each room in your new home to give to the removal team so, in theory, they know exactly where everything is to go. Colour-code packing cases and furniture in the hope it ends up in the correct rooms.
- Make a complete inventory of everything to be moved.
- Advise the post office to redirect your post.
- Cancel milk and newspapers.
- If you are moving to a different area, register with a new GP.
- Get change of address cards printed
- Notify utilities: water, gas and electricity providers; telephone and internet service providers; contact TV licensing to transfer your licence to your new address; bank, building society, pension provider and companies you have loans or investments with; credit card and store card companies; local council regarding council tax; subscriptions to magazines and charities; employers; the schools your children attend; DVLA - it is a legal requirement to notify DVLA. You will need to renew your driving licence and vehicle registration document; friends, family and colleagues.
- Upon arrival, read the meters and check the phone, security alarm, electricity, gas, central heating and water work.

Even if everything is in order and has run smoothly, the chances are by the end of the day you'll be too shattered to move, so collapse on the sofa, order a takeaway and crack open a bottle of champagne.

**COMMERCIAL**

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**Tougher Mortgage Regulations for Landlords**

Some buy to let landlords in the UK will face tougher regulation when it comes to getting a mortgage for expanding their portfolio, the Bank of England has announced.

In what may be seen as another blow to the buy to let market the Bank's Financial Policy Committee (FPC) says that some lenders are applying 'weaker' standards when it comes to applications in this sector.

**AFFORDABILITY CHECKS**  
So there will be stricter affordability checks. Landlords with four or more properties will be expected to declare the rental income they expect to receive from tenants and also their own income and spending habits. This is to ensure they can still afford the mortgage if a tenant defaults on their rent or the property is left vacant.

Landlords will also have to prove they can cope if interest rates rise sharply and can afford all the costs associated with renting out a property. This includes tax, which will rise on buy to let properties from next year.

Andrew Giller, director at the House Partnership, believes that it could affect the housing market. 'If you can't

buy because the amount of deposit required by banks is so large, then the only option is to rent, but if landlords can't buy properties to rent out, there will be no one buying the houses and the rental stock available for tenants will also decline,' he explained.

'This leaves potential for the market to grind to a halt, therefore, reducing the revenue for the government. I would suggest that this is still a banking issue rather than a property issue,' he added.

**COMMON SENSE**  
David Hollingworth, from mortgage broker London & Country, said that it makes common sense but it will make it harder to get a buy to let mortgage. 'Increasingly landlords will be feeling they are coming under fire from all directions. This might affect their decision to become a buy to let landlord or to expand their portfolio,' he added.

**SUSTAINABLE LEVEL**  
'On the face of it, most lenders will have little to fear from these proposals, especially given that many have already undertaken similar assessments. However, it is important that these rules do not set minimum standards at a level any higher than is necessary to achieve a sustainable level of activity,' he said.

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**Properties for sale**

<p><b>Victoria Street, Tobermory, Isle of Mull</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detached House</li> <li>6 Bedrooms / 2 Bathrooms</li> <li>Elevated situation close to centre of Tobermory</li> <li>Driveway parking and easily maintained garden</li> <li>EPC Rating - D (63)</li> </ul> <p><b>OIRO £250,000</b></p> <p>Cove - A spacious 6 bedroom house currently sub divided into two 3 bedroom flats. Cove offers a fantastic opportunity of purchase a large family home or spacious flat with the potential to generate additional rental income as a holiday let or long term rental.</p>	<p><b>Ardmor Road, Salen, Isle of Mull</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Modern Detached House</li> <li>3 Bedrooms / 2 Bathrooms</li> <li>Excellent layout</li> <li>Delightful village location on popular island</li> <li>Good sized garden</li> <li>EPC Rating - C (76)</li> </ul> <p><b>OIRO £225,000</b></p> <p>Larrachbeg is an attractive 3 bedroom house in the popular village of Salen on the Isle of Mull. Built 5 years ago by a renowned local builder this modern property has NHBC certification and has been finished to a high standard with quality fittings.</p>	<p><b>Abbey View, Fionnphort, Isle of Mull</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spacious Detached 1 Storey House</li> <li>5 Bedrooms/3 Bathrooms/WC</li> <li>Popular Island Location</li> <li>Stunning Views of Iona</li> <li>B&amp;B / Rental Potential</li> <li>EPC Rating - D(66)</li> </ul> <p><b>OIRO £265,000</b></p> <p>Abbey View - A generous detached 5 bedroom 1 and a half storey house enjoying stunning views across the Sound towards Iona, the Abbey and Freshnish Isles. Built approx. 15 years ago, the property is nestled in a row of houses within Fionnphort on the Ross of Mull.</p>	<p><b>Ceol-Na-Mara, Craignure, Isle of Mull</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4 Bedrooms/2 Bathrooms</li> <li>Spacious layout</li> <li>Large Garden</li> <li>Stunning Panoramic Views</li> <li>Walking distance to ferry terminal</li> <li>EPC Rating - E54</li> </ul> <p><b>OIRO £270,000</b></p> <p>The property comprises a porch, hall, large lounge dining room, kitchen, utility room, family bathroom, four bedrooms and a shower room. Externally there is a large garden surrounding the house in all sides, greenhouse at the rear of the property, two sheds and a detached garage.</p>
<p><b>Glenmore Road, Oban</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detached house</li> <li>3 Bedrooms / 2 Bathrooms</li> <li>Quiet location</li> <li>Lovely views over Oban</li> <li>Well maintained property</li> <li>EPC Rating - F (33)</li> </ul> <p><b>OIRO £200,000</b></p> <p>Whinfield is a detached 3 bedroom property situated in an elevated position overlooking Oban. The house would make an ideal family home with its excellent location on Pulpit Hill, great layout and well proportioned rooms.</p>	<p><b>Combie Lane, Oban</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First Floor Flat</li> <li>1 Bedroom/Shower Room/WC</li> <li>Quiet central location</li> <li>Communal garden</li> <li>Excellent rental investment</li> <li>EPC Rating - F (58)</li> </ul> <p><b>OIRO £85,000</b></p> <p>7D Combie Lane is a deceptively spacious one bedroom first floor flat located close to Oban town centre. The property comprises of a spacious lounge with separate kitchen which boasts plentiful storage, modern cupboards and worktop.</p>	<p><b>Plots East Of Ardtreatle Cottage, Dalmally</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two generous 0.5 acre plots</li> <li>Stunning glen view</li> <li>Rural location</li> <li>Planning permission in principle</li> <li>Close to local amenities</li> </ul> <p><b>OIRO £65,000</b></p> <p>We are delighted to market two 0.5 acre plots in a stunning secluded glen setting. Close to the town of Dalmally in the heart of Argyll, these plots offer the combination of rural living with the convenience of all amenities close by.</p>	<p><b>Land North West Of Craigsuir Lane, Tobermory</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>0.25 Acre Plot</li> <li>Stunning view towards the Sound of Mull</li> <li>Elevated site above Tobermory</li> <li>Planning Permission for a 1.5 storey architect designed house with large expanses of glazing to allow maximum enjoyment of the far reaching views.</li> </ul> <p><b>OIRO £85,000</b></p>

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**Fiat Doblo van 1.2 diesel**



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Isle of Mull.  
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# Land Rover Discovery Sport named What Car? Best Large SUV of the Year



LAND Rover has claimed a hat-trick of accolades in the coveted What Car? Awards, with new Discovery Sport winning the Best Large SUV title in one of the most keenly contested divisions of the competition and the Range Rover Vogue SE named Best Buy in the luxury class.

It is the third year running Land Rover has driven off with the top SUV award from What Car? – Range Rover Sport was proclaimed Best Large SUV in 2014 and 2015.

Citing the Discovery Sport's 'superb blend of body control, brilliant practicality and high quality, What Car?'s judges also voted it Best Buy in the £25,000-£40,000 price band.

The Discovery Sport was enhanced last autumn by the fitment of Land Rover's new 2.0-litre, four-cylinder Ingenium diesel engine, designed to deliver class-leading torque and power outputs as well as excellent refinement and reduced CO2 emissions and fuel consumption.

Built at Land Rover's new state-of-the-art £500m engine manufacturing centre in the West Midlands, the EU6 compliant Ingenium engine is available in 150PS and 180PS variants, the former offering up to 57.7mpg and CO2 emissions from 129g/km.

Being equipped with a range of class-leading driver assistance and safety features, such as a pedestrian airbag and Autonomous Emergency Braking, has helped earn the Discovery Sport a Five Star Euro NCAP rating.

On the road prices start at £30,695 for the manual gearbox model with five-seat SE specification.

Accepting the award, Jeremy Hicks, managing director, Jaguar Land Rover UK, said: 'This is the second major What Car? award for Discovery Sport following on from last year's safety award and with UK sales totalling 16,500 by the end of 2016, the combination of versatility and family practicality has won over new and existing customers.'

'In addition, the introduction of the new Ingenium engine in September 2015 has lowered running and depreciation costs making the Discovery Sport the premium all-rounder of choice for not just retail but fleet and business customers too.'

**Discovery Sport – Best Large SUV and Best Buy £25,000-£40,000**

What Car? said: 'It fully deserves to win. Jaguar Land Rover's new diesel engine, together with its standard seven seats, good space and impressive interior build quality enabled it to see off all its rivals.'

'Families will love the Discovery Sport's superb blend of body control, brilliant practicality and high quality and, subsequently, it is extremely good value.'

'The 2.0 TD4 is a far more refined unit than the previous 2.2, and it's also cheaper to run because it emits less CO2 and uses less fuel.'

'The Discovery Sport remains good to drive, too, with nicely weighted steering and a comfortable ride. At high speed its decent suppression of wind and tyre noise complements the hushed engine.'

'Its talents include space and practicality, too, because this model comes with seven seats as standard, which will be good news for those with large families and small children.'

**Range Rover Vogue SE – Best Buy £70,000-£100,000**

What Car? fell for the comfort, luxury and performance of the Range Rover Vogue SE, which in 3.0-litre TDV6 specification retails from £74,950.

'It is widely accepted as one of the best top-end cars out there, and it's easy to see why,' said the judges.

'The high-set driving position gives outstanding visibility, while the blend of comfortable ride and poised handling, matched to top-end off-road ability, makes the Range Rover perfect for many buyers.'

'It's a strikingly desirable car and it balances a rewarding and refined on-road experience with better practicality than any saloon alternative.'

'The entry-level diesel-powered model is one of the most enjoyable in the range to drive. It still feels fast, power delivery is smooth and predictable and the eight-speed automatic gearbox does what you want it to when you want it to, leaving you to enjoy the beautifully appointed interior and punchy sound system.'

'This really is about as versatile as a luxury car gets.'



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### Discovery Sport SE Tech 180 (7 Seat) Manual Representative Example

On the Road Price*	£34,295.00	Final Payment	£17,339.00
Customer Deposit	£8,830.00	Total Amount Payable	£38,733.00
Total Amount of Credit	£25,465.00	Duration of Agreement	37 months
Purchase Fee (incl. in final payment)	£10.00	Representative APR %	6.9% APR
36 Monthly Payments	£349.00	Interest Rate (Fixed) %	6.69%

\*The model pictured is a Discovery Sport SE Tech with optional extras of Xenon pack (£985) and metallic paint (£625) at an On the Road price of £35,905.

Morrisons Land Rover is a trading style of Morrisons (Land Rover Limited) who is acting as a credit broker and not a lender.

Official Fuel Consumption Figures for the Discovery Sport range in mpg (l/100km): Urban 44.1 (6.4) – 50.4 (5.6), Extra Urban 61.4 (4.7) – 62.8 (4.5), Combined 53.3 (5.3) – 57.7 (4.9). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions 139 – 129 g/km.

The figures provided are as a result of official manufacturer's tests in accordance with EU legislation. A vehicle's actual fuel consumption may differ from that achieved in such tests and these figures are for comparative purposes only. Representative Example relates to a Discovery Sport SE Tech 180 Manual. Representative 6.9% APR available on Discovery Sport SE Tech 180 Manual models registered between 1st April to 30th June at participating Retailers only. With Land Rover Freedom Personal Contract Purchase you have the option at the end of the agreement to: (1) return the vehicle and not pay the Final Payment. If the vehicle has exceeded the allowed mileage a charge per excess mile will apply. In this example, 14p per excess mile up to 4,999, or for excess mileage of 5,000 or more, a charge of 28p will apply to each excess mile above the allowed mileage. If the vehicle is in good condition and has not exceeded the allowed mileage you will have nothing further to pay; (2) pay the Final Payment to own the vehicle or (3) part exchange the vehicle subject to settlement of your existing credit agreement; new credit agreements are subject to status. Representative example is based upon an annual mileage of 10,000 miles. Credit is subject to status and only available to applicants aged 18 and over resident in Mainland UK and N.Ireland. This credit offer is only available through Black Horse Limited trading as Land Rover Financial Services, St William House, Tresillian Terrace, Cardiff CF10 5BH. We can introduce you to Land Rover Financial Services and a limited number of other lenders to provide funding for your vehicle. We may receive commission or other benefits for introducing you to such lenders.

# West coast recruitment

## Surfacing Operatives Concrete Batcher Oban area



Breedon Aggregates is the largest independent aggregates group in the UK, employing over 1250 people in more than 130 quarries and plants throughout Scotland, England and Wales. The group supplies crushed rock, asphalt, ready-mixed concrete and mortar to the construction, road-building and specialist aggregates markets.

### Surfacing Operatives

We are now keen to employ skilled Surfacing Operatives to carry out a variety of roles, from operating mobile plant & equipment, i.e. machine paver, roller, Tractraire and Streetmasters to general surfacing operations. You will ideally be able to operate more than one piece of machinery, hold a driving licence and CSCS card. Previous experience of working in machine resurfacing teams on highway works is preferred but not essential as training will be given to ensure individuals can carry out a variety of tasks within the team. You will display a proactive attitude to Health & Safety, making suggestions to reduce or remove any identified risks; attend and understand the content of the daily briefing, toolbox talks and any site specific induction prior to commencing work on site. Please email your CV to malcolm.cullen@breedonaggregates.com or send to Contracting Commercial Manager – West, Dunbeg Quarry, Oban, Argyll & Bute, PA37 1PX

### Concrete Batcher

An opportunity has arisen for a Concrete Batcher based at our Benderloch Quarry. You will be responsible for the operation of computerised batching systems in order to produce concrete to required customer specifications and technical standards, and for the day-to-day safe and efficient running of the concrete plant.

The successful candidate will have a general mechanical/electrical background, preferably within the concrete plant environment, and be able to identify faults and report accordingly. It would be an advantage if you had experience in a similar role and hold a fork lift/telehandler licence, however, training will be provided. You will be a practical individual, time orientated in the way you work with a 'can do' attitude. You will display a proactive attitude to Health & Safety, making suggestions to reduce or remove any identified risks in line with Company rules and expectations, as well as any legal obligations.

Please email your CV to adrian.howe@breedonaggregates.com or send to General Manager – West, Dunbeg Quarry, Oban, Argyll & Bute, PA37 1PX

For both the above roles the ability to communicate effectively, work as part of a team and be polite and courteous to colleagues, clients and the general public is essential. In return, we offer a competitive salary and other benefits associated with a progressive employer. You must be able to provide evidence of your right to work in the UK.

## University of the Highlands and Islands Argyll College

Argyll College's Construction, Engineering and Renewables Centre (CERC) in Lochgilphead works closely with a number of organisations and partners to offer a range of courses.

We now require to recruit the following part time tutor posts:

### Carpentry & Joinery Tutor – 0.5 FTE (job share)

To deliver the college element of the Wood Occupations Modern Apprenticeship programme. Applicants should hold a PDA Level 7/Advanced Craft Certificate, or equivalent, in the Carpentry & Joinery trade. Previous teaching experience is desirable but not essential as training will be provided. This is a fixed term post for a period of two years.

The salary is £28,161.10 pro rata

### Construction and Engineering

To teach Construction and Engineering skills to school pupils over the full academic year. Suitable applicants will possess the enthusiasm and flair to pass on their knowledge to students, and must have experience of working in these vocational subjects. No specific qualifications are required, although successful applicants will be encouraged to undertake a suitable teaching qualification.

Payment will be at the standard FE hourly teaching rate, which is £22.21 per hour plus an hourly payment in lieu of annual leave of £4.16, giving a total hourly rate of £26.37

Successful applicants will be subject to an application to join Disclosure Scotland Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) Scheme.

An application form and job description can be found on the vacancies section of our website [www.argyllcollege.ac.uk](http://www.argyllcollege.ac.uk)

All applications must be made on the Argyll College application form. Please send/email completed application form to:

**Moirra Gillespie, Argyll College UHI Ltd, Glenshellach Business Park, Oban PA34 4RY**

or e-mail [moira.gillespie@uhi.ac.uk](mailto:moira.gillespie@uhi.ac.uk)

The closing date for applications is Friday 6th May 2016

### Classroom Assistant (Temporary)

£14,964 - £15,858 (pro-rata, term-time)

Lismore Primary School

Ref: CME36542

### Lorn Arc Project Manager (Temporary)

£36,516 - £39,984

Oban

Ref: DVE00237

Temporary to April 2019

☎ 01546 604334



Closing date for both posts: 6 May 2016. To apply visit our website

[www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/jobs](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/jobs)

## Bridge of Orchy Village Hall Trust

Registered Charity SCO46194  
**Project Officer for Climate Challenge Fund Project**  
Full Time based in Bridge of Orchy  
£25,000 p.a. gross pro rata.  
Fixed term ending 31st March 2017

The project includes the delivery of an inspiring programme of events to raise awareness of climate challenge issues, including the insulation and re-opening of the Village Hall, composting and food waste, a transport project, a home efficiency project, vegetable growing, amongst others. The project officer will have responsibility for the administration of the project and liaising with existing funders, as well as fundraising and researching further grant applications. Social media and website skills are also required.

Apply with CV to [glenorchyb8074@gmail.com](mailto:glenorchyb8074@gmail.com)  
BOOVHT, Arichastlich, Glen Orchy, Argyll, PA33 1BD.

### Polytunnel Assistant

Working in connection with the above Climate Challenge Fund Project we require an experienced, yet practical gardener/horticulturalist to work in the community polytunnel, to help and to encourage novice growers. Initially for 3 weeks (35 hours per week) to set up the project, thereafter for 1 day (7.5 hours) per week until 31st March 2017 at the rate of £9 per hour gross. There will be other landscaping duties and hours may be extended depending on the success of the project.

Apply with CV to [glenorchyb8074@gmail.com](mailto:glenorchyb8074@gmail.com)  
BOOVHT, Arichastlich, Glen Orchy, Argyll, PA33 1BD.



## Feed Co-ordinator/Assistant DPA - Inverlussa Marine Services

**Position: Feed Co-ordinator/Assistant DPA**  
Job Type: Full time, permanent

Inverlussa Marine Services is a workboat operator currently servicing contracts throughout the UK and Europe. The fleet of 8 vessels are primarily operating in the fish farm sector, with a developing market in the Offshore Renewables sector.

Due to our current fleet expansion and continued growth, we are seeking to fill the position of Feed Co-ordinator to oversee the delivery of fish farm feed. Additionally, the position will involve assisting with DPA duties, for both the aquaculture and offshore renewables vessels.

The successful candidate must have a marine background and be based on Mull, or commutable distance. Excellent logistical and organisational skills are essential, as are an attention to detail and working knowledge of IT.

The position will require some out of hours availability and occasional travel when required.

Remuneration dependent on experience.

Please apply by sending a copy of your CV and covering letter to [info@inverlussa.com](mailto:info@inverlussa.com) before 28 April.

For more information please contact 01680 812109.

## Facilities Technician (Electrical)



Salary £22,249-£31,656 per annum depending on experience

You will be responsible for the in-house service for maintenance and inspection of emergency lighting and portable electrical equipment. Together with the Maintenance Manager, you will also be responsible for completing electrical installation, maintenance work and periodic testing and will be able to offer independent competent advice on electrical systems. You will work as part of a team of Technicians that provide a Facilities management service for the laboratory and knowledge of building service engineering systems would therefore be beneficial.

The successful applicant will be trained to 17th Edition requirements with experience of installation, maintenance and testing.

We are looking for someone who can provide a quality service, with a 'can do' attitude who is able to develop and promote positive working relationships as well as maintain safe working practices.

Further information is available on line at [www.sams.ac.uk](http://www.sams.ac.uk). Alternatively, please write to: Human Resources, Facilities Technician (Electrical), Job Ref D01/16.CC, The Scottish Association for Marine Science, Scottish Marine Institute, Oban, Argyll PA37 1QA or e-mail [recruitment@sams.ac.uk](mailto:recruitment@sams.ac.uk)

The closing date for receipt of applications is 6th May 2016  
Interviews will be held on 24th May 2016

SAMS is a registered Scottish charity (SC 009206), has an equal opportunities policy and welcomes applications from all sections of the community.



Have a vacancy for a

## HGV Driver

Please apply in writing or by email stating previous experience to Donald MacDonald

Site 15a, Kilmory Industrial Estate,  
Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8RR

Email address: [donald@damacdonald.co.uk](mailto:donald@damacdonald.co.uk)

North Argyll Eventide Home Association Limited

## NORTH ARGYLL HOUSE

Bealach an Rìgh, Oban, Argyll PA34 5TG  
Tel: 01631 562168

### Domestic/Laundry Assistant,

6 months part time temporary contract.

£7.46 per hour

For an application form contact Manager  
Morag A Telfer 01631 562168



Applications are invited for the following posts: -

## 2 PART TIME FORECOURT ATTENDANTS

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We require pleasant, well mannered persons to join our team working in our shop and forecourt facility. Experience would be beneficial but not essential as training will be given.

In the first instance, applications, in writing only, giving brief details together with a C. V. if available to: -

HR Department, Gleaner Oils Ltd

Milnfield, Elgin, Moray, IV30 1UU

Or by e-mail to: [hr@gleaner.co.uk](mailto:hr@gleaner.co.uk)

## DALRIADA VETS

### Receptionist Required

Full Time. Mon-Fri

Please apply in writing to:

Dalriada Vets, Manse Brae, Lochgilphead,

Argyll, PA31 8QX

[dalriadavets@btconnect.com](mailto:dalriadavets@btconnect.com)

Oban Times RECRUITMENT

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## Care Assistants

Full and Part Time Positions Available

We are currently recruiting for Full and Part Time Care Assistants to join our experienced team at Lynn of Lorne Care Home.

You will be responsible for implementing the provision of quality care for elderly residents, ensuring they each retain their dignity and individuality. You'll also be closely involved in the general activities of the Care Home and responsible for maintaining a safe and secure environment for residents, staff members and visitors.

Applicants will have experience and a genuine interest in working with elderly residents within a caring environment. QCF/NVQ in Care is not necessary for this post, however candidates should be willing to participate in Vocational Training Programmes.

Applicants should be able to communicate effectively at all levels and be comfortable working in a Team. Satisfactory Police check and PVG check applies to this role.



To apply, contact [lynnoflorne@mckenziecare.com](mailto:lynnoflorne@mckenziecare.com) or call Home Manager Louise Glasgow on 01631 720278.

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- Ability to work as part of a team

- Ability to be flexible/adaptable as per the business operational requirements

- Experience of Health & Safety regulations

- Proficiency in the Microsoft Office suite inclusive of Outlook, Word, Excel and Powerpoint

This role is Full Time, Permanent, averaging 37.5 hours per week and will include weekends and bank holidays as required.

Please apply online <http://tinyurl.com/znl33c>

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### Agenda:

- the people
- the issues
- the back story



### THIS WEEK Mike MacKenzie

"There is something immoral about people who are unable to afford heating costs in a country like Scotland which is awash with energy"

### Macaulay Cup match report and photos from the 2015 final



### Nicola's a class act say pupils as school visit leaves them on a high



### TIMELINE Annual review on the cards for NHS

It is less than two weeks until NHS' 100th annual review, which this year takes place in Carlisle. The review, which is being taken by the cabinet secretary for health and medicines, Sir-

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Source: Recruitment Choice, The Newspaper Society 2005

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Lomond & Argyll Advocacy Service ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Friday 20th May 2016 New members welcome For further details contact: (01389) 726543

public notices

To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us @ www.argyll-bute.gov.uk Comhairle Earra-Ghàidheal agus Bhòid ARGYLL BUTE COUNCIL

PLANNING These applications listed below may be inspected at Oban Lorn and Isles area office: Municipal Buildings Albany Street Oban PA34 4AW, between 09:00-12:30 and 13:30-17:00hrs Monday to Friday and 10:00-12:30 and 13:30-17:00hrs on Wednesday or at the Mid Argyll Kintyre and Isles area office: 1A Manse Brae Lochgillhead PA31 8RD between 09:00 - 17:00hrs Monday to Friday and at the alternative locations detailed below during their normal opening times or by logging on to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 (AS AMENDED), RELATED PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

Table with 4 columns: Refval, Proposal, Site Address, Location of Plans. Contains planning application details for various sites in Argyll and Bute.

Written comments can be made to the above address or submitted online http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/... within 21 days of this advert.

Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence

G.L. MacQueen trading as MacQueen Bros Ltd of Unit 7A2 Glengallan Road Oban PA34 4HG is applying to change an existing licence as follows: To keep an extra 1 goods vehicles and 1 trailers at the operating centre at Unit 7A2, Glengallan Road, Oban PA34 4HG Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating Centre who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF, stating their reason, within 21 days of this notice.

First Registration of a Croft

Anne Allan Cameron has registered the croft 20B Lower Camoch, Lismore & Appin, on the Crofting Register held by the Registers of Scotland. Any person who wishes to challenge the registration may apply to the Scottish Land Court by 21 January, 2017.

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The Scottish Government Riaghaltas na h-Alba

ROADS (SCOTLAND) ACT 1984 THE A82 TRUNK ROAD (NORTH BALLACHULISH TO CORRAN FERRY CYCLE TRACK) (REDETERMINATION OF MEANS OF EXERCISE OF PUBLIC RIGHT OF PASSAGE) ORDER 2016

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Scottish Ministers propose to make an Order under sections 2(1) and 152(2) of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984, redetermining the means of exercise of the public right of passage over the roads described in the Schedule hereto.

The title of this Order is The A82 Trunk Road (North Ballachulish to Corran Ferry Cycle Track) (Redetermination of Means of Exercise of Public Right of Passage) Order 2016

A copy of the proposed Order and accompanying plans showing the roads over which the means of exercise of the public right of passage is to be redetermined, together with a statement of the Scottish Ministers' reasons for making the Order, may be examined free of charge during normal business hours from 21st of April 2016 until 19th of May 2016 at the offices of Transport Scotland, Reception, 9th Floor, Buchanan House, 58 Port Dundas Road, Glasgow, G4 0HF, at the offices of Highland Council, Service Point, Lochaber House, High Street, Fort William, PH33 6EL and the Post Office, Ballachulish, Loanfern, Argyll, PH49 4JB.

A copy of the Order and this Notice will be available on the Transport Scotland website at http://www.transport.gov.scot/road/road-and-traffic-orders/north-west-traffic-orders.

H D GILLIES

A member of the Scottish Ministers Transport Scotland, 58 Port Dundas Road, Glasgow G4 0HF

SCHEDULE ROADS OVER WHICH MEANS OF EXERCISE OF PUBLIC RIGHT OF PASSAGE IS TO BE REDETERMINED.

- 1. That length of the existing footway generally on the east and north side of the A82 Trunk Road from the projection of the northernmost kerbline of B863 to Kinlochleven at its junction with A82, to a point 59 metres or thereby north of the northernmost end of the eastern parapet of Righ Bridge (Trunk Road Structure Number A82 910) generally in a northerly then westerly then northerly direction for a distance of 5208 metres or thereby as shown by the saw-tooth hatching and marked "1" on plans RD082-001 and RD082-002 in the plan folio.
2. That length of the existing footway generally on the south and west side of the A82 Trunk Road from a point 56 metres or thereby north of the northern end of the westernmost parapet of Righ Bridge (Trunk Road Structure Number A92 910) to a point 41 metres or thereby south-west of the westernmost corner of the building known as Ashley Bank, Corran Ferry, PH33 6SJ most generally in a northerly, then north-easterly, then north-westerly direction for a distance 656 metres or thereby as shown by the saw-tooth hatching and marked "2" on plan RD082-001 in the plan folio.



www.highland.gov.uk



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

The applications listed below, along with plans and other documents submitted with them, may be examined online at http://wam.highland.gov.uk or electronically at your nearest Service Point. You can find your nearest Service Point via the following link https://www.highland.gov.uk/directory/16/a\_to\_z

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.

Table with 3 columns: Reference Number, Development Address, Proposal Description. Lists planning applications for various sites in Oban.

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

APPLICATION FOR APPORTIONMENT Achosragan Common Grazings

Neil Black, 4 Achosragan intends to lodge an application for apportionment of approximately 3.496 hectares for the purpose of stock management.

The share position in the common is as follows:

Table with 2 columns: SHAREHOLDER, NUMBER OF SHARES. Lists shareholders and their share counts for Achosragan Common Grazings.

The applicant has a copy of the application which can be inspected by any person interested.

Any comments on the application should be lodged with the Crofting Commission, Great Glen House, Leachkin Road, Inverness, IV3 8NW before May 12, 2016.

A copy of any representations made will be forwarded to the applicant.

CROFTING COMMISSION COIMISEAN NA CROITEARACHD DECROFTING APPLICATIONS

A C McLaren 19 & 20 North Ballachullish, Kilmallie 0.574 ha - Site for 3 house plots 64685

J Henderson 19 Moss, Tiree 0.341 ha - Site for a dwelling house 4.86.58471

Comments can be made to the Crofting Commission by any member of the crofting community within the locality of the land, within 28 days of the date of this newspaper. Crofting Commission, Great Glen House, Leachkin Road, Inverness IV3 8NW or info@crofting.scotland.gov.uk

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SCOTTISH HYDRO ELECTRIC POWER TRANSMISSION PLC

ELECTRICITY ACT 1989 TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

THE ELECTRICITY (APPLICATIONS FOR CONSENT) REGULATIONS 1990

Notice is hereby given that Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission Plc (part of Scottish and Southern Energy Power Distribution), 10 Henderson Road, Inverness IV1 1SN (a company incorporated under the Companies Acts with the registered number SC213461) and having its registered office at Inveralmond House, 200 Dunkeld Road, Perth PH1 3AQ has applied to Scottish Ministers for consent to install and keep installed a new single circuit angle / terminal tower (GRID REFERENCE NN 1224 7416; Landranger Sheet No. 41), which is adjacent to an existing tower (numbered T155). The location of the new tower (T156) is to the rear of Fort William Grid Substation and is of 25.0 metres in height. The new tower is part of a refurbishment of the existing 132kv overhead line from Fort William Grid Substation to Lundavra.

Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission PLC has also applied for a direction under Section 57(2) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 that planning permission for the development noted above is deemed to be granted.

A copy of this application with a plan showing the land to which this application relates is available for inspection free of charge during normal office hours at The Highland Council Area Planning Office, Fulton House, Gordon Square, Fort William PH33 6XY.

Any representations should be made in writing to The Scottish Government, Energy Consents Unit, 4th Floor, 5 Atlantic Quay, 150 Broomielaw, Glasgow G2 8LU or by email to representations@scotland.gsi.gov.uk identifying the proposal and specifying grounds for objection or support, not later than 26th May 2016. Representations should be dated and should clearly state the name (in block capitals) and full return email or postal address of those making representation. All representations to the Scottish Government will be copied to the planning authority on request.

As a result of a statutory objection from the relevant planning authority, or where Scottish Ministers decide to exercise their discretion to do so, Scottish Ministers can also cause a Public Local Inquiry (PLI) to be held.

Following receipt of all views and representations, Scottish Ministers will determine the application for consent in two ways:

- Consent the proposal, with or without conditions attached; or
• Reject the proposal

Fair Processing Notice

The Scottish Government Energy Consents and Deployment Unit processes applications under the Electricity Act 1989. During the process, to support transparency in decision making, the Scottish Government publishes online at www.energyconsents.scot. When making an email or paper representation you will automatically be opted in to its publication unless you choose to mark it as confidential. We may share your personal data with DPEA and local Planning Authorities but will not publish your personal data (e.g. your name and address) as this is removed beforehand in compliance with the Data Protection Act. Should you choose not to provide your personal data then your representation will only be considered by Scottish Ministers and not be shared for consideration with any other party. If you have any concerns about how your personal data is handled, please email us at: energyconsents@scotland.gsi.gov.uk or write to Local Energy & Consents, 4th Floor, 5 Atlantic Quay, 150 Broomielaw, Glasgow, G2 8LU

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## Lorn Show bids for success as sponsorship deal is announced

LORN Agricultural Show has been given a major lift with the announcement of a new sponsorship agreement.

Under the deal, unveiled earlier this week, United Auctions will be the new main sponsor of the rural show for the next three years.

Scotland's leading livestock auction company has committed significant support to the annual one-day event, which welcomes around 1,500 visitors and competitors every August.

Held at Tralee Beach, Benderloch, with generous support and assistance from the Keil Crofters and the family of the late Mr H MacColl of Glencoe, the event is recognised for its quality cattle and sheep shows, with particularly strong numbers of Highland cattle and blackface sheep.

David Leggat, executive chairman of United Auctions, said: 'We're pleased to team up with the Lorn Agricultural Society and strengthen the position of this important rural show.'

'The role of agricultural

shows and the voluntary network which runs them are a vital part of the fabric of local communities.'

Ewen MacGillivray Jnr, president of Lorn Agricultural Society, said: 'We're delighted to be given this long-term support from United Auctions. It's not been easy in this financial climate so it's great to have this boost, which will give us security in the coming years.'

It is understood that the funding will be invested in equipment for the show, with the details to be confirmed at the next meeting of the show committee.

Donald Morrison, area managing director for Argyll and the Islands, said: 'Having attended the event for 40 years, it's great news that UAB is backing the show. It's an excellent shop window to see top quality stock on offer, which is why it attracts competitors and visitors from all over Argyll and the Islands.'

This year's Lorn Agricultural Show takes place on Saturday August 6.



Left to right: Donald Morrison, area managing director for United Auctions; Ewen MacGillivray, Lorn Agricultural Society president, and David Leggat, UA executive chairman at the Lorn showground.

### Market reports

#### Gigha bullocks hit the Stirling heights

AT STIRLING on Monday April 18, Caledonian Marts Ltd sold 468 store cattle plus 401 store hoggets, ewe hoggets and ewes with lambs at foot.

A total of 212 Bullocks averaged 209p/kg, selling to 264p/kg for a Simmental from J & J Earnshaw, Achamore, Isle of Gigha and to £1,170 gross for a Limousin from J & J Brown, Loanrigg, Slamannan.

Among the heifers, 197 animals averaged 203p/kg, selling to 237p/kg for a Limousin from W Thomson & Son, Hilton of Beath, Kelty and to £1,140 for a Limousin from Fairholm.

Bulls (12) averaged 124p/kg, selling to 179p/kg for a Charolais from Messrs Harrower, Craigevein, Balfon Station and to £910 for the same beast.

Forty-seven black and whites averaged 122p/kg, selling to 125p/kg from J Forrest, Townhead of Lambroughton, Stewarton and to £550 gross for the same beast.

In the sheep ring, the top price of the day went to T Dunbar, Stend, for a pen of young ewes with twin lambs, selling to £182. Ewe hoggets sold to a top of £62 for a pen of Cheviots from J Mitchell, Carie Farm.

**Leading prices - cattle:** Bullocks p/kg: 263p Hilton of Beath; 258p East Gartfarran; 256p Hilton of Beath; 254p East Gartfarran; 249p Robertsonlane.

Bullocks per head: £1,140 Loanrigg; £1,110 Bowridge and Loanrigg; £1,070 Wester Pirleyhall; £1,050 Loanrigg, Bowridge and Hilton of Beath; £1,040 Loanrigg.

Heifers p/kg: 227p Walton; 225p Wards of Alpity; 222p Craigevein; 221p Gallamuir; 218p Skeoch.

Heifers per head: £1,077 and £1,015 Fairholm; £1,000 Wards of Apity and Bowridge; £980 Fairholm; £960 Middlerigg.

Black and whites p/kg: 123p and 122p Townhead of Lambroughton; 120p Dunmore.

Black and whites per head: £540 and £520 Townhead of Lambroughton; £490 Dunmore.

**Leading prices - sheep:** Store hoggets Chev: £48 Easterhouse Chev X: £48 Easterhouse Jacob: £35 Easterhouse Ewe hoggets Chev: £50 Carie Chev X: £48 Pennygowan BF X: £46 Carie BF: £45 Ardvolic and Carie Chev X: £44 Torosay Ewes with lambs at foot Tex (BM) with twins: £167 Bankhead Cont with twins: £164 Kinnighallen-Con X with twins: £156 Lower Greenyards Mule (BM) with twins: £155 Bankhead Tex ewes with singles: £126 (twice) Kinnighallen Mule X ewes with singles: £122 Stend Cont ewes with singles: £120 Stend.

#### Almost 4,000 sheep sold at UA Stirling

UNITED Auctions sold 3,707 Prime Sheep on April 14 at Stirling - including 2,923 hoggs and 23 spring lambs which sold to an average of 182.48p/kg - plus 761 ewes and rams.

**Leading prices**  
Lambs per head: Medwyn Mill (Suff) £123.00; West Carse (TexX) £100.  
Lambs per kilo: West Carse (Suff) 244p; West Carse (TexX) 238p.

Hoggs per head: Groan (BTex) £101; Airdrie (Tex) £101; Over Kellie (Chev) £93; Boghall (Suff) £90; Dalbrack (BF) £89; Coulshill (Mule) £82; Laignmuir (Char) £77.

Hoggs per kilo: East Garden (Tex) 238p; Luckenburn (BTex) 236p; Monzie (Chev) 218p; Laignmuir (Char) 193p; Croftgarry (BF) 192p; Newton of Crathie (SuffX) 189p; Culachy (mules) 179p.

Ewes: Easter Garden (Tex) £136.50; Southfield (Char) £129.50; Kinnaird (Suff) £127.50; West Quarter (BTex) £116.50; Newton of Crathie (BFL) £109.50; South Flanders (Mule) £92.50; High Milndovan (Chev) £91.50; Flass (Lley) £90.50; Three Views (Zwar) £89.50; Peattieshill (BF) £75.50.

Rams (52): Penston (Tex) £135; Penston (Char) £135.

## Baler rounds off trade at machinery sale

A FOUR-year-old round baler topped the charts at Caledonian Marts' early spring machinery sale on Friday April 15.

A good turnout of buyers from across Scotland and Ireland ensured a brisk trade as more than 320 lots went under the hammer.

Top price of the day went to Euan Snowie, Boquhan Estates for a four-year-old McHale 5500 Baler at £16,000.

**Leading prices**  
Vaderstraad Rapid 300s £7,500; McHale wrapper £4,600; John Deere mower £4,600; 3m Siaba Express £3,600; Amazon L1000 fert spreader £3,300; Teagle wuffler £2,750; Krone hay tedder £2,350; Ifor Williams trailer 12' £1,900; bale trailer £1,600; Edlington Cambridge rollers £1,400; Spearhead topper £1,300; GX 106 plant trailer £1,200; New Holland 940 baler £1,200; old quad bike £1,050.

Other items of interest: Ztr mower £850; catching box £840; chain harrows £820; Grays roller £750; old straw chopper £500; old MF generator £580; old Ifor Williams trailer £700; small trailer £500.



A baler similar to this one topped the recent Stirling machinery sale.

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'We're a local company whose products are tailored to the local conditions. Best of all, we're about to move to new premises with main road access.'



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- 9am Show of Limousin bulls
- 10am Show of Aberdeen-Angus bulls followed by Beef Shorthorn bulls
- 10.45am Sale of Highland (11 & 9 females)
- 11.15am Sale of Salers (7) and British Blue bulls (1)
- 11.30am Sale of Charolais (65), Simmental (65 & 1 female), Limousin (59 & 3 females), Aberdeen-Angus (33) and Beef Shorthorn (17 & 8 females)

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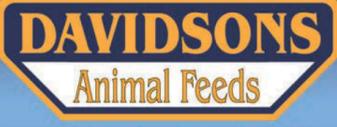


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**PERSONALS**

**THANK YOU**

Cammy and Ina Dempster would like to express their heartfelt thanks to everyone who kindly gave a donation in lieu of gifts for their Golden Wedding Anniversary. The total raised was £865 which has been gifted to Macmillan nurses(OBAN).We would also like to thank everyone who helped us celebrate at the Royal Hotel.

**THANK YOU**

**Campbell and Florence - Ruby Wedding**  
 We wish to thank all those who attended the party and all who sent cards, good wishes and unexpected but lovely gifts.  
 Brilliant music by the "Boy" Band (Donnie, Calum, Frankie, Freddie and Campbell.) Many thanks to Management and Staff in Lochnell Hotel for excellent catering.  
 Thanks also to Angus Douglas for providing transport.

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**BIRTHS**

**MACKINNON** - Micheal and Katie are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter Eilidh Kate, on March 6, 2016, a sister for Megan and granddaughter for Ken and Mary Liz, Margaret Ann Beggs, Barra and the late Brian Beggs, Lochwinnoch.

**DEATHS**

**BRADLEY** - Mary (née Kennedy), formerly Invernevis Cottage, Fassfern Road, passed away peacefully on April 8, 2016. Much loved mother of Patricia Abernethy and Jean Lawton and a much loved grandmother and great-grandmother who will be sorely missed.

**CAMPBELL** - Peacefully, at the Mid Argyll Hospital, on April 17, 2016, Margaret (Maggie) Campbell, née MacGregor, in her 69th year, of 24 Highbank Park Lochgilphead, and formerly of Dunrostan Farm, Achnamara, beloved wife of the late Archie, much loved mum of Sandy and Neil, much respected mother-in-law of Eilidh and Judy, loving gran of Mhairi and Niamh and a dear sister to Heather. A good neighbour and dear friend to many. Funeral service will be held at Cardross Crematorium, on Thursday, April 21, 2016 at 12.15pm. A memorial service will take place at Inverlussa Parish Church, on Friday, April 22 at 11.30am. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired, to Inverlussa Parish Church Funds.

**MAC INTYRE** - Peacefully at Lorn & Islands Hospital, Oban on April 12, 2016, Peggy, beloved wife of the late Alistair, loving mother to Lachie and granny to Merrin and Heather, a much loved aunt and friend.

**MACLELLAN** - Peacefully at home 82 Main Street, Port Charlotte with her family by her side, Rose MacLellan in her 89th year, former landlady of the Lochindaal Hotel. Beloved wife of the late Peter MacLellan, loving mother, mother-in-law,

granny, great-granny and great-great-granny. Interred at Kilchoman graveyard, Ilay on Monday April 18, 2016. Sadly missed by all her family and friends.

**YOUNG** - David Bruce on April 15, 2016, aged 71, peacefully after a short illness in Lorn & Islands Hospital, Oban. Much loved partner of Nell, loving father of Hermione, Mungo, Robin and Bruce and dear friend to many. Funeral and celebration of David's life at Appin House, Appin, PA38 4BN on Sunday, April 24 at 3pm to which all family and friends are warmly invited. Please park at the main road. Wild or garden flowers only welcome. No black ties please. Donations to Marie Curie Nurses or The Woodland Trust. Cremation on Monday, April 25 at 2.15pm at Cardross Crematorium. David will be sadly missed.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

**CROSS** - The family of the late Donald would like to thank relatives, friends and neighbours for their kind expressions of sympathy, thanks are expressed to Hamish Hoey & Son for funeral care and to the Rev George Cringles for a comforting service. Donations towards Ward I, Lorn & Islands Hospital, Oban raised £500 and is much appreciated.

**MACDONALD** - The family of the late Johnny (Mac) MacDonald would like to express their sincere thanks to relatives, friends and neighbours for their kind expressions of sympathy. Special thanks to Craig Neviss surgery for the care provided, thanks also to Mike McFall and staff for their professional and sympathetic arrangement of the funeral, to Father Roddy McAuley for his help and support. Thanks also to everyone who paid their respects at the church and at the graveside. The sum of £465.00 was collected in aid of Alzheimer's (Lochaber) and The Highland Hospice.

**MATHIESON** - Margaret Cameron Mathieson died on April 6, 2016, aged 97 and was buried at Innis Na Birlinn on April 14, 2016. Hers was a life well lived, and she will be sadly missed by her family and friends. Her family extend their thanks to her carers Amy and Emma, her GP practice, the staff at the Belford Hospital, her minister Dr Malcolm Kinnear and the funeral directors Mike McFall.

**SHANKS** - Jimmy, 15/11/1931 - 23/02/2016. The family of the late Jimmy Shanks would like to express sincere thanks to relatives, friends, the Northern Lighthouse Board, the Scottish Museum and the Masonic Lodge, Oban for the beautiful flowers, cards and expressions of sympathy following their sad loss of Jimmy. Thanks to all those who cared for Jimmy throughout his illness, with special thanks to Dr Jespersen, and all the wonderful nurses in Ward I. Thanks to Catriona at Hamish Hoey's for the funeral arrangements. To the Rev. Dugald Cameron, and Duncan Forgive for his music. Finally, thank you to all who paid their respects at the funeral and graveside. The retiring collection has been passed to Erskine Home for veterans.

**MEMORIAMS**  
**BLACK** - In loving memory of a mother-in-law and granny Charlotte, who fell asleep April 23, 2015. Our hearts still ache in sadness. Our secret tears still flow. For what it meant to lose you. Nobody will ever know. - Alistair, John and Charlene.

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**BROWN** - Precious memories of a dear wife and mother Rena, who died April 26, 2013. Gone are the days we used to share. But in our hearts you're always there. Never more than a thought away. Loved and remembered every day.  
- Donald, Colin, Donna and families.

**BUCHANAN** - Remembering my dear husband Willie Gerard. April 23 is a special day, 5 years have passed but you are still living on in our hearts and your memories keep us smiling on this important day. God bless.  
- Molly, Ann and all the Buchanan and Wilkinson clan.

**CAMPBELL** - In loving memory of my dear father and grandpa Neil Cowan Campbell, formerly of Tiragoil, who died on April 21, 2012. Forever in our thoughts.  
- Inserted by his loving daughter Ann, Angus, Lorne, Gordon, Gillian, Ardness, Tiragoil, Bunessan, Mull.

**JOHNSTON** - A much loved son and brother who died tragically on April 22, 2015. The pain of losing you never goes away. You are missed more and more every single day. You are the brightest star that shines up above and for you we have a never ending love. Sleep easy John Boy. Forever in our hearts.  
- Mum, Dad, Eilidh and Janine.

**MACALISTER** - In loving memory of Scott, lost at sea, April 25, 2013, aged 40. Another year has passed by. Our love for you will never die. You're thought and talked about every day. So special and loved in every way.  
- MacAlister family.

**MACALISTER** - In loving memory of our dear nephew and cousin Scott who has been lost at sea since April 25, 2013. Always in our hearts and thoughts.  
- From Auntie Maryanne, Auntie Alice and families.

**MACCALLUUM** - Treasured memories of our mum Barbara, who passed away April 16, 2015 and our dad Norman, who passed away May 31, 2011. Always in our thoughts and dearly missed.  
- Neil, Mairi, Elizabeth and families.

**MACCORMICK** - In memory of Morag, dearly loved mother and 'grannie Mull', who died April 23, 2012, my father Dugie who died December 2, 1968 and brother Iain who died May 24, 1990. Always in our thoughts.  
- Inserted by Ann and family.

**MACDONALD** - In loving memory of my husband Donald who sadly passed away April 23, 2012. Always loved.  
- Ruth and family.

**MACKAY** - In loving memory of Archie, died April 11, 1998. Always in our thoughts  
- Families, Inveraray and Canada.

**PURDEN** - Precious memories of our son Angus. To your resting place we travel. We place your flowers with care. No-one knows our heartache. As we turn to leave you there. How constantly we think of you. With eyes and hearts that fill with love we had for you in life. In death is stronger still. Forever in our hearts son. Love you.  
- Mum and Dad x.

**PURDEN** - In loving memory of our dear brother and uncle Angus who closed his eyes April 22, 1998. Angus a ray of sunshine gone too young. Your smiles, your laughter. Your life was a blessing. Your memory a treasure. You're loved beyond words. And missed beyond measure. Until we meet again.  
- Frances, Andrew, Katie and William x.

**STEELE** - Precious memories of our sister Morven, who died April 20, 1984.  
- Morag and Alan.

**STEWART** - In loving memory of a dear father and grandfather Jimmy, who died April 25, 1989. Gone are the days we used to share. But in our hearts you are always there.  
- Catherine, Kenneth, Margaret and families.

**SWAINSON** - My dearest wife, Rachel, who died April 18, 1997. If love could have saved you. You would not have died. If tears could bring you back. You'd be here by my side. I will always love and miss you.  
- Tony.

**SWAINSON** - Mum. She was a mother so very rare. Content in her home and always there. On earth she toiled in heaven she rests. God bless you mother. You were the best. You will always be our hero. Thank God you are with us beneath our wings. We miss you so much.  
- Marie and Jacqueline.

**Oban Times BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS**  
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**Lochaber locals gathered for induction of new Minister**

**FORT** William's Duncansburgh MacIntosh Church was packed on Friday evening (April 15), as Lochaber locals gathered for the induction of new minister, Reverend Richard Baxter. Rev Baxter, 54, will take charge of Duncansburgh MacIntosh Church in Fort William, and Kilmonivaig Church in Spean Bridge.

A native to Northern Ireland, he was welcomed by many of his friends and family from his homeland, with former parishioners from Fife, where he was minister of St Kenneth's

Kennoway Windygates and Balgonie for 18 years, also making the journey to take part in the celebrations. Presbyterian Moderator, Rev Edgar Ogston, conducted the service, alongside preacher Rev Tabea Baader, the minister at Fort Augustus and Glengarry.

The 'Charges', which is advice for the upcoming minister, were given by the Rev Ann Winning, retired minister from Morvern. An enormous spread was laid on by the congregations for the reception afterwards, which included

a specially-made cake.

Entertainment was given by youngsters from both congregations, including the Boys' Brigade, the church male voice choir, the church praise band and Robert Robertson. Presentation gifts were given to both Mr Baxter and his wife Sheryl.

Mr Baxter said: 'Sheryl and I are really looking forward to leading these two lovely congregations and to being a very active part of the Lochaber Community.'

**Thought for the week**

**CHRISTIAN** faith is broad and encompasses all sorts of different expressions; Presbyterian, Baptist, Orthodox, Roman Catholic and many others. Yet, we all agree we hold certain beliefs in common. Take for example this opening sentence from a Church of Scotland Statement of Faith. We believe in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. God is love. Rather than our faith being all over the place we assert certain things to be true. And here is an example of why this is important. Christian Wiman, the editor of

Poetry a US national publication, found the mantra of 'spiritual but not religious', of scant comfort when he faced life threatening illness. He needed something firmer to believe. He wrote, 'Definite beliefs enable us to withstand the storms of suffering that come into every life, and that tend to destroy any spiritual disposition that does not have deep roots.' The deep roots of faith have been long planted here in Argyll and Lochaber. My own congregation of Kilmore and Oban can date its origins back to 648AD. Down each generation there have been faults

and blessings till today we face our own 21st century context. And this may be that people still yearn for the 'spiritual' but are wary of religious commitment. Well, take a leap of faith and jump into the breath, length, height and depth of a wonderfully rich tradition that both grounds us and sets us free to live. All things will be made new; and creation will rejoice in worshipping the Father, through the Son in the power of the Spirit, one God, blessed for ever. Amen.  
**Rev Dugald Cameron (Kilmore and Oban)**

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**St. Margaret's welcome childrens first Holy Communion**

**ST. MARGARET'S** Church in Roy Bridge, welcomed the children of the Parish to their first Holy Communion on Sunday (April 17th). The service was given by the Parish Priest, Father Tom Wynne. Catechists Marie-Anne Wardlaw and Catrina MacDonald, prepared the children for their first Holy Communion. Friends and family celebrated with other members of the congregation afterwards in the village, where they had high tea. Ms Wardlaw made a special Fist Holy Communion cake for all the guests to enjoy.

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12. A request to insert an advertisement assumes acceptance of our conditions.

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'Coogie' Potter won gold at the BJJ 247 event at Meadowbank Stadium, Edinburgh.



Dawid Loukil also won gold at the Edinburgh event.



Craig Cameron came away with two bronze medals.



Lee Williamson, in white, picked up a silver medal



Liam Roberts won two silver medals at Meadowbank.

**Kickboxing**  
Oban's Senshi Do Kickboxing Club took part in the International Kyokushin Cup Full Contact tournament on Saturday April 9 at the ARC Fitness Centre, Glasgow.

The boys age 7-8 category was full of fighters from Senshi Do Kickboxing, five out of the eight entries being from Oban, and although putting up great fights Daniel MacInnes went out in the first round while Adam Bratton fought through to take fourth place.

Connor MacLean and Billy Bratton won through against tough fighters to face each other in the final. After an extremely close match, Billy won gold putting his club mate into second place.

The boys age 9-10 category saw Oban's Cody McCulloch dwarfed by the other competitors but he put in a great effort to place fourth.

The boys age 11-13 category again saw Senshi Do Kickboxing's Robbie Bratton and Angus Files outsized by their opponents and, despite fighting valiantly, both boys went out in the first round.

# MARTIAL ARTS

WITH IAIN RODGER

The girls age 11-13 category had Sara MacIntyre and Jessica Graham also fighting against bigger opposition. Jessica won her first fight on an unanimous judge's decision, but lost her second on a split decision which saw her fighting for third place in which, although tired, she kept going and won the bronze.

Sara won her first two fights with stoppages, bludgeoning her larger opponents with kicks to the legs until they could take no more punishment. This put Sara into the final which, after an extremely tough fight, saw her pick up the silver medal.

Girls age 14-15 had Kaitlynn MacLeod blasting through her opposition. She stopped her first round opponent and gained an unanimous decision against

a Dutch fighter in the second round, putting her in the final.

The final turned out to be an epic battle with a draw declared at the end of the fight meaning the girls had to fight extra time. This saw Kaitlynn's opponent winning on a split decision.

Men's Open Weight had Oban's Craig MacLachlan outclassing the opposition, winning his first two fights with stoppages to put him in the final. His opponent wouldn't be stopped but Craig put on such a show of skill and class that at the end of the fight he won an unanimous judge's decision to lift gold and be ranked champion.

Since the tournament Craig has been invited to fight in Japan at the Kyokushin world championships in October alongside Mark Welsh and team coach

Iain Rodger. Craig has accepted the invitation, which is a massive honour as the only two members of the GB team are from Oban.

For kickboxing club general enquiries contact Wullie Rodger on shihanwill@gmail.com.

**BJJ**  
Oban BJJ travelled to Kilmarnock on April 3 to join more than 70 students for an inter-club seminar in the Marcos Nardini family of associated Brazilian Jiu Jitsu.

This also included a surprise grading to blue belts for club regulars Dawid Loukil, Mateusz Grabiec, Jarek Cimoszuk and Christopher Rowan. This was a landmark day for club and something coach Coogie Potter has had as a goal from the birth

of the Oban club. A blue belt in BJJ is a huge achievement and is something all those that graded can be very proud of.

The club took a team of six to Edinburgh on April 10 to join more than 200 other competitors in the eighth BJJ 247 event at Meadowbank Stadium.

This would mark a big step up in competition with David Lo entering no gi at blue belt level and coach Coogie Potter entering both gi and no gi at blue belt level, both of them showing the standard of the club in Oban to be equal to any by winning gold against teams from London and Derby.

One of the most pleasing things for the club was seeing Craig Cameron and Liam Roberts getting four medals between them, two bronze for Craig and two silvers for Liam.

As a result of overwhelming interest, the club will be starting a beginners only class.

This will cover the basics of BJJ and lead into integrating new students into the other classes without having to 'jump in' with more experienced members which can feel slightly intimidating.

For more info contact Iain

'Coogie' Potter on coogiepots@gmail.com

**Kyokushinkai Karate**

Two members of the Oban club took part in the Kyokushin Cup event in Glasgow on the April 9. Megan Williamson went out in the first round, losing a decision to the eventual winner of her category.

Darryl McLaughlin, in his first full contact tournament, won his first fight by a unanimous decision but lost his second fight to the eventual winner after being knocked down with a strong kick to the head.

Darryl was due to fight for third place but coach Iain Rodger pulled him out of the competition after the head kick meaning that Darryl finished fourth.

The tournament was a great experience for the youngsters, both of whom show great potential.

For club details contact Iain Rodger at iain@ikku.co.uk.

**Shukokai Karate**

The clubs were closed over the Easter holidays but returned to normal this week. For club details contact Kenny Gray on kenni.gray@btinternet.com.



**Fort William**

FORT William Golf Club played hosts to the Letterfinlay Three-Man Texas Scramble last Sunday.

Winners were: Cal Brown, Stephen Howden and Marc MacDonald who had a better inward half and a net score of 64 (71 - 7).

Runners-up were Rusty Duncan, Willie Duncand and Ian Robertson with a net 64 (70 - 6).

Pat Cassidy, Peter Stewart and Frank Sweeney came in third, scoring a net 65 (72 - 7).

Last Saturday, the ladies played in the E Howie Trophy and Eclectic. Helen Brian won the competition with a net 74 (94 - 20) BIH. Runner up was Iona Cameron with a net 74 (93 - 19) and third place went to Rosemary Macintyre, net 78 (90 - 12).

Saturday also brought the Wolverton Trophy competition, which saw Andrew Brown win with a net 64 (72-8). James Duncan was runner up, net 65 (78-13) with a better inward half and third was Ian Robertson with net 65 (78-13).

**Glencruitten**

STEVEN McCuish won the Mackay Cup with nett scores of 69, 61 = 130. James Muir was second with scores of 68, 63 = 131. Steven also won the Captain's Prize on Sunday with a nett score of 61.

The Britannia Cup Qualifier and Monthly Medal take place on Saturday.

**Dalmally**

LADIES: Simmers Quaich round one (nine holes) - 1 Ann Colthart 18pts; 2 Ann Hay 15pts; 3 Lily McKay 15pts.

Gents: Handicap Championship round one - 1 Steven Turner (11) 64; 2 William Dougal (14) 65; 3 Angus MacGillivray (11) 68.

**Islay**

RESULT: Laphroaig Trophy, played Sunday April 17, 1 D Muir 29 pts; 2 D Livingstone 27 pts; 3 A Crawford 27 pts.

**Coaching positions in women's shinty**

**Shinty**

THE FOLLOWING Women's Camanachd Association (WCA) positions have become available:

- International Assistant Coach (x 2)
- International Physio
- South Senior Coach
- South U/18 Coach
- North Senior Coach
- North U/18 Coach
- National Development Camp Coaches

This is a very exciting and rewarding time to become involved in women's shinty. The WCA look forward to hearing from individuals from all backgrounds who are interested in helping the association further the success in women's shinty.

To register interest or for further information on any of the positions, contact Marion Gillies at womens.shinty@gmail.com.

Marion will email an application form out to any interested candidates.



Oban Senshi Do Kickboxing Club's Billy Bratton, left, won the gold medal in the 7-8 age category at the Kyokushin Cup in Glasgow recently.



Connor MacLean, left, and Adam Bratton in action.



Craig MacLachlan, right, won the gold medal in the men's open weight competition.



Kyokushin Karate Club member Darryl McLaughlin, right, finished fourth in the event.



Daniel MacInnes, left, and Connor MacLean.



Kaitlynn MacLeod won a silver medal in the 14-15 age category. She is pictured with Craig MacLachlan who won gold in the men's open division.



Sara MacIntyre, right, won a silver medal in the 11-13 age category.



Megan Williamson, left, acquitted herself well at the Kyokushin Cup.

# SPOT THE SHINTY BALL

## THIS WEEK'S JACKPOT £2500

LAST WEEK'S SHINTY BALL WAS HERE. . .



This week's nearest the ball winners, who each receive £25 are:

M MacGillivray  
Woodend  
Acharacle

K Devine  
Longsdale Terrace  
Oban

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.

**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 "Spot the Shinty Ball" Competition, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB by 12noon Tuesday. No refunds will be given for entries received after the deadline.  
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

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.  
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.

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 Wyvex Media, their immediate relatives and any person otherwise connected with the competition are ineligible to enter.

Please remember to enclose £1 for 20 crosses. 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. Send to "Spot the Shinty Ball" Competition, The Oban Times, P.O. Box 1, Oban PA34 4HB



Please tape your £1 coin here

Name .....

Address .....

.....

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Camanachd Cup  
Macaulay Cup  
MacTavish Cup  
Celtic Society Cup

**SHI**  
Best for all shinty new

# No surprises in MacTavish and Celtic Cup matches

## Skye Camanachd 0 Newtonmore 4

Skye Camanachd and Newtonmore met in the only all-Premiership RBS MacTavish Cup quarter-final tie.

Skye boss John MacLeod was minus Shockie MacLennan and Iain Nicolson, who were both working. Iain Murray sustained a broken finger in training on the previous Thursday. The Skye boss was also minus Will Cowie and the injured Ally 'Spod' MacLeod. Chris MacLennan returned after playing for the seconds the previous weekend and there were call-ups for David MacInnes and DJ Gilpin.

Newtonmore boss Paul John MacKintosh had Paul MacArthur back after he missed the previous weekend's 3-0 win over Lochaber in their Marine Harvest Premiership meeting at Spean Bridge. Norman Campbell took the field for his last match for at least six weeks as he is scheduled to have knee surgery. Keeper Owen Fraser was free of his two-match suspension so he took over from Michael Ritchie in goal. Fraser MacKintosh was missing whilst Jamie Robinson continued his comeback from injury with the second team.

Glen MacKintosh put Newtonmore

ahead after six minutes when he controlled a Paul MacArthur shy before sending a 20-yard, waist-high shot into the net to make it 1-0.

Skye had to make an early change with David MacInnes replacing Allan MacKinnon, who had been carrying an injury going into the game.

Skye created some chances without really threatening keeper Owen Fraser but it was the visitors who doubled their advantage on 26 minutes when Evan Menzies collected a pass from Glen MacKintosh and sent a 12-yard shot past Skye keeper Jamie Gannon.

Menzies gave More a 3-0 interval advantage with his second goal on 39 minutes. Drew MacDonald sent a corner to the back post where Menzies tucked the ball home.

Evan Menzies completed his hat-trick on 62 minutes following a great move. He picked up a reverse pass from Glen MacKintosh before sending the ball into the far corner of the net to seal the 4-0 win.

Newtonmore now face Glenurquhart in the RBS MacTavish Cup semi-finals on Saturday May 14 in a repeat of the 2015 final.

## RBS MacTavish Cup – quarter finals

### Caberfeidh 1 Glenurquhart 5

RBS MacTavish Cup holders Glenurquhart saw off lower-league opposition as they defeated Caberfeidh 5-1 at Cannich.

Glenurquhart, fresh from their trip to New York a week earlier, got off to the perfect start when a Neale Reid double had them 2-0 ahead with just three minutes played.

The Castle Leod surface was bobbly in places and when a ball played across the edge of the 'D' took an awkward bounce and was missed by a defender, Reid took advantage to smash the ball into the net to make it 1-0 in the opening minute.

A couple of minutes later, Reid turned and fired a shot goalwards which hit keeper Ewan Pilcher before going into the net off the post.

The Glen took their 2-0 lead into the break. They struck early in the second half with Neale Reid completing his hat-trick on 48 minutes. This time, he collected possession before turning and bulleting a shot into the middle of the net to make it 3-0.

Andrew Corrigan made it 4-0 just four minutes later following a neat move forward.

Neale Reid picked up the ball in the buckshee forward position and found Fraser Heath on the wing.

Heath played the ball in first time to Corrigan at the edge of the 'D' and he turned before striking the ball low into the corner of the net.

Neale Reid rounded off a fine individual display on 60 minutes when he scored his fourth goal of the afternoon.

Cabers' keeper Pilcher failed to get distance on a clearance and Reid tracked back, away from goal, to collect the ball before turning and sending a drive into the bottom right corner of the net.

A David Mellis goal on 78 minutes was the only consolation for the home side.

### Beaulieu 3 Lochaber 5

Lochaber had to fight all the way

to see off Beaulieu; winning 5-3 in their 3pm throw up at Braeview Park.

Beaulieu boss Stephen MacLean was without the suspended Ryan MacKay who served a one-game ban for passing the disciplinary points threshold. Play-maker Barrie MacDonald remained sidelined through injury.

Lochaber manager Ally Ferguson also had absentees. Brian MacDonald and Neil MacDonald were still out through injury, Donald MacRae was working and Zandz Ferguson remained unavailable.

Keeper Callum MacDonald was unwell so second team goalie Bryn Whittaker took over between the sticks.

Beaulieu got off to the best possible start when Ross Forbes scored with just two minutes played.

The visitors settled into the tie though and Stuart Callison levelled from close range on 19 minutes, with Shaun Nicolson the provider.

Lochaber took a grip of the tie and Josh Grant made some fine saves in the home goal before he was beaten on 42 minutes by a superb Shaun Nicolson strike from well out.

Ben Delaney made it 3-1 on the stroke of half-time when he combined with Stuart Callison to score.

Beaulieu fought their way back into the tie though and Conor Ross narrowed the deficit to a single goal on 65 minutes with Jack MacDonald the provider.

The Spean Bridge side restored their two-goal advantage on 75 minutes when Ben Delaney grabbed his second to make it 4-2.

Again the home side showed their mettle and Calum Morrison made it 4-3 just a minute later.

There was to be no leveller though, despite Jack MacDonald hitting the post, and it was Stuart Callison who would get his second goal of the game on 81 minutes to round off the 5-3 triumph.

### Strathglass 0 Kingussie 6

Hat-tricks from Rory MacGregor and James Hutchison gave Marine Harvest Premiership side Kingussie a last-four spot with a

6-0 victory over Marine Harvest North Division 1 league leaders Strathglass at the Dell.

Both sides were missing defensive lynch-pins as George Phimister was ruled out through suspension for Strathglass following his red card against Bute last weekend and Kingussie were still without the injured Lee Bain.

Rory MacGregor spent the

James Hutchison, continuing in his new full forward role, made it 3-0 a minute before the break.

Rory MacGregor completed his hat-trick on the hour. James Hutchison did likewise with strikes on 78 and 85 minutes to make it 6-0.

Kingussie will now play Lochaber in the RBS MacTavish Cup semi-finals on Saturday May 14.

## Up-to-date cup fixtures

Following the cup ties played over the last two weekends, cup fixtures are as follows:

**RBS MacTavish Cup – semi final  
Saturday May 14 - Venues to be decided by toss of a coin**  
Newtonmore v Glenurquhart  
Lochaber v Kingussie  
The 2016 RBS MacTavish Cup Final will take place at the Bught Park, Inverness, on Saturday June 11.

**Gregor Cameron Consultancy Glasgow Celtic Society Cup – semi final  
Saturday May 14 - Venues to be decided by toss of a coin**  
Inveraray v Glasgow Mid Argyll/Oban Celtic  
Kyles Athletic v Col Glen/Oban Camanachd  
The 2016 Gregor Cameron Consultancy Glasgow Celtic Society Cup Final takes place at Taynuilt Sports Field on Saturday June 25.

### Aberdein Considine Sutherland Cup – second round Saturday May 28

Kilmory v Oban Lorn  
Newtonmore v Skye Camanachd  
Boleskine v Beaulieu  
Glengarry v Kingussie  
Kinlochshiel v Lovat  
Glenurquhart v Lochcarron  
Caberfeidh v Kyles Athletic  
Tayforth v Lochaber  
The 2016 Aberdein Considine Sutherland Cup Final will take place on Saturday July 30. The venue has still to be confirmed.

### Balliemore Cup – quarter final Saturday May 21

Caberfeidh v Aberdour  
Kilmallie v Ballachulish/Glasgow Mid Argyll  
Strathglass v Taynuilt  
Oban Celtic/Glenorchy v Beaulieu  
The 2016 Balliemore Cup will take place on Saturday July 16. The venue has still to be confirmed.

early part of the season in goals for Kingussie, covering for the injured Craig Dawson. Dawson's return to the side the previous weekend had allowed MacGregor to feature outfield and he eased his side into the game with early goals on two and 11 minutes.

## Gregor Cameron Consultancy Glasgow Celtic Society Cup – first round

### Glenorchy 1 Oban Celtic 7

The final Gregor Cameron Consultancy Glasgow Celtic Society Cup first round tie between Glenorchy and Oban Celtic went ahead at Mart Park at the fourth time of asking.

This first round tie was postponed the last three weekends because of unplayable fields.

This was only Glenorchy's second match of the season – following a league win over Col Glen on Saturday March 19 and the lack of matches has made for a difficult start to the season.

Oban Celtic's resources have been stretched already this term and they went into the tie without four players from the side that beat Lochside Rovers in their last outing four weeks earlier. Neil Carmichael suffered a foot injury in that game whilst David MacInnes, David Graham and Alan Mackie were also missing. Last year's top scorer Lee Askew also remained sidelined.

Oban Celtic made a very strong start to the game and had a number of attempts on goal before they took the lead on 14 minutes. A goal-hit from the Glenorchy

keeper was taken out of the air by Daniel Madej who then played a through ball to Callum Fox who had time to tee-up his shot before rifling the ball into the net. Celtic continued to press and went 2-0 ahead just five minutes later. Wing centre George MacMillan played a one-two with Fraser MacMillan before firing a low drive into the left-hand corner of the Glen net.

The Oban side had the majority of the play at this stage and they got their reward a minute before the break when youngster Daniel MacMillan scored his first goal for his new club since his switch from Lochside Rovers. MacMillan's low drive went into the net off the keeper's foot to make it 3-0 at the interval.

Oban Celtic player/manager Kenny Wotherspoon made three changes at the break, bringing himself, Scott Burnett and Kieran Carnie on.

Glenorchy pulled one back on 61 minutes through Reece Cooke.

This sparked Celtic back to life and they scored four more times before the final whistle.

Kenny Wotherspoon made it 4-1 on 69 minutes, whilst fellow substitute Scott Burnett added a fifth on 77 minutes.

Kenny Wotherspoon again on 88 minutes and Fraser MacMillan a minute later completed the 7-1 win.

Oban Celtic can now look forward to a visit to Yoker to play Glasgow Mid Argyll in the Gregor Cameron Consultancy Glasgow Celtic Society Cup quarter-finals this Saturday.

Glenorchy and Oban Celtic will meet again in the first round of the Balliemore Cup at Oban.

## Glasgow Celtic Society Cup – quarter finals

### Kyles Athletic 12 Bute 0

Gregor Cameron Consultancy Glasgow Celtic Society Cup holders Kyles Athletic over-powered Bute 12-0 in their noon throw up at Tighnabruaich.

Kyles were minus Roddy MacDonald, who was on holiday. David Zavaroni, Roberto Zavaroni and Sandy MacKenzie were also missing. Dunkie Kerr and Robbie MacLeod were back after missing the league win over Lochaber in their last outing a fortnight earlier.

Bute fielded a young side and they fell behind to a Dunkie Kerr goal on 17 minutes.

Scott MacDonald made it 2-0 on 22 minutes whilst Gordon Whyte added a third just five minutes later.

Dunkie Kerr got his second on 32 minutes to make it 4-0.

The goals kept flowing and Thomas Whyte added to the Kyles' tally on 41 and 47 minutes with one of his strikes proving to be the goal of the game as he struck a fierce shot past the Bute defence into the top corner of the net.

Whyte's double came either side of a 43-minute Innes MacDonald goal. The Scotland under 21 international was first to react after the Bute keeper had made a good save with his feet but MacDonald sent the rebound high into the net.

Dunkie Kerr completed his hat-trick to put Kyles 8-0 ahead on 48 minutes.

Robbie MacLeod got in on the act with a 74 minute goal, whilst Gordon Whyte got his second



Lochaber's Shaun Nicholson stands up to the challenge from Beaulieu's Ryan... Photo: Neil

on 76 minutes to notch double figures.

Dunkie Kerr became the day's top scorer when he took his count to five goals with strikes on 77 and 87 minutes to make it 12-0.

Kyles Athletic will now face Col Glen or Oban Camanachd in the Gregor Cameron Consultancy Glasgow Celtic Society Cup semi-finals on Saturday May 14. The tie between Col Glen and Oban Camanachd was carried forward to this coming weekend as Marine Harvest Premiership leaders Oban Camanachd had their free Saturday last weekend as they celebrated player Daniel Cameron's wedding.

### Aberdour 1 Inveraray 3

Two goals in the last 20 minutes gave Inveraray a 3-1 win over Aberdour in their 3pm throw-up at Silver Sands.

Aberdour, who play in a league below their rivals, went into the tie without John Martin Phillips after a hand injury sustained in the Balliemore Cup win over Col Glen the previous weekend left him with broken knuckles.

Inveraray were minus four regulars, including David Robertson, as they attended the wedding of first team player David MacPherson.

Aberdour made the better start to the tie but Inveraray player/manager Ruairaidh Graham took an 18-minute chance to give his side the lead.

The goal boosted Inveraray and they went on to have the better of the first half without adding to their tally.

They were made to pay when Aberdour levelled thanks to a great shot from Angus Thorburn on 65 minutes.

The second half was end-to-end but it was Inveraray who went back in front thanks to an Allan MacDonald goal on 70 minutes.

Aberdour thought they had equalised for a second time when a Roddy MacColl strike pinged off the post.

Aberdour had lost two key defenders through injury during the match and Inveraray sealed the win a couple of minutes from time when Lewis Montgomery took advantage of a lapse in concentration in the 'Dour defence to score.

This was Aberdour's first defeat of the season but they certainly shouldn't be down-hearted as this was a close encounter and they competed well against higher league opposition.

The Inveraray squad went off

to celebrate their win at their team-mate David MacPherson's wedding reception.

## Aberdein Considine Sutherland Cup – first round

### Kyles Athletic 4 Fort William 0

The Kyles Athletic colts beat the Fort William colts 4-0 in their 3pm throw-up at Tighnabruaich.

Ross MacRae gave Kyles the lead a minute before the break.

Gordon Whyte, who scored twice for the Kyles' first team earlier in the day, made it 2-0 on the hour mark.

Two late goals put gloss on the victory. Fraser Williamson added a third on 84 minutes, with Gordon Whyte getting his second on 88 minutes.

The Kyles Athletic colts now travel to play Caberfeidh reserves in the second round.

### Aberdour 1 Kingussie 8

An unplayable field at Silver Sands led to the postponement of last weekend's meeting between the Aberdour seconds and the Kingussie seconds but this weekend's noon meeting went ahead with the Kings running out 8-1 winners.

Veteran forward Kevin Thain scored four times for the visitors. Youngster Roddy Young grabbed a hat-trick with another youth, Liam Borthwick, getting the other.

Kingussie travel to play Glenurquhart at Craighard in the second round.

### Kinlochshiel 2 Aberdeen University 0

Aberdeen University's Balgownie pitch was deemed unplayable for the second successive Saturday so the students' tie with the Kinlochshiel reserves was reversed to Kirkton.

Goals from Aedan MacRae on 25 minutes and Lewis MacVicar on 41 minutes were enough to put 'Shiel through to the next round.

Skye Camanachd Ladies player Jenna Beaton made a first appearance for Aberdeen University as a second-half substitute.

### Kilmallie 0 Lovat 2

The Kilmallie colts lost out 2-0 to the Lovat colts at Canal Parks.

The goals came late in the tie. There was only 15 minutes remaining when a backhand strike from Daniel Stewart put Lovat



Glenurquhart's Paul MacKintosh and Skye's Iain Crossal Nicolson battle for the ball during last weekend's North Division One match at Drumadrochit. Photo: Donald Cameron

# SHINTY

## News, results and fixtures

### Sutherland Cup Balliemore Cup Strathdearn Cup Bullough Cup



...an Tilman during last Saturday's RBS MacTavish Cup second round match.

Inverness were without Michael Price and Matt Rippon, whilst James Cameron and Craig Nicholson were only fit enough for a place on the substitutes' bench. David Campbell returned following suspension, lining up in defence along-side co-manager Drew McNeil.

Liam MacDonald and Liam Cameron were missing for Kilmallie, as was the injured Ryan Stewart. Duncan Rodger and Steven MacAllister returned to the squad which beat Inveraray a week earlier.

Inverness went ahead on six minutes, courtesy of a Charlie MacDonald goal.

Kilmallie got their noses in front at the break thanks to a Duncan Rodger brace on 12 and 23 minutes.

Kilmallie's Grant MacKenzie bagged a second half hat-trick with goals on 55, 57 and 63 minutes, before substitute Bryan MacKay rounded off the scoring when he made it 6-1 in the final minute.

#### Marine Harvest North Division 1

##### Beaulieu 1 Newtonmore 3

The Newtonmore reserves go second in the division after they beat Beaulieu reserves 3-1 in their noon meeting at Braeview Park.

Newtonmore, who had Jamie Robinson in midfield as he continued his recovery from injury, went ahead on nine minutes through Duncan Gorman.

The visitors doubled their advantage on 36 minutes when the ball ended up in the home net off Beaulieu veteran Roger Cormack.

Beaulieu full forward Martin Davidson beat Michael Ritchie in the 'More goal to make it 2-1 on 51 minutes.

David Cheyne confirmed the win when he made it 3-1 on 76 minutes.

##### Glenurquhart 2 Skye Camanachd 1

The Glenurquhart reserves edged out the Skye Camanachd reserves 2-1 at Blairbeg.

After a goal-less first half, Cairn Urquhart gave the Glen a 57-minute lead. Calum Miller scored what proved to be a crucial second on 63 minutes.

Skye had Iain Nicolson in their ranks as his work commitments meant he was unable to travel to Portree for the club's first team match and he netted six minutes from time to make it 2-1.

Glenurquhart saw out the rest of the game and the points take them to sixth spot in the league.

Skye are still searching for their first league point, although all four of their league games so far this year have been away from home. They have their first home fixture of the season this coming Saturday against Beaulieu's second team.

#### Marine Harvest South Division 1

##### Lochside Rovers 6 Col Glen 0

Lochside Rovers, Oban Camanachd's reserve side, completed a notable double for the club with both teams top of their respective leagues.

Lochside are top on goal difference over Oban Celtic.

It was the youthful home side, with six players from the under-17 development squad in the starting line-up, that made a bright start and were three goals to the good after 15 minutes through Daniel

MacVicar, Scott Dempster and Daniel Sloss. To their credit, Col Glen began to come back into the game but found the defence of Chris Eccleston, Keith Burnett, Alex Dunnings and the talented Ross MacMillan in good form.

On the rare occasions they managed to breach the home defence, the Col Glen forwards' attempts at goal were ably dealt with by Brian 'Beano' Logan.

Indeed, had it not been for the Col Glen keeper bringing off some fine saves, Lochside could have been out of sight by half-time.

With the red and blacks using the excellent Mossfield surface to good effect, the home side were well worthy of their lead as referee 'Deek' Cameron blew for half-time.

The second half was a more even affair and, with the advantage of a stiff breeze in their favour, Col Glen were more positive although the Lochside midfield trio of Evan MacLellan, Robert Alexander and Willie Neilson were controlling the game so it was no surprise when the home

#### New team bus for Kingussie

KINGUSSIE Camanachd Club has a new Ford 17-seat minibus.

The club has been working towards this for some time and would like to acknowledge that this was made possible with the generous support of Walker Group (Scotland) Limited.

The bus will provide exclusive transport for Kingussie first, second, under 17s, under 14s and primary shinty teams, as well as Badenoch and Strathspey ladies shinty team.

The club has also agreed that Kingussie High School can use the bus when it is not in use by the club and it will also be available for all local primary school and Active Schools activities.

Kingussie president Russell Jones said: 'The new minibus is an incredible boost for our shinty club and I am sure

all Kingussie players will be extremely proud travelling to matches in their own bus.

'The club committee was keen that the bus should be available to others in the community as well and we are pleased an agreement has been reached with Kingussie High School.

'On behalf of the club, I would like to thank Walker Group (Scotland) Limited for their support.'

Kingussie High School Rector Ollie Bray commented: 'We are delighted Kingussie Camanachd Club has secured funding for this minibus.

'We are and even more delighted that our wider school community will be able to benefit from use of the bus for school trips and extra-curricular activities through a new partnership with the shinty club.'



Kyles Athletic's Robbie MacLeod shields the ball during his team's 12-0 rout of Bute in the Celtic Society Cup last weekend. Photo: Paul Paterson

ahead. A superb Sam Ferguson strike 10 minutes from time confirmed Lovat's place in the second round.

Lovat's prize is an away tie against Kinlochshiel.

#### Kilmory W/O v Inveraray

Kilmory were given a walk-over when the Inveraray seconds were unable to raise a team for their tie at MacRae Park.

Kilmory now host Oban Lorn in the next round.

#### Marine Harvest Premiership

##### Fort William 0 Kinlochshiel 3

Kinlochshiel went second in the Marine Harvest Premiership when they beat Fort William 3-0 at An Aird.

Kinlochshiel stamped their authority on the match early in the game and they led 2-0 before Fort William had time to settle.

Keith MacRae got the opener on four minutes.

The ball broke to MacRae just outside the penalty spot following a goalmouth melee.

He first took a touch towards goal and then to his left before sending a waist-high drive into the back of the net to make it 1-0.

The Kirkton side went 2-0 ahead just a couple of minutes later.

A powerful Jordan Fraser shot was saved with his feet by Fort

William keeper Paul MacKay and the ball broke to MacRae, running in on the edge of the 'D', and his first time finish beat the helpless keeper.

There was a touch of fortune to Kinlochshiel's third goal on 53 minutes.

Home defender Sean Cruickshank stopped a cross into the 'D' with his feet but the ball spun into the air and looped over Paul MacKay and into the net.

'Shiel have now gathered six points from their opening five league matches - all away from home - and they now sit second in the table, ahead of third placed Lovat on goal difference, although they have played a game more.

Kinlochshiel will look to add to that total with their first home match of the season on Saturday when Lochaber visit Kirkton on league duty.

This was Fort William's first home match of the season and they remain bottom of the table as they continue their search for a first league point.

Marine Harvest  
National Division

##### Inverness 1 Kilmallie 6

After a surprise draw with Bute in their opening league fixture, Kilmallie now go fourth in the table after they defeated Inverness 6-1 in their 1pm clash at the Bught Park.



Lochside Rovers' Robert Alexander fires home his team's fifth goal against Col Glen in the South Division One match at Mossfield Stadium last Saturday. The red and blacks had a convincing 6-0 win. Photo: Kevin McGlynn.

side added to their total through Lewis Buchanan.

Daniel MacVicar and a fine strike from Robert Alexander made the final score 6-0 and secured the points for the home side. Lewis Buchanan was making a welcome return after injury.

With the points secured, the management team of Gareth Evans and David MacCuish rang the changes bringing on the ever-green Brian MacCallum.

The management team were pleased with the team, especially with key players missing.

Oban Camanachd Under-17's started their league programme on Tuesday night with a tough away fixture at Fort William.

As the only representatives from the south at this level, Camanachd will look to make a positive start under the direction of team coaches David MacCuish, Scott Buchanan and George Easton.

#### Marine Harvest North Division 2

##### Lochaber 8 Lewis Camanachd 1

The Lochaber seconds beat Lewis Camanachd 8-1 in their 1.30pm throw up at Spean Bridge.

Keith Neville and Stuart Matheson each notched hat-tricks for Lochaber, with Sandy Corrigan and Danny Delaney getting the others.

Paul Duke countered for Lewis. The win moves Lochaber into third place in the table, behind Caberfeidh on goal difference.

##### Lochcarron 1 Caberfeidh 0

The Caberfeidh reserves missed the chance to go top of the table when they lost 1-0 to Lochcarron at Battery Park. It looked like

the sides would have to settle for a point apiece until Lochcarron captain Peter MacKenzie popped up to score what proved to be the winner with just a couple of minutes remaining.

Despite securing the two points, Lochcarron drop to third in the league because of Lochaber's improved goal difference.

Leaders Aberdeen University and Cabers are also on eight points, although the students have played fewer games than their rivals.

##### Boleskine 3 Strathspey Camanachd 2

Boleskine survived a second-half scare to beat Strathspey Camanachd 3-2 at Smith Park.

Neil Hope on 30 minutes and Andrew Young on 37 minutes had Boleskine two goals to the good at half-time.

Strathspey rallied and Mark Murray on the hour mark and Mark MacDonald on 75 minutes levelled the contest.

It was left to Boleskine player/manager Jamie Matheson to grab the winner with just three minutes remaining.

With the teams above them also winning, Boleskine remain in fifth spot in the table.

##### Glenarry 7 Inverness 0

The match between the Inverness second team and Glenarry was reversed from the Bught Park to Craigard earlier in the week with the Highland Capital pitch already hosting the Inverness firsts clash with Kilmallie.

Glenarry recorded their first win of the season when they beat the Inverness seconds 7-0.

Raymond Fraser scored twice in a minute on 16 and 17 minutes to settle the home side and An-

drew Gilchrist made it 3-0 on 35 minutes.

Raymond Fraser completed his hat-trick on the stroke of half-time and he got his fourth goal of the game on 52 minutes, with Scott Bremner also scoring within seconds.

Former Lochaber player Scott Patterson completed the 7-0 victory on 75 minutes and the win means 'Garry climb two places to sixth in the league.

#### Marine Harvest South Division 2

##### Tayforth 6 Dunoon Camanachd 0

The meeting between Dunoon and Tayforth was reversed from the Dunoon Stadium to Levenhall Links earlier in the week.

And it was league leaders Tayforth who went two points clear at the top of the table following a 6-0 win.

All the goals came in the second half with former Glenurquhart player Ewan Menzies putting the home side ahead five minutes after the restart.

Ross MacGregor made it 2-0 on 58 minutes with Ewan Menzies getting his second a couple of minutes later.

Former Lochaber player Conor Sweeney then took centre stage as he grabbed a hat-trick with goals on 63, 72 and 89 minutes.

##### Oban Lorn W/O Bute

Oban Lorn were awarded the points in their match against the Bute second team.

The islanders, who had two scheduled away matches on the day, were unable to raise a team.

The Oban side now leap-frog Bute into fourth place in the table.



#### Fixtures

##### Saturday April 23 Camanachd Cup Preliminary Round

Bute v Inverness  
Lachie Wood - 3pm

##### Gregor Cameron Consultancy Celtic Cup Second Round

Col Glen v Oban Camanachd  
Deek Cameron  
Glasgow MA v Oban Celtic  
Graham Cameron - 1pm

##### Marine Harvest Premiership

Kingussie v Glenurquhart  
Evan MacRae  
Kinlochshiel v Lochaber  
Calum Girvan  
Kyles Athletic v Skye  
David Mitchell  
Lovat v Newtonmore  
Innes Wood

##### Marine Harvest National Division

Caberfeidh v Beaulieu  
John Angus Gillies  
Inveraray v Kilmallie  
Robert Baxter

##### Marine Harvest North Division 1

Glenurquhart v Kingussie  
Callum Duff  
Newtonmore v Lovat  
Andy MacLean  
Skye v Beaulieu  
Daniel MacRae  
Strathglass v Kinlochshiel  
John Matheson

##### Marine Harvest South Division 1

Aberdour v Lochside Rovers  
Willie MacDonald - noon  
Inveraray v Kyles Athletic  
Ronnie Campbell  
Taynuilt v Glenorchy  
Scott McNeil

##### Marine Harvest North Division 2

Inverness v Lewis  
Neil Ferguson - 1pm  
Kilmallie v Glenarry  
Martin MacLean  
Lochaber v Caberfeidh  
John Wood  
Lochcarron v Boleskine  
Iain Kennedy

##### Marine Harvest South Division 2

Aberdour v Glasgow MA  
Jim Innes - 3pm  
Bute v Dunoon  
Jon Gallagher - noon  
Tayforth v Kilmory  
Ross Brown

Throw ups 2.30pm unless stated.

#### Results

##### Saturday April 16 RBS MacTavish Cup Second round

Strathglass 0-6 Kingussie  
Skye 0-4 Newtonmore  
Beaulieu 3-5 Lochaber  
Caberfeidh 1-5 Glenurquhart

##### Gregor Cameron Consultancy Celtic Cup 1st round

Glenorchy 1-7 Oban Celtic  
2nd Round  
Kyles Athletic 12-0 Bute  
Aberdour 1-3 Inveraray

##### Aberdeen Considine Sutherland Cup 1st round

Kinlochshiel 2-0 Aberdeen Uni  
Aberdour 1-8 Kingussie  
Kilmallie 0-2 Lovat  
Kilmory P-P Inveraray  
Walkover to Kilmory  
Kyles Athletic 4-0 Fort William

##### Marine Harvest Premiership Fort William 0-3 Kinlochshiel

##### Marine Harvest National Division

Inverness 1-6 Kilmallie

##### Marine Harvest North Division 1

Beaulieu 1-3 Newtonmore  
Glenurquhart 2-1 Skye

##### Marine Harvest South Division 1

Lochside Rovers 6-0 Col Glen

##### Marine Harvest North Division 2

Boleskine 3-2 Strathspey  
Glenarry 7-0 Inverness  
Lochaber 8-1 Lewis  
Lochcarron 1-0 Caberfeidh

##### Marine Harvest South Division 2

Tayforth 6-0 Dunoon  
Oban Lorn P-P Bute  
Points to Oban Lorn.

## Green Machine lose to 'Burgh

Helensburgh 31  
Oban Lorne 23  
BT West Division 1

OBAN Lorne recorded one of their most disappointing defeats of the season going down 31-23 to Argyll rivals Helensburgh RFC.

The teams had met back in October with Oban grinding out a narrow 8-3 win. Since the start of the season Oban have been impressing in the league and have confirmed fourth place.

Helensburgh have been struggling to get a positive run of results together and have been battling against relegation to West Division 2.

Oban Lorne were missing several players for the game, including Lorne MacLachlan and Struan Smith, while scrum half Dom Ma and second row Airidas Savikas are away on national team duty with Lithuania.

Both sides battled out a well matched first 30 minutes in front

of a large home crowd. Helensburgh looked more hungry and sharper than Oban Lorne and ran in two unanswered tries for a 12-6 lead going into half-time.



Corrie Louw requires some attention to a cut eye.

Just as Oban looked to escape at the break within a score, they let the hosts in for their third try of the day for a 19-6 lead.

Oban were extremely disappointed at half-time with their performance and knew they had

### Rugby

to score next to stay in the game. The hosts, though, had other ideas as they secured a crucial bonus point by scoring their fourth try of the day five minutes into the second half.

The Green Machine responded with a try from prop Tommy Sutherland to bring the deficit back to 15 points.

Helensburgh responded again with the fifth try of the day taking the game to 31-11.

Oban pressured the 'Burgh tryline for the last 10 minutes of the game and made the home crowd sweat with a try from Craig Wright and a second from Sutherland to claw back into contention at 31-23 down.

It proved to be too little too late, however, with the home side securing an important bonus point win as they look to escape from the relegation battle at the bottom of the league.

Oban Lorne are currently on a poor run of form, having only two wins from the last six matches. The long, extended season, as a result of the numerous number of called-off games, is having its toll on the team as is the lack of available pitches and training facilities during the winter which has dented the match preparation and fitness of the team.

Coach Corrie Louw and his team turn their attentions to the visit of Cambuslang RFC to Oban this Saturday.

Cambuslang have failed to fulfil



Oban Lorne prop Tommy Sutherland dives over for one of his two tries during last Saturday's game against Helensburgh.

this fixture on two occasions over the past few weeks by first refusing to play due to pitch conditions and secondly failing to raise a team for the rearranged game two weeks ago.

Hopefully it will be third time lucky this Saturday as Oban Lorne look to get back to winning ways.

Kick off is 3pm with the game being played at North Connell due to a Youth Football Festival being held at the Glencruitten pitches.



It takes three men to stop Cammy Smith as he tries to break through the Helensburgh defence. Photos: Stephen Lawson

	P	W	D	L	F:A	Pts
Glasgow Academicals	18	17	1	0	574:235	81
Newton Stewart RFC	17	15	2	0	598:168	73
Carrick RFC	15	12	3	0	570:114	61
Oban Lorne	15	8	7	0	275:307	37
Allan Glen's	18	7	10	1	226:374	36
Kilmarnock	17	6	10	1	263:400	32
Helensburgh RFC	17	6	11	0	309:423	30
Lenzie RFC	17	5	12	0	260:635	29
Garnock RFC	15	3	12	0	223:447	18
Cambuslang RFC	17	3	14	0	305:500	17

## Primary School football festival on Saturday

### Youth football

OBAN Primary Football League is hosting a football festival at Oban's Mossfield Stadium on Saturday.

Primary 4, 5, 6 and 7 will be playing seven-a-side with primary 1, 2 and 3 playing Fun 4s.

Games will kick off at noon and run until 4pm.

Teams from the local Sunday League along with teams from Lochgilphead, Campbeltown, Glasgow, Dumfries, Helensburgh, Dundee, Perth, Giffnock and Fort William will be in attendance with more than 40 teams taking part.

Burgers, hot dogs, tea and coffee will be available during the day.

A signed Celtic top and a signed Rangers top will be the prizes in a raffle.

For people who love football, this is the perfect way to spend a Saturday afternoon.

## Scottish Amateur Football League results and fixtures

### Football

LAST Saturday's results: Premier Division - Oban Saints no game; Campbeltown Pupils 3, Fintona 1; Premier Division One - Ferguslie Star 2, Dunoon 3; Neilston 3, Lochgilphead Red Star 2; Premier Division Two - Dumfries Wanderers 5, Tarbert 4; Division One - Dunoon Athletic 0, Paisley 3.

This Saturday's fixtures: Premier Division - Campbeltown Pupils v East Kilbride; Premier Division One - Busby v Lochgilphead Red Star tbc; Dunoon v Kilbowie Union; Premier Division Two - Hillington v Tarbert; Division One - Carlton YM v Dunoon Athletic; Jimmy Marshall Cup, 3rd round - FC Clydebank v Oban Saints.

## Oban Saints' youth results and fixtures

### Youth Football

LAST weekend's results: Kilbowie Union v Under 13s, postponed; Under 14s 4, Ardencaple 0. Scoring for Saints were Aaron McKay, Kenni Gray, Cameron Clark and Jamie Forgive. Under 15s v Broomhill, postponed; Under 16s no game; Under 19s no game.

Monday - Campbeltown Pupils 0, Under 14s 2. Netting for Saints were Cameron Clark and Gavin Forgive.

This weekend's fixtures: Under 13s v Kilpatrick; Under 14s v Dumfries Riverside; Under 15s v Ardencaple; Under 16s v Port Glasgow Juniors; Under 19s v Milngavie.

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## Scott joins Donnie for Scotland training



Scott Maitland.

OBAN Saints are delighted to announce that Scott Maitland has been called up by Scotland manager Bruce McNaught to take part in an international squad training session at Colville Park, Motherwell, on Sunday.

Scott will join his team mate Donnie Campbell at the session. Club secretary David Buchanan said: 'Scott has been excellent for us this season and was the best player by a country mile on the park in our recent Scottish Cup semi-final defeat by Leven United and fully merits his call up along with Donnie to the Scotland squad.'

'I spoke to Bruce at the semi-final and he was very impressed by Scott's performance and he had no hesitation in inviting him along to a squad training session.' Saints are back on the road on Saturday when they turn their attentions to the Scottish

Amateur Football League Jimmy Marshall Trophy when they travel to Thorn Park, Bearsden, to take on Premier Division Two side FC Clydebank.

The game was due to be played last Wednesday night but had to be called off after a pitch inspection found the pitch to be waterlogged.

### Deduction

The Bankies are currently second bottom of Premier Division Two with nine points from nine games due in no small part to the deduction of four points for fielding an ineligible player. Were it not for the points deduction, the Bankies would be in fifth place and still in with a good chance of promotion.

The Bankies reached the third round of the Jimmy Marshall Trophy thanks to a penalty shoot-out win over second in the table Rutherglen after a thrilling 3-3

draw on February 13. Rutherglen gained revenge for that defeat in a recent league match inflicting only a second home defeat of the season on the Clydebank side.

Considering that the Bankies only other home defeat came in the Scottish Amateur Cup at the hands of the all-conquering Colville Park, they are likely to provide a significant obstacle to Saints hopes of a fourth consecutive Jimmy Marshall Trophy quarter-final appearance.

The Oban side booked their place in the Jimmy Marshall Trophy third round with a narrow 2-1 away victory over last season's runners-up East Kilbride FC Amateurs.

A David Atha penalty just after the half hour had Saints trailing by one goal to nil at half time and fortunate not to be further behind following a shaky spell just after the opening goal.

### Football

Saints produced a far better second half showing and a Donald Campbell brace, including one from the penalty spot, sealed victory for Saints and set up this tricky away tie with the Bankies.

Saturday's match must be played to a finish, with penalty kicks to decide the winner if the sides cannot be separated after 90 minutes. Awaiting the winners is an away quarter-final tie against Kings Park Rangers.

Manager Alex Craik hopes to have a full squad to choose from, apart from the injured Martin Bonar and Dene Cassells who is still suspended.

Saints are on their travels again on Wednesday night when they take on Alba Thistle in a Premier Division league match. The game will be played at Seedhill with a 6.30pm kick-off.



Donnie Campbell.

## Tiree boys are Scottish surfing champions

### Surfing

AGAINST national competition and Thurso's own hotshots, two young Tiree surfers have become Scottish surfing champions.

The Scottish Surfing Federation ran the Scottish National Surfing Championships 2016 on the world class surf breaks of Thurso.

Finn MacDonald won the under 18 cup and Ben Largs is the under 14s champion.

This is great news for the two young men from Tiree and great for the ever expanding surfing scene on their home island.

Blackhouse Watersports and Sud Surf School, both Tiree surf tourism businesses, have supported the boys since they first started surfing at around the age of three.



Finn MacDonald and Ben Largs with their trophies.



## Fun-filled football for youngsters

Argyll and Bute Council's football development service provided fun-filled football activities for children aged three to 14 years across Argyll and Bute during the Easter holidays. Courses were run in Dunoon, Campbeltown, Oban, Lochgilphead and Helensburgh. Courses were well-attended, running to full capacity in Helensburgh, Oban and Dunoon. Our photograph shows the children at the Oban coaching course.

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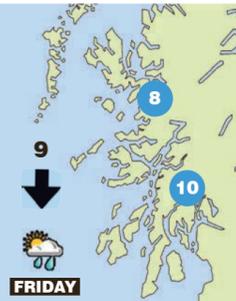
Chain, shackles, buoys all available to purchase in Oban

### WEATHER

**Thursday** Sunny intervals  
Winds light north westerly  
Temperatures 4°C to 11°C.

**Friday** Sunshine and light rain showers  
Winds light northerly  
Temperatures 2°C to 10°C.

**Weekend Outlook** Cloudy on Saturday  
Light rain on Sunday  
Winds moderate northerly  
Temperatures 2°C to 8°C.



**Stop Press:** New pontoons recently installed by North West Marine at Kyle Lochboisdale for visiting yachts

### TIDAL INFORMATION

Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday April 21, 2016** are listed below with differences for major ports listed on the right. All times are GMT (add one hour) BST

Date	am	pm						
Thur	05.09	3.7	11.48	1.0	17.34	3.8	23.47	0.9
Fri	05.42	3.8	12.17	0.9	18.05	3.9	***	**
Sat	00.20	0.9	06.14	3.9	12.47	1.0	18.34	3.9
Sun	00.52	0.9	06.44	3.8	13.17	1.0	19.04	3.8
Mon	01.24	1.0	07.13	3.7	13.44	1.1	19.34	3.7
Tues	01.53	1.2	07.41	3.6	14.08	1.3	20.05	3.6
Wed	02.23	1.3	08.11	3.4	14.38	1.4	20.41	3.4

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

Ardishaig	-5.35	Mallaig	+0.25
Campbeltown	-5.30	Portree	+0.55
Crinan	-0.47	Tobermory	+0.16
Islay Port Ellen	2.00	Dover	+5.30
Lochboisdale	+0.30		

**Ferry Crossings/Sea States**

Oban to Barra/South Uist	Moderate
Oban to Coll/Tiree	Moderate
Kennacraig to Islay	Moderate



### Marine Harvest leads the way with hi-tech wellboat

### SPORT

Mixed fortunes for Lochaber boxers



# New dawn for north women as charity seeks funding for centre

**ELLIE FORBES**  
fort@obantimes.co.uk

PLANS for a state-of-the-art women's centre that could revolutionise the way women live their lives in Lochaber have received a welcome boost after it was announced funding is to be sought from Scotland's largest grant-giving trust.

At a meeting of Lochaber District Partnership on Tuesday afternoon, Voluntary Action Lochaber (VAL) said The Robertson Trust could provide between £300,000 and £500,000 towards the centre, with funding possibly available in July.

VAL was approached about the building of a women's centre after Inverness turned down the opportunity and

funding support from The Robertson Trust.

VAL now plans to apply for the grant aid.

The centre will provide a safe environment for women, host a number of recreational activities and give women the opportunity to build new relationships and learn new skills. VAL has said the women of Lochaber will have input into how the centre is

designed, saying it will be a 'vital' part in the making of the new facility.

VAL consulted with 500 women in Lochaber, the majority of whom expressed their desire for such a centre.

Alyson Smith, project co-ordinator of Hope Lochaber, which has also received funding from The Robertson Trust said: 'I think it's a fantastic idea and it's much needed. I would

like to see a lot of community-led enterprises and also social enterprises coming out of it so women can take the lead on innovative women's services.'

Joyce Mathers, Scottish co-ordinator of Survivors of Bereavement by Suicide, also commented on the centre, saying: 'It would be nice if there was somewhere women could drop in to and have someone there they could talk

through their problems with, or even to talk to other women without having to queue up.'

Last year, The Robertson Trust handed out £16 million to projects in the UK, helping to combat alcohol misuse, supporting criminal justice and encouraging healthy lifestyles. Of that total £1 million went to projects in the Highlands.

Meetings in connection with the project are ongoing.

### Hotel extension plan bulldozed

PLANS for an extension to a Fort William hotel have been bulldozed by councillors.

Owners of the Cruachan Hotel had hoped to demolish an existing one story extension and build a new one with 14 bedrooms.

Inadequate parking and an increase in noise were taken into consideration by the southern planning applications committee, which met on Tuesday.

There were objections from neighbours who argued the site was already overdeveloped. However, planning officials told the council the extension had been scaled back far enough to make the proposal acceptable. But councillors voted 10 to 3 to reject the extension of the hotel on the A82.

Dubbed the 'Golden Mile', the area is known for its tourism trade, with a number of guest houses and hotels overlooking Loch Linnhe.

Fort William and Ardnarmurchan councillor Andrew Baxter voted against the proposal and said: 'I think it is overdeveloped.'

Supporting Mr Baxter's decision was Caol and Mallaig councillor Bill Clark who thought the planning committee had been wrong to recommend approval.



### Town team puts Nicola Sturgeon in the picture over pontoon plans

MEMBERS of Fort William's Town Team met Nicola Sturgeon, leader of the SNP, last Thursday.

Ms Sturgeon joined team members on the high

street where they discussed town issues with her and told her of the ongoing project for the building of pontoons at the west end of town, which the government invested in.

### Loch gears up to welcome cruise ship passengers

WORK has started on building pontoons in Loch Linnhe near Fort William's west end car park to attract cruise ships to the town.

Voluntary group Fort William Marina and Shoreline Association (FWMSA) is behind the development and its main aim is to have a permanent cruise ship berth in Fort William and to provide safe access to the shore.

FWMSA has had several meetings to gather support from Highland Council and various organisations, and the organisation was awarded a Town Centre Communities Capital Fund in November last year.

FWMSA secretary Sarah Kennedy said: 'We had a few hoops to jump through - Marine Scotland, Planning Permission, approval from Highland Council to attach to their car park - which did delay things somewhat.'

The project was then delayed until now due to the requirement for low tides, but the

area has now been prepared and H-beams and pontoons are currently being installed.

As well as giving a huge thanks to Brian Kearney and Norrie MacLean who originally set up the association, Ms Kennedy said: 'Thanks to Callum Boyd from Boyd Bros and The Underwater Centre who were at site on the huge barge with diggers on it last week. Thanks to Gael Force for provision and installation of pontoons, bridge and shore frame, and TSL for preparing the shore side work. Thanks to Hugh Logan Engineering Limited for guard rails, Boyd Bros for anchors/chains/buoys, Donationboxes.co.uk and All Round Signs.'

FWMSA expects to have the pontoons open for business in around two weeks time and a donation box will be installed, with a charge of £2 per half-hour. Berthing and overnight stays will be prohibited.

The organisation has plans for a grand opening in the summer.

### TIMESLINE

#### Loch Nevis salmon farm to expand

PLANNING permission to extend one of three salmon farms on Loch Nevis has been granted to Scottish Sea Farms Limited.

Highland Council's south planning applications committee, which met last week, gave the go-ahead for an expansion to the farm north west of Ardingh Bay, allowing for a 63 per cent increase in fish stock.

#### Essential Glencoe road works

ESSENTIAL road works are due to get under way on the A82 near Glencoe this weekend.

The work, by BEAR Scotland, is scheduled to begin on Sunday April 24 for three nights at Laraig Elidhe Bridge, before moving to Ba Bridge on Wednesday April 27 for a further three nights.

The road will be closed at both locations.

Eddie Ross, BEAR Scotland's North West Representative, said: 'Adverse weather has had a serious impact on the road surface.'

#### A vision for town's new hospital

FORT William's new hospital should fit in with NHS Scotland's vision for integrated health care in the community.

At Tuesday's meeting of Lochaber District Partnership, Dr James Douglas, GP representative, stressed the hospital should be primarily 'a place of safety' for local people, and not simply a triage centre.

There is to be a focus on providing services as close to people as possible, although there will be cases where people need to travel to larger centres. Public and clinical consultation will be an important part of future planning.



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### Candidates quizzed on disability policies at access forum hustings

CANDIDATES for the UK parliamentary seat of Ross, Skye and Lochaber laid out their cards on disability policies on Wednesday night, (April 13) at the Fort William Disabled Access Forum hustings.

Present at the meeting, which was held in St Andrews Church Hall, were Independent Ronnie Campbell, Labour Party's Linda Stewart, SNP Kate Forbes and John Finnie for the Green Party. The Liberal Democrat and Conservative candidates did not attend.

Chairing the meeting was Lochaber Disability Access Panel member Arthur Cowie, who brought questions from the locals to the party candidates. The hustings brought members of the Lochaber community together to voice concerns about disability problems.

Call centres were at the forefront of the debate as people with speech and hearing impediments explained their anger at having to deal with call centres to solve simple problems.

They asked party members for a way to tackle the problem and change the way disabled people have access to help.

Also discussed was road safety for disabled locals, with many feeling at risk when travelling around the Lochaber area. Local resident, Annette Hobson, who is partially blind and hard of hearing, is fearful every time she needs to cross the A838 where she lives. The road has no pedestrian crossing, and she says she is a 'near miss' when she crosses the road.

Maurin Macdonald, vice chairwoman of the Lochaber Disability Access Panel said: 'We were very pleased with the attendance at the hustings. The panel members and members of the public conducted themselves in a positive manner. It was a very productive event.'

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## Small Isles ferry gains top marks for food

CALMAC'S Small Isles ferry has become the latest in the fleet to achieve Taste Our Best status.

MV Lochnevis, which plies the route to the Isles of Rum, Eigg, Muck and Canna, is the latest to gain the thumbs up for her culinary prowess.

The accreditation programme is run by VisitScotland and all 10 of CalMac's major vessels gained the accreditation last year.

The scheme allows customers to easily identify and trust establishments which meet the criteria of serving a minimum of 40 per cent Scottish provenance ingredients within their menus.

All eleven of CalMac's vessels which hold the award are serving more than 50 per cent Scottish produce on their menus.

Passengers on board can tuck in to the likes of Barra-landed haddock or cod, Argyll Smokery salmon salad, Stornoway black pudding, Ardgay venison burger or Lockerbie macaroni cheese.

The award sees the Mariners cafes join such illustrious company as Gleneagles in Perthshire, Martin Wishart at both Edinburgh and Loch Lomond, and The Ubiquitous Chip in Glasgow, which are also Taste Our Best accredited.

When CalMac's 10 major vessels picked up the award last year, it became the first ferry company to take VisitScotland's 'Taste Our Best' seal of approval to the high seas.

CalMac's Retail Development Manager Gordon Smith said: 'It is really important for us to serve and promote good home-grown food, drink, products, talent and opportunities on board our ships when we can.'

'We have worked hard to put together a menu which not only satisfies our hungry customers, but which is value for money.'

# Marine Harvest leads the way with hi-tech wellboat

**KATIE CARABINE**  
fort@obantimes.co.uk

A NEW wellboat has been launched for Marine Harvest at Corpach pier.

The ship was officially named *Inter Caledonia* by Eli Torassen, now designated the ship's 'Godmother', during a ceremony watched by representatives from the local community, suppliers and staff.

After the naming ceremony there was an 'open boat' when people got on board to see round the vessel.

The wellboat is 70m long and her 200m<sup>3</sup> capacity will be used to carry up to 300 tonnes of live fish. It uses reverse osmosis technology to prevent a variety of fish diseases such as Amoebic Gill Disease (AGD), which can occur in above-normal water temperatures. Natural methods are also used to eradicate sea lice.

The reverse osmosis technology involves turning seawater into freshwater and this will be done at such a rate as to fill the

“This is a major step forward.”

**Ben Hadfield**  
Managing director

ship's wells completely every 10 hours, bathing the fish in fresh water and treating them 24/7.

Ben Hadfield, managing director of Marine Harvest Scotland, said: 'This is a major step forward for Marine Harvest and part of our drive to deliver an efficient and sustainable industry.'

'The industry has used wellboats before for this purpose but they have always had to pump the fresh water on to the boat. This is the first that combines the entire operation within the vessel.'

He added: 'It's a great new tool for us and we're sure it will



Above: 'Godmother' of the new boat Eli Torassen with Havard Grontvedt after the naming ceremony at Corpach pier.

Marine Harvest managing director Ben Hadfield, centre, with Eli Torassen and Havard Grontvedt. Photographs by Iain Ferguson, The Write Image.

reap rewards for us by helping us maintain our fish in peak condition.'

Havard Grontvedt, chairman of Intership AS, the owners of the *Inter Caledonia* which will be leased to Marine Harvest Scotland, said: 'We expect to set a new standard within the wellboat industry with *Inter Caledonia*, specially when it comes to fish density, gentle fish handling and hygiene.'

'With the freshwater production plant, the vessel will be a very efficient and environmentally friendly tool for the treatment of sea lice and AGD.'

*Inter Caledonia* will be used to treat fish on all the company's salmon farms across the west coast of Scotland and the Western Isles.

Marine Harvest has placed emphasis on developing natural solutions to challenges such as sea lice and as well as the fresh water in the wellboat they have started growing wrasse, natural predators of sea lice, on their farms.



Alistair MacPherson ran 120 miles from Portree to Inverness to raise more than £16,500 for Maggie's Centres.

## Portree man pounds out 120 miles to raise £16,500 for cancer care centre

ALISTAIR MacPherson, known locally as 'Ally K', has completed a 120-mile run from his hometown Portree on Skye to the Maggie's Highlands centre at Raigmore Hospital in Inverness.

The aim was to help raise awareness of the great work that Maggie's does with cancer patients and their families and to date he has raised more than £16,500 for the charity.

He left from Portree at midnight last Wednesday (April 6) and ran continuously over two

days, arriving at the Maggie's centre Friday lunchtime.

Commenting on the experience, Alistair said: 'The first night was okay. I was in good shape all the way round. But I hit low points on the second night. It's hard on your body, going two nights without sleep so I felt it a lot then.'

He went on: 'But I had a really good support team looking after me. I had a physiotherapist and a nutritionist. I had the best support and care, so when I hit a low point they gave me

caffeine or tablets to keep me going.'

'Once daylight came up we were nearly in Beaulieu and I perked right up, got a new lease of life.'

'I put in a good performance from there to Inverness,' he added.

Alistair and his team split the run into five mile sections to allow them to stop for food.

There was a lot of public support for Alistair as he ran the last few miles through Inverness to Maggie's, with

people lining the streets and cheering him on.

The Co-operative in Portree provided food and fuel for the support team, while Alistair had his organised by the nutritionist on the team.

Scotland's biggest running store, Run For It, provided trainers, waterproof socks and various types of nutrition for the cause.

To donate, visit Alistair's Ally K Runs Skye to Maggie's Just Giving page at [www.justgiving.com/skyetomaggies](http://www.justgiving.com/skyetomaggies).

## TIMESLINE

### More Sunday buses announced

SCOTTISH Citylink is to increase the number of Sunday bus services between Fort William and Inverness from next month.

The summer timetable, which comes into effect on Monday May 23, will see the 12.15pm Sunday service from Fort William replaced with a 10.45am service. There will also be a bus leaving Inverness at 10.45am and one leaving Fort William at 4.45pm on Sundays under the new timetable.

### Police recover harbour body

POLICE Scotland has confirmed a body has been found in Mallaig Harbour.

The body was recovered during a search for missing man David Chamberlain, 44, who was last seen leaving the Marine Hotel's bar on Saturday April 9. The police have yet to confirm whether or not the body is that of Mr Chamberlain, but have released a statement saying the identity will be confirmed once next of kin have been notified.

### Cash to help pool with insulation

MALLAIG and District Swimming Pool has received £500 to support its efforts to make the facility more energy efficient.

HWenergy donated the cash, which will be used to improve the heating system insulation.

Mallaig swimming pool has been working closely with Lochaber Environment Group and Resource Efficient Scotland over the past 18 months to improve energy efficiency.

Brian O'Rourke, Pool Manager at Mallaig Swimming Pool said: 'With support from Resource Efficient Scotland we have completed a full audit of the energy systems. These reports have given us a better understanding of the problems with the current energy systems and identified what measures are needed to improve them.'



Made in Lochaber members with their new map.

## Made in Lochaber point the way to arts

MADE in Lochaber has this week launched its 'Lochaber Trail Guide to Arts'.

Aimed at visitors, the guide will promote local arts in crafts in the Lochaber area.

Taking the form of a colourful map, it shows routes across Lochaber, outwith the populated Fort William centre.

The map details the best tourists attractions, sports activities, art galleries and music events in the area to entice visitors and locals to explore the area. Made in Lochaber consists of artist, craft

workers and food producers, who have come together to raise awareness of the diversity of what Lochaber has to offer visitors.

Speaking at the launch ceremony in the Ariundle Centre in Strontian, Made in Lochaber secretary, Joanne Matheson said: 'We wanted to create an eye catching, informative and quality production that people will keep and visitors will take away as a souvenir, ensuring the message is spread over a wide area for an extended time period.'

We have built on the excellent work of the Lochaber Crafts and Producers Association and now have around 130 members across Lochaber, a number which we are hoping to increase.

'We are a not-for-profit organisation which is all about bringing people together to work for the good of everyone in the business community, helping to promote their work as part of the Made in Lochaber brand and raising awareness of what is available in this area.'

## Residents urged to recycle

LOCHABER Environmental Group is urging residents to recycle more items.

The group is calling on locals to make better use of their blue bins to prevent unnecessary waste being taken to landfill sites.

When recycling, residents are asked to rinse out all items as anything which still contains food waste cannot be recycled.

The following can be put in blue bins: cardboard boxes, toilet roll tubes, egg boxes, cereal boxes, plastic milk bottles, juice bottles, detergent bottles, toiletry bottles, yoghurt pots, coloured food trays - except black - loose plastic bottle lids, newspapers, telephone directories, letters, magazines, greetings cards, envelopes - remove windows - steel tins and aluminium cans.

Plastic bags, plastic film, envelope windows, food wrappers, polystyrene, tissue paper/towel, string, wire and contaminated takeaway boxes should not be recycled in blue bins.

Glass is also not permitted but can be recycled at recycling points.

## Generous mum backs cadets with donation

ONE OF the newest civilian committee members for the 1730 (Lochaber) Squadron Air Training Corps has been independently fundraising for them.

Flo Sinclair, whose daughter Aimee is one of the air cadets, raised £215 for the Squadron by raffling off an Easter Hamper she made herself over the Easter period.

Flo would like to thank Kim at K K Camerons and the staff at the Caol Community Centre for letting her sell raffle tickets.

The money will be put towards funding a trip away for the cadets in summer.



Flo Sinclair, centre, with some of the squadron. Photograph by Anthony MacMillan Photography.

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## Chairman calls on council to focus efforts

IT IS time for Argyll and Bute Council to 'focus its efforts and deliver what is deliverable and let go of the rest', Oban, Lorn and the Isles area committee chairman Roddy McCuish said last week.

Speaking at the area committee, Mr McCuish said he was pleased a number of projects, including the Oban Bay pontoons, George Street improvements, Stafford Street pedestrianisation and Oban High School, were finally being delivered but added the vast number of potential projects was at times 'bigger than anyone can manage'.

Mr McCuish said: 'We have seen a number of projects that are finally coming to light but it goes to show the amount of time and effort that needs to go into everything we are doing.'

Referring to the number of projects currently in the pipeline for Oban through the economic development action plan, Mr McCuish said he wanted to impress on people the need for the council to deliver.

Some of the projects approved in the council papers last week were more than 10 years in the pipeline.

Mr McCuish explained that while he was ambitious for everything to be delivered in Oban, Lorn and the Isles, it was often frustrating for people to wait for them to come into being.

Mr McCuish said: 'Sometimes we can end up doing too much. That means we raise people's expectations and when we don't deliver quickly enough it becomes a problem.'

Mr McCuish referred to the small amount of officers who deliver the bulk of the planning work for projects.

He said: 'We have to start prioritising what we do and take those projects forward in a realistic timescale.'

# Community campaign to end road dangers on A85

**LOUISE GLEN**  
lglen@obantimes.co.uk

A SIMPLE solution to stopping the high number of accidents on the A85 will be considered by BEAR Scotland after a community council says it is no longer willing to sit by and wait for 'yet another' accident to happen.

Saying the road between Dunbeg and Oban is 'amongst the most dangerous in Scotland', community councillors Sean MacIntyre and Gwyneth Neal, and councillor Julie McKenzie, want to bring the number of accidents to an end.

Popular Facebook group Oban and Lorn Road Watch is managed by Allan Strang junior who told *The Oban Times* that people 'already know what the problem is' - but the real difficulty is making sure people understand what to do about it.

Mr Strang, who has almost 4,000 online followers, said: 'Problems always seem to increase during 'silly season' [the start of the tourism season] and accidents can regularly be connected to overtaking.'

'There is a gap on the double white lines for a short stretch of the road between Oban and the Halfway House [petrol station].'

'It has a blind corner and basically people think that it is okay to pass because the road signs indicate that it is. But it isn't.'

'One of my school friends died on this stretch of road some years ago, so I know from personal experience just how dangerous it can be.'

Community councillor Sean MacIntyre said he was asking for a simple solution to the problem.

He said: 'We believe there should be no overtaking on the road between Dunbeg and Oban.'

'Double white lines down the centre of the road and a large sign that says no overtaking



Community councillor Sean MacIntyre, above, is among those calling on BEAR Scotland to extend the double white lines and improve road signs on the A85 between Dunbeg and Oban to make the road safer and cut traffic accidents.

for six miles would, we believe, go a long way to solving the problem.

'The number of accidents townsfolk have witnessed over the years add up to making this section of the A85 one of the most dangerous roads in Scotland.'

Gwyneth Neal, of Dunbeg Community Council, said the campaign was in response to an emotional plea by a member of the public at their last meeting.

Mrs Neal said: 'We were approached by a man who was recently caught up in an acci-

dent on the road, who would like to remain anonymous.'

'Over the years there have been a number of concerns about the road and we have at various times studied its problems in depth.'

'One of the things that sticks out to us is that because of the camber of the road people are often driving over the line and as a result of the volume of traffic there is nowhere for cars to come off the road and therefore collisions cannot be avoided.'

Agreeing that staff are happy

to listen to Dunbeg community councillors and councillor MacKenzie, a BEAR Scotland spokeswoman said the company wanted to engage and listen to any concerns the community council has.

The spokeswoman continued: 'Since BEAR took over the north west operating company contract in 2013, more than £800,000 has been spent on road improvements on the A85 between Oban and Pennyfuir.'

'This figure includes six resurfacing schemes, patching works, road safety sign im-

provements and landscaping work including scrub clearance to improve visibility on the route.'

'Safety is our top priority and we will continue to work with Police Scotland to identify any safety concerns in the area.'

'Weekly inspections are carried out by our route stewards, who note any defects in the route or highlight any potential safety issues.'

'These are then categorised and programmed for repair as required.'

## TIMESLINE

### FBI to be held for lost fisherman

A FATAL accident inquiry will be held in connection with a fisherman who was lost at sea off the coast of Easdale Island three years ago.

Scott MacAlister, 40, was lost after making a number of mayday calls on April 25 2013.

Mr MacAlister was alone aboard the *Speedwell*, a 27ft long prawn boat, when he went missing.

Scott's father Peter MacAlister is concerned the boat will not be raised as part of the inquiry.

He told *The Oban Times*: 'If the authorities don't raise the *Speedwell* who has the marine knowledge within the procurator fiscal service to even know what should be asked?'

'And who will know what is the truth of the matter?'

### Council appoints new chief exec

CLELAND Sneddon, currently executive director of community services, has been appointed the new chief executive of Argyll and Bute Council.

Councillor Dick Walsh, leader of the council, said: 'We are delighted to welcome Cleland to the role of chief executive of Argyll and Bute Council.'

'Cleland brings a wealth of experience and insight that will serve Argyll and Bute well.'

Mr Sneddon said: 'I have been proud to serve Argyll and Bute Council as executive director and am privileged now to take up the sought-after role of its chief executive.'

Mr Sneddon will take up post following Sally Loudon's departure on May 9 this year.

Arrangements for filling the role of executive director of community services will be announced in due course.



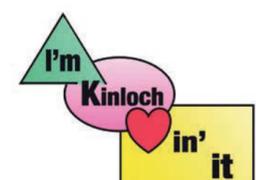
## Kinlochleven pupils' hard work pays off as social enterprise scoops £3,000

THIRD-YEAR pupils at Kinlochleven High School have been participating in the Youth Philanthropy Initiative this year. Sponsored by the Wood Trust, the project encourages youngsters to understand the important work of local charities in their communities.

The students split into seven small groups and selected a local OSCAR (Scottish Charity Regulator) registered social issue charity.

Each group then researched their chosen charity and paid them a visit and spoke to the people running the charity. They did this both during school time and in their own time.

One of the groups included pupils Morgan Nicolson, Holly Mackenzie and Freyja Ward, who were researching Kinlochlovin', a new social enterprise that was set up to benefit all the young



people of the Kinlochleven catchment area.

The girls said: 'Visiting our charities gave us a much greater understanding of the work they do in our community.'

At the final, the groups all made presentations in front of S1, S2 and their fellow S3 students, as well as teachers, charity representatives and, of course, judges.

Morgan, Holly and Freyja said afterwards: 'It was very

nerve-wracking as we all wanted to do well and show the charities we had chosen that we care passionately about them.'

Other charities represented by the student groups were Newstart Highland, Room 13, Lochaber Council on Alcohol, the Leven Community Centre, The Salvation Army and Lochaber Hope.

The Kinlochlovin' group won and were awarded £3,000 for their chosen charity.

The girls said: 'Afterwards we were very happy and surprised. It became very surreal that we had won, going up to hold the cheque and having Mrs Machin, our head teacher, Mrs McBride the history teacher - and the Kinlochlovin' representative started crying with joy.'

'All three of us had worked so hard to achieve something we would be really proud of, and to win was such a rush.'

## Community council news round-up

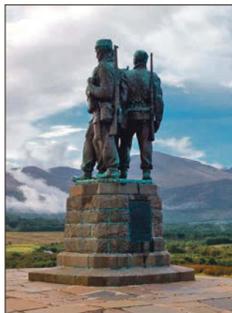
SPEAN Bridge, Roy Bridge and Achnacarry Community Council held its monthly meeting recently.

A number of items came under discussion with roadworks top of the agenda.

A representative from BEAR Scotland updated the Community Council about plans to resurface a section of the A82 north of Inverglo, and about road works at Inverloch junction, which began on Sunday and are due to run until April 29, to replace the existing junction with a mini roundabout.

The meeting was told that no progress has been made regarding secretary John Fotheringham request for a safety risk assessment audit on the Telford Bridge.

The chairman reported back on a meeting he had with the local community services manager, who had assured



The feasibility study on toilets at the Commando Memorial are scheduled to be completed on time.

him that both Leanachan and Kilmonivaig Church roads will be prioritised for recycling or machine repair when the funding becomes available.

Problems with potholes were reported in Spean Crescent and Altour Road in Spean Bridge, and underneath the railway bridge in Glenspean Park in Roy Bridge. The view was that this needs immediate attention to prevent further deterioration.

A drainage issue on the B8004 is currently under investigation with BT.

The chairman praised Alan Robinson on his work to clear litter on A82 verges south of Spean Bridge to Aonachan Crossroads.

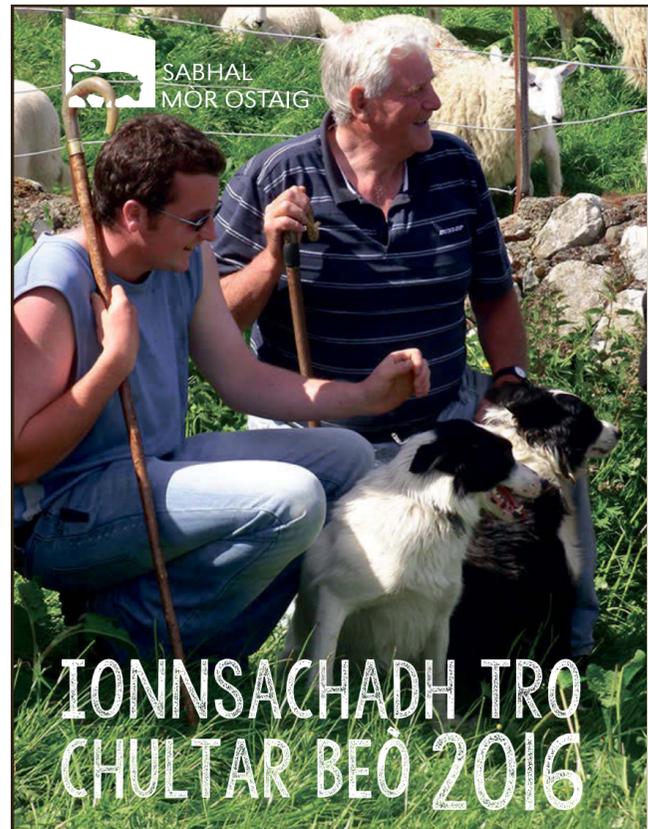
Also on the agenda was the welcome news that Vodaphone's Rural Open Sure Signal scheme to provide 3G internet connections to rural areas is now live in the Spean Bridge area. The chairman thanked all those involved in making this happen.

An update was given about progress on plans for the public toilets at the Commando

Memorial at Spean Bridge. Community councillors have had the opportunity to view plans of the proposed toilets and discussions are ongoing. The feasibility study should be completed on time.

The community council chairman also gave a report from the National LEADER (Links Between Activities Developing the Rural Economy) Conference in March, which he attended on behalf of the council.

Spean Bridge Community Centre's application to the Climate Challenge Fund was successful and a project to lower CO2 emissions is planned. This will involve working in each of the community's villages and two posts will be created. The project's aims will be to raise awareness about energy efficiency, home-grown produce and promoting greener transport and travel.



## LEARNING THROUGH LIVING CULTURE GÀIDHLIG IN FLODIGARRY, ISLE OF SKYE

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An co-bhoinn ri Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, tha Urras Baile Fhìlòdaigearraidh a' cur dà chùrsa air bhonn ann an 2016. 'S e cùrsa fad 5 làithean a th' ann le foghlam sa bhàr a-muigh is bùithtean-obrach a-staigh.

Tha na cùrsaichean ag amas air luchd-ionnsachaidh na Gàidhlig a tha aig ìre meadhanach àrd air no adhartach, (m.e. SMO ìre 6 no nas àirde). Chaidh an cùrsa seo a chur air chois airson luchd-ionnsachaidh na Gàidhlig a th' aig na h-ìrean seo a tha airson an sgilean labhairt is litreachais a leasachadh. 'S e cothrom fìor mhath a th' ann airson cuid eòlais air litreachas, eachdraidh is cultar ceann-a-tuath an Eilein Sgitheanaich fhaighinn ann an teis-meadhan na coimhearsnachd brioghmhoir Gàidhlig seo.

In partnership with Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, Flodigarry Township Trust are running two of these community based courses in 2016. The 5-day residential course is designed for advanced learners of Gaelic who wish to improve their oral and literary skills as well as deepen their knowledge of Gaelic literature, history and culture in the heart of a thriving Gaelic community in North Skye. The week includes a mixture of tutors and contributors with outdoor education and class-based workshops.

The course will also look at the local Gaelic speaking crofting community, its traditions and current practices, as well as some of the issues the people here face as a community. The course will be conducted in Gaelic and gives a unique experience and chance to meet people with a wealth of knowledge of their area and to hear the daily Gaelic spoken by the local community.

For bookings or further information on these courses or to find out more about our full list of summer courses, please contact :

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## Oban Live funding at risk without council help, say organisers

ORGANISERS of Oban Live, the biggest outdoor concert to be held in the town, say funding secured for the event may be at risk if it does not receive support from Argyll and Bute Council.

Neil Mackay, event co-ordinator, told Oban, Lorn and the Isles area committee last week that while the organisers of Oban Live had been successful in gaining funding from Creative Scotland, the future of that cash may be at risk if the local authority does not show its support for the event.

Mr Mackay said: 'Just over a year ago I asked if there was any geographical equilibrium in the strategic events and festivals fund.'

Asking that the council consider funding the event, he said: 'At last year's Oban Decade, a one-day event, more than £1.3 million was brought into the town.'

Councillors agreed to consider the request at a strategic level within the local authority and said they were '100 per cent behind the event'.

Councillor Mary-Jean Devon added: 'It would be good to have a meeting with Mr Mackay over the next couple of weeks to find out how we, as a local authority, can help.'

The Oban Decade event was part-funded by BID4Oban but to date the organisation has not received an application for support for Oban Live.

## Argyll set to lose out over mobile mast failure

NO MOBILE masts have been identified for Argyll as the UK government closes its mobile infrastructure project, members of Oban, Lorn and the Isles area committee was told last week.

The news came as mobile phone provider Vodafone confirmed it was unable to deliver planned installations in Dunbeg because of insufficient broadband speeds.

The failure to provide masts in Argyll came as a blow to plans for 3G or 4G services in the region as it is highly unlikely 'another round of funding would be available in the near future', Argyll and Bute Council's development officer Anna Watkiss told elected members.

While some commitments had been made about delivering the masts in Argyll and potential sites had been located, 'transmission links into the mobile operators' networks were not available.

Meanwhile, Vodafone said it still intended to complete installation of its Sure Signal projects on Seil and Luing.

Ms Watkiss confirmed these projects had been delayed but were due to be completed in April.

# Teenager dies and four hurt in Dalavich river crash

SANDY NEIL  
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AN 18-YEAR-OLD student died and four passengers were injured after the car they were travelling in careered off the road and into the River Avich last Tuesday evening (April 12).

The young women had been travelling back to a holiday cabin after a visit to Oban when the accident happened.

The Peugeot car crashed through a fence into the water at Druimdarroch on the B845 just north of Dalavich, around 6.40pm.

Amy Simpson, a maths student from Cowdenbeath in Fife, who was driving at the time, was pronounced dead at the scene.

Her four friends, one aged 17 and the other three aged 18, managed to get out of the car and went to the nearest house to call for help.

Retired doctor Bill Macrae was alerted to the accident by the young women who told him



Dr Macrae says the B-road has no warning signs to alert drivers to the sharp right-hand bend.

their friend was still trapped inside. Dr Macrae, 69, dialled 999 and ran outside to help.

He told *The Oban Times*: 'There was nothing you could do.'

'It's a fast and deep river. It was heart-breaking. If you'd seen it happen, you couldn't have helped that woman. The

others got out. She didn't. It's just terrible.'

'The police came as quickly as they could. By then I was trying to keep them calm and warm. The water temperature, I'm told, was six degrees. How the four weren't injured I don't know.'

Emergency crews removed the black Peugeot from the two-metre deep water last Wednesday morning.

Amy's mum, Angela Simpson, paid tribute to her 'gorgeous girl' who 'wasn't just the perfect daughter, she was my best friend, my soul mate and my rock and she made me so proud. One day I will make her as proud of me as I was of her. I am absolutely heartbroken and it's hard to find the words at this distressing time to express just how much I will miss her. Rest in peace Toots.'

Amy's aunt Lucy McGrother also remembered 'her gentleness, genuine warmth and most of all that contagious smile'.

A Go Fund Me web page, set up to help Amy's family with funeral costs, raised more than the £4,000 target in one day. The family welcomes everyone to attend Amy's funeral in Dunfermline Crematorium, on Tuesday April 26 at 2.45pm.

Dr Macrae, who has lived at the house overlooking the

accident scene for 50 years, said the bend in the road could be dangerous, especially to visitors.

He said: 'There's no road warnings to tell people there's a right-hand bend.'

'It's a sharp bend at the bottom of the hill. How are people who don't live here supposed to know? If you come down quickly and hit the brakes, you can imagine what will happen.'

'Lorries come round and you can hear their wheels grating the surface. One of the policemen said it was like walking on ball bearings.'

'There have been several cars that have not made that bend. The fence wouldn't stop a bicycle, let alone a car. It wouldn't have to be fast-moving.'

Dr Macrae said his thoughts remained with the young women involved in the accident and with their families.

The former hospital doctor reflected: 'I've seen a lot of accidents. It's horrible when it happens on your doorstep.'

## Drink driver disqualified

A MAN who put his car off the road on the isle of Colonsay was more than three times over the drink-drive limit.

Chef Jan Berka, aged 28, a Czech national, works on the island during the summer with his partner.

He admitted drink-driving on September 4 last year on the road near Colonsay House when he appeared before Oban Sheriff Court last week.

Berka's car had left the road and he was seen by a police officer. He was found to be over the limit on the roadside breath-test kit. Because the island has no other facilities for breath-testing, he gave a blood sample and this gave a reading of 161 milligrammes of alcohol in 100 millilitres of blood; the limit is 50.

His defence agent, Edward Thornton, said that on the night in question Berka, of Turamin Flats, Colonsay Estate, and his partner had an argument and he left the house.

'He decided the sensible thing to do was to go to the hotel; there was accommodation to spend the night.'

But his car hit the verge; he called on someone nearby to help and then the police arrived.

'He fully co-operated with the police,' said Mr Thornton.

Sheriff Colin McKay fined Berka £400 and disqualified him from driving for 12 months.

## Flood fund

GOVERNMENT funding is now available for people affected by severe flooding between July 1 2015 and March 31 2016.

Local authorities may be able to provide a grant of £1,500 to households, businesses or community groups directly affected. A flat rate grant of £3,000 may also be paid to businesses which have been severely impacted.

For details visit [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/flooding-grant-application](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/flooding-grant-application) or email: [floodinginquiries@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:floodinginquiries@argyll-bute.gov.uk)

## Public wifi on hold due to Helensburgh trial

A FLAGSHIP project to bring wifi to Oban town centre will be on the back burner until a trial is completed in Helensburgh.

The Stafford Street pedestrianisation project was to have internet connections for people visiting the town, bringing Oban into line with many areas in the country.

But councillors were told recently that the project to open up the air waves to tourists and locals was being 'tried' in Helensburgh first.

Delivering the project to Oban will most likely happen in '2017'.

Argyll and Bute Council's development officer Anna Watkiss said: 'In November 2015, a pilot for public town centre



Visitors to Oban are put off by the lack of wifi and 4G, according to a survey by VisitScotland.

wifi in Helensburgh, operated BroadChord, commenced by Helensburgh-based project Should the pilot in Helensburgh

prove successful, consideration may be given to whether a similar public wifi service would be provided to other locations in Scotland.'

Answering a question from Councillor Iain S MacLean about Stafford Street, Ms Watkiss said: 'We didn't have anyone who was willing to provide the service in Oban.'

'All the technology is in place but at the moment there is no one to provide the service.'

Ms Watkiss explained it had been hoped BroadChord would do the work.

Councillor MacLean continued: 'It is a big miss in the town centre and we are delivering a poor service to visitors because

we do not have wifi or 4G available to visitors.'

A recent survey by VisitScotland presented to the Argyll and Isles Tourism Summit, showed that more than 70 per cent of visitors were put off by the lack of wifi and 4G accessibility.

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## POLICE FILES with Sergeant Alan Moore

### Car damaged – witnesses sought

POLICE are appealing for witnesses following a hit and run incident in the car park outside Oban's Pets At Home store sometime between 2pm and 3pm on Monday April 18 during which a blue Ford Fiesta was damaged.

Anyone with any information should contact 101.

### Biker reported for Arrivain speeding

A MOTORCYCLIST was stopped by police for allegedly driving at 80mph at Arrivain near Dalmally on Friday April 15.

The 53-year-old man has been reported to the procurator fiscal.

Police Scotland are urging people to drive safely in the run-up to the busy holiday period and say they will be carrying out speed checks in the area.



Sally Weaser holding the left side of the cheque, with Oriana Lopez and Darren Moyle, manager of the Great Western, with staff and producers. 16\_tgreatwestern01

## Cheque is child's play

THE GREAT Western Crafters and Producers Market presented Oban Community Playpark (OCP) with a £300 cheque last Saturday.

The monthly market, which is filled with handmade products, raised the money by collecting donations throughout the year and will continue to raise funds for OCP in 2016.

Sally Weaser, OCP committee member, said: 'It's been amazing. The whole town has come together to make this happen. We are now raising money to finish the under-fives play park. People who I don't even know are coming up to me in the street and saying thank you.'

'We are seeing teenagers, who would normally be at home on their iPad, playing at the park. We just need to keep the momentum going.'

Oriana Lopez, who organises the event every month, said: 'This is the first time we have provided tea and coffee in the same room as the market. We are making the most of the hotel and the room, which is available to hire.'

The next crafters and producers market will be on Saturday May 7 at the Great Western Hotel.

# Sheriff shows leniency to Kintyre men over drink-driving 'story'

TWO YOUNG men from Kintyre came close to being jailed for perverting the course of justice after they concocted a story about who was driving on a night out.

The pair were each fined £1,000 and banned from driving for six months.

They were arrested after a trial collapsed at Campbeltown Sheriff Court in February; Sheriff Ruth Anderson QC who heard that case had the matter moved to Oban to be heard by another sheriff.

Stephen Cupples and James Ronald whose addresses were given as Lorne Cottage, Tarter, and 1 Port Avenue, Lochgilphead, respectively, were told by Sheriff Colin McKay that the offences they had committed were considered so serious that they could have been heard at the high court.

Both men admitted intending to and perverting the course of justice: Cupples, aged 23, a scallop boat skipper, that he falsely stated who was driving a car; Ronald, aged 21, a forestry worker, that he falsely stated who had been driving the car and inducing two girls to provide false statements to the police.

The pair and their girlfriends had been out for the night and were driving back to Kintyre on November 22 last year. They had pulled over into a lay-by on the A83 and all were out of the car when a police patrol stopped and talked to them. All smelled of drink, so the officers asked who was the driver.

The car belonged to Cupples, Ronald had been driving as he had had the least to drink but he had no insurance to drive

Cupple's car. Ronald feared a fine and points on his licence so the men agreed Cupples would say he was driving.

Cupples told the police: 'I was the driver; I will take the blame for it.'

Cupples failed the roadside breath test and all were taken to Campbeltown Police Station.

There Cupples persisted in the tale that he was driving and was breath-tested and charged.

At the station Ronald had urged both of the young women to keep up the pretence. The matter went as far as Campbeltown Sheriff Court but one of the young women had gone to Lochgilphead police station and told the truth. When Cupple's drink driving case appeared before Campbeltown Sheriff Court, the prosecution did not continue with the case.

'Both Cupples and Ronald were detained on leaving the court and subsequently arrested,' said Mr Docherty.

The pair were both represented by Graeme Cunningham. He told Oban Sheriff Court last Monday: 'They were carried away in the story in an attempt to stop Ronald being disqualified; not for drink driving but totting up with another six points on his licence.'

Mr Cunningham said he appreciated that both men were 'on the cusp of custody' but both were in full-time employment.

Sheriff McKay agreed that both were hard-working and from good families and this prompted him to fine rather than imprison them, saying: 'This has been prosecuted for very proper reasons. I could have sentenced you to 12 months.'

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## Mixed fortunes for Lochaber Phoenix boxers last weekend

LOCHABER Phoenix Boxing Club continued its busy schedule toward its home show in the Nevis Centre on May 14, taking part in ten bouts in Edinburgh and Motherwell over the weekend.

### Boxing

Senior light welterweight Igor Sliwinski made his competitive comeback after almost a year out when he took part in a contest which can only be described as a 'war' against Chris Cowan of Leith Victoria Boxing club last Friday.

After dominating from long range to open the bout, Igor couldn't resist standing his ground and engaging in a toe to toe war of attrition. The bout could have gone either way but agonisingly went the way of Cowan by a split decision.

Igor came back fighting the next day when he faced southpaw Paul Murphy of O'Neil's Boxing Club. Sliwinski dominated behind his jab and came away with a clear points decision.

Cameron Whyte, aged 14, topped the bill on the Sunday show when he faced the host club's Marc Johnstone of Forge-wood. This was a repeat of this year's Scottish final and Whyte showed his supremacy once again, displaying a masterclass of tactical boxing to run out a clear winner on points.

One boxer who didn't get the benefit of accurate judging was Dan Nixon, 15, who won the first and third round of his battle with Forge-wood's Shane Young.

The bout had the crowd on its feet for the duration and the Lochaber contingent was sure Nixon had done enough, only

to be perplexed by the judges' decision. Ewan Easson also felt aggrieved by the judges' verdict after seemingly winning the first two rounds of his fight against Northwest's Declan Smith, but losing in a points decision.

The Lochaber supporters can look forward to watching both Dan and Ewan in rematches on May 14 at the Nevis Centre.

Youth boxer Kevin Aitchison continued his recent improvements with a strong performance to gain a unanimous decision against Forge-wood's Jordan MacCafferty.

**Ferocious exchanges**  
Youth boxer Lee Bruce showed a lot of guile, power and determination against Keiron Burke of Forge-wood. The fight had some ferocious exchanges, but Lee was in the ascendency for the most part and fully deserving of his points victory.

Robert MacDonald, 14, faced former Scottish champion Ewan Hamilton of Northwest. MacDonald was guilty on occasion of waiting too long to pull the trigger, allowing Hamilton to steal points and take the decision. Robert will attempt to improve on his performance this weekend in a rematch.

**Fresh from top performances in recent shows, left to right, Robert MacDonald, Igor Sliwinski, Max Derbenovs and Cameron Whyte.** Photo: Albright Photography



### 'Push the Boat Out' open day at Glencoe Sailing

GLENCOE Boat Club will be having an open day on May 21. 'Push The Boat Out' will be a fun day out for all the family running from 10am to 6pm.

There will be a range of mainly free or low-cost activities for all ages and abilities both on and off the water.

These will include 15-minute high speed boat trips provided by SeaXplorer; powerboat tuition provided by iPowerboat's RYA Scottish Honda Youth Rib Champion 2015; kayaking; dinghy sailing; yacht sailing; South Lochaber Bowmen archery and a bouncy castle.

There will also be a variety of stalls, a barbecue and other refreshments.

Glencoe Boat Club is a registered charity and all proceeds will go back into the club to develop youth sailing within Lochaber.

### Lochaber Welfare League gets under way

#### Football

LOCHABER Welfare League started last night (Wednesday) with six teams taking part.

Fixtures: Wednesday April 20, Ballachulish v Tekkerslovakia at Kinlochleven. Thursday April 21, Caol United v Fort William Under-17s. Friday April 22, Nevis Range v Mallaig, both games at Lochaber High School. Monday April 25, Mallaig v Ballachulish. Thursday April 28, Tekkerslovakia v Caol Utd. Friday April 29, Fort William Under-17s v Nevis Range, all at Lochaber High School, 7pm kick off.



Lochaber Rugby Club P 6/7 Team at the Caithness Tournament.

## Young rugby players pipped at the post in semi-finals

LOCHABER Rugby Club's P6/7 team reached the semi-finals of the Caithness Tournament on Sunday.

They won four out of five group games but lost to the eventual winners by one try in the semi-finals.

Head of Youth Rugby Gary Hendrie congratulated the young players on their performance. He also thanked travelling coaches and parent support and all the players for their conduct off the pitch.

Next week's fixtures feature the older players.

### Youth rugby

Lochaber S1-S2's host Plockton High School and Isle of Mull in a three-way game on Saturday April 23, with kick off at 12.30pm.

Parents and other supporters are welcome to attend.

On the same day, the S3-S4's are playing in a sevens tournament in Campbeltown.

## Back-to-back wins for Fort William against Huntly at Christie Park

'I was delighted with the performance'

FORT William FC secured their second victory in the last three matches on Saturday with a fine 3-1 win away at bottom six rivals Huntly.

With this being their second successive win at Christie Park, the Fort now find themselves unbeaten in the last four matches against their Aberdeenshire rivals, who will be the visitors to Claggan Park on Saturday.

Fort opened the scoring in the 27th minute, through come-back man Michael Ellis, who fired home from close range.

But it only took Huntly three minutes to draw level when Ian Cruickshank rounded Fort keeper Dougie MacLennan, before firing into an empty net.

#### Upped their game

The set-back didn't deter the Fort and they upped their game in the second half with Ellis securing another goal for the Lochaber side in the 52nd minute, restoring the visitors' lead.

The Fort's win was secured in the 85th minute when top scorer Scottie Davidson

### Football

fired home from the penalty spot for his seventh goal of the season.

This is the first time the Fort have enjoyed back-to-back wins at Christie Park against Huntly.

#### Delighted

After the game, Fort William manager Ally Ewen said: 'I was delighted with the performance, especially in the second half. We had a full squad to chose from this weekend and that makes a difference.'

Fort William now finish off the season with four home games against Nairn County (last night), Huntly (Saturday April 23), Fraserburgh (Saturday April 30) and Turriff United (Saturday May 7).

The club are looking to build some end-of-season momentum and climb above rivals Huntly and Stathspey Thistle in the league.

Fort's home game this Saturday will kick off at 2pm.



Fort William manager Ally Ewen.

## Under-strength Lochaber lose to Ellon

Ellon	75
Lochaber	0
Caledonian League - Div 2 North	

Unfortunately, Lochaber struggled to get a full team together and started the game with only 14 players.

Both teams started well but Lochaber gave away a couple of penalties which allowed Ellon to open the scoring with a penalty kick.

Ellon scored two tries and

another penalty in the first half, whilst Lochaber saw their only penalty drift wide of the posts.

Lochaber lost four players in the second half, meaning they had to finish the game with 10 men against 15. With a big difference in numbers, Ellon started to run away with the game and eventually won 75-0.

### Rugby

Lochaber travel to Shetland this weekend for their last away game of the season.

Their final game is at home to Ross Sutherland on May 7. Kick off 3pm.

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**WEATHER**

**Thursday** Sunny intervals  
Winds light north westerly  
Temperatures 4°C to 11°C.

**Friday** Sunshine and light rain showers  
Winds light northerly  
Temperatures 2°C to 10°C.

**Weekend Outlook** Cloudy on Saturday  
Light rain on Sunday  
Winds moderate northerly  
Temperatures 2°C to 8°C.

**TIDAL INFORMATION**  
Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday April 21, 2016** are listed below with differences for major ports listed on the right. All times are GMT (add one hour) BST)

Date	am			pm		
Thur	05.09	3.7	11.48	1.0	17.34	3.8
Fri	05.42	3.8	12.17	0.9	18.05	3.9
Sat	00.20	0.9	06.14	3.9	12.47	1.0
Sun	00.52	0.9	06.44	3.8	13.17	1.0
Mon	01.24	1.0	07.13	3.7	13.44	1.1
Tues	01.53	1.2	07.41	3.6	14.08	1.3
Wed	02.23	1.3	08.11	3.4	14.38	1.4

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

Ardishaig	-5.35	Mallaig	+0.25
Campbeltown	-5.30	Portree	+0.55
Crinan	-0.47	Tobermory	+0.16
Islay Port Ellen	2.00	Dover	+5.30
Lochboisdale	+0.30		

**Ferry Crossings/Sea States**

Oban to Barra/South Uist	Moderate
Oban to Coll/Tiree	Moderate
Kennacraig to Islay	Moderate