

# The Oban Times

## & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Established 1861 No 8095

Thursday 17 May, 2012

www.obantimes.co.uk

77 pence



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### Former Oban auctioneer dies in stun gun incident

FORMER Oban auctioneer and well-known Highland Games heavy weight athlete Stephen Aitken died as a result of head injuries sustained after an incident with a cattle stun gun at Darlington Auction Mart on Monday.

Mr Aitken, 45, who had been a partner in the Argyll Auction Company, first operators of Oban Livestock Centre, was managing director and chief auctioneer at the busy Darlington market and lived at Ingleby Marwick, near Middlesbrough.

Staff at Darlington were left shocked.

Investigations into the incident are continuing, but police confirmed they are not treating it as suspicious.

An inquest into the death will be opened at the end of this week.

### Two men die as micro-light crashes near Crianlarich

INVESTIGATIONS are continuing this week to determine the cause of an air crash that killed two people at Ben More, near Crianlarich, on Saturday.

David Martin, 63, from Kinghorn in Fife, and Alan McCaskie, 62, Broughty Ferry, were travelling from Perth to Mull when the micro-light aircraft crashed near the summit shortly before noon.

Mr Martin, who was piloting the plane, was secretary of the Scottish Aero Club, based at Perth Airport in Scone. Mr McCaskie, an oil and gas engineering consultant, was a trainee pilot.

Central Scotland Police said enquiries were continuing and an investigation has been launched by the Air Accident Investigation Branch.



Pupils from Rockfield and St Columba's primary schools took part in the Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup draw. Picture John MacTavish

## Scottish Cup draw made at Oban

OBAN primary school pupils from both Rockfield and St Columba's watched the second round draw for shinty's most sought after prize, the Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup on Monday.

Making the draw were Argyll and Bute Council leader, Roddy McCuish and Argyll and Bute

MSP and cabinet secretary for education and lifelong learning, Michael Russell.

**Premiership teams**  
The second round brings in 10 Premiership heavyweights along with the six sides who won through in the first round.

Oban will also host the 106th Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup

Final on Saturday September 15 with the match televised live on BBC Scotland.

Council leader Roddy McCuish said: 'As a councillor, an Oban resident and a shinty fan I am thrilled to see the final return to the town.'

'The draw has produced some interesting ties and I am very

glad to have been a part of it.'

Duncan Blainey, aged 9, of Rockfield Primary School was at the draw at the primary campus and said: 'I've played shinty for a year, I like hitting the ball best but only score sometimes.'

'The draw was really good and I got to hold the cup which was exciting but it was heavy.'

## Prince Edward books surprise trip to Lochaline

PRINCE Edward will make a surprise visit to Lochaline Diving Centre next Wednesday.

Owners, Annabel and Mark Lawrence, received a phone call this month informing them His Royal Highness, the Earl of Wessex, wished to take a trip to the centre on May 23.

They have organised an exhibition to take place, showcasing some of the Sound of Mull's more interesting features, including the archaeology of the area and information about the artificial reef project.

Annabel said: 'We hadn't in-

vised him, but someone from his residence in Inverness phoned and said he would like to visit.'

'We decided that, rather than keep it in the diving centre, this is a great opportunity for diving in the Sound of Mull and the area.'

Pupils from Lochaline Primary School will welcome the Royal visitor with some Gaelic songs, before he is served a buffet and taken around the centre's display. Visitors will then be welcome to share the buffet before seeing the display for themselves.

## Dunollie project facing £25,000 shortfall

FUNDERS opting to favour 'sexy' projects could be threatening a community effort to establish Dunollie's 1745 House as a significant museum and exhibition space.

**Winter programme in jeopardy**  
Dunollie Preservation Trust is facing up to a £25,000 shortfall as it strives to install a lighting system and a specialist canopy required to complete a full year of events.

The total cost of both is £76,000 but the Trust has agreed match funding packages with LEADER to finance the purchase.

But without other funders to match their commitment, the Trust would be

forced to scrap their plans, jeopardising the entire winter programme.

In turn, that could change the way the Trust can operate the 1745 House, which is intended to be a cultural hub for the Oban area.

Catherine Gillies has applied to numerous bodies for funding but believes an appetite for 'sexy funding' is hitting their bid.

'It's not sexy to fund lights,' she said. 'But it is absolutely essential if we're to open during the winter. We got away with it by the skin of our teeth last winter, but we were really pushing it and you can't have anyone coming up the path to Dunollie during the winter months

without lighting.'

'The bottom line is we cannot afford to do it by the skin of our teeth again and we need that lighting.'

Because Dunollie Castle is a listed monument, a specialist lighting system is required.

Meanwhile, the canopy would be used throughout the year for events and exhibitions, and could extend capacity for already popular events such as their Kitchen Ceilidhs.

Catherine said: 'The 1745 House is nearly there as a fantastic facility.'

'Without the lighting and the canopy, it will make it much harder and we'd probably have to find another way of

running it.

'But this is about providing something not just for tourists, but for local people. People in Glasgow would take this for granted, but there is nothing like this here.'

'We've been given so much encouragement from local businesses and organisations and it is so frustrating to keep getting letters from funders saying they don't think this bid is important enough.'

'It is to a lot of people and this is very much a last gasp appeal for help.'

LEADER funding expires in one month. Anyone who can help the Trust can contact Catherine on 01631 570550 or email [info@dunollie.org](mailto:info@dunollie.org).

## Postcode Lottery winner

A WINNING Oban woman has discovered her address has a touch of luck after coming up trumps in the Postcode Lottery.

Carol Young won £10,000 after her number was drawn as the winning Saturday Street Prize postcode. Her prize was delivered by Lottery ambassador and rugby legend Scott Quinnell.

Ms Young, 54, said: 'This couldn't have come at a better time. I have never won a big prize like this in my life. I can't tell you what this means.'

The win comes at a time when Ms Young's partner, Iain Farmer, is undergoing treatment for cancer. Iain has been unable to work regularly for two years.

'It has been a tough two years, and this news has given us both a real boost', Ms Young added.



## Colonsay mourns policeman

COLONSAY man Donald MacLeod, the island's only police officer, has died after a long battle with illness. He was 48.

Donald has been a special constable with Strathclyde Police for six years and four months, but had to step back from his duties after being diagnosed with a brain tumour a year ago.

He was in Canterbury visiting one of his two daughters last week when he passed away. His funeral was held in Oban on Wednesday.

One of the most active members of the community, Donald was popular both on the island and within the force.

Paying tribute to Donald, Oban's Chief Inspector, Brian Auld, said: 'Donald has been an absolutely fantastic servant to the police and the community. The contribution he has made to policing on Colonsay has been significant.'

'The officers here all speak particularly highly of him. He'd even use his own car in his own time to help people out. Public spirited individuals who sacrifice their own time and support the community are very difficult to find.'

'This is a tragic loss.'

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

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Local knowledge proves vital in Coll wind turbine installation

COLL crofter Colin Kennedy has helped co-ordinate construction of the first island wind turbine of its kind after planning the installation around the tides. Fife-based environmental consultancy Ecodyn Ltd installed the 20Kw turbine at Crossapol Farm in a wind battered corner of the island which is only accessible by beach. Colin guided the construction teams in by advising on tidal patterns, allowing much of the infrastructure to be delivered directly by boat. Had they miscalculated, engineers would have been left at the mercy of the Atlantic, pummelled by searing winds. Meanwhile, aggregates had to be unloaded 28 tonnes at a time from Arniagour pier and taken to site bit-by-bit by tractor and trailer. Because of the condition of the narrow island roads, articulated lorries could not gain access and heavy vehicles would have sunk in wet sand. Colin said: 'It was daunting but this is a first for the island and a great example of what can be achieved.'

The turbine's owner Douglas Fairbairn is delighted with the new build, having searched for months for renewable energy options, with his coastal site prohibiting most solutions. The new turbine sits on 1,000 acres of peninsula. Douglas farms for beef cattle, suckler cows and lambs. The 100mph winds at the exposed site mean the new turbine will feed into the national grid and it is expected to make a profit in under five years. Ecodyn Ltd believe more island communities should take advantage of their biggest asset - wind - now, before pricing tariffs change. 'This installation definitely had a logistics rating of ten but, with Colin's knowledge, we are delighted everything went smoothly,' said Duncan Oswald, Ecodyn founding director. 'On islands, you have tonnes of wind and free land and it is a great investment. Obviously, the grid feed-in tariffs will drop in October 2012 and are predicted to fall five per cent every year. 'However, customers are locked into a tariff for 20 years so the quicker people start the process, the better return they will get on their investment.'



Former Connel resident Ronnie Child captured this aerial view of the Sound of Mull while in a light aircraft a couple of years ago. He said it 'was a thrill to fly there' and wanted to share his photographs for the enjoyment of Oban Times readers. Have you got a favourite image of Scotland's spectacular west coast or its people? If so, send them to The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB, or email them to editor@obantimes.co.uk. Each month we will award a prize for the best image published.

Mary comes 'home' to Luig for final farewell

Born on Colonsay, emigrated to New Zealand, but loved Toberonochy

CANADIANS descended on Luig recently to say goodbye to a much-loved family member. Mary Quinn, nee McKechnie, was born on Colonsay on September 28 1918. She emigrated to New Zealand as a young woman to join her fiancé but by the time her ship docked he had been killed. Mary decided to stay in New Zealand, leaving her three brothers and a sister back in Scotland, and she settled into her new life. Many of Mary's family also emigrated - to Canada - but as youngsters they had enjoyed many visits to Luig where Aunt Kate Campbell lived at Seaview Cottage. Sadly Mary passed away in February 2011 and on Saturday May 5 this year many of her nephews, nieces and cousins gathered on the shore at Toberonochy, Luig, to celebrate her life with songs, poetry and fond words of remembrance. With ages ranging from three to 73, family members had come from as far as British Columbia and Ontario Canada and closer to home from Inverness, Auchterarder and Lanark, with many meeting for the first time at the cottage where cousin Barbara is now resident. Mary's strong sense of family was clearly evident in the 70 strong gathering who scattered her ashes at the place she loved the most - Toberonochy, Luig.



Three generations and 70 members of the family gathered to say goodbye to Mary Quinn.

Police appeal after car vandalised on Benbecula

A VAUXHALL Astra car was vandalised while parked and unattended at Balivanich on Benbecula. The four tyres on the vehicle were damaged beyond repair during the incident in Columba Place sometime between 7pm on Wednesday May 9 and 9.40am the following morning. Anyone with any information is asked to contact Benbecula Police Station on 01870 602374 or Crimestoppers confidentially on 0800 555 111.

Island depopulation

WESTERN Isles Council's leader Angus Campbell has said the local authority had failed to halt the drain of young people from the islands. He said encouraging people to stay should be the focus of Comhairle nan Eilean Siar.

Lord Mar drops in on Sgoil Lionacleit

Informal chat and question and answer session on House of Lords

SIXTH year pupils in Sgoil Lionacleit, Benbecula, hosted a talk and question time from a member of the House of Lords on Friday April 27. The Earl of Mar and Kellie, Lord Mar, met with a group of pupils to talk about the work and role of the House of Lords. The informal chat was followed by a question and answer session on various aspects of the parliamentary process and life at Westminster. Current issues Lord Mar arrived at the school in time to spend the morning break with staff and local councillors. S6 pupils informed their visitor about their forthcoming World Challenge trip to Morocco and their efforts to collect donations. Afterwards, Lord Mar spoke to pupils in the theatre about his family history and his role in the House of Lords. With S6 pupil Dòmhnall Iain MacDonald in the chair, the peer answered questions about the work of the Lords and about current political issues. A brief visit to the school boatshed followed where Lord Mar met pupils taking the boatbuilding course. Marion F Morrison, principal teacher of guidance, said: 'This was a fantastic opportunity for our students to interact with someone who knows the parliamentary system inside out, as it can sometimes seem far removed from their daily lives.'

Curriculum The visit was arranged through the Lord Speaker's 'Peers in Schools' programme, which sends members of the House of Lords into schools and colleges to give talks in support of the citizenship curriculum.



Lord Mar, right, meets boatbuilding students Calum Murray and Donald Peteranna with head teacher Miller MacDonald.

Rhododendron disease warning

LANDOWNERS are being urged to protect woodland from the spread of a disease carrying species of rhododendron. The Highland Rhododendron Project aims to halt the damage being caused by rhododendron ponticum which carries phytophthora ramorum, more commonly known as sudden oak death, which can be devastating to trees. Project officer Julie Paton said: 'Rhododendron ponticum harbours a harmful plant pathogen - phytophthora ramorum - that is capable of infecting and quickly killing other shrub species as well as Japanese larch trees - a commercially important species that also provides homes and food for animals like the red squirrel.' The disease has now been found at locations on the Craignish peninsula, the Isle of Mull, Islay and Galloway. Experts are calling on landowners and managers to remove rhododendrons from their ground. Stornoway museum welcomes families for free

Stornoway museum welcomes families for free

MUSEUM nan Eilean in Stornoway is holding a free programme for families to explore the history of Lews Castle tomorrow (Friday) and Saturday. The two-day event will include acting out scenes and tableaux from Lady Matheson's photographs from the 1800s featuring picnics, hunting scenes, other family members and landscape. The programme starts with a workshop tomorrow evening from 6.30pm to 8pm at the museum. On Saturday morning, the group will be in situ in Lews Castle grounds, where they will be setting scenes and taking photographs. Attendees are asked to bring along a picnic lunch to enjoy in the castle grounds. Saturday afternoon will see the final workshop with An Lanntair in St Martin's Church, using photography techniques, old and new, to create an album for the future. Places are limited and attendees are asked to book in advance. Children and accompanying adults are also asked to attend all three elements of the programme. For further information contact 01851 822746. Reserve your places on 01851 708480.

Mull Lines

MULL Community Council is looking for at least five new members to join its ranks - particularly from the north of the island. There will be elections in late summer for the vacant roles but anyone interested in joining is invited to attend the next meeting as a guest to see how things are run. The post of treasurer also needs to be filled. For more details on any roles come along to the next meeting at Craignure Village Hall on June 12 at 8pm or email chairman Steve Willis - hansel@hideawaylodges.co.uk.



PRIMARY pupils got on their bikes recently for a sponsored cycle ride on the Isle of Mull - with money raised to help island projects. This was the 21st ride organised by the IOM Lions and more than 50 children took part from Tobermory, Salen and Dervaig schools. Members of the IOM cycle club also attended to encourage the children on their challenge - up to 12 miles through Glen Bellert before finishing at Salen Primary School. Starting points varied with older children beginning at Dervaig and younger ones joining at Tenga. The Mull Coastguard was also there to see the children on their way and lead them out with blue flashing lights. Locals gathered to welcome the children at Salen - where they collected certificates. Organisers thank everyone involved.

FOLLOWING the loss of the ferry contract to service the Northern Isles, David MacBrayne, the parent company of Caledonian MacBrayne, has insisted there is no connection to the Clyde and Hebrides contract.

The existing contract, which includes the Oban to Craignure ferry, is up for renewal in October next year with several other ferry operators reporting interest. The Orkney and Shetland routes are operated by Northlink Ferries Ltd, a separate David MacBrayne subsidiary. A spokesman said: 'We're very disappointed that NorthLink has not been chosen as Preferred Bidder by the Scottish Government. 'We believe we submitted a bid which would have benefited islanders and taxpayers. We believe that as the operator for the past decade we have developed a lifeline ferry service of which we can be extremely proud.'

MORE than £1,000 was raised at the recent Tobermory Community Fire Station Open day. Watch Commander Willie Hume welcomed Area Commander Paul Connelly to the station to officially open the proceedings on May 5.

Crowds enjoyed The Fire Fighters Charity stall, a chip pan fire demonstration and an example of freeing casualties from a road traffic collision. Money raised on the day will be divided between The Fire Fighters Charity and local organisations. Organisers thank everyone who came along and businesses who helped to make the day a success.



The demonstration of a chip pan fire attracted a crowd.

THIS year's Mull Music Festival kept police 'busier than ever' - with levels of anti-social behaviour increasing.

A meeting of Mull Community Council heard 15 fixed penalty tickets had been issued for urinating in the street while six were handed out for breach of the peace where individuals were engaging in a stand up fight. Only swift police intervention prevented the situation from escalating. There were two cases of drink driving reported and the meeting heard around 40 campervans gathered which had a negative influence, with people drinking all day. This should be prevented next year with a ban on drinking in public areas in the village expected to come into force by August. Officers told the meeting: 'There was a real over consumption of alcohol. It seemed like people didn't stop for 24-36 hours. We just kept a head on it and stopped it from becoming completely outrageous.'

POLICING in Argyll is based on what the public want, according to Chief Inspector Brian Auld.

He told a meeting of Mull Community Council if a third of the public who responded to community surveys highlighted a similar problem, he adds it to his policing plan and it becomes a priority.

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## Argyll Array claims 'nonsense' say Scottish Power Renewables

SCOTTISH Power Renewables (SPR) has 'rubbed' suggestions that a two-year delay for plans to build the Argyll Array wind farm off Tiree is a result of political uncertainties.

SPR, the company owned by Spanish energy giant Iberdrola, says the reason a planning application won't be submitted until 2014 is ongoing environmental studies.

However, No Tiree Array's Robert Trythall has pointed to evidence given to the Commons Energy and Climate Change Committee by Citigroup's head of European utility sector research Peter Atherton. He told MPs 'all' the investors he had spoken to had decided to halt investment on offshore wind projects until after the Scottish independence referendum's regulatory regime was settled.

It is understood the Citigroup has a working relationship with Iberdrola.

SPR told *The Oban Times*: 'As an international energy company we have working relationships with all major financial analysts, but the suggestion that's been put to you is nonsense.'

'It is repetition of a claim which has no substance.'

### Police files

A 66-YEAR-OLD man was arrested by police on Oban's Soroba Road last Thursday after he was allegedly caught drink driving.

It is understood the man was too drunk to give a breath specimen. A blood sample has been taken for forensic examination.

□□□

POLICE on Mull charged a 54-year-old man with speeding last week, after he was clocked driving at 48mph in a 30mph zone at Aros.

□□□

A 19-YEAR-OLD man has been charged with having a loaded air weapon in a public place in the Balvicar area of Oban on Friday.

□□□

POLICE arrested a 23-year-old man at Oban's Station Road at 2am on Sunday after he was allegedly caught vandalising a parked car.

□□□

A 79-YEAR-OLD man has been charged with careless driving after allegedly overtaking at excessive speed on the eastbound carriageway of the A85 near Taynuilt on Monday.

□□□

POLICE have charged a 61-year-old man with failing to stop and report accidents after an incident in Oban last week.

Two vehicles were allegedly struck by a Renault Traffic van in Airds Place on May 8.

□□□

MONEY has been stolen after a house in McCaig Road was broken in to sometime between May 7-8. Police are appealing for information.

□□□

POLICE are appealing for information after a woman was verbally abused by a group of teenagers at 8.50am in Oban on May 12.

Five boys and a girl, aged between 16-18, directed abusive comments towards a 40 year old woman at the playpark near McCaig Road.

□□□

TWO men, both aged 24, have been charged with vandalism after allegedly breaking a window in Oban's Quarry Road at 1.30am on Tuesday.

□□□

A 39-YEAR-OLD man from the Isle of Luing has been charged with conducting himself in a disorderly manner in connection with an alleged assault on a woman on May 6.

## Bonfires and lunches across Argyll to mark Diamond Jubilee

BONFIRES and Big Lunches are to be the order of the day as Argyll celebrates the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

The Lieutenancy of Argyll and Bute along with all the other Lieutenancies in the United Kingdom has been charged with promoting local events to coincide with the national celebration of Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee over the weekend of June 2 - 5.

The response has been enthusiastic from organisations and individuals but the Lord Lieutenant Patrick Stewart hopes more can be achieved in the short time remaining.

The focus of local events is on the holding of 'Big Lunches' over the weekend but in particular on Sunday June 3.

The idea is that organisations and individuals will give a lunch to charity or simply as a social and neighbourly act.

The initiative for the Big Lunch in Argyll and Bute has been headed by Morag Smith DL of Dunoon. Her task has been considerably aided by the circulation of a notice of the event by Argyll and Bute Council to community councils and by Argyll Voluntary Action to many volunteer groups in the area.

While there may not be much time remaining for organisations to make necessary arrangements, individuals might well consider inviting neighbours to lunch or organising, in their community, a joint event.

**Bonfire events**  
The official bonfire events have been promoted and coordinated by Jane MacLeod DL of Lochgilphead.

As with the organisation of the

Big Lunches, this has been a huge task. She said: 'The Lieutenancy has been encouraging a series of Jubilee Bonfires or Beacons trying, in particular, to take in as much of our coastline as possible. The fires will be seen from Oban through the Sound of Mull, on Mull and out towards Coll, Tiree, Jura and Islay then heading south to Kintyre and, finally, to Mount Stuart on Bute. 'In addition, there will be

inland bonfires stretching from Ben Cruachan in the north, to Mid Argyll, Campbeltown and Dunoon in the south.

'Organisers range from individuals to community councils, Oban Mountain Rescue and Mid Argyll Round Table.'

Further advice is available from the Clerk to the Lieutenancy George Seaton of DM MacKinnon, Solicitors, Oban, 01631 563104.



Police cordoned off Campbeltown's Lochend Street on Friday evening after a Vauxhall Zafira containing five people crashed into a stationary van. 20\_c20crash01

## Young children among seriously injured in Campbeltown town centre accident

TWO YOUNG children were amongst a family seriously injured in a road accident in the centre of Campbeltown on Friday.

The incident happened just after 7.30pm when a Vauxhall

Zafira collided at speed with a stationary Ford Transit van on the town's Lochend Street.

Two girls, aged five and three, a 45-year-old woman and a 14-year-old boy all sustained serious injuries, whilst the 38-

year-old male driver sustained minor injuries.

The woman and the boy were airlifted to the Southern General Hospital in Glasgow whilst the two girls were taken to the specialist children's unit

at Yorkhill Hospital, also in Glasgow.

A man was due to appear at Campbeltown Sheriff Court on Tuesday.

Police ask any witnesses to contact them on 01586 862 200.

## Kilchrenan residents 'up in arms' over workmans' temporary caravan site

### Council threatened formal enforcement action

RESIDENTS in Kilchrenan are 'up in arms' over a caravan site that has sprung up without planning permission.

Reports are at least six caravans are currently at the site on the Kilchrenan/Ardanaisig road to house workers for the Carraig Ghael wind farm development.

Local resident Marilyn Henderson complained that Argyll and Bute Council is turning a blind eye to the site.

She said: 'Some of the residents have already objected to this site but it seems that they have been flogging a dead horse.'

'They are wondering why Argyll and Bute's planning

department has allowed this to happen without consent and without consultation.'

'The application for planning permission only appeared on the Argyll and Bute website recently and yet the site is up and running with caravans, generators and tankers delivering fuel.'

**Problems with application**  
But a spokeswoman for the council told *The Oban Times*: 'A planning application was submitted on March 2 for a temporary caravan site, 18 months provision, near Kilchrenan for workers accommodation.'

'There were a number of problems with the application and

the applicant was made aware of these.'

'The council cannot advertise or issue neighbour notification until an application is valid.'

'Rather than wait for the planning application to be assessed, the applicant has gone ahead without planning permission which is a breach of planning control and eligible for enforcement action.'

'Unless planning permission is given the site will remain at risk of enforcement action.'

'The applicant was told on April 12 to stop using the site and sort out the planning application so it became valid.'

'On April 19 this still hadn't happened and they were told to stop using the site immediately.'

'On April 24 formal enforcement action was threatened with a view to shutting down the caravan site altogether.'

'In the meantime the applicant submitted the information to enable the planning application to be made valid on April 23.'

'Now that the application is valid and subject to public consultation, it is likely that the planning authority will determine the planning application prior to deciding whether enforcement action is necessary or not.'

# Water bills still cause concern

## Changes to the way businesses are charged for water shock consumers

TWO MORE Argyll businesses have expressed concern about the size of their water bills since Business Stream took over commercial supply from Scottish Water.

One of those was David Keat, owner and manager of the Brander Lodge Hotel, near Taynuilt, who has just received a bill for £3,294.43, complete with a plan outlining required payment of £5,568 each year for water alone.

He contacted *The Oban Times* after reading about Valerie Bichener of the Thornloe B&B in Oban.

She said Business Stream's failure to read meters for two years - despite promises to read them regularly as promised - hid a leak that later resulted in a £4,000 bill.

While Business Stream have reached agreement with Mrs Bichener, it says bills for the latest two companies are correct.

Mr Keat, who bought the Brander Lodge Hotel two years ago, said: 'Business is difficult enough being so rurally situated and in the depths of a recession to get a surprise bill like this is the straw that broke the camel's back.'

'Apparently our water use is 50 per cent higher than the previous property owners which also surprises me.'

Mr Keat says he is unable to clarify the bill as the meter is hidden away 200 metres away from the hotel.

Craig Watson, head of customer experience at Business Stream, said: 'There have been a number of changes to the way businesses are charged for water following

a Scottish Government initiative to introduce water meters to the majority of non-household premises.

'Where the customer has a meter, bills are now calculated solely on meter readings instead of the rateable value of the property, so while all customers are only billed for the water they use, some bills have increased with certain premises using more water than others.'

'We have also recently revised our meter reading schedule to ensure all meters are read at least twice a year to improve the consistency with which we bill customers, provide them with more regular information about their water consumption and help budgeting.'

'This adjustment meant there was a slightly longer period between actual readings for some customers, and previous bills were based on estimated use.'

'We have carefully reviewed both customers' accounts and are satisfied their bills are accurate.'

'We will contact each customer to help them identify opportunities to reduce future water use.'

**"We will contact each customer to help them identify opportunities to reduce future water use."**

**Craig Watson, Business Stream**

## Islay party bottle assault lands teenager in custody for 16 months

A TEENAGER who put two brothers in hospital at an Islay Hogmanay party will spend the next year locked up.

Campbeltown Sheriff Court heard James Gillies, now 17, smashed a bottle against the side of the face of the younger brother, now 16, after they stepped outside the party in Bowmore Village Hall to settle an argument.

When the older brother, 19, then chased him, Gillies threw 'either a brick or a stone', hitting him just above the eye.

Both brothers went to hospital and received several stitches; the elder brother is permanently scarred.

Gillies whose address was given in court as HM Young Offender's Institution, Polmont, initially denied the attacks when police interviewed him later that night, but pleaded guilty to them and breaching bail conditions in court last week.

Sheriff Ruth Anderson QC sentenced Gillies to 16 months in a young offenders institute, saying: 'In this case there's no sentence other than a custodial one.'

The sentence was backdated to January 4 this year, when Gillies was first remanded in custody.

## Shock as BBC axe Global Gathering

THERE has been an outcry of public support after a BBC Radio Scotland show presented by Mary Ann Kennedy, whose father hails from Tiree and mother from Skye, was axed as part of a number of cuts introduced by the broadcasting company. Global Gathering, a two-hour showcase for world and traditional music, was removed to make way for a classical music programme.

Previously called Celtic Connections, the popular show had been on the air for more than 20 years.

## Man charged after dog attacks cyclist near Taynuilt

A 35-year-old man has been charged under the dangerous dogs act for failing to keep his animal under control in a public place after a cyclist was attacked and bitten by a Staffordshire bull terrier near Taynuilt on Friday.

The 54-year-old woman was cycling with a friend near Glen Lonan when the incident occurred.

## Oban card shop closes as lease expires

OBAN'S Clinton Cards store has shut down - because of a decision made before the company entered administration.

The town's only dedicated card shop, on George Street, closed its doors for the final time this week, letting three members of staff go. A spokeswoman for Zolfo Cooper, Clinton Cards' administrators, told *The Oban Times*: 'The Oban store was due for closure as the lease had expired. The firm had earmarked the shop for closure before they entered administration.'

Clintons opened its first store in 1968 and currently has more than 600 throughout the UK.

## Islay drinker admonished

AN ISLAY man was admonished at Campbeltown Sheriff Court last week after pleading guilty to being drunk and incapable.

The court heard Charles Morrison, aged 69, of Cnoc-na-Faire, Flora Street, Bowmore, had been picked up three times by police on May 2 this year in Bowmore.



Retiring after 20 years as Taynuilt's lollipop man: Willie Campbell with Olivia Barnes, Evan Cameron and Harry Mobey. 16\_12010lollipop01

## Special Taynuilt school concert as Willie hangs up his lollipop

SCHOOL children in Taynuilt said goodbye to their much loved lollipop man at a special concert last Thursday.

Willie Campbell is retiring after 20 years as the lollipop man and a previous 17 years as the school janitor.

Pupils from nursery right through to primary 7 performed songs, shared memories and read poems penned in honour of him.

Mr Campbell said: 'I know all the parents and children and I am a wee bit sad to be leaving but I have got my golf and gardening to keep me busy as long as the weather is nice.'

The concert was attended by many members of the community - including two local police officers.

Taynuilt golf club captain Mairead Sim said Mr Campbell would be 'much missed' but wished him 'many happy years on the golf course'.

Mr Campbell, who was awarded 'Lollipop Man of the Year' in 2006, was given presents to help with his gardening as well as a voucher for a meal.

These were presented by pupils Olivia Barnes, 12, and Evan Cameron, 5, before Mr Campbell's grandson Harry Mobey, 12, read a glowing tribute.

## Condom 'fire bomb' thrown though letterbox

A POLICE investigation has been launched after a potentially deadly fire bomb, in the form of a condom filled with what is suspected to be a flammable liquid, was dropped through an Oban householder's letterbox last week.

Between 9pm and 11.15pm on Thursday May 10, the filled condom was thrown through a letterbox at Kerrera Terrace, Dunollie, Oban, and an attempt had been made to light it.

Oban's Chief Inspector Brian Auld said: 'We have had door to door enquiries and forensic tests are being carried out.'

'We're not sure if the substance is flammable, but it is clear they have tried to ignite it because the condom has partially melted.'

'We are appealing for any information or witnesses to come forward.'

Anyone with any information should speak to Sergeant Cammy Lowe at Oban Police Station.'

**Mull Woodfuel Open Day**  
Thursday 24th May  
An Roth Community Enterprise Centre, Craignure  
Coffee from 10:45, Presentations 11:00 am  
Lunch will be served 12:30  
Site visits in the afternoon:  
Visit Crannich Farm - wood chip supplier  
See a biomass boiler in action  
This event is free to all with an interest in biomass heating, local woodfuel supply, RHI and financing options, boiler and stove installation.  
To book a place please contact: lynda@alienergy.org.uk  
07901 510915 by 21st May

**Special Taynuilt school concert as Willie hangs up his lollipop**  
SCHOOL children in Taynuilt said goodbye to their much loved lollipop man at a special concert last Thursday. Willie Campbell is retiring after 20 years as the lollipop man and a previous 17 years as the school janitor. Pupils from nursery right through to primary 7 performed songs, shared memories and read poems penned in honour of him. Mr Campbell said: 'I know all the parents and children and I am a wee bit sad to be leaving but I have got my golf and gardening to keep me busy as long as the weather is nice.'

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Down Your Way

Mallaig



Mallaig Primary School P4 and P5 pupils defeated teams from across Lochaber to win the inter-school tag rugby competition in their age group. The competition was held at Lochaber Rugby Club, Banavie, last week with more than 270 primary and secondary pupils taking part throughout the day.

MALLAIG lifeboat crew helped a BBC television crew film a segment for the popular countryside programme Landward recently.

Presenter Cat Cubie was filming the journey of Leverburgh lifeboat as it made its way to the new station on Harris for its recent grand opening. The boat spent the night before the opening in Mallaig, where the local lifeboat team were on hand to help Ms Cubie and the production team film a simulated rescue.

The programme was shown on BBC2 last Friday. Meanwhile, the crew was called out last Thursday after a hired yacht ran into trouble in the Sound of Sleat. The call-out reported the yacht had lost its rudder, but when the team found the stricken boat they realised the problem instead lay with the propeller.

All eight passengers on board the vessel were safely returned to land at Armadale.

A GREEN transport scheme launched in Mallaig last year has added a third car to its fleet to serve people in Arisaig.

WestWheels car club already had two cars based in Mallaig, a Ford Focus and a Ford Fusion, and club members now also have access to a second Fusion based at Arisaig Marine.

Locals can book out a car when they need it, with the club taking on the responsibility for ownership, maintenance and insurance.

Club representative Mick Rodgers told *The Oban Times*: 'For people in Arisaig who don't have a car and just want to take a quick trip to Mallaig or Fort William, I think this will make a significant difference.'

Mr Rodgers said the new car had already been hired out five times in the two weeks it has been in the village.

WestWheels now has 44 members overall and corporate deals have been set up with local accommodation providers to involve tourists in the scheme.



ASPIRING young actors from Mallaig won an award for putting on the funniest infant and junior play at a recent schools drama competition in Oban.

Youngsters from Mallaig Primary Gaelic Medium 1-3 performed a play about a naughty young prince who became invisible after finding a magical cloak in his cupboard and proceeded to play tricks on everyone in the castle.

After being found out, the prince got a cream pie in his face as a punishment.

Head teacher Morag Martin told *The Oban Times*: 'We were thrilled to receive the award this year and must give a huge thank you to Dougie Beck and the organisers of the drama fairs who helped and supported us throughout the process.'

MALLAIG Community Council is looking for volunteers to help clean up the village in preparation for the summer tourist season.

The provisional date for tidy up, held with help from the local Beavers and Cubs, is Saturday June 2.

Soup and sandwiches will be provided afterwards for all the volunteers.

# Diver's body recovered from Ardmucknish Bay

## Former councillor dies in 'tragic accident'



John Skerry, who died last week after a 'tragic accident' in Ardmucknish Bay.

TRIBUTES have been paid to the former Huntingdon councillor John Skerry, who died following a diving accident near Benderloch last week.

Mr Skerry's body was recovered from the sunken wreck of the SS *Breda* in Ardmucknish Bay last Friday morning following a three day recovery operation involving police and Royal Navy divers.

Divers returned to the wreck on Tuesday to recover rescue equipment.

Police say the death was the result of a tragic accident, although a post mortem examination will be carried out to determine the exact cause of death.

Oban's Chief Inspector Brian Auld said: 'This is just a tragic accident.'

Mr Skerry was a well-known and experienced diver who regularly organised and went on excursions as part of the St Ives Sub-aqua Club. The 54-year-old also taught diving at the St Ivo School.

He was diving on the sunken Dutch freighter with a group of friends when the accident occurred on Tuesday morning. No other member of the party was injured.



The search for the missing diver went on throughout last week. Photograph by Kevin McGlynn.

Oban Lifeboat was launched after the alarm was raised, while two dive boats, the *Seol Na Mara* and *Tritonia* research vessels, were joined by the *Hot Toddy* yacht in carrying out an extensive surface search.

A Royal Navy Helicopter from

HMS Gannet provided additional assistance. Mr Skerry was a driving force in redeveloping Huntingdon Town Hall after being elected to the town council in May last year.

He chaired the finance committee and helped push

forward the renovation of the town hall.

David Langford, who worked with Mr Skerry on the town hall, said: 'I enjoyed working very closely with John when I was the project manager for the Huntingdon Town Hall project

### Woman who fell into Tobermory Bay saved by lifejacket

CRILES for help, heard in the early hours of last Sunday morning, sparked a search and rescue operation in Mull.

Tobermory's RNLI Lifeboat responded to a 999 call to the coastguard from the crew of a yacht moored in Tobermory Bay who had heard a woman shouting for help from the water.

The volunteer crew launched at 3.39am but by the time they arrived on scene the woman had been rescued from the sea and was being given first aid by a doctor who happened to be on the crew of the yacht.

Amid fears there could be other people in the water, the RNLI crew carried out a search of the bay, using white parachute flares to illuminate the area.

The woman was in shock and unable to confirm which vessel she had come from or whether she had been alone.

The local Coastguard team subsequently confirmed that the woman had indeed been alone and the lifeboat was stood down by Clyde Coastguard shortly after 4am.

Tobermory RNLI Deputy Second Coxswain Andrew McHaffie said at the scene: 'It would appear that the woman fell into the water from her dinghy as she made her way back to the boat on which she was staying.'

'She had been in the water for around 15 minutes but fortunately she was wearing a lifejacket.'

'I would urge anyone on or near the water to wear a lifejacket at all times as it really is a lifesaver as tonight's events show.'

### Argyll bluebell wood in Top 20

ARDKINGLAS Woodland near Inveraray has been named in Scotland's top 20 for bluebells.

The Woodland Trust Scotland produced the list and believe that visiting woodland benefits physical health and mental wellbeing. Bluebells provide an additional tonic as psychologists view blue is a soothing and peaceful colour which calls to mind feelings of calmness or serenity.

'A bluebell wood at this time of year is actually one of nature's great tranquillisers and mood improvers,' said Andrew Fairbairn of the Woodland Trust Scotland.

Bluebells are coming into full bloom around Scotland so there is no better time to take advantage of their stress-busting benefits.

This year Scotland witnessed the earliest flowering bluebells for a decade, thanks perhaps to the mild winter and cold snap in February.

### Tweets in Gaelic

GAELS can now receive Tweets directly from the Scottish Government thanks to a new Gaelic feed.

The account, @ParlAlba, will provide updates on parliamentary business, events and news items on the Scottish Government's Gaelic blog.

### Campers warned over barbecues

CAMPERS are being warned about the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning following the death of three people who used disposable barbecues.

Argyll and Bute Council is sending letters to owners of camping and caravan sites across the county highlighting the danger of the gas in tents, cabins and caravans.

A spokeswoman said: 'Charcoal barbecues emit dangerous quantities of carbon monoxide which is lethal and they should never be used or taken inside enclosed spaces. Other camping stoves and lights can be equally dangerous if they are dirty or not properly adjusted.'

### Argyll health initiatives gain £70,000

MORE than £70,000 has been made available by Argyll and Bute Community Health Partnership to fund local health and wellbeing initiatives.

Some £15,100 has been set aside for Oban and the Isles and Islay will be able to bid for £2,865. Mid Argyll can bid for

### Talk on MacDougalls fuels old memories

WHEN the education officer at Dunollie visited Hope 2 Oban's Friendship Club to give a talk on the MacDougalls, the last thing she expected was to meet one of their friends.

Tara Coia, who is based at the castle's 1745 House, brought Admiral Sir John MacDougall's uniform to the club to show those who were not able to visit the museum.

MacDougall had been a local laird who travelled the world as a sea captain and one of the ladies at the friendship club had lived on his land.

Annie Robertson lived on

Dunollie Beag Farm with her family, the Struthers, for many years and remembered well the people that Tara was describing to the group. Annie will turn 101 this year and is an active member of the friendship club.

In acknowledgement of her long association with the MacDougalls, she was presented with a copy of Highland Postbag - a compilation of MacDougall correspondence through 150 years.

Tara's visit also included teaching the members how to card and spin wool ready for knitting. The ladies will also learn about willow-weaving in a later visit.



Tara presents a copy of the MacDougall Postbag to Annie.

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OT

**Ballachulish and Kilmallie shinty clubs face the music**

BALLACHULISH and Kilmallie shinty clubs will be hauled in front of a Camanachd Association panel tonight (Thursday) to explain the brawl which marred a recent game between the two sides in Caol.

Members of the clubs' management teams along with chairmen Ian Brown and Hugh MacIntyre will give their version of events at a disciplinary hearing in the Alexandra Hotel, Fort William.

Trouble erupted with five minutes left of extra time in the Sutherland Cup second round game on Saturday April 28.

With the score tied at 4-4, fans looked on as a serious foul provoked a melee and some spectators ran onto the pitch.

A number of punches were reportedly thrown before the referee abandoned the game.

**Marine Harvest announces £80m investment**

MARINE Harvest is planning to invest £80million in its west Highlands fish farms over the next five years.

The firm, which has salmon farms across Lochaber and the Western Isles, said the move should create around 100 more jobs for the area.

The company wants to invest in new farms and processing plants to boost production after Scottish salmon exports hit a new record high last year.

**Isle of Muck celebrates**

RESIDENTS on the Isle of Muck will gather to celebrate the official opening of the island's new community hall tomorrow morning (Friday).

The hall was completed just before Christmas last year after nearly 12 months of construction and years of community fundraising.

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Lochaber Rural Education Trust trustees Don Michie, Isabel Campbell, Rev Donald MacQuarrie, Linda Cambell and Michael Foxley, guests Pat MacQuarrie, centre, Lawrence MacEwen of Muck, behind, and Provost of Lochaber Allan Henderson, second right, share The Oban Times photocall with Adam Henson, third left. 20\_020adam01

**TV presenter helps rural education trust raise £9,000**

LOCHABER Rural Education Trust (LRET) raised more than £9,000 at a charity dinner with celebrity guest speaker and BBC Countryfile presenter Adam Henson on Friday night.

Mr Henson's entertaining and motivating talk on his passion for farming and preserving rural culture was well received by 165 guests at Caol Community Centre. Showing expertise as an auctioneer, Mr Henson also cleared all 30 donated lots to

raise £2,500 towards the total. His dancing talent was on display too as he kicked his heels at the ceilidh dance which followed.

LRET trustee Isabel Campbell said: 'It was a fantastic night. And at Glen Nevis the next morning he came to see Highland cattle in their natural setting. We sent him home with a bottle of Dew of Ben Nevis.'

Speaking before the auction, Mr Henson told The Oban Times he had visited the Highlands 'a number of times'. He said: 'It

is wonderful to be invited to the Lochaber Rural Education Trust dinner for what has been a real Scottish welcome and hospitality. Isabel's [Campbell's] spirit and enthusiasm is infectious.'

Ms Campbell thanked all event sponsors, Caol Community Centre staff and Lochaber College chefs and students, who prepared the meal. Mr Henson also met local children at LRET's education centre on Saturday morning, where he signed autographs.



Fort William GP Jim Douglas and Portree GP Stephen McCabe joined Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch MSP Dave Thompson for the event in the Scottish Parliament.

**Local doctors attend medical service celebrations**

LOCHABER and Skye GPs attended a reception at the Scottish Parliament last Thursday to celebrate the centenary of the Highlands and Islands Medical Service (HIMS).

Dr Jim Douglas, from Fort William, and Portree colleague Dr Stephen McCabe travelled to Edinburgh to attend the special event hosted by Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch MSP Dave Thompson.

After the reception, delegates debated how best to protect, improve and provide health services in rural and remote areas.

Mr Thompson said: 'The foundation stones of the Highlands and Islands Medical Service were local, free and accessible health care of an exceptionally high quality.'

'I want to build on these foundations and establish good collaborative relationships with local health professionals so that

the health service in Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch is fit for service in the 21st century.

'There are challenges for people living in remote and rural regions in accessing health care, but I am committed to making sure the NHS in Scotland does not go the same way as the NHS in England and Wales.'

The HIMS was the first state-funded health care service in the world, preceding the National Health Service by more than 30 years. A model for rural health care, the service was the product of recommendations contained within the Dewar Report, commissioned by Inverness MP Sir John Dewar in 1912.

His findings portrayed the desperately poor state of health in the Highlands and Islands and led to the HIMS being set up.

**Care home residents floored by sickness bug**

OVER half the elderly residents of an NHS Highland-run care home in Fort William have been struck down by a virulent winter vomiting bug, it emerged yesterday.

Fourteen patients and six members of staff at Invernevis House on Belford Road are displaying symptoms associated with the norovirus responsible for enforced ward closures at Raigmore Hospital and Caithness General in Wick.

All those affected at Invernevis are suffering from sickness and diarrhoea. One elderly person is currently undergoing treatment at the Belford Hospital.

Norovirus has not yet been confirmed at the 24-bed home, which is currently fully occupied. The virus has been confirmed at Raigmore as hospitals across Scotland report a sharp increase in cases.

The Oban Times understands Invernevis staff were sent home on Friday and did not report for work on Monday and Tuesday. It is believed residents are being kept in isolation in their rooms as a precautionary measure. The source of the outbreak, which began last Wednesday, is unclear. No staff or patients at

By STEPHEN NORRIS  
snorris@obantimes.co.uk

able to limit to spread as much as possible.' She added: 'If you are booked to come into hospital as an elective patient and have had diarrhoea, nausea and vomiting within the previous 48 hours, contact either your GP or the ward for advice before attending at the hospital.'

'If you are admitted as an emergency please inform the staff that you have had these symptoms.'

No specific treatment exists for a norovirus infection, but a doctor's assistance is not normally required. Medics recommend staying home, taking paracetamol and drinking plenty of water to prevent dehydration.

The bug spreads in the air where someone has had diarrhoea or vomited. It is extremely difficult to contain and can be easily passed on by poor hand hygiene. It is widespread in the wider community and can easily be passed on to vulnerable patients if visitors don't wash their hands properly.

NHS Highland took over responsibility for Invernevis House from Highland Council on April 1 under a shake up of children's and adult care services in the region.

Dr Emma Watson, lead infection control doctor for NHS Highland, said: 'We know this virus is in the community and it is likely that it has been brought in to the hospital.'

'This is why we are asking everyone to think twice before they come in as a visitor and, if you or a family member has had these symptoms, please do not come in. By doing this we will be

**New councillors meet for first time**

HIGHLAND Council's newly elected members are meeting in Inverness today (Thursday) for the first time since the recent elections.

The 80 councillors are expected to name SNP group leader Drew Hendry as new council leader with Lib Dem leader David Alton as deputy. Labour's Jimmy Gray is expected to be appointed convenor. The meeting will also see the new councillors select the

members of the north police and fire boards. The remaining senior member posts and appointment of office bearers will be decided at the next full council meeting on Thursday May 31.

Councillor Hendry, who represents the Aird and Loch Ness ward, told The Oban Times early talks suggested the new coalition was working well.

He said: 'We're looking forward to the council being

officially set up and talks are progressing well on putting a programme together.'

Following the elections on May 3, the Independents were the biggest group with 36 councillors, while SNP had 22, Lib Dems 14 and Labour eight.

SNP, Liberal Democrats and Labour councillors joined forces to form the new administration to run the council for the next five years.

**Lochaber Complementary Health Clinic NOW OPEN!**

Geoff Skrone, local Osteopath for the last 4 years, has just recently opened the new complementary health clinic in Fort William serving the Lochaber community.

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Injury Therapy, Acupuncture, Herbal Medicine, Aromatherapy, Reflexology, Alexander Technique and a variety of massage disciplines to suit your needs including Sports, Hot Stone, Holistic and Indian Head Massage. More therapies are expected in the coming weeks.

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Geoff wishes to thank everyone involved.

See clinic advert for contact details.



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### Former CalMac MD appointed to Loganair

PHILIP Preston, former managing director of Caledonian MacBrayne (CalMac), has been appointed as the new chief operating officer of Loganair.

Mr Preston, who left CalMac in February 2011, will be based in Glasgow and responsible for a team of 380 covering the airline's flight crew, cabin crew, engineering and ground service delivery functions.

He takes over from Jonathan Hinkles who is leaving the company next month after three and a half years.

Commenting on the new appointment, Loganair's chief executive David Harrison said: 'We are delighted to welcome Phil Preston to Loganair. His extensive knowledge of the communities which Loganair serves throughout the Highlands and Islands will undoubtedly be valuable as the company continues to expand and progress. We would also like to thank Jonathan Hinkles for his sterling service over the last few years, a period which has seen Loganair continue to expand.'

### Man appears on petition after threat to life scare

A MAN appeared at Oban Sheriff Court last week on a petition alleging he supplied a man with a substance that caused him to fall unconscious to the endangerment of his life.

The petition also alleged the man, who appeared from custody, was in possession of cannabis.

No plea or declaration was made, bail was granted and the case was continued for further examination.

### Ferry name competition

CALEDONIAN Maritime Assets Ltd has this week launched a competition to allow the public to name its new hybrid ferry.

The vessel is currently being built at Ferguson Shipyard in Port Glasgow and is likely to serve the Sconser-Raasay route.

# North Argyll inn offers new service to sailors and cyclists

## Moorings and showers aimed at attracting passing trade

A NORTH Lorn public house situated on the shores of Loch Creran is installing new moorings for yachts as well as a shower room for cyclists, divers and runners as it aims to maximise its potential in attracting passing trade.

Liz and Allan Crichton hope to take advantage of Creagan Inn's picturesque loch-side location near the village of Appin to make both the area and the venue more attractive to tourists.

In particular, Sustrans' new Oban-Fort William cycle path, which passes by the inn's door, is proving a major draw, with both the stay-cation and international visitors already taking advantage of the scenic route.

Liz also hopes to install pontoons for eight to 10 vessels in the coming years in a bid to develop the business's potential to attract the high end market in the future.

She said: 'The path has already proved quite popular.'

'For example, today we had a couple of cyclists stop in for a couple of drinks and they ended up staying for a meal.'

'That's the benefit of passing trade and by providing facilities we hope to make stopping here even more attractive.'

'We've just put in a new shower which will hopefully be



Liz Crichton is hoping installing moorings and a shower will draw more customers to the Loch Creran-side pub, 16, t19creagan1

good not just for cyclists, but for divers and yachters too.

'We've just upgraded the

moorings so now we have three for boats from four to six tonnes.

'Hopefully, we'll have pontoons in the future too. 'At heart I'm a service person.

I think it's essential to provide a good service and if we can do that then I'll be happy.'

### Isle of Mull primary school wins green flag award



Lochdonhead Primary School pupils have their own poly tunnel garden project.

PUPILS have been putting their green-fingered knowledge to good use in Mull - winning their primary an award in the process.

Lochdonhead School received the green flag award last Friday after an assessor from Keep Scotland Beautiful visited the school.

The children sang their eco-code song, accompanied by ukuleles, before having an eco-committee meeting to show the organisation's Paula Love what work they had been doing to be fit, healthy and wildlife friendly.

On being awarded the school's first green flag, Mrs Love said: 'Lochdonhead Primary has given a wonderful example via their beach cleans and work in their polytunnel and garden.'

Head teacher Mrs Inglis added: 'We are very proud of our Green Flag. 'Well done to all the pupils and staff, including our recently retired head teacher Mrs Hickson who did so much of the work with the children.'

'Thanks also to the parents and everyone else who has helped the school to achieve this award.'

### Biodiversity week in the west

OBAN and Mull will offer free wildlife events this month as part of Scottish Biodiversity Week.

There will be a special Mull Eagle Watch at Tioran Forest, Glen Seilisdair, on May 21. Oban's Corran Halls will host a conference, Waves, Wings, Spates and Coasts, from 10am on May 22, an event organised as part of the Festival of the Sea.

Elsewhere, the Barnluasgan Trail, near Lochgilphead, will host a special guided beaver walk on May 22 between 6pm-8pm. More information - www.biodiversityscotland.gov.

### Lorn Lines

LITTLE Learners' Nursery, Oban, has been given the seal of approval by school inspectors.

The recent report praised staff for their care and attention, helped by strong leadership from management. Children's experiences were described as 'excellent' and they are ambitious, motivated learners who have high levels of confidence when learning outdoors.

The quality of learning experiences provided by staff enabled children to make very good progress in their learning.

Inspector Shona Taylor further praised staff, parents and the local community for a strong working partnership.

The nursery has now been urged to 'continue to build on the work underway to take account of Curriculum for Excellence'.



WELL-KNOWN Middle East speaker Dr Mark Braverman will present 'When Politics Fail' to a meeting of Oban Concern for Palestine at the end of the month.

Dr Braverman is an American Jew and a descendant of one of the great Hasidic rabbis of Europe. Other members of his family were part of the small Jewish community which lived among Arab neighbours in Palestine.

As a young American man, he visited Israel a number of times, then in 2006 Dr Braverman witnessed for the first time the reality of life in the occupied Palestinian territories.

Dr Braverman will speak at an open meeting in Glencruit-ten Road Church Hall at 7.30pm on Friday May 25. Everyone welcome.



Winners from Taynuilt Bowling Club.



The youngsters with Daniel Brazier of Argyll Fisheries Trust which funded the hatchery in the classroom and the trip.

PUPILS from Rockfield Primary School enjoyed a trip to Loch Awe recently to release the trout reared in the hatchery in their classroom.

The primary six children learned about the life cycle of the trout, food chains and how to live in a more sustainable way.

They also learned about Scotland's lochs and rivers and their importance to Scottish tourism in providing many leisure activities.

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**GLENCOE**

GLENCOE Heritage Trust has set the dates for its much-anticipated photographic exhibition of local people and events from days gone by.

Photographs will be on display in St Mary's church hall from May 27-29, with doors open at 2pm on the Sunday.

Organiser, the trust's Ros MacDonald, told *The Oban Times* there had been a 'tremendous' number of local snaps submitted for possible inclusion. Categories in the display, entitled 'Glencoe and Beyond: The Last 60 Years', will include weddings, funerals, the local mountain rescue team, local events and people at work. A photograph of the last person to work at the Ballachulish slate quarry will also be on view.

Ros said: 'I think it will be very interesting. We will be opening at nights as well so local people working through the day can come along.'

Posters advising on opening times will be put up in Glencoe and Ballachulish closer to the time, Ros said.

**LISMORE**

AN APPRECIATIVE audience visited the heritage centre, Ionad Naomh Mòluag, for the launch of 'Ted and Elizabeth Odling', a book about two west of Scotland artists, written and produced by their children Noelle, Christopher and Nicholas Odling.

Barbara McDougall opened the launch and the accompanying exhibition of their work in the heritage library. Noelle spoke about her parents who, to many, were already well known for their great personalities as well as their art, as they had moved to island in 1982 when Ted retired from Glasgow School of Art.

The book covers their creative careers, Ted as a landscape painter whose interest in science and technology generated many ideas when combined with his artistic talent, and Elizabeth's brilliantly detailed illustrations, drawings and water colours of nature as well as embroidery and quilting.

Their combined work is seen in the work they did for the Burns Club in Irvine and the Burns Museum at Alloway and Chateaufort, near Glasgow. Elizabeth was well-known for her exhaustive knowledge and great love of Burns. The book



**STRATH OF APPIN**

Strath of Appin Primary School took part in the action song competition at the recent Highlands and Islands Music and Dance Festival in Oban. 15\_019mid01

is available at the museum shop and the exhibition in the library is free.

A CRAFT fair sprang up at Tighfhuil on Lismore for three days over Easter when everyone was able to buy works produced and handmade on the island by the many talented craftspeople.

Following the success of the Christmas fair, now an established event, it was thought that, with so many islanders creating art and crafts all the year round, there could well be room for more such events.

Ten people took part this time and many more would have had the dates suited.

Frances and Caroline Willis said they were hoping that maybe they could eventually set up some sort of co-operative, sharing materials and costs as well as ideas, which could make the initial outlay less expensive and open the way for greater creativity.

On offer at this first Lismore Easter Fair was a wide range of goods including drift wood art, jewellery, chocolate, cosmetics, cards and art as well as vintage clothes and china.

**ABERFELDY**

FLOWER boxes on Aberfeldy's Bank Street bridge have been dumped for the last time after the community group decided to permanently remove them.

Move2Improve had put the flower boxes in place in a bid to improve the appearance of the area but vandals repeatedly dumped them in the burn below.

Now, the organisation has had enough and will instead

concentrate on other ventures.

A member of Move2Improve said: 'We have decided to remove the boxes from the Bank Street bridge. It is a shame such measures have to be taken because of a few mindless people.'

'We will still be planting up in other parts of town and our annual hanging baskets will arrive in June.'

'We are hoping to plant out our train in red, white and blue for the Jubilee.'

WORK started this week on upgrading Aberfeldy's Birks Cinema, with Hadden Construction carrying out the work.

The Friends of the Birks Cinema, meanwhile, is still seeking applications for people to join a new board of management. For more information, see birkscinemafriends.org.uk.

**KILLIN**

KILLIN Community Choir members had a one-day workshop with Scottish Opera.

The day was a great success. The choir was split into groups with each 'friend' from Scottish Opera taking a group.

New pieces were learned to add to the repertoire for the autumn concert and the choir was treated to songs from Franny, the conductor, and her friends.

Lunch was provided by the Cancer Research Committee and the day finished with a social evening at Dall Lodge.

THE BOB MacGregor Memorial two day trial, which has been held annually the first weekend in June for the last six

weeks more than 70 applications from all over Britain and Ireland were received. Further information will be given on posters nearer the time.

**PLOCKTON**

WEATHER at Plockton during April saw only two and a quarter inches of rain in the village - making it the driest month since last July.

However it was cold, the highest temperature was only 14°C compared with 22°C last year and 19°C in 2010. Hottest day in March was 19°C.

**LUING**

A FOX is suspected of killing lambs on Luing. Locals report that three lambs have been taken.

The foxes are usually found in their lair at Balluchan woods but this one appears to be based elsewhere.

**LOCHYSIDE**

P5/6 PUPILS from Lochyside RC Primary School enjoyed a boat trip along the Caledonian Canal from Banavie to Moy Bridge last Tuesday

The children, who are currently working on a topic about the canal, learned about how the waterway was made by Thomas Telford and had an opportunity to see the locks being opened. School administrator Aileen

Duncan said: 'The children's learning has been greatly enhanced and they have written 'thank you' letters to British Waterways in appreciation.'

**KILMORE**

THE 100 Club winner for May was P Ross.

To celebrate the Queen's Golden Jubilee, cream teas will be served in Kilmore Hall on Tuesday June 5 from 2.30 - 4.30pm. Donations of baking can be handed in at the hall from 1.30pm. Everyone welcome.

**GREAT GLEN**

FOUR women from the Great Glen are planning to take on a gruelling 40-mile, two-day trek in aid of the new children's ward at Raigmore Hospital in Inverness.

Marion Riddle and Maria MacRae from South Laggan, Maria's sister Elaine and Liz Proudlock from Fort Augustus will start their wild walk next Saturday, May 26, when they will hike through the mountains from Kinlochhourn to Inverie on Knoydart. Then the next day the girls intend walking back from Inverie through Glendessarry to the head of Loch Arkaig. Maria told *The Oban Times*: 'We should manage it. We are all looking forward to it.'

By last Wednesday the girls



RAASAY and Sconser residents witnessed what was possibly a first last Tuesday - three lifeboats on exercise together in the narrows between Skye and its sister isle.

The vessels, Portree's *Stanley Watson Barker*, Kyle's *Spirit of Fred Olsen* and the *Lifetime Care* from the new station at Leverburgh on Harris, tied

**RAASAY**

up alongside each other at Sconser pier at 5pm once the exercise was over. Motorman on CalMac's ferryboat the *MY Loch Striven*, Paul Camilli said: 'It was a first indeed. To think that when I first moved here the nearest lifeboat was in Mallaig!'

had received donations and sponsorship totalling £800.

Their chosen charity, The Archie Foundation Highland Appeal, helps sick children and their families in the Highlands. To donate, visit [www.justgiving.com/knoydart-challenge](http://www.justgiving.com/knoydart-challenge).

**FORT AUGUSTUS**

BRIDGE replacement works on the Great Glen Way (GGW) north of Fort Augustus are due to start by June 6 at the earliest.

No diversion is required but walkers are being advised to follow the signs.

Walkers should also be aware that bridge replacement works are scheduled on a B Road alongside a small section of the

**ARDNAMURCHAN**

LOCALS in Ardnamurchan have reported the arrival of the first mackerel of the season. Two were caught from a dinghy off Ardnamurchan point on Sunday May 6.

Shoals of bait fish have also been spotted, raising hopes that the mackerel will soon follow the tiny prey up the west coast in significant numbers.

**DALMALLY**

SCHOOL children have been getting music lessons with a difference in Dalmally Community Centre by working with a Scottish charity.

Fischy Music is a charity which aims to support emotional, social and spiritual health and wellbeing in children through songs.

The workshops, on May 2, for children from Dalmally, Crianlarich and Taynuilt primary schools were part of Glenorchy Kirk's bicentenary celebrations.

Everyone joined in with lively music for singing, dancing, sign language and other actions. Workshops were followed by a concert attended by parents and others from church and community.



**Pupils bid farewell to Lochaber High School**

Lochaber High School's 92 sixth-year pupils waved goodbye to their classes as they finished to go on study leave before their final exams. They will return for exams throughout May before their graduation ceremony on Thursday June 7. Head teacher Jim Sutherland said: 'We've had an excellent group of sixth years this year. They've had some great achievements, they've contributed well to life of the school and they've set a good example to younger pupils.'

**Around the Rurals**

**Morar**

MORAR Woman's Rural Institute held its AGM in Lady Lovat Primary School recently with Christine Haynes appointed president.

Ann Currie was voted in as vice president, while Isobel Morton is secretary. The rest of the elected committee was: Pauline Elwell, treasurer, Heather Simpson, press secretary, Linda MacLean, hostess, Flora Lawrie, competitions and Mary Ferguson, tea queen.

Isobel Morton picked up the prize for the overall competition winner of the year and Linda Maclean and Eileen MacPhie won the raffles. A bring and buy sale raised £51.40, which was donated to the school.

**Appin**

APPIN SWRI held its AGM and 1940s night on April 19 in Port Appin Hall.

It was business first and after president Doreen Evans had congratulated the drama club on its recent success at the North Lorn Drama Festival, it was back to the 1940s.

Members had arrived wearing various 1940s fashions and the best dressed prize went to Linda Macleod as a young evacuee.

Between games, members enjoyed the collection of memorabilia on display.

At tea time there was 1940s fare including delicious spam sandwiches. Trophies for the session were awarded as follows: Handicrafts - 1 Brenda MacLeod; 2 Doreen Evans. Housewives - 1 Marjory Gifford; 2 Chrissie Malone. Mrs Ross Cup - Margaret Massey.

**SEIL**

SLATE Islands Heritage Trust had its annual volunteer outing at Dunstaffnage recently.

Those attending saw the cutting edge technology of the 1220 castle and visited the ruined chapel nearby. Volunteers then headed inside the Dunstaffnage laboratory where they were shown one of the biology laboratories and visited the seawater aquarium. Finally, the party crossed the road to the UHI training facility.

There, among the modern equipment, a member of the group came across his old fish measure which he had used many times during his working life in the old Dunstaffnage laboratory.

SEIL Natural History Group this month welcomed Graham Bruce, a resident of Ellenabeich, and a keen diver.

He showed slides of his dives around Luing while the audience marvelled at the beauty of the under-water plant life.

THE NEW play park, beside Seil Hall, is to be installed on May 21 but volunteers are required to riddle and spread four tons of top soil over the site in preparation.

**DUNVEGAN**

DUNVEGAN street bike stunt star Danny MacAskill switched to four wheels in Germany last Wednesday for a day of high-speed action at the Contidrom test driving track at Hannover.

The Continental-sponsored athlete was joined at the tyre manufacturer's circuit by fellow bike racers including GB downhill mountain bike champ Rachel Atherton.

**PLOCKTON**



**Annual teddy toddle round village**

Plockton's two playgroups held their annual teddy toddle round the village on May 3 and raised £88 for the Red Cross.

**ARDNAMURCHAN**

ARDNAMURCHAN primary girls' shinty team travelled to Portree on Friday April 20 for the first National Indoor Girls Tournament.

Seven teams took part in an exciting day of shinty.

Ardgour Primary School and Acharacle Primary School head teacher Lyndsay Bradley reported on a thoroughly enjoyable tournament.

She told *The Oban Times*: 'Our girls lost their first match 0-1 to Elgol but came back brilliantly in their second against Grantown with a 3-1 win, the first goal coming from Eilidh Ross, Acharacle, who was a force to be reckoned with both up front and mid field.'

'The next two goals came from first time player Rebekah Connolly, Kilmalieu, who had an amazing debut for the team!'

'We lost 0-3 to the overall winners Portree but the girls really worked hard. Our final two games were both 0-0 draws against Lochcarron and Dunvegan, both tough games but a flawless defence from Kate Bradley, Acharacle, and incredible goal keeping from Mairi Duncan, Llangal, ensured the draws.'

'An official at the event described Mairi as 'the best goalie in the tournament by



Ardnamurchan primary girls team: performed well at Portree.

far'. She added: 'The whole team gave 100 per cent with a fantastic midfield and defensive performance by Fern MacGillivray, Moss, and a really strong first tournament back for Mirran Lindsay, Acharacle. 'Our youngest member of the team Lilijana Alexander, Ar-

**GLENGARRY**

GLENGARRY residents keen to grow their own vegetables now have the chance to do just that. Anyone interested in having their own local

allotment in Invergarry can contact Dennis East at [dennis@lenalbynldodge.co.uk](mailto:dennis@lenalbynldodge.co.uk) or telephone Niellie Stewart on 01809 501238.

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# Mull school bus plan on rough road

## Council aims for one main contractor to control island routes

QUESTIONS have arisen over Argyll and Bute Council's plans to reduce the number of contractors responsible for school bus runs on the Isle of Mull.

There are currently 10 routes on the island, operated by eight separate contractors which come to an end on July 21.

### New contract

The new contract will see one main contractor in charge of all the routes on the island - but with a requirement to sub-contract at least 30 per cent of the work.

Locals fear the new system will be less economical than at present but the council say it will lessen their workload and be better value for money.

At a meeting last week the council's Alan Brough was asked what the alternatives were if nobody tendered for the work. He was forced to admit he had 'no plan B'.

'If we can't get a main contractor to take on that responsibility we will have to think again,' he said.

Current proposals outline a three year term but one potential

bidder said a minimum five year contract would be required to justify the level of investment.

'I'll need between five and seven minibuses at £35,000 each and on a three year contract I'm not prepared to do that,' he said.

Moray Finch of Mull and Iona Community Trust suggested a community led consortium may bid and asked if the council would assist but was told that the authority was 'sector neutral'.

'We expect discussions to take place during the tender process between main bidders and smaller local contractors, this will not be regarded as collusion,' said Mr Brough.

Once the main contractor is known a public tender process will open for the routes to be subcontracted.

But one woman who had just spent thousands upgrading her vehicle said: 'It just seems we have just won the battle to keep the schools open and now there is this to deal with. It is really stressful, some of us depend on three or four jobs to stay in this rural area.'



Robert MacDougall, in green, presents Donnie MacPhee of MacQueen Brothers, with stock for the charitable shop as part of Scotch Corner's move to the former amusements at the top of George Street. Pictured taking the goods are, from left, Travis Smith, Calum MacPhee and Josh Aitken. 15\_1201scotchcorner1

# Oban retailer gives stock to charitable trust

OBAN businessman, Robert MacDougall, has delivered a boost to the community after donating thousands of pounds worth of stock to a local charitable trust.

The Oban Community Charity Shop took delivery of the goods, which includes a sofa,

on Monday as Mr MacDougall moves his Scotch Corner business from 76 George Street to the former home of the amusements at the top end of the street.

Like all other items sold at the Community Charity Shop at the north pier's White Building,

run by the MacQueen Bros Charitable Trust, proceeds from the sale of the goods will be distributed to causes, groups and charities with in the Oban and Lorn area.

Mr MacDougall said: 'There was a wee bit of stuff left we didn't use and I thought it'd be

good to see it go to the community shop.

'Most of the money raised there seems to stay in this area, which is where I want the proceeds from this to stay.'

Trustee, Graham MacQueen, said: 'Robert has very kindly given us all of his surplus stock

and it will raise thousands of pounds for the community.

'Very rarely do we say anything when people donate goods to us and part of that is it is very difficult to thank everyone.'

'But we thought this was worth marking as it is a very generous gesture.'

## Oban and Lorn Riding for Disabled Association gain from sponsored ride

RIDERS from the Oban and Lorn Riding for Disabled Association (RDA) boosted the charity's funds recently with a sponsored ride.

Some 22 riders took off from Achalarig stables along the drovers road to Connell last Tuesday.

They were accompanied by helpers, three dogs, two minibuses and lots of yummy goodies.

Everyone received a 'well done' rosette and have raised lots of money for the charity.



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## Third West Highland field archery formed as interest rises rapidly

### Strontian joins Fort William and South Lochaber

THE WEST Highlands will soon have a third field archery thanks to a band of committed enthusiasts in Kinlochleven.

### Strontian

South Lochaber Bowmen (SLB) have already fostered the formation of Fort William-based Garrison Bowmen - and now a Strontian-based archery group is being set up.

The as yet unnamed club will be based in Strontian and will take part in field training

courses over two days on July 7-8 at the Sunart Centre.

SLB president Dugh Irbhinn welcomed the sport's rapid development in the West Highlands.

He told *The Oban Times*: 'Since South Lochaber Bowmen started under three years ago, we have created two Scottish champions with Danny Federici in 2011 and Andrea Koster in 2012.'

'STAFAA will be involved

in making archery available to everyone in Scotland and with the committee that we have along with our affiliated clubs, I can see archery both target and field being well represented in Scotland.'

Elsewhere in Lochaber, new national governing body the Scottish Target and Field Archery Association (STAFAA) are introducing archery to Inverloch Primary School on May 24.

## ACHA invite tenants to enter Garden in Bloom

ARGYLL Community Housing Association (ACHA) is inviting their tenants to enter this year's Garden in Bloom competition and show off their gardening skills.

The competition runs throughout the county and gives tenants in each of the association's areas the opportunity to win cash prizes.

Tenants can enter their own garden or be nominated by friends, relatives or neighbours.

Entry forms can be obtained from local offices, in the tenant's newsletter or you can email your entry to your local office via a link on our website.

For more information go to [www.acha.co.uk/gardenin-bloom](http://www.acha.co.uk/gardenin-bloom).

Entries must be in by June 29.

## Tobermory pupils take part in garden art project



SCHOOL children from Tobermory were joined by a local artist who helped them create garden art as part of a larger project.

Emma Herman-Smith joined the youngsters recently to show them how to make clay leaves which will be attached to a giant tree before going on display.

The children gathered ideas from walks in Aros Park with forest ranger, Jan and her dog, Tika, while learning all about the forests and woodlands.

The pupils also collected items to press onto the clay leaves and played games. The leaves will be completed as different materials including bronze, ceramic and glass.

The completed artwork will be available for viewing from September 6 in An Tobar.

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**TICKETS TO THE IDEAL HOME SHOW**  
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JUNE 2ND-5TH 2012 SECC - GLASGOW  
Britain's best loved home event, The Ideal Home Show is returning to the SECC in Glasgow from June 2 to June 5 and The Oban Times has ten pairs of tickets up for grabs.  
Be inspired by the spectacular Princes show home, stunning interior room sets, live cooking demonstrations from celebrity chefs, brilliant show gardens, the latest gadgets and gizmos and much more.  
A whole host of celebrity ambassadors will be at the show including Lorraine Kelly, Laurence Llewelyn Bowen and Suzi Perry.  
Visit [www.idealhomeshowscotland.co.uk](http://www.idealhomeshowscotland.co.uk).  
For your chance to win a pair of tickets simply answer this easy question, complete the coupon and post it to Wyvex Media, Ideal Homes Competition, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB. Entries must be submitted by Friday, May 24th 2012.

**Question: Which of the following TV presenters will be at this year's Ideal Home Show?**  
a) Lorraine Kelly b) Dermot O'Leary c) Philip Scholfield

Answer .....

Name .....

Address .....

Telephone..... Email .....

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# The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

ONE COULD be forgiven for feeling optimistic about growth on the west coast in recent weeks, and with good reason.

This week, Marine Harvest announced plans to invest £80million in its Scottish operations over the next five years, creating around 100 new jobs in the process.

While Scotland was the third largest country in which the firm operates, its farms - the majority of which are based on the west coast - are the most profitable.

In the same week, Dunbeg-based scientific research company, Aquapharm, announced an agreement to develop an innovative new treatment for digestive problems.

If successful, new products derived from the treatment could net the company more than £40million a year. It is important to note that the technology leading to this treatment was developed at the company's Argyll base.

All of this comes on the back of the terrific work promoting the area carried out by Argyll and the Isles tourism network and news that a host of west coast businesses have been nominated for regional prizes in the Scottish Thistle Awards, the country's most prestigious accolades for tourism.

However, a cautionary word. The Dunollie Preservation Trust this week made an appeal for help as it strives to complete its plans to establish itself as a cultural hub for Oban.

Having self-funded much of the project so far, the Trust is seeking £25,000 in match funding to complete the installation of a new lighting system and canopy.

Without this investment, it warns the entire winter programme could be under threat.

While it is no doubt tempting to revel in good news and ignore the uncertainties, it is important we do not get complacent and think 'job done'. Success breeds success, but not without a generous measure of forward thinking, strategic investment and clear leadership.

## GLASGOW LETTER

### Scottish Pipe Band Championships

WITH so many top class pipe bands and such great rivalry, Levensgrove Park, Dumbarton, will be the place to be this Saturday for the Scottish Pipe Band Championships.

The park, which is beside the River Clyde and is overlooked by Dumbarton Castle, is a wonderful location for the championships at which more than 140 bands will be competing. In addition to the bands, there will be Highland Dancing and a fun fair as well as all the usual attractions found at such events. Admission to the event is free.

### Phil Cunningham Showcase

PHIL Cunningham joins forces with the students of the Traditional Music Course at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland for this end of term jamboree which is guaranteed to further promote the number and the quality of young musicians on today's scene.

This will be at 7.30pm in St Andrew's in the Square on Friday May 18.

### Provincial Mods

THIS weekend is the 50th birthday celebration of Mod Shruigheala, Stirling Provincial Mod, which continues to be a success.

To mark the anniversary, this year's theme will be songs of celebration and most appropriately the event will be hosted by the historic Golden Lion Hotel.

The piping and fiddle competitions will be held on Friday evening at 7pm in St Modan's High School with the vocal, oral and choral competitions taking place on Saturday in the Golden Lion Hotel and Allanpark Church Halls, Dumbarton Road, Stirling. The juniors will start at 9am and the seniors at 2pm.

At 7.30pm, the Mod Ceilidh Dance, to the music of Jack Delaney's Band and featuring the junior and senior prizewinners, will take place in Albert Hall.

Next weekend it will be the turn of East Kilbride to host its Mod.

Please note that this is a different date to that which was originally published and which coincided with the Jubilee holiday.

### Ulpan course

IF YOU are looking for a fresh way to learn Gaelic, you will have the opportunity to attend

a five-day course at 'Heart of Scotstoun' Community Centre from Monday June 11 until Friday June 15 from 9am until 5pm each day at a cost of £120 for the week.

The course will cover Ulpan Units 1-20. For further information or to enrol contact adhamh@ulpan.co.uk or telephone 0131 541 2135.

### Community classes

MARGARET Stewart will present an evening on the 'Songs of Lewis' on Tuesday May 22 in An Leanan, Mansfield Street, Partick, from 7pm until 9pm.

ZUMBA classes will resume in Hillhead Primary School on Thursday May 24 at 8pm.

### Congratulations

CONGRATULATIONS to Lynne MacKillop and David Law who were married recently in Broomhill Church, Glasgow.

Lynne, with Uist connections and formerly of Bearsden, is the daughter of Iain and the late Joan and step-daughter of Lorna while David's parents, Edd and Sue, are from London.

### Diary dates

**Thursday May 17:** Live at the Star, St Andrew's in the Square, 8pm, The Handsome Family.

**Friday May 18:** Phil Cunningham Showcase - see above. Stirling Provincial Mod - see above.

**Saturday May 19:** Scottish Pipe Band Championships - see above. Highlander's Club Dance, Partick Burgh Halls, 8pm - Donnie and Diane Dance Band, Clann Gàidhlig Ceilidh Dance, Community Centre, Bishopton, 7.30pm. Stirling Provincial Mod - see above.

**Thursday May 24:** Live at the Star, St Andrew's in the Square, 8pm - Cloud Street.

**Friday May 25:** East Kilbride Provincial Mod.

**Saturday May 26:** Ceol's Craic, CCA, Sauchiehall Street - further details next week. East Kilbride Provincial Mod.

**Pub scene**  
BLACK Velvet will be playing in the Islay Inn on Friday with Country Folk on Saturday while in the Park Bar it will be Willie Cameron/Martin Pottinger on Friday and Sunday with Robert Nairn on Saturday.

**Neil Murray. Tel: 0141 954 8105. Email: neilmurray@yahoo.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.

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It is the policy of The Oban Times Group to correct any errors in print. If you find an error of fact on our pages please write to The Editor, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB giving your day-time telephone number where possible. This statement of policy will appear on this page every week along with any corrections or clarifications.

The Oban Times adheres to the Press Complaints' Commission's Code of Conduct.

The views expressed in The Oban Times are not necessarily those of this newspaper.



## Oban Territorial Army camp - 1946/47

A reader submitted this week's flashback photograph which shows members of Oban Territorial Army at camp in 1946/47. **Left to right, back row:** Martin Taigh; Donnie May; Alistair MacCuish; John Bain; unknown; Alistair Binnie; Kenny MacLean; Dugie Carmichael; Billy Simmonds and Hugh MacIver. **Middle:** Sergeant Alex Munro; Sergeant Hugh MacCorquodale; Sergeant Major John Cook; officer unknown; Lieutenant John MacKay; unknown; Major Alex MacLeod; Donnie MacLeod; Sergeant Davie Pearson; Sergeant Willie Hunter and Sergeant Bill Stewart. **Front:** unknown; John Corrie; Corporal Hughie (Shuckie) Campbell; John MacMonagle (Snookie); J Anderson; unknown; and John MacPhee (Hess). Please send prints to The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB, or email editor@obantimes.co.uk. Prints or emails must be accompanied by a caption, name, address and telephone number. Anyone wishing their prints returned must supply a stamped addressed envelope.

# Letters to the editor

PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB  
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### Long may Mull Music Festival prosper

Sir, In response to letters written regarding Mull Music Festival, the event has been in existence and a success for more than 30 years.

As to how D Stevenson comes to the conclusion 'there is little emphasis placed on music' is beyond me.

Traditional Scottish music is a celebration of our culture and I for one take offence to these negative remarks. Some of the musicians coming to our island for this event have had years of experience and teach others their talent to the highest of standards.

Did D Stevenson speak personally to those from the cruise ship to gauge their opinion? I very much doubt it!

I spoke to one hotelier who said: 'We had a fantastic festival with only one glass broken. It's such a boost for us financially.'

The event, as Neil Morrison so eloquently wrote, brings huge revenue to our island and has a knock on effect as they keep coming back year on year.

I recognise many sons and daughters and grandchildren now grown up whose parents/grandparents attended the event way back when it originated.

It is fantastic the youngsters are appreciating our culture and keeping traditions going. Surely this speaks volumes and if the festival was so 'anti-social' would they return? I think not!

You are quite right Anne Burns, change your holiday date if the festival does not suit you. This is not the Mediterranean and our festival goes have not destroyed nor degraded our culture, far from it!

When D Stevenson talks of 'anti-social' behaviour this is merely a minority. We do not want to send out a negative message in times of austerity. The island needs all the help it can acquire. Long may Mull Music Festival prosper.

**F MacInnes, 16 Argyll Terrace, Tobermory.**

### Every patient an individual

Sir, I have been a patient of Ballachulish Medical Practice for decades and have always received a good service.

The doctors, nurse and staff have all been a part of the community and treated their patients as humans. They have dispensed sympathy and empathy as well as medicine.

Now the practice, which was once devolved, is subject to Highlands Health Board 'managerialism'. Fortunately for us, local medical staff have held the line and continued to treat us as human beings and still operate a drop-in service for the practice nurse.

However, I have been informed by a managerialist that we are the last practice in the Highlands to do so and as our current nurse is retiring, we will now conform to the 'norm' and an appointment-only system will be introduced on June 4.

I learned of this from a notice inserted into my prescription pack. I protested this arbitrary change with the staff and discussed this with the practice manager.

I queried why there had been no transparency or consultation on this matter and was told they knew best, the 'board' had approved it and it was

happening. Why was there no consultation? What have they to fear if, as they say, this is a marked improvement to the current service?

Tell us what methodology and systems will be in place to monitor and change the new system. It is time our elected politicians shone the cleansing light of transparency into every dark corner of this bureaucratic monster to ensure scrutiny and accountability.

Return control to those who are aware of what service they are to supply, the long-suffering medical staff who are undermined, ignored and cowed by the managerialists.

Each and every patient is an individual whose needs and wants need to be understood. Tailor the service accordingly.

**Jimmy Waugh, Ballachulish.**

### Cyclist sticks to the pavement

Sir, Two weeks ago my friend and I decided to lose those unwanted pounds and started to cycle to work.

Starting at 7.30am and working until 10pm we have thoroughly enjoyed the wonderful pleasures of cycling from Connell to Oban.

Dressed in our luminous coats and donned with hats and lights we set off.

All is well until we get to the Saulmore straight when we summon up the courage to work our way along the road. Sometimes drivers are courteous and careful, sometimes not. At the Widemouth Frog I go onto the pavement and safely make my way to Oban.

Pedestrians have been polite and helpful.

Why is there no cycle path to Connell?

When cycling in Cornwall the cycle path doubles for pedestrians as well as cyclists. Research has shown the faster cyclists go the safer they are.

Perhaps later I will be able to zip along but for now I will stick to the pavement rather than being mown down.

When will Argyll and Bute Council see fit to complete the route to Connell?

**Rosie Robinson, Barvas Cottage, North Connell.**

### A cat's point of view

Sir, It was grand to see a feline event headline last week, although I do despair of you humans at times.

To my way of thinking, it would be good if both parties could combine to satisfy all interests, although I am aware you have this thing called money which complicates everything. And too much seems to be drowned in cat-ma. I defer from references to dogs.

Now if it was just ego then I would understand. Or indeed stolen identity.

I am not familiar with the social website Facebook you humans use but I have instigated my own which is known as Pawstuff.

Not a very widely known cyber site but I have put the word out regards Tobermory Cat, purely to get a cat's point of view.

I wonder if anybody has thought of that? I do not doubt that TC living on Mull is basking in his fame and I hope he is not distressed by unfolding events.

I have thought about a book deal myself but I am still in negotiation with Furbull Publications.

Their terms put a lump in my throat. Must go and prowl a bit.

**Cleo the Cat, North Connell.**

### Ballachulish memories

Sir, The flashback photograph in your May 3 edition is of a funeral party leaving Ballachulish on the motor launch *Gaolach*, which means 'darling'.

It was the only motorised boat in the area and was owned by my wife's father Alastair Cameron, The Garage, Onich. He is the boatman standing at the front of the vessel. My wife, who was 13 years old at the time, remembers it well as we had many good trips down the loch in these days.

Lovely to see these old photographs. Many of my age will remember them.

**Tom Kirsop, North Ballachulish.**

### Thanks for loyal support

Sir, I am writing on behalf of the Peacocks store in Oban Co-op to personally thank all of our loyal customers for their support over the past few months when the company went through a difficult period.

We are delighted that Peacocks has recently been bought by The Edinburgh Woolen Mill Group and will remain in Oban as a Peacocks store.

Once again, a big 'thank you' for all of your support and we look forward to welcoming you very soon.

**Jamie Salmon, store manager.**

### Craignure Pier gangway

Sir, I would firstly like to congratulate Councillor McCuish and his SNP colleagues on their success in the recent elections and thank the people who supported me in my individual campaign.

Thankfully for Mull and Iona, the question of who pays for the replacement of the Passenger Access System/Gangway(PAS) at Craignure Pier is now surely settled.

The SNP group has consistently supported Transport Minister Keith Brown's position that it is Argyll and Bute Council's responsibility to replace the current PAS.

With next year's anticipated rise in visitor numbers for the 1,450th anniversary of St Columba's arrival in Iona, and an ever-more-discriminating touring public, I believe like many others that the delivery time, currently an estimated 20-22 months, for a fit-for-purpose PAS can be shortened significantly and I hope the new administration will not disappoint us in that respect.

**Gordon Chalmers, Tobermory.**

### Votes count

Sir, The use of the word 'moot', *The Oban Times*, May 10, in reference to the results from Dunoon made it seem as if they were of no importance to the make-up of the council.

Although you did qualify it by saying it could have an effect on the 'fragile alliance'. I would hope it would!

Whereas it is okay to form alliances on one or two of the important issues, on a whole raft of issues this alliance should be floating and flexible in as much as there are 36 councillors and different formations of majorities should be possible as each issue is discussed.

I was pleased with my own support which has remained at

two to three per cent since 2007. Thanks to everyone who voted for me.

Being more concerned with persuading people to vote, I heard a few times the remark 'the right to vote also implies the right not to vote' which, although a truism, does not take into account that no-one was ever imprisoned or force fed - as many women were - for demanding the right not to vote.

A 50 per cent turnout is to me only a 50 per cent democracy. I would prefer to see and 80 to 85 per cent turnout. Hopefully the new council will do its work so well that people will return to the polling stations believing that their votes do count and can make a difference.

Congratulations to all new and returning councillors.

**George Doyle, Easdale.**

### Overwhelmed by result

Sir, I would be grateful if I can, through your newspaper, extend a heartfelt 'thank you' to the people of Oban North and Lorn for their continued support.

I was overwhelmed by the result. I feel privileged and am delighted to be able to continue working with and for the people and communities of North Lorn.

I would also like to thank everyone for the courtesy and kindness with which I was received on the doorstep - whatever their affiliation - and to the other candidates for their good humour throughout the campaign.

**Elaine Robertson.**

### Business as usual

Sir, I would like through your paper to say thank you to all who supported and voted for me in the recent election.

Thanks to all who helped with the leafleting and putting up posters. Thanks to my family and friends for all their patience and encouragement. I assure you that I will be working as hard and I will be as committed and passionate about the issues and concerns of the people of Ward 4 as I have been over the last five years.

So it is business as usual and I again encourage you to let me know your concerns and issues. Your opinions are important.

Once again thanks to each and every one of you for giving me the privilege of representing you and also for working for you.

**Mary-Jean Devon.**

### More of the same

Sir, What have the recent local election brought? Sadly, more of the same.

We have, with minor exception, the same old faces, the same old, tired policies and prejudices and the same excuses when nothing happens to alleviate the dire state of Argyll and Bute Council.

It is said that in a democracy the public deserves the politicians it finds itself saddled with. Less than half the electorate of Argyll and Bute bothered to vote, the result being we have a depressing four years ahead of us.

Congratulations to those councillors who have been returned and who can get the job done properly.

To those who are simply there for the ride, you will need to do a lot better.

Clear your heads, roll your sleeves up and put your backs to the wheel, pushing with the rest of us who are not councillors but who work hard to keep you where you are.

**Neil Duncan, Tarbert.**



## Beachd Ailein

Ailean Caimbeul

THA DÀ ADHBHAR THÀMAILT orm is mi a' sgrìobhadh beachd na seachdain seo.

Tha mi cho dùilich dha mo charaid Seumas Pedrana is cùisean air a dhol na aghaidh fhèin is stiùirichean eile UBC an dèidh spàirn mhòr a' chompanaidh a' chumail a-dol. 'S e teaghlach a tha seo a thòisich nan cuid ceàirdean gun mhòran ach ealantas làimhe agus a thog companaidh a choisinn creideas agus cliù fad is farsaing.

Cha b' e a-mhàin adhartas a teaghlach a bha na adhbhar moite dhaibh ach na cothroman a chruithaich iad dha na ceudan òganach gus deagh cheàird ionnsachadh agus cosnadh dòigheil a dhèanamh nan coimhearsnachdan fhèin. Thug iad tèarainteachd dha mòran air feadh na Gàidhealtachd agus ged a tha na th'air tachairt a-nise air leth tàmailteach, cha ghabh àicheadh gun do chuidich UBC iomdach teaghlach a thogail thar nam bliadhnaichean.

Rinn iad sin le bhith dicheallach agus gnìomhach agus tha e glè dhùilich am faicinn a-nise a' dol fodha ri linn, gu ìre, nach robh na buidhnean dha robh iad ag obair gam pàigheadh cho sgiobalta 's a bu chòir.

Chan eil na thachair dha UBC na annas. Dh'fhuing iad buaidh crìonaidh eaconamaidh na dùthaich far am bheil Riaghaltas Cobhanntachd a' cur am prìomh aire air lùghdachadh fhianach na dùthaich gun mhòthachadh ceart air buaidh nam gearradhnan air cosnadh.

'S e an dàrna rud a chuir tàmailt orm an naidheachd gum bheil an co-bhanntachd a tha gu bhith a' riaghladh Chomhairle na Gàidhealtachd air cur às dha Comataidh Gàidhlig is iad a rèir coltais a' creidsinn gum bi cùisean nas fheàrr ma tha uallach làitheil Gàidhlig ga chur an urra ri gach rionn den Chomhairle. Theagamh gum bheil iad da-rìribh ann a bhith a' creidsinn gum obraich seo, ach tha e glè dhraghail nach do ghabh iad comhairle bho fheadhainn aig am bheil eòlas bhliadhnaichean a' strì às leth a' chànain.

Nam biodh an seòrsa deagh rùn is mothachadh air feumalachdan na Gàidhlig 's a tha na Comhairlichean seo a' sùileachadh bitheanta, 's dòcha nach biodh comataidhean Gàidhlig neo planaichean neo Achd neo dad eile a dhith dhan chànain. Ach chan ann mar sin a tha ann an àite sam bith air feadh Alba agus chan fheum Comhairlichean na Gàidhealtachd a dhol fada a lorg nàimhdean dhan chànain taobh a-staigh nan crìochan aca fhèin. Ma tha a' Chomhairle seo da-rìribh a' thaobh na Gàidhlig, feumaidh iad dìon ceart a chumail rihte!

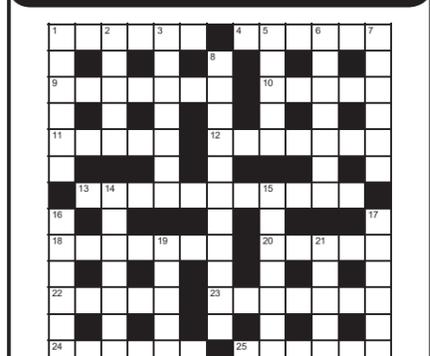
MANY will share my sympathy for my friend Seumas Pedrana and his colleagues as the UBC Group ceased trading.

This did not happen because this was a 'bad' business, but because of the continuing economic downturn. This is a family which can be justly proud of providing training and employment for many hundreds over four decades.

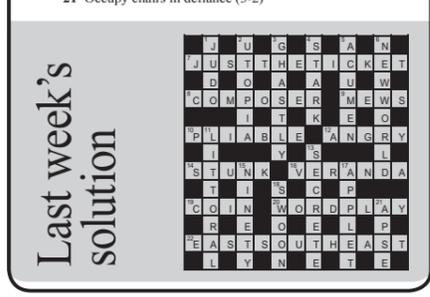
Meantime the new Highland Council must understand that if routine provision for the needs of Gaelic were a norm it would not have been necessary to pass a Gaelic Act and create support structures!

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

## GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD



- Across**
- Pour into another (6)
  - Beginning (6)
  - Non believer (7)
  - Dried coconut meat (5)
  - Freeze (3,2)
  - In addition to (7)
  - Payback! (11)
  - Very slow pace (7)
  - Conundrum (5)
  - Eminent (5)
  - Clothes bath for two? (4,3)
  - Confused (6)
  - Service department (6)
- Down**
- Showy flower (6)
  - Fad (5)
  - Without a chance! (2-5)
  - Brother of a parent (5)
  - One in charge (7)
  - Bag holder (6)
  - Rocky (11)
  - Noble (7)
  - Being better than (7)
  - Land on Lake Victoria (6)
  - Bad-tempered (6)
  - Record company, not owned by others (5)
  - Occupy chairs in defiance (3-2)



Last week's solution

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## Former Claggan teenager jailed

A FORMER Claggan teenager has been jailed for six months after carrying out a vicious attack on his landlady.

Damien McAuley, now of Kinloch, Ardconnell Road, Oban, was found guilty of the drunken assault after a trial at Fort William Sheriff Court last month.

The 19-year-old was living at 6 Achariach at the time of the

incident, which happened in the early hours of March 5.

After spending the night drinking together, tempers rose between McAuley and his 22-year-old landlady after he made an offensive remark.

When she asked him to leave, McAuley became violent and banged her head against a wall. He then threw her against a wall, pushed her against a freezer,

prodded her in the eyes, pulled at her mouth with his fingers, seized hold of her by her clothing and pushed her about, all to her injury.

Sentencing McAuley, Sheriff Douglas Small said the attack had been 'particularly unpleasant'.

He said: 'There is no alternative in my mind but a period in detention.'

## Serial egg thief given six months in prison

A SERIAL egg collector has been jailed for six months and banned from visiting Scotland during the breeding season for the rest of his life.

Matthew Gonshaw, of Bow, East London, took 20 wild bird eggs from the Isle of Rum in May 2011.

The 49-year-old was also caught in possession of egg collecting equipment, Inverness Sheriff Court heard.

Sentencing Gonshaw, Sheriff Margaret Neilson, described Gonshaw as a 'wildlife destroyer', telling him her main concern was to 'protect the wildlife of Scotland from predators like you'.

Gonshaw was arrested on Rum last June after he was caught taking eggs belonging to manx shearwater, meadow pipit and willow warbler.

A warrant for his arrest was issued when he failed to attend an earlier court date relating to the incident.

Police were alerted after



Jailed: Matthew Gonshaw.

sharp-eyed Rum resident Alison Morris spotted Gonshaw with birds' eggs in a gull colony on a remote part of the island, which Scottish Natural Heritage runs as a national nature reserve. Officers collared Gonshaw as

he was about to board a ferry for the neighbouring island of Canna.

Richard Kilpatrick of SNH thanked Ms Morris for her vigilance.

He said: 'We are committed to tackling wildlife crime and the quick actions of the Rum islanders undoubtedly helped save other rare birds from this man, one of Britain's most persistent egg thieves.'

'The attempted theft of these eggs serves as a lesson to all island communities to monitor their local biodiversity and to be vigilant.'

'This is particularly true at this time of year when birds are breeding and raising young and therefore at their most vulnerable.'

The RSPB's Ian Thomson said: 'We welcome this sentence and the strong comments made by the sheriff as it sends out a clear message to those who seek to destroy Scotland's natural heritage.'

## Lifeboat called into action within 24 hours of becoming active

SCOTLAND'S newest lifeboat crew based in an Isle of Harris village were called out to their first job within 24 hours of becoming an active station.

Leverburgh lifeboat *Lifetime Care* received a call from Stornoway Coastguard after a fishing vessel, *Solta*, reported an engine failure of Wray Island near Benbecula on Saturday afternoon.

The lifeboat reached the

stricken boat at around 2.30pm and helped it to shore at Peter's Port, Benbecula.

The lifeboat went operational last Friday following an official opening ceremony in the village last week.

**Assist**

Leverburgh operations manager John MacLean said: 'We are pleased that Leverburgh lifeboat and volunteer crew have been able to assist on this occasion.'

'This call-out, so soon after the station being made operational, confirms the need to have such a service in the area.'

**Trial**

The station, currently housed in a temporary building, is being run on a 12-month trial basis after locals raised concerns about an increase in marine traffic and the length of time required for a lifeboat to arrive from Barra or Stornoway.

## Sports centre land survey completed

High hopes for Dunvegan project

A LAND survey to assess a site near Dunvegan for an ambitious project to bring a multi-use sports and leisure complex to northwest Skye has been completed.

Developers North-west Skye Recreation Association (NWSRA) hopes results will be known in early June.

If the findings are favourable, NWSRA will commission a full-scale feasibility study to evaluate which outdoor and indoor pursuits at the centre would best match community need.

Northwest Skye residents currently face a round trip of up to 100 miles to Portree to access sports and leisure facilities.

NWSRA's management committee say they are 'undaunted' by challenges ahead and claim widespread local support for the move.

Partnership talks have been advancing well with Highlife Highland, which according to NWSRA is 'fully supportive' of the scheme.

NWSRA chairman John Hermse told *The Oban Times*: 'It's wonderful to see the start of this project unfolding. Skye's

By STEPHEN NORRIS  
snorris@obantimes.co.uk

oft-neglected north-western communities are crying out for a modern, purpose built leisure and recreation complex, one which will add focus to this area's primary schools' commitment to PE whilst simultaneously offering a wide range of new and improved facilities to all ages and sections of the population.

'We're truly fortunate with the commitment of local village hall committees and volunteers in the work they do across the board with a very limited and ageing infrastructure.'

Mr Hermse paid tribute to the support received from the Dunvegan Trust and MacLeod Estates in assisting with the costs of the feasibility study.

He also praised the 'dedicated commitment' of his management committee, whom he described as 'a highly capable and enthusiastic team amply equipped with all the skills and experience necessary to bring this project to fruition.'

He added: 'This hub will be able to deliver a vastly increased range of recreational opportunities to all the people of northwest Skye and to holidaymakers visiting the area.'

'All interested parties can follow our progress via our interactive website www.nwsra.org.uk.'



Junior Masterchef judge Carol Currie about to sample one of the winning entries.

## Bun Sgoil Shlèite spring fair success

BUN SGOIL Shlèite enjoyed a rare day of sunshine for its annual spring fair on Saturday.

With great support from the community, parents and local business, those attending the event had plenty to enjoy from the bakery stall, pony rides, face painting, beat the goalie and - for the first time - a Junior MasterChef challenge.

Judged by Sleat's own 'Mary Berry', Carol 'Cake' Currie, the competition drew a mouthwatering array of entries, leaving Carol 'delighted and amazed' by the quality of desserts.

'I could eat that, and that, and that!' she was overheard to say.

Through *The Oban Times*, the school would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who invested so much time and effort in making the day a success.

## Rollover jackpot up for grabs

A ROLLOVER jackpot of £400 is up for grabs this week in Fort William FC's weekly lotto draw. Numbers last week were 01-12-20.

Newsdesk 01631 568000



Historic moment: Henry Alexander's grandson Michael Munro and May Macintyre are all smiles after May unveiled the Model T plaque on the Ben Nevis Inn. 20\_f20model01

# Model T centenary plaque unveiled

AN ENGRAVED plaque commemorating the centenary of the first ascent of Ben Nevis by motorcar has found a home at last - on the wall of a pub below the famous mountain.

Retired Lochaber High School assistant rector May Macintyre unveiled the inscribed metal plate at the Ben Nevis Inn on Saturday.

Members of the Model T Ford Register of Great Britain, Provost of Lochaber Allan Henderson, local Model T owner Ian Blyth and John Muir Trust chairman John Hutchison were among those in attendance.

The trust, which owns the mountain, gave permission last May for Model T Register members and local volunteers to carry a Model T up in sections and assemble it at the summit.

Following the event,

By STEPHEN NORRIS  
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which commemorated the 100th anniversary of Henry Alexander's historic drive up the Ben in his Model T in 1911, Model T Ford Register members presented the plaque to Fort William to mark the occasion.

Efforts to find an appropriate home for the memento began - and when Ben Nevis Inn owner Tom Hadfield suggested the pub's outside wall would be the perfect place, everyone involved agreed.

When Ms Macintyre pulled away the Model T tartan plaid to reveal the plaque it was an emotional moment for retired Edinburgh joiner Michael Munro.

Sixty-six-year-old Mr Munro is Henry Alexander's grandson -



May Macintyre does the honours at Achintee. 20\_f20model02

and had attended previous events at Achintee as boy and man to celebrate his grandfather's remarkable feat.

Mr Munro told *The Oban Times*: 'I was here 51 years ago in 1961 for the 50th anniversary celebrations. And I was here last year when the car was carried up the Ben - I carried the steering wheel up.'

'I am just so glad to be here - it's great to see it commemorated again. Hopefully, it will be done in 100 years time as well.'

Ms Macintyre, meanwhile, has her own family chapter in the Model T story.

Her grandfather, Fort William garage owner Archibald Macintyre, produced the first series of postcards commemorating the Model T's ascent of the Ben.

Henry Ford's little car was the first automobile to go into mass production on the principle it should be affordable to working people.

## Assault man fined £300

A CAOL man who punched and kicked a man on the head and body to his injury has been fined £300.

Daniel Farrington, of 166 Kilmallie Road, pled guilty to assaulting the man on Fort William High Street on March 12.

Defending, Hamish Melrose told Fort William Sheriff Court Farrington's stepfather Stewart McGifford had been killed in a road accident on the A82 near Glencoe two days before the incident.

Mr Melrose said: 'The complainant was making out of hand comments about who was to blame for the accident. He clearly provoked him.'

The victim was left with a cut to his left eyebrow which needed to be surgically glued and swelling to his lips and face.

He was kept in hospital overnight for observation.

## Call goes out to local cyclists

ORGANISERS of the Benromach '10 Under the Ben' are calling on local cycling enthusiasts to sign up for a new competition category in Saturday's endurance event at Nevis Range.

Fort William-based No Fuss Events are making a special appeal for teams of local pub, hotel and café mountain biking enthusiasts to sign up to the contest, which could see them crowned best cycling team of their kind in the country.

The gruelling challenge sees riders take on the 10-mile course through Leanaich Forest for 10 hours to complete the most laps.

David (Spook) Murno of No Fuss said: 'The event has proved immensely popular, attracting both novice and experts to take on the challenge as individuals or teams.'

## Clan Currie gather in South Uist

THE CLAN Currie Society has announced its 2012 MacMhuirich Symposium will be held at Lochdar School in South Uist on Saturday August 25.

The symposium is the centrepiece of a three-day gathering of the clan, whose bards composed Gaelic poetry and song for the Lordship of the Isles then Clannrald for three centuries. The public is cordially invited to attend.

More information at www.clancurriegathering.com/news--2012-symposium.

## Warning follows spate of thefts

POLICE have issued a warning to owners of boats, yachts and sailing equipment after a spate of thefts in Lochaber.

There have been four thefts of marine equipment in Lochaber since the start of the year, the most recent occurring at Resipole campsite, Strontian, when an outboard engine was stolen from a boat between April 29 and May 7.

A Northern Constabulary spokesperson said: 'If you cannot remove items such as outboard motors when the vessel is not in use then attach them securely to the vessel via bolts thereby making it harder for them to be removed.'

'Please contact the police immediately if you see anything or anyone acting suspiciously around marine equipment particularly noting down the registration numbers of any vehicles being used or in the vicinity.'

## Fraudster jailed for 12 months

Man embezzled £91,447 from ScotRail

A FORMER Fort William man who defrauded First ScotRail of more than £90,000 over two-and-a-half years has been jailed for 12 months.

Michael Durant pled guilty to embezzling £91,447.75 between May 8 2008 and January 25 2011. The 52-year-old was working for Intelenet in Glen Nevis Business Park, for whom he was in charge of authorising refunds for customers of First ScotRail, Fort William Sheriff Court heard.

Fiscal Alison Wylie said a lengthy investigation had started after a fraud investigator noticed sales transactions did not correspond with the refunds that were being handed out.

She said: 'He started refunding

to his own credit cards. On at least 84 occasions he made false payments to a number of his own cards.'

Defence solicitor Hamish Melrose told the court: 'The money all went to paying off debts - credit cards, loans and a number of mortgages.'

'He buried his head in the sand in a big, big way; so much so his partner had no idea about any of this.'

'He was too proud to seek any help and got himself into this situation.'

Mr Melrose said Durant, who now works as a waiter in

England, made a full admission of his guilt when the fraud came to light.

Durant's partner was bankrupted last month and their house in Kinlochleven was repossessed by the bank.

Sentencing Durant, of Mount Court, Citadel Road, Dover, Sheriff Douglas Small said: 'This is an extremely serious offence. You were in a position of trust and you embezzled £91,000 over a period of two-and-a-half years.'

A ScotRail spokesman told *The Oban Times*: 'We have a zero tolerance policy on crime and welcome the actions taken which led to the arrest and conviction.'

## Man ordered to behave after assault on partner in her Achnacarry home

A MAN who assaulted his partner in her Achnacarry house has been ordered to be of good behaviour for nine months.

Alfred McKandie, of Clachanturn, Cromdale, Grantown-on-Spey, pled guilty to assaulting the woman by throwing a table and coasters at her, slapping her on the face and pushing her to her injury.

The 50-year-old also admitted wilfully or recklessly destroying

the woman's property by throwing and smashing three coasters and causing three decorative plates to fall and smash.

The incidents occurred on May 4 and 5.

The woman was left with a 15cm graze on her arm, bruising on both forearms and soreness and redness in her face, Fort William Sheriff Court heard.

Representing himself,

McKandie said: 'Things got out of hand because of drink. I had too much.'

Sheriff Douglas Small was given a letter from the woman which said McKandie had repaid her for the damaged property.

Sentencing McKandie, Sheriff Small said: 'She said this was very out of character for you and that you've never done anything like this in the 12 years you have been together.'

## Refurbished hotel re-opens on Skye

ONE of the Hebrides' top hotels has re-opened after a lavish refurbishment - and welcomed a new head chef.

Toravaig House Hotel in Sleat, owned by current Scottish hoteliers of the year Anne Gracie and Ken Gunn, now has Chris Coombe in charge in the kitchen. Mr Coombe came from Bannatyne's Charlton House Spa Hotel at Shepton Mallet in Somerset.

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## 'Fun for all ages' at Arisaig Land, Sea and Islands Centre open day

ARISAIG Land, Sea and Islands Centre (LSIC) will stage an afternoon of 'activities, refreshments and fun for all ages' at an open day event next Wednesday.

Centre volunteers will demonstrate newly installed digital technology and launch the Local Memories Photo Project. Local people will be asked to bring in old photos of local interest for scanning into the centre's digital collection.

Representatives from BT and charity Citizens Online will also give a short presentation on the Get IT Together project, which helps remote areas with broadband connectivity.

The centre, which opened in the old Arisaig Smiddy 12 years, is now being transferred to Arisaig Community Trust ownership.

And according to local development officer Alison Stewart, who is working to update the centre's visitor appeal, the building is 'really ready for a programme of refurbishment'.

She told *The Oban Times*: 'The digital age has so far bypassed the LSIC, so one of the main improvements is to introduce new technology. We've been fortunate to receive a BT Community Connections award which is helping to cover the installation costs of broadband and I've been working in partnership with Jane Beaton from the charity Citizens Online.'

'Jane is running their innovative Get IT Together project in a small number of remote Highland communities, of which Arisaig is lucky enough to be one.'

The event runs from 1-4pm.

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# Maclean hosts international gathering

## More than 1,000 Macleans welcomed 'home' to Duart Castle



### Maclean by name

THE name Maclean, with its many variations of spelling, has been closely linked to the west coast throughout Scotland's history.

The original clan lands were based on the coastal fringes of the mainland, particularly around Morvern, Ardgour, Drimmin plus the western islands of Mull, Coll, Tiree and Jura - and at the northern end of the Great Glen at Dochgarroch.

The spelling of Maclean can be found in numerous variations - McLean, Mac-Clane, Maclain etc - and there several sept of the Clan Mclean with less obvious links, such as Rankins who traditionally provide a piper for the Chief of the Macleans.

If your name is Beath, Beaton, Black, Dewart, Macbeth, MacCormick, MacFadyen, Macvey, Patten or Paton then you too could be one of the wider Maclean family.

### Duart Castle

PARTS of the castle date from the mid 13th century - and there was a fortress on this site even before then.

The great keep was erected by Lachlan Lubanach Maclean in the 14th century and some of the buildings within the courtyard were added 200 years later by Lachlan Mor.

This process was continued in the 17th century by a third Lachlan, the first Baronet of Duart and Morvern, whose armorial stone in the courtyard bears his initials and the date 1633.

The Campbells sacked Duart in 1688 and the battered old castle was garrisoned by government troops until 1751.

The present chief's great-grandfather, Sir Fitzroy Maclean, bought the ruins in 1911 and restored the castle.



Left - Maclean of Ardgour raps on the gate of Duart Castle to summon the Chief, Sir Fitzroy Maclean, with the words 'Fhir Dhubhairt na clann Illeathain a feitheamh a mach gu cur faille cirbh aim an luchairt ur Sionnsaireachd.' 'Chief of Duart! The Clan Maclean is waiting to give you welcome in the castle of your ancestors.'

MACLEANS from throughout the world will gather on the Isle of Mull in June to mark Duart Castle coming back into Clan Maclean's ownership more than 100 years ago.

The gathering, with more than 1,000 expected to attend, is at the centre of a week of celebrations which will also see the installation of a new set of specially crafted gates at the clan's ancestral island home.

It is the first large scale gathering since the might of the Macleans met on the same site in August 1912 and it is anticipated that as many as possible of those attending will be descendants of the original 450-strong crowd.

In 1912, Macleans came from Scotland, England, Wales, Ireland, Germany, Morocco, Canada, USA, and New Zealand. A remarkable journey for many, given the era.

One hundred years on, there has been confirmed interest from clan members in Scotland, England, Wales, Ireland, France,



Sir Lachlan Maclean of Duart

Spain, Sweden, Germany, Canada, USA, Australia and New Zealand

A modern day 'fiery cross' has gone round the world in terms

of an appeal from Lord Ranald Maclean asking members of the clan to contribute towards the £5,000 cost of the new oak gateway which will be made by a craftsman with strong Mull connections, and presented to the current chief Sir Lachlan Maclean as a mark of appreciation for all that Sir Lachlan and his fore bearers have done to restore and maintain the symbolic Maclean castle.

Lord Ranald MacLean said: 'The doorway was iconic for the 1912 gathering.

'Ever since the restoration, the gates have been of a temporary nature.'

Sir Lachlan Maclean of Duart is very much looking forward to welcoming his kinsmen, and women, to his island stronghold on Mull.

He said: 'When my Great Grandfather invited his clan to celebrate the repossession of Duart in 1912 nearly half of those who came were local Macleans.

'I very much hope that those of

you who have Maclean links will come to the centenary gathering that we are holding at Duart in June.

'The gathering starts in Mull on the 18th June but the celebration at Duart on Saturday 23rd June is the climax of the week's festivities.

'I do hope that we will see you at Duart for that special Gathering.'

Among the highlights of the week-long celebration will be a commemoration of the Battle of Light Lee at which the Macleans saw off an invasion by warring Macdonalds; a Friday night ceilidh in the castle grounds; the Great March of the Clan with heraldic banners and flags unfurled; battle re-enactments, feasting and numerous other social interaction events.

For those who attend the gathering and sign the Book of Welcome in the castle there is a specially cut commemorative medal to remember the moment by.

### From Renaissance of Clan Maclean

The clan last gathered on Saturday August 24, 1912, meeting in Oban on the Friday and taxing the town to its 'utmost capacity' with 'even the doors of private houses being thrown open'.

J P Maclean wrote: 'On Friday evening many men could be seen in full Highland garb, wearing the dress tartan of the Macleans. The majority of this number was of the leading clansmen.'

The Saturday morning saw 'people in Oban about earlier than usual, and by eight o'clock many might have been seen wending their way to the landing.'

'It had been arranged that the clansmen should assemble at the pier, and at 10 o'clock the steamer should leave for Duart Castle.'

Mr Maclean continued: 'It was well known that strangers intended to take advantage of the occasion, and also reported that a whole boat load would land on Mull.'

'The committee were thoroughly awake, and determined that the hospitality of the Chief



Four hundred Macleans joined their chief to celebrate the return of Duart to Maclean ownership, in a unique occasion in the Edwardian era.

should not be abused.

'The clansmen were alive to the occasion, and every one was decorated with some insignia of the clan.'

'All appeared to realise the importance of the occasion, and

were about to step back into antiquity and call to mind the deeds and triumph of their forefathers.

It was to be a great home coming as well as the celebration of the reoccupation of that home.

'It was to be a proud day for

every one present, and perhaps every one realised that history would be made on that day.

'The hope of centuries was to be realised, and out of tumult the dove of peace bid them welcome.'

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# CARAVANS and CAMPING

AS PEOPLE throughout the country embrace the latest holiday trend: a 'staycation' in other words taking a holiday in one's own home country - outdoor holidays in Scotland have leapt to the top of the tourism charts.

This crest of a wave has boosted demand in the outdoor leisure sector with caravan and camping holidays rediscovering levels of popularity not seen since the '60's. However, few who experienced the family caravanning holiday or the rigours of 10-in-a-tent during that era, could fail to recognise the quantum leap in quality to today's standard of 'van' or under canvas.

If the freedom of the road and tow-your-holiday-home behind you leaves you a little wary, why not try one of the high standard static caravan parks that abound throughout many popular tourism areas of the country. The majority of these offer excellent modern facilities at a very reasonable cost and allow you to experience 'the great outdoors' without going to the extremes. You may find that this first step into caravanning holidays provides all the encouragement you need to go the whole hog and buy your own holiday-centre-on-wheels and embark on

regular go where-you-want, when-you want weekends away, tours of the country, or use the touring caravan, parked in a central location, as a base for adventurous day-outs.

There is a huge variety and styles of touring caravan to chose from and, just like buying a family car, you have to carefully select a size, model and price range that suits your expectations and purse-strings best.

A motor-home is another increasingly popular option. Here you have the combination of transport and accommodation rolled into one and a vehicle which is easier to drive, park and maintain by the average travelling tourist. There are many outlets where these vehicles can be hired on a weekly, fortnightly or monthly basis and while initial hire charges, fuel costs and insurance, may appear steep, you have to balance your overall motor holiday costs against that of a conventional hotel-based break.



Your definitive guide for caravan, camping and holiday park sites for 2012. Cut out and keep for the summer touring season!

If a life under canvas is more to your liking, or perhaps more suited to your pocket, many of the same principles apply.

Scotland's recent countryside access laws have opened up wide swathes of land to walkers, campers and general outdoor enthusiasts. However, much of the code is based on common courtesy and a requirement to take care and nurture our countryside not only for the visitor or holidaymaker but also for those who are custodians of the land and who live there all year round.

There is a very wide range of tents and general camping equipment available and the trick is to select what best suits your personal needs, holiday location and experience - not forgetting that all-important weather.

A visit to your local outdoor specialist retailer should be your first stop. There you will find helpful and knowledgeable staff who can guide you through not only the range of equipment which

will cover all your camping needs, but add the local knowledge, hints and tips that may make the difference between a good trip and a great one.

Whatever your choice, the feeling of freedom gained from a caravan, motor-home, or camping break is a great experience in its own right. A 'wandering through Scotland' holiday with so many great locations is a huge bonus. Enjoy!

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## Walkers' guide to be launched at Kilmartin House

WALKERS are being urged to step back in time as a guide that takes people through the history of Mid Argyll is released.

In the Footsteps of Kings, produced by Kilmartin House Museum, encourages people to embark on one of 25 walks and follow in the footsteps of the ancient kings of Dalriada.

The guidebook, which features walks in Kilmartin, Kilmichael, Craignish and Knapdale, offers an introduction to archaeology and history in the area.

Written by director of Kilmartin House Museum Sharon Web, the guide charts the changes in the area from the Stone Age to the 20th century.

Sharon said: 'So much has happened in this small area and what happened here was felt right across Scotland.'

'We have so many fantastic sites and monuments, all of which are freely open to the public, and we hope the guide will encourage more people to visit them.'

The walks in the guidebook have been graded for ease of access, dog friendliness and duration and provide information on local cafes, parking and public transport.

In the Footsteps of Kings will be launched at Kilmartin House Museum on Saturday.

## Mull play attracts four nights of full houses

FULL houses packed Tobermory's An Tobair for four nights of Mull Squirrel Productions The Crucible.

With a spare set, the production was stunning and performances received rave reviews - held together by Katharine Elwis' intelligent, focused interpretation of the play.

Director Elwis, assisted by Dexter Govan, created an intense examination of the play's twists and turns.

Every member of the cast played with conviction and strength, eliciting smiles, gasps of horror and even tears from the audience.



Mandy Collins as Rebecca Nurse in The Crucible.

## Entries open for BBC young trad awards

ENTRIES are open for this year's BBC Radio Scotland Young Traditional Musician Award.

In the 13th year of the competition, the BBC is looking for talented young traditional musicians from all over Scotland who can play an instrument or sing to enter this prestigious event.

All you have to do is download and fill in the application form, send in a 10-minute recording on CD, a short biography and paragraph explaining your commitment to a career in traditional music.

The deadline for entries is Friday July 6.

Send your leisure news to The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB.

## Happy House kids get out in the countryside



Children from Happy House Christian Pre School have been learning bush craft, how to care for nature, be creative with natural materials and how to work together on tasks. The sessions were held in the forest and organised by Stramash.

## Canadian author selects Oban as romantic backdrop for novels

### Free copies to be donated to Oban Library



Ruth Hay from Ontario takes Oban to readers in Canada.

OBAN HAS been romanticised in fiction by a Canadian author - after she fell in love with the town on her honeymoon.

Ruth Hay, who lives in London, Ontario, has written a series of novels called Prime Time - bringing Oban to life for many readers in Canada.

Ruth first visited Oban 50 years ago and describes how she first fell in love with the town from the Glasgow train.

**Beautiful**  
She said: 'When I set out to write the Prime Time series I immediately thought of the Oban

setting as it is such a beautiful location with links to the isles. Iona features in two recent books.

'I am frequently getting requests from readers in Ontario who have been to Oban and remember it fondly so I think I chose very well.'

**Adventure**  
'Writing this series has been an adventure for me in so many ways. After a long career in teaching and writing for education purposes it has been a tremendous thrill to let my creative imagination loose in such an absorbing way.'

**Generous**  
The 71-year-old was born in

Scotland and met her husband, Neilson, at school in Glasgow. The pair emigrated to Canada in the mid 60s for economic reasons.

Ruth's first book, Auld Acquaintance, tells the story of a Canadian woman who inherits a property outside Oban.

She has never been to Scotland and has no knowledge of the person who has been so generous.

Her search for this information and her decision whether or not to live in the Oban house is the focus of this book.

Ruth is now at her fifth title in the series, With This Ring, which she is currently proof reading. The book is due out in June and has a cover photo of the view from the pier in Oban.

She added: 'Through the books I have met so many amazing women readers when I do presentations and talk to book club groups.'

'The books are selling well here and my publisher has asked to use Auld Acquaintance as its first e-book.'

Ruth has offered Oban Library a free set of books and they should be in stock soon for interested readers.



Plockton music school pupils are ready to go on tour in June.

## Plockton trad music school pupils take tunes on tour

MUSIC students at the National Centre for Excellence in Traditional Music in Plockton have announced dates for their annual tour.

The venues are (7.30pm unless stated): June 18 - MacPhail Centre, Ullapool; June 19 - Tain Royal Academy; June 20 - MacKays Hotel,

Wick; June 21 - Strathpeffer Pavilion (8pm); June 23 - Plockton High School. Tickets available from the venues.

### Clan Maclean Centenary Gathering

Saturday 23rd June 2012

If you are a Maclean, or have a Maclean connection why not come to Duart to recall the 1912 Gathering when 200 Macleans from Mull and Argyll joined 300 others to celebrate the return of Duart to the Clan?

**Entry to this Clan event is £15 to include unique commemorative medal**

Rally at 11.00 a.m.  
With the March of 1000 Clans People  
All day entrance to the Castle  
Re-enactments • Pipe Band • Dancing  
Piping • Games • Heritage Stalls • Genealogy  
Participation in the commemorative group photograph

**Free buses will meet 9.30a.m. Mull ferry from Oban and returning on 5.00p.m. ferry**

If you know you will be coming email: [Clanmacleanassoc@aol.com](mailto:Clanmacleanassoc@aol.com)

### ARGYLL ANIMAL AID

#### NASH

Very sweet wee girl, around 3 years old. Said to like children. Needs an experienced owner willing to give attention to very fine coat.

**MISSING FROM LONGSDALE AREA**  
Black and white boy, MINKIE, has been missing for 2 weeks.

Contact Pat on 01852 300362  
[aaa.rescueteam@btconnect.com](mailto:aaa.rescueteam@btconnect.com)  
<http://www.smallpaws.co.uk>  
Reg. charity SCO13211

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Sign up for the Crowdfunding Workshop in Oban and Dunoon this May

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Rose MacInnes, 3, was a dab-hand at catching ducks at Saturday's fun day. IS\_120atlantisfun1

## Atlantis fun day success

OBAN Community Playpark and Oban Toy Cupboard have raised thousands of pounds following a highly successful Family Fun Day at Atlantis Leisure on Saturday.

Scores of families turned up to enjoy the afternoon of fun and activities, which included a bouncy castle, beat the goalie, sports challenges and Ben and Innes's Sports Challenges.

Hunger was dealt with by the way of a hog roast from Oban Spit Roast. Oban Community Playpark raised £1,800 alone to help build a play and recreation area in a field next to Atlantis Leisure.

Oban Toy Cupboard has yet to confirm the amount it raised.



Kate Hunter abseiled at a previous event.

## Chance to conquer Cruachan dam wall

DAREDEVILS are being given the opportunity to tackle the huge dam wall at Cruachan in June - all they have to do is raise £100.

Cruachan power station is allowing access to the side of the dam to those who want to raise money for school children by abseiling on June 10.

The event has taken place twice before, in 2007 and 2009, with about 10 people taking part and £2,500 raised each time. This year's event had previously only been advertised to people associated with Taynult Primary School but now organisers want to expand invitations in the hope to raise more for the school's outdoor fund.

Please register your interest with Renate Powell to receive a sponsorship form. Contact the school at [enquiries@taynult.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@taynult.org.uk).

### what's on oban

Thursday 17th May > Ceilidh Night  
Skipinnish Ceilidh House 9pm-till late

Thursday 17th May > Disco  
Skipinnish Ceilidh House 11pm-2am

Saturday 19th May > Nightclub with DJs  
Skipinnish Ceilidh House 11pm-2am, £5 entry

Friday 18th May > Disco with DJ Steve  
Markie Dancs

Saturday 19th May > Stretch and Archie  
Markie Dancs

Thursday 24th May > Chris Suckle  
Markie Dancs

### what's on lochaber

Friday 18th May > Nightclub with DJ Irish Al.  
Fort William Skipinnish Ceilidh House Beat the Clock

Saturday 19th May > Nightclub 10pm till 2am  
Fort William Skipinnish Ceilidh House Beat the Beats

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[www.skipinnish.com](http://www.skipinnish.com)  
Middle Street, Fort William

### Local Producers Market

Thursday 17th May  
Kintaline Farm, Benderloch,  
1 mile along the Tralee road  
10 am to 3 pm  
**LOTS TO EAT AND DO**  
Every First / Third Thursday  
Interested Producers contact  
01631 720223  
Local Origins Rural Network  
[www.lorn.org.uk](http://www.lorn.org.uk)

Four out of five adults use their local paper to find out what's on

## COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

**Stramash** present  
**"This Trip Is Not Recommended"**  
by Patrick Winterton,  
Kayak Adventurer,  
extreme sports  
commentator, film maker  
Cuan Mor, 7.00pm  
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**Sing along with Sequence**  
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Saturday, May 26  
Victory Hall, Benderloch  
7.30pm for 8pm Tickets £5  
Oban Music Shop,  
Munro's Benderloch  
& Audrey Walton 01631 720680

**BRINGING PEACE TO ISRAEL/PALESTINE**  
Public Meeting  
Glencruitten Church Hall, Oban  
Friday May 25, 2012  
at 7.30pm  
Speaker Mark Braverman  
Admission Free All Welcome  
Further info: Graeme Pagan  
01631 563737

**Craig Lodge Open Day**  
2pm-4pm  
Sunday 27th May  
Come and enjoy the gardens and delicious cream tea!  
Plant sales, picture sales, games for all the family,  
Come & join the fun!  
All proceeds to Mary's Meals  
T: 01838 200216  
Craig Lodge, Dalnally, Argyll PA33 1AR  
[www.craiglodge.org](http://www.craiglodge.org)

**Scottish Ensemble**  
7.30pm Wednesday  
23 May 2012  
at CREAR, Kilberry  
Advance tickets only: £22  
Under 18's free  
Buffet supper: £15  
T: 01880 770 369  
E: [concerts@crear.co.uk](mailto:concerts@crear.co.uk)  
[www.crear.co.uk](http://www.crear.co.uk)  
Scottish charity SCO38726

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# Festival of the Sea

18-28 May 2012

THIS FRIDAY, the second biennial Festival of the Sea gets underway, with 10 days of events lined up to celebrate the area's biggest asset. More than 100 activities, exhibitions and shows have been lined up across Oban, Lorn and the Isles as part of the festival's most ambitious programme yet.

Spread over 10 days from May 18, the event has been designed to appeal to as wide an audience as possible, with all ages, levels of interest and expertise catered for.

The event has been designed to give an insight into why our seas are so important not just to the local area, but to the country and the world as a whole.

It is hoped not only will the festival engender pride and stewardship in the community towards the marine environment, but will excite young audiences about careers based around the sea and science, provide opportunity to discuss different uses of the sea and help people understand and question latest advances in marine research.

Furthermore, it's hoped it will increase public perception of the Oban area as a location for the marine environment, in particular for marine research and education, seafood and marine tourism.

The full programme is published here to help you find your way round each of the events. Further information on all can be found at the festival's website at [www.obanseafestival.org](http://www.obanseafestival.org).

This photograph by Dr Mariano Sironi, shows a mother of the Southern Right Whale with calf swimming through green algal blooms. It and other photographs of its kind will be on display as part of an exhibition of algae themed photographs. This shot won Dr Sironi the Hilda Canter-Lund photography prize for 2009. The exhibition can be viewed free of charge between 18 and 22 May in the Argyllshire Gathering in Oban.



## Festival of the Sea

### FRIDAY MAY 18TH

#### WORLD OF ALGAE DAY:

10am - 4 pm. Oban, Argyllshire Gathering Halls. Explore the beauty and uses of algae and listen to storyteller Patsy Dyer.

Sponsored by Scottish Book Trust, Creative Scotland and British Psychological Society.

#### SCOTTISH SEALOCHS & ADJACENT WATERS CONFERENCE:

Dunbeg, Scottish Marine Institute. 16 - 18 May, all days. Run by the Estuarine and Coastal Sciences Association. Full registration cost including dinner £155. FREE for individual lecturers.

#### THE LASSIES & THE SILVER DARLINGS EXHIBITION PREVIEW:

7.30 pm. Oban, Dunollie 1745 House. Booking essential on 01631 570550. Entry: £6 includes wine & nibbles.

#### SATURDAY MAY 19TH

#### NORTHERN LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD OPEN DAY:

11 am - 4 pm. Oban, Gallanach Road. NLB vessel & Seafari rib trips.

#### OBAN SAILING CLUB OPEN DAY:

11 am - 4 pm. Oban, Dungallen Park. Trips around Oban Bay.

#### OBAN LIFEBOAT OPEN DAY:

11 am - 4 pm. Oban, Gallanach Road. CANOE & SEA KAYAK TASTER SESSIONS

11 am - 4 pm. Oban, Stramash Seastore, Dungallen Park. Canoeing 6+, sea kayaking 12+. No need to book.

#### LAST OF THE VIKINGS:

10 am - 3 pm. Isle of Bute, Rothesay Castle. Haakon IV's dramatic life story. Run by Historic Scotland.

Entry: Adult £4.50, concession £3.60, child £2.70

#### OUR FUTURE SEASCAPES:

10 am - 5 pm. Oban, Argyllshire Gathering Hall. Let the James Hutton Institute's Virtual Landscape Theatre transport you into

the seascapes of the future!

#### PARENT & CHILD COOKERY AFTERNOON:

3 - 5 pm. Oban, Waterfront Fishhouse. Booking essential: call Alex on 01631 563110.

#### MONDAY MAY 21ST

#### LUNCHTIME LECTURE - THE SOUND OF MULL ARTIFICIAL REEF PROJECT:

1 - 2 pm. Oban, The Caledonian Hotel.

#### STRAMASH COASTEERING:

6 - 9 pm. Oban, Stramash, Upper Soroba. Book in advance on 01631 566080. Adult session, 16 yrs+. Entry: £35

#### TUESDAY MAY 22ND

#### LUNCHTIME LECTURE - MARINE RENEWABLE ENERGY - A BARNACLE'S EYE VIEW:

1 - 2 pm. Oban, The Caledonian Hotel. Talk by Raeanne Miller, SAMS UHI.

#### SEAWATCH:

10 am - 12 pm. Islay, Oa Reserve. A guided walk on the reserve. Meet at Car Park, Upper Killeean. Event run by RSPB.

#### WAVES, WINGS, SPATES & COASTS - BIODIVERSITY CONFERENCE:

Oban, Corran Halls. Book by 14 May - contact Marina Curran-Colthart on 01631 567900. Organised by Argyll and Bute Local Biodiversity Partnership. Entry: £8.00

#### WHAT THE SEA DOES FOR OBAN AND HOW CAN WE HELP? A Primary 7 public speaking competition.

Starts 7 pm. Oban, The Royal Hotel. Hosted by Oban Rotary Club and supported by Oban Speakers' Club. All

welcome.

#### STRAMASH FAMILY COASTEERING:

6 - 9 pm. Oban, Stramash, Upper Soroba. Book in advance on 01631 566080. Entry: £35

#### THURSDAY MAY 24TH

#### LUNCHTIME LECTURE - EXPLORING THE OCEAN'S DEEPEST FRONTIER:

1 - 2 pm. Oban, The Caledonian Hotel. Talk by Dr David Hughes of SAMS.

#### HEBRIDEAN PHOTOGRAPHY MASTERCLASS UNDER SAIL:

Tobermory. Half day wildlife & photography trip run by Hebridean Whale & Dolphin Trust and Dr Sam Jones of Islandscape Photography.

#### BOOKING ESSENTIAL ON 01688 302620. Entry: £55

#### KITCHEN CEILIDH - THE HERRING LASSIES:

7.30 pm. Oban, Dunollie 1745 House. Booking essential on 01631 570550. Entry: £10.00 inc wine.

#### THE SEA DETECTIVE - PRESENTATION BY AUTHOR MARK DOUGLAS-HOME:

6 pm for 6.30 pm. Oban, Waterstones Bookshop. Please reserve a free ticket on 01631 571455

#### STRAMASH FAMILY CANOEING:

6 - 9 pm. Oban, Stramash, Upper Soroba. For 8 yrs+. Book on 01631 566080. Entry: Adult £35, child £20, family £95 (2A/2C)

#### FRIDAY MAY 25TH

#### CARBON CAPTURE OPEN DAY & TOUR OF GAS RELEASE FACILITY:

1 - 7 pm. Benderloch, Slipway, Tralee Bay Holiday Park. Find out about ongoing research in Ardmucknish Bay.

#### LUNCHTIME LECTURE

7.00 for 7.30 pm. Oban, Waterstones Bookshop. Book free ticket on 01631

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• 24th May, 9.30-13.30, £55  
• 25th May, 9.30 - 17.30, £95

Please contact us on 01688 302620 or info@hwdt.org if interested.

**Argyll & Bute Beach Forum**

**The GRAB Trust**  
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**Help us to keep our beaches clean**

Please come and visit our stall, have a chat and see what you can do as a coastal community we will be at the following:  
19th May Oban Sailing Club Open day, Marine Biodiversity Conference 22nd and 26th May SAMS Open Day - Dunstaffnage

**Visit the Virtual Landscape Theatre and be transported into the seascapes of the future.**

Enter our Virtual Reality world and explore exciting 3D seascapes of the local area to discover what might be in store for our coasts.

See for yourself what new windfarms and changes to our coastline could look like. Then tell us what you think via an easy-to-use handheld voting console. Try your hand flying through the models for yourself.

**The James Hutton Institute**

Exploring the seafloor of Loch Linnhe  
Photograph by David Riley copyright The James Hutton Institute.

For further information on the landscape theatre please contact Paula Horne paula.horne@hutton.ac.uk, 01224 395267 or visit our WWW site at [www.hutton.ac.uk/learning/exhibits/vlt](http://www.hutton.ac.uk/learning/exhibits/vlt)

## Seaweed games and algae facts

DECEPTIVELY simple yet stunning in its ingenuity, the humble algae is one of the most interesting and varied forms of life on the planet.

Ranging in size from microscopic to measuring metres in length, algae is a well established part of everyday activities. It is found in everything from health supplements and cosmetic products to even appearing on our dinner plates as seaweed or even as a flavouring.

It is also at the very forefront of cutting edge research into renewable fuels that could rid the world of its oil dependence.

Much of this research is conducted at SAMS's marine

science laboratory in Dunbeg, which is also home to one of the world's most diverse and extensive algae banks.

It is fitting then that World of Algae day, May 18, will mark the start of the Festival of the Sea, with a host of algal-themed events taking place in Oban's Argyllshire Gathering Halls on the day to officially launch 10 days of marine events across the Oban, Lorn and Isles area.

Among the events planned for the first day is an exhibition of algal images from the British Phycological Society. The colourful, unusual and intriguing images cover a range of different genera and are sure to draw more than a few

enquiring eyes. The exhibition will also feature a range of displays and activities about algae and seaweeds.

Storyteller, Patsy Dyer, will tell tales from around the world, such as Hawaii, Scotland and Italy, with fascinating facts and history about seaweeds.

There might also be the chance to play some 'seaweed games' with a younger audience.

This event is joint funded by SAMS and the Live Literature Fund, which is supported by The National Lottery through Creative Scotland and managed by Scottish Book Trust.

Meanwhile, the Virtual Landscape Theatre will allow visitors to enter a virtual reality world

and explore exciting three dimensional seascapes of the local area, helping you to discover for yourself what might be in store for our coasts. See for yourself what new wind farms and changes to our coastline could look like from above and beneath the waves. Reactions to the images will even be measured through an easy-to-use handheld voting console. The virtual theatre will be on hand at the Argyllshire Gathering Halls until May 22.

Of course, you'll also be able to delve into the progress of current scientific research, including SAMS' progress and developing fat algae to fuel a greener future.

**THE ARGYLL PARTNERSHIP**  
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The Argyll Partnership is pleased to be associated with the Scottish Association for Marine Science and send best wishes for their 'Festival of the Sea' event.

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**Northern Lighthouse Board - serving the mariner since 1786**

The Northern Lighthouse Board (NLB) is delighted to be taking part in the Oban Festival of the Sea. Visit our ship POLE STAR and Oban base on Saturday 19 May (1100 - 1600).

The NLB is responsible for Lighthouses and Buoys around Scotland and the Isle of Man. NLB services are available to third parties.  
www.nlb.gov.uk  
Email: enquiries@nlb.gov.uk

BLIND extreme sports enthusiast, Dean 'Deano' Dunbar will recount the day he swam across the Corryvreckan whirlpool at a special appearance during this year's Festival of the Sea.

The inspirational athlete has gained national recognition for demonstrating anything is possible if you put your mind to it, no matter what perceived limitations you may have.

In recent years, he has embarked on mountain bike treks, wind surfing, canyoning and cliff

jumping and even become a human catapult as he chases his next adrenaline buzz.

But he admits giving a presentation to a packed audience in Seil Hall is his biggest challenge yet.

'I'm scared witless about it,' said 43 year old Dean, who lives with wife Rhona in Blairgowrie.

'You can push me out of a helicopter and I'll be fine, but talking to the public is far more daunting. It should be interesting!'

Dean will be interviewed by long-time friend Patrick Winterton, extreme sports film-maker and broadcaster, who has guided him on many of the challenges he has undertaken.

While the Corryvreckan swim he completed in August last year will feature prominently during the talk, Dean will also talk about his hope to swim the English Channel this year and some of the other sports he has undertaken in recent years.

While bravery - or sheer determination - is no doubt required in spades, Dean relies on people like Patrick to help him complete his challenges.

When put to him that his efforts are inspirational, he says: 'The inspirational thing I find quite uncomfortable, to be honest. What I like to do is get people feeling like they can do something.'

Dean will give his talk at Seil Island Hall on May 27, 2pm-3pm.

## Oban lunchtime dates...

How about a lunch in the Caledonian Hotel this week while listening to some interesting talks about the sea? On Monday you could find out about plans to sink a decommissioned warship in the Sound of Mull as a new dive site. On Tuesday UHI PhD student Raeanne Miller considers what barnacles and other marine life may think about new renewable energy

devices in their environment. Follow in the footsteps of James Cameron on Thursday and explore the deep sea with SAMS ecologist Dr David Hughes, or come along on Friday to hear Dr Natalie Hicks from SAMS explain what happens to all the carbon dioxide the sea absorbs. All talks are free and start at 1pm.

## Programme 18-28 May 2012

**- OCEAN ACIDIFICATION:** 1 - 2 pm. Oban, The Caledonian Hotel. Talk by Dr Natalie Hicks of SAMS.

**HEBRIDEAN PHOTOGRAPHY MASTERCLASS UNDER SAIL:** Tobermory. Full day wildlife & photography trip run by Hebridean Whale & Dolphin Trust and Dr Sam Jones of Islandscape Photography. Booking essential on 01688 302620. Entry: £95

**"THIS TRIP IS NOT RECOMMENDED" - A TALK BY KAYAK ADVENTURER PATRICK WINTERTON:** 7 - 9 pm. Oban, Cuan Mor. George St. Also launch of new Stramash paddlclub for youngsters.

**CALMAC HISTORY TALK CRUISE TO COLONSAY (NON-LANDING):** 5 pm - 9:55 pm, from Oban Ferry Terminal. Last boarding 4:45 pm with completed registration card. Calmac History talk & optional meal on board. Tickets from the Tour Shop Oban, 01631 562244. Cruise ticket: £20. Cruise + 2-course meal: £30. No child fares.

**SATURDAY MAY 26TH SAMS OPEN DAY:** 11 am - 4 pm. Dunbeg, Scottish Marine Institute. Science displays and fun activities for all the family.

**KING OF THE ISLES:** 11 am - 3 pm. Dunbeg, Dunstaffnage Castle. This event is run by Historic Scotland. Adult £4.00, concession £3.20, child £2.40

**THE LISMORE SAILING SMACKS 1870 - 1940:** Minibus tour and walk. Meet at Port Appin Ferry 10am. Isle of Lismore. Please book in advance with Robert Hay on 01631 760393. Entry £3.50 to museum. Pay for own lunch

in café and ferry fare.

**PAINTERS, POETS AND DUNOLLIE:** 1 - 4 pm. Oban, Dunollie 1745 House. Pavement artist competition, guided walk on artists who painted/wrote about Dunollie. £3. Cream teas by donation.

**VISIT CANNA HOUSE - TAIGH CHANAIDH & GILLIE BRIGHDE RESTAURANT:** 11.30 am - 1.30pm and 3.30 - 5 pm. Isle of Canna. Event run by the National Trust for Scotland. Adult £5, children and NTS members free.

**SUNDAY MAY 27TH ISLE OF SEIL FESTIVAL ACTIVITY DAY:** Isle of Seil. 11 am - 5 pm. Open-air church service at 11 am on sports field. Talks, walks, boat trips, displays, museum open. Music & poetry evening 8 pm, Seil Hall.

**CREAM TEAS:** From 1 - 4 pm. Oban, Dunollie 1745 House. Payment by donation.

**DADS' COOKERY DAY WITH ALEX NEEDHAM:** 2 - 5 pm. Oban, Argyll College. Pre-booking essential on 01631 563110. Entry: £20 including pint at Sloans afterwards!

**MONDAY MAY 28TH SCOTTISH MARINE GROUP POSTGRADUATE MEETING:** 9 am - 5 pm. Dunbeg, Scottish Marine Institute. To book contact Prof Axel Miller 01631 559263

**EXHIBITIONS**

**MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE, AN EXHIBITION BY JANE ROSE:** 21 - 28 May. 10 am - 1 pm and ferry times. Old Waiting Room Gallery, Isle of Colonsay.

**OCEAN - AN EXHIBITION BY ALICE STRANGE:** 18 - 28 May. 10 am - 6 pm. Oban, Clarendon Villa, Craighard Road. An exhibition of artwork inspired by the voyage of HMS Challenger.

**IMPRESSIONS OF LIFE IN AND AROUND THE SEAS:** 18 - 28 May. Oban, Calmac Ferry Terminal. An exhibition by a local art group.

**LITTORAL:** Daily 10 am - 5 pm. Tobermory, An Tobar. Etchings by artist Jo Gormer based on visits to west coast landscapes.

**LASSIES & THE SILVER DARLINGS:** Tues - Sat 11 am - 4 pm; Sun 1-4 pm throughout Festival. Oban, Dunollie 1745 House. £3

**COMPOSITION TO EXHIBITION:** Original artwork and music by pupils from secondary schools from Islay, Tiree, Bute, Mull and Oban. Oban, Corran Halls foyer

**DAILY MOLECULE HUNT:** In your own time, around Oban. Spot the molecule which matches the product in various retail outlets and fill in form for your chance to win a prize. Forms available from Oban Visitor Information Centre. Return by Sun 27th.

**SMOKERY GUIDED TOURS:** 11.30 am - 12.30pm. By Taynuilt, Inverawe Smokehouses.

**RYA DINGHY SAILING TASTER SESSION:** 10 am - 1 pm. Craobh Haven Watersports. Taster sessions for adults and children. Ideal for those who have never tried dinghy sailing. Book in advance on 01852 500665. Adults £10, children & students £8

**FESTIVAL FRINGE**

Fringe events will be taking place around the town in the evenings, please watch the Festival website for details: www.obanseafestival.org

**NORTH UIST FESTIVAL EVENTS:** 24th - 26th May This three day mini festival is co-ordinated by Comann na Mara in partnership with the community of the Uists, Berneray and Harris. See the May edition of The Island News & Advertiser for North Uist events in a special Mini Sea Festival pullout.

**DAY TRIP TO THE MONARCH ISLANDS:** Thurs 24th May at 10 am; Fri 25th May at 11 am. Depart Kallin Harbour. No wheelchair access. Must be able to climb in and out of dinghy to get ashore. Led by Nick Ingledew of Lady Anne Boat Trips. Please book in advance on 01870 602403. Adults £60, under 16 £40

**ILLUSTRATED TALK - SOMERLED, THE VIKINGS & THE KINGDOM OF THE SEA:** Thurs 24 May at 7.30 pm. Taigh Chearsabhagh, Lochmaddy. Talk by Niall Johnson.

**ST KILDA - OUR DUAL WORLD HERITAGE:** Fri 25 May at 7.30 pm. Taigh Chearsabhagh, Lochmaddy. Alasdair MacEachen talks about the history of St Kilda to the present day.

**FESTIVAL OF THE SEA PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION:** 24 - 26 May. 10 am - 10 pm. Lochmaddy Hotel & Tigh Dearg. A display of local photographs on the theme of the sea.

**INTERTIDAL INVESTIGATIONS:** Sat 26 May. 3 - 4.30 pm. Car Park opposite Lochmaddy Ferry Terminal. Take a closer look at the creatures living in the intertidal zone with Lisa Palmer.

**LEVERBURGH LIFEBOAT OPEN DAY:** Sat 26 May. 11 am - 4 pm. Lochmaddy Pier. The new lifeboat commissioned on Wed 2 May will make its first public appearance on Uist. An open community event. All welcome.

**BOAT TRIPS FROM LOCHMADDY - WILDLIFE AND HISTORY:** Sat 26 May. 11 am - 4 pm. Run by Uist Outdoor Centre. Book by phoning 01876 500480. Adult £25; under 16s £15

**THE SECRET SEA - CUAN UIBHIST EXHIBITION:** 18 - 26 May except Sun 20th. 10 am - 4 pm. Galleries 1 and 2 of Tigh Chearsabhagh, Lochmaddy.

**RESCUE ACTIVITIES AT LOCHMADDY PIER:** Sat 26th May. The Coastguard Cliff & Rescue Team from Benbecula assisted by the Lochmaddy Search & Rescue Team will perform Rescue simulations.

**SCHOOL EVENTS**

During the Festival the local school children take part in several educational activities e.g:

- Virtual Landscape Theatre (Hutton Institute)
- Lab in a Lorry (Institute of Physics)
- Seabirds & Marine Litter (Argyll & Bute Beach Forum)
- Marine Pollution Beach Event (Re-jig Islay)
- Egg Case Hunts (Scottish Sea Angling Conservation Network)
- Jane Rose beach litter workshop
- Kilmartin House Museum art project

## Fact and fiction

WRITERS have been using the sea as inspiration for tales for as long as pen and paper have existed. It is the source of many stories, some fanciful, some accounts of real life events.

A flavour of both can be found at this year's Festival of the Sea, with a variety of writers set to give talks at this year's event.

Among them is Mark Douglas-Home, nephew of former British Prime Minister, Alec Douglas-Home and former editor of The Herald. He will be talking about his book, The Sea Detective at Waterstones, Oban, on May 24. The book has won critical acclaim and features on the Literary Review's Jessica Mann's top five crime novels of 2011.

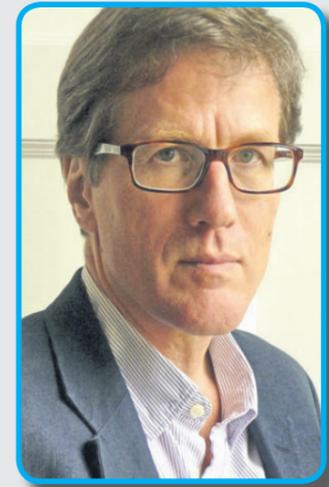
Mr Douglas-Home consulted with SAMS' professor Toby Sherwin for his debut crime thriller, in which the hero is an oceanography student.

Argyll author, Marian Pallister, will give a presentation on the Secrets of the Sea in Waterstones, Oban, on May 23. She will be delving into what the seas around the Lorn and its sentinel islands can tell us about the Romans, the Norse, the Spanish, the English - and ourselves.

SAMS' own Dr John Howe will give a talk on mapping the seabed using modern, digital equipment and the uses of such information at Mull's An Tobar on May 23, followed by a presentation by Ian Stephen a former coastguard who became a full-time writer of poetry, prose and drama in 1995.

Since the late 70s, his wide-ranging work has been published in numerous UK journals, as well as internationally, in Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Ireland, Switzerland and the USA.

This event is joint funded by SAMS and the Live Literature Fund, which is supported by The National Lottery through Creative Scotland and managed by Scottish Book Trust.



Mark Douglas-Home will be talking about his debut book, The Sea Detective during this year's Festival of the Sea. (20author1n0)



## Seil events

SEIL will hold a full day of events to celebrate the Festival of the Sea, starting with an open air church service at the sports field behind the island's hall.

The service starts at 11am on Sunday, May 27, run by the Netherlorn Churches which comprises the Craignish, Kilbrandon, Kilchattan, Kilmelford and Kilniver Parishes.

A Super Sunday event will be held for children in the Small Hall.

Slate painting and sculpture activities will be taking place afterwards at Easdale School or the Sports Field, depending

on the weather. Everybody welcome to join in the fun.

There will also be talks, walks and boat trips and music in the afternoon.

The Small Hall will also host a number of musicians from 1pm-5pm. Among those performing are Kimbra Barrett with flute and song, Sue Vest on piano and flute, Neil Golding singing and Drew Connelly on the accordion. Tea and coffee will also be served.

Seafari will be doing local short trips around the island from Easdale pier during the afternoon.

## Molecule Hunt

ONE of the more unique events during this year's Festival of the Sea is a competition that sees participants hunt for molecules.

Larger-than-life replicas of a number of different molecules will be placed in 16 different shop windows in Oban. Participants will then have to match the molecule on the entry form to the shop window.

Each molecule will be related to the window in which they

appear and clues to their use will appear on entry forms.

A separate competition will be available for children and adults. Up for grabs for the adult entrants is a side of salmon from Inverawe Smokehouses, while the junior prize is a book hamper.

Entry forms will be available from Oban Tourist Information Centre from May 18. Entries must be in by May 27, with the winners drawn the following day.

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**SAMS** Sat 28th May 11 am - 4 pm

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# BREWIN DOLPHIN SCOTTISH SERIES 2012

## TARBERT LOCH FYNE 1 JUNE - 4 JUNE



**TARBERT, Loch Fyne is gearing up for the annual Brewin Dolphin Scottish Series 2012 over the Queen's Jubilee Holiday from Friday June 1 till Monday June 4.**

Organised by Clyde Cruising Club the club welcomes back Investment managers Brewin Dolphin as the event's title sponsors for the thirteenth year.

An inbound feeder race from Bangor brings southern visitors to the event with racing starting off Tarbert on June 1. The 'Round Inch' Race on Sunday June 3 for the CYCA classes in the Series is also open to yachts wishing to race this day alone. The overall winner of this race will be calculated on the CYCA handicap system and a special trophy awarded.

### Range of Classes

Traditionally Scotland's largest sailing regatta, there will be three race areas on Loch Fyne for IRC, One Design and CYCA handicap classes with the latter having an option for white sail. A range of courses will be raced in addition to the windward-leeward racing. The Scottish leg of the RS Elite Grand Slam will be part of the regatta as well as the Scottish Championships for Laser SB3s. One design racing is offered for Sigma 33s, SB 20s, Sonatas, Sonars, Cork 1720s and Sportsboats.

Yachts will berth both at Tarbert and Portavadie with a fast RIB ferry service connecting the two throughout the series.

Close to half the number of winners of the top award over the last 30 years return to Tarbert year on year amongst them multiple winners Jonathan Anderson, Hamish Mackay and the Tay's Chris Bonar and Tich Summers.

### Locals on the start line

Former Class 7 winner Joey Gough of Oban Sailing Club brings his First 32s5 Tangle o'the Isles south to compete and he will take on David Cooper of Glencoe in his Trapper 28 Redwing in this large CYCA Class. Eric Chapman of Oban races Amber Haze in the Sigma 33 one-design class. Chris Owen, also of Oban, races with Iain Laidlaw in Iain's Clyde-based J97 Jaywalker.

### Social Scene

There's a new look and feel for this year's social programme with a new marquee complex on the north shore of Tarbert which will be the social hub of the weekend. Participants and spectators can also soak up



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the atmosphere and enjoy local musicians, pipe bands, a Tea Party, a family ceilidh and Water Waltzers. There are also separate events for kids and a fireworks display lights up Tarbert on Sunday night.

Competitors can meet, relax and socialise post racing in the dedicated marquee bar which will also be the heart of a daily prize-giving ceremony. Those attending on Saturday will enjoy an exclusive Islay Malt Whisky tasting session, courtesy of new event sponsors Bowmore and will be entertained with live music throughout the weekend.

Johnnie Readman, event organiser, said: 'We are very excited about this year's Brewin Dolphin Scottish Series and delighted that the marquee is back for 2012.'

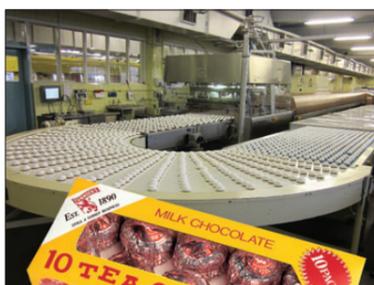
'As the social hub for the weekend the marquee will help create a vibrant, enjoyable and truly unique experience for all participants who help make it a spectacular sailing event every year. With our added shore side entertainment we hope this will be the best Scottish Series to date.'

Other sponsors include Tunnock's, Highland Spring, RYA Scotland, Tarbert Enterprise Company, Bowmore Whisky, Argyll and Bute Council and Hyde Sails.

Information about the Scottish Series is on [www.brewindolphinseries.com](http://www.brewindolphinseries.com) as well as [Twitter@ScottishSeries](https://twitter.com/ScottishSeries) and on Facebook 'Brewin Dolphin Scottish Series'



Pipe Band - pipes and drums, Harbour Street, 7.00pm



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### Brewin Dolphin Scottish Series 2012

## SOCIAL PROGRAMME

The bar in the Event Marquee will open after racing each day and close thirty minutes after the end of the prize giving.

### Friday 1 June 2012

Prizing giving - CCC	Marquee	7.00pm
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### Saturday 2 June 2012

Stramash - kids sailing Sponsored by Crown Estates	The Harbour	10.00am to 4.00pm
Highland Dance Competition Spectators very welcome	TBA	
Face painting	Marquee	TBA
Pipe Band - pipes and drums	Harbour Street	7.00pm
Water Waltzer	Marquee	TBA
Bowmore - tasting	Marquee	6.00pm
Prize giving	Marquee	7.00pm
Music	Marquee	9.00pm - 1.00am

### Sunday 3 June 2012

Stramash - kids sailing Sponsored by Crown Estates	The Harbour	10.00am to 4.00pm
Face painting	Marquee	12.00am to 4.00pm
Water Waltzer	Marquee	12.00am to 4.00pm
Pipe Band - pipes and drums	Harbour Street	7.00pm
Tarbert Tea		
Folk Group, Ceilidh Band	Marquee	12.00am to 4.30pm
Prize giving	Marquee	7.00pm
Democrats Rock/ceilidh band	Marquee	8.00pm to Midnight
Fireworks	Bruce's Castle	10.30pm

### Monday 4 June 2012

Prize giving - CCC	Marque	6.00pm
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Fireworks, Bruce's Castle, 10.30pm



**The Trustees, Harbour Master and Staff wish all competitors an enjoyable and safe Brewin Dolphin Scottish Series.**

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# Farming

## Merkland Highland dispersal sells to £2400 at UA Stirling

UNITED Auctions conducted a special May sale of pedigree and commercial Highland cattle at Stirling last Wednesday when 135 were forward.  
Patricia Smith and Paul Burns, Craigengelt, Stirling paid the top price on the day when the auctioneer's hammer came down at £2400 for Duchess of Bien Esk, a seven year old cow which was part of Mr and Mrs John Mackie's Merkland Fold dispersal.  
Duchess of Bien Esk is by Thorn of Bien Esk and was sold with a heifer calf

at foot.  
DJ Welsh, West Broadmoss, Fenwick, Kilmarnock also took one of the Merkland dispersal when he paid £1400 for Eilidh of Glengarnock, a five year old cow sold with a heifer calf at foot.  
Bulls sold to £1000 for Kelso 1st of Sauchie, a two year old consigned by William Roddie, Sauchieburn Estate, Stirling and purchased by Patricia Smith and Paul Burns.  
An eight year old stock bull, Philip Ruadh of Tulloch Ard, from the Merk-

land fold made £960 and was purchased by Duncan McGregor Ltd, Burnhead, Queenzieburn, Kilsyth, Glasgow.  
Heifer calves sold to £420 twice, both coming from the Gilliesfaulds Fold based at Cupar, Fife and owned by T & N Gilmartin.  
Simmentalcross Highland bulling heifers sold to £920 from North Balloch, while Shorthorn cross Highland bulling heifers sold to £800 from Burnhead.  
Shorthorn cross Highland yearling heifers sold to £600 from Symington Mains.

## Mull Community Council voices concerns over sea eagle numbers

Lambs, puffins and rabbits suffering as eagle numbers increase



'White-tailed eagles are generally far more noticeable'

SEA EAGLES on Mull have reached 'saturation point' according to concerned members at a meeting of Mull Community Council.  
The meeting, on May 8, discussed the impact the 15 pairs of eagles and 11 chicks currently on the island are having on puffins, lambs and other wildlife.  
Lambs and puffins  
Bert Leitch of Lagganulva confirmed that lambs were being killed by the white-tailed eagles with other farmers reporting that they had found just legs remaining in fields from the animals. Mr Leitch claimed that one of his neighbouring farms was suffering: 'Knock has lost a lot of lambs this year.'  
Worries over the puffin population on Treshnish led the community council to contact the RSPB and government advisory body Scottish Natural Heritage.  
'The puffins on Treshnish are getting a hammering,' reported one member while others agreed this was a concern and the result of too many sea eagles.  
Fiona Brown also blamed the eagles for the destruction of wildlife towards the southern end of Mull.  
She said: 'There is not a

single rabbit left at Pennyghael, the whole hill used to be alive with them but now they are all gone.'  
However, a spokeswoman for Scottish Natural Heritage said: 'A study carried out in 2003 showed that while sea eagles do take some lambs on Mull they are either dead or in poor condition.'  
'To address this we have set up a natural care scheme for sea eagles, where farmers can apply for funding to trial measures to improve the condition of sheep before and during the lambing season, helping to stop predation by sea eagles. Sixteen farmers on Mull are currently registered for this.'  
The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) were also accused of 'single mindedness' over the eagle issue - with a lack of concern for other birds.  
But RSPB Mull Officer Dave Sexton claimed: 'There are now more puffins breeding on the Treshnish Isles than there were before white-tailed eagles were reintroduced to Scotland in 1975.'  
'The nature of white-tailed eagles is such that they are generally far more noticeable than golden eagles and immatures in

particular will sometimes gather in small numbers at autumn and winter roosts.

'Such gatherings give rise to occasional concerns that there are suddenly too many of them but it is simply that we are once again slowly getting used to having this bird amongst us after a long sorry period of decline, persecution and eventual extinction in the early 20th century.'

While local island tour operator Iain Morrison told *The Oban Times*: 'I agree that the eagles have reached saturation point and there may even be an adverse effect on the golden eagles which are, to my mind, much more magnificent and have bred here on Mull naturally throughout my lifetime.'

'We have had three sightings of two juvenile sea eagles out in the Treshnish Isles so far this year. This is as many sightings as we would normally have in an entire season.'

'I certainly do not believe there should be any further reintroduction of sea eagles to the area. Although it is unlikely, certainly in short term, they would have much effect on the thousands of birds on Lunga, we should not be playing God with evolution.'

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Oban Times FARMING  
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## Ewes with lambs at foot in demand at Stirling sale

CALEDONIAN Marts (Stirling) Ltd had forward 908 store and breeding sheep at Stirling on Monday when there was brisk trade for all classes, especially ewes with lambs at foot.

Ewe hoggs with lambs at foot sold to £201 and £177 for Mules with twins from Gibbleston. Woodend sold Mules with singles to £180 and Texels with singles to £176 while Mains of Burnbank sold Texels with twins to £178.  
Ewes with lambs at foot sold to £200 for Suffolks from Craigievern and £182 for Texels from the same home. Texel crosses from Graystone sold to £182 and Mules to £178. Cheviots from Burnside sold to £166 with Cheviot crosses from Burnbrae selling to £160.  
Hoggs sold to £110 for Texels from Redhall and to £77 for Texels from Letar Farm. Suffolks from Couston sold to £63, with Cheviots from Stillage selling to £62. Blackfaces from Letar sold to £59.  
Suffolk ewes from Couston sold to £83 with Cross ewes from South Halls to £78 and Blackfaces from the same home to £37.

## Dingwall sale meets strong demand for ewes and lambs

DINGWALL and Highland Marts sold 549 sheep of all classes at Dingwall last Thursday with a strong demand for ewes with lamb at foot.

Ewes and gimmers with twin lambs at foot sold to £152 for Cheviots with a Suffolks cross lambs from Ardview, Portachullin and to £142 for Mules from 5 Tomich. Cheviots with twins sold to £140 from 1 Laide, Achnash-keen while Blackfaces with twins sold to £135 from 11 Diabeg, Torridon.  
Gimmers with twin lambs at foot sold to £125 for Cheviots from The Gate, Shieldaig.  
Ewes with single lambs at foot sold to £142 for a Cheviot Mule ewe with a Texel cross lamb from Bogallan, North Kessock.  
Lambs sold to £73 for Cheviots from 124 West Langwell, Rogart, while feeding ewes sold to £82 twice for Texel crosses from Lochduh Farm, Nairn, and Mules from 5 Tomich, Beauly. Rams sold to £95 for a Charollais from Tulloch Farm, Dingwall.

## Lambs up at prime sale at Dingwall

DINGWALL and Highland Marts Ltd sold 62 prime cattle and 294 prime sheep at Dingwall on Tuesday of this week.

Prime bullocks averaged 202.4p (+0.1p) and sold to 218p per kg for a 670kg Limousin cross from Findon Mains, Culbokie, and £1,580.00 for a 790kg Charollais cross from Shoretown Farms, Culbokie.  
Prime heifers averaged 206.3p (+2.6p) and sold to 216p per kg for a 575kg Limousin cross from Udale, Poyntzfield, to Fraser Brother Butchers, Dingwall, and £1,321.20 for a 640kg Limousin cross also from Udale.

Lambs averaged 179.6p (+10.1p) and sold to 208.8p per kg for 40kg Cheviots from Torgorm, Conon Bridge, and £91 for 47.5kg Texel crosses also from Torgorm.

## UA prime sale

UNITED Auctions sold 3098 prime sheep including 112 spring lambs, 2382 hoggs and 604 ewes and rams at Stirling last Thursday. Texel spring lambs from Drumharrow sold to £104, with Inverae and Camptoun selling Charollais and Pathhead selling Suffolks to £100.

## Market report

### STIRLING

#### United Auctions

Up to 250kgs Stockholm £520, 211.4p;  
251-300kgs Stockholm £640, 220.7p;  
301-350kgs Stockholm £710, 204p;  
351-400kgs Gateslack £795, 220.8p;  
401-450kgs Carse £770, 181.2p;  
451-500kgs Carse £960, 194.3p;  
501-550kgs Eastfield £930, 171.9p;  
551-600kgs Eastfield £920, 163.7p;  
601-650kgs Innerwick £1100, 182.4p.  
**Cast cows**  
Cuilt (Lim) £1825, 214.7p; Monzie Farms (BRB) £1485, 171.5p; Monzie (Sim) £1385, Bircuburn 179.7p; Lower Bairdairn (AAX) £1370, Kipperoch 160.9p; Balkaithly (BDA) £1155, 146.9p; East Skeichan (Cha) £1145, 151.5p; Roseath (HF) £1095, 146.4p; Clachlands (HO) £1025, 131.4p.  
**Forward cattle**  
East Skeichan (Sim) £1185, 196.2p; Croft (Lim) £885, Barfillan 162.6p.  
**Cast bulls**  
Burnhead (Cha) £1770, 177p; Remony (Sim) £1610, 145.6p; High Langmuir (HO) £1530, 146.6p; Barrogil (lim) £1225, 151.6p; Brownmuir (BG) £1045, 136.8p.  
**Breeding sheep**  
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West Park (Tex 4crop & Twin Tex las) £200; Lochend (Mule 4crop & Twin Tex las) £183; Lammerview (Tex & Tex Single las) £138.

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11 Skoda Fabia 1.6 SE TD11, 5Dr, Grey, 10,650 miles.....	£10,250
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10 Renault Clio i-music DCI, 5dr, Silver, 9,800 miles.....	£9,450
59 Peugeot 207s SWHD Estate, Silver, 14,000 miles.....	£9,650
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09 Renault Kangoo AUTH, 1.2, Silver, 41,000 miles.....	£5,850
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58 Renault Laguna Exp DCI 150 Black, 21,000 miles.....	£8,750
08 Renault Twingo Extreme, 1.2, 3 dr, Black, 17,000 miles.....	£4,950
08 Renault Scenic Extreme 1.4, Blue, 39,500 miles.....	£4,950
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55 Renault Laguna Dyn, 2.0, Red, 38500 miles.....	£4,750

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Turbo-Diesel, Mileage - 61000. Taxed and October 12. MOT December 12. 2 owners, Alloy Wheels, Towbar Electric Windows/Mirrors, New rear Springs, New Timing Belt (54000 miles)  
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The Chair for the Supply Chain/Consumers Advisory Panel will have a thorough knowledge of the consumer barriers to seafood consumption and the role of price, promotion and certification within the consumer decision making process.

Applications in writing to:  
t\_jordan@seafish.co.uk or  
T Jordan, Seafish, Origin Way, Europarc, Grimsby DN37 9TZ.

Seafish is committed to valuing diversity and equality of opportunity.

The closing date for applications is Wednesday, 30 May 2012.

For further information and job descriptions please visit: [www.seafish.org](http://www.seafish.org)

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Campbeltown Courier

### Opportunities at Kilmartin House Museum

The following opportunities are available at Kilmartin House Museum:  
**Finance Officer**  
Reception/shop/administrative assistant  
Full details are available from [www.kilmartin.org](http://www.kilmartin.org) or call 01546 510278

**Finance Officer**  
Kilmartin House Museum is seeking to appoint a Finance Officer to take responsibility for financial administration of the Trust and Trading Company, including production of the annual accounts, financial information and analysis as well as managing invoicing and bill payments and the payment of salaries. This is a part time position (19 hours per week) and the salary is between £16,000 - £18,000 pro-rata. For more information and an application pack please email [admin@kilmartin.org](mailto:admin@kilmartin.org) or phone Anne on 01546 510 278.  
Reception/shop/administrative assistant Kilmartin House Museum is seeking to appoint a Museum reception/shop/administrative assistant, to work across both Trust and Shop/reception teams. The role will be flexible.  
Depending on the season and workload of other staff, you will be expected to perform general administrative duties, as well as work in the reception/shop of the Museum, dealing with visitors and handling cash. This is a full time position and the salary is £13,468. For more information and an application pack please email [admin@kilmartin.org](mailto:admin@kilmartin.org) or phone Anne on 01546 510 278.

### CONTRACT SHEPHERD

(Own dogs and equipment)  
Bohuntin Sheep Stock Club (c.1000 ewes)  
If you would like an opportunity to tender for the Above position please submit a note of your interest by Friday June 1, 2012 to: Bohuntin Grazings Committee c/o Township Clerk Cul a Bhile, Bohuntin Roy Bridge, PH31 4AH

### Ben Nevis Distillery Shift Operator

To complement our team, we are seeking an enthusiastic individual to help produce our Single Malt Scotch Whisky. To be considered for this position, the successful applicant will have had previous experience of working on shift in a continuous process operation. You will be a team player but also capable of working on your own initiative. The position requires a confident individual with good communication skills and an excellent work ethic. Candidates who do not have a distilling background but possess the skills, experience and personal attributes above will be offered full training.  
CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS MAY 25  
Please apply with full C.V. and covering letter to:  
Stuart Robertson, Distillery Manager,  
Ben Nevis Distillery, Lochybridge, Fort William, PH33 6TJ

### Beaver Timber LTD

Barcaldine, by Oban, PA37 1SG  
Due to continued success and expansion we now require a **Shed Builder/Joiner with a full driving licence.**  
Salary depending on experience  
Please apply in person or telephone Gary or Adam  
**01631 720353 or 07861247237**

### Live-in Carer

Live-in Carer/Personal Assistant required to care, help and support elderly lady living in own home within Oban area. Duties to include personal and nursing care, domestic tasks and companionship. Clean driving licence essential and successful applicant will be subject to Disclosure Scotland. Nursing qualifications preferred. Excellent remuneration, self-contained annexe flat and car provided.

Please apply in writing with CV and covering letter to Caroline Isaac, Bell Ingram, 2 Gibraltar Street, Oban PA34 4AY or caroline.issac@bellingham.co.uk

### MAKE SURE WE'RE BUILDING ON FIRM FOUNDATIONS

Everyone has the right to safe, affordable, good quality housing. That's what Trust provides for older people, families and others at over 100 developments. We manage and maintain around 2,500 homes across Scotland - and with 500 staff - we're a major national employer. As we look to the future, we also look for people who share our energy, passion and commitment to share in our continuing success.

**Bowmore, Donald Caskie Square**  
**Sheltered Housing Coordinator (ref: 0150 - 0044)**  
£18,279 - £19,761 (£10.04 - £10.85 per hour)  
35 Hours per week (with on call Monday - Thursday)

As Sheltered Housing Co-ordinator, you will play a key role in the lives of our tenants. Promoting and supporting independent living, you will develop a professional and caring relationship with individuals, providing advice and assistance linked to their individual support plan. In addition, you will build positive working relationships with colleagues in other agencies such as health care and social work.

Ideally, you will have experience working with vulnerable people, be able to demonstrate a clear empathy with our client group as well as be able to exhibit excellent communication and negotiation skills. Supervisory experience along with a professional qualification (SVQ 3 or equivalent) is highly desirable although not essential. On a personal level, you should be well organised and approachable with excellent interpersonal skills. Due to the requirement to provide on call cover (Monday - Thursday) you must be able to respond to an emergency and be able to return to the development from home within 20 minutes of the call.

We also have the following vacancies at both our Bowmore and Port Ellen developments for occasional work covering for staff absences.

**Bank Sheltered Housing Coordinator**  
£8.37 per hour  
**Bank Sheltered Assistant (weekends)**  
£7.53 per hour  
**Bank Cleaner**  
£6.29 per hour

For further information on these vacancies visit [www.trustha.org.uk/jobs](http://www.trustha.org.uk/jobs) or for an application pack please telephone our 24 hour recruitment line on 0131 444 4999 or email [jobs@trustha.org.uk](mailto:jobs@trustha.org.uk) quoting the appropriate reference.

• Closing date: 31 May 2012.

We are pursuing a policy of equal opportunities and welcome applications from all sections of the community.  
Trust Housing Association is a Registered Scottish Charity - SC009086



### Leading the way in Learning Disability

ENABLE Scotland is a dynamic, vibrant and expanding organisation dedicated to improving the lives of people with learning disabilities across Scotland.

CAMPBELTOWN

### Sessional Support Workers

Ref: C/0105. Salary: £6.87 per hour. Closing Date: 1st June 2012

We are looking for reliable and enthusiastic individuals who have a genuine interest in working with people to increase our bank of sessional support staff. As a sessional worker you would work directly with older people, people with learning disabilities or people who have mental health issues to enable them to be included in their local community.

As a sessional worker you would work as and when required, including at short notice, to meet the needs of the people we support. If you believe you could be a flexible, reliable and available addition to our team we would love to hear from you. Early morning, evening, and weekend work is included which is determined by the needs of the people we support. Sleepover duties may be required for which there is a separate payment.

As an organisation, we are committed to developing all of our staff, providing an extensive training and development programme and career opportunities within ENABLE Scotland. We offer positive terms and conditions, including a contributory pension scheme.

For an application pack, please telephone 01586 550328 or email [margaret.mcgeachy@enable.org.uk](mailto:margaret.mcgeachy@enable.org.uk) quoting the relevant post reference.

We particularly welcome applications from disabled candidates and make our forms available in alternative formats. Please return completed applications to: [margaret.mcgeachy@enable.org.uk](mailto:margaret.mcgeachy@enable.org.uk) or by post to: Margaret McGeachy (Admin Manager), ENABLE Scotland, 2nd Floor, Hazleburn Business Park, Campbeltown PA28 6HA.

These posts will be subject to a PVG Check.  
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To apply, please send a covering letter of application with CV to Oban Times Ltd, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB. Email: [ali@obantimes.co.uk](mailto:ali@obantimes.co.uk)

**Modern Apprentice Opportunities with Scottish Water**

Starting Salary £11,910 Ref: SW/002980

We are currently recruiting 1 Waste Water Treatment Modern Apprentice for the Argyll - Oban area. Our waste water apprentices undertake a key environmental role for our business by ensuring that waste water is treated effectively and discharged safely into the environment, maintaining high environmental quality standards in our rivers, lochs and beaches.

In Scottish Water our apprentices are vital to building our operational capabilities for the future. We will provide you with a four year apprenticeship (providing satisfactory educational progress is achieved) at a designated further education college or an agency that specialises in providing Scottish Vocational Qualifications (SVQ's) linked to work experience within our apprenticeship disciplines.

As a Scottish Water apprentice you will receive a generous benefits package including occupational pension, life assurance and 31 days holidays.

You must have minimum of 5 Standard Grade (3 of which should be English, Maths and any Science). Ideally the candidate will also hold, 2 Highers or relevant technical qualification or relevant technical experience (min of 1 year) and it is preferred that the candidate holds a full current driver's licence.

We welcome people from all backgrounds and we value the benefits that come from diversity. Whatever your gender, race or ethnic origin there is an Apprenticeship for you.

For information and applications form contact Human Resources via Scottish Water website [www.scottishwater.co.uk](http://www.scottishwater.co.uk)

If you have any special requirements which might impact upon you completing the application form, please contact HR Connect at Scottish Water on 0131 445 6330. For further information please refer to the 'Find Out About Us' section on the Scottish Water website.

Please return your application by email to [HRDevelopment@scottishwater.co.uk](mailto:HRDevelopment@scottishwater.co.uk)

Closing date for receipt of applications: 12 Noon on Friday 25 May 2012.

## PUBLIC NOTICES

**MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010**  
**PRIVATE MOORINGS: LITTLE GANAVAN BAY**  
Notice is hereby given that Dr Jespersen has applied to the Scottish Ministers of the Scottish Government, under Part 4 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, in respect of mooring installation at:

Description	Latitude	Longitude
Location	Co-ordinates	Co-ordinates
Little Ganavan Bay	56 25.825 N	005 29.075 W
	56 25.800 N	005 29.080 W

(WGS84)  
Plans showing the position of the works may be inspected at Oban Public Library, 77 Albany Street, Oban PA34 4AL  
Objections relating to safety of navigation or environmental issues in respect of the application should be made in writing to:  
Licensing Operations Team, Marine Scotland, Marine Laboratory, 375 Victoria Road, Aberdeen, AB11 9DB within 28 days of the date of this notice or by email: [MS.MarineLicensing@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:MS.MarineLicensing@scotland.gsi.gov.uk), quoting reference: FKB/J178  
Dr Erik Jespersen

Alzheimers Scotland  
Oban and Lorn Branch

**AGM**  
Tuesday 22 May 2012. 7.15 pm  
Carers Centre Albany Street, Oban  
All welcome

**Oban Times** **Oban Times**  
**PUBLIC NOTICES** **PUBLIC NOTICES**

**OBAN LIFESAVING CLUB**

**AGM**  
Thursday 31st May 2012.  
7-9PM  
Atlantis Leisure Function Room

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**THE GOVERNORS OF CATHERINE McCAIG'S TRUST McCAIG BURSARIES**

A number of McCAIG BURSARIES, the value of which is at the discretion of the Governing Body, are OPEN FOR COMPETITION to students entering a Scottish University in September 2012. The Bursaries are tenable at any Scottish University for such number of years as the Governing Body in their discretion consider appropriate.

It is a condition of the award that the holder shall enrol for a University Ordinary Class in Gaelic and shall satisfactorily complete the course in that subject. One of the Bursaries is open only to natives of, or persons ordinarily resident in, the County of Argyll.

Applications must be made not later than 15 June 2012 and Forms of Application may be obtained from the Clerk to the Governors.

ANNE F WILSON  
Clerk to the Governors,  
c/o McLeish Thomson, 7 Admiral Street,  
Kinning Park, Glasgow, G41 1HP  
Email address: afw@mccl-law.co.uk

To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us @ [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk)

**Argyll Bute COUNCIL**

**PLANNING**

These applications listed below together with other related documents may be inspected between 09.00 - 17.00hrs Monday to Friday at Municipal Buildings Albany Street Oban PA34 4NW, at the alternative locations detailed below or by logging on to the Council's website at [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk) Written comments for the following list of applications should be made to the above address within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence.

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2008 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT**

Ref	Proposal	Site Address	Location Of Plans
12/00742/PP	Construction of mini hydro scheme.	Land West Of Scallastle Bay Farm Craignure Isle Of Mull PA65 6BA	Sub Post Office Craignure
12/00906/PP	Erection of conservatory	11 McCall's Terrace Oban Argyll And Bute PA34 4JE	Oban Area Office
12/00919/PP	Erection of garage (retrospective)	Suva Drummore Road Oban Argyll And Bute PA34 4JL	Oban Area Office
12/00958/PP	Alterations and extension to dwellinghouse	The Stables Ardmacross Aros Isle Of Mull Argyll And Bute PA72 6J5	Sub Post Office Aros Isle of Mull
12/01013/PP	Change of use of land to form garden ground including formation of vehicular access (retrospective)	6 Jubilee Terrace Viewmount Drive Tobermory Isle Of Mull Argyll And Bute PA75 6PZ	Tobermory Area Office
12/01024/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse	House Plot On Existing Ruin North East Of Mull View Castle Isle Of Tree Argyll And Bute	Tiree Area Office

Argyll and Bute council encourages planning applications to be made on-line through The Scottish Government website: <https://eplanning.scotland.gov.uk>

The Council maintain a Register of planning applications which can be viewed during normal office hours at Planning and Regulatory Services, Whitegates Offices, Whitegates Road, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8SY.

A weekly list of applications can be viewed at the above address and at all Council Libraries.

Any letter of representation the Council receives is considered a public document and will be published on our website. Anonymous or marked confidential correspondence will not be considered.

**CROFTING COMMISSION COIMISEAN NA CROITREARACHD DECROFTING APPLICATIONS**

Applicant, Croft, Extent/Purpose, Case number

Mr J MacPherson  
11 Drumfearn, Sleat  
0.366 ha - Site for a dwelling house  
4.86.38539

Mr J MacCormick  
Cnoc a' Ghual, Lismore & Appin  
0.103 ha - Site for a dwelling house  
4.86.38572

Comments can be made to the Crofting Commission by any member of the crofting community within the locality of the land, within 14 days of the date of this newspaper.

Crofting Commission, Great Glen House, Leachkin Road, Inverness IV3 8NW or info@crofting.scotland.gov.uk

**DECROFTING DIRECTIONS ISSUED**

Name, Croft, Extent/Reason, Conditions, Case number

Mr G Moss & Ms E Walters  
3 Bunscaimh, Arisaig & Moidart  
0.1 ha - Site for a dwelling house  
4.86.37844  
Conditions: 1, 2b, 3

Mrs A MacKay  
11 Dalnabreck, Arisaig & Moidart  
0.068 ha - Existing house site  
4.86.38249  
Conditions: 2a, 3

Conditions

(1) To provide a site for a dwellinghouse  
(2) Complete enclosure of the land with a stock proof fence within 4 months of:  
(a) the date of the direction  
(b) the proposed development completion  
(3) That fence shall be maintained in good order and repair by each successive owner or occupier of the land.

Any person with an interest in the application may appeal against a decision to the Scottish Land Court within 42 days of the date of this advert.

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997**

The applications listed below, along with plans and other documents submitted with them, may be examined between the hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays) at the AREA PLANNING AND BUILDING STANDARDS OFFICE, FULTON HOUSE, GORDON SQUARE, FORT WILLIAM, PH33 6XY; online at [www.highland.gov.uk](http://www.highland.gov.uk) and, where given, the alternative location(s).

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

Reference Number	Development Address	Proposal Description	Alternative locations where application may be inspected and time period for comments
12/01342/FUL	Log-Na-Loin Ormslogbeg Killochan Acharacle	Construction of vehicle access driveway	(14 days)
12/01351/FUL	Land 80m East of Dun Ban Isle of Muck Mallaig	Erection of guesthouse	Mallaig Service Point (14 days)
12/01503/PIP	The Lodge on The Loch Onich Fort William	Erection of 2 houses	(14 days)
12/01664/PIP	South Side of Alcan Site Entrance North Road Fort William	Renewal of planning permission 06/00521/OUTLO for non food retail development (as varied by 07/00419/FULLO and 10/01345/FUL)	(14 days)
12/01748/PIP	Land West of 1 Murlaggan Roy Bridge	Part demolition of existing building and erection of house (renewal of 09/00042/OUTLO)	(14 days)

PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW ADDRESS  
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Email: [eplanning@highland.gov.uk](mailto:eplanning@highland.gov.uk)

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**BLOUSE** maroon evening blouse, size 22, never worn, £20 Telephone 01586 553285.

**DRESS** black evening dress, size 20, worn twice, £45 Telephone 01586 553285.

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**PERSONAL**

John MacCorquodale, Appin

Would like to thank all family and friends who joined him recently to celebrate his 90th birthday and for all the lovely cards and gifts. A big thank you also to those who helped set up the hall, to those who provided the wonderful buffet and to those who had the task of clearing up! Thank you one and all.

**THANK YOU.**

Lochaber Rural Education Trust wish to thank the following for donations towards the Adam Henson Dinner charity event- Aberchaldy Estate, Alexandra Hotel, Bill Barber, Ben Nevis Distillery, Betty's of Harrogate, BOSS, Booker, Oban, BSW Sawmill, E A Cameron, D. Campbell, Caol Community Centre, Classic Britain Hotel Consortium, Mrs. Morag Collie, Colonsay Brewery, Dougie Duncan Painter, Forfeith Oban, Glenspean Lodge Hotel, Mrs. Bertha Henderson, Homebase Oban, Faye Houghton, Inverloch Castle, LIDL Fort William, Lochaber College, Mrs. Ann MacCallum, R MacIntosh, John MacMillan, John Munro Dingwall, Marine Harvest, Marks & Spencer, Matheson's of Oban, Morham & Brochie Oban, Nevis Bakery, Nevis Radio, Oban Bay Brewery, Seven Oaks Hotel, Carlrow, Ireland, SolutionX Inverness, Walkers Shortbread. Also thanks to all who bought raffle tickets. The £250 was won by Jenny Keene, Invergarry and £100 went to Dinkie Cameron, Caol. Over £9,000 was raised before expenses.

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**BIRTHS**

**MACCALLUM** - Neil and Angela (nee Macaulay) are delighted to announce the safe arrival of Noraidh Donald on April 20, 2012. A brother for Iain, Innes and Finlay. Many thanks to the maternity staff at Western Isles Hospital.

**ENGAGEMENTS**

**CAMERON - DUNN** - Both families are delighted to announce the engagement of Craig, son of Donald and Kate to Lisa, daughter of Peter and Catherine. We wish them both every happiness.

**MARRIAGES**

**REID - BUCHAN** - At Kirkmichael Parish Church, Ayrshire, on Saturday May 5, 2012, by Rev W Gerald Jones, Colin John, elder son of Laurie and Marion, Ayr, to Freya Victorette Angharad, fourth daughter of John and Hazel, Kirkmichael. A wonderful day was had by all.

**DEATHS**

**CAMERON** - Catherine (Cath), formerly of Fort William, passed away on Tuesday, May 9, 2012. Cath worked for many years at the former Alliance and Leicester Building Society Branch in Fort William.

**COUSINS** - Suddenly but peacefully on May 6, 2012, the day after his 45th birthday, Alasdair Walter MacPhedran Cousins, beloved son of Moira and the late Sandy Cousins, cherished brother and brother-in-law of Eilid and John and dearest uncle to Saul Alasdair, Seori and Kyle. Funeral service to take place at Ardchattan Kirk, North Connell on Monday May 21, at 1pm, interment at Achnaba Cemetery.

**MACCALL** - Peacefully at home with his family, at 4a Dalintart Drive, Oban, on May 11, 2012, aged 83 years, Malcolm, (Calum), Alexander, beloved husband of the late Wilma (nee McPhail O'Hara), loving father to Cathrine and Robert and devoted seannair. Funeral will take place at the Church of Scotland, Glencruitten Road, Oban on Thursday (today), May 17, 2012 at 1.00pm. Thereafter to Kilchattan Cemetery, Isle of Luing. Family flowers only, retiral collection/donations will be taken for MacMillan Cancer Support and the Salvation Army.

**MACDONALD** - Seonag, passed away suddenly, but peacefully at home, 118 Kilmallic Road, Caol, on May 12, 2012, aged 93. Born 5 West Gerinish, South Uist, then of Moss, Moirdart. A loving mother, mother-in-law, granny and great granny. Will be sadly missed by the family, friends and neighbours. R.I.P.

**MACKAY** - Peacefully at Lynn of Lorn Care Home, our beloved mum Agnes (Nan), on May 10, 2012. Dearly beloved mum, granny and great granny. - Violet and Hugh.

**MACLEOD** - Peacefully at the Pilgrims Hospice, Margate, on May 9, 2012, aged 48 years, Donald Martin MacLeod, loving husband of Mary, a much loved dad, father-in-law, son, papa, nephew, cousin and friend. Gone but not forgotten.

**WILSON** - Arthur of Oban. Passed away peacefully in Falmouth, Cornwall on May 11, aged 88. Loving husband to the late Bessie, much loved Father to Karen and grandfather to Stuart, Rachel, Sarah and Catriona. Will be fondly remembered by all the family.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

**BREMNER** - The family of the late Cathy Bremner would like to thank most sincerely all relatives, friends and neighbours, for all the many kind and thoughtful expressions of sympathy extended to them in so many ways during their recent sad loss of Cathy. Grateful thanks to doctors and staff at The Pines Medical Centre, Acharacle, for their care and support, to the team of friends who cared for Cathy 24/7, Rev. Fiona Ogg and Rev. Alan Lamb for their visitations and comforting service, also Ewen MacLennan, funeral director and staff for their caring and efficient arrangements. Gill and the team of volunteers who prepared and supplied the food for the interment. Finally to all who paid their last respects at the church and graveside and gave so generously the sum of £700 for the SRSPCA and Church Funds.

**MACDONALD** - The family of the late Donald Angus MacDonald would like to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for all their flowers, cards, visits, phone calls and support shown following their recent sudden and sad loss. Thank you to all at Craig Nevis Surgery, Father Andrew and Father Roddy for the funeral service and to Ewen and staff at MacLennan and Co. also to all who paid their respects at the church and graveside in Morar. - Ruth MacDonald and family.

**MACKAY** - Duncan's family would like to thank everyone for the kindness and support they have received since their sad loss. Special thanks to the Accord Hospice and all the medical staff at Bishopton Health Centre for their marvellous care and attention. Sincere thanks to Rev R McLeod for the uplifting service and to Callum and Ross who provided us with some of Duncan's favourite tunes. Also to Lynn and Allan of Walter Johnston, Funeral Directors for their efficient and caring funeral arrangements. Thanks to all who paid their last respects at Cardross Crematorium and generously donated to the Accord Hospice, to the George Hotel who provided excellent refreshments and to Donald Clark who wrote a very fitting obituary.

**ROBERTS** - The family of the late Marita Roberts would like to thank everyone for their kind expression of sympathy. Sincere thanks to Father Fraser for a comforting service and Father MacNeil for his kind words. Special thanks to Lynn of Lorn, Benderloch and Dr Davis for their kindness and patience. Thanks also to Norman and Rosanne of Social Work for their help and understanding, Hamish Hoey and Son for their guidance and professional service.

**THOMSON** - Mary (Lawrie Swanson) Livingston Station, Oban, Orkney. The family would like to thank all friends and neighbours for their expression of sympathy following the sad loss of Mary on April 26, 2012 aged 81 years. Special thanks to the nurses, doctors and staff at Ward 32 Aberdeen Royal Infirmary. Rev Marion Dickson for her comforting service. Brian Thompson for all his support and efficient funeral arrangements. The Guild for their personal catering. All who attended the funeral and generously donated £352 towards Cancer Research.

**MEMORIAMS**

**BOYD** - Treasured memories of Alan who tragically died on May 15, 2002.

Always in our thoughts. - Love always, the family. **CAMERON** - In loving memory of Nina, a dear wife, mother and grandmother, died May 20, 2011. Also loved ones gone before. Quietly today your memory we treasure Missing you always Forgetting you never. - Iain and family, Jura.

**CAMERON** - In loving memory of my dear sister, Nina Cameron, died May 20, 2011, Mary MacDonald died January 19, 2002, Cathie Hunter, died December 24, 2005. Also loved ones gone before. Sadly missed along life's way Quietly remembered everyday. - Janet, Jura.

**CAMPBELL** - Treasured memories of our dear dad/granddad Alisdair who died May 18, 1988. Loved and remembered always. - Lorne, Kathie and Alisdair, Christine. In our thoughts. - Love Kirsteen and Harry. **MACCOLL** - In loving memory of dear Neilie who passed away on May 13, 2003. Time changes many things, But not the sadness this day brings A broken heart tears unseen. Wishing your absence was only a dream. Inserted by Margaret, Torloisk, Mull.

**MACINTYRE** - In loving memory of Donald Archibald (D.A.) a dear husband, father and seannair who passed away on May 16, 2005. Deep in our hearts you will always stay Loved and remembered every day. - Rachel and family.

**MACKINNON** - Precious memories of a dear mother and nana, Duncanina who passed away on May 20, 2007 and dear father and grandfather, Hugh who passed away April 6, 1985. Because you were so special No words can ever say How much we love and miss you Today and everyday. Also remembering dear loved ones gone before and after. - Elizabeth, Iain, Iona and Ewan.

**MACLEAN** - In memory of a wonderful father and grandfather Calum MacLean, who passed away May 19, 1984. Forever in our thoughts. - Iain, Roddy and families, Kinlochleven.

**MACLENNAN** - In loving memory of my dear mother and grandmother Margaret (Mena), who died May 17, 1989.

Deep are the memories Precious they stay No passing of time Will take them away Fond memories. - Inserted by her daughter Morag, Oban.

**MACPHEE** - In loving memory of my dear sister Annie who passed away on May 16, 1994, and all loved ones gone before and after. Always fondly remembered. - Margaret

**MACQUARRIE** - In loving memory of our dear father, Donald John, who died at Ormsay, Lochport, May 21, 1989, also remembering our dear mum Agnes, who died December 14, 2008 and our cousin Simon, who died May 21, 1995. No longer in our lives to share But in our hearts you're always there. - Inserted by their loving daughter Ann and son-in-law Cameron, Erskine.

**MCQUEEN** - In loving memory of my darling Fraser who passed away on May 18, 2010 a loving dad and grandpa. May the winds of heaven blow softly And whisper for you to hear How much we love and miss you And wish that you were here. So dearly loved so sorely missed - Frances, Gael, Kenneth, Helen, Fraser, Irene and the grandchildren.

**MCQUEEN** - In loving memory of my dad, Fraser who passed away on May 18, 2010. Those we love don't go away They walk beside us everyday Unseen, unheard but very dear. Still loved, still missed and very dear. - Helen, Jamie, Steven & Daniel.

**MORRISON** - Mary. Always remembered every day. - Your loving husband Hector. **MORRISON** - Always in our thoughts Forever in our hearts. - Love James, Teeny and family. **MORRISON** - Mary who passed away on May 17, 2004. May the winds of heaven blow gently And whisper for you to hear That we still love and miss you Always wishing you were here. - Inserted by Christina, Banny, Laura and Martin. Gentle Jesus give above Please give our great granny All our love. - Sinead and Lewis.

**MORRISON** - In loving memory of a dear mum and granny Mary, who died May 17, 2004. Sadly missed along life's way Quietly remembered everyday.

- Lorraine, Paul, Jill and Kyle. **ROBERTSON** - Loving memories of our beloved dad, grandpa and great-granpa Bertie Robertson who passed away on May 21, 2010. Those that mean the most to us Are never really gone For in our thoughts and in our hearts Their memory still lives on - From Carol, John, Emma, Gregg, Amy and Rachel. Three little words "Forget me not" Doesn't seem much, but mean a lot Just a memory fond and true To show Granpa Bertie we still think of you. - From Morgan, Ellis, Blair, Freya and Dewar

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All welcome

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Thursday 17 May 2012  
Ascension Day  
St John's Cathedral, Oban  
Holy Eucharist..... 10.30  
St Columba, Gruline, Mull  
Holy Communion..... 10.00  
Sunday 20 May 2012  
Sunday after Ascension  
St John's Cathedral, Oban  
Holy Communion..... 08.00  
Sung Eucharist..... 10.15  
Sunday School and Creche  
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Large Print Hymn Books  
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St James, Ardbrecknish, Cladich  
Holy Eucharist..... 11.00  
Holy Cross, Portnacroish, Appin  
Holy Communion..... 18.00  
St Columba, Gruline, Mull  
Holy Communion..... 11.00  
St Columba, Bishop's House, Iona  
Holy Eucharist..... 08.00  
Evenson..... 20.15  
Holy Eucharist.....  
.....Wed 23 May 14.30

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Four South Lochaber churches came together to raise over £1,300 for Christian Aid with a coffee morning and sale on Saturday.

**Ballachulish and Glencoe churches come together for Christian Aid**

St Mun's Catholic Church, St Munda's Church of Scotland and St John's, all Ballachulish, and St Mary's Episcopal Church in Glencoe held their first joint

event in Glencoe Village Hall to raise more than £1,300 for Christian Aid with a coffee morning and sale. St Mun's parish priest

Father Francis Ferriggi officially opened the event before the tea, coffee and home baking went on sale, as well as a number of stalls offering goods around the

hall. Bill Strachan, who helped organise the event, said the day had been a 'great success'. He said: 'The motto for the day was 'Lets give the tools

to help people in poverty out of poverty'. The people of Ballachulish and the surrounding area certainly went some way to making this happen.'

**Special service at Cille Choirill**

Memorial plaques to Keppoch Bard Donald MacKillop and Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop to be unveiled

TWO FAMOUS natives of Murlagan near Roy Bridge will be remembered at a special service at Cille Choirill church on Saturday. Gaelic Society of Inverness chairman Allan Campbell will lead proceedings in the ancient Brae Lochaber chapel to unveil a memorial plaque to Keppoch Bard Donald MacKillop and Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop.

The society erected the plaque to record the interment at the door of Donald Finlay MacKillop, Dòmhnall Mac Fhionnlaigh nan Òran, remembered for his Òran na Comhachraig (Song of the Owl). The memorial also records the visit to Roybridge in 1873 of renowned Australian teacher Mother Mary of the Cross of the Sisters of St Joseph.

Mary, a descendant of the MacKillops of Murlagan, was canonised in Rome in 2010 as Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop. At Saturday's short ceremony at 11am, Mr Campbell will explain the background to the memorial, which will

be formally unveiled by Sister Therese, a member of Saint Mary's order. Local priest Monsignor Tom Wynne, local farmer Ronnie Campbell and piper Donald Shaw will also take part in the service. Monsignor Wynne said: 'I am delighted that the Gaelic Society is honouring Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop who dedicated her life's work to the education of children in Australia. 'She was the daughter of Highland emigrants and she maintained the best traditions of the culture of her Lochaber forebears. Mr Campbell added: 'The Gaelic Society of Inverness is always proud to be able to mark the achievements of prominent Gaels and in this instance we are also recognising the strong link this part of Lochaber has with Australia. 'This will be a public event and we look forward to welcoming people from Roy Bridge and beyond on Saturday.'

Local MP Charles Kennedy MP will also attend.



Apprentice chefs from West Highland College in Fort William and Caol Community Centre staff received warm applause for their efforts in preparing and serving a fine meal to 165 diners at a fundraiser for Lochaber Rural Education Trust on Saturday night. The event, which had BBC Countryfile presenter Adam Henson as guest speaker, raised £9,000 and was followed by a ceilidh at the popular Caol venue.

**Charity cyclists aim for £10,000**

SIX cyclists had a brief stop in Oban last week as they aim to raise £10,000 for a small charity helping struggling communities in Mozambique. Kevin Gallacher, John Schulga, Douglas Barr, Alastair Tollemache, David McFarland and Brian McFarland, all from Stirling, cycled 400 miles from Cape Wrath, Scotland's most north-westerly point, to Campbeltown on the tip of the Kintyre peninsula in just four days. To sponsor the group, visit uk.virginmoneygiving.com/team/Pebanebikers.



Pictured after enjoying a refuel at Hopes2Oban are Friends of Pebane cyclists, from left: Kevin Gallacher, John Schulga, Douglas Barr, Alastair Tollemache, David McFarland and, front, Brian McFarland.

**Obituary**

**Hugh McTavish Carmichael**  
Died  
26.04.2012



HUGH McTavish Carmichael was born on the 19th of April, 1923 in Combie Street, Oban, to the late Catherine and Hector Carmichael. He was the eldest of nine siblings. Hugh married Anastasia a nurse from St. Helens in 1944, (now deceased) during his time in the second world war. They settled in Dunstaffnage with their young family, he then went on to work for Slaters Coal Merchants of Oban. Hugh left Oban in 1960 to take up a position as private chauffeur to the 18th Earl and Countess of Derby, and resided on Knowsley Park Estate for some 47 years. In 2007 he moved to North Wales to be with his eldest

daughter, Jean, a nurse, who provided all his nursing care needs. Hugh passed away peacefully in Jean's arms. He leaves behind his beloved pet labradors, Nato and Tino. Mongr. Thomas Wynne, their former parish priest at Columbas Cathedral, Oban, gave the family so much spiritual comfort at this sad time. Hugh is survived by his two daughters Jean and Margo and son-in-law, Will.

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# Lochaber do themselves proud against Kingussie

REPORT BY  
STEPHEN NORRIS  
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Artemis Macaulay Cup first round  
**Lochaber 4, Kingussie 6**  
SHINTY fans had predicted an Artemis Macaulay Cup first round cracker at Spean Bridge – and were rewarded with a 10-goal thriller.

A Ronald Ross hat-trick unlocked victory for Kingussie – but Lochaber matched their illustrious premier division opponents in every department and on another day could easily have won.

With a strong wind behind them, Lochaber raced into an early 2-0 lead through Scott Paterson and Ben Delaney and looked well capable of scoring more.

But an unlucky own goal from Lachlan Campbell handed Kingussie a lifeline and a Ross rocket from 18 yards levelled the game 10 minutes before the break.

Kings grabbed the initiative early in the second half with goals from Munro and Ross to make it 4-2, but Lochaber were not lying down and a powerful Shaun Nicolson angled drive from 30 yards cut the deficit to one.

A trademark turn and shot earned Ross another career hat-trick on 64 minutes, only for Lochaber to roar back with a brilliant single-handed flick from Delaney.

At 5-4 it was anybody's game and the end-to-end action had the sizeable crowd on tenterhooks. Stuart Callison's low drive was

only inches away from pulling Lochaber level and at the other end Calum MacDonald made a great step to deny Ross.

Rory Borthwick ensured Kings' progress with a goal in the final seconds before ref Deek Cameron blew for full time.

Speaking to The Oban Times pitchside, Lochaber coach Michael Delaney knew victory had been within his team's grasp.

He said: 'We kind of switched off in the middle of the first half for a wee spell and let them back into the game. The own goal got their heads up a bit – we were really comfortable at 2-0.'

'Early in the second half our form dipped a wee bit and they scored two quick goals, but we came straight back into the game and got a goal back.'

'We knew we could score goals against them, but obviously Ronald Ross did his bit for them again. Overall, though, I was quite pleased with the boys' performance today.'

Kingussie coach Russell Jones paid tribute to Lochaber in what was a pulsating cup match.

He said: 'That's as hard a game as we have had all season in the premier league, they are a very, very good team and there was nothing in it at all.'

'I was really impressed with them up front, they way they open you up and knock the ball about and score goals. They are all dangerous and they can all hit the ball.'

'We are delighted to go through but it wasn't very good for the heart pitchside, I can tell you.'

'The own goal was absolutely huge – at that point they def-

## SHINTY

nately were in the ascendancy. We needed a wee break and we got that.'

Asked about Ronald Ross' telling contribution, Jones added: 'Everything that could be possibly said about Ronald has already been said.'

The teams meet again at Spean on Saturday in the Co-operative MacTavish Cup semi-final.



Kingussie's Ronald Ross rifles home the first of his three goals to make it 2-2. 20\_170shinty02

## Ardnamurchan win tag rugby competition

LOCHABER Rugby Club's annual inter-school tag rugby competition saw over 270 youngsters from across Lochaber travel to Banavie.

The day started out overcast but the sun soon came out as the competition intensified.

Ardnamurchan High School won the secondary competition in the afternoon, with Upper Achintore taking top spot on the P6/P7 event and Mallaig Primary winning the P4/P5 contest.

LRC's Pauline Donaldson told

## TAG RUGBY

the Oban Times: 'Even some of the teachers were getting pretty enthusiastic on the sidelines, cheering their pupils on!'

The club's community coach Chris Simpson visited the schools to provide tag coaching to the pupils.

Corpach-based Sportsafe UK sponsored the event and their area manager for Scotland Charlie Donaldson presented the trophies.



Ardnamurchan High took home the trophy in the secondary school competition.

## Chris loses out to top Irish boxer

ONE OF Fort William's rising boxing stars Chris Bradley narrowly lost out to five-time Irish champ Brendon Irvine in an international match between Scotland and Ireland in Cork last weekend.

The pair met last year with Irvine winning with a comfortable margin of 12 points to two. But Lochaber Phoenix ABC boxer Bradley has worked hard to improve over the past season and the 15-year-old put in one of his best displays in front of the Irish crowd.

The opening round saw Bradley employ a much improved defence from the first encounter as both boxers exchanged quality body shots. At the end of the first the Fort fighter found himself one point down.

The second saw Bradley produce perhaps the finest round of his career as he used angles to spring attacks and force the Irish boxer backwards. Although Irvine was still dangerous he was clearly perplexed by the change in Bradley's tactics and the Scotland corner was fully expecting a favourable scoreline between rounds.

**Dismay**  
To their dismay however they discovered Bradley was inexplicably three points behind.

Bradley knew he had to go for broke in the last round as he had a proverbial mountain to climb. Throwing caution to the wind can leave a boxer exposed to counters and unfortunately for Chris this proved to be the case as he bravely ploughed forward

## BOXING

throwing more and more in desperation. He showed some of his own experience in keeping himself fairly well protected but did lose the round.

The final points tally read nine points to five in favour of the Irish fighter, but this was still a fine performance from Bradley against a top international opponent who is expected to fight for his country at this summer's European Championships.

The rematch augers well for the British Championships at the end of this month for which both Bradley and 14-year-old club mate James Aitchison have qualified.

## Rodgers wins weather-affected Three Peaks race

### ATHLETICS

LOCHABER Yacht Club held the weather-affected Three Peaks Race with 22 hill runners and 13 dinghies from as far as Aberdeen, Glasgow and Edinburgh signing up to take part in the land and water event on Sunday.

The annual event sees club dinghies and crew take runners to the bases of three hills by Loch Linnhe. The runners scale each hill, then return to the boats, to complete the race back to the clubhouse.

Unfortunately, due to 30-knot winds and torrential rain the sailing section of the event was cancelled and the hill race was shortened. Seven brave runners decided to tackle the 12.5km course despite with the weather.

Davie Rodgers of Lochaber Athletic Club was the first home in a time of 1hour 3 minutes and 2 seconds. The other locals to complete the race were Tark Gunn, Ally Kennedy and Ronnie Turner.

Yacht club member Domhnall Montgomery said: 'Thanks to all the many supporters of the event.'



Davie Rodgers with his trophy.

## Fort William GC

### GOLF

FORT William Golf Club held the Magners qualifier trophy on Saturday with Brian Gillespie taking the win.

Willie Duncan and Frank Sweeney fought out a close battle for second place, with Duncan's better inward nine giving him the position.

A two-man Texas scramble due to be held at the club on Sunday was called off due to heavy rain and high winds.

Results:  
1, Brian Gillespie 85-14=71; 2, Willie Duncan 85-12=73 (bh); 3, Frank Sweeney 88-15=73.

## Dragon's Tooth GC

DRAGON'S Tooth Golf Club held their monthly medal competition last weekend, with Scott McCombie's net round of 66 giving him the win.

Andy McGarry finished one shot back in second place, while Luke Alexander went round the Ballachulish course with a net score of 69 to take third place.

## Isle of Skye GC

ISLE of Skye Golf Club's Strath Cup first round saw Angus Beaton win the stableford competition with a score of 40 points.

Kenny MacPherson finished in second place with 37 points, while Alex Munro was not far behind in third with 35 points.

## Lochaber motorcyclists pick up some silverware

TWO LOCHABER Motorcycle Club riders claimed trophies in the 2012 Scottish Six Days Trial (SSDT) which ended in Fort William on Saturday afternoon.

Kevin Dignan, aged 43, came 62<sup>nd</sup> to finish highest-placed local and win the George Baird Memorial Trophy for best Scottish competitor on a machine over 250cc.

Michael Forthergill, aged 42, managed a 79<sup>th</sup> place finish to take the Jimmy McGregor Memorial trophy as best Scottish competitor on a motorcycle under 250cc.

Gavin Brown and Gary MacLennan ended the event in 191st and 196<sup>th</sup> respectively. Thirty-six Scottish riders entered the event.

Dougie Lampkin became the first man to win the SSDT six

## SIX DAYS TRIAL

times after one of the closest finishes in the event's 103-year history.

The 36-year-old finished with 15 faults – the same total as last year's winner James Dabill. The rivals were kept hanging on late into Saturday night for a decision as officials pored over the results.

Lampkin was eventually given the win as he went clean through the first two days while Dabill picked up two points on day one.

Michael Brown came third with 21 faults while early leader Jordi Pascuet finished in sixth place with 35. Emma Bristow was the highest placed female rider for the second year in a row, finishing in 61<sup>st</sup> place overall.



Spectators line the Town Hall Brae in Fort William on Saturday afternoon to watch the final Scottish Six Days Trial stage. Sam Boocock, above, was one of the first to attempt the steep section. 20\_170ssdt01

## Manager looking for a settled squad

REPORT BY  
RICHARD HADDOCK  
rhaddock@obantimes.co.uk

FORT William manager Danny Conlon is hoping to have a more settled squad for next season after fielding more than 50 players this season.

Speaking after their final game last Friday – a 4-0 defeat at Formartine United – Conlon said 2011-12 had been 'really difficult' for the club.

He told The Oban Times: 'We've had a lot of young players coming in this season, and we've had nine goalkeepers and about 42 other players. Next season I would like to maybe have a more stable group of players – a squad of maybe 20 or 22.'

'It's been extremely difficult as far as results and player availability go. But the club itself has made progress in that we are more professional in everything we do, right across the board.'

Conlon's squad of 14 against Formartine included 10 players aged 19 or under, although Captain Andy Martin and striker Iain MacLellan returned after suspension.

## FOOTBALL

MacLellan fired wide early on before Bobby Mann's free kick on 17 minutes gave Formartine the lead.

MacLellan waltzed through but his shot was saved then Steve Paterson's men scored twice more before half time.

## Ex-Dundee defender Mann made it four with another fine free kick. Fort keeper Donaldson made several fine saves as his side went down to a sixth straight loss.

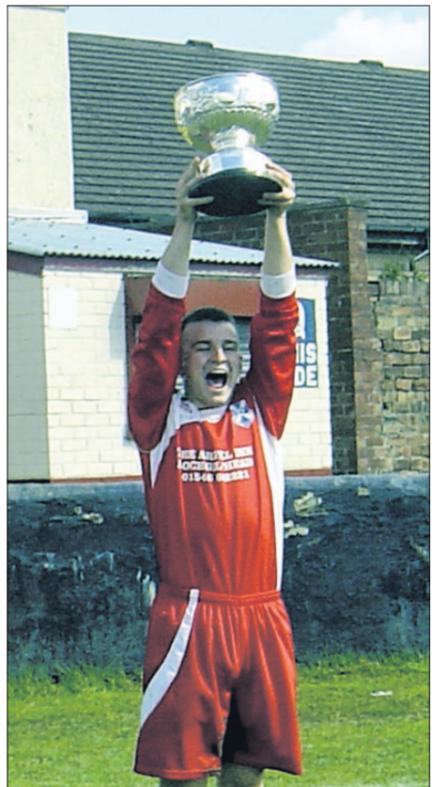
## First competition of the season



## BOWLS

Lochaber Bowling Club's first competition of the year was won by Angus Boyle and Budge Munro. The pair defeated Wilson Thain and Alan Robinson by nine shots to five in the round robin balloted pairs competition held at the BA Club. The club is taking entries from anyone wishing to take part in the balloted Scott Brady Charity Pairs at the BA this Sunday.

# Crowning glory for Red Star as they lift Coronation Cup



Red Star captain Connor Crawford holds aloft the Coronation Cup



## A jubilant Lochgilphead Red Star with the Coronation Cup after defeating Whitehill FP 3-2 last Saturday. Nervy end to the game, but Star hold out for victory

Coronation Cup Final  
Whitehill PF 2  
Red Star 3

LOCHGILPHEAD Red Star won their first ever Coronation Cup last Saturday after a thrilling 3-2 victory over Whitehill at Somervell Park in Cambuslang.

Red Star started the match strongly, backed by a strong travelling support, with early chances coming courtesy of Docherty and Peacock, before the latter broke the deadlock on 20 minutes, breaking clear of the Whitehill defence to score the opener with the help of a deflection.

Star continued to dominate with Docherty going close, but Whitehill almost equalised just before the break during a goalmouth scramble, but Dougie Moore was on hand to clear the danger.

Half-time: Red Star 1-0 Whitehill  
Star continued to push for a second and it was Kirk who got on the

scoresheet finishing off a Docherty cross from close range.

Red Star were on the ascendancy and Whitehill looked dead and buried when Kirk scored a third with 15 minutes left, placing his shot in the bottom corner after losing his marker.

However Whitehill were far from finished and pulled a goal back when a free-kick rebounded off the bar allowing the striker to nod the ball past keeper Kalache.

It was soon 3-2 when Red Star failed to deal with another set-piece, ensuring a nervy end to the game for the Lochgilphead faithful, but when the final whistle blew, Somervell Park erupted in a sea of red as the Red Star squad took home the trophy.

Full-time: Red Star 3-2 Whitehill  
Manager Colin Weir praised the effort and quality of the squad, including man of the match Gregor Peacock.

Tomorrow (Saturday), Red Star face Millbeg in the league at home, kick-off at 2pm.

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# Record turnout for this year's Crinan Puffer 8.5

THE SCOTTISH Sea Farms Crinan Puffer 8.5 is now a well established fixture in the Argyll running calendar.

This year's event was held recently in perfect running conditions. Starting at 10am,

the weather was sunny but not too warm with hardly a breath of wind. The course follows a route from Ardrishaig to Crinan along the canal tow path. Unusually for Argyll, it is an almost flat course rising only 75

feet over its eight and half miles length.

First finisher and winner of the men's over 40 category was David Millar of Irvine AC in an impressive time of 45:51. Tim Brand of Benderloch was the winner of the men's over 50 category and second overall in a time of 50:51. Neil MacNicol of Burntisland was winner of the men's senior category and third overall in a time of 51:06.

Kerrera's Gregor MacGregor was third in the male senior category, and fourth overall, in a time of 51:15. Second male over 40 was David McNeil of Birmingham AC in 52:42 and third in this category was Stephen Whiston of Mid Argyll in 53:05. Andy Law of Mid Argyll was second over 50 in 54:30.

Cameron McKellar and Alastair Hall, both of Oban, ran stride for stride over the entire course with the aim of breaking the one hour barrier. They finished together in a time of 59:12 making Alastair third in the over 50 category. In



Oban runners at the Puffer 8.5. From left: Gregor MacGregor, Paula Laidler, Alastair Hall, Isabella Perriot and Cameron McKellar.

## ATHLETICS

the women's event the first three women home were all in the over 40 category. First was Mary McCutcheon of Giffnock North AAC 57:41; second was Sheila Lewis, also of Giffnock North AAC in 1:00:47 and third was Fiona Greer of Old Kilpatrick in 1:01:07.

First in the women's senior category, and fourth woman overall, was Kathryn Munro of Glasgow in a time of 1:02:05. First woman over 50 was Li Wang of Giffnock North AAC in 1:03:11.

Paula Laidler of Oban, currently training for this month's Edinburgh Marathon, was third in the female senior category in a time of 1:04:30.

Upcoming events in Oban include the popular ABCD 10k on Sunday May 20 and a new event for the Atlantis Race Series around Loch Creran, approximately 10k, on the evening of Tuesday May 29.



Actor and Cage Cricket ambassador Colin Salmon meets Oban cricketers at Atlantis Leisure.

## James Bond star introduces Cage Cricket to Oban

YOUNG cricketers from the Oban area were left shaken and stirred after a star of the James Bond films made a surprise visit to Atlantis Leisure.

Actor Colin Salmon, famous for his role as Charles Robinson in three of the Pierce Brosnan era James Bond films, was visiting Oban recently in his capacity as ambassador for Cage Cricket, a new shortened form of the game.

Oban Cricket Club's Ronnie Kelly said the developers of Cage Cricket were keen to bring the game north of the border and were looking at the option of launching it at Atlantis Leisure in Oban.

"Colin Salmon is very passionate about Cage Cricket and he was very impressed with the facilities at Atlantis Leisure and also of

## CAGE CRICKET

the standard of the children who came along on Saturday to play," said Ronnie. "I hope we can help bring this game to Scotland and it would be great if they choose Oban as their launch venue."

**Equipment**  
Cage Cricket has been developed to be played in places where space is limited and can be played without a lot of equipment. The game is already being played widely in England and has been introduced in prisons.

## Islay Star win veteran's event at Melrose

VETERAN rugby players from Islay combined forces with Gala Star Veterans to form the victorious Islay Star team at the recent Davidson Chalmers Melrose Vets Tournament.

Three former international players, Gregor Townsend, Gavin Kerr and Ian Morrison, who have more than 150 Scottish caps between them, were backed up by several Islay and Gala stalwarts.

Strong links have been formed over the years between the veterans at Islay RFC and Gala RFC, resulting in them entering a combined team for the Melrose tournament. The squad was

## VETERAN'S RUGBY

very generously sponsored by two businesses - Morrison & Murray Engineering from Gala and Bruichladdich Distillery from Islay.

Islay Star cruised into the final with the hosts Melrose, who themselves had a few ex-internationals including Doddie Weir and Cammie Murray.

Islay Star turned on the style in the final, scoring 31 unanswered points.



Islay veterans were joined by their Gala counterparts and former Scotland international players Gregor Townsend, Gavin Kerr and Ian Morrison.

## Glasgow Gaelic School's first shinty match results in a win

MOSSFIELD Stadium in Oban was the venue for Glasgow Gaelic School's first full competitive shinty match.

The Gaelic school beat Oban school St Columba's 6-2 in the first round of the Mackay Cup on April 25.

St Columba's got off to a dream

start with two goals in the first 10 minutes, however, the Gaelic school dug in and by half time were 3-2 up.

**Strongly**  
With a strong wind behind them in the second half, the Gaelic school finished strongly. Coach Graeme MacDiarmid

## SCHOOL SHINTY

said: "This was a terrific result for the school. Over the last couple of years the school has been getting better and better, and this result is a real boost for the team."

## Eightball pool qualifiers

ARGYLL could have two representatives at the World Championship Eightball Pool qualifier following a regional tournament.

Easdale's Gordon MacKenzie will join Scottish international Laura Ann Sneedon at the championship in The Imperial Hotel, Blackpool, at the end of June, if he wins his qualifying match.

There, he would contest the

## POOL

singles title, while Laura Anne will compete in the singles title and the ladies team event.

In a regional qualifier held in Oban's Balmoral Hotel recently Gordon took an early three-frame lead against Barry Clark but Barry managed to battle back to 4-5 before Gordon clinched his 6th and winning frame.

## Eoghan makes the arrows fly at golf club

SOME of the best darts players in Argyll and Lochaber converged on Glencruitten Golf Club recently for the S D MacDougall Open.

Oban's Eoghan MacInnes took the £250 first prize but organisers praised the high standard of competition throughout.

Eoghan met Bryan Whyte from Fort William in an exciting final, after they saw off the challenge of Martin Cameron, Fort William, and Martin Tait, Oban, respectively, in the semi-finals.

Lynn Johnston was the highest-placed female entrant and she donated her winnings to the Fort William players representing the Harris Ross fund. A further £130 was raised for the Lochaber charity from entry fees.

Organiser Kenny Carmichael said: "I want to thank the golf club for hosting the tournament and the players who travelled a distance, from Lochgilphead or Fort William.

It made for a very exciting

## DARTS

tournament, which produced some really high quality darts.

Plans are afoot to form a darts super league, involving teams from Oban, Fort William, Lochgilphead and Mull.



S D MacDougall Open winner Eoghan MacInnes. 15\_118darts03



## New strips for Oban Lorne minis

Oban Lorne Rugby Football Club minis are looking the part this summer after receiving a new set of strips courtesy of three sponsors. Hazelbank Motors, Morham and Brochie and Trinity Hairdressers have all contributed to the strips and training tops. Pictured wearing their new strips are some of the minis with coaches, from left, Billy Thomson, Kenny Drummond, Brian Graham and head coach Gary MacEwan. Also pictured, right, is Ian Coates of sponsor Hazelbank Motors. The minis are seeking more volunteers to help coach the youngsters. 15\_117strips01



Fun in the sun: coaches and players at the Tainuill round of the Dalriada mini-rugby tournament. 15\_118rugby01

THE HOME side and Mull topped the tables in the third round of the Dalriada rugby tournament at Tainuill sports field.

Teams from Mid Argyll, Oban Lorne, Mull and Tainuill's Etive Vikings took part in the mini rugby event, which saw more than 70 children

take to the field in sunshine. Etive Vikings topped the primary 4/5 section, while Mull were winners in the primary 6/7 age group.

All clubs are now looking forward to the next round of the Dalriada, which will be hosted by Mid Argyll on May 27.

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# Both Oban teams fired up for derby match at Mossfield

ANTICIPATION is building ahead of this weekend's derby match between Oban Celtic and Oban Camanachd, with managers from each side expecting an exciting game.

The pair meet on South Division One duty at Mossfield on Saturday and, designated as the home team, **OBAN CELTIC** will hope to channel recent good performances into results.

Manager, Davy Hamilton, said: 'Hopefully, we'll get a win this Saturday. We're the underdogs so the boys have got nothing to lose.'

'But if the boys play like they have in the last two weeks we've got nothing to fear.'

'The pressure is all on Camanachd.'

Hamilton was speaking after watching his side slip to a 5-2 defeat to visitors Bute on Saturday in Macaulay Cup duty. While the scoreline was heavy, he doesn't believe it tells the whole story.

'We got the score back to 3-2 but they got two late goals to get them out of it.'

'So much for them coming up to play a lesser team and scoring a bucket-load of goals.'

'Our boys had a good game and they could have sneaked something out of it.'

'Hopefully, we'll get the same level of performance this Saturday.'

**OBAN CAMANACHD** co-manager, Andrew Pearson, goes into this weekend's derby on the back of a 1-0 win over Glenorchy on Macaulay Cup duty.

Scott MacMillan's 84th minute penalty was enough to secure victory, and Pearson said his side reacted well after being warned about their performance levels the previous week.

He said: 'I don't think we needed to speak to them in training last week, I think they knew themselves.'

'It was a good performance on Saturday. The scoreline maybe doesn't suggest it but I felt we were in total control.'

'The boys looked up for it and enjoyed what they did.'

Scott and David MacMillan are set to miss out on this weekend's game against Celtic, although both could still be in contention, while Garry Lord is out with a suspected fractured foot.

With or without the players, Pearson is hoping for a good performance.

He said: 'It's the first game against them in a wee while. We're just looking for a good performance and a good win.'

'I'm sure Celtic will really be up for this game more than most'



Bute's Iain MacDonald takes on Oban Celtic's Gary McKerracher during their Macaulay Cup clash at Mossfield Stadium last Saturday. The island side won 5-2.

## SHINTY

but a lot of our boys will be too. 'But if our boys play like they did in the first half last week when they just ran, ran, ran, and kept the game in their half, we can do well.'

**KYLES** manager James Perlich wasn't too down-hearted after a last minute goal robbed his team of a fine victory against Inveraray in the MacAulay Cup.

Ewan Campbell's counter on the 70th minute set up a tense finish to the game, but a Chris Crawford goal on the 90th minute ended the visitors' interest in the competition.

While disappointed in the result, he was more than happy with the performance.

He said: 'It was a last minute goal that won it and you can't do anything about that. Inveraray are a notoriously good cup team and you know that against Kyles they're going to raise their game.'

'But we were the better team in the first half and they were in the second.'

'It was close, but it's never going to be cut and dried between these two teams.'

'We've just got to look to the next game.'

The manager is hoping to that tie, against, Fort William, will be the first true home match of the year.

Tighnabraich Playing Field has been out of commission since January when the club spent £10,000 on installing new drainage system. Instead, the team has been playing out of Strachur.

However, with the weather having eased, allowing the turf to knit together, there is hope the surface will now be playable. A decision will be taken tonight.

He said: 'Even though they've been home games, they've been like away games for the boys, so it'd be great to play our first game at home this weekend if we can.'

'If we win this weekend we'll move up into second behind Newtonmore so we'll be going into this game looking for that.'

'But Fort William have been really strong and we'll have to show them respect.'

**INVERARAY** manager John Smylie will be proud of his players after a knocking holders Kyles out of the Macaulay Cup on Saturday.

Against the run of play, the hosts took a 1-0 lead going into the second half when Garry MacPherson netted on the 20th minute. The visitors scored in

the 70th minute to set up a tense finale, but Chris Crawford sent the home crowd into raptures with a winner at the death.

This weekend, they are away to Bute on Celtic Cup duty, hoping to consolidate their mid-table position with a win over the second placed side.

After a narrow defeat at the hands of Oban Camanachd in the MacAulay Cup on Saturday, **GLENORCHY** will be hoping to return to winning ways when they visit Beaulieu on Saturday.

They will have to play well though if they are to progress in the Balliemore Cup, with the hosts coming off the back of a 4-0 defeat at home to Caberfeidh in the Marine Harvest North Division One.

**KINLOCHSHIEL** return to league duties against Kilmallie this weekend after their heroics against Newtonmore in the Artemis MacAulay Cup.

Coach Johnston Gill should be able to count on a full squad being available – but will be taking no chances after the shock 2-1 reverse at Canal Parks two weeks ago.

## Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup 2nd round draw

Lovat v Kilmory  
Lochaber v Bute  
Glasgow MA v Kyles Athletic  
Newtonmore v Beaulieu  
Skye v Glenurquhart  
Inveraray v Strathglass  
Kilmallie v Fort William  
Kinlochshiel v Kingussie  
Ties to take place on Saturday 2nd June.

ing another hard game. He said: 'Obviously it was good to get the win, but they are a very good side – as good as any we've played in the premier division all season.'

'We certainly thought from looking at their results they'd be a good side. But they're fit and strong and they move the ball about really well. We'll have to be at our very, very best to beat them.'

Martin Dallas and Paul Gow both missed last weekend's game and Jones said they were possible doubts for the semi final. Top scorer Ronald Ross



Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning and Argyll & Bute MSP, Michael Russell with Argyll & Bute Council Leader, Roddy McCuish making the Scottish Hydro Camanachd 2nd round draw. Photo: John MacTavish

He told The Oban Times: 'Kilmallie at home will not be easy – we know only too well what they are capable of doing. They are a good side and won't be at the foot of the table for long.'

'At Canal Parks we let ourselves down and did not get our goal attempts on target. I'll be stressing to our players that to win games you have to turn pressure into goals.'

'We'll give Kilmallie every respect. There's no way that I'm going to say that's another two points for us, just because they are at the bottom of the league.'

Against Newtonmore, Gill switched Finlay MacRae to full back, put young Oliver MacRae on Paul MacArthur and switched John MacRae from full centre to full forward – and how it paid off.

Newtonmore's big hitters were stifled, while John MacRae grabbed a dramatic last minute winner to send the Kirkton fans wild.

Keith MacRae had opened the scoring before the break only for young Calum Stewart to level fort 'More with 17 minutes left. Gill said: 'I got my tactics exactly right.'

**KINGUSSIE** travel to Spean Bridge to play Lochaber for the second time in a week – with a place in the Co-operative MacAulay Cup at stake this time.

Manager Russell Jones told The Oban Times he was expect-

is expected to play after his hat trick last weekend. Kings came out on top of a 10-goal thriller in the Macaulay Cup first round last weekend, with the lead changing hands a number of times throughout the game.

Fraser Munro, Rory Borthwick and Ronald Ross were all on the score sheet in a 6-4 win.

**GLENURQUHART'S** strong form will be put to the test when they take on Newtonmore for a place in the Co-operative MacAulay Cup this Saturday.

The Drumadrochit side have hit a rich vein of form, and co-manager Fraser Mackenzie told The Oban Times there was already a buzz around the village ahead of the semi final.

He said: 'It's going to be a real challenge, but if our boys want to challenge for trophies they have to be able to beat teams like Newtonmore and this is a chance for them to do that.'

'We're creating a lot of scoring chances but we're not really taking enough of them. We wanted to get a bit of momentum behind us we've started to do that.'

Glen put in a storming first half performance to set off Kilmallie 4-1 in the Macaulay Cup last weekend. Fraser Heath scoring twice and Neale Reid and David Smart also netting before half time.

MacKenzie said: 'We felt we should have scored more in the first half. A fairer result probably



No way through for Roddy MacDonald as Inveraray's Gary MacPherson blocks his path during last weekend's Artemis Macaulay Cup tie held at the Winterton. The Royal Burgh side won with a 90th minute goal from Chris Crawford. Photo: John MacTavish.

would have been about six. 'We were slightly disappointed we didn't take advantage of having the extra man in the second half but perhaps some of the players had half an eye on the following weekend.'

**NEWTONMORE** will be looking to bounce back from their

Euan Stoddart and Martin Stewart are likely to play from the start after coming on for the second half against Glenurquhart.

Kilmallie chairman was disappointed with the team's showing at Blairbair, where they lost four first half goals before Ross Lavin pulled one back late on – and knows 'Shiel will present a stern test.'

He told The Oban Times: 'We started off badly and never got settled at all. We changed the team at half time and did a bit better.'

'Losing three key players is not handy when your facing a hard game like this. We will have to play our best if we are to have any chance.'

**LOVAT** are without a game this weekend so will have plenty of time to prepare for their local derby against Glenurquhart at Balgait Park on May 26.

Saturday's 4-3 home defeat in the first round of the Artemis MacAulay Cup to Fort William saw Lovat leave themselves a mountain to climb after Fort went two goals clear in the second half.

Owen Ferguson's 89th minute goal sparked a furious onslaught, but Fort held firm for a well-deserved win.

Lovat had been 2-1 up with half time looming with strikes from Lewis Tawse and Ferguson either side of Bryan Simpson's counter, but a Gordon MacKinnon double – one a real goal of the season candidate – turned the game on its head.

Fort went 4-2 up through Ryan Campbell's goal on 52 minutes and Lovat could not make up the deficit.

Coach Allan MacRae told the Oban Times: 'We came back into it well in the second half and put a lot of pressure on Fort William, but credit to them – they played very well. It was maybe just one of those games where we let things get away from us a wee bit and left ourselves too much to do.'

**LOCHABER** will be out for revenge when they take on Kingussie in the MacAulay Cup semi final this Saturday.

The two sides played a goal-fest last weekend in the Macaulay Cup, with Kings eventually running out 6-4 winners. Ben Delaney, Scott Paterson and Shaun Nicolson all got on the score sheet for Lochaber.

Manager Michael Delaney told The Oban Times the fixture had been anticipated for a number of weeks in Spean Bridge.

He said: 'We've been looking forward to this game for a while, and last week's performance putting four goals past Kingussie will give them a bit more confidence.'

'We'll have the same approach as Saturday, same build up and hopefully the same team. All we need is a wee bit of luck.'

'We just approached the game the same as we have for any other game this season, and everyone put in 100 per cent.'

Delaney said he expected to have a full squad available to choose from for the tie.

**LOCHCARRON** have this weekend off after suffering a 3-0 loss at home to Skye Camanachd last Saturday.

Andrew Mackenzie's men fell behind in the 33rd minutes, with the islanders scoring twice in the second half to secure a comfortable victory at Battery Park.

The manager has put his focus on shaping his young squad for next season, and Lochcarron currently sit second bottom of north division one.

Lochcarron's next game is due to be at home to Beaulieu a week on Saturday.



## Results

Saturday 12 May 2012

**Artemis Macaulay Cup 1st Round**  
Oban Celtic 2 - 5 Bute  
Glenorchy 0 - 1 Oban Camanachd  
Inveraray 2 - 1 Kyles Athletic  
Taynuilt 1 - 2 Glasgow Mid Argyll  
Glenurquhart 4 - 1 Kilmallie  
Kinlochshiel 2 - 1 Newtonmore  
Lochaber 4 - 6 Kingussie  
Lovat 3 - 4 Fort William

**Bullough Cup 1st Round**  
Inveraray 4 - 1 Kyles Athletic  
Bute 3 - 0 Aberdeen  
Tayforth 3 - 2 Col Glen

**Strathdearn Cup 2nd Round**  
Kinlochshiel 4 - 0 Glangarry  
Lochcarron 4 - 5 Kilmallie  
Beaulieu 3 - 3 Lochaber  
Skye 3 - 0 Kingussie  
Lochbroom 1 - 7 Fort William  
Lovat 5 - 3 Aberdeen University  
Boleskine 4 - 1 Inverness  
Glenurquhart 9 - 0 Strathglass

**Marine Harvest North Division 1**  
Beaulieu 0 - 4 Caberfeidh  
Lochcarron 0 - 3 Skye  
Inverness 7 - 0 Strathglass

**Marine Harvest South Division 1**  
Strachur 2 - 0 Kilmory

**Marine Harvest North Division 3**  
Strathspey 3 - 6 Caberfeidh

**Marine Harvest South Division 2**  
Ballachulish 4 - 0 Glangarry  
Glasgow Mid Argyll unable to field a team points to Ballachulish

**Marine Harvest North Division 2**  
Skye P - P Glangarry  
Lovat 3 - 4 Lochaber

**Camanachd Association Youth Results**

**Marine Harvest U17 London Shield**  
Lovat 0 - 5 Skye  
Strathglass 2 - 6 Caberfeidh  
Lochaber 7 - 0 Glenurquhart  
Kinlochshiel P - P Beaulieu

## Fixtures

Saturday 19 May 2012

All throw-ups 2.30 unless stated  
**Co-operative MacTavish Cup Semi Final**  
Lochaber v Kingussie  
Graham Irving  
Glenurquhart v Newtonmore  
Innes Wood

**AJG Parcels Celtic Society Cup Semi Final**  
Bute v Inveraray  
Desk Cameron (3pm)  
Aberdour v Taynuilt  
Gus Campbell

**Balliemore Cup 1st Round**  
Beaulieu v Glenorchy  
Graeme Irvine (3pm)

**Balliemore Cup Quarter Final**  
Strachur v Kilmory  
Billy Waterspoon

**Sutherland Cup Quarter Final**  
Lovat v Fort William  
Daniel MacRae  
Newtonmore v Caberfeidh  
George O'Rourke  
Beaulieu v Glenurquhart  
Neil Ferguson (12noon)

**Orion Group Premiership**  
Kyles Athletic v Fort William  
Colin MacDonald  
Kinlochshiel v Kilmallie  
Evan MacRae (3pm)

**Marine Harvest North Division 1**  
Inverness v Skye  
John Matheson  
Caberfeidh v Strathglass  
John Angus Gillies

**Marine Harvest South Division 1**  
Oban Celtic v Oban Camanachd  
Robert Baxter

**Marine Harvest North Division 2**  
Aberdeen University v Lochaber  
Eric Morrison  
Skye v Glangarry  
Ronnie Campbell  
Kinlochshiel v Kingussie  
Kevin Cheeseman (12 noon)

**Marine Harvest South Division 2**  
Ardnamurchan v Lochside Rovers  
Douglas Ferguson  
Bute v Aberdour  
Dougie Cameron (12 noon)  
Glasgow MA v Kyles Athletic  
Lachie Wood  
Inveraray v Tayforth  
Dunkie Kerr

**Marine Harvest North Division 3**  
Strathglass v Inverness  
Donald MacRae  
Lewis v Strathspey  
Callum Duff  
Lochcarron v Boleskine  
John Sloggie  
Lochbroom v Kilmallie  
Willie MacRae

**Womens Camanachd Association Fixtures Sunday 13 May 2012**  
Marine Harvest National Division 1  
Aberdour v Glasgow Mid Argyll

**Marine Harvest North Division 2**  
Skye v Ardnamurchan

**Marine Harvest South Division 2**  
Aberdour v Glasgow Mid Argyll  
Cowan & Bute v Dunadd

**Youth Fixtures Sunday 13 May**  
Marine Harvest Under 17 London Shield  
Newtonmore v Glasgow MA

**Monday 14th May**  
Under 14 MacMaster Cup  
Kingussie v Glenurquhart

**Tuesday 15th May**  
Under 17 Co-operative MacTavish  
Juvenile Cup  
Kingussie v Kinlochshiel  
Beaulieu v Lochaber  
Glenurquhart v Newtonmore

**Under 14 MacMaster Cup**  
Kingussie v Glenurquhart v Lovat  
Skye v Newtonmore  
Beaulieu v Strathglass  
Caberfeidh v Kinlochshiel

## League Tables

The Orion Group Premiership							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newtonmore	8	6	1	1	32	12	13
Lovat	8	4	3	1	19	14	11
Kyles Athletic	8	4	2	2	22	17	10
Kinlochshiel	9	4	2	3	25	20	10
Kingussie	8	4	1	3	18	18	9
Glenurquhart	7	3	1	3	13	16	7
Fort William	7	2	2	3	11	13	6
Inveraray	7	3	0	4	6	15	6
Bute	8	0	3	5	5	15	3
Kilmallie	8	1	1	6	10	22	3

Marine Harvest North Division 1							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Lochaber	5	4	1	0	23	5	9
Skye	5	4	0	1	14	11	8
Beaulieu	7	3	1	3	14	18	7
Inverness	6	2	2	2	9	10	4
Caberfeidh	5	2	1	2	13	11	5
Lochcarron	7	1	2	4	9	20	4
Strathglass	7	1	1	5	11	25	3

Marine Harvest South Division 1							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Glasgow MA	7	5	0	2	17	9	10
Oban Camanachd	4	4	0	0	17	2	8
Glenorchy	5	4	0	1	10	4	8
Kilmory	7	2	2	3	16	15	6
Strachur	8	2	1	5	8	13	5
Taynuilt	6	1	2	3	6	15	4
Aberdour	6	2	0	4	7	16	4
Oban Celtic	5	1	1	3	6	13	3

Marine Harvest North Division 2							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newtonmore	8	7	0	1	38	6	14
Skye	6	3	2	1	15	8	8
Glangarry	6	4	0	2	13	8	8
Aberdeen Uni	8	3	2	3	11	16	8
Glenurquhart	7	3	1	3	15	15	7
Kinlochshiel	8	2	3	3	15	24	7
Lochaber	8	2	2	4	19	31	6
Kingussie	7	1	3	3	14	17	5
Lovat	8	2	1	5	12	24	5
Fort William	6	2	0	4	7	10	4

Marine Harvest South Division 2							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Lochside Rovers	10	10	0	0	55	12	20
Tayforth	8	6	0	2	26	10	12
Ballachulish	8	6	0	2	19		

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## Gold for Ben then injury strikes

### ATHLETICS

BEN Coates from Kilmore was competing in the West District Championships at Dam Park in Ayr on Saturday. He was entered for three track events in the Under 14 age category.

Ben won gold in his first event, the 80metres hurdles, winning by a clear margin in an excellent time of 13.68seconds.

Next up for Ben was the 100metres and he started well in his heat and was up with the leaders when unfortunately he had to pull up with a groin injury.

A disappointing exit for young Ben after his early success and he was unable to take part in the 200metres later in the day.

Hopefully Ben will be fit for the Scottish Schools Championships at Grangemouth in June.

# Lorne 7s - a big success

OBAN Lorne RFC hosted their 38th annual sevens competition at Glencruitten last Saturday in mixed weather.

A total of 12 teams had entered, but with Mid Argyll withdrawing Oban U16 boys were called upon to play in their pool, playing tough rugby against the adults and performing beyond their expectations.

Both pitches were in excellent condition which made for some fast running rugby and there was a carnival atmosphere with a bouncy castle and body zorbing

on the sidelines. Mull RFC had brought two teams, keen to build on their recent successes at Highland and Lochaber sevens.

All of the competitions were hard fought and fairly tight but ultimately it was Oban Exiles and Glasgow Accies who were to meet in the final.

### Errors

This started out as a well matched game but halfway through the heavens opened and there were a number of errors.

Glasgow Accies had youth and pace on their side and emerged

### RUGBY

the eventual winners of the contest.

The deteriorating weather made for a very hurried prizegiving and the club was proud to welcome one of their major sponsors, Graham MacQueen MBE to do the honours.

Oban Lorne would like to thank all of the organisers and teams who participated and more so the spectators who refused to let the weather dampen their support.



Winners of the Oban 7's Tournament held at Glencruitten last Saturday were Glasgow Accies. They beat Oban Exiles in the final. Prizes were presented by Graham MacQueen MBE. Also in the picture is Dee Bradbury, president of Oban Lorne Rugby Club.

## Saints under 16s play in cup final

### YOUTH FOOTBALL

OBAN Saints Under 16s travel to Millburn Park, Alexandria, home of Vale of Leven Juniors on Sunday to take on Lenzie in the final of the League Cup.

The game kicks-off at 2pm and the boys are hoping for a good support from Oban to travel to watch the match.

Other fixtures: Under 13s v Helensburgh; Dalmuir Park v Under 14s; Under 15s no game.

Last week's results: Under 13s 6, Riverside 1. Scoring for Saints were Zander Kilmurray (2), Jay Cooper (2), Lomond MacPherson and Owen Neilson. Castle Rock 2, Under 14s 2. Netting for Oban side were Stuart MacLean and Daniel MacVicar.

Milngavie 1, Under 15s 2. On target for Saints were Paul McFatrige and Duggie MacLeod.

Argyll Athletic 3, Under 16s 1. Ryan MacDougall scored the goal for Saints.

## Dougie takes the silverware at Glencruitten

### GOLF

THE WINNER of the Terry Ng Trophy, played over two rounds at Glencruitten Golf Club was Dugald MacLean with a score of 122 (65, 57). Second was Kevin Mackie with 124 (59, 65). David Devine 126 (64, 62) and Michael Kelly (64, 62) were third. Scott Jordan was fourth with 127 (63, 64).

This weekend is the first round of the Club Championship, Handicap Championship and the Senior Championship.

## Senior Gents' Open held at Killin

Category 1 (0-14): 1 RD Lewis (Killin) 64; 2 B Lawson (Crieff) 65 BH; 3 Bruce Ford (Killin) 65. Category 2 (15-28): 1 Ian Douglas (Lochwinnoch) 63; 2 John Strang (Killin) 64; 3 Jim Ferguson (Killin) 65. Nearest the pin 15 - 28: J Delaney (Auchterarder). Nearest the pin 0 - 14: A Reid (Callander). Nearest the pin 2: B Lawson (Crieff). Handicap winner (Kilryrie Trophy): Ian Douglas (Lochwinnoch) 63. Mactaggart Trophy (Best Local h/cap 15 - 28): John Strang 64. Lix Toll Trophy (Best Local h/cap 1 - 14): RD Lewis 64. Magic 2's: W McKay (Dalmally), Martin Iliffe (Killin), Sandy McLeod (Killin), Ian Douglas (Lochwinnoch), Tony Boon (Blair Atholl), Bruce Ford (Killin). CSS: 66.

## Maclure Cup

RESULTS from Dalmally Golf Club: MacLure Cup Round 2 - 1 B McKay (10) 61; 2 A Hodgkiss (18) 61; 3 K Roy (8) 62. Overall eclectic positions after round 2: 1 D Robertson 61; 2 A MacGillivray 62; 3 A Hodgkiss 62; 4 B McKay 62.

## Laddie Trophy

RESULTS from Islay Golf Club: The Laddie - 1 Nigel Carmichael 31pts; 2 Charles Holyoake 29pts; 3 Keith MacDonald 27pts.



The victorious Carpet Fitters with their trophies: James Scott, Jamie Graham, Donald Campbell, Alan Miller, Craig MacEwan, Pat Ford, Chris Graham and Lewis Cameron.

## Carpet Fitters do the league and cup double

THE CARPET Fitters floored all before them as they completed a league and cup double in the Atlantis Leisure 5-a-side indoor league played over the winter months.

The Fitters won the A League title as well as defeating Atlantis Leisure in the cup final. The Oban Times finished runners-up in the A League.

To round of a great tournament for the Fitters their goalkeeper James Scott was named Player of the Year.

Oban High School Teachers won the B League competition with the Emergency Services taking second place.

Group A	P	W	D	L	Pts
Carpet Fitters	10	9	1	0	28
Oban Times	10	7	0	3	21
Atlantis	10	6	0	4	18
RM Builders	10	5	1	4	16
Group B					
High School	10	6	0	4	18
Emergency	10	4	0	6	12
Hotels	10	2	0	8	6
OES	10	0	0	10	0

### INDOOR FOOTBALL



Player of the Year James Scott receives his award from tournament organiser Willie Gemmill.

## Residential camp for Argyll and Bute footballers

### FOOTBALL CAMP

ARGYLL and Bute Council's football development service ran their first youth summer residential camp last year which proved to be a great success.

Football development officer Martin Rae has announced that the camp will take place again this summer from July 23 to 27, based at the school hostel in Oban.

The camp is open to any budding player aged 9 to 16 years who will not only be coached by SFA qualified coaches, but they

will be given an introduction to sports science, including fitness testing, nutritional and hydration advice, sports psychology and lifestyle management as well as doing all the day to day chores that are expected of a full time professional youth player.

For further information on the camp please contact Martin Rae on 01631 572194 or email him at martin.rae@argyll-bute.gov.uk

## Club championship at Taynuilt

### GOLF

CLUB Championship 1st round Sun 13 May 2012.

Nett Scores 1 Michael Mullen 64 (16); 2 Mark Henriksen 66 (8); 3 Alan Wilson 66 (10)

Ladies - Duncarden Trophy + Medal Tue 8 May 2012: 1 Sue Asher 67 (33); 2 Grace Petrie 67 (25); 3 Ann Urwin 69 (31).

# Saints league title dreams dashed by the Jags

Scottish Amateur League Premier Division

Wednesday

Kilbowie Union 1

Oban Saints 5

SAINTS played two games last week, winning one and losing the other.

On Wednesday evening they travelled to take on Kilbowie Union at the Knowes Park in Fife and the Oban lads turned in a good performance to return with a comprehensive 5-1 win under their belts.

They opened the scoring in the 11th minute when a long throw from Willie Gemmill caused confusion in the Union defence and PJ Sinclair was on hand to stab the ball over the line.

Ten minutes later the visitors increased their lead when Chris Graham fed in Asen Gayardzhiev and the Bulgarian striker hammered the ball home.

The Oban side made it 3-0 just before the interval when Marc MacCallum raced forward from defence before drilling a low shot into the net.

However, two minutes after the restart Kilbowie pulled a goal back when Ryan Halpin curled a well-placed shot past Graham Douglas.

Saints weathered the early pressure and restored their three goal advantage when Ross Maitland and Donald Campbell combined to set up Willie Gemmill who scored from close range.

With two minutes left on the clock, the visitors scored their fifth goal when Union keeper Blair Flynn failed to hold a Donald Campbell free kick and Keith Millar pounced to force the ball over the line to make the final score 5-1.

### Saturday

Oban Saints 1

Aikenhead Thistle 4

ANY hopes Saints had of winning the league title were dashed when last season's champions Aikenhead Thistle came to town.

Once again the Oban squad was stretched to the limit with several players missing for various reasons.

The visitors opened the scoring in the 10th minute when full back Thomas Quinn broke from his defensive duties to drill a low shot past Graham Douglas.

This was a poor goal for the home side to lose as the Aikenhead defender was allowed to run a very long way before he got his shot on target.

Play was pretty evenly balanced as the half wore on, but it was the visitors who increased their lead in the 34th minute

when a Stuart McMahon shot took a wicked deflection and the ball ended up in the net.

Ross Maitland had a great chance to pull a goal back in the 40th minute, but he hit the ball straight at the keeper and a glorious chance was missed. Just on the half time whistle, Donald Campbell curled a fine effort inches past John Mullen's post.

The Oban team created two good chances at the start of the second half, but Marc MacCallum shot past the post and Keith Miller saw a header fly inches wide.

The game blew up in the 74th minute when Donald Campbell and Ricky Smith clashed with both players being shown the red card by referee Peter Laing.

Although 2-0 down, the home side were still very much in the match and they pulled a goal back in the 85th minute when Lewis Cameron sent over a pinpoint cross for Dene Cassells who headed past John Mullen to throw the local lads a lifeline.

However, 60 seconds later Aikenhead restored their two goal advantage when Saints tried to play Graeme Candlin offside, but the referee correctly waved

### FOOTBALL

play on and Gandlin calmly slotted the ball home.

The icing was put on the cake for the Glasgow side just on the full time whistle when that man Candlin found himself in space and made no mistake to make the final score 4-1.

Manager Iain Jackson was disappointed at the result which surely puts paid to any hopes of Saints winning the league title.

He said: 'We've been giving away poor goals recently, but we're also failing to take our chances at the other end. Aikenhead are a good side although the 4-1 scoreline flatters them a bit.'

'The title looks out of reach now but you never know Postal might slip up. If we can't win the league we want to finish in second place so we'll be going all out to gain victories in our last three games. Hopefully we can get a few players back to bolster the squad for the run in.'

Saints play their final home game of the season this Saturday when they take on Kings Park Rangers. The match will be played at Glencruitten with a 1.30pm kick-off.



Donald Campbell takes on Aikenhead defender John Gaynor.

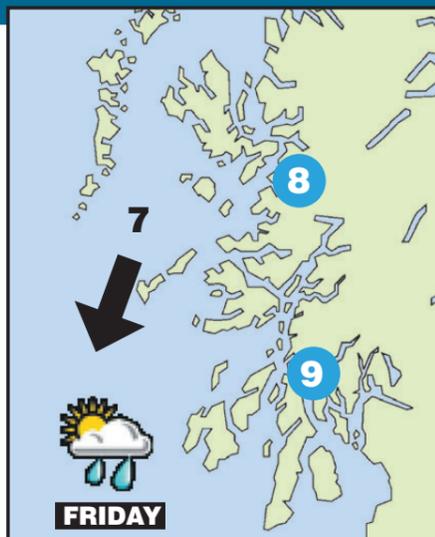
## Weather

**Thursday** Heavy rain  
Winds light south south westerly  
Temperatures 6°C to 8°C

**Friday** Sunshine and showers  
Winds light north easterly  
Temperatures 6°C to 9°C.

**Weekend** Rain showers  
**Outlook** Winds light north easterly  
Temperatures 6°C to 10°C.

Ferry Crossings/Sea States  
Oban to Barra/South Uist Moderate  
Oban to Coll/Tiree Moderate  
Kennacraig to Islay Moderate



## Tides

Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday, May 17, 2012** are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath.

All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am	pm
Thur	03.22 3.3 09.41 1.4 15.38 3.2 22.06 1.3	
Fri	03.59 3.4 10.18 1.3 16.13 3.4 22.46 1.2	
Sat	04.35 3.5 10.52 1.2 16.47 3.5 23.21 1.2	
Sun	05.12 3.6 11.26 1.1 17.22 3.7 23.54 1.2	
Mon	05.48 3.7 12.01 1.0 17.56 3.7 ** ** *	
Tues	00.28 1.2 06.23 3.7 12.37 1.0 18.30 3.8	
Wed	01.03 1.3 06.58 3.6 13.12 1.1 19.03 3.7	

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

Ardrishaig	-5.35	Portree	+0.55
Campbeltown	-5.30	Tobermory	+0.16
Crinan	-0.47	Dover	+5.30
Islay Port Ellen	2.00		
Lochboisdale	+0.30		
Mallaig	+0.25		

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# **The following pages are from the Fort William (Northern) Edition of The Oban Times.**

The Oban Times prints two editions of the paper. There is the main edition as well as the Fort William (Northern) Edition.

Sometimes pages that appear in the Fort William edition do not appear in the main edition (and vice versa).

As an electronic subscriber you get the main edition plus the pages that appear in the Northern edition.

# The Oban Times

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## Ballachulish and Kilmallie shinty clubs face the music

BALLACHULISH and Kilmallie shinty clubs will be hauled in front of a Camanachd Association panel tonight (Thursday) to explain the brawl which marred a recent game between the two sides in Caol. Members of the clubs' management teams along with chairmen Ian Brown and Hugh MacIntyre will give their version of events at a disciplinary hearing in the Alexandra Hotel, Fort William. Trouble erupted with five minutes left of extra time in the Sutherland Cup second round game on Saturday April 28. With the score tied at 4-4, fans looked on as a serious foul provoked a melee and some spectators ran onto the pitch. A number of punches were reportedly thrown before the referee abandoned the game.

## Marine Harvest announces £80m investment

MARINE Harvest is planning to invest £80million in its west Highlands fish farms over the next five years. The firm, which has salmon farms across Lochaber and the Western Isles, said the move should create around 100 more jobs for the area. The company wants to invest in new farms and processing plants to boost production after Scottish salmon exports hit a new record high last year.

## Isle of Muck celebrates

RESIDENTS on the Isle of Muck will gather to celebrate the official opening of the island's new community hall tomorrow morning (Friday). The hall was completed just before Christmas last year after nearly 12 months of construction and years of community fundraising.

**NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING**  
Recycled paper made up 75.5% of the raw material for UK newspapers in 2004



Lochaber Rural Education Trust trustees Don Michie, Isabel Campbell, Rev Donald MacQuarrie, Linda Cambell and Michael Foxley, guests Pat MacQuarrie, centre, Lawrence MacEwen of Muck, behind, and Provost of Lochaber Allan Henderson, second right, share *The Oban Times* photocall with Adam Henson, third left. 20\_1208adam01

## TV presenter helps rural education trust raise £9,000

LOCHABER Rural Education Trust (LRET) raised more than £9,000 at a charity dinner with celebrity guest speaker and BBC Countryfile presenter Adam Henson on Friday night. Mr Henson's entertaining and motivating talk on his passion for farming and preserving rural culture was well received by 165 guests at Caol Community Centre. Showing expertise as an auctioneer, Mr Henson also cleared all 30 donated lots to

raise £2,500 towards the total. His dancing talent was on display too as he kicked his heels at the ceilidh dance which followed. LRET trustee Isabel Campbell said: 'It was a fantastic night. And at Glen Nevis the next morning he came to see Highland cattle in their natural setting. We sent him home with a bottle of Dew of Ben Nevis.'

Speaking before the auction, Mr Henson told *The Oban Times* he had visited the Highlands 'a number of times'. He said: 'It

is wonderful to be invited to the Lochaber Rural Education Trust dinner for what has been a real Scottish welcome and hospitality. Isabel's [Campbell's] spirit and enthusiasm is infectious.'

Ms Campbell thanked all event sponsors, Caol Community Centre staff and Lochaber College chefs and students, who prepared the meal. Mr Henson also met local children at LRET's education centre on Saturday morning, where he signed autographs.



## Local doctors attend medical service celebrations

LOCHABER and Skye GPs attended a reception at the Scottish Parliament last Thursday to celebrate the centenary of the Highlands and Islands Medical Service (HIMS).

Dr Jim Douglas, from Fort William, and Portree colleague Dr Stephen McCabe travelled to Edinburgh to attend the special event hosted by Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch MSP Dave Thompson.

After the reception, delegates debated how best to protect, improve and provide health services in rural and remote areas. Mr Thompson said: 'The foundation stones of the Highlands and Islands Medical Service were local, free and accessible health care of an exceptionally high quality.'

'I want to build on these foundations and establish good collaborative relationships with local health professionals so that

the health service in Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch is fit for service in the 21st century.'

'There are challenges for people living in remote and rural regions in accessing health care, but I am committed to making sure the NHS in Scotland does not go the same way as the NHS in England and Wales.'

The HIMS was the first state-funded health care service in the world, preceding the National Health Service by more than 30 years. A model for rural health care, the service was the product of recommendations contained within the Dewar Report, commissioned by Inverness MP Sir John Dewar in 1912.

His findings portrayed the desperately poor state of health in the Highlands and Islands and led to the HIMS being set up.

## Care home residents floored by sickness bug

OVER half the elderly residents of an NHS Highland-run care home in Fort William have been struck down by a virulent winter vomiting bug, it emerged yesterday.

Fourteen patients and six members of staff at Invernevis House on Belford Road are displaying symptoms associated with the norovirus responsible for enforced ward closures at Raigmore Hospital and Caithness General in Wick.

All those affected at Invernevis are suffering from sickness and diarrhoea. One elderly person is currently undergoing treatment at the Belford Hospital.

Norovirus has not yet been confirmed at the 24-bed home, which is currently fully occupied. The virus has been confirmed at Raigmore as hospitals across Scotland report a sharp increase in cases.

*The Oban Times* understands Invernevis staff were sent home on Friday and told not to report for work on Monday and Tuesday. It is believed residents are being kept in isolation in their rooms as a precautionary measure. The source of the outbreak, which began last Wednesday, is unclear. No staff or patients at

By STEPHEN NORRIS  
snorris@obantimes.co.uk

the Belford Hospital have been affected so far, apart from the Invernevis patient.

An NHS Highland spokesperson told *The Oban Times* measures have been put in place to control the spread of infection.

She said: 'The home is closed to new admissions and appropriate advice is being given to visitors as staff try and contain the virus. One resident has been hospitalised.'

At Raigmore, two wards have been closed after 32 patients and 16 hospital staff came into contact with the virus.

The Rosebank ward at Caithness General was also shut after six patients and seven staff fell ill.

Dr Emma Watson, lead infection control doctor for NHS Highland, said: 'We know this virus is in the community and it is likely that it has been brought in to the hospital.'

'This is why we are asking everyone to think twice before they come in as a visitor and, if you or a family member has had these symptoms, please do not come in. By doing this we will be

able to limit to spread as much as possible.' She added: 'If you are booked to come into hospital as an elective patient and have had diarrhoea, nausea and vomiting within the previous 48 hours, contact either your GP or the ward for advice before attending at the hospital.'

'If you are admitted as an emergency please inform the staff that you have had these symptoms.'

No specific treatment exists for a norovirus infection, but a doctor's assistance is not normally required. Medics recommend staying home, taking paracetamol and drinking plenty of water to prevent dehydration.

The bug spreads in the air where someone has had diarrhoea or vomited. It is extremely difficult to contain and can be easily passed on by poor hand hygiene. It is widespread in the wider community and can easily be passed on to vulnerable patients if visitors don't wash their hands properly.

NHS Highland took over responsibility for Invernevis House from Highland Council on April 1 under a shake up of children's and adult care services in the region.

## New councillors meet for first time

HIGHLAND Council's newly elected members are meeting in Inverness today (Thursday) for the first time since the recent elections.

The 80 councillors are expected to name SNP group leader Drew Hendry as new council leader with Lib Dem leader David Alton as deputy. Labour's Jimmy Gray is expected to be appointed convener. The meeting will also see the new councillors select the

members of the north police and fire boards. The remaining senior member posts and appointment of office bearers will be decided at the next full council meeting on Thursday May 31.

Councillor Hendry, who represents the Aird and Loch Ness ward, told *The Oban Times* early talks suggested the new coalition was working well.

He said: 'We're looking forward to the council being

officially set up and talks are progressing well on putting a programme together.'

Following the elections on May 3, the Independents were the biggest group with 36 councillors, while SNP had 22, Lib Dems 14 and Labour eight. SNP, Liberal Democrats and Labour councillors joined forces to form the new administration to run the council for the next five years.

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## Crisis as two GPs quit at Acharacle

PRIMARY medical care in Ardnarmurchan, Moidart and Sunart is facing an unprecedented crisis after the two GPs announced they are to quit.

Dr Rob Colebrook and Dr Simon Topham, partners in Acharacle Medical Practice, have confirmed they plan to step down on August 31. Practice manager Julie Colebrook has also resigned from her position.

As well as the GP surgery, the two doctors provided emergency out-of-hours care for much of west Lochaber until late last year when they informed NHS Highland they wished to cease providing cover out of normal hours.

The partners said the decision to leave had been 'extremely difficult', but after working day and night for nearly four years felt the demands were too great.

They said: 'There is no doubt that General Practice has changed significantly in recent years. The demands upon GPs are greater than they used to be, which means that it is no longer possible to

work in the ways that GPs used to do, particularly in remote and rural areas.'

'Although the health board has made some efforts to reduce this burden, they have not accepted full responsibility for out-of-hours services. Therefore, the responsibility has remained on our shoulders.'

'The personal strain that has been taken by the three of us has been considerable and is not sustainable in the longer term. Therefore, we feel we have been left with no option but to resign.'

Gill McVicar, NHS director of operations for north and west Highland said: 'The Acharacle doctors are aware of the challenges and understood that we were working hard to find a solution and to allow them to opt out of providing out of hours care. We, and I am sure their patients, are very grateful to them for continuing to provide the service. We have met with the doctors on a few occasions recently and have discussed ways to make services more sustainable into the future and we will continue that work, involving the

communities, practices in other rural areas and partners.'

'Nevertheless, we believe that there is more work to be done to sustain remote and rural health and care services now and for the future, to ensure that we can recruit and retain excellent health and care professionals and we are keen to work with communities to find innovative ways of doing that.'

'The lack of suitably trained doctors willing to work out of hours is becoming an increasing problem across all out of hours services but especially in remote and rural areas.'

Local MSP Dave Thompson has written to NHS Highland chairman Garry Coulters over the issue. He said: 'For both partners and the practice manager to leave in quick succession is, in effect, a very loud cry for help.'

'Because it is harder than ever to find doctors who are willing to share this burden and provide support, rural doctors are under more pressure, and are in more need of support.'

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## Former Claggan teenager jailed

A FORMER Claggan teenager has been jailed for six months after carrying out a vicious attack on his landlady.

Damien McAuley, now of Kinlochran, Ardconnell Road, Oban, was found guilty of the drunken assault after a trial at Fort William Sheriff Court last month.

The 19-year-old was living at 6 Achariach at the time of the

incident, which happened in the early hours of March 5.

After spending the night drinking together, tempers rose between McAuley and his 22-year-old landlady after he made an offensive remark.

When she asked him to leave, McAuley became violent and banged her head against a toilet. He then threw her against a wall, pushed her against a freezer,

prodded her in the eyes, pulled at her mouth with his fingers, seized hold of her by her clothing and pushed her about, all to her injury.

Sentencing McAuley, Sheriff Douglas Small said the attack had been 'particularly unpleasant'.

He said: 'There is no alternative in my mind but a period in detention.'

## Serial egg thief given six months in prison

A SERIAL egg collector has been jailed for six months and banned from visiting Scotland during the breeding season for the rest of his life.

Matthew Gonshaw, of Bow, East London, took 20 wild bird eggs from the Isle of Rum in May 2011.

The 49-year-old was also caught in possession of egg collecting equipment, Inverness Sheriff Court heard.

Sentencing Gonshaw, Sheriff Margaret Neilson, described Gonshaw as a 'wildlife destroyer', telling him her main concern was to 'protect the wildlife of Scotland from predators like you'.

Gonshaw was arrested on Rum last June after he was caught taking eggs belonging to manx shearwater, meadow pipit and willow warbler.

A warrant for his arrest was issued when he failed to attend an earlier court date relating to the incident.

Police were alerted after



Jailed: Matthew Gonshaw.

sharp-eyed Rum resident Alison Morris spotted Gonshaw with birds' eggs in a gull colony on a remote part of the island, which Scottish Natural Heritage runs as a national nature reserve.

Officers collared Gonshaw as

he was about to board a ferry for the neighbouring island of Canna.

Richard Kilpatrick of SNH thanked Ms Morris for her vigilance.

He said: 'We are committed to tackling wildlife crime and the quick actions of the Rum islanders undoubtedly helped save other rare birds from this man, one of Britain's most persistent egg thieves.'

'The attempted theft of these eggs serves as a lesson to all island communities to monitor their local biodiversity and to be vigilant.'

'This is particularly true at this time of year when birds are breeding and raising young and therefore at their most vulnerable.'

The RSPB's Ian Thomson said: 'We welcome this sentence and the strong comments made by the sheriff as it sends out a clear message to those who seek to destroy Scotland's natural heritage.'



Historic moment: Henry Alexander's grandson Michael Munro and May Macintyre are all smiles after May unveiled the Model T plaque on the Ben Nevis Inn. 20\_f20model01

# Model T centenary plaque unveiled

AN ENGRAVED plaque commemorating the centenary of the first ascent of Ben Nevis by motorcar has found a home at last - on the wall of a pub below the famous mountain.

Retired Lochaber High School assistant rector May Macintyre unveiled the inscribed metal plate at the Ben Nevis Inn on Saturday.

Members of the Model T Ford Register of Great Britain, Provost of Lochaber Allan Henderson, local Model T owner Ian Blyth and John Muir Trust chairman John Hutchison were among those in attendance.

The trust, which owns the mountain, gave permission last May for Model T Register members and local volunteers to carry a Model T up in sections and assemble it at the summit.

Following the event,

which commemorated the 100th anniversary of Henry Alexander's historic drive up the Ben in his Model T in 1911, Model T Ford Register members presented the plaque to Fort William to mark the occasion.

Efforts to find an appropriate home for the memento began - and when Ben Nevis Inn owner Tom Hadfield suggested the pub's outside wall would be the perfect place, everyone involved agreed.

When Ms Macintyre pulled away the Model T tartan plaid to reveal the plaque it was an emotional moment for retired Edinburgh joiner Michael Munro.

Sixty-six-year-old Mr Munro is Henry Alexander's grandson -



May Macintyre does the honours at Achintee. 20\_f20model02

and had attended previous events at Achintee as boy and man to celebrate his grandfather's remarkable feat.

Mr Munro told *The Oban Times*: 'I was here 51 years ago in 1961 for the 50th anniversary celebrations. And I was here last year when the car was carried up the Ben - I carried the steering wheel up.'

'I am just so glad to be here - it's great to see it commemorated again. Hopefully, it will be done in 100 years time as well.'

Ms Macintyre, meanwhile, has her own family chapter in the Model T story.

Her grandfather, Fort William garage owner Archibald Macintyre, produced the first series of postcards commemorating the Model T's ascent of the Ben.

Henry Ford's little car was the first automobile to go into mass production on the principle it should be affordable to working people.

## Assault man fined £300

A CAOL man who punched and kicked a man on the head and body to his injury has been fined £300.

Daniel Farrington, of 166 Kilmallie Road, pled guilty to assaulting the man on Fort William High Street on March 12.

Defending, Hamish Melrose told Fort William Sheriff Court Farrington's stepfather Stewart McGifford had been killed in a road accident on the A82 near Glencoe two days before the incident.

Mr Melrose said: 'The complainant was making out of hand comments about who was to blame for the accident. He clearly provoked him.'

The victim was left with a cut to his left eyebrow which needed to be surgically glued and swelling to his lips and face.

He was kept in hospital overnight for observation.

## Call goes out to local cyclists

ORGANISERS of the Benromach '10 Under the Ben' are calling on local cycling enthusiasts to sign up for a new competition category in Saturday's endurance event at Nevis Range.

Fort William-based No Fuss Events are making a special appeal for teams of local pub, hotel and café mountain biking enthusiasts to sign up to the contest, which could see them crowned best cycling team of their kind in the country.

The gruelling challenge sees riders take on the 10-mile course through Leacanach Forest for 10 hours to complete the most laps.

David (Spook) Murno of No Fuss said: 'The event has proved immensely popular, attracting both novice and experts to take on the challenge as individuals or teams.'

## Clan Currie gather in South Uist

THE CLAN Currie Society has announced its 2012 MacMhuirich Symposium will be held at Lochdar School in South Uist on Saturday August 25.

The symposium is the centrepiece of a three-day gathering of the clan, whose bards composed Gaelic poetry and song for the Lordship of the Isles then Clannrald for three centuries. The public is cordially invited to attend.

More information at [www.clancurriegathering.com/news--2012-symposium](http://www.clancurriegathering.com/news--2012-symposium).

## Warning follows spate of thefts

POLICE have issued a warning to owners of boats, yachts and sailing equipment after a spate of thefts in Lochaber.

There have been four thefts of marine equipment in Lochaber since the start of the year, the most recent occurring at Resipole campsite, Strontian, when an outboard engine was stolen from a boat between April 29 and May 7.

A Northern Constabulary spokesperson said: 'If you cannot remove items such as outboard motors when the vessel is not in use then attach them securely to the vessel via bolts thereby making it harder for them to be removed.'

'Please contact the police immediately if you see anything or anyone acting suspiciously around marine equipment particularly noting down the registration numbers of any vehicles being used or in the vicinity.'

## Refurbished hotel re-opens on Skye

ONE of the Hebrides' top hotels has re-opened after a lavish refurbishment - and welcomed a new head chef.

Toravaig House Hotel in Sleat, owned by current Scottish hoteliers of the year Anne Gracie and Ken Gunn, now has Chris Coombe in charge in the kitchen. Mr Coombe came from Bannatyne's Charlton House Spa Hotel at Shepton Mallet in Somerset.

## Lifeboat called into action within 24 hours of becoming active

SCOTLAND'S newest lifeboat crew based in an Isle of Harris village were called out to their first job within 24 hours of becoming an active station.

Leverburgh lifeboat *Lifetime Care* received a call from Stornoway Coastguard after a fishing vessel, *Siolta*, reported an engine failure of Wray Island near Benbecula on Saturday afternoon.

The lifeboat reached the

stricken boat at around 2.30pm and helped it to shore at Peter's Port, Benbecula.

The lifeboat went operational last Friday following an official opening ceremony in the village last week.

**Assist**

Leverburgh operations manager John MacLean said: 'We are pleased that Leverburgh lifeboat and volunteer crew have been able to assist on this occasion.'

'This call-out, so soon after the station being made operational, confirms the need to have such a service in the area.'

**Trial**

The station, currently housed in a temporary building, is being run on a 12-month trial basis after locals raised concerns about an increase in marine traffic and the length of time required for a lifeboat to arrive from Barra or Stornoway.

## Sports centre land survey completed

High hopes for Dunvegan project

A LAND survey to assess a site near Dunvegan for an ambitious project to bring a multi-use sports and leisure complex to northwest Skye has been completed.

Developers North-west Skye Recreation Association (NWSRA) hopes results will be known in early June.

If the findings are favourable, NWSRA will commission a full-scale feasibility study to evaluate which outdoor and indoor pursuits at the centre would best match community need.

Northwest Skye residents currently face a round trip of up to 100 miles to Portree to access sports and leisure facilities.

NWSRA's management committee say they are 'undaunted' by challenges ahead and claim widespread local support for the move.

Partnership talks have been advancing well with Highlife Highland, which according to NWSRA is 'fully supportive' of the scheme.

NWSRA chairman John Hermse told *The Oban Times*: 'It's wonderful to see the start of this project unfolding. Skye's

By STEPHEN NORRIS [snorris@obantimes.co.uk](mailto:snorris@obantimes.co.uk)

oft-neglected north-western communities are crying out for a modern, purpose built leisure and recreation complex, one which will add focus to this area's primary schools' commitment to PE whilst simultaneously offering a wide range of new and improved facilities to all ages and sections of the population.

'We're truly fortunate with the commitment of local village hall committees and volunteers in the work they do across the board with a very limited and ageing infrastructure.'

Mr Hermse paid tribute to the support received from the Dunvegan Trust and MacLeod Estates in assisting with the costs of the feasibility study.

He also praised the 'dedicated commitment' of his management committee, whom he described as 'a highly capable and enthusiastic team amply equipped with all the skills and experience necessary to bring this project to fruition.'

He added: 'This hub will be able to deliver a vastly increased range of recreational opportunities to all the people of northwest Skye and to holidaymakers visiting the area.'

'All interested parties can follow our progress via our interactive website [www.nwsra.org.uk](http://www.nwsra.org.uk)'.



Junior Masterchef judge Carol Currie about to sample one of the winning entries.

## Bun Sgoil Shlèite spring fair success

BUN SGOIL Shlèite enjoyed a rare day of sunshine for its annual spring fair on Saturday.

With great support from the community, parents and local business, those attending the event had plenty to enjoy from the bakery stall, pony rides, face painting, beat the goalie and - for the first time - a Junior MasterChef challenge.

Judged by Sleat's own 'Mary Berry', Carol 'Cake' Currie, the competition drew a mouthwatering array of entries, leaving Carol 'delighted and amazed' by the quality of desserts.

'I could eat that, and that, and that!' she was overheard to say.

Through *The Oban Times*, the school would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who invested so much time and effort in making the day a success.

## Fraudster jailed for 12 months

Man embezzled £91,447 from ScotRail

A FORMER Fort William man who defrauded First ScotRail of more than £90,000 over two-and-a-half years has been jailed for 12 months.

Michael Durant pled guilty to embezzling £91,447.75 between May 8 2008 and January 25 2011. The 52-year-old was working for Intelenet in Glen Nevis Business Park, for whom he was in charge of authorising refunds for customers of First ScotRail, Fort William Sheriff Court heard.

Fiscal Alison Wylie said a lengthy investigation had started after a fraud investigator noticed sales transactions did not correspond with the refunds that were being handed out.

She said: 'He started refunding

By RICHARD HADDOCK [rhaddock@obantimes.co.uk](mailto:rhaddock@obantimes.co.uk)

to his own credit cards. On at least 84 occasions he made false payments to a number of his own cards.'

Defence solicitor Hamish Melrose told the court: 'The money all went to paying off debts - credit cards, loans and a number of mortgages.'

'He buried his head in the sand in a big, big way; so much so his partner had no idea about any of this.'

'He was too proud to seek any help and got himself into this situation.'

Mr Melrose said Durant, who now works as a waiter in

England, made a full admission of his guilt when the fraud came to light.

Durant's partner was bankrupted last month and their house in Kinlochleven was repossessed by the bank.

Sentencing Durant, of Mount Court, Citadel Road, Dover, Sheriff Douglas Small said: 'This is an extremely serious offence. You were in a position of trust and you embezzled £91,000 over a period of two-and-a-half years.'

A ScotRail spokesman told *The Oban Times*: 'We have a zero tolerance policy on crime and welcome the actions taken which led to the arrest and conviction.'

## Man ordered to behave after assault on partner in her Achnacarry home

A MAN who assaulted his partner in her Achnacarry house has been ordered to be of good behaviour for nine months.

Alfred McKandie, of Clachanturn, Cromdale, Grantown-on-Spey, pled guilty to assaulting the woman by throwing a table and coasters at her, slapping her on the face and pushing her to her injury.

The 50-year-old also admitted wilfully or recklessly destroying

the woman's property by throwing and smashing three coasters and causing three decorative plates to fall and smash.

The incidents occurred on May 4 and 5.

The woman was left with a 15cm gash on her arm, bruising on both forearms and soreness and redness in her face, Fort William Sheriff Court heard.

Representing himself,

McKandie said: 'Things got out of hand because of drink. I'd had too much.'

Sheriff Douglas Small was given a letter from the woman which said McKandie had repaid her for the damaged property.

Sentencing McKandie, Sheriff Small said: 'She said this was very out of character for you and that you've never done anything like this in the 12 years you have been together.'

Newsdesk 01397 703003

**Mull Woodfuel Open Day**  
Thursday 24th May  
An Roth Community Enterprise Centre, Craignure  
Coffee from 10:45, Presentations 11:00 am  
Lunch will be served 12:30  
Site visits in the afternoon:  
Visit Crannich Farm - wood chip supplier  
See a biomass boiler in action  
This event is free to all with an interest in biomass heating, local woodfuel supply, RHI and financing options, boiler and stove installation.  
To book a place please contact: [lynda@alienergy.org.uk](mailto:lynda@alienergy.org.uk)  
07901 510915 by 21st May

**'Fun for all ages' at Arisaig Land, Sea and Islands Centre open day**

ARISAIG Land, Sea and Islands Centre (LSIC) will stage an afternoon of 'activities, refreshments and fun for all ages' at an open door event next Wednesday.

Centre volunteers will demonstrate newly installed digital technology and launch the Local Memories Photo Project. Local people will be asked to bring in old photos of local interest for scanning into the centre's digital collection.

Representatives from BT and charity Citizens Online will also give a short presentation on the Get IT Together project, which helps remote areas with broadband connectivity.

The centre, which opened in the old Arisaig Smiddy 12 years, is now being transferred to Arisaig Community Trust ownership.

And according to local development officer Alison Stewart, who is working to update the centre's visitor appeal, the building is 'really ready for a programme of refurbishment'.

She told *The Oban Times*: 'The digital age has so far bypassed the LSIC, so one of the main improvements is to introduce new technology. We've been fortunate to receive a BT Community Connections award which is helping to cover the installation costs of broadband and I've been working in partnership with Jane Beaton from the charity Citizens Online.'

'Jane is running their innovative Get IT Together project in a small number of remote Highland communities, of which Arisaig is lucky enough to be one.'

The event runs from 1-4pm.

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### Down Your Way

#### Mallaig



Mallaig Primary School P4 and P5 pupils defeated teams from across Lochaber to win the inter-school tag rugby competition in their age group. The competition was held at Lochaber Rugby Club, Banavie, last week with more than 270 primary and secondary pupils taking part throughout the day.

MALLAIG lifeboat crew helped a BBC television crew film a segment for the popular countryside programme Landward recently.

Presenter Cat Cubie was filming the journey of Leverburgh lifeboat as it made its way to the new station on Harris for its recent grand opening. The boat spent the night before the opening in Mallaig, where the local lifeboat team were on hand to help Ms Cubie and the production team film a simulated rescue.

The programme was shown on BBC2 last Friday. Meanwhile, the crew was called out last Thursday after a hired yacht ran into trouble in the Sound of Sleat. The call-out reported the yacht had lost its rudder, but when the team found the stricken boat they realised the problem instead lay with the propeller. All eight passengers on board the vessel were safely returned to land at Armadale.

A GREEN transport scheme launched in Mallaig last year has added a third car to its fleet to serve people in Arisaig.

WestWheels car club already had two cars based in Mallaig, a Ford Focus and a Ford Fusion, and club members now also have access to a second Fusion based at Arisaig Marine.

Locals can book out a car when they need it, with the club taking on the responsibility for ownership, maintenance and insurance.

Club representative Mick Rodgers told *The Oban Times*: 'For people in Arisaig who don't have a car and just want to take a quick trip to Mallaig or Fort William, I think this will make a significant difference.'

Mr Rodgers said the new car had already been hired out five times in the two weeks it has been in the village.

WestWheels now has 44 members overall and corporate deals have been set up with local accommodation providers to involve tourists in the scheme.



ASPIRING young actors from Mallaig won an award for putting on the funniest infant and junior play at a recent schools drama competition in Oban.

Youngsters from Mallaig Primary Gaelic Medium 1-3 performed a play about a naughty young prince who became invisible after finding a magical cloak in his cupboard and proceeded to play tricks on everyone in the castle.

After being found out, the prince got a cream pie in his face as a punishment.

Head teacher Morag Martin told *The Oban Times*: 'We were thrilled to receive the award this year and must give a huge thank you to Dougie Beck and the organisers of the drama fairs who helped and supported us throughout the process.'

MALLAIG Community Council is looking for volunteers to help clean up the village in preparation for the summer tourist season.

The provisional date for tidy up, held with help from the local Beavers and Cubs, is Saturday June 2.

Soup and sandwiches will be provided for all the volunteers in the Fisherman's Mission.

### Cancer care group raises £5,000

MARIE Curie Cancer Care's Lochaber fundraising group has raised almost £5,000 in its first year, latest figures show.

And according to organiser Joan Kennedy, since being set up last spring the group has also made big strides in raising the charity's profile and local awareness of the work of the community Marie Curie nurses.

Ms Kennedy told *The Oban Times*: 'Recently the charity has recruited four new nurses in the Lochaber area and all staff should be in post by next month.'

'There are also to be two registered nurses, who are employed jointly by the charity and the NHS, one based in Fort William and one in Mallaig.'

'They will work directly alongside the local district nurses with 50 per cent of their hours contracted to work with palliative care patients.'

The Lochaber fundraising group is always looking for new volunteers and anyone wishing more information on Marie Curie and local activity in Lochaber can contact Joan on 01397 705593.

Ms Rennie exemplified her talk by showing the children a caique (parrot), a tarantula, a four-year-old royal python and a Cranwell's horned frog.



Zuzia Kruk is fascinated by Munch the horned frog - but classmate Cerys Allan doesn't look too sure... 10\_2206chy01

### Rainforest comes to life in Lochside classroom

LOCHSIDE RC Primary School pupils learned all about the animals of the Amazon rainforest when real live specimens arrived in the classroom last Thursday.

The snake and the parrot were happy to be handled, but Laura kept a tight hold on the more temperamental tarantula and toad as pupils got a close-up view.

The rainforest workshop was part of the Generation Science project to bring physics, chemistry and biology alive in the classroom.

Rio Tinto Alcan contributed half the cost of the Lochside workshop under its community outreach programme. Lochaber Smelter operations manager Warren James joined pupils for the lesson.

Mr James said the workshop was a great opportunity for the children to learn about the rainforest and the animals that live there.



Wet and worn out they may be - but the Glenelg pupils collected all this on their litter pick.

### Glenelg pupils go all out for Green Flag

AFTER obtaining its Eco-schools silver award last summer, Glenelg Primary School is pulling out all the stops to win its first Green Flag.

Ahead of making a formal application later this month, the school staged a community litter pick last week - one of the criteria required to win Green Flag status. The successful event involved school staff, parents and community members

coming together with pupils to undertake the clean-up, which covered one end of the village to the other. The litter pick, arranged by the Glenelg Primary's Eco committee, was part of the 'Keep Scotland Beautiful' campaign.

Head teacher Lorraine Smith said: 'We have lots of visitors to our beautiful village and want them to enjoy a litter-free environment.'



### Youngsters enjoy action-packed trip at Glencoe

Ballachulish and St. Bride's primary school children spent an action-packed three days last week at Glencoe Outdoor Centre. The pupils enjoyed canoeing, kayaking, a longboat trip, hill walking, climbing, archery, orienteering, problem solving and dinghy sailing.

Ballachulish head teacher Sam Clark said: 'A great time was had by all.'

Newsdesk 01397 703003

### Man threatened police officers

A MALLAIG man threatened to shoot and stab police officers and their families after being arrested in the village.

Allan Morrison, of 7 East Bay, pled guilty to behaving in a threatening and abusive manner by uttering the threats in a police van between Mallaig and Fort William on April 7.

The 35-year-old also admitted being in possession of diazepam at Aird Mhor, Mallaig, on the same night and failing to provide a blood specimen at Fort William Police Station.

Sheriff Douglas Small deferred sentencing Morrison at Fort William Sheriff Court until June 6 for reports.

### Sentence deferred

AN ACHARACLE man has admitted stealing a car from a car hire company in Corpach.

Craig Cope, aged 31, of Treetops, Moss Road, pled guilty to handling stolen car keys, breaking into a portable cabin owned by Slipway Autos, Corpach, and stealing the silver Vauxhall Corsa on June 21.

Sheriff Douglas Small deferred sentencing Cope until June 6 for reports.

### Diver had cocaine

A TRAINEE diver caught with £50 worth of cocaine in Fort William has been fined £300 at the town's Sheriff Court.

Harry Loy, aged 20, of Mill Lane, Cloughton, Scarborough, was searched by police outside the Underwater Centre and found to be in possession of 0.7 grammes of the class 'A' drug on March 10.

### Drink drive trial

A FORT Augustus man who denies drink driving near Invergarry is due to stand trial at Fort William Sheriff Court on June 20.

Andrzej Pacek, of 2 Station Road, pled not guilty to driving while one-and-a-half times the legal limit on the A82 outside Glengarry Filling Station on February 7.

### Drugs fine

A CAOL man caught with cocaine after a routine police stop has been fined £375.

Stuart Grant, aged 32, of 1 Arkaja Crescent, pled guilty to possessing 0.3 grammes of cocaine in Middle Street car park on March 2.

Fort William Sheriff Court heard the class 'A' drug had a street value of around £18.

### Crossroads cash totals £2,600

A CHARITY fundraiser for Crossroads in Scotland Lochaber at Ballachulish Community Hall on April 21 raised £2,600, final totals show.

Events and attractions included a sponsored cycle round Loch Leven, a bouncy castle, teas and a grand raffle.

Local woman Sheila MacInnes, who is recovering from a life-threatening stroke aided by Crossroads carers, raised £500 on a charity walk from her home in the village to the Isles of Glencoe Hotel.

And Sheila's husband Angus, a worker on a North Sea rig, collected £100 from workmates for the event, which was organised by local women Carrine Moffat and Jo Watt.

Angus said the final amount was 'remarkable'.

# Safety fears stall turbines

SAFETY fears have prompted Highland Council to put the brakes on wind turbines at or near 16 schools - including two in Lochaber.

The decision to suspend operations followed initial independent findings that the turbines could pose a notional risk by being sited dangerously close to children and staff.

Barriers could be placed around the installations once experts complete their investigations.

December's storms caused several turbine failures across Scotland, raising public concerns that blades could fly off during increasingly frequent violent storms.

At Acharacle, state-of-the-art insulation standards in the energy efficient building mean sunshine and heat from pupils and staff is usually sufficient to achieve required temperatures.

But according to head teacher Lyndsey Bradley, electricity generated by the 5kw turbine is needed to help heat the school in winter.

Ms Bradley told *The Oban Times*: 'They have locked the turbine down until they find out what's going on. We have had no further information about what the problem may be.'

Specialist consultants the Building Research Establishment (BRE) have been brought

By STEPHEN NORRIS snorris@obantimes.co.uk

in to carry out risk assessments at all school sites after enquiries from councillors and members of the public.

Based on initial feedback, the council has taken 'immediate action' to temporarily suspend operations of all the turbines until risks are fully assessed and any additional measures deemed necessary undertaken.

Steve Barron, deputy chief executive and director of housing and property, said the move was a 'precautionary measure'.

And the council would maintain its 'continued commitment' to reducing carbon emissions and energy costs through the use of renewable energy technologies - including wind turbines.

Mr Barron said: 'The council takes the issue of safety within schools very seriously and where additional measures are deemed necessary these will be planned and undertaken in consultation with head teachers and the council's health and safety team.'

He added: 'Following the proper assessment of risks, selection of appropriate locations and deployment of protective measures we intend to continue with our turbine programme.'

BRE is expected to report over the next few weeks.

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**Former Oban auctioneer dies in stun gun incident**

FORMER Oban auctioneer and well-known Highland Games heavy weight athlete Stephen Aitken died as a result of head injuries sustained after an incident with a cattle stun gun at Darlington Auction Mart on Monday.

Mr Aitken, 45, who had been a partner in the Argyll Auction Company, first operators of Oban Livestock Centre, was managing director and chief auctioneer at the busy Darlington market and lived at Ingleby Marwick, near Middlesbrough.

Staff at Darlington were left shocked.

Investigations into the incident are continuing, but police confirmed they are not treating it as suspicious.

An inquest into the death will be opened at the end of this week.

**Two men die as micro-light crashes near Crianlarich**

INVESTIGATIONS are continuing this week to determine the cause of an air crash that killed two people at Ben More, near Crianlarich, on Saturday.

David Martin, 63, from Kinghorn in Fife, and Alan McCaskie, 62, Broughty Ferry, were travelling from Perth to Mull when the micro-light aircraft crashed near the summit shortly before noon.

Mr Martin, who was piloting the plane, was secretary of the Scottish Aero Club, based at Perth Airport in Scone. Mr McCaskie, an oil and gas engineering consultant, was a trainee pilot.

Central Scotland Police said enquiries were continuing and an investigation has been launched by the Air Accident Investigation Branch.

**NEWSDESK**  
01397 703003



Pupils from Rockfield and St Columba's primary schools took part in the Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup draw. Picture: John MacTavish

**Scottish Cup draw made at Oban**

OBAN primary school pupils from both Rockfield and St Columba's watched the second round draw for shinty's most sought after prize, the Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup on Monday.

Making the draw were Argyll and Bute Council leader, Roddy McCuish and Argyll and Bute

MSP and cabinet secretary for education and lifelong learning, Michael Russell.

**Premiership teams**  
The second round brings in 10 Premiership heavyweights along with the six sides who won through in the first round.

Oban will also host the 106th Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup

Final on Saturday September 15 with the match televised live on BBC Scotland.

Council leader Roddy McCuish said: 'As a councillor, an Oban resident and a shinty fan I am thrilled to see the final return to the town.'

'The draw has produced some interesting ties and I am very

glad to have been a part of it.' Duncan Blainey, aged 9, of Rockfield Primary School was at the draw at the primary campus and said: 'I've played shinty for a year, I like hitting the ball best but only score sometimes.'

'The draw was really good and I got to hold the cup which was exciting but it was heavy.'

**Prince Edward books surprise trip to Lochaline**

PRINCE Edward will make a surprise visit to Lochaline Diving Centre next Wednesday.

Owners, Annabel and Mark Lawrence, received a phone call this month informing them His Royal Highness, the Earl of Wessex, wished to take a trip to the centre on May 23.

They have organised an exhibition to take place, showcasing some of the Sound of Mull's more interesting features, including the archaeology of the area and information about the artificial reef project.

Annabel said: 'We hadn't in-

vented him, but someone from his residence in Inverness phoned and said he would like to visit.'

'We decided that, rather than keep it in the diving centre, this is a great opportunity for diving in the Sound of Mull and the area.'

Pupils from Lochaline Primary School will welcome the Royal visitor with some Gaelic songs, before he is served a buffet and taken around the centre's display. Visitors will then be welcome to share the buffet before seeing the display for themselves.

**Dunollie project facing £25,000 shortfall**

FUNDERS opting to favour 'sexy' projects could be threatening a community effort to establish Dunollie's 1745 House as a significant museum and exhibition space.

**Winter programme in jeopardy**  
Dunollie Preservation Trust is facing up to a £25,000 shortfall as it strives to install a lighting system and a specialist canopy required to complete a full year of events.

The total cost of both is £76,000 but the Trust has agreed match funding packages with LEADER to finance the purchase.

But without other funders to match their commitment, the Trust would be

forced to scrap their plans, jeopardising the entire winter programme.

In turn, that could change the way the Trust can operate the 1745 House, which is intended to be a cultural hub for the Oban area.

Catherine Gillies has applied to numerous bodies for funding but believes an appetite for 'sexy funding' is hitting their bid.

'It's not sexy to fund lights,' she said. 'But it is absolutely essential if we're to open during the winter. We got away with it by the skin of our teeth last winter, but we were really pushing it and you can't have anyone coming up the path to Dunollie during the winter months

without lighting.' 'The bottom line is we cannot afford to do it by the skin of our teeth again and we need that lighting.'

Because Dunollie Castle is a listed monument, a specialist lighting system is required.

Meanwhile, the canopy would be used throughout the year for events and exhibitions, and could extend capacity for already popular events such as their Kitchen Ceilidhs.

Catherine said: 'The 1745 House is nearly there as a fantastic facility.'

'Without the lighting and the canopy, it will make it much harder and we'd probably have to find another way of

running it.

'But this is about providing something not just for tourists, but for local people. People in Glasgow would take this for granted, but there is nothing like this here.'

'We've been given so much encouragement from local businesses and organisations and it is so frustrating to keep getting letters from funders saying they don't think this bid is important enough. 'It is a lot of people and this is very much a last gasp appeal for help.'

LEADER funding expires in one month. Anyone who can help the Trust can contact Catherine on 01631 570550 or email info@dunollie.org.

**Aquapharm lands multi-million £ deal**

Research company success could trigger fresh investment

AN OBAN research company could be set to generate tens of millions of pounds after securing a deal to develop new treatments for digestive disorders.

Aquapharm, based at the Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS) in Dunstaffnage, has signed an agreement with the Medical Research Council's (MRC) Human Nutrition Research unit to further research into a new approach to digestive health, called EndoSeaRch.

If successful, products could be released to treat a host of problems within the digestive tract of both humans and animals, ranging from battling indigestion with a food supplement to developing medicines to treat or even prevent more serious conditions, such as irritable bowel syndrome or inflammatory bowel disease.

It is estimated that could be worth tens of millions of pounds a year for the company and result in fresh investment in its

*"This is a market already worth millions of pounds."*

**Professor Simon Best**

'This is a market already worth hundreds of millions of pounds so the value of this could be tens of millions each year.'

'If we are right about this product, it will help raise more money and capital for the business and that will include the potential to expand in Oban.'

It will be two to three years before proof of concept and product viability is determined.

EndoSeaRch is based on the patented SeaRch technique developed by Aquapharm founder Andrew Mearns-Spragg, their current chief technology officer.

SeaRch triggers hidden stress-fighting properties in micro-organisms by artificially replicating the required conditions.

It is these stress-fighting properties that will be harnessed for the EndoSeaRch programme.

This is the first time the SeaRch technique will be applied to products designed for use within the human body.

Oban base. Professor Simon Best, chief executive of Aquapharm, said: 'A lot of people currently suffer from digestive problems and diseases. The solutions available at present aren't very good - they are either very expensive or not particularly effective.'

'EndoSeaRch is a new way of dealing with the problem. It is something that could be used as an ingredient in foods, snacks or even health drinks, which could then be the basis for new line extensions for a number of products from different companies.'

**Lochaber Complementary Health Clinic NOW OPEN!**

Geoff Skrone, local Osteopath for the last 4 years, has just recently opened the new complementary health clinic in Fort William serving the Lochaber community.

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Geoff wishes to thank everyone involved.

See clinic advert for contact details.



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## Unique peat bog on Skye hosts celebration event

Ancient cutting skills on show

A UNIQUE peat bog on Skye is to be the setting for an event to celebrate Scottish Biodiversity Week.

The Mointeach nan Lochainn Dubha, two miles down the A851 Armadale road from Broadford, has been used for the sustainable cutting of peats since early last century.

And on Saturday local crofter and Highland Council senior countryside ranger John Phillips the public will demonstrate the ancient skill to the public.

According to Mr Phillips, Mointeach nan Lochainn Dubha was allocated to Lower Breakish common grazings decades ago to compensate for hill land given over to crofts at Upper Breakish.

He told *The Oban Times*: 'The area here has been worked for generations. The peat cutting is done only over a short stretch of bank. There's only ever a small amount of peat exposed - sometimes it's difficult to see where peat has been cut at all.'

Mr Phillips will show how the

By STEPHEN NORRIS  
snorris@obantimes.co.uk

top sod is removed before peats are cut from the bank then put back below the feet to act as a platform from which to cut the next section. The replaced turf quickly becomes re-established, ensuring minimal disturbance to the bog.

Once dried and gathered in, peats traditionally ensured vital winter fuel supplies for croft folk. The event, which runs from 2pm to 5pm, will give the public the chance to try their hand at the craft. The peat cutting and stacking will be followed by a wildlife walk round the adjacent Mointeach nan Lochainn Dubha Special Area of Conservation.

Wellies and waterproof clothing are advised for the walk, which is partly over rough boggy ground and hills.

For more information contact Mr Phillips at john.phillips@highland.gov.uk or on 01471 820526. Scottish Biodiversity Week runs from May 19-27.



Paul Barnes, second left, performed in the acclaimed musical theatre piece *The Soldier's Tale* in Genuig Hall at Loch Shiel Spring Festival last May. Now he has been picked to perform for the new Scottish Company in Norway. 20. f20paul01

# Glenfinnan actor treads the boards for Scotland

Talented Paul wins place in pioneering international theatre festival in Norway

A TALENTED young actor from Glenfinnan has been chosen to represent Scotland this summer at a pioneering International Youth Theatre festival at Stavanger in Norway.

Paul Barnes only decided at the last minute to audition for the RELOCATION 2012 Scottish Company, one of six national groups taking part in the 10-day event in August.

But he impressed - and won a place in the eight-strong group against competition from 30 of the country's finest young actors.

A member of Eden Court Creative - Lochaber Youth Theatre, Paul and the seven other cast members will prepare for the Norway trip by meeting up for a 'get to know you session' in Edinburgh next month.

Then it's off to Fife for the four-day National Festival of Youth Theatre 2012 in Glenrothes in July, where the new company will be given just three days to produce and perform their own

### EXCLUSIVE

REPORT BY

STEPHEN NORRIS

snorris@obantimes.co.uk

play. For Paul, 18, the Scandinavian trip has special meaning - his mum Hege Hernes hails from Norway and is co-organiser of the annual Loch Shiel Spring Festival. Dad John Barnes runs Glenfinnan Station Museum.

And it will be his second visit to Norway this summer - his sister Sol Jacobsen in getting married next month in Gol, near Geilo, between Bergen and Oslo.

A sixth-year student at Lochaber High School, Paul is currently sitting final exams in drama, physics, English and geography.

After the summer, he starts his studies at Glasgow Nautical College.

The young actor was delighted and surprised to be chosen to represent Scotland at the all-expenses paid event, hosted by Rogaland Theatre.

He told *The Oban Times*: 'Everryone, I thought, was better than me. I am really humbled by this. I was playing basketball when I got the news - I couldn't stop laughing. Everyone was really happy for me.'

RELOCATION 2012 is a new International Youth Theatre project designed to celebrate excellence in performing arts.

The Scottish Company is a collaborative artistic project led by Promote Y.T. (Scotland), the national support and development organisation for youth theatre.

Colin Bradie, Promote Y.T. (Scotland) director, said: 'Our invitation to participate in RELOCATION represents an amazing opportunity to showcase Scotland's talents internationally.'

'We, along with our partners, are delighted to put together a company of eight exceptional young theatre makers to fly our flag in Norway this summer. It will be an exceptional experience for them.'

## Man charged with causing biker's death

A SPEAN Bridge man has appeared in court accused of causing the death of a 74-year-old motorcyclist on the A82 last week by driving while disqualified.

Duncan Stewart, of Karinya, appeared from custody in private at Fort William Sheriff Court charged with causing the death of Charles Singleton, of Northamptonshire, at Achna-

bobane, near Spean Bridge, on Tuesday May 8. The 62-year-old is also accused of driving while disqualified and without insurance. Stewart made no plea and was released on bail. He will appear again at a later date. Police closed the road in both directions for four hours after the crash, leading to huge traffic jams building up on either side of the scene.

## Drink driver more than twice legal limit

A FORT William man caught driving to work while more than twice the legal alcohol limit has been banned from driving for three-and-a-half years and fined £400.

John Gilmour, of 6 Henderson Row, pled guilty to drink driving on Belford Road, North Road and Ben Nevis Road at 7.45am on April 7.

The 62-year-old mechanic had been drinking the night before, his solicitor Hamish Melrose told Fort William Sheriff Court.

He said: 'He had too much to drink and simply misjudged his condition.'

## Woman drink driver banned from roads

A KINLOCHLEVEN woman who drove home from a party while more than three times the legal alcohol limit has been banned from driving for two-and-a-half years and fined £450.

June Boyter, of Lochside Cottage, Fort William Road, had been drinking in a friend's house on Leven Road in the village on April 20. She left around 7.30pm and was seen getting into her

burgundy Land Rover Discovery to drive home. Procurator Fiscal Alison Wylie said a concerned friend from the party called the police. She said: 'They couldn't believe she was driving because of the state she was in.'

Police found Boyter at her home an hour later and breathalysed her, finding her to be well over the legal limit. The 52-year-old hotel worker was

arrested and spent three nights in police custody, Fort William Sheriff Court heard.

Ms Wylie asked Sheriff Douglas Small to consider seizing Boyter's car to 'send a message' to other potential drink drivers.

But Sheriff Small said forfeiture of the car was inappropriate as Boyter's husband needed it for work.

## Man challenged taxi driver to fight

A FORT William man who jumped on the bonnet of a taxi and challenged the driver to a fight has been fined £450 and ordered to pay £150 compensation to his victim.

John MacGillivray, of 24 Banff Crescent, pled guilty to behaving in a threatening and abusive manner by shouting, swearing, slamming a car door and acting aggressively at the junction of Connachie Road and Lundavra Road on February 1.

Fort William Sheriff Court heard from Procurator Fiscal Alison Wylie how MacGillivray had subjected the driver to 'a torrent of abuse' after he refused to take the 21-year-old and four friends to the town centre, as he only had space for four passengers.

Sentencing MacGillivray, Sheriff Douglas Small said: 'This is a serious offence. You are very lucky I haven't considered sending you to detention for this.'

## HIE launches Gaelic plan consultation

HIGHLANDS and Islands Enterprise has launched a public consultation on the organisation's draft Gaelic Language Plan.

The renewed 2012-15 plan sets out HIE's aims and ambitions for Gaelic over the next three years and details how these will be achieved.

It builds on the progress made in the first plan, which covered the period from 2009-12.

HIE supports numerous organisations involved in fostering the language's development, including Comunn na Gàidhlig, An Comunn Gàidhealach, the University of the Highlands and

Islands, Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, Fèisean nan Gàidheal and others.

The draft plan looks to promote the Gaelic identity of the Highlands and Islands and demonstrate equal respect to both Gaelic and English - a key element of the legislation protecting the language and the rights of its speakers.

Members of the public can read the document at www.hie.co.uk/gaelicplanconsultation and can submit views until Friday June 15.

The final version will be presented for consideration by Bòrd na Gàidhlig by June 29.

## Clagman exposed himself

A CLAGGAN man who drunkenly exposed himself on Fort William High Street has been fined £450.

Gary Brown, of 26 The Corries, pled guilty to behaving in a threatening or abusive manner by attempting to fight with passers-by, challenging them to fight and dropping

his trousers on November 27. The 21-year-old also admitted struggling with four police officers by lashing out with his arms and feet.

Procurator Fiscal Alison Wylie told Fort William Sheriff Court: 'He was extremely drunk. There was no sexual intention, he was just basically being an idiot.'

## Facebook comment snares court liar

A MAN who lied in court and to police to protect his wife from a charge of speeding in Glencoe was caught after he posted about it on Facebook.

Daniel Flaherty, of 61 Strathblane Road, Campsie Glen, Glasgow, pled guilty to perverting the course of justice by falsely claiming he was driving the car which was caught by a speed camera doing 62mph

in a 40mph zone on the A82 outside Glencoe Police Station on October 24.

The 24-year-old appeared at Fort William Justice of the Peace Court on December 13 and falsely pled guilty to the speeding offence, Fort William Sheriff Court heard.

His wife Alyson Tomlin, aged 23, later admitted she had been driving the car, and also

pled guilty to driving without insurance.

Procurator Fiscal Alison Wylie said: 'Ms Tomlin made some comments about the incident on Facebook and that's how this all came about.'

Flaherty was ordered to carry out 160 hours unpaid work in the community, while Tomlin was fined £420 and disqualified for driving for six months.

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## Argyll Array claims 'nonsense' say Scottish Power Renewables

SCOTTISH Power Renewables (SPR) has 'rubbed' suggestions that a two-year delay for plans to build the Argyll Array wind farm off Tiree is a result of political uncertainties.

SPR, the company owned by Spanish energy giant Iberdrola, says the reason a planning application won't be submitted until 2014 is ongoing environmental studies.

However, No Tiree Array's Robert Trythall has pointed to evidence given to the Commons Energy and Climate Change Committee by Citigroup's head of European utility sector research Peter Atherton. He told MPs 'all' the investors he had spoken to had decided to halt investment on offshore wind projects until after the Scottish independence referendum's regulatory regime was settled.

It is understood the Citigroup has a working relationship with Iberdrola.

SPR told *The Oban Times*: 'As an international energy company we have working relationships with all major financial analysts, but the suggestion that's been put to you is nonsense.'

'It is repetition of a claim which has no substance.'

### Police files

A 66-YEAR-OLD man was arrested by police on Oban's Soroba Road last Thursday after he was allegedly caught drink driving.

It is understood the man was too drunk to give a breath specimen. A blood sample has been taken for forensic examination.



POLICE on Mull charged a 54-year-old man with speeding last week, after he was clocked driving at 48mph in a 30mph zone at Aros.



A 19-YEAR-OLD man has been charged with having a loaded air weapon in a public place in the Balvicar area of Oban on Friday.



POLICE arrested a 23-year-old man at Oban's Station Road at 2am on Sunday after he was allegedly caught vandalising a parked car.



A 79-YEAR-OLD man has been charged with careless driving after allegedly overtaking at excessive speed on the eastbound carriageway of the A85 near Taynuilt on Monday.



POLICE have charged a 61-year-old man with failing to stop and report accidents after an incident in Oban last week.

Two vehicles were allegedly struck by a Renault Traffic van in Airds Place on May 8.



MONEY has been stolen after a house in McCaig Road was broken in to sometime between May 7-8. Police are appealing for information.



POLICE are appealing for information after a woman was verbally abused by a group of teenagers at 8.50am in Oban on May 12.

Five boys and a girl, aged between 16-18, directed abusive comments towards a 40 year old woman at the playpark near McCaig Road.



TWO men, both aged 24, have been charged with vandalism after allegedly breaking a window in Oban's Quarry Road at 1.30am on Tuesday.



A 39-YEAR-OLD man from the Isle of Luing has been charged with conducting himself in a disorderly manner in connection with an alleged assault on a woman on May 6.

## Bonfires and lunches across Argyll to mark Diamond Jubilee

BONFIRES and Big Lunches are to be the order of the day as Argyll celebrates the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

The Lieutenant of Argyll and Bute along with all the other Lieutenancies in the United Kingdom has been charged with promoting local events to coincide with the national celebration of Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee over the weekend of June 2 - 5.

The response has been enthusiastic from organisations and individuals but the Lord Lieutenant Patrick Stewart hopes more can be achieved in the short time remaining.

The focus of local events is on the holding of 'Big Lunches' over the weekend but in particular on Sunday June 3.

The idea is that organisations and individuals will give a lunch to charity or simply as a social and neighbourly act.

The initiative for the Big Lunch in Argyll and Bute has been headed by Morag Smith DL of Dunoon. Her task has been considerably aided by the circulation of a notice of the event by Argyll and Bute Council to community councils and by Argyll Voluntary Action to many volunteer groups in the area.

While there may not be much time remaining for organisations to make necessary arrangements, individuals might well consider inviting neighbours to lunch or organising, in their community, a joint event.

**Bonfire events**  
The official bonfire events have been promoted and coordinated by Jane MacLeod DL of Lochgilphead. As with the organisation of the

Big Lunches, this has been a huge task. She said: 'The Lieutenant has been encouraging a series of Jubilee Bonfires or Beacons trying, in particular, to take in as much of our coastline as possible. The fires will be seen from Oban through the Sound of Mull, on Mull and out towards Coll, Tiree, Jura and Islay then heading south to Kintyre and, finally, to Mount Stuart on Bute. 'In addition, there will be

inland bonfires stretching from Ben Cruachan in the north, to Mid Argyll, Campbeltown and Dunoon in the south.

'Organisers range from individuals to community councils, Oban Mountain Rescue and Mid Argyll Round Table.'

Further advice is available from the Clerk to the Lieutenant George Seaton of DM MacKinnon, Solicitors, Oban, 01631 563104.



Police cordoned off Campbeltown's Lochend Street on Friday evening after a Vauxhall Zafira containing five people crashed into a stationary van. 20\_c20crash01

## Young children among seriously injured in Campbeltown town centre accident

TWO YOUNG children were amongst a family seriously injured in a road accident in the centre of Campbeltown on Friday.

The incident happened just after 7.30pm when a Vauxhall

Zafira collided at speed with a stationary Ford Transit van on the town's Lochend Street.

Two girls, aged five and three, a 45-year-old woman and a 14-year-old boy all sustained serious injuries, whilst the 38-

year-old male driver sustained minor injuries.

The woman and the boy were airlifted to the Southern General Hospital in Glasgow whilst the two girls were taken to the specialist children's unit

at Yorkhill Hospital, also in Glasgow.

A man was due to appear at Campbeltown Sheriff Court on Tuesday. Police ask any witnesses to contact them on 01586 862 200.

## Kilchrenan residents 'up in arms' over workmans' temporary caravan site

### Council threatened formal enforcement action

RESIDENTS in Kilchrenan are 'up in arms' over a caravan site that has sprung up without planning permission.

Reports are at least six caravans are currently at the site on the Kilchrenan/Ardanaisig road to house workers for the Carraig Ghael wind farm development.

Local resident Marilyn Henderson complained that Argyll and Bute Council is turning a blind eye to the site.

She said: 'Some of the residents have already objected to this site but it seems that they have been flooding a dead horse.'

'They are wondering why Argyll and Bute's planning

department has allowed this to happen without consent and without consultation.'

'The application for planning permission only appeared on the Argyll and Bute website recently and yet the site is up and running with caravans, generators and tankers delivering fuel.'

**Problems with application**  
But a spokeswoman for the council told *The Oban Times*: 'A planning application was submitted on March 2 for a temporary caravan site, 18 months provision, near Kilchrenan for workers accommodation.'

'There were a number of problems with the application and

the applicant was made aware of these.'

'The council cannot advertise or issue neighbour notification until an application is valid.'

'Rather than wait for the planning application to be assessed, the applicant has gone ahead without planning permission which is a breach of planning control and eligible for enforcement action.'

'Unless planning permission is given the site will remain at risk of enforcement action.'

'The applicant was told on April 12 to stop using the site and sort out the planning application so it became valid.'

'On April 19 this still hadn't happened and they were told to stop using the site immediately.'

'On April 24 formal enforcement action was threatened with a view to shutting down the caravan site altogether.'

'In the meantime the applicant submitted the information to enable the planning application to be made valid on April 23.'

'Now that the application is valid and subject to public consultation, it is likely that the planning authority will determine the planning application prior to deciding whether enforcement action is necessary or not.'

## Water bills still cause concern

### Changes to the way businesses are charged for water shock consumers

TWO MORE Argyll businesses have expressed concern about the size of their water bills since Business Stream took over commercial supply from Scottish Water.

One of those was David Keat, owner and manager of the Brander Lodge Hotel, near Taynuilt, who has just received a bill for £3,294.43, complete with a plan outlining required payment of £5,568 each year for water alone.

He contacted *The Oban Times* after reading about Valerie Bichener of the Thornloe B&B in Oban.

She said Business Stream's failure to read meters for two years - despite promises to read them regularly as promised - hid a leak that later resulted in a £4,000 bill.

While Business Stream have reached agreement with Mrs Bichener, it says bills for the latest two companies are correct.

Mr Keat, who bought the Brander Lodge Hotel two years ago, said: 'Business is difficult enough being so rurally situated and in the depths of a recession to get a surprise bill like this is the straw that broke the camel's back.'

'Apparently our water use is 50 per cent higher than the previous property owners which also surprises me.'

Mr Keat says he is unable to clarify the bill as the meter is hidden away 200 metres away from the hotel.

Craig Watson, head of customer experience at Business Stream, said: 'There have been a number of changes to the way businesses are charged for water following

a Scottish Government initiative to introduce water meters to the majority of non-household premises.

'Where the customer has a meter, bills are now calculated solely on meter readings instead of the rateable value of the property, so while all customers are only billed for the water they use, some bills have increased with certain premises using more water than others.'

'We have also recently revised our meter reading schedule to ensure all meters are read at least twice a year to improve the consistency with which we bill customers, provide them with more regular information about their water consumption and help budgeting.'

'This adjustment meant there was a slightly longer period between actual readings for some customers, and previous bills were based on estimated use.'

'We have carefully reviewed both customers' accounts and are satisfied their bills are accurate.'

'We will contact each customer to help them identify opportunities to reduce future water use.'

**"We will contact each customer to help them identify opportunities to reduce future water use."**

**Craig Watson, Business Stream**

## Islay party bottle assault lands teenager in custody for 16 months

A TEENAGER who put two brothers in hospital at an Islay Hogmanay party will spend the next year locked up.

Campbeltown Sheriff Court heard James Gillies, now 17, smashed a bottle against the side of the face of the younger brother, now 16, after they stepped outside the party in Bowmore Village Hall to settle an argument.

When the older brother, 19, then chased him, Gillies threw 'either a brick or a stone', hitting him just above the eye.

Both brothers went to hospital and received several stitches; the elder brother is permanently scarred.

Gillies whose address was given in court as HM Young Offender's Institution, Polmont, initially denied the attacks when police interviewed him later that night, but pleaded guilty to them and breaching bail conditions in court last week.

Sheriff Ruth Anderson QC sentenced Gillies to 16 months in a young offenders institute, saying: 'In this case there's no sentence other than a custodial one.'

The sentence was backdated to January 4 this year, when Gillies was first remanded in custody.

## Shock as BBC axe Global Gathering

THERE has been an outcry of public support after a BBC Radio Scotland show presented by Mary Ann Kennedy, whose father hails from Tiree and mother from Skye, was axed as part of a number of cuts introduced by the broadcasting company. Global Gathering, a two-hour showcase for world and traditional music, was removed to make way for a classical music programme.

Previously called Celtic Connections, the popular show had been on the air for more than 20 years.

## Man charged after dog attacks cyclist near Taynuilt

A 35-year-old man has been charged under the dangerous dogs act for failing to keep his animal under control in a public place after a cyclist was attacked and bitten by a Staffordshire bull terrier near Taynuilt on Friday.

The 54-year-old woman was cycling with a friend near Glen Lonan when the incident occurred.

## Oban card shop closes as lease expires

OBAN'S Clinton Cards store has shut down - because of a decision made before the company entered administration.

The town's only dedicated card shop, on George Street, closed its doors for the final time this week, letting three members of staff go. A spokeswoman for Zolfo Cooper, Clinton Cards' administrators, told *The Oban Times*: 'The Oban store was due for closure as the lease had expired. The firm had earmarked the shop for closure before they entered administration.'

Clintons opened its first store in 1968 and currently has more than 600 throughout the UK.

## Islay drinker admonished

AN ISLAY man was admonished at Campbeltown Sheriff Court last week after pleading guilty to being drunk and incapable.

The court heard Charles Morrison, aged 69, of Cnoc-na-Faire, Flora Street, Bowmore, had been picked up three times by police on May 2 this year in Bowmore.

## Condom 'fire bomb' thrown through letterbox

A POLICE investigation has been launched after a potentially deadly fire bomb, in the form of a condom filled with what is suspected to be a flammable liquid, was dropped through an Oban householder's letterbox last week.

Between 9pm and 11.15pm on Thursday May 10, the filled condom was thrown through a letterbox at Kerrera Terrace, Dunollie, Oban, and an attempt had been made to light it.

Oban's Chief Inspector Brian Auld said: 'We have had door to door enquiries and forensic tests are being carried out.'

'We're not sure if the substance is flammable, but it is clear they have tried to ignite it because the condom has partially melted.'

'We are appealing for any information or witnesses to come forward.'

Anyone with any information should speak to Sergeant Cammy Lowe at Oban Police Station.'



Retiring after 20 years as Taynuilt's lollipop man: Willie Campbell with Olivia Barnes, Evan Cameron and Harry Mobey. 16\_1201lollipop01

## Special Taynuilt school concert as Willie hangs up his lollipop

SCHOOL children in Taynuilt said goodbye to their much loved lollipop man at a special concert last Thursday.

Willie Campbell is retiring after 20 years as the lollipop man and a previous 17 years as the school janitor.

Pupils from nursery right through to primary 7 performed songs, shared memories and read poems penned in honour of him.

Mr Campbell said: 'I know all the parents and children and I am a wee bit sad to be leaving but I have got my golf and gardening to keep me busy as long as the weather is nice.'

The concert was attended by many members of the community - including two local police officers.

Taynuilt golf club captain Mairead Sim said Mr Campbell would be 'much missed' but wished him 'many happy years on the golf course'.

Mr Campbell, who was awarded 'Lollipop Man of the Year' in 2006, was given presents to help with his gardening as well as a voucher for a meal.

These were presented by pupils Olivia Barnes, 12, and Evan Cameron, 5, before Mr Campbell's grandson Harry Mobey, 12, read a glowing tribute.

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**Gold for Ben then injury strikes**

**ATHLETICS**

BEN Coates from Kilmore was competing in the West District Championships at Dam Park in Ayr on Saturday. He was entered for three track events in the Under 14 age category. Ben won gold in his first event, the 80metres hurdles, winning by a clear margin in an excellent time of 13.68seconds. Next up for Ben was the 100metres and he started well in his heat and was up with the leaders when unfortunately he had to pull up with a groin injury. A disappointing exit for young Ben after his early success and he was unable to take part in the 200metres later in the day. Hopefully Ben will be fit for the Scottish Schools Championships at Grangemouth in June.

# Lorne 7s - a big success

**RUGBY**

OBAN Lorne RFC hosted their 38th annual sevens competition at Glencruitten last Saturday in mixed weather. A total of 12 teams had entered, but with Mid Argyll withdrawing Oban U16 boys were called upon to play in their pool, playing touch rugby against the adults and performing beyond their expectations. Both pitches were in excellent condition which made for some fast running rugby and there was a carnival atmosphere with a bouncy castle and body zorbing

on the sidelines. Mull RFC had brought two teams, keen to build on their recent successes at Highland and Lochaber sevens. All of the competitions were hard fought and fairly tight but ultimately it was Oban Exiles and Glasgow Accies who were to meet in the final. Errors This started out as a well matched game but halfway through the heavens opened and there were a number of errors. Glasgow Accies had youth and pace on their side and emerged



Winners of the Oban 7s Tournament held at Glencruitten last Saturday were Glasgow Accies. They beat Oban Exiles in the final. Prizes were presented by Graham MacQueen MBE. Also in the picture is Dee Bradbury, president of Oban Lorne Rugby Club.

**Saints under 16s play in cup final**

**YOUTH FOOTBALL**

OBAN Saints Under 16s travel to Millburn Park, Alexandria, home of Vale of Leven Juniors on Sunday to take on Lenzie in the final of the League Cup. The game kicks-off at 2pm and the boys are hoping for a good support from Oban to travel to watch the match. Other fixtures: Under 13s v Helensburgh; Dalnair Park v Under 14s; Under 15s no game. Last week's results: Under 13s 6, Riverside 1. Scoring for Saints were Zander Kilmurray (2), Jay Cooper (2), Lomond MacPherson and Owen Neilson. Castle Rock 2, Under 14s 2. Netting for the Oban side were Stuart MacLean and Daniel MacVicar. Milngavie 1, Under 15s 2. On target for Saints were Paul McFatridge and Duggie MacLeod. Argyll Athletic 3, Under 16s 1. Ryan MacDougall scored the goal for Saints.

**Dougie takes the silverware at Glencruitten**

**GOLF**

THE WINNER of the Terry Ng Trophy, played over two rounds at Glencruitten Golf Club was Dugald MacLean with a score of 122 (65, 57). Second was Kevin Mackie with 124 (59, 65). David Devine 126 (64, 62) and Michael Kelly (64, 62) were third. Scott Jordan was fourth with 127 (63, 64). This weekend is the first round of the Club Championship, Handicap Championship and the Senior Championship.

**Senior Gents' Open held at Killin**

Category 1 (0-14): 1 RD Lewis (Killin) 64; 2 B Lawson (Crieff) 65 BH; 3 Bruce Ford (Killin) 65. Category 2 (15-28): 1 Ian Douglas (Lochwinnoch) 63; 2 John Strang (Killin) 64; 3 Jim Ferguson (Killin) 65. Nearest the pin 15 - 28: J Delaney (Auchterarder). Nearest the pin 0 - 14: A Reid (Caldender). Nearest the pin in 2: B Lawson (Crieff). Handicap winner (Kiltyrie Trophy): Ian Douglas (Lochwinnoch) 63. Mactaggart Trophy (Best Local h/cap 15 - 28): John Strang 64. Lix Toll Trophy (Best Local h/cap 1 - 14): RD Lewis 64. Magic 2's: W. McKay (Dalnally), Martin Illife (Killin), Sandy McLeod (Killin), Ian Douglas (Lochwinnoch), Tony Boon (Blair Atholl), Bruce Ford (Killin). CSS: 66.

**MaLure Cup**

RESULTS from Dalnally Golf Club: MaLure Cup Round 2 - 1 B McKay (10) 61; 2 A Hodgkiss (18) 61; 3 K Roy (8) 62. Overall eclectic positions after round 2: 1 D Robertson 61; 2 A MacGillivray 62; 3 A Hodgkiss 62; 4 B McKay 62.

**Laddie Trophy**

RESULTS from Islay Golf Club: The Laddie - 1 Nigel Carmichael 31pts; 2 Charles Holyoake 29pts; 3 Keith MacDonald 27pts.



The victorious Carpet Fitters with their trophies: James Scott, Jamie Graham, Donald Campbell, Alan Miller, Craig MacEwan, Pat Ford, Chris Graham and Lewis Cameron.

**Carpet Fitters do the league and cup double**

**INDOOR FOOTBALL**

THE CARPET Fitters floored all before them as they completed a league and cup double in the Atlantis Leisure 5-a-side indoor league played over the winter months. The Fitters won the A League title as well as defeating Atlantis Leisure in the cup final. The Oban Times finished runners-up in the A League. To round of a great tournament for the Fitters their goalkeeper James Scott was named Player of the Year. Oban High School Teachers won the B League competition with the Emergency Services taking second place.

Group A	P	W	D	L	Pts
Carpet Fitters	10	9	1	0	28
Oban Times	10	7	0	3	21
Atlantis	10	6	0	4	18
RM Builders	10	5	1	4	16
Group B	P	W	D	L	Pts
High School	10	6	0	4	18
Emergency	10	4	0	6	12
Hotels	10	2	0	8	6
OES	10	0	0	10	0



Player of the Year James Scott receives his award from tournament organiser Willie Gemmill.

**Residential camp for Argyll and Bute footballers**

**FOOTBALL CAMP**

ARGYLL and Bute Council's football development service ran their first youth summer residential camp last year which proved to be a great success. Football development officer Martin Rae has announced that the camp will take place again this summer from July 23 to 27, based at the school hostel in Oban. The camp is open to any budding player aged 9 to 16 years who will not only be coached by SFA qualified coaches, but they

will be given an introduction to sports science, including fitness testing, nutritional and hydration advice, sports psychology and lifestyle management as well as doing all the day to day chores that are expected of a full time professional youth player. For further information on the camp please contact Martin Rae on 01631 572194 or email him at martin.rae@argyll-bute.gov.uk

**Club championship at Taynuilt**

**GOLF**

CLUB Championship 1st round Sun 13 May 2012. Nett Scores 1 Michael Mullen 64 (16); 2 Mark Henriksen 66 (8); 3 Alan Wilson 66 (10). Gross Scores: 1 David A Howie 69; 2 Fraser Inglis 72; 3 Mark Henriksen 74.

Ladies - Duncarden Trophy + Medal Tue 8 May 2012: 1 Sue Asher 67 (33); 2 Grace Petrie 67 (25); 3 Ann Urwin 69 (31).

# Saints league title dreams dashed by the Jags

Scottish Amateur League Premier Division Wednesday **Kilbowie Union 1 Oban Saints 5** SAINTS played two games last week, winning one and losing the other. On Wednesday evening they travelled to take on Kilbowie Union at the Knowes Park in Fairley and the Oban lads turned in a good performance to return with a comprehensive 5-1 win under their belts. They opened the scoring in the 11th minute when a long throw from Willie Gemmill caused confusion in the Union defence and PJ Sinclair was on hand to stab the ball over the line.

Ten minutes later the visitors increased their lead when Chris Graham fed in Asen Gaydardzhiev and the Bulgarian striker hammered the ball home. The Oban side made it 3-0 just before the interval when Marc MacCallum raced forward from defence before drilling a low shot into the net. However, two minutes after the restart Kilbowie pulled a goal back when Ryan Halpin curled a well-placed shot past Graham Douglas. Saints weathered the early pressure and restored their three goal advantage when Ross Maitland and Donald Campbell combined to set up Willie Gemmill who scored from close range.

With two minutes left on the clock, the visitors scored their fifth goal when Union keeper Blair Flynn failed to hold a Donald Campbell free kick and Keith Millar pounced to force the ball over the line to make the final score 5-1.

**Saturday Oban Saints 1 Aikenhead Thistle 4** ANY hopes Saints had of winning the league title were dashed when last season's champions Aikenhead Thistle came to town. Once again the Oban squad was stretched to the limit with several players missing for various reasons. The visitors opened the scoring in the 10th minute when full back Thomas Quinn broke from his defensive duties to drill a low shot past Graham Douglas. This was a poor goal for the home side to lose as the Aikenhead defender was allowed to run a very long way before he got his shot on target. Play was pretty evenly balanced as the half wore on, but it was the visitors who increased their lead in the 34th minute

when a Stuart McMahon shot took a wicked deflection and the ball ended up in the net. Ross Maitland had a great chance to pull a goal back in the 40th minute, but he hit the ball straight at the keeper and a glorious chance was missed. Just on the half time whistle, Donald Campbell curled a fine effort inches past John Mullen's post. The Oban team created two good chances at the start of the second half, but Marc MacCallum shot past the post and Keith Miller saw a header fly inches wide. The game blew up in the 74th minute when Donald Campbell and Ricky Smith clashed with both players being shown the red card by referee Peter Laing. Although 2-0 down, the home side were still very much in the match and they pulled a goal back in the 85th minute when Lewis Cameron sent over a pinpoint cross for Dene Cassells who headed past John Mullen to throw the local lads a lifeline. However, 60 seconds later Aikenhead restored their two goal advantage when Saints tried to play Graeme Candlin offside, but the referee correctly waved

**FOOTBALL**

play on and Gandlin calmly slotted the ball home. The icing was put on the cake for the Glasgow side just on the full time whistle when that man Candlin found himself in space and made no mistake to make the final score 4-1. Manager Iain Jackson was disappointed at the result which surely puts paid to any hopes of Saints winning the league title. He said: 'We've been giving away poor goals recently, but we're also failing to take our chances at the other end. Aikenhead are a good side although the 4-1 scoreline flatters them a bit. 'The title looks out of reach now but you never know Postal might slip up. If we can't win the league we want to finish in second place so we'll be going all out to gain victories in our last three games. Hopefully we can get a few players back to bolster the squad for the run in.' Saints play their final home game of the season this Saturday when they take on Kings Park Rangers. The match will be played at Glencruitten with a 1.30pm kick-off.



Donald Campbell takes on Aikenhead defender John Gaynor.

Scottish Amateur League - Premier Division	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Postal United	14	12	2	0	30	8	38
Oban Saints	15	10	2	3	43	20	32
Thorn Athletic	15	9	4	2	34	20	31
Rolls Royce EK	17	8	3	6	31	27	27
Castlemilk	17	8	2	7	37	33	26
St Joseph's	17	8	2	7	31	33	26
Aikenhead Thistle	15	8	1	6	32	23	25
Inverclyde	16	4	1	11	23	34	13
Kilbowie Union	17	3	1	13	29	49	10
Kings Park Rangers*	17	1	0	16	16	70	0

\*Deducted 3 points for fielding ineligible player

**Tight at the top in Lochaber ten-pin bowling singles**

**TEN PIN BOWLING**

AFTER four weeks of play in the Lochaber ten-pin bowling single leagues at the Nevis Centre Pam Weller has drawn level with Tony Whitelocke at the top of the scratch division. Tim Attack remains in third place five points behind the leaders on 43. Attack still leads the handicap competition on 40 points ahead of Weller, 39 points, and Whitelocke, 36 points. The top scratch games of the week were a 223 and 194 from Weller, a 201 from Whitelocke and a 175 from John Weller. The top three game scratch series was an impressive 586 from Pam Weller. The top handicap series came from John Weller, who rolled an equally impressive 700. Total scratch pinfall so far is led by Pam Weller with 1,658 pins. Whitelocke is close behind with 1,613 while Tim Attack is third with 1,458.

**Saints looking to strengthen squad**

**FOOTBALL**

OBAN Saints senior team are on the lookout for new players for next season in a bid to strengthen their squad. If you are interested please get in touch with Iain Jackson, David Buchanan, Peter MacCallum or any of the present players who will give you details of training times.



David Burgess on his way to winning the Road to the Isles Half Marathon

# Road to the Isles half marathon and Walk on the Wildside

MALLAIG and District Swimming Pool's annual Road to the Isles Half Marathon and Walk on the Wildside drew athletes from across Scotland and beyond on Saturday, May 5. Both races started from Beasdale train station off the A830 and finished at the Mallaig and District Swimming Pool. The day was a resounding success and thoroughly enjoyed by all who took part. Participants came from as far afield as Glasgow, London, Alloa and Skye, while many locals also took part. The Walk on the Wildside was a walking half marathon along

the same route, which looped round Arisaig and Morar to Mallaig. Results: Individual Half Marathon, men - 1st David Burgess (Anstruther) 1hr 25min 38secs; 2nd John MacLean (Portree) 1hr 28min 56secs; 3rd Stephen Hards (Ersikine) 1hr 33min 28secs. Women - 1st Kate Malcolm (London) 1hr 31min 58secs; 2nd Wilma MacQuary (Portree) 1hr 48min 59secs; 3rd Morag Martin (Morar) 2hrs 18min 3secs. Teams - 1st Stuart Griffen, Dana Griffen (Morar) 1hr 54min 45secs; 2nd Lawly MacLeod, Catherine McDonell, Stuart

**HALF MARATHON**

Cameron (Mallaig/Morar) 1hr 59min 13secs; 3rd Angus MacKay, Pamela Hill, Lyndsay Bradley (Acharacle) 2hrs 5min 40secs. Walk on the Wildside, men - 1st John Young (Mallaig) 2hrs 45min 14secs; 2nd (joint) Alex Kennedy (Morar) 2hrs 56min 14secs, Duncan Kennedy (Durham); 3rd Ciaran Sullivan 3hrs 1min 39secs. Women - 1st Fiona Sullivan (Mallaig) 3hrs 2min 50secs; 2nd Audrey MacKay (Mallaig) 3hrs 4min 19secs; 3rd Ann Cameron (Morar) 3hrs 16min 4secs.

# Saints youths do well at St Mirren Park

OBAN Saints Football Club sent two teams to St Mirren Park, Paisley recently to take part in the Bank of Scotland Midnight League Finals Day. A very young team, mostly 11 and 12 year olds took part in the under 13 age group and were very unlucky not to have qualified for the semi-finals being pipped by a point by Gow Valley who the Oban boys had beaten in the section games. Six games The youngsters played six matches, winning three, drawing two and losing just the one game. Results: Saints 1, Gow Valley 0; St Paul's 0, Saints 1; Saints 2, Barrhill Juniors 2; Saints 0, Lady Octavia 0; West Dunbartonshire

**YOUTH FOOTBALL**

2, Saints 0; Saints 2, Doon Valley 1. In the 14-16 age group the Oban youngsters reached the final, but lost 4-2 to an impressive West Dunbartonshire A outfit. Results: Doon South 1, Saints 1; Saints 1, Renfrewshire Rovers 0; Saints 0; John Ogilvie 2; West Dunbartonshire B 0, Saints 1. Semi final: Maxi Moments 0, Saints 1. Final West Dunbartonshire A 4, Saints 2.

**FOOTBALL**

PREMIER Division - Oban Saints v Kings Park Rangers, referee Jim Litster. Premier Division Two - Campbeltown Pupils v Auldhouse; referee John Scott; Centre v Dunoon 'A', referee David Stirling. Division One - Lochgilhead Red Star v Millbeg, referee Peter Laing; Whitehill FP v Tarbert, referee Alan Lamb. Division Two - Jamestown v Dunoon 'B', referee John Lappin. All games are scheduled to kick-off at 2pm but some may change to accommodate the Scottish Cup final on television

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## Lochaber do themselves proud against Kingussie

REPORT BY  
**STEPHEN NORRIS**  
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Artemis Macaulay Cup first round  
**Lochaber 4, Kingussie 6**  
SHINTY fans had predicted an Artemis Macaulay Cup first round cracker at Spean Bridge - and were rewarded with a 10-goal thriller.

A Ronald Ross hat-trick unlocked victory for Kingussie - but Lochaber matched their illustrious premier division opponents in every department and on another day could easily have won.

With a strong wind behind them, Lochaber raced into an early 2-0 lead through Scott Paterson and Ben Delaney and looked well capable of scoring more.

But an unlucky own goal from Lachlan Campbell handed Kingussie a lifeline and a Ross rocket from 18 yards levelled the game 10 minutes before the break.

Kings grabbed the initiative early in the second half with goals from Munro and Ross to make it 4-2, but Lochaber were not lying down and a powerful Shaun Nicolson angled drive from 30 yards cut the deficit to one.

A trademark turn and shot earned Ross another career hat-trick on 64 minutes, only for Lochaber to roar back with a brilliant single-handed flick from Delaney.

At 5-4 it was anybody's game and the end-to-end action had the sizeable crowd on tenterhooks. Stuart Callison's low drive was

only inches away from pulling Lochaber level and at the other end Calum MacDonald made a great stop to deny Ross.

Rory Borthwick ensured Kings' progress with a goal in the final seconds before ref Deck Cameron blew for full time.

Speaking to The Oban Times pitchside, Lochaber coach Michael Delaney knew victory had been within his team's grasp.

He said: 'We kind of switched off in the middle of the first half for a we spell and let them back into the game. The own goal got their heads up a bit - we were really comfortable at 2-0.'

'Early in the second half our form dipped a wee bit and they scored two quick goals, but we came straight back into the game and got a goal back.'

'We knew we could score goals against them, but obviously Ronald Ross did his bit for them again. Overall, though, I was quite pleased with the boys' performance today.'

Kingussie coach Russell Jones paid tribute to Lochaber in what was a pulsating cup match.

He said: 'That's as hard a game as we have had all season in the premier league, they are a very, very good team and there was nothing in it at all.'

'I was really impressed with them up front, they way they open you up and knock the ball about and score goals. They are all dangerous and they can all hit the ball.'

'We are delighted to go through but it wasn't very good for the heart pitchside, I can tell you.'

'The own goal was absolutely huge - at that point they defi-

### SHINTY

nately were in the ascendancy. We needed a wee break and we got that.'

Asked about Ronald Ross' telling contribution, Jones added: 'Everything that could be possibly said about Ronald has already been said.'

The teams meet again at Spean on Saturday in the Co-operative MacTavish Cup semi-final.



Kingussie's Ronald Ross rifles home the first of his three goals to make it 2-2. 20\_120shinty02

## Ardnamurchan win tag rugby competition

### TAG RUGBY

LOCHABER Rugby Club's annual inter-school tag rugby competition saw over 270 youngsters from across Lochaber travel to Banavie.

The day started out overcast but the sun soon came out as the competition intensified.

Ardnamurchan High School won the secondary competition in the afternoon, with Upper Achintore taking top spot on the P6/P7 event and Mallaig Primary winning the P4/P5 contest. LRC's Pauline Donaldson told



Ardnamurchan High took home the trophy in the secondary school competition.

## Lochaber motorcyclists pick up some silverware

### SIX DAYS TRIAL

TWO LOCHABER Motorcycle Club riders claimed trophies in the 2012 Scottish Six Days Trial (SSDT) which ended in Fort William on Saturday afternoon.

Kevin Dignan, aged 43, came 62<sup>nd</sup> to finish highest-placed local and win the George Baird Memorial Trophy for best Scottish competitor on a machine over 250cc.

Michael Forthergill, aged 42, managed a 79<sup>th</sup> place finish to take the Jimmy McGregor Memorial trophy as best Scottish competitor on a motorcycle under 250cc.

Gavin Brown and Gary MacLennan ended the event in 191<sup>st</sup> and 196<sup>th</sup> respectively. Thirty-six Scottish riders entered the event.

Dougie Lampkin became the first man to win the SSDT six

times after one of the closest finishes in the event's 103-year history.

The 36-year-old finished with 15 faults - the same total as last year's winner James Dabill. The rivals were kept hanging on late into Saturday night for a decision as officials pored over the results.

Lampkin was eventually given the win as he went clean through the first two days while Dabill picked up two points on day one.

Michael Brown came third with 21 faults while early leader Jordi Pascuet finished in sixth place with 35. Emma Bristow was the highest placed female rider for the second year in a row, finishing in 61<sup>st</sup> place overall.

## Rodgers wins weather-affected Three Peaks race

### ATHLETICS

LOCHABER Yacht Club held the weather-affected Three Peaks Race with 22 hill runners and 13 dinghies from as far as Aberdeen, Glasgow and Edinburgh signing up to take part in the land and water event on Sunday.

The annual event sees club dinghies and crew take runners to the bases of three hills by Loch Linnhe. The runners scale each hill, then return to the boats, to complete the race back to the clubhouse.

Unfortunately, due to 30-knot winds and torrential rain the sailing section of the event was cancelled and the hill race was shortened. Seven brave runners decided to tackle the 12.5km course despite with the weather.

Davie Rodgers of Lochaber Athletic Club was the first home in a time of 1hour 3 minutes and 2 seconds. The other locals to complete the race were Tark Gunn, Ally Kennedy and Ronnie Turner.

Yacht club member Domhnall Montgomery said: 'Thanks to all the many supporters of the event.'

## Chris loses out to top Irish boxer

### BOXING

ONE OF Fort William's rising boxing stars Chris Bradley narrowly lost out to five-time Irish champ Brendon Irvine in an international match between Scotland and Ireland in Cork last weekend.

The pair met last year with Irvine winning with a comfortable margin of 12 points to two. But Lochaber Phoenix ABC boxer Bradley has worked hard to improve over the past season and the 15-year-old put in one of his best displays in front of the Irish crowd.

The opening round saw Bradley employ a much improved defence from the first encounter as both boxers exchanged quality body shots. At the end of the first the Fort fighter found himself one point down.

The second saw Bradley produce perhaps the finest round of his career as he used angles to spring attacks and force the Irish boxer backwards. Although Irvine was still dangerous he was clearly perplexed by the change in Bradley's tactics and the Scotland corner was fully expecting a favourable scoreline between rounds.

Dismay To their dismay however they discovered Bradley was inexplicably three points behind.

Bradley knew he had to go for broke in the last round as he had a proverbial mountain to climb. Throwing caution to the wind can leave a boxer exposed to counters and unfortunately for Chris this proved to be the case as he bravely ploughed forward

throwing more and more in desperation. He showed some of his own experience in keeping himself fairly well protected but did lose the round.

The final points tally read nine points to five in favour of the Irish fighter, but this was still a fine performance from Bradley against a top international opponent who is expected to fight for his country at this summer's European Championships.

The rematch augurs well for the British Championships at the end of this month for which both Bradley and 14-year-old club mate James Aitchison have qualified.



Davie Rodgers with his trophy.

## Fort William GC

### GOLF

FORT William Golf Club held the Magners qualifier trophy on Saturday with Brian Gillespie taking the win.

Willie Duncan and Frank Sweeney fought out a close battle for second place, with Duncan's better inward nine giving him the position.

A two-man Texas scramble due to be held at the club on Sunday was called off due to heavy rain and high winds.

Results:  
1. Brian Gillespie 85-14=71; 2. Willie Duncan 85-12=73 (bh); 3. Frank Sweeney 88-15=73.

## Dragon's Tooth GC

DRAGON'S Tooth Golf Club held their monthly medal competition last weekend, with Scott McCombie's net round of 66 giving him the win.

Andy McGarry finished one shot back in second place, while Luke Alexander went round the Ballachulish course with a net score of 69 to take third place.

## Isle of Skye GC

ISLE of Skye Golf Club's Strath Cup first round saw Angus Beaton win the stableford competition with a score of 40 points.

Kenny MacPherson finished in second place with 37 points, while Alex Munro was not far behind in third with 35 points.

## Manager looking for a settled squad

REPORT BY  
**RICHARD HADDOCK**  
rhaddock@obantimes.co.uk

FORT William manager Danny Conlon is hoping to have a more settled squad for next season after fielding more than 50 players this season.

Speaking after in their final game last Friday - a 4-0 defeat at Formartine United - Conlon said 2011-12 had been 'really difficult' for the club.

He told The Oban Times: 'We've had a lot of young players coming in this season, and we've had nine goalkeepers and about 42 other players. Next season I would like to maybe have a more stable group of players - a squad of maybe 20 or 22.'

'It's been extremely difficult as far as results and player availability go. But the club itself has made progress in that we are more professional in everything we do, right across the board.'

Conlon's squad of 14 against Formartine included 10 players aged 19 or under, although Captain Andy Martin and striker Iain MacLellan returned after suspension.

MacLellan fired wide early on before Bobby Mann's free kick on 17 minutes gave Formartine the lead.

MacLellan waltzed through but his shot was saved then Steve Paterson's men scored twice more before half time.

### FOOTBALL

Ex-Dundee defender Mann made it four with another fine free kick. Fort keeper Donaldson made several fine saves as his side went down to a sixth straight loss.

## First competition of the season

### BOWLS



Lochaber Bowling Club's first competition of the year was won by Angus Boyle and Budge Munro. The pair defeated Wilson Thain and Alan Robinson by nine shots to five in the round robin balloted pairs competition held at the BA Club. The club is taking entries from anyone wishing to take part in the balloted Scott Brady Charity Pairs at the BA this Sunday.

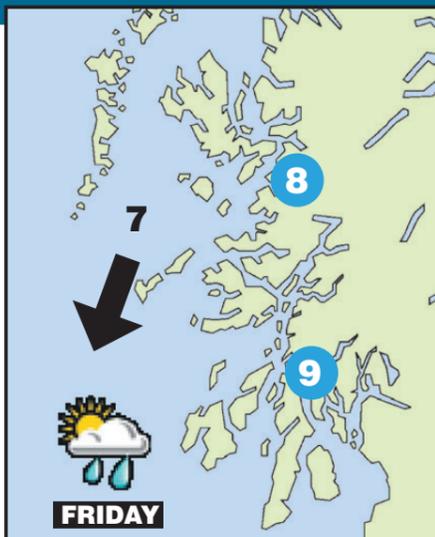
## Weather

**Thursday** Heavy rain  
Winds light south south westerly  
Temperatures 6°C to 8°C

**Friday** Sunshine and showers  
Winds light north easterly  
Temperatures 6°C to 9°C.

**Weekend** Rain showers  
**Outlook** Winds light north easterly  
Temperatures 6°C to 10°C.

Ferry Crossings/Sea States  
Oban to Barra/South Uist Moderate  
Oban to Coll/Tiree Moderate  
Kennacraig to Islay Moderate



## Tides

Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday, May 17, 2012** are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath.

All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am	pm
Thur	03.22 3.3 09.41 1.4 15.38 3.2 22.06 1.3	
Fri	03.59 3.4 10.18 1.3 16.13 3.4 22.46 1.2	
Sat	04.35 3.5 10.52 1.2 16.47 3.5 23.21 1.2	
Sun	05.12 3.6 11.26 1.1 17.22 3.7 23.54 1.2	
Mon	05.48 3.7 12.01 1.0 17.56 3.7 ** ** **	
Tues	00.28 1.2 06.23 3.7 12.37 1.0 18.30 3.8	
Wed	01.03 1.3 06.58 3.6 13.12 1.1 19.03 3.7	

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

Ardrishaig	-5.35	Portree	+0.55
Campbeltown	-5.30	Tobermory	+0.16
Crinan	-0.47	Dover	+5.30
Islay Port Ellen	2.00		
Lochboisdale	+0.30		
Mallaig	+0.25		

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