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The Oban Times

DWP change catches out Mull man

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A DISABLED man on Mull faces becoming 'a prisoner in his own house', when the UK government removes his car this month due to changing welfare benefits.

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) has ordered Alex Fletcher, who lives in Bunessan, to return his car by the end of May because he fails to qualify for it under the new Personal Independence Payment (PIP).

The 61-year-old told *The Oban Times*: 'I've got arthritis in almost every joint of my body. It's painful. It'll take me an hour to walk 50 yards to the shops. Without my car, I'm going to be a prisoner in my own house.'

Mr Fletcher spent his career in construction, building roads for Argyll and Bute Council until he was retired on doctor's orders in 2010.

'I was told I was to be pensioned off, as unfit to work,' he said. 'I didn't want to retire: at the time I was thinking how am I going to live?'

Since his medical retirement, Mr Fletcher has qualified for the use of a car to travel around Mull independently under the Disability Living Allowance (DLA) – until the government rolled out its PIP replacement, which he failed to understand when re-applying for his disability benefits.

'I didn't know anything about it,' he said. 'I didn't get hold of the lady who helps me with the forms and I only had a couple of days to fill it in. I made a balls-up.'

His confusion arose, he explained, because instead of the DLA's three categories – higher, middle and lower – PIP only gave two categories – higher and lower. He recalled the PIP form asking how far could he walk.

'At that time it was between 20 and 24 metres, which put me in the lower

category,' he explained. 'You have to be in the higher category for the car. To qualify you can only walk under 20m. Now I'm lucky to do 20 metres.'

A week ago the government's Motability Scheme, which leases cars to disabled people, sent Mr Fletcher a letter asking him to return the Peugeot 308 to a dealer in Campbeltown by May 31, 2016.

'It's going to be very hard without the car,' he said. 'I've got a lot of hospital appointments.'

He said that half-hour appointments at Mull and Iona Community Hospital in Craignure could take up to five hours by the island's public transport, while taking the bus and ferry to Oban's Lorn and District General Hospital could involve a 12-hour day. 'It's not doing my legs or feet any good,' he said.

'Sitting in public transport can be very painful. They've got kneeling buses, but the bus drivers say they don't always go low enough for my needs. We are lucky in that the community raised enough money to buy a community minibus to get people to appointments, but that only works if I'm the only one who needs to get to a certain place at a certain time. It's very hard to work out a situation that would work for everybody. Either they're knackered or I'm knackered.'

'I can manage, but it's going to be a struggle,' he said. 'I have started an appeal, but that could take months. I hope it works, I have to try.'

The DWP is offering Mr Fletcher, as it does others leaving the Motability Scheme, 'a one off £2,000 transitional support package'. But to receive the package he must return his car to the dealer on or before May 31, even if he has lodged an appeal.

Mr Fletcher added that he was keen to raise awareness about the DWP changes so others are not caught out.



OBANLIVE
The Oban Times

KT Tunstall wowed the audience at Oban Live on Saturday, where she was headlining, having flown in from Los Angeles to perform in front of the large crowd at Mossfield Stadium in Oban. The singer had earlier taken time out to meet with fans and shared a joke with *Oban Times* staff while posing for a 'selfie'. For full coverage of the Oban Live event, including four pages of photographs, turn to page 12. Photograph: Alan Kinghorn

TIMESLINE

Public meeting to discuss Ganavan

FOLLOWING representation from the community about Argyll and Bute Council's plans for land at Ganavan, Oban Community Council will be hosting a special public meeting on Monday (May 23) from 6pm to 7pm in the Phoenix Cinema, Oban.

There will be an opportunity for members of the public to voice any concerns they may have and the community council will then submit these comments to Argyll and Bute Council.

Isle of Eriska goes for gold

THE Isle of Eriska hotel is going for double gold at the Catering Scotland (CIS) Excellence Awards.

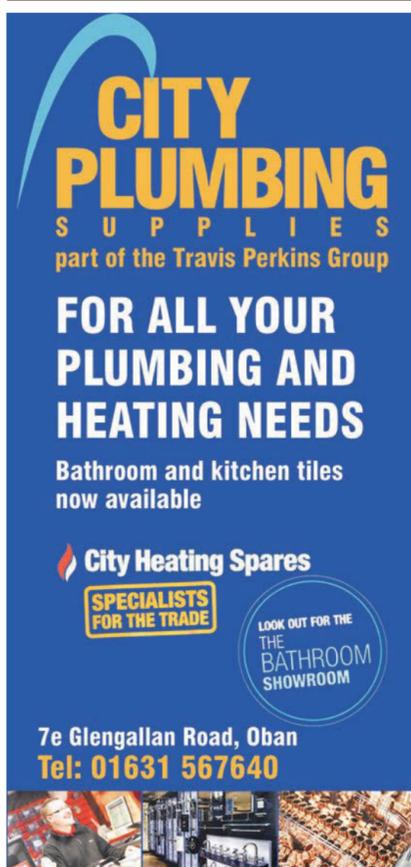
The luxury five-star, family-run private island has been shortlisted for both Independent hotel and independent restaurant of the year at this year's awards, which will take place in Glasgow on Thursday May 26.

Artists wanted for St Conan's project

ST CONAN'S Kirk has been chosen as one of the top 100 Scottish buildings of the 20th century.

The Friends of St Conan's Kirk are now calling on artists and Oban Art Society to help create a wonderful 'Paint your way around the Kirk' – offering an opportunity to contribute an interpretation of the Kirk's architecture and also display work.

To get involved contact Monica Smyth on 01631 562668.



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Charity founder meets with Pope

A DALMALLY-BASED charity has been given the Pope's blessing and urged to continue the good work. Mary's Meals provides one good meal to some of the world's poorest children every school day.

The charity is registered in Dalmally and was founded by Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow, who grew up in Argyll. Magnus met his holiness recently in Rome at the end of his weekly general audience in St Peter's Square – accompanied by Francesco Stefanini who is the executive director of Mary's Meals, Italy.

Speaking in Italian, the pontiff expressed joy on hearing Mary's Meals is now helping to feed more than one million school children across five continents.

Pope Francis said: 'Avanti! Avanti! Che Dio benedica il Vostro lavoro.' Which translates into: 'Onwards! Onwards! Onwards! May God bless your work.'

Mary's Meals began its work in 2002, following Magnus' visit to Malawi. At this time the organisation ensured 200 Malawi children had something to eat.

After the meeting at the Vatican, Magnus said: 'Those

forceful words of Pope Francis, spoken from the depths of his heart, will remain forever a source of encouragement to me, and I hope for all of us in the Mary's Meals family.'

'He urges us to go forward – always onwards towards that next hungry child waiting, towards this vision of ours that every child in the world might receive a meal every day in their place of education. We will remember his words especially whenever we feel discouraged, or tempted to think that the obstacles are too great.'

Pope Francis was gifted

a special copy of Magnus' bestselling book, which tells the story of Mary's Meals. The specially-bound edition, the first ever printed in the Pope's native language of Spanish, bore the words 'un regalo para el Papa Francisco' on the cover – 'a gift for Pope Francis'.

Magnus, who initially met the Pope in 2013, continued: 'I am profoundly grateful to the Scottish bishops who asked the holy father to meet with me and was so proud to be able to present the entire Mary's Meals family to him again, this time in the form of my book, which tells of our shared story.'



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Hi-tech idea connects with judges

A SKYE healthcare technology company has won the Connected Society award at the BT Infinity Lab SME Awards 2016.

Sitekit Ltd demonstrates how technology can help even the most vulnerable live healthily and independently. But it was its innovative eRedbook technology that stole the show at last week's competition.

The eRedbook is a digital version of the existing paper-based Redbook, which all parents of newborn babies receive to record and manage the health and development of their child.

The technology allows parents to share their child's record with health professionals to support the coordination of care. The eRedbook is accessible on computers, tablets and mobile phones.

It aims to improve a parent's engagement in their child's health and reduce the amount of administrative duties the NHS has.

The competition gave small to medium enterprises (SMEs) the chance to showcase their big ideas for innovative digital products and services to help cities become more connected, efficient and sustainable.

Split into three categories: Smart City, Connected Society and the Internet of Things - with one being crowned overall winner - entries were received from 70 companies, with just eight making the final shortlist.

B&B wins national recognition

A FRIENDLY bed and breakfast on Islay has beaten off tough competition to receive UK recognition.

Glenevedale House was one of six Scottish finalists in the 2016 AA friendliest Bed and Breakfast Awards.

Situated overlooking Laggan Bay, Glenevedale House combines luxurious accommodation with individual service and attention to detail. The building is more than 100 years old and owners Graeme and Emma Clark have enjoyed refurbishing it to a high standard.

Mr Clark said: 'We are so incredibly proud to be nominated and even more so to be a finalist for this prestigious award. This is a dream come true and makes every ounce of hard work and effort worthwhile.'

The winner of the friendliest bed and breakfast award was The Old Bakery near Norwich.

Islanders hear of problem in trying to recruit doctor

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ROSS of Mull residents have been told a new GP cannot be found to live in the area.

Some 70 Mull and Iona islanders gathered at Bunessan Hall on Monday May 9 for a question and answer session with NHS Highland, the Scottish Ambulance Service and the Localities Planning Group to ask: 'What's happening to our healthcare?'

Campaigners from the Ross of Mull Patient Participation Group (PPG) decked the packed hall with posters, including a nine-point 'we need' list calling for a 'resident GP, integrated emergency transport, resident practice nurse, local practice manager, a vulnerable households audit, emergency

plan, clarity of GP out-of-hours, improved 111', and 'improved patient opinion forms'.

Ross resident and PPG member Minty MacKay said: 'We need a resident doctor. We feel like we haven't been listened to.'

And Anne Baxter asked: 'Why has it taken two years to get a doctor? People have suffered.'

Dr Richard Wilson, primary care clinical lead for the Oban, Lorn and Isles Locality, replied: 'It's been identified as a need, and we're trying to address it.'

Mull and Iona Medical Group plans an integrated 'hub and spoke' model for the islands' primary care services, with 'spoke' GP practices in Salen, Tobermory, the Ross of Mull and Iona, and an out-of-hours GP based at the community hospital in Craignure. However,

residents are concerned they will not receive out-of-hours emergency care within an hour and, as reported in *The Oban Times* last week, gave a vote of no confidence in the Scottish Ambulance Service's side of the plans.

Dr Wilson told the Bunessan Hall meeting: 'We are not going to be changing surgery hours. You will have one principal doctor servicing the Ross of Mull and Iona. We would like our fourth doctor to be based in Bunessan.'

'If that doctor chooses to live here, brilliant, but we cannot legally force them because the model is a single island-wide service.'

'We are not here to save money,' he explained. 'A remote, isolated, single-handed service

is not a good way to provide primary care. If you've got an integrated service, you can provide healthcare to Iona, Bunessan and Tobermory.'

A resident replied: 'You're effectively grouping together into an integrated service Glasgow, Gretna Green and Carlisle. The travel distances are the same. When you say 'Isle of Mull', it sounds very neat but you're not taking account of the distances and that's what people are trying to say.'

The model, Dr Wilson said, would give patients a choice of doctor but one resident replied: 'If you lived in Bunessan, you wouldn't care.'

Recruiting rural GPs, Dr Wilson explained, was difficult across Scotland. He said: 'One in five doctors' practices in

Scotland are vacant. If you say you must live down here, you'll make it less likely to recruit. It was a discussion we had with two doctors to work as an island practice from Bunessan but they declined.'

Annie MacLeod, locality manager for Oban Lorn and Isles, added: 'We do not have a line of applicants. It's the same across the country: there are no doctors. We have to be creative.'

Nevertheless, she added, they were currently pushing hard to recruit. Future plans, Dr Wilson said, involved setting up an independent practice in the Ross, with a resident practice nurse and manager. 'You can work with us to put in place structures to build an independent practice,' he told the meeting.

Padding into a place in history

AT AROUND 6am on Thursday May 12 three adventurers set off to paddle the full 150km of the Argyll Sea Kayak Trail which spans the coastline of Argyll and Bute.

The route has been accomplished in its entirety by a number of paddlers to date but this group accomplished a double first - they completed the trail on stand-up paddle-boards and Dean Dunbar was the first registered blind paddler to complete the trail.

The team was made up of Ian



Ian Cormack, Allistair Swinsco and Dean Dunbar at the end.

Cormack from Glasgow, who runs SUP Ecosse; Allistair Swinsco from Carlisle, who runs Northwest Paddleboards; and registered blind paddler Dean Dunbar from Blairgowrie, who is an inspirational public speaker.

The team members are all highly experienced paddlers and completed the 150km trip in just under four days.

The trio started the trail from Ganavan at Oban last Thursday, and arrived in Helensburgh on the afternoon of Sunday.

The challenge was originally thrown down by Oban stand-up paddle boarder Cathy Winter-ton. She was planning to be part of the team but unfortunately, due to family commitments, had to pull out.

Dean said: 'I was first told about this route last year, and since then I've been waiting to get started.'

'I'd like to thank Argyll and Bute Council, which has been of great support during the planning of this trip.'

As well as the water team, there were two support vehicles on land throughout the trip, being driven by Rhona Dunbar (and Stumpy the dog) and Ali-son Rennie.

Rally of classic vehicles drives crowds wild with excitement



MEMBERS of the Oban and District Classic Vehicle Club travelled to Inverness on Saturday to take part in the BID Inverness Classic Vehicle Show.

Now in its eighth year, the Inverness event attracted more than 200 classic vehicles, including cars, vans, lorries, buses and tractors.

The vehicles attracted large crowds

with a parade through the streets, led by the Northern Constabulary Pipe Band being the finale of the event.

Kevin Devine, chairman of the Oban club, said a similar event was being

planned to take place in Oban in September following the success over the past two years of the Motorfest event run by BID4Oban and the Oban and District Classic Vehicle Club.

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MULL lines



The 14 swimmers celebrate their achievement in crossing the Sound of Mull.

Going swimmingly!

On Saturday May 14, 14 swimmers - eight from the Wild Highlanders swimming group based in the Inverness area (Helen Beveridge, Hilary Richardson, Hannah Richardson, Terry Gallagher, Dominic McAdam, Lorna Stanger, Cathy Jones and Laura Walker) - took part in the Sound of Mull swim from Fishnish back to Lochaline on the mainland.

The water was cold, between 7°C and 9°C, while wind, tides and shipping added to the complexities of the challenge.

The swim itself was successful and all 14 completed the event. The tide became a problem towards the end of the swim but the swimmers kept going and successfully finished the challenge.

CalMac kindly supported the swim by allowing the swimmers free passage as foot passengers from Lochaline to Fishnish.

It was a beautiful and sunny day and almost £3,000 was raised for the charity Children with Cancer. This was the final swim in a series of six, with five smaller swims to build up to the big one in the Sound of Mull.

Those five training swims were Ballachulish on

September 13 last year, North Connel to the Falls of Lora on October 11, Dallachulish to Loch Creagan on November 1, Corran Ferry on January 31, and Skye Bridge on April 24.

All the swims were organised by Jeff Forrester, who had thought that the Sound of Mull was too hard for anybody to swim. So he thought up doing six swims for charity.

All of these were channel crossings and were dangerous from the cold and tides with the final three also being busy shipping channels. Each



Joey Gough presents the cash to John Hill, right, and Billy Forteith of Oban lifeboat.

swimmer wore a tow float and was paired up with another swimmer with a safety RIB and kayaks circling them.

Jeff's idea had been to bring people together who loved to swim to achieve a dream.

All of the advertising for the six swims was done through Facebook or on a website @www.Highlandopenwaterswims.wordpress.com where anyone can join.

Help is still needed to raise £3,000 so please keep donating.

Readers can also join in with the swimming because there will be more in future, so fill in a registration form to give it a try.

Lifeboat cashes in on muster

OBAN lifeboat has been awarded a cash donation of £823.74 after a collection was made at the Royal Highland Yacht Club's (RHYC) spring muster.

Held in Loch Spelve, Isle of Mull, and hosted by Douglas and Helen Wilson, who run Inverlussa Shellfish, the muster has a traditional mussel feast ashore at Inverlussa, all courtesy of the Wilsons.

RHYC supplies the wine, cream and onions to add to the Wilsons' excellent fare and cook up a selection of different recipes. In return for the Wilsons' generosity, the club holds a collection for its favourite charity, the RNLI.

Stephen Quaile, RHYC vice-commander, led the muster and was delighted at the amount collected for the evening from the 100 members attending.

Mr Wilson said: 'We have been associated with this event for quite a number of years and are delighted to provide the shore facilities and mussels.'

'It is lovely to welcome everyone here. We enjoy this social occasion and the donations are for a great cause.'

'Our work is with the sea, as is the enjoyment of RHYC members, so the RNLI is really important. We feel it's great all sectors can work together to each others' mutual benefit.'

Immediate past commodore Joey Gough presented the cash to John Hill, coxswain, and Billy Forteith, operations manager, of Oban lifeboat.

Residents cause a stink over scheme for sewage disposal

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SCOTTISH Water's plans to pump sewage from Seil into a conservation area at Easdale Bay will contravene European law, island campaigners have claimed.

At Seil and Easdale's most recent community council meeting, The Seaview Residents group outside Ellenabeich accused Scottish Water (SW) of wasting £11 million of taxpayers' money on the 'badly designed and built' Clachan Seil Waste Water Treatment Works at Balvicar, installed in 2008 against the community's wishes.

The membrane plant, unable to separate run-off from heavy rain, has been causing an overflow of untreated human waste into Balvicar Bay.

Scotland's environmental regulator SEPA (Scottish Environment Protection Agency) has been reviewing 'the high frequency of spills from the combined sewer overflow'.

And SW has acknowledged the plant is 'currently not able to consistently treat all the waste water flowing into it', attributing it to 'membrane fouling, over-optimistic design filtration and freshwater ingress'.

The Seaview Residents group said Scottish Water's spillage data from 2012-14 'makes disturbing reading', citing 365 spillage events in 2014 alone, far above the 1.6 predicted each year.

Last year, according to SW's annual January report to SEPA, records ceased due to 'telemetry signal issues' from January 1 to August 8, after which the plant



There are fears that raw, untreated sewage will be flung ashore at Seaview Terrace every time there is stormy weather.

overflowed untreated sewage 41 per cent of the time.

'So by poor design or incompetence,' the group added, 'Scottish Water has succeeded concentrating raw sewage from 160-plus properties into the most significant shellfish growing area of Seil Sound.'

The Seaview Residents group is 'totally opposed' to SW's '£1.8 million' holistic solution to turn the Clachan/Balvicar plant into

“Waters of the shoreline around Easdale will be polluted”

a pumping station, and pipe raw sewage over the 50m high hill to a new septic tank at Seaview Terrace, then out into Easdale Bay, which is a Marine Protected Area and a Special Area of Conservation. More than 50 per cent of Seil's adult population signed a petition against the idea last year.

'As freshwater floats, with the prevailing winds, the waters of the shoreline around Easdale

will be polluted,' they wrote, quoting one resident who called it 'breathtaking in its ineptitude'.

Seaview resident Jean Ainslie argued untreated sewage would still spill into the bay, and be vaporised by storms, blowing it on to roads, gardens and fields where livestock feed. 'They are looking at the cheapest and nastiest solution,' she told *The Oban Times*.

At the last community council

meeting, Ms Ainslie, the group's spokesperson, argued a UV treatment plant would cause minimal disruption and remove the need to pump sewage over the hill. She added: 'We believe if Scottish Water pushes ahead with its original proposal to pump poorly-treated sewage into the Special Area of Conservation, it will be in breach of European directives and it may be necessary to take a complaint to Europe to stop this.'

Scottish Water said it is studying alternatives. When asked what and where its other options were, and when investigations would begin, it responded: 'We are currently developing a project to meet European directive requirements for waste water treatment at Seaview Terrace.'

'At the same time, we are looking at options to address performance issues at the current treatment works at Balvicar, with a focus to ensure we deliver compliant and sustainable waste water services for customers on Seil. This project remains at a relatively early stage and we are currently carrying out investigation work.'

SW also invited community councillors and Argyll and Bute councillors to join a stakeholder group, chaired by Michael Russell MSP, with 'an independent expert', who those at the meeting discussed appointing themselves. But SW responded: 'We will be appointing an external independent expert to help guide thinking and provide additional reassurance as part of this stakeholder group.'

A community information event will also be announced soon.

Motorists are driven to distraction by bad road

DRIVERS in Oban have raised concerns about the state of the road surface and traffic flow at the junction of Soroba Road and Lynn Road.

The Oban Times has received a number of complaints.

One driver, who asked not to be named, said: 'While the potholes the length of Soroba Road are becoming a serious issue, particularly at the junction with the high school, my main issue is that the road is always congested.'

'At morning rush hour, I have seen cars at a virtual standstill all the way back to the waterworks as you head out of Oban towards Kilmore.'

'Other than the traffic lights at the high school junction, there seems to be no apparent reason for this.'

'The traffic lights at the junction often seem to be out of sequence, so maybe that is the cause.'

'There has been talk in the town that what is needed there is a roundabout, which would no doubt help the traffic flow in the area.'

After contacting Argyll and Bute Council about the concerns, a spokesperson told *The Oban Times*: 'We are aware that this [congestion] is a matter of concern and are looking at adjusting the sequence of the lights to optimise the flow of traffic while at the same time maintaining pedestrian safety.'

'There are no current plans for a roundabout.'

'The roads are maintained on a regular basis but if people have any particular concerns they should get in touch with the council.'

To contact the council about a roads issue, visit www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/transport-and-streets or call 01546 605514.

Bike run could be one in a million

OBAN is the starting point tomorrow (Friday) for a £1 million fundraising quest, as a group of cyclists embark on a 260-mile, three-day coast to coast challenge for four Scottish charities.

More than 90 current and former employees of BP are saddling up to raise money for MND Scotland, mental health charity Support in Mind Scotland children's charity Charlie House and family support charity Home-Start Aberdeen.

In its seven previous years, the coast to coast event has raised more than £837,000, which includes matched funding from BP, and the group is hopeful that this year's efforts will propel the total into seven figures.

The cyclists will split into two groups, following a south route from Oban and a north route from Skye, with both finishing



The intrepid band of cyclists display the routes they're ready to roll across.

together in Aberdeen on Sunday. The Oban group will set off from outside the Lancaster Hotel between 8am and 9am.

'This is a particularly important year for the coast to coast

challenge,' said participant Jon Turnbull, who has been involved since day one. 'There is an extra buzz due to the £1 million target and the additional capacity to raise even

more for good causes.'

Anyone who wishes to donate to this year's coast to coast fundraising effort can do so at: http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/team/c2c_8.



Nick and Nikki Horne show their awards along with staff Lorraine O'Hare and Rita Thomson.

Hotel is simply the best

A FAMILY-RUN hotel in Port Appin has received multiple accolades at a prestigious awards ceremony.

The Pierhouse Hotel was recognised in five categories at the Scottish Hotel Awards 2016, winning bar of the year and family hotel of the year for the Argyll and Lomond area.

People of Excellence Awards were given to the hotel's food and beverage manager Lorraine O'Hare, and bar manager Rita

Thomson. Pierhouse owners Nick and Nikki Horne were also crowned Scottish independent hoteliers of the year.

On receiving the prizes, Mr Horne said: 'Nikki and I are delighted to receive these awards and to see our team being recognised in this way.'

'It is an honour to be named Scottish independent hoteliers of the year - and it's a reflection of the passion and hard work of the whole team.'

Islanders praise new ferry service

THE ADDITION of an extra ferry on the Oban to Craignure service is revolutionising island life for local residents as well as visitors.

CalMac recently switched the *MV Coruisk* from the Mallaig to Armadale (Skye) route due to the expected increase in passenger numbers to Mull this summer following the introduction of the Road Equivalent Tariff (RET) last year.

Mull Councillor Alistair MacDougall welcomed the new ferry service for the island. He said: 'The addition of the *MV Coruisk* has made a huge difference to the island.'

'With the introduction of the RET making ferry travel much cheaper, we anticipated an increase in visitors and were delighted when it was confirmed there would be an extra ferry.'

Councillor MacDougall, who is Argyll and Bute Council's policy lead for transportation, added: 'Not only is it a wonderful resource for tourists to visit our beautiful island - providing a huge boost for local businesses, from cafés to outdoor sports companies and everyone in between - it's great for local people, meaning there are now sailings every daylight hour,

making Mull better connected to the mainland.'

'To accommodate this huge increase in visitor numbers, our piers and harbours team has made small improvements to Craignure pier, as well as putting measures in place to effectively manage traffic coming off the ferry, making for a smooth arrival to Mull.'

Councillor Mary-Jean Devon, who also lives on Mull, said: 'We are so pleased with this new service. It's providing such a boost to the island, bringing in people, supporting jobs and creating more for local people on the boat itself. 'From a children and fam-

ilies perspective, it's a real game-changer, making it so much easier for people to get on and off the island for medical appointments as well as for our children getting to and from Oban.'

'It's opening up even more opportunities for them to get involved in sports and recreation clubs or even do something as simple as go to the cinema.'

'With a ferry every hour, it takes the time pressure away.'

'Island connectivity is so important for the health and wellbeing of our community.'

'We're delighted and hope that the service continues long into the future.'

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George White on the West Highland line.

Burning passion is dampened

A ROMANTIC gesture turned into a 'bit of a nightmare' as a journey from Liverpool to Argyll was marred by train delays, forest fires and wilting flowers, writes *Monica Gibson*.

Visitor George White was travelling north to meet his girlfriend last Wednesday, who is studying ballet at Ballet West near Taynuilt. He left home at 10.30am hoping to arrive in the early evening but his schedule was thrown out of sync after an incident on the line during the first leg of his journey.

Undeterred, Mr White picked up some flowers in Glasgow for his other half, whom he had not seen since Easter. However, things went from bad to worse as his next train got stuck at Garelochhead station due to a forest fire near the line.

The 6.21pm service from Glasgow Queen Street was disrupted for more than an hour as smoke engulfed the line.

Mr White said: 'I should have arrived at 7.30pm which changed to 9.30pm because of the first delay. This is not the day I had in mind - it's turned into a bit of a nightmare. To be honest, though, I'm really into photography and the scenery around here is just fantastic so there's definitely worse places in the world to be stuck. I have been up here before for a family holiday but that was years ago. The views up here are much better than I remember.'

Once firefighters had the blaze under control, the train proceeded but evidence of the flames could still be seen.

Tanya Campbell, from California but who now lives in Edinburgh, was heading to Oban with her husband Colin and mum Judith, who was visiting from the US. She said: 'I think every train journey should have a pause. Maybe not quite as long as this one, but it gave us time to figure out where we are on the map. We made friends and took in more of this beautiful scenery. What's not to love?'

School pipe band triumphs

Oban High School Pipe Band triumphed at the 60th Gourrock Highland Games on Sunday May 8, winning in the novice juvenile, juvenile and the best drum corps categories.

The high school's A and B pipe bands are out competing again on Saturday May 21 at the British Pipe Band Championships in Paisley, playing alongside Oban Pipe Band and others from Argyll.



Taking the pathway to success

MARTIN LAING
mlaing@obantimes.co.uk

AN OBAN High School pupil, who only arrived in Scotland seven years ago unable to speak English, has won a prestigious prize.

Natalia Chmielecka has been recognised in an innovative programme to help Oban high pupils into work. The Pathways project has seen prizes awarded to the top performing participants - with Natalia chosen as the outstanding student of the year.

Pathways, which has been running for eight years, recognised the top contributors from among the students - and won praise from school deputy head Tim Woodcock.

Natalia came to Oban from Poland and could not speak any English.

Now she has four Highers, is sitting another three this year, has had offers from all four universities she applied to in order to do primary teaching and has managed to achieve four awards in Pathways. The awards she has done are SQA safe road user and religious belief and values, Caritas and GCSE Polish.

Natalia also volunteers with the grey matters soup group, and is involved with St Columba's Cathedral children's liturgy and preparation for the sacrament.

Other award winners were Erin MacGregor, for outstanding achievement in Pathways volunteering; Ross Christie, for outstanding achievement in Pathways Scottish studies and the Scots language; Sophie Herron, for outstanding achievement in Pathways religious belief and values; Sophie Lamb, for outstanding achievement

in Pathways Scottish Studies; Euan MacNeil, for outstanding achievement in Pathways safe road user; Emma Thompson, for outstanding achievement in Pathways leadership and Connor Edwards for outstanding achievement in Pathways personal development.

Two businesses were also given outstanding Pathways providers awards - Argyll Commercials, which has supported Oban High School for more than 25 years, and Dunollie House, which offers a wide range of opportunities for pupils.

The Pathways Programme offers an extended work experience opportunity while also allowing pupils to gain additional wider qualifications linked to this experience.

This work experience lasts two hours per week for between five and nine months, allowing the pupils to develop a wide range of skills while gaining a thorough insight into their chosen industry.

Pathways has been running for eight years and was one of the first significant changes introduced when Peter Bain arrived as head teacher at Oban high.

Pathways was created in conjunction with a community partnership group involving local councillors and businesses and

“Pathways benefits a range of pupils.”

Tim Woodcock
Oban High deputy head

in its first year had 30 pupils on placement with 12 providers.

Pathways has grown significantly and now has 45 providers and 80 pupils on placement.

Pathways is currently exclusively for S6 pupils but the programme will grow further next year as it opens up to S5 and S4 pupils in a targeted manner. The idea behind opening it up to S4 and S5 pupils is to ensure they have the opportunity to gain extended and valuable work experience before leaving school.

Mr Woodcock said: 'Pathways has been very successful throughout the years which is why we continue to encourage high numbers of pupils to take it and also why we continue to dedicate time and resources to deliver it.'

'Pathways benefits a wide range of pupils with those looking to apply to university to professional and competitive degrees in law, vet medicine and teaching being able to gain insight into their fields before applying, which gives them a significant advantage over others at the application and interview stage.'

'It also allows pupils looking to go straight into the workplace the opportunity to begin building networks of contacts and attaining a reference. There have also been times where pupils have gained full-time employment from the Pathways provider they were with at school.'

'We would like to thank all the businesses and partners that have supported Oban High School with the Pathways programme over the past eight years and we would welcome any new businesses on board. If anyone would like more information please contact Aisling Clark at Oban High School on 01631 564231.'



Oban high head teacher Peter Bain presents Pathways awards to Natalia Chmielecka, main picture; Melanie Davies from Dunollie House, top right; Susan MacPhail from Argyll Commercials, above right; Erin MacGregor, below left; Amy Johnson, bottom left; and Sophie Lamb and Connor Edwards.



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Sail back in time with trip on the Waverley



Sail on the PS Waverley around Lorn and Mull next month.

A WORLD famous paddle steamer will be sailing from Oban, Mull and Tobermory next month to celebrate 70 years since its launch.

The Waverley will sail for four days to commemorate its anniversary, offering those on board the chance to see whirlpools, enjoy a night out on the evening cruise and admire beautiful scenery.

Passengers can cruise from Oban on Saturday June 4 over the sea to Skye and from Loch Nevis to Inverie on Sunday June 5.

On Monday June 6, there is a visit to Tobermory or cruise to Tiree and a sail round the Mull of Kintyre on Tuesday June 7.

Ross Cochrane, captain of the Waverley, said: 'The Waverley is a very special ship, full of history and charm and there is a trip for everyone - young and old - to enjoy.'

'Every passenger helps this beautiful ship to continue to sail and I would encourage everyone to come and enjoy a trip on her. Some of the best scenery in the world is in the west

coast of Scotland and Waverley offers a unique way to experience it. I look forward to welcoming you on board.'

The Waverley, the last sea-going paddle steamer, was launched on October 2, 1946. She made her maiden voyage on June 16, 1947.

Fares for the Waverley start at £19 for adults with discounts for senior citizens and children under 18. Under-fives go free. To book or for more information visit www.waverleyexcursions.co.uk or purchase tickets at Oban Tourist Information Centre.

Argyll hero who fought with Resistance is honoured

ARGYLL war veteran Hamish Craig, a British and French Resistance fighter in the Second World War, has been appointed a Knight of the National Order of the Legion of Honour by President François Hollande of France.

The 93-year-old, who grew up near Lochgair but now lives in New Zealand, was awarded France's highest decoration in recognition of his distinguished service and bravery.

During the war Mr Craig served in the UK's highly secret auxiliary units. He was parachuted, on his own, into German-occupied France to assist the rural guerrilla bands of French Resistance fighters, ahead of the Allied Normandy landings on D Day, June 6, 1944.

The secret nature of the work meant for 50 years it could not be disclosed, even to Mr Craig's family, and his daughter Ruth Craig said he was still not keen to talk about it.

'Hamish was bound by an oath of secrecy for 50 years,' she said, 'so this was part of his life that was never talked about.'

During a recent two-day visit to New Zealand, the Prime Minister of France, Manuel Valls, personally thanked Mr Craig for his courage and contribution to the liberation of France. He was also congratulated by the Prime Minister of New Zealand, John Key.

Mr Craig spent most of his early years at Carrick Farm near Lochgair, and attended school in Lochgilphead. He lived in Argyll after the war - at Carrick, Cladich and Lochgair - before moving to Devon. In the late 1950s he travelled with his young family to Otago in New Zealand, where he farmed sheep, and played the church organ.

He was married to Connie, who died in 2001, for more than 50 years. He has three children, three grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Ms Craig said her father was 'honoured and very proud' to receive the award.

Right: Hamish Craig as he looked as a young man, and now.



The marketing team of the year.

Best in the country

FAMILY-OWNED business Argyll Holidays is celebrating winning Scotland's marketing team of the year at the Scottish Entertainment and Hospitality Awards. Head of marketing Lisa Allan-Downie, with her team, accepted the award in front of 800 guests at the Glasgow City Hotel.

Ms Allan-Downie said: 'It's a brilliant award to win and is great recognition of the investment Argyll Holidays places in a brand of marketing which is truly beneficial to our customers. We've come a long way in the last four years and have completely transformed the way we market the business.'

Argyll Holidays, which runs Loch Awe and Loch Lomond holiday parks, among others, has been operating since 1967.

Half of Oban are told: 'You're not in the town or even Argyll'

KATIE CARABINE
reporter@obantimes.co.uk

OBAN residents were understandably confused last week to discover that the town has been split in two by BT.

Half of the town is, inexplicably, listed in the 2016-17 Highlands and Islands phonebook, while the other half is in the Lomond and Argyll directory.

In fact, it would appear that,

despite the map printed inside the cover of the Lomond and Argyll telephone directory showing all of Oban, all postcodes in the town starting with PA34 5 were left out and were considered by BT to be in the Highlands.

This means that anything north of Argyll Square – that is, all of the businesses on George Street, half of Stevenson Street and the North Pier, along with

many others – have been excluded from the Argyll book.

Postcodes starting with PA34 4 – ie, south of Argyll Square, such as those on Soroba Road – have remained in the Argyll listings.

Anthony Storr, of Lorn Locks and DIY Ltd, was surprised when he looked in his Lomond and Argyll directory and noticed that his home number, which is in Kilmore, was listed but the

business on Oban's Craighard Road was not there.

When he contacted BT to notify the firm that his business wasn't listed, it assured him it was, in fact, in the Highlands and Islands phonebook.

However, being an Argyll resident, he hadn't received a copy.

Understandably, Mr Storr was concerned about the effect this would have on his business as, despite half the town being list-

ed in the other directory, Oban residents are only receiving the Lomond and Argyll book.

He said: 'There's something far wrong and it reflects on businesses when people can't reach you. We are being penalised, in a way, for BT's incompetence.'

He contacted BT to raise these concerns and to seek an explanation as to why it had done this but at the time of going to print he was still awaiting a response.

Kathryn Fenmore-Spence also contacted *The Oban Times* about the issue.

She noticed that there had been a similar situation with the directories in 2014-15.

She said: 'It's a pretty bad mistake that nobody seems to have done anything about. Being in the phonebook is something we are paying for and we are not getting 100 per cent of the service.'

Hospice appeals for help

IDEAS and expertise are being sought by an Oban charity as it plots a new direction.

Oban Hospice has been raising funds since 1997 and the charity's mission has always been to support best practise in Lorn and the islands but over the years the hospice and its aims have widened considerably.

David Entwistle became chairman of the trustees three years ago after a career in social work spanning four decades.

He and fellow board members are hoping to raise the charity's profile ahead of their upcoming annual meeting following admissions from former donors that they had stopped supporting the charity because they were unclear where their money was going.

David said: 'We are not the best at blowing our own trumpet but every penny raised locally by Oban Hospice is spent locally. That is what we want to stress.'

'There are three strands to our work at the moment. Patient beds and beds for relatives, a day service one day a week, and a paid worker who supports people with advice, provides information about groups, clubs and alternative treatments suitable for that individual.'

Oban Hospice had hoped to build a dedicated hospice with beds and overnight capacity but the focus will now be more on care in the community.

Andreas Wolff, chairman of Oban Hospice, added: 'We have to thank the people of Oban for their generosity thus far. We have realised our limitations but we have also made progress. We are in negotiations with a company regarding potential premises for the all-encompassing hospice.'

The AGM will take place on Monday May 23 at 7pm in Glen-cruitten Church Hall. For more information call 07717 240659.

Dementia is a hot topic

FRIENDLY firefighters in Oban have shown their support for Alzheimer's as part of a new joint initiative.

Five regular watches and the team of retained firefighters from Oban became Dementia Friends after attending a course of one-hour classes over the past few months.

Organised by former fire officer Duncan Litster, alongside Alzheimer Scotland's dementia adviser Sue Pagan, the team learned five important key facts about dementia. They discovered what it is, what it isn't and how everyone can make small changes which make a big difference to those with the condition.

Derek Wilson, fire station manager in Oban, said: 'Working together with our community partners to achieve improved outcomes for the people we serve is incredibly important to all fire service personnel.'

'Firefighters at Oban have gained great insight into the impact dementia can have on daily living and how we can use this information

to improve our interaction and response for people with dementia both at operational incidents and through our free Home Fire Safety Visit programme.'

Mr Wilson added: 'We hope to ensure these skills are shared with more of our firefighters across Argyll and Bute for the benefit of our personnel and our communities.'

More than 80,000 people are affected by dementia in Scotland. Dementia Friends are part of a social action movement to increase awareness of dementia and address the stigma experienced by many living with the illness.

Ms Pagan said: 'I am really grateful that Duncan promoted Dementia Friends to his colleagues and delighted that Derek supported the initiative and is keen to see all of the firefighters in Argyll and Bute become Dementia Friends, which I think would be a first for a Scottish council area.'

'The more people who are Dementia Friends, the more our community becomes a place where people with dementia and their families can live well.'



Sue Pagan awards certificates to firefighters from Oban who have become Dementia Friends.

Classic story is given new life

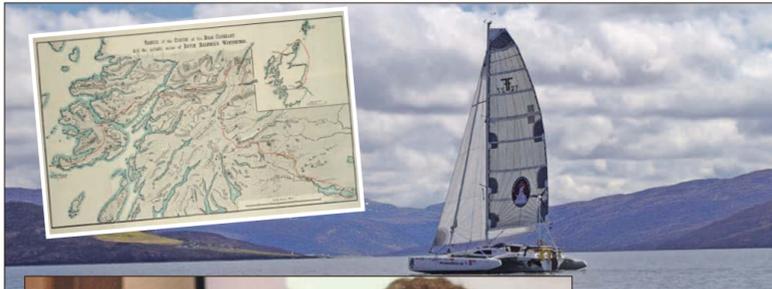
MODERN-DAY adventurers Alan Rankin and Willie Gibson are to create the first re-enactment of the Robert Louis Stevenson novel *Kidnapped*.

The duo will relive the adventure by sailing 500 miles around Scotland then walking 260 miles across the country.

Their adventure is 130 years to the month after Stevenson's literary classic was first published in 1886.

Mr Rankin, who lives in Carbridge, said: 'We will be using wind, wave and tidal energy to sail 500 miles around Scotland. All our electrical needs at sea will be 100 per cent renewable using solar and wind generators. Once we land, the 260-mile overland will all be on foot, and walking is as green as it gets. We believe this might just be the lowest ever 'carbon footprint' adventure around Scotland.'

The sailing route will see the intrepid adventurers sail on their catamaran *Trade Winds* from South Queensferry, northwards past Aberdeen, rounding Orkney and Cape Wrath, then around Skye, south of Tiree and



Undaunted Willie Gibson, left, and Alan Rankin are undertaking to following in the footsteps of Kidnapped character David Balfour by sailing around Scotland in the catamaran *Trade Winds*, before trekking across the country on foot to Edinburgh.

landing on the rocky island of Erraid, near Mull.

The walking route of 260 miles has more than 42,000ft of ascent and crosses Mull, Morvern, Appin, Glencoe, Rannoch Moor, the Trossachs, the Hillfoots and over the Forth to South Queensferry.

From there the pair will head into Edinburgh to finish, as the book does, at The Pleasance. The challenge will raise

funds for three charities: Parkinson's UK, Ocean Youth Trust Scotland and Stevenson Adventures.

Kidnapped tells the enduring tale of David Balfour's kidnapping and subsequent adventure as he is smuggled around the coast of Scotland, surviving ship-wreck, witnesses the infamous Appin Murder then flees the Redcoats with Alan Breck Stewart across Scotland

to South Queensferry and on to Edinburgh to claim his rightful fortune.

The adventure is due to start this Saturday but is subject to the weather. The challenge is expected to be completed within 18 to 20 days. Donations can be made at www.kidnapped130.com, or follow updates on Twitter at @kidnapped130 #BigSailWalk, or on Facebook.

Enjoy the 'Fyne' life at the Silvers Marine Scottish Series



Photo: www.yachtingimages.co.uk

THE SILVERS Marine Scottish Series will welcome more than 100 racing yachts to Tarbert, Loch Fyne, over the bank holiday weekend from Friday May 27 to Monday May 30.

Set on one of the most beautiful lochs in Scotland, this, the 42nd Scottish Series, is much more than just a yacht racing event – it has something for everyone both on and off the water.

For many it's a 'must do' weekend in the UK racing and social calendar.

The buzz of the event in the village of Tarbert and across at Portavadie provides a magnet of attraction for both locals and visitors. The influx of yachts, committee vessels and visitors by both sea and land and the accompanying shoreside activity makes it one of the busiest weekends in the year for the area and a destination in itself to enjoy.

Scottish Series 2016 - Social programme

Tarbert, Loch Fyne Friday 27 May

Music from Scott Macdonald
Prize Giving

4.00pm to 6.30pm The Marquee
6.30pm to 7.30pm The Marquee

Saturday 28 May

Lone Piper
A taste of local produce
Music from Scott Macdonald
Prize Giving
Firework Display
Dance to 'Big Vern 'n' the Shootahs'

9.00am to 9.30am The Harbour
2.00pm to 8.00pm The Marquee
4.00pm to 6.30pm The Marquee
6.30pm to 7.30pm The Marquee
10.30pm From the Castle
9.00pm to 9.45pm
and 10.45pm - 11.30pm The Marquee
8pm - 9pm, 9.45pm - 10.30pm
and 11.30pm to midnight - The Marquee

DJ - boogie to your favourite sounds

Sunday, 29 May

Lone Piper
Mid Argyll Pipe Band
Music from Scott Macdonald
Prize giving

9.00am to 9.30am The Harbour
4.00pm to 5.00pm The Marquee
5.00pm to 6.30pm The Marquee
6.30pm to 7.30pm The Marquee

Monday 30 May

Lone Piper
Prize Giving

9.00am to 9.30am The Harbour
4.30pm approximately The Marquee

www.scottishseries.com

Fostering offers such rich rewards

CHILDREN and young people in foster care are calling for more people to provide a safe, supportive and loving home for those in need.

The call comes following a new survey conducted to mark the start of the Fostering Network Scotland's Foster Care Fortnight 2016, which runs until May 29.

Some 261 young people with experience of being in care were asked about a range of issues aimed at identifying what they consider to be the key qualities needed to foster, and about the difference these made to their lives in foster care.

The top three qualities were:

- making them feel safe and secure (67 per cent),
- supporting and helping them (61 per cent),
- loving them (54 per cent).

According to one fosterer, offering care provides hugely positive rewards.

The fosterer said: 'It is hard to encapsu-

late what the whole experience has been like.

'First and foremost, it has been rewarding; deep satisfying, life-changing rewarding.

'It is easy to forget the loss that looked-after children have suffered. In the midst of their loss and grief, how easy it is to forget that, as a child taken into care you are expected to adjust and adapt to completely different surroundings, a different lifestyle and live with people you've never met.

'If you are a school-age child, this can mean a new school. I'd find myself kicking and screaming and begging for this not to be happening to me but realising that I have no choice.

'Children react differently, of course. Some may become aggressive, while others are withdrawn and may even be unnaturally compliant.

'These children need dedicated carers.

Wouldn't you like to be able to help children to feel as safe, secure and loved as possible, help them to cope with trauma, include them as part of your family and nurture them?

'Many people don't start the process because they say they could never give the children up. If this is you, then just ask in what way does that help these children? Children aren't given up – they move on, often to a permanent home where they can grow and develop. As a foster carer you take comfort in the knowledge that you have played a part in their development.

'Even if you have a spark of interest, find out a little more. There's an in-depth introduction and assessment process which is enlightening and will help equip and inform you about what is involved and expected.'

For information on becoming a foster carer call 01546 605517 or email fpduty@argyll-bute.gov.uk.

Kilmore

KILMORE and District Scottish Women's Institute (SWI) members celebrated their success at the recent Argyll Federation Annual Show when they held their annual general meeting on Wednesday May 11.

Left to right, are: Jane Derby, who won the Allerdyce Trophy for photography; Maimie Nicolson holding The MacPherson Trophy for the institute with most points per member; current president Anne Ferguson with the Institute Shield for the most points achieved by a medium-sized institute, and Ann Stewart, who won the Flower Trophy for a large flower arrangement.

At institute level, Maimie Nicolson also won the Elma Lennox Memorial Plate for her garden on a plate and Ann Ferguson won the Cologin Cup for the most points achieved throughout the session.



Taynuilt

JESSIE Servant welcomed 14 members to the annual general meeting of Taynuilt Scottish Women's Institute in the village hall on Wednesday April 13.

All the members voted a new committee in and the tellers for the evening were Jean Reid and Florence Anderson, who did a first class job.

Alice Campbell organised a game after business had been completed.

Competitions: Design a place mat - 1 Alice Campbell. Small flower arrangement - 1 Marlene Stanners; 2 Alice Campbell.

Hostesses for the evening were the non-committee members who provided a lovely tea.

The shield for the most points over the year was won by Alice Campbell. The tray was awarded to Jessie MacFarlane for second place and the small cup was won by Ann Sutherland for third place.

Glenorchy and Innishail

Glenorchy and Innishail Community Council has received a letter from residents about dangerous trees at Lochawe.

At a meeting of the community council last week, the treasurer told members that ScottishPower, which owns the land, would carry out tree surgery but would not do purely cosmetic work. A summary was read of progress on Community Rail Partnerships on both the West Highland Line and the Helensburgh to Oban Line, designed to improve relationships between railway communities and ScotRail.

Emma raises £1,000 at her 30th birthday party



Emma MacDougall, centre left, and friends celebrate her 30th birthday at Glenruitten Golf Club.

EMMA MacDougall celebrated her 30th birthday at Glenruitten Golf Club last Friday, raising £1,000 for her two favourite charities.

Emma, of Oban, who has Down's Syndrome, invited 150 friends who went along and donated cash instead of giving presents and raised £500 each for Riding for the Disabled and the Outreach Pool, both of which she has attended for years.

'People were more than generous,' Emma's mum Marie said. 'They were so kind.'

Despite Emma's request, she was showered with gifts. 'Thank you to everyone who gave presents and made donations,' Marie added, paying tribute to her daughter's fundraising skills.

'There's nothing she can't do.'

Hospital thanks groups for monitor donations

HEART monitors ideal for cardiac patients on the islands have been bought by Oban hospital thanks to £4,100 raised by two organisations.

Two donations of £3,500 from Argyll Beats Cardiovascular Disease (ABCD) and £600 from the Lorn Ploughing Match have helped Lorn and Islands Hospital pay for six portable heart monitors.

'They are a great asset to the cardiac department,' specialist cardiac physiologist Jayne Mahmoud told fundraisers at a demonstration in the hospital's cardio-respiratory unit.

'They're small but extremely useful. With these we can send patients home, and it will monitor their heart rhythm for up to seven days. They are ideal for patients on the islands.'

The monitors, which cost

£1,500 each, were then modelled by social worker Ryan Whiteside, who joked to the room: 'Let's hope I don't get bad news.'

Thanking both organisations, Ms Mahmoud added: 'The ploughing match has donated so much over the years, in excess of £9,000. ABCD has also been a great supporter, donating money for two portable cardiac ultra-sounds.'

ABCD volunteer Andy Henderson said the money was raised through the charity's events and donations and has raised more than £250,000 since it started in 2000.

Donnie Campbell of Lorn Ploughing Match, which raised the cash at its annual contest in Connel in March, explained: 'There's quite a few of us who have benefited from this place. I'm very grateful.'



Left to right, Donnie Campbell, Charlie Campbell and Gregor MacCormick of the Lorn Ploughing Match, Jayne Mahmoud, Alfie MacKenzie, Andy Henderson, Caroline Henderson, Willie Melville and John Barbour of ABCD, associate specialist of medicine Dr Nicky Campbell and nurse practitioner Stuart Macdonald. On the gurney, Ryan Whiteside. 15_T21 hospital donation 01

MORVERN
lines

Loch Teacuis - a once-avoided sea loch attracts visiting yachts

HISTORY was made in Morvern a few weeks ago when a flotilla of seven yachts belonging to members of the prestigious Royal Highland Yacht Club (RHYC) sailed into Loch Teacuis and anchored for the night.

Probably not since the commandos were training in the area during the Second World War, had so many vessels been seen in the loch at the same time.

Every season the RHYC holds three on-the-water musters. This year the first was in Loch Spelve and attracted nearly 40 boat owners, seven of whom decided to take advantage of the fine weather and set sail for Loch Teacuis the following day. Their mission was two-fold. Firstly, to reconnoitre the reputedly difficult entrance and, secondly, to investigate the possibility of using the loch for a future muster.

Leading the flotilla was Commodore and Mrs Boyd Holmes in their magnificent blue-hulled, 45-foot sloop *Blue Damsel* wearing the blue ensign and flying a commodore's swallow-tailed, broad pennant at the masthead and a civil jack at the bow when at anchor.

Accompanying *Blue Damsel* were *Far2Go*, *Sand Dollar*, *Perdika*, *Loose Cannon*, *Leumadair of Lorne* and *True Brew*.

It was a perfect West Highland spring evening with cuckoos calling incessantly from the newly-leaved oak and birch woods. Sea trout plopped in the shallows, deer grazed by the water's edge and the yachts floated idly from side to side in the dying breeze presenting a fine spectacle.



The RHYC flotilla at anchor in Loch Teacuis.

Describing Loch Teacuis as a truly, heavenly place; a haven of peace and quiet, Commodore Boyd Holmes said: 'Whilst many yachtsmen choose to avoid Loch Teacuis, its challenging entrances should no longer frighten the adventurous who enjoy exploring remote and interesting anchorages. The advice in the latest Clyde Cruising Club sailing directions, which reflect surveys undertaken by Antares Charts, is spot on and has really opened up this perfect gem on the west coast to a wider audience of sailors. Entering the loch with Antares charts running with GPS on a computer or smartphone removes much of the anxiety previously felt by yachtsmen.'

'On our visit we were lucky to identify the perfect shore site to hold a future muster and to learn that the landowner is well disposed to yachtsmen and women going ashore in this enchanting place. With only occasional exceptions, we find west coast landowners most amenable to approaches to hold musters on their land adjoining suitable anchorages. Many go further by offering the use of shelter and barbecues; and firewood for the traditional muster bonfire - the best midge repellent.'

Loch Teacuis has much to offer whether you arrive by yacht or canoe.

For the archaeologist and historian there is the fascinating vitrified Iron Age fort on top of the Giant's Knoll, guarding the narrow entrance to the inner loch and an easily accessible 4,000-year-old burial cairn near Carnliath on the north shore. Not far away is Rahoy House, available to rent, where Dr John MacLachlan (1804-74), the famous Gaelic bard and physician was born. For naturalists there is the chance of sighting sea and golden eagles, otters and seals.

An old public footpath starts off from Carnliath and meanders over the hill to Glencripesdale and Laudale from which there are some of the finest views in Scotland.

Another right of way runs past the former school house at the head of the loch and along to the old village of Barr with its famous waterfall. Eventually the path, which is suitable for walkers and mountain-bikers, comes out at Drimmin and provides an all-encompassing circular day trip via Lochaline.

It is evident from local place names that the adventurous sea-faring Vikings found their way into Loch Teacuis and stayed long enough to repair their long-ships. Lying close to the great maritime highways of Loch Sunart and the Sound of Mull, it provided a perfect base from which to explore the surrounding countryside. It still does.

There are fish in abundance in Loch Teacuis and brown trout fishing in two neighbouring freshwater lochs. For the gourmet chefs, luscious Samphire grass is to be found in season on the saltings and, when the tides are very low, scallops and mussels are to be had once you know where to look for them.

There was a time when Loch Teacuis was known as the 'forbidden loch' because of its perceived inaccessibility and hostility of some of the adjoining landowners. Indeed, when Marine Protection Areas were being pushed through the Scottish Parliament recently, a group of local people wanted to have yachts banned from Loch Teacuis altogether.

Their argument was to protect some underwater plants but the real reason was to keep the loch as a private lagoon. Thankfully they were unsuccessful. Silly notices about roaming bulls and unsolicited vehicles, redolent of the bad old days, are still to be seen but can safely be ignored in these enlightened times.

Congratulations to the RHYC members for tackling the not-so-difficult Carna Narrows and providing such a wonderful sight for those fortunate enough to live along the loch side. 'Haste ye back'.

Iain Thornber
iain.thornber@btinternet.com

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The Oban Times & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

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TWO WELL-KNOWN football managers took centre stage at a fund-raising event in Plockton Hall.

Plockton Football Club organised an evening with Craig Brown, ex-Scotland and Aberdeen manager, and Archie Knox, former assistant with Craig Brown at Aberdeen, Sir Alex Ferguson at Manchester United and Walter Smith at Rangers and Everton.

More than 50 people attended and enjoyed the evening on April 25. Chairman was Dougie Pincock and more than £200 was raised for Plockton Football Club.

PLOCKTON Historical Society presented a talk on the history of Kishorn rig project in story and song by various local speakers who had worked there.

The event, on April 28 in Plockton Hall, was chaired by Robert Kennedy.

DURING April in Plockton there was 3.5 inches of rain. The warmest day was 16.6°C and coldest was 0.5°C. This year there has been 20 inches in the first four months compared with 27.5 in 2015.

THE ANNUAL 'Bruce Cruise' on Calum's seal trip boat was held on April 9 in memory of Alasdair Bruce.

Plockton

The record sum of £1,050 was raised with £500 going to prostate cancer research and the remainder shared between Kyleakin Connections, Lochalsh Junior Pipe Band and Friends of Broadford Hospital.

THE 31ST annual general meeting of Skye and Lochalsh Sports Council was held at Portree High School on April 25.

Charlie M Macrae, chairman since 1999, was re-elected. Drew Miller continues as vice chairman as does secretary/treasurer Peter Gordon and Bob Anderson as auditor.

An executive committee of 10 was also elected, with two new members.

The council was waiting on information from Highland Council about the future of grant money to sports councils, which is expected to be massively cut over the next two years.

The secretary reported on the past year. The council distributed 20 grants totalling £6,800. Thirty clubs covering 12 sports joined the council.

The next meeting will be in Kyleakin hall on Monday July 4.

Inveraray hosts business workshop

A WORKSHOP designed to help provide companies with the tools to bid for energy efficiency and renewable contracts in the public sector is to be held in Inveraray next month.

Part of a series of one-day procurement workshops run by the Energy Saving Trust, in partnership with the Supplier Development Programme, the workshop will be held on Wednesday June 1, from 9am to 4.30pm at the Loch Fyne Hotel and Spa.

Mike Thornton, director of the Energy Saving Trust in Scotland, said: 'It is important energy efficiency installers, assessors, consultants and other suppliers have the skills to bid for these contracts.'

'Our research clearly identified paperwork as the greatest barrier facing SMEs in the low carbon and renewables sector. Our guide has been specifically designed to address this by explaining the key elements of public sector procurement to make it less onerous for suppliers.'

SiMBA help for baby loss

ELLIE FORBES
reporter@obantimes.co.uk

A NEW support group for families bereaved of new babies has been launched in Lochaber.

Simpson's Memory Box Appeal (SiMBA) works throughout the UK, supporting families and friends who have been affected by the loss of a baby before, during or after the birth.

SiMBA currently has support groups in Oban and Lochgilphead, and on Monday May 16 the Lochaber group held its first meeting.

The charity was set up in 2005 by Sara Fitzsimmons, a midwife in Edinburgh, who felt hospitals did not do enough to help parents in their most heart-breaking moments. On Saturday May 14 Ms Fitzsimmons, the charity's director, won the Caring Hero award at the Daily Record's Our Hero Awards.

Plans for the new group in Fort William started taking shape when Highland ambassador for the charity, Susan Simpson, discussed starting a Lochaber support group with a local mother who had lost her second child.

Leah Whyte, 35, from Caol, lost her son Iysa last March.

At more than 40 weeks pregnant, Ms Whyte was rushed to Raigmore Hospital in Inverness after Iysa stopped moving. When she arrived in Inverness doctors failed to find her son's heartbeat but one nurse noticed a flicker of a beat on the monitor and so Ms Whyte was rushed into theatre for a caesarean section. Sadly, Iysa died less than an hour later.

Following major complications during her first pregnancy, with



Leah Whyte, left, and Susan Simpson with SiMBA memory boxes.

her son Yusuf, three, Ms Whyte developed post traumatic stress disorder. During this time she resigned from her post with the Scottish Ambulance Service and discovered SiMBA.

The pair have been discussing setting up a support group in the area for more than a year.

Ms Simpson said: 'SiMBA wants to recognise and honour every baby.'

She found SiMBA after her youngest daughter, Eilidh Beth, was stillborn at 34 weeks in 2010. She said: 'Andrew and I left hospital with empty arms, a broken heart and only our daughter's hand and foot prints. I knew that there must be more that could be done for bereaved parents and an online search led me to Sara.'

Ms Simpson said: 'We set up the support groups because we need to bring people together to share experiences with each other and come up with coping mechanism. We want to teach people that the loss of a child is not something you move on

from but something we can learn to live with, and together we can.'

SiMBA has now offered Ms Whyte a place on their next training course in October to become a support group facilitator.

Ms Simpson said: 'We are a positive charity that deals with tragedy but we want to help families gather special memories of their child and encourage them to continue to build memories.'

The charity supplies memory boxes and precious items to hospital units to be gifted to bereaved families. The charity also hosts an annual Butterfly Release that brings families together in an act of remembrance. This year's events in Oban and Lochaber are on August 20. Meetings in Lochaber will be held from 7-9pm at The Hub, Fort William, on the third Monday of each month.

Ms Simpson added: 'Being from a small village, I am so passionate about reaching our most rural communities to spread the support.'

Memorial to a much-loved shinty star



The annual memorial shinty match in memory of Drew Ferguson, who died suddenly three years ago, aged just 24, was played at the weekend between Fort William and Kyle. Drew's mum Sheila presented the man of the match award to Fort William defender Sean Cameron. Full report and more pictures on page three.

Bold move to pay for new houses

A NEW move is to be made to secure funding for the construction of 'dramatically' more social housing.

Highland Council is to ask the Scottish government for an increase in housing grant to pay for the building of the maximum possible number of new homes.

Councillors have agreed a motion to approach the administration at Holyrood to request the same level of grant as housing associations.

Councillor Margaret Davidson, Aird and Loch Ness, put forward the motion, which was seconded by Councillor Drew Millar for Eilean à Cheò.

Mrs Davidson said it would be 'really helpful' for the council to be given equal levels of funding.

She said: 'If it increases the rate of grant the council gets, we could dramatically increase the supply and number of council houses we provide.'

In central Lochaber alone - Fort William, Caol, Corpach, Banavie, Upper Achintore, Inverlochy, Lochyside, Torlundy, Craggan and the Plantation - the housing demand far exceeds the supply, with 3,035 applicants on the housing and transfer lists while there is a total supply of only 1,213 homes available and 67 re-lets, a trend mirrored across Highland region as a whole.

Hunt continues for hillwalker

POLICE in Lochaber are appealing for information to assist in the search for Edward Davies, 39, from Hampshire who has been missing in Glencoe area since last Wednesday May 11.

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UCI MOUNTAIN BIKE WORLD CUP

PRESENTED BY SHIMANO

This year's multi award winning Fort William leg of the UCI Mountain Bike World Cup and BUFF@4X Pro Tour will be held over the first weekend of June (4th and 5th) and is billed to be the most exciting yet with new technical features and jumps being added to the 2.8km downhill course.

Recently named as the number one cycling event to attend in 2016 by Red Bull, and voted as UCI Best World Cup by teams, officials, riders and media a record-breaking nine times since 2002, the Fort William event is the third stage on the UCI World Cup downhill calendar.

More than 200 of the sports biggest stars, including 2015 World Champions, British rider Rachel Atherton, and France's Loic Bruni, will be competing on the slopes of Aonach Mor.

Alongside the competition, famous trials rider and YouTube record breaker Danny MacAskill, with his Drop and Roll Street Trials team, will be performing an range of impressive tricks and stunts which have won him his huge global fan base.

There will also be a variety of bike manufacturers, bike-wear brands and team sponsors stands in the World Cup Village, as well as plenty of food and drink stands offering the best of Scottish produce.

This year will be the last chance to see Steve Peat or 'Peaty' competing at the event.

Mike Jardine from Rare Management, the organiser of the event, said:

'We expect this year to be extra special as the mountain bike community

says goodbye to one of the true legends of the sport. The atmosphere will be electric.'

Since the UCI World Cup came to the Highlands 14 years ago, more than 250,000 fans have attended and the event has brought a welcome boost of £30m to the local Highland economy.

Paul Bush OBE, Visit Scotland's Director of Events, said: 'We have supported the UCI Mountain Bike World Cup for many years now and are looking forward to the 2016 event as much as ever.'

'The event is hugely important for the Highlands and for Scotland as a whole, and we are sure that mountain bike lovers in their thousands are already making travel arrangements for this exhilarating weekend of action'

Prices are the same as last year with tickets costing from £14 for adults and £8 for children aged between 6 and 17. Family packages are also available starting from £36.

Further information and ticket sales available at www.fortwilliam-worldcup.co.uk.



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Summer Weddings



Photo: Charné Hawkes Captivating Photography

WITH a gorgeous natural backdrop and a plethora of fairytale venues, the West Highlands is a renowned wedding destination, for local couples and for those coming from the furthest corners of the world.

A wedding may be the biggest party a couple will ever organise, so nothing should be left to chance. *The Oban Times'* Summer Wedding guide will help the bride and groom plan their perfect day. And a few tips will help make the process even smoother.

Compromise is an essential part of the wedding planning. This may be the

biggest day of a bride's life, but the groom can be involved as well. He may not be interested in the colours, the cake or the bridesmaids' dresses, and, in fact, he may not even care about the details – all he is thinking about is how happy his blushing bride will make him. But by asking him to make some important decisions, such as setting a budget, choosing groomsmen's outfits, sourcing rings and organising the honeymoon, the bride won't feel like she is doing everything – and he gets to put in his two pence-worth. Our advertisers can help make decisions as well, taking some of the strain off the couple. With that in mind, here is *The Oban Times'* three-point plan to help organise the big day with a minimum of stress.

1. Set a realistic budget. Weddings can be expensive, so make a priority

list and be ready to compromise. Our advertisers can help with this. And remember, years from now, everyone will remember the love and the fun, not whether they ate the most costly cake or drank the finest champagne.

2. Decide on a date. Speak to the celebrant first, whether it is a minister or a member of the council office, and get the date penned in before you make any plans. Then the venue can be booked and invitations printed.

3. Make a plan. By keeping a to-do list and planning well ahead, the busy bride can stay organised and keep on top of tasks. Keep records of everything, from discussions with the venue manager and caterer to fabric swatches.



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Fort William cinema could be open again within a year

ELLIE FORBES
reporter@obantimes.co.uk

LOCHABER Cinema Group's ambitious plans to reopen the Fort William movie theatre have taken another step forward with the granting of charitable status. The group has registered as a social enterprise, for the advancement of arts, drama and science, as well as for the provision of recreational facilities. This will enable the group to make progress with plans to reopen the cinema in Cameron Square, Fort William, following its closure 10 years ago. The chairwoman of the group, Marie Macpherson, told *The Oban Times* that the building would be run as a two-screen cinema, one of which would be a multi-purpose events venue, which could be used as a community hall or for other local events.

Ms Macpherson added that the building now needed to be surveyed and this should take place in the next six weeks. She added: 'We need a new lift and our fire escapes need to be upgraded. 'The work is going to cost around £500,000 to get the building up to public standard.' The group said that the next steps would be negotiating the lease on the building and attracting funding, which could possibly come from the National Lottery. The group also wants the cinema to create full- and part-time jobs. Ms Macpherson added: 'We hope to have the cinema finished this time next year but, of course, if we can get it done sooner, we will. 'We are doing everything we can to get it completed as soon as possible.'



Chairwoman of Lochaber Cinema Group Marie Macpherson outside the cinema in Fort William's Cameron Square.



Sheila Ferguson, centre, with the winning Kyle team and presenting the memorial trophy to their captain, John Whyte, inset.

Shinty teams in memorial game for Drew

FORT William shinty team held their annual memorial match in memory of Drew Ferguson at the weekend. The shinty star tragically died three years ago at the age of 24. Saturday marked the anniversary of Drew's death, and the Fort boys were out in full force, playing against Kyle.

Drew's mum, Sheila Ferguson, told *The Oban Times*: 'The match was a bit last minute but the boys wanted to play today. I'm delighted with the turnout for the match.' Sadly, for the Fort boys, they lost to visitors Kyle 1-3, but Fort defender Sean Cameron was awarded player of the match.

It was a beautiful day for the match, which was held at Fort William shinty club, and afterwards both teams and supporters were invited for tea and a buffet in the clubhouse. Mrs Ferguson presented the Drew Ferguson memorial trophy to Kyle's team captain John Whyte.

Toasting success for new café

GUESTS from Lochaber were invited to celebrate the official opening of the West Highland College's new Café TOAST. Around 60 people attended the launch, after the college completed the refurbishment of the café area, an upgrade of the training kitchens and Changing Places facility, for those with a disability. TOAST provided visitors with a complimentary afternoon tea, showcasing the wide variety of homemade healthy meals, soups, salads, sandwiches and sweet treats that are available from the café. Each guest also received a goodie bag containing a sweet treat and loyalty card for future visits. Fiona Haberl, café manager, said: 'We really are delighted to have such an enthusiastic turnout for our opening event. 'Our aim is to provide high quality, healthy food at a reasonable price, to our



Celebrating the opening of the new cafe, left-right, Mairi Mooney, Elma Kelly, Fiona Halbert, Liz Donaghue and Elana Campanile.

staff and students. 'However we very much want to welcome the public to sample our great food too and the café is open for everyone to enjoy all year round.' TOAST also has plans to have event catering as well as made-to-order packed lunches and frozen ready meals. Mairi Mooney, the new business manager for the café, said: 'It's great to

see so many local clubs and community groups creating such a lively atmosphere in the college today and we hope to see everyone again soon. 'We will also be catering for various special events over the summer months, so I would urge everyone to come along, sample some of our lovely food and keep an eye on what is going on in Café TOAST.'

POLICE FILES

- Between 3pm and 7.15pm on May 10 an attempt was made to force entry into a house on Bruce Place, Plantation, Fort William via the front door where damage was caused to the handle and lock.
- Between 5pm May 8 and 11am on May 9, two vehicles had their tyres slashed on Kennedy Road, Plantation, Fort William.
- About 4.45pm on May 8 a man approached a cyclist sitting on a bench at The Parade in Fort William, complimenting him on his bicycle. After asking the cyclist to try the bike, the suspect rode off towards the An Aird area. The suspect is described as about 22 years of age, white, 6ft tall, of slim build, with short dark hair, dark blue jeans but not wearing a top.
- Between 7pm on May 7 and 9am the following day, 100 litres of fuel was syphoned from a boat called *The Big Dipper* at Mallaig Harbour.
- About 12.50am on May 7 on Moss Road, Caol, a set of industrial jump leads, red and black in colour, were taken from a vehicle.
- Between May 5 and 7, six bags of wooden pellets used for a biomass heating system were stolen from the rear of an address on Blar Mhor road, Caol.
- Between April 28 and 29 a parking meter at the Glen Nevis visitor centre was damaged after an attempt was made to gain entry to the cash box it contained.
- Between 3pm and 5.10pm on April 28 a folding motorised golf trolley was taken from a cupboard in the changing rooms at the Dragon's Tooth golf course at Ballachulish.
- Between April 25 and 27, a vehicle was scratched along the bonnet and front doors while parked at an address on Heather Grove, Caol.
- Between March 18 and 28 approximately 300 litres of fuel was taken from a compressor drilling machine sited in a layby about a quarter mile west of Poulary, Invergarry, while being used in connection to house building at the location.
- Police are keen to speak to anyone who has any information about these incidents and remind the community to secure all property and valuables and to lock outhouses, sheds and vehicles. Police also request assistance from the community in the prompt reporting of any suspicious people, vehicles or activities, and to contact 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111.

TV star Paul drops into youth hostel beside loch

ONE of Britain's best-loved comedians and broadcasters Paul Merton recently visited Scotland's Loch Ossian Youth Hostel on Rannoch Moor as part of his current television series on Channel 4, which aired on Sunday evening. Paul Merton's Secret Stations explores the world of request stop railway stations in Britain. More than 150 of Britain's railway stations are request stops, where passengers have to put their arm out at the station, to get the train to stop at the platform. He visited Loch Ossian as part of his travelogue, in which he looks into the history of the stations, and meets the people who live and work around them to learn more about the unusual, and often overlooked, stations. In the final part of the programme, Mr Merton requested a stop at Corroul Station on the West Highland, Glasgow to Fort

William, line. From there he took a 20-minute walk to Loch Ossian where he talked to Jan Robinson, the hostel manager, who runs the 20-bed youth hostel all year round. The cosy hostel is eco-friendly too, with wind turbines, solar panels, composting toilets and a reed bed grey water drainage system. Ms Robinson said: 'We had a very lucky day for Paul's visit - the weather was amazing, sunny, blue sky, calm and no midges. 'Paul definitely appreciated the remoteness of the location, as well as asking all about the youth hostel and Scottish Youth Hostel Association. 'He was also very interested in the youth hostel's environmentally-friendly and energy-efficient systems.' The three-part series is available through catch-up on Channel 4.

BT seeks to hire new engineers

BT HAS announced plans to recruit an additional 35 engineers in the Highlands and islands. The company is particularly keen to hear from people in the areas of Fort Augustus, Fort William, Salen on Mull, and Lochailort. The new engineers will help Openreach, BT's local network business, to install new lines and fixing faults more quickly.

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Holocaust survivor is to visit school

A HOLOCAUST survivor has been invited to Lochaber High School to talk to pupils about his experiences as part of the school's participation in the Lessons from Auschwitz programme. The programme, which is organised by the Holocaust Educational Trust, takes two sixth-year pupils to Poland for the day to visit Auschwitz as part of the project, and this year's successful applicants from Lochaber High School were Katie Laidlaw and Lewis Ross. Harry Bibring was asked to give a speech to second year pupils and prominent members of the Lochaber community. During the Holocaust, Mr Bibring was separated from his family but was brought to Britain as part of the Kindertransport scheme. The event will take place in Lochaber high on Tuesday June 21 and there will be an opportunity for questions after the presentation.

Driver training for volunteers on offer

MINIBUS driver training is on offer for volunteers who work with community groups in Lochaber. The Lochaber Transport Forum will be offering training to community transport and voluntary sector groups wishing to access the use of mini buses to further their cause. The course, which is being funded from the Highland Council Community Transport budget, would enable groups to travel for events and allow clubs to drive teams to other venues for fixtures. To take part, drivers must already hold a D1 on their licence. Training is available on Saturday May 28 and once drivers have their MIDAS certificate they can pay a small registration fee, of around £6, to be eligible to drive High Life Highland and Highland Council minibuses.

Viewpoint

The Oban Times
& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Established 1861 No 8216

Not only did we enjoy a bit of a heatwave last weekend, but thousands of us also enjoyed two nights of fantastic music right here on our own doorstep. And what a buzz there was!

That Oban Live was a huge success is in no doubt. Not only did 9,000 people from across Argyll and beyond attend the evening concerts at Mossfield Stadium, but many partied on into the wee hours at various fringe

events in Oban pubs and clubs. This was on top of the busy trade enjoyed by restaurants, cafes and other businesses in the town.

The organisers should be proud of themselves, not only for bringing some of the biggest names in world music to Oban, but for giving many local businesses a much appreciated economic boost.

So, same time, same place next year?



Can anyone identify the cattle breed swimming the Ballachulish Narrows?

Sir,
My illustration is from a rare painting by Rosa Bonheur, a famous French animal artist, who came to Argyll in the middle 1800s to paint sheep and cattle.

It is entitled 'The Straits of Ballachulish' and was painted from a real life scene in 1867. It features a herd of cattle and a single calf, having just swum the Ballachulish Narrows accompanied by two open ferry boats.

It is likely that they were being driven to some southern sale.

I would be grateful if someone could identify the breed for me please.

Iain Thornber,
iain.thornber@btinternet.com.

Oban air cadets need adult volunteers

Sir,
The RAF Air Cadet Squadron based in Oban is in need of adult volunteers. The unit 2521 (Oban High School) Squadron meets at 7pm every Wednesday at the Cadet Centre, Tweeddale Street, Oban.

Are you aged over 20? Seeking a new challenge? Would you like to develop skills, leadership qualities and gain qualifications too?

Then why not come along and have a chat with staff at the squadron and help us to help you?

What are the Royal Air Force Air Cadets? We're a UK-wide cadet force with almost 45,000 members aged between 12 and 20 and we are sponsored by the Royal Air Force.

At the RAF Air Cadets, we constantly assess our past achievements, implement changes to meet the challenges of today and make plans for the future.

And a huge part of that planning is you. As the backbone of our organisation, we're always on the lookout for high-calibre individuals to become volunteers, helping to run the activities that play such an important role in the lives of our young members.

All kinds of people make up our volunteer staff, coming from a range of backgrounds and interests. Obviously if you have direct experience of working with young people, or any relevant skills such as flying or gliding, you would be particularly welcome. These aren't essential, though, as we will train and support you at every stage.

That said, you'll have some personal qualities that are essential, such as patience, maturity and responsibility along with an understanding of young people and their needs. You needn't be an athlete, but a good level of physical fitness also helps to ensure you can keep up with the cadets.

The officer in charge of Highland Wings Air Cadets, Wing Commander Christine Copsey, said: 'Oban squadron is a vibrant active squadron but, due to unforeseen circumstances, is in great need of adult volunteers to help out with the running of the unit.'

'Without adult help, the unit cannot function and without the support of the local community the squadron will not continue to be a success.'

'We are looking for civilian instructors, potential senior non-commissioned officers (SNCO) or perhaps even officers.'

We rely on our volunteers to help us operate as effectively as possible. Being well organised is an obvious must, ideally with good managerial and administrative skills, and an ability to listen to problems and deal with them tactfully and appropriately.

If you are interested then please come along to the squadron on a parade night and speak to the current staff. Alternatively, more information about volunteering in the organisation is available on the RAF Air Cadet website, at www.raf.mod.uk/aircadets.

Andy Dobson,
Highland Wing,
Royal Air Force Air Cadets.

Named person law is not necessary

Sir,
The SNP must scrap its unpopular plans for state guardians across Scotland. Parents, quite rightly, have huge concerns about the named person legislation, yet the SNP leadership still claims that these fears are unfounded.

First Minister Nicola Sturgeon must realise that she no longer has a majority and should be seeking an agreement with other parties to ensure legislation manages to be passed.

The Scottish Conservatives, as the new official opposition, will make abandoning the plans a top priority. The SNP's worrying approach on state guardians will see everyone under 18 in Scotland assigned a named person. There is so much more the Scottish government should be concentrating on instead of this over-reaching Orwellian power grab.

The Scottish Conservatives have opposed the proposal from the beginning because it is a shocking intrusion into family life and will inevitably divert huge resources away from those who need it most.

Every government, no matter what its political leanings, must realise there should always be a limit to its power.

Alastair Redman,
Islay.

Take a leap of faith in aid of a good cause

Sir,
If you've ever wondered how it would feel to swing off a 150ft crane, then now is your chance to find out.

The Stroke Association's exciting

event 'The Big Swing' returns to the Titan Crane in Clydebank, for the 2016 event this Sunday June 19.

If you are the sort of person who likes challenging events such as abseils and skydives, then this is the ideal thrill for an adventure-seeker.

It's also a great challenge for a first-timer who is looking to achieve something new. It is guaranteed to be a memorable, adrenaline-fuelled experience for everyone who takes part. Everyone who took part in the previous events loved it, even those with a fear of heights.

Registration costs £15 and fundraisers are asked to raise a minimum of £145 in sponsorship. The money generated at this event will go towards the charity's work supporting people who have had a stroke in Scotland.

Participants must be aged 16 or over on the day of the event and full tutoring will be given by our friendly, professional instructors on the day.

Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come, first serve basis so interested people are advised to register as soon as possible. Please note participants will be required to climb the stairs of the crane.

For more information and to register, please call 0131 555 7251 or email bigswing@stroke.org.uk. Online registration is available at www.stroke.org.uk/bigswing.

There is also a video from a previous event on the website showing what it is like to take part in the Big Swing.

More information on the Stroke Association is available by visiting www.stroke.org.uk.

Angela MacLeod,
Stroke Association.

Wrong Mrs Fleming identified in story

Sir,
I always enjoy reading Iain Thornber's 'Mornvern Lines' in your paper but I must correct the error that he made in his piece entitled 'The Lady Killers'.

In it he says: 'Hard on the heels of Lady Breadalbane came Mrs Peter Fleming...' Not true! It was my mother, Mrs Philip Fleming, who was the keen stalker and a very accurate and reliable 'shot' she was.

Mrs Peter Fleming was, in fact, the well known actress, Celia Johnson, who certainly used to enjoy her visits to Black Mount with her husband but never took to the hill herself.

Robin Fleming,
Bicester, Oxfordshire.

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

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

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

We will abide by the decision of IPSO.

Glasgow Letter

ROBERT ROBERTSON

robert.d.robertson@hotmail.co.uk

Glasgow bands steal the show at Oban Live

THE SUN shone all the way up the A82 on Friday as a throng of Glasgow Highlanders headed up the road to Oban Live.

It was a cracking weekend – the music and craic were superb and the weather behaved itself impeccably.

There were a number of familiar acts for those travelling up the road from Glasgow: some of which are based in Glasgow, and some of which are known to us from their performances at Celtic Connections – such as We Banjo 3, the group from Ireland, who endeared themselves to the Oban crowd with a high energy performance that equalled their superb gig in the Old Fruitmarket during this year's Celtic Connections.

Well done to the Skerryvore boys for organising such a wonderful festival.

Happy birthday, Chalky Langley

While Oban bounced to the sounds of KT Tunstall and co at the weekend, Glasgow had its own highly anticipated event – Tiresome man Chalky Langley's 50th birthday party!

Chalky lives these days in Exmouth, Devon, but returned to Scotland at the weekend to spend the last night of his forties and the first of his fifties at the Park Bar – where else!

On returning from Oban Live, I popped my head into the Park and I am so glad I did – the place was mobbed with a big Tiresome contingent, party banners up on the wall and the Trail West boys in fine form despite their wild exploits in Oban the night before. I also had a wee blether with Chalky's mother, Ann, which is always a pleasure.

After the weekend, Chalky wrote on Facebook about how much he had enjoyed 'spending the first evening of my fifties in a place that has been with me through the decades ... and listening to a great Tiresome band'.

It was a memorable evening for everyone in the Park Bar.

Happy birthday, Chalky!

Catriona Chalum Aoghna is 100

It's not every week that my Glasgow Letter includes congratulations to a gentleman reaching a half-century, and also to a lady becoming a centenarian.

Happy birthday to Catherine Wilson (nee Paterson), known as Catriona

Chalum Aoghna, formerly of North Boisdale, South Uist, who recently celebrated her 100th birthday with family and friends in Almond View, Glasgow.

The highlight of her day was receiving a special delivery of a card from Her Majesty the Queen.

What's on

Saturday May 21: Gaels Le Chèile: Cois Tine/ Taigh-Cèilidh/ House Cèilidh in Sutherland's Bar, Argyll Hotel.
Thursday May 26: Glasgow Uist and Barra Association AGM in Lourdes Secondary School.

Wednesday June 1: Glasgow Skye Association AGM in Partick Burgh Hall.
Wednesday June 1: Mull and Iona Association AGM An Leanag, Mansfield Street, 7.30pm.

Friday June 3: Glasgow Skye Association end of session social in Redhurst Hotel, Giffnock.

Pub scene

Park Bar. Friday May 20: Deoch'n' Dorus. Saturday: Gunna Sound. Sunday: Martainn Skene

Islay Inn. Friday 20: The Raggaels. Saturday 21: Crooked Reel. Wednesday 25: Quiz Night.



Skerryvore took to the main stage on Saturday night with a cracking set that had the crowd jumping.

Beachd Ailein

ALLAN CAMPBELL

ailean@obantimes.co.uk

BHA CAOHLADH ADHBHAIR cianalais agam 's mi aig an t-seann dachaigh ann an Cailleabost Disathairne seo chaidh. Mar a thùgear 's cinnteach, chan eil uair a thùig mi ann nach eil mi a' cuimhneachadh air feadhainn nach eil cuide rinn tuilleadh.

Tha mi a' dèanamh beagan leasa-chaidh air an taigh agus mar phàirt den obair sin tha cuid den stuaigh a' th' air a' chidsin air chùl an taighe ri leagail, agus chan eil sin furasta! 'S ann an 1960 a chaidh na ballaichean seo a thogail fo stiùir Dhòmhnall 'an 'ic Nèill is gjoiba beag, agus le cuideachadh bhom athair.

Chan eil duine dhiubh sin beò an-diugh, ach a' coimhead mòr-spàirn mo bhràthair-cèile a' snaidheadh nam ballaichean le sàbh-cloiche, shaoil mi gum bheil na rinn iad na chuimhneachan maireann air ealantas agus snas an cuide obrach. Bha mi cuideachd a' smaoineachadh air dùbhlain na h-obrach a bha romhpa

an uairsin seach mar a tha cùisean an-diugh. Dh'fheumte frèam taice a thogail a ghlaidheadh conrait nam ballaichean chun an cruadaichead e, agus bha aca ris a h-uile unnsa den stuth sin, agus clachan a bha dol na mheasg, a thogail ann am bucaidean gus a dhòrtadh dha na frèaman.

Fior obair chruaidh agus throm! Chan iarrainn cur sìos air saothair luchd-ceàird sam bith ach chan ionann 's mar a tha gnothaichean an-diugh le clachan conrait agus innealan de gach seòrsa gus an obair a leigeil air adhart.

Cha b' ann airson a' chiad turas a thàinig fianh gaire orm is mi a' smaoineachadh dè shaoileadh "na laoch nach eil beò" air ire nan sochairean ris am bhèil sinne cho cleachdte a-nise. Le cinnt ghabhadh iad annas asta agus chuirinn geall ged a chleachdadh iad cuid dhe na "dòighean ùra" gu toileach, leanadh cuid de na seann chleachdaidhean cuideachd oir 's iad "a bh' aca riamh" agus 's iad mar sin a b' fheàrr!

Saoilidh mi gum bheil sinn uile beagan leis gùisean atharrachadh aig amannan, agus gu dearbh tha deich bliadhna bho thòisich mi fhìn

Ailean Caimbeul

a' beachdachadh air an obair-leasachaidh seo air an t-seann taigh! Am measg mo smuaintean chianail Disathairne bhuail firinn an t-sean-fhacail orm glè làidir, gur e beul a labhras ach 's e gnìomh a dhearbhas! Ann a bhith a' cur meal-a-naidheachd air Coinneach Mac an Tòisich mar Oifigear Rìaghlaidh ùr Phàrlamaid na h-Alba, agus ged a chuirinn fàilte air nas lugha de chonnspaid eadar-phàrtaidh, bhithinn an dòchas gun cur e air adhart leasachaidhean a bhios gu math na Pàrlamaid agus an slugh a tha i a' frithealadh.

HAVING eventually started renovations at the old family home in Skye, I have thought nostalgically of the tradesmen whose work is a lasting memorial to their expertise.

In congratulating Ken Macintosh MSP on his appointment as Presiding Officer of the Scottish Parliament, and while welcoming his aim of less inter-party sniping, I also hope Ken will seek improvements to benefit Holyrood and the people it serves.

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

Press policy

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

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

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

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

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We will abide by the decision of IPSO.

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.

THURSDAY, MAY 26 - SUNDAY, MAY 29 **2016** ORGANISED BY **ocean EXPLORER CENTRE**



Award-winning chef to headline Oban's Festival of the Sea

A leading Scottish chef will return to his home town in May to headline a 3-day Festival of the Sea, set in Oban, the seafood capital of Scotland.

Graham Campbell, who in 2009 was one of the youngest Scottish chefs to be awarded a Michelin Star, will be providing cookery demonstrations using seaweed and sharing recipes with ingredients from the sea when he attends the Festival, organised by the Ocean Explorer Centre at the Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS), Dunstaffnage.

Fresh from his appearance on the BBC's Great British Menu series 10,

Graham will be returning to his old primary school building, Rockfield, to deliver cooking demonstrations on Sunday 29th. Rockfield is now a community hub run by Oban Communities Trust and the main venue for this year's Festival of the Sea.

Graham, who festival organisers hope will inspire greater awareness of the local marine environment, said: "It's amazing to be able to return to my home town to talk to people about my passion for cooking with food from the sea."

"Scottish seafood is among the best in the world. It is brilliant to have the

chance to promote the produce and to increase awareness of how people can use seaweed in their cooking. I am really looking forward to it."

Cooking demonstrations will also be given by our main local cooking magician Paul Leonard, head chef at Michelin Star restaurant at the Isle of Eriska, as well as Rachel Gillon from the Scottish Salmon Producers.

The 'mini' Festival of the Sea will run from May 26 - 29 this year and will include a large programme of events and activities such as trips to SAMS' seaweed farm off the coast of Kerrera (book your ticket online now), talks and author readings, children's crafting and science workshops, a public consultation, and a seafood and craft fair.

In just four days, the festival is hosting 15 fun-filled and informative events for everyone to enjoy.

Science is incorporated into all of the events - showing how it influences activities from our food to sports, from art to industry. The main goal of the festival is to make people feel inspired by the marine environment, proud of what the Oban area has to offer and willing to do what it takes to conserve it.

The Festival of the Sea usually takes

place every two years but, following the success of the festival in 2015, SAMS is offering a more compact additional weekend event this year to meet demands for activities in the town.

Festival director Dr Anuschka Miller said: "The festival is a great way to strengthen awareness of the local environment within the community and we are fortunate to have a town centre base like The Rockfield Centre.

"We are very much looking forward to all of our events, but we are particularly excited about seeing what Graham is cooking up for us. Cooking with seaweed is new to most people, but it is a fun way to explore being creative in the kitchen. "We organise this festival so we grow the awareness of how much the area is dependent on a healthy marine environment."

"We are very proud that our events are free so that everyone can find out about the sea and seafood. This is made possible by our three fantastic funders: The Scottish Government, the Royal Society of Biology and SAMS."

To find out more about this year's events and to book your and to book your place on seaweed farm visits, go to <http://www.obanseafestival.org/> or follow us on Facebook.



SAMS students with Festival of the Sea mascot, Miss Octavia Murray.

What's On:

THURSDAY, MAY 26

6:30pm, Ocean Explorer Centre, SAMS:
A journey through the history of women in marine science (free public talk)

FRIDAY, MAY 27

4:30pm - 6pm, SAMS:
Pre-application public consultation event for a 100 x 100m seaweed farm at Port a' Bhuiltin (free event)

SATURDAY, MAY 28

(all events at the Rockfield Centre unless otherwise stated)

Hourly from Oban's North Pier:
Boat trips to seaweed farm in Sound of Kerrera. BOOKING ADVISED (Cost: £1)

11am - 5pm: Seafood and craft market (free)

10am - 5pm: Sea craft making things that are inspired by the sea (free)

10:30am: Learn about Scottish sharks and shark tagging (free)

11.30am: Harvesting and cooking seaweed with a brief discussion of its medical properties with Fiona and Dr Stephen Bird (free)

12:30pm: The social life of algae: meet their friends and foes (free)

1pm - 2pm - Cookery demonstration (see website for details)

1:30pm: Exploring the edible seashore interactive session with Dr Duncan Smallman (free)

2:30pm: Let your kids go wild outside Fiona Bird shared tips and ideas of how to enjoy the shore with kids (free)

3:30pm: You are not so different from algae after all: DNA discovery workshop (free fun workshop for all the family)

3pm - 4pm: Cookery demonstration (see website for details)

SUNDAY, MAY 29

(all events at the Rockfield Centre)

11am - 5pm: Seafood and craft market at the Rockfield Centre (free):

11am: Learn about Scottish sharks and shark tagging (free)

Noon: Are you floating or sinking? A fun workshop for all the family (free)

1pm - 2pm: Cookery demonstration with Graham Campbell on foraged seaweed ingredients

1:30pm: Exploring the edible seashore interactive session with Dr Duncan Smallman (free)

2:30pm: My granny says you should only eat shellfish if there is an R in the month (free public talk)

3pm - 4pm: Cookery demonstration with Paul Leonard on different ways of preparing oysters

3:30pm: Food, tourism skills and the sea introducing the Argyll and Bute Council Economic Growth team (free)

4pm: Sea stories storytelling session (free)

14th-28th May

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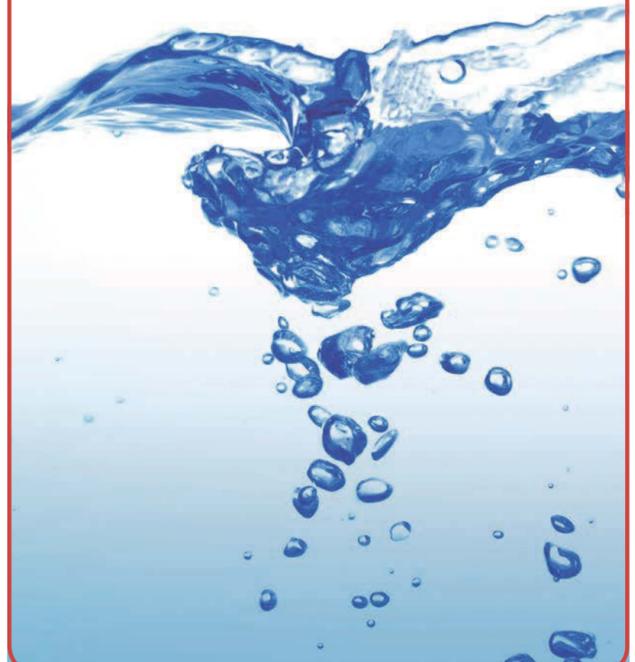
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Sailing from OBAN North Pier

Isle of Skye Inverie	SATURDAY June 4 Leave 10am back 9pm Fares: Isle of Skye £41 SC £39 Visit Inverie £43 SC £41
4 Lochs & Whirlpool	SUNDAY June 5 Leave 12.30pm back 6.30pm Fare: 4 Lochs & Whirlpool £31 SC £29
Castles & Ceilidh	SUNDAY June 5 Leave 7.30pm back 10pm Fare: Evening Showboat £19 Groups of 10+ only £17
Tobermory Isle of Tiree	MONDAY June 6 Leave 10am back 7.30pm Fares: Visit Tobermory £25 SC £23 Tiree £41 SC £39 Cruise Gunna Sound £43 SC £41
Mull of Kintyre	TUESDAY June 7 Leave 9.30am back 6.30pm Fare: Mull of Kintyre £35 SC £33 Return by coach from Campbelltown



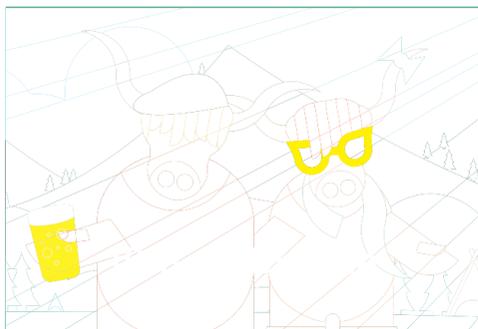
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Arena

Oban comes alive as town welcomes two-day music festival to Mossfield



More photos available online
OBANTIMES.CO.UK/OBANLIVE



FyneFest
 BEER | FOOD | MUSIC

New for 2016!
 Sunday at FyneFest

The music and the fun does not stop on Saturday night at FyneFest this year. There is a Sunday afternoon session too – so no need to rush off. Designed as a 'soft landing' after the excesses of Friday and Saturday the Sunday Session is a must if you don't need to rush home.



LAST weekend's Oban Live open-air concert drew 9,000 visitors to Mossfield Stadium, and has been hailed by organisers as a 'huge success'.
 'The weekend has been bigger and better than we ever expected,' Oban Live Artistic Director Daniel Gillespie said. 'We had some of the biggest names in world music, the freshest local produce, the most amazing crowds and, most importantly, an incredible west coast welcome from the community of Oban. The concert may be over, but the buzz and excitement around it

will resonate for months to come.'
 On Friday there was a delicious surprise for Aly Bain when organisers presented him with a bespoke birthday cake - featuring mini-marzipan versions of him and his long-term musical partner, Phil Cunningham - to celebrate his 70th birthday.
 Capercaillie and Julie Fowlis also delighted the crowds with traditional favourites, while energetic performances from We Banjo Three, Skipinnish and Skerryvore, with fringe events around the town, sent the party into the wee hours.

During Saturday's last show, Scottish singer-songwriter KT Tunstall debuted songs from her finished fifth album. 'To have KT Tunstall showcase new songs for the very first time was a very special moment for the first Oban Live,' Daniel said, adding: 'Capercaillie's set was just amazing also, with so many special guests making it an extra special homecoming performance from them. 'The feedback from the artists has been superb, which is very pleasing for us, because we work so hard to make sure they are as comfortable and welcome as pos-

sible. KT took time to say thanks before departing late Saturday night, and that was a very nice touch for all the production and artistic team.
 'We set out to celebrate and show what an incredible town Oban is for live events, so to see people travel from the USA, Germany, Holland and Denmark to Argyll was a fantastic achievement for all involved. We have already had an approach from an American band and American tour company regarding 2017.'
 Three-born Daniel, accordionist in the band Skerryvore, added:

'The fringe was such a key part of this event, and it has been great to hear that the restaurants and pubs have been packed all weekend with some having queues for entry, such was the demand.
 'We plan to have a team debrief in the coming weeks and also issue a visitor and business survey.
 From all this feedback we can then identify the elements that we aim to improve for 2017 and also assess the financial viability of the event.'
 Oban Live's inception came about after the 'Skerryvore:

Decade' concert, held in Oban in May 2015, generated £1.1 million for the town and its surrounding areas.
 Organisers expect the economic impact of Oban Live will be double this amount.
 Daniel added: 'What was very pleasing about this year was that some of the aspects highlighted from Decade were improved tremendously, so a huge thanks to all the Oban Live Team for all their efforts. We hope this is the start of an annual event that will bring a huge economic boost to the town and region as a whole.'

Tobermory community celebrates new coastal path connection

EVEN the typical west coast weather couldn't dampen the community spirit last Saturday at Tobermory Harbour for the opening of the harbour authority's new section of coastal path.
 This valuable community project was funded by Coastal Communities Fund (CCF) and has greatly improved the appearance of the harbour and town, giving a lasting first impression to marine visitors as they approach by sea.
 It also connects the harbour and seafront promenade with the main path to Aros Park and will undoubtedly encourage its use. CCF Project Officer, Katherine Cripps said: 'It was a fantastic turnout for our event and we are delighted with the how smoothly the project ran, on time and on budget. We have had wonderful feedback so far

and believe these new facilities will be an improvement for all.'
 More than 200 local residents and visitors attended the official path opening, which was a free community event and a huge success, to watch the Tobermory High School Pipe Band and local resident and Councillor Mary Jean Devon cut the red ribbon.
 This was followed by a poignant rendition of the very apt *Ceacall a Chuain (Circle on the Ocean)* by Isle of Mull Gaelic Choir, and finally Mull's 'national anthem' *An-t Eilean-Muileach*.
 Speeches were made by Brian Swinbanks, chairman of Tobermory Harbour Authority (THA) for more than 30 years, outlining the history of the harbour and the continued need for development, and

Katherine Cripps, THA project officer responsible for the CCF Project, who thanked the main contractor Donald Brown and all the other contributors to the project's success.
 Councillor Devon congratulated the THA on its contribution to the town over the years and the success of another completed project. Tasty local produce, soup and sandwiches were provided by Hebridean Lodge and a complimentary Isle of Mull ice-cream was the order of the day for the little ones.
 There were stalls, displays and activities for people to enjoy, including Mull and Iona Community Trust, Ulva Ferry Community Housing, Tobermory 1st Scouts and Guides, Isle of Mull Coastal Rowing, Tobermory RNLI Lifeboat and

Shop, Tobermory Coastguard and Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust. The Little Bespoke Bakery and Share Nature also took a stand.
 Fun events included face painting by Faith Holmes, arts and crafts with Alicia Hendrick, scavenger hunts, willow weaving, coastal rowing, lifeboat trips, guided nature tours, coastal rowing on the local skiffs, all with a coastal or woodland theme.
 THA ran a stall devoted to the Aros Waterfront project, funded by Heritage Lottery fund and Awards For All, by way of community consultation, offering ideas and concepts for restoration of Aros Pier and buildings with a view to identifying the most viable regeneration options.
 Project officer Marion Ma-

clean, said: 'This event got our consultation off to a good start and it is great to see so much positive feedback from the local community, especially the future generation.
 'Please watch out for upcoming events and information if you were unable to attend, as we would love to hear your ideas.'
 Aside from the successful celebrations and entertainment on the day, which were the main purpose of the event, the directors and the staff hoped that it also gave the community a flavour of what the THA was about and what it puts back into the community.
 Thanks were given to all the stallholders and organisations who helped on the day, as well as all those who attended and contributed towards making the day such a success.



Hurry – tickets are selling out fast!

Weekend Tickets: With camping £60, without camping £50
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Food & Drink

brought to you by
Taynuilt Hotel



The Taynuilt Hotel is fast growing a reputation as the place to go for a meal to remember.

John McNulty, chef-owner of the two AA Rosette Hotel and Restaurant, shares one of his favourite spring and early summer recipes - rhubarb soufflé.

'I love rhubarb, especially soon after it becomes available and am particularly fond of the forced Yorkshire variety. It works well with desserts, ice creams, soufflés and frozen parfaits, and also serves as a great garnish with savoury dishes such as duck breast.'



Rhubarb Soufflé (Serves 5)

To make your soufflé base you will need:

- 1litre of rhubarb puree
- 185g sugar
- 90g cornflour
- A little water for the cornflour

Take egg whites and vinegar and whisk until you get stiff peaks, whisk in 1/3rd of the sugar, then fold in the rest of the sugar but for every 100g egg white do not exceed 165g sugar.

To make a puree, dice the rhubarb and sweat down over a medium heat with two table-spoons of water. Once soft, blitz the mixture and season to taste.

Using a large spoon, take one spoon of the soufflé base and mix through two and a half spoons of egg white. Make sure you add one spoon of egg white first to beat down the base and work out any little lumps.

Reduce your puree by 1/3, making sure it doesn't catch the bottom of the pan and burn.

Put into ramekins that have been pre-coated in cocoa powder and cook at 190°C for 14 minutes (Depending on your oven you may need to adjust the time and temperature).

Bring the sugar to a soft ball (at 121° centigrade) and add to the puree.

Cook for seven minutes, simmering all the time.

Dissolve the cornflour in the water, add to the puree and bring to the boil.

Cook for a couple of minutes.

Cool with cling film on top of the base so it doesn't form a skin.

We serve our soufflé with rhubarb crème anglaise and a rhubarb and thyme ice cream.

The Taynuilt Hotel and restaurant is open from Wednesday to Sunday for lunch or dinner.

To reserve a table call 01866 822437.

To make your meringue you will need

- 5 egg whites
- 240g sugar
- A dash of white wine vinegar.

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

01631 568000

Arena

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ObanLive festival fans party on in best frame of mind



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Across

- 7 In charge in the printing office (6)
- 8 List of errors (6)
- 9 Sort (4)
- 10 Used in a law court (8)
- 11 Surrender (7)
- 13 Belongs to them (5)
- 15 Written work (5)
- 17 At all hours of the day or night (7)
- 20 Some of nobility (8)
- 21 See stars, maybe (4)
- 23 Every time (6)
- 24 Intelligence quiz (2,4)

Down

- 1 Inactively (4)
- 2 That thing (6)
- 3 Bird's foot plant name (7)
- 4 A succulent fruit growing on bushes (5)
- 5 Channel (6)
- 6 Indifference (8)
- 12 It is in the way (8)
- 14 Really good (7)
- 16 Discordant (6)
- 18 Legwear (6)
- 19 Midsection (5)
- 22 Energy (4)

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION





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Friday 20 - Thursday 26 May

ANGRY BIRDS | 115 MIN
Sat: 12:30, 13:00, Sun: 12:15, Mon: 16:30, Tue, Wed, Thu: 16:00

The movie takes us to an island populated entirely by happy, flightless birds — or almost entirely. In this paradise, Red, a bird with a temper problem, speedy Chuck and the volatile Bomb have always been outsiders. But when the island is visited by mysterious green piggies, it's up to these unlikely outcasts to figure out what the pigs are up to.

CAPTAIN AMERICA: CIVIL WAR | 12A | 167 MIN
Sat: 18:15, Tue, Wed, Thu: 20:30

Marvel's Captain America: Civil War finds Steve Rogers leading the newly-formed team of Avengers in their continued efforts to safeguard humanity. But after another incident involving the Avengers results in collateral damage, political pressure mounts to install a system of accountability, headed by a governing body to oversee and direct the team. The new status quo fractures the Avengers, resulting in two camps—one led by Steve Rogers and his desire for the Avengers to remain free to defend humanity without government interference, and the other following Tony Stark's surprising decision to support government oversight and accountability.

FLORENCE FOSTER JENKINS | PG | 130 MIN
Fri: 19:30, Sat: 18:00, 21:10, Sun: 17:30, Mon: 15:45, Tue, Wed, Thu: 18:15

Florence Foster Jenkins is a drama, based on real events, about a New York heiress and patron of the arts who dreams of becoming an opera singer despite having a poor singing voice.

KIDS CLUB: WILLY WONKA & THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY | U | 106 MIN
Sat: 11:00

Children's classic. A poor boy named Charlie has managed to find one of only five golden tickets to a famous chocolate factory and goes on a fantastic and mouth-watering adventure.

X-MEN: APOCALYPSE | 12A | 170 MIN
Fri: 16:15, Sat: 15:10, 20:30, Sun: 11:30, 14:30, Mon: 18:45, Tue: 19:15, Wed: 16:15, Thu: 19:15

3D: Fri: 19:15, Sat: 15:00, Sun: 18:00, Mon: 19:15, Tue: 16:15, Wed: 19:15, Thu: 16:15
Parent & Baby Screening: Tue: 11:30

Since the dawn of civilisation, he was worshipped as a god. Apocalypse, the first and most powerful mutant from Marvel's X-Men universe, amassed the powers of many other mutants, becoming immortal and invincible. Upon awakening after thousands of years, he is disillusioned with the world as he finds it and recruits a team of powerful mutants, including a disheartened Magneto, to cleanse mankind and create a new world order, over which he will reign. As the fate of the Earth hangs in the balance, Raven with the help of Professor X must lead a team of young X-Men to stop their greatest nemesis and save mankind from complete destruction.

SILVER SCREEN - THE REVENANT | 15 | 176 MIN
Sun: 14:30

Inspired by true events, The Revenant captures one man's epic adventure of survival and the extraordinary power of the human spirit. In an expedition of the uncharted American wilderness, legendary explorer Hugh Glass is brutally attacked by a bear and left for dead by members of his own hunting team. In a quest to survive, Glass endures unimaginable grief as well as the betrayal of his confidant John Fitzgerald. Guided by sheer will and the love of his family, Glass must navigate a vicious winter in a relentless pursuit to live and find redemption.

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Tune in to 103.3 or listen live at www.obanfm.com

For requests, competitions or questions please email: studio@obanfm.org.uk or call us on 01631 570057

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

A Scottish Night Out
IN CONCERT
THE BRANDON MCPHEE TRIO
WITH
Scotland's Son Of Fun
EDDIE ROSE
A FAMILY SHOW
The Glen Hotel, Oban
Wednesday 25th May at 8pm
Tickets - £12 from T Wood 01631 564362

What's on at **The Nevis Centre**
Superbowl
open everyday from
12 noon until 10pm
SPECTRUM
Spectrum soft play area
Suitable for children of all ages. Baby area 0-2 years, toddler area 2-5 years and older children can be let loose in all the other areas.
The Nevis Centre An Aird, Fort William
Tel: 01397 700707 www.neviscentre.co.uk

Did you get an Oban Live selfie?
Check out yours
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The Oban Times & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES **OBANLIVE**

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

<p>Bus Pass Stovies Supper Thursday 26th May 7-9pm All pass holders welcome Grassroots Cafe 9 Craigard Road Oban</p>	<p>North Connel & District Horticultural Show Plant Sale Saturday 28 May Victory Hall Benderloch - 2.00pm Perennials Herbs House plants Shrubs Vegetable Plants Bedding Plants Plants grown by local gardeners Admission (includes teas) Adults £2 Children £1 Raffle Tickets Show schedules available Tips on how to show your produce too!</p>	<p>St Conan's Kirk, Lochawe Taynuilt Gaelic Choir and friends Saturday 21st May 7.30pm Admission £5 (on door) Refreshments</p>	<p>Maolachy's Garden at Lochavich Open May 28 and 29, from 2pm to 6pm Plant sales and teas Entry £4 At Kilmelford turn east on Lochavich Road, 4 miles to Maolachy From Lochaweside, take the Kilmelford Road, Maolachy is one mile beyond Loch Avich</p>
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> cinema, radio and what's on listings
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XpoNorth gears up for creative industries' coming-of-age event

A FREE training event for people aspiring to careers in television, film, music, design, writing, games development or social media is to be held in Inverness.

The creative industries festival XpoNorth offers a chance for 17 trainees to play a starring role with XpoNorth Live!, the Inverness-based festival's new live online television station.

XpoNorth is a unique happening in the Scottish creative industries calendar and it takes place on Wednesday and Thursday June 8 and 9. The conference element of XpoNorth and the training opportunities will be at the Eden Court Theatre.

Festival organisers have placed an added emphasis on practical hands-on training and support for anyone who wants to get ahead in their chosen field within the creative industries, no matter their level. The festival is for people of all ages and at all stages of their careers.

In collaboration with the Highland Youth Arts Hub, there is even the opportunity for groups of young people from five secondary schools from across the Highlands and islands to attend XpoNorth on either day, with bursaries of up to £300 on offer to cover travel and accommodation. The deadline for submissions is Friday May 20.

There are 11 free masterclasses on offer at XpoNorth. The workshops have limited numbers so participants are being encouraged to sign up promptly to take advantage of being up close and personal with industry insiders.

XpoNorth's two-day Hit The Ground Running Course is designed for people based in the Highlands and islands who have been trying to get a foot in the television or film door.

To book go to <http://eepurl.com/bY96uD>.

XpoNorth 2016 training workshops include: Crowdfunding? It's About More Than Getting the Money, with Patricia van den Akker, director of The Design Trust; Introduction to Film Producing, with director Richard Warden; The Secret of Good Documentary Storytelling, with director Robbie Fraser and editor Clyde Wallbanks; An Introduction to Game Narrative, with writer and designer Tom Knights; Short Films: Script to Screen, with Damien O'Connor; BBC The Social, with Anthony Browne, from BBC Scotland; BAFTA Scotland and Skills Development Scotland, with editor

Bill Gill; Applying 3D Printing to Local Businesses, with Paul Smith, from Glasgow School of Art; Lyric writing: Freedom in Rules and Restrictions, songwriting with Calum Wood; How to Shoot 360 Content, with film-makers Niall Macdonald and Calum Macdonald; The No/Low Budget Film-making Event, with Martyn Robertson and Ian Bustard of Urbancroft Films.

Many of the creative industry insiders taking part in the masterclasses will appear on the festival's own TV station XpoNorth Live!.

The festival aims to showcase the best of XpoNorth's chat, craic, music and talent, tracking every session, panel and showcase for the wider world to enjoy. Its trainees will learn a host of vital skills, including how to write a TV script, preparing a brief and briefing a presenter, managing talent, digital editing, compliance, copyright and legal reporting.

Festival director Amanda Millen said the increased emphasis on training at this year's XpoNorth highlighted the commitment the event had to fostering creative careers across the Highlands and Islands and beyond. Ms Millen, a former BBC producer who also heads up ScreenHI, the screen and broadcast wing of XpoNorth, added: 'This year, I think XpoNorth has come of age. There is so much creative activity going on in the Highlands and islands and the digital era has opened up possibilities which means that it's a fantastic place to make work and to do business.'

'We are looking for people of all ages to come to XpoNorth and take part. There is free, practical hands-on training, advice and networking every which way you turn. XpoNorth offers a mix of seasoned industry insiders and people looking to put themselves out there and jump on the creative career ladder.'

The television station is a really exciting development which has grown out of the live radio station which we have staged in previous years and which has led to many individuals getting a break into a highly competitive industry.

'Go online and register now for a workshop or a one-to-one, or take the plunge and apply to be part of XpoNorth Live! or Hit The Ground Running.'

For more information, about the festival, which is funded by Highlands and Islands Enterprise, the European Regional Development Fund and Creative Scotland, go to the website at www.xponorth.co.uk

Coll bird festival sees visitors flock to the island with a special guest appearance by the elusive corncrake

THE THIRD annual bird festival on Coll took place over the weekend with visitors pouring in to make the most of the beautiful weather.

The festival, organised by An Cridhe and Coll Bunkhouse, hosted a range of activities from seabird safaris to walks and talks, all rounded off with a barbecue and beach clean on the Sunday afternoon.

George McConnachie, development manager at An Cridhe, said: 'This was

our busiest and best bird festival yet with lots of visitors to Coll and an amazing variety of bird life.'

'We've had brilliant support from the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds which brings great knowledge and expertise, helping everyone get the most out of the weekend.'

'Everyone knows Coll has fantastic scenery and wildlife so it's really pleasing to be able to show it off in such amazing conditions.'

A particular highlight is

the seabird safari boat trips to neighbouring Lunga to see colonies of puffins, shags, guillemots and other seabirds which gather in large numbers at this time of year.

Many visitors, who come to Coll specifically to see the elusive corncrake, were not disappointed with lots of sightings over the weekend. Organisers have said they will almost certainly hold the event again next year and planning is already under way.



Western Isles steps up fund-raising gears for Mòd

THE LOCAL organising committee for Mòd nan Eilean Siar 2016 has established a detailed plan of upcoming fundraising events in the lead up to October.

The Royal National Mod, which is the premier festival of Gaelic language and culture, will be held in the Western Isles between October 14-22 2016, making this the sixth year it has been held on the Islands.

The last Mòd on the Western Isles was in 2011 and it attracted approximately 2,800 visitors and 2,500 residents also attended.

Convener of the local committee Norman A MacDonald said: 'It is highly appropriate that the Mòd should return to the Western Isles as the whole ethos and thrust of the Mòd is to showcase and celebrate our rich language and culture.'

'Gaelic is still the community language of the islands and Mòd attendees are assured of a genuine Hebridean welcome in Stornoway this year.'

raising events is as follows:

Saturday May 21 - Bingo Night in Clan MacQuarrie Hall 7.30pm.

Friday May 27 - Cèilidh Dance in Leacklea, Harris 7.30pm.

Saturday June 4 - Soup and Pudding in Breasclate Hall 12pm - 2pm.

Tuesday June 14 - Friday June 17 - Summer Hamper in Western Isles Hospital 10am - 5pm.

Saturday 18 June - Auction and Cèilidh in Caladh Inn 7.30pm.

Friday June 24 - Tatties and Herring - Uig Community Centre - 7.30pm.

Friday July 1 - Soup and Pudding in Newton Centre 12pm - 2pm.

Saturday July 9 - Bag pack, Raffle and Live Music in Co-op Stornoway 10am - 5pm.

Friday August 26 - Soup and Pudding in Newton Centre 12pm - 2pm.

Saturday September 3 - Soup and Pudding in Clan MacQuarrie Hall 12pm - 2pm.

Saturday September 10 - 5k Event in Castle Grounds 10am.

The planned schedule of fund-



Music with Jonathan Rimmer

WHILE much of the town was living it up at ObanLive last Friday, Cuan Mor hosted a more intimate affair.

Music producers Kevin Burton and Aaron Fortson, known as Disposable Frequencies and Global Beat Initiative respectively, played extended sets at what organisers called 'the first electronic music showcase in years'.

The event, organised by Alt Option Promotions and Omnibeat Music Group, is intended to be the first of many electronic showcases.

'In the '90s we had a DJ scene in this town that was bouncing,' said Kevin, who also co-organised the event.

'The talent is definitely still out there.'

'There are plenty of people kicking about who have just been sitting in their rooms making music for nobody. We believe it takes a few people to show that it can be done for people to step out and do it themselves.'

Although regular club nights run in Oban, live performances by electronic producers playing their own music are rare. Kevin's Disposable Frequencies' set was entirely composed of his own material, drawing from old-school techno and early '90s rave sounds.

'When I start a track I don't have a destination in mind,'

said Kevin. 'I just see where the music takes me. My stuff is generally upbeat and messes with the listener - I just try and play the crowd.'

'Another great thing about electronic music is that with all the new technology and kit that's available, it's so easy to get into. I use a mix of hardware and software now, but I initially managed to do a lot just on a Korg electric keyboard.'

Like Kevin, Aaron has been producing electronic music in different forms for many years now. Under the Global Beat Initiative moniker he predominantly samples soulful vocals and creates obscure

loops, making for a surreal atmospheric sound.

Also a gifted hip hop emcee, Aaron particularly takes inspiration from the different music hubs he's lived in: Seattle, Chicago and California.

'I cut up a whole bunch of styles as Global Beat Initiative,' says Aaron. 'These styles are really a reflection of the different places and cultures I've grown up in.'

'I've moved around a lot but this is the first time I've ever played at, let alone seen, an entire night devoted to electronic music here in Oban.'

As the event clashed with ObanLive, which Kevin admits was a 'brave move', the

turnout proved disappointing for organisers. However, the organisers are determined to throw more showcases in the near future.

'We hoped for more spill over at this particular event, but come hell or high water, I intend to play a part in helping an electronic scene develop in this town,' says Kevin.

Aaron added: 'I think there's a huge hole in Oban. Young people often tell me that they'd love to go to raves or electronic nights because it means they wouldn't have to go down to Glasgow to enjoy it. This was a learning experience and something we'll definitely do again.'

Bodach

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

Get in touch with your stories at bodach@obantimes.co.uk

As vehicles get more efficient the days of independent garages have gone while alternative travel takes to the air

A BIT of a transport theme this week, and one we could revisit in future. A photo or two of a garage in the region from the earliest days of motoring up to the 1960s would be great; and/or any big road improvement project over the last 50 years. And any picture of a plane on a service to Oban, Campbell-

town, Islay, Colonsay or Tiree would be good too, the earlier the better.

The Open Road

There will be many readers who remember a time before unleaded petrol - a time when there was a choice of two-star or four-star petrol for most cars, and diesel for commercial

vehicles. The recent fire at Gunn's Garage in Appin was a reminder of the network of independent garages and filling stations that is slowly being confined to history. Men and women would come out of their office or shop to fill your car for you; or tow your car in for repairs which were often completed while you waited.

The filling station in Tarbert, Loch Fyne closed a few years ago, adding its name to a changing scene for motorists. The Lorn Garage in Ardrishaig was demolished in the early 1990s. The Stag Garage in Lochgilphead stopped selling fuel sometime later in that decade, and the town is now served by two service stations with shops that sell everything from daily newspapers to firewood. There was a garage in Tayvallich until the early 1970s, when it was demolished to make way for a new inn; and there are other disused or re-utilised examples up and down the country: Tarbet, Loch Lomond; Crinanloch, Dalmally, Balloch, Kilmartin and Bellanoch.

Toady's motor vehicles are ever-more reliable, efficient and complex, so motorists require fewer fuel stops and places to offer quick fixes, but the sight of men in overalls carrying oilcans is all too rare. Everyone is in such a hurry nowadays that some opportunities for catching up on local news or getting useful hints on trouble-free motoring have been lost forever.

The roadworks season is well and truly under way, to the relief of motorists, cyclists and pedestrians everywhere.

Maintenance crews take advantage of dry weather for patching, surface dressing, culvert and verge work and the results make journeys by road and footpath safer and more enjoyable for everyone.

The A82 improvements from Balloch to Tarbet in the 1980s transformed Loch Lomond-side from tortuously slow bottleneck to a fast, safe wide carriageway that we take for granted. The latest improvements north of Tarbet have already had a positive impact on road traffic and the local economy, and it is hoped that a longer-term solution is found for the A83 Rest and Be Thankful.

Ironically, in the name of progress some roads in the Highlands and islands actually had their capacity reduced. The single-track sections of the B8025 from the Kilmartin to Keills is just one such example. In the early part of the 20th century the road had a metalled surface and was wide enough for two horse-drawn carriages to pass each other. The introduction of verges to help drain the surface narrowed the road and necessitated passing places that exist to this day. In some places single-track roads are unavoidable, and in some places they are regarded as quaint. If population decline is to be addressed and economic development

is to be encouraged, then increasing capacity on certain routes makes as much sense as maintaining the roads in serviceable condition.

Take to the Air

An alternative solution might be to develop regional air transport routes.

We have become accustomed to seaplanes overhead on most days: scenic splendour for passengers with an hour or two and money to spend. Scheduled services have been trialled but success is dependent on appropriate infrastructure and realistic journey times to compete with existing options.

Charter services based at Glasgow have been on the go since the early 1990s, and the popularity of scheduled services between Oban, Islay, Colonsay, Tiree, Glasgow and Campbeltown appear to make this a viable and sustainable alternative to travel by road, rail or sea.

The prospect of introducing services to connect landing facilities at Campbeltown and Oban with Glasgow, Edinburgh, Inverness and those on the islands appeals to business people who are short on time, and to certain



types of leisure traveller who want to experience several destinations in a short period. Expanding the capacity and frequency of services operating in and out of Oban is a fantastic start, and will hopefully demonstrate the growth potential for short-haul domestic route development.

Ever since Andrew Baird's short flight in his monoplane at Ettrick Bay in 1910, the Highlands and islands have shared in aviation history and even influenced aircraft design. If the aeroplanes and the airports exist, it shouldn't take too much imagination to offer travellers more choice on how to get from A to B.



Rockfield Centre celebrates first birthday

THE OBAN and Lorn community turned out in force to celebrate the first birthday of The Rockfield Centre since delivery of the keys to the site last year.

All ages enjoyed an 'Arty' afternoon tea with children's activities combined with the project's first art exhibition from local artists and makers.

Rhona Dougall, who heads up arts and culture at the centre, organised the celebrations whilst well-known artist and former head of art and design at Oban High School Val Hamilton put the exhibition together.

Gordon McNab, chairman of Oban Communities Trust which runs The Rockfield Centre, said: 'A lot has been achieved in one year - the main building is now rot free, roof repairs have been carried out and we've had an input of more than 1,000 hours of voluntary work from the community. The building has been saved in the nick of time.'

'Our project manager Andrew Pinkerton continues to push plans for The Rockfield Centre forward with the design team Page and Park. Their design proposals and plans should be available for all to see shortly.'

Gordon added that the art exhibition had brought together all ages and styles and showed the enormous talent which exists in



Rhona Dougall, creative arts and culture manager of The Rockfield Centre and Val Hamilton, who organised the arts exhibition with centre mascots Rocky and Muriel.

the community. Further events are planned throughout the summer starting with the Festival of the Sea. The use of the community huts at the centre continues to grow by a wide range of groups.

And the birthday tea was honoured with a special guest - Parsley the famous wandering cat and tourism ambassador for Oban chose to drop in to check out the activities.

Parsley is well known in Oban and has become an iconic part of

tourism in the town - accompanying visitors between attractions.

Owner Fiona Campbell Smith said: 'Parsley now has his own Facebook site with more than 1,600 followers and is the self-appointed Minister for Cats Scotland in the new government... Parsley is delighted to be affiliated with Oban Communities Trust making The Rockfield Centre one of his regular destination visits and he thoroughly enjoyed the first birthday party.'



Above: Some of the crowd that visited The Rockfield Centre's first Birthday celebration party.



Right: from left, brothers Alexander, 5, and Archie Malloch, 9 and William Holland, 7, have the honour of cutting The Rockfield Centre's first birthday cake.



Art exhibition at The Rockfield Centre showcases wealth of artistic talent in Oban and Lorn

WHAT do Cullipool pebbles, Port Beag and Sophia Loren have in common?

The answer was to be found at the art exhibition on show last week at The Rockfield Centre.

The latest venture coincided with Voluntary Arts Week 2016 and was suggested as a means of recognising and encouraging local 'creatives' who may not have ready access to display space for their work. The exhibition was

visited by hundreds of people over the five days of opening and demonstrated the adaptable use of space at the community huts of The Rockfield Centre.

As well as viewing the exhibition there was a celebration last Sunday when everyone enjoyed the first birthday of The Rockfield Centre and there was the chance to create easy decorations throughout the day.

Val Hamilton, former head of art

and design at Oban High School and an artist herself, organised the exhibition and said: 'We have had a tremendous response both in terms of exhibits and feedback with more than 30 works on display. From a student in her final year at Oban High School to the beautiful craftsmanship of Donnie Currie at 93 years young, this was an amazing display of talent which was thoroughly enjoyed by all who visited.'

New book is fitting tribute to last of the traditional Gaelic bards

A SONG and poetry book written by the late Niall Brownlie is to be posthumously launched on Tìree on Tuesday (May 24).

Smuaintean Bho Ceann a' Bhara is published by Taigh na Teud and is the product of a collaboration between them, The Gaelic Books Council and the organisers of A Bhuain, Tìree's Homecoming Festival. It will be launched in An Talla from 3pm.

Gaelic singer Gilbert MacMillan has described the book as 'an excellent addition to the list of Tìree inspired publications.'

He said: 'Traditional Gaelic poetry has tended to focus on love, and love of nature and homeland, and while Brownlie largely keeps to

those subject matters, he invariably adds a modern twist to the traditional poetic subject matter whilst keeping deeply rooted within the Gaelic song tradition. His song, *An Fhichdeamh Linn is Linn Ùr*, which was composed in the early days of the new millennium, commemorates those who died in the wars of the 20th century and outlines his hopes that the new millennium would bring peace throughout the world.'

He went on: 'However, a song to Ellen MacArthur in celebration of her breaking the record for the fastest solo yacht circumnavigation of the globe and numerous songs in praise of Tìree's landscape and people demonstrate that he was

equally comfortable with traditional and more modern subjects matter.'

In the book's introduction, Ronald Black, author and Gaelic editor of *The Scotsman*, said he believes Brownlie was the last of the traditional Gaelic Bards.

This book has a number of specially commissioned melodies by Ishbel and Màiri Strachan in which they sensitively set Brownlie's poems to music.

Mr MacMillan added: 'Taigh na Teud have produced a fitting tribute to a true gentleman of Gaelic song whose love for his wife, island roots and community make this a must have book for all who are interested in Gaelic song and poetry.'

ADVERTORIAL

Celebrating 70 years since Waverley's launch



The world famous Paddle Steamer Waverley will sail from Oban for just 4 days! On Saturday June 4th you can sail over the sea to Skye and cruise Loch Nevis to Inverie, on Sunday June 5th you can see a Whirlpool or enjoy a great night out amidst spectacular scenery on an evening cruise. On Monday June 6th you can visit Tobermory or cruise to Tìree and don't miss the chance to sail round the Mull of Kintyre on Tuesday June 7th!

On Monday June 4th, the population of Mull will also be able to enjoy a sail to Tìree when Waverley calls at Tobermory Pier. 2016 is a special year for Paddle Steamer Waverley - it marks 70 years since her launch in 1946. Waverley's keel was laid on December 27, 1945 but due to material shortages after the war, she was not ready for launch until October 2, 1946. It wasn't until the following year on January 20, 1947 that she was towed to Greenock for the installation of her boiler and engines. Finally she made her maiden voyage on June 16, 1947 and started what was to become a very long career. You can help ensure she continues to sail another year by booking a trip on Waverley this year.

Ross Cochrane, Waverley's Captain said: "Waverley is a very special ship, full of history and charm and there is a trip for everyone - young and old - to enjoy. Every passenger who comes aboard helps this beautiful ship continue to sail and I would encourage everyone to come and enjoy a trip on her. Some of the best scenery in the world is in the West Coast of Scotland and Waverley offers a unique way to experience it. I look forward to welcoming you onboard."

Waverley has excellent onboard facilities including a restaurant serving hot and cold snacks, two bars, heated lounges and a souvenir shop.

Fares start at £19 for Adults and there are discounts for Senior Citizens, Children under 18 half fare & under 5s travel free. Sailing memberships for unlimited sailings aboard Waverley in the Western Isles can be purchased from £195. To book tickets or for more information visit www.waverleyexcursions.co.uk or you can purchase tickets at Oban Tourist Information Centre.



SALEN SHOW
MULL AND MORVERN AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY SHOW
THURSDAY 11TH AUGUST 2016
SHOWFIELD AT GLENAROS
GATES OPEN 10AM
ENTRY ADULT £5, CONC £3,
FAMILY £14 - DANCE TO FOLLOW

Mull and Morvern Agricultural Society Show
Thursday August 11

Make sure you have your ferry ticket booked well in advance if travelling over to Mull for Salen Show. The showground at Aros, by the side of the road from Craignure to Tobermory is always packed with people; show day is a big social event and the perfect time to meet old friends. The cattle and sheep show is always fiercely contested and the horse show is the Isle of Mull Pony Club's top show of the year. There can also be some fierce competition in the dog show and then there's the rough and tumble of terrier racing.



59th Annual Appin Agricultural Show
Saturday 20th August 2016
Tynribbie, Appin
Judging Starts 10am
Sheep, Cattle, Highland Cattle, Dog show, Clydesdale Horse Display, Children's Games // Races, Handicrafts, Floral Art, Flowers and Veg, Highland Dancing, Vintage Engines and Lots More
Entry: Adults £ 5.00, Children & Conc £3 Free Parking

Appin Show
Saturday August 20

The Appin Show was founded in 1957 and is held annually on the third Saturday of August. This year's show will be held at Tynribbie by kind permission of Mr and Mrs Alistair Colthart. It is an integral part of Appin and Lorn community life. One of the high spots for visitors - wee kids and big kids alike - is the fantastic collection of old tractors and engines on display.



ADVERTORIAL

Dunollie Links brings Hope's legacy to life



DUNOLLIE Links, an exciting community programme run by Dunollie Museum Castle and Grounds and funded by The Robertson Trust, has provided creative activities for more than 700 local people in the last year, many inspired by the collections, research and stories of Miss Hope MacDougall. Many will remember Miss Hope for her passionate interest in the working and domestic lives of people in the Highlands and Islands during the 19th and 20th centuries, illustrated with her wonderful collection of 5,000 objects gathered over her life-time.

Supported by Dunollie Links and led by Catherine Gillies (Ergadia Museum & Heritage Consultancy), five keen volunteers undertook intensive curatorial training last spring to create an exhibition in Dunollie Museum, telling the story of Miss Hope's life and meticulously displaying more than 500 objects from her collection.

This exquisitely presented exhibition is not to be missed and its story has sparked new interest and inspired a flurry of interesting projects.

Visitors to Dunollie are now tempted by fabulous household gifts printed with images from the exhibition. Dunollie's 'Threads and Yarns' Group, which is based weekly at The Rockfield Centre and led by local milliner Jayne Mulqueen, embellish aprons, tea cosies, tote bags and cushions with spurtles, poison bottles, Bakelite telephones and such like. These unique products are for sale in Dunollie's Old Drapers Shop.

Next door the Weaving Room has a working exhibit; Miss Hope's full size pattern-making loom was restored by a dedicated group of enthusiasts with help from Dr Dan Coughlin from Paisley museum. The Dunollie Weavers, led by Marilyn Drummond, provide a live weaving display each Monday and are delighted to tell visitors about Miss Hope, the loom and their weaving project.

Within Hope's collection is a fabulous assortment of butter churns, butter pats and decorative moulds. Groups from Oban High School, Lochnell Primary, Park Primary and North Connell Beavers, have recently enjoyed making butter by hand at Dunollie, and eating it with scones and jam! During her work experience at Dunollie, Romana Georgeson made beautifully-executed drawings of some of these butter-making tools, as well as flat irons and children's shoes for Dunollie's visitor guidebook.

Melanie Davies, Dunollie Links officer said: 'We are delighted with the fabulous drawings Romana has created for our planned guidebook.'

Earlier this year, Dunollie hosted two Natural Dye workshops developed from Miss Hope's traditional research and experiments.

Participants were guided by her comprehensive instructions to create natural dyes from plants around Oban and took home skeins of beautifully coloured wool.

Jane Isaacson, Development Manager said: 'I never knew Miss Hope but I'm guessing she would have been delighted by the work of Dunollie Links and the creativity her life-time of collecting has inspired in the community she loved.'



THREADS AND YARNS
AT THE ROCKFIELD CENTRE
EVERY TUESDAY
1 PM - 3 PM

Dunollie's *Threads and Yarns* group is inspired by our historic textile and heritage collections. The group meets weekly and encourages keen makers to get together and share their talents and expertise.



We welcome all abilities, so whether you've been crafting all your life or would like to learn some new skills, there is something for everyone.

For any more information, contact Melanie on 01631 570550 or email melanie@dunollie.org.



National
Smile
Month



May 16 - June 16,
2016



Facts and Figures

With your support, National Smile Month reaches around 50 million people each year and is the biggest and most effective annual reminder of the importance of good oral health. But there is still more work to do. A third of all children starting school have tooth decay. Around a quarter of all adults say they have not visited a dentist in the past two years. Three in every 10 adults suffer from regular dental pain. A quarter of adults don't brush their teeth twice a day and over four-fifths of the population have at least one filling. Poor oral health doesn't just cause problems inside the mouth. A smile is hugely important to our personalities, self-confidence, relationships and success. General health is also at risk too as studies continue to associate poor oral hygiene to serious health problems such as

Smile Month can make a big difference.
Brushing twice a day

- One in four adults don't brush twice a day, including a third of men.
- One in 10 admit they regularly forget to brush their teeth.

Cleaning habits

- 42 per cent of adults use just a toothbrush and toothpaste for their oral care.
- 31 per cent of adults use mouthwash too.
- One in four have never used mouthwash.
- 21 per cent of adults use dental floss regularly.
- One in three have never flossed their teeth.

Visits to the dentist

- 61 per cent of adults in England, 60 per cent in Northern Ireland and 69 per cent in Wales and Scotland now attend dentists regularly. In 1978, the figure was just 44 per cent in England and 39 per cent in Wales.
- Half of adults say they visit their dentist every six months.
- 21 per cent of adults say they visit their dentist annually.
- The UK is one of the most likely nations in Europe to visit their dentist for a check-up – helping to prevent the battle against poor oral health. The UK was ranked second (72 per cent), after the Netherlands (79 per cent).
- Around two per cent of the population have never visited a dentist.
- 27 per cent of adults only visit their dentist when they have a problem.

Children's oral health

- Two in three children aged 12 are now found to be free of visible dental decay. In 1973, this figure was less than one in 10.



SDC group

NHS REGISTRATIONS AVAILABLE NOW

Regular dental attendance is a vital part of healthcare. A routine dental examination will assess the jaw joints, the teeth, all of the soft tissues in the mouth together with the current oral hygiene status. Any treatment advised to improve or maintain oral health can then be provided ensuring a healthy functioning mouth and importantly, a healthy, natural smile.



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Dr Adrian Sinanan and his fellow dental professionals are registered with the General Dental Council. Adrian's membership number is 73923. Implant surgery carried out by Dr Philip Friel (GDC 77637)

All smiles as UK's largest oral health campaign celebrates 40th Birthday

LEADING health charity, the Oral Health Foundation, is delighted to announce the return of National Smile Month for 2016. This year the campaign promises to be bigger and better than ever as it marks its 40th birthday.

This year the UK's largest and longest running oral health campaign takes place between May 16 and June 16 and aims to increase awareness of important oral health issues and make a significant difference to the wellbeing of millions of people.

Together, with thousands of individuals and organisations, National Smile Month promotes three key messages at the heart of good oral health: brush your teeth last thing at night and at least one other time during the day with a fluoride toothpaste, cut down on how often you eat sugary foods and drinks, and visit the dentist regularly, as often as they recommend.

Who can take part?

National Smile Month is a campaign which everybody is encouraged to get involved with.

There are ways for a wide variety of groups, companies and individuals to get involved. Dental and health professionals, schools, pharmacies, community groups, colleges and workplaces – in fact, anyone with an interest in good oral healthcare, help to deliver positive messages on oral health through thousands of events.

Why is it needed?

First conceived in 1977, National Smile Month aimed to address an increasingly critical problem of how to get people to look after their teeth in a time when only one in three people had their natural teeth.

Thankfully, times have changed since then and there have been numerous changes in public attitudes to their oral health, but many problems still exist. Tooth decay is still far too common,

especially in children where nearly a third (31 per cent) of five-year-olds and half (46 per cent) of eight-year-olds have visible signs of dental decay.

One in four adults admit that they don't brush twice a day and more than a quarter only currently visit their dentist when they have a problem. Huge oral health disparities still exist depending on issues such as socio-economic status, age, where people live and even due to disability and ethnicity.

Almost all of dental health problems are preventable and this is what National Smile Month is trying to draw attention to and promote through positive messages and education.

How can people follow the campaign?

SOCIAL media is an excellent way which people can follow, show their support and get involved in the campaign. People can get the latest updates and news on Twitter by following @SmileMonth and using #NSM16 and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/NationalSmileMonth.

The Oral Health Foundation also runs a number of social media initiatives which everyone can get involved in:

- #MySmileySelfie – By sharing smiley selfies on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram, people have the opportunity to get involved and spread positive oral health messages, all while having fun.
- Nominate a Smile – National Smile Month is rewarding our lucky people who always bring a smile to those around them with special recognition.

More information can be found at www.smilemonth.org/competitions.

Advertorial

New team at Oban Dental Care

DR MUSTAFA Mustafa attended Poznan Medical University in Poland, qualifying as a dentist in 1997, and, after a five-year comprehensive speciality programme in orthodontics, gained the title of Specialist in Orthodontics in 2006. During this period Dr Mustafa attended a research and PhD programme at the orthodontics department and he further was awarded the title of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD in Orthodontics) in June 2006.

In 2007 Dr Mustafa moved to the UK where he has been practising as a specialist in orthodontics. He has twice been the proud recipient of a prestigious dental award related to a yearly orthodontic competition organised by the British Orthodontic Society, called 'Against



Dr Mustafa and his team at Oban Dental Care.

the Odds'. Dr Mustafa's cases were considered 'best treated case of the year' in 2011 and 2012, as the orthodontic treatment he provided was life-changing for the patient. In 2013, he gained a post-graduate diploma in lingual orthodontics from Warwick University, England, and has gained a lot of education and experience by attending local and international

courses and conferences in orthodontics and lingual orthodontics. He is a member of British Orthodontic Society, British Lingual Orthodontic Society, World Federation of Orthodontics and American Association of Orthodontics. Dr Mustafa has a monthly clinic at Oban Dental Care, 17 Lochside Street PA34 4HP, where he welcomes both NHS

and private patients for orthodontic treatment. He provides a wide range of orthodontic treatments including, but not limited to:

- Conventional metal appliances.
- Ceramic fixed appliances.
- Self-ligating appliances.
- Removable and functional appliances.
- Lingual (fitted behind the teeth) appliances.

- The dental health of five-year-old children is even better – just 27 per cent show obvious dental decay.

Dental anxiety

- One in every seven adults who had ever been to a dentist suffers from extreme dental anxiety.
- Women are more likely to suffer from extreme dental anxiety than men.
- The most common fears for visiting a dentist are having a tooth drilled (30 per cent) and having a local anaesthetic injection (28 per cent).
- Visiting the dentist is ranked number one (22 per cent) for making people nervous, closely followed by heights (19 per cent). Nearly 10 times as many people (22 per cent) are nervous of visiting their dentists, compared to their doctor (two per cent).

Other oral health indicators

- 84 per cent of all adults have at least one or more fillings.
- Each adult has an average of seven fillings.

- 31 per cent of adults have tooth decay.
- 66 per cent have visible plaque.
- 29 per cent suffer from regular dental pain.
- Only five per cent recycle their old toothbrushes. 59 per cent throw them away. Around 35 per cent use them for a difference purpose such as cleaning and other household chores.

Fun facts

- Half of us brush our tongue when we brush our teeth.
- It takes 43 muscles to frown but only 17 to smile.
- Earrings, business cards, keys, matchsticks and screwdrivers – just some of the bizarre objects we admit to using to get food particles out of our teeth.
- On a night out, 80 per cent of us would be more likely to talk to somebody we didn't know if they smiled.
- A 'smile' comes top of the things we first notice when meeting a new person.

- More than half of us wouldn't tell a friend or colleague if they had bad breath for fear of risking a friendship.
- Teeth/smiles are rated the second most important attraction feature, after personality. In contrast, nearly half the population are unhappy with their teeth (48 per cent) with discoloured teeth (64 per cent) the main reason for being unhappy

- One in four think electric toothbrushes are for lazy people while a third believe they do not have to brush for as long when using one.



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As part of National Smile Month we are hosting an open event on
Wednesday 25th May 5pm - 7pm

where you can come along, meet the team, discuss any treatments you might be interested in now and in the future, Dental Plans and Finance options. If to you are thinking of registering with the practice it is a great opportunity to have a look around whilst enjoying some complimentary refreshments!

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The summer months are a fabulous time to be outdoors and where better to relax than in your own backyard. Here are some top tips to keep your garden tidy and to make the most of it, however much room you have.

Tight space? Don't climb the walls.

Clematis is one of the National Gardens 'plants of the moment' for June. This versatile and colourful climber is perfect for when space is at a premium. It is easy to grow and has varieties that flower in each of the seasons. If planting into beds, don't feel obliged to provide a structure or trellis for support as many clematis can simply be planted in amongst shrubs and left to grow up through them for support. Dozens of clematis varieties are available, with new ones being introduced every year, in varying shades of colourful pink, red, purple, lilac, blue, cream and white. Most enjoy their heads being in the sun, but some will also grow well in partial shade.

Don't forget the weeds.

As we approach summer solstice, green fingered folks' hard work will benefit from longer days bringing more light and more heat. While these conditions are favourable for garden growth, they might also lead to an increase in unwanted visitors. Weeds will likely sprout up from seemingly nowhere and will suck up vital

nutrients and moisture needed by the plants. As such, the Royal Horticultural Society encourages regular hoeing in dry weather to keep those pesky weeds at bay.

Out with the old, in with the new...

Gardening doesn't have to be laborious but continued attention in small doses will help keep it looking great. So when your garden is in full bloom, try not to just sit back and enjoy the view - it's time to look after your roses. David Domoney, TV gardener, advises to keep an eye out for black spots and aphid attack and to treat immediately. Deadhead any faded flowers to encourage fresh buds to grow and apply a rose fertilizer after the first flush of flowers. It is also useful to stake growing plants such as Delphiniums, Hollyhocks and Lupins, or tie them to walls and fences. The side shoots of climbers should also be tied in to train them along trellis or wire supports.

Seek out some inspiration...

Feeling a bit overwhelmed in the garden or just wanting to support a good cause? Why not visit some of 'Scotland's Gardens'. Created in 1931, Scotland's Gardens is a registered charity which raises funds for other deserving charities by facilitating the opening of gardens of horticultural interest of all sizes throughout Scotland to the public. Argyll is teeming with beautiful gardens which are opened regularly and also on specific dates as part of the 2016 programme. From Benmore Botanical gardens spanning 49 acres to Braevallich Farm, why not put down the rake for a few hours and see how the experts do it.

For more information visit <http://www.scotlandsgardens.org>

But keep a critical eye...

Country Life recommends joining the British 'garden going' trend but also to ensure the visit is profitable. Why not have a notebook at the ready or a camera if permitted to document anything that tickles your fancy. Bone up on key features of the garden in advance so as not to miss out on the best bits but don't crowd your mind. Let the garden speak for itself and look for the broader picture as well as the fine detail. Extra benefits include a word with the owner or gardener, worthy plants for sale and of course - afternoon tea.

Look after the pennies...

For people who love a bargain as much as their outdoor space, take advantage of National Garden gift vouchers this summer. They are accepted at more than 2,000 leading garden centres, shops and nurseries across the UK. Find out more at www.facebook.com/GardenGiftVouchers



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Farming

Ewen Campbell, Scotland's Rural College (SRUC) Kirkton and Auchtertyre research farms manager, updates Oban Times readers

LAMBING has started at SRUC's Kirkton and Auchtertyre farms and thankfully the rain has stopped and the sun is shining. Long may it continue.

The grass has started to grow and we are expecting the team from Soil Essentials to come and take soil samples any day. These samples will be analysed to check the pH and nutrient levels of the soil. We will then spread lime at the required rate to neutralise the pH and apply artificial fertiliser to improve nutrient levels. With the soil now reasonably dry, we should be able to get some ploughing done and then a bit of re-seeding when the risk of frost reduces.

We have been sorting out the hogs - last year's ewe lambs - which had just come home from their winter holidays. We put them in a shed for a few days to train them to eat concentrated feed, something you would think would come naturally but hill sheep can be thrown to eat from a trough so this is the best stage to persuade them that it is a good idea.

Lambing preparations have also been taking place with neckbanding being the most labour intensive part. This year it was much easier, as we did them on the conveyor.

As I probably explained in previous years, neckbanding is putting a big plastic tag around the ewe's neck so we can read its ID number from further away. This will help my colleagues greatly during lambing time when they are recording the lamb birthweights, scoring the ewe's maternal behaviour and making a note of its ID. Let's hope it all goes well and I will let you know the outcome of this lambing season next month.

We still have our PhD student, Ping Zhou, who is now entering her second year of study. As she did last year, Ping will be looking at the differences in performance at lambing between the ewes in the Kirkton flock. She will carry out post-mortems on any lamb that may die in the first week of being born.

Last year, she found out that the most common reason for lamb death in the flock was dystocia - the lamb getting stuck during birth. We will see how it goes this year, though hopefully she won't have too many cases. She will also look again at the quality of the colostrum produced by the ewes. It is exciting for us to have someone looking at all this lambing data in more detail.

All our calves have now been born, giving us seven bulls and eight heifers and they have just been turned out with their mothers to the hill park as the weather has been favourable.

I hope this continues to be the case as last year we turned them out too early and paid the price. The cows will continue to be fed silage and a small amount of concentrate to help improve their condition before putting the bull in with them in a couple of weeks time. All the calves were weighed at birth with the bull calves averaging 44.7kg and the heifers 39.6kg and all were born naturally



Two of the first lambs at Kirkton and Auchtertyre farms.

with no assistance needed. We've also had some interesting visitors on the farms who, for a change, were not phased by our Scottish weather, as they were from Norway.

The two visitors were from the Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research in Tingvoll and from the Norwegian Institute of Technology in Trondheim. Both of them are working with Norwegian farmers from the west and northern coast. They came to see what research we are carrying out at Kirkton and Auchtertyre, but also to get more information on the way we farm in the hills of Scotland. It was very interesting to draw parallels between our two countries. Their sheep farmers, who are organised in small grazing groups, have a system based on common grazings on high pastures in the summer, whilst their sheep stay indoors during lambing time. Their flocks are much smaller than ours - normally 50 to 100 ewes - but their main limitation is, very much like us, the size of their inbye pastures, which determines when they have to turn their sheep out onto the common grazings.

They seem to have a lot of problems with tickborne fever and with plochteach, which they call 'alveld'. We were able to discuss this in detail with them and hopefully we may be able to collaborate or share information on these two debilitating lamb diseases. They were also interested in sensors and technology. We showed them our EID handling facilities and the research we are carrying out on that topic here. We even discussed drones as an idea for making gathering of the sheep easier. They are considering this in Norway, where some of their farms can be up to 17 km² in area and where the farmer can spend days looking for a few sheep. All on all, it was an interesting day and very fruitful discussions.

Claire hits high notes with competition win

A BUSINESS case for a new agricultural supply co-operative on Mull has won third year SRUC Agriculture Honours student and local resident Claire Simonetta, 24, from Ulva Ferry, a study trip to Ireland.

Together with colleague Fraser Graham, from Hollybush near Ayr, who is also studying at the Ayr campus of Scotland's Rural College, they entered their joint course work in a competition organised by Scotland's co-operative support organisation SAOS.

Claire is no stranger to competition wins. In 2015 she won high praise and the prestigious annual Agriscot Business skills competition, collecting £1,000. This latest success, which will involve visits in June to agricultural co-operatives around Cork, is the result of a case study proposing a solution to some of the agricultural supply issues surrounding island crofts and farms including the 3,200 hectare Torloisk beef and sheep farm she lives on with partner Iain Mackay and which formed the focus of the report.

From a central depot, the proposed non-profit 'Mull Farm Supply Co-op' would be able to co-ordinate and store bulk orders for inputs like animal feed or lime, something which has not been spread on the island for some years. The students' plan notes a recent increase in weather-related ferry cancellations and the fact that many farming businesses are too small to justify bulk deliveries but too big to rely on the small 25 kg bags ordered through delivery services.

'We believe a locally managed co-op, with an elected board of directors, would help improve communication and the understanding of what Mull farmers and crofters need during any season,' said Claire. 'It would not only help the existing suppliers but offer opportunities to supply other services. Our plan envisages an initial membership investment of between £200 and £5,000 which entitles them to a vote, with any profit not retained to build the business passed back in the form of interest paid to the members, according to their initial commitment and use of

the services.' From Switzerland, Claire Simonetta originally trained in opera singing, but after visiting Scotland for the first time she found the culture and people Scotland made it the perfect place to settle.

Several jobs within agricultural businesses and organisations in Scotland and Wales also confirmed that agriculture was for her and she enrolled at SRUC.



Claire Simonetta. a21srucMull01no

Subsidy application deadline extended

THE SCOTTISH Government has extended the application window for applying to vital CAP support schemes from May 16 to June 15.

This is the second successive year where problems with the IT system installed by Scottish Government to deliver new CAP schemes have merited an extension to the deadline.

NFU Scotland president Allan Bowie said: 'We welcome the recognition from Scottish Government that additional time must be allowed for that to happen. While many of our members will have already submitted their claim, we could not have allowed a situation to develop where many members could not submit a form because of mapping issues.'

'The fact the IT system is still toiling to approve

all applications made in 2015 means that a clear priority for the newly-elected Scottish Government is to finish what it started and deliver all outstanding payments to all farmers.

'The financial hole that remains in the Scottish rural economy must be filled.'

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Sheep and cattle sold at Caledonian Marts, Oban

AT THE firm's Oban centre on Tuesday May 10, Caledonian Marts sold 175 store, breeding and OTM cattle along with 402 store hoggets, feeding ewes and ewes with lambs at foot.

76 bullocks averaged 241p/kg, selling to 302p/kg for a Simmental from J & W Cameron, Glenmachrie, Glenlonan and to £1,040 gross for a Limousin from D MacDonald, Tyree, Benderloch.

Some 68 heifers averaged 205p/kg, selling to 269p/kg for a Limousin from I Campbell & Son, Aird, Ardfern and to £850 gross for a Limousin from D MacDonald, Tyree, Benderloch.

Among the OTM cattle, 20 animals averaged 106p/kg, selling to 135ppkg from J Caskie, Kengharair, Dervaig and to £900 gross from D Campbell, Achnacree, North Connel.

Breeding cattle sold to £780 from J Caskie, Kengharair, Dervaig.

In the sheep ring, store hoggets sold to £74 for a pen of BF from R Hogg, Balure of Shian, Benderloch, which was closely followed at £70 for a pen of Suffolks from J & S Anderson, Kilbride, Balvicar.

Leading prices

Bullocks p/kg: 301p Dunach Estates; 296p + 288p Ardachy; 286p Glenmachrie; 279p Achnacreebeg; 276p Ardachy; 271p Glenmachrie

Bullocks/head: £1,000 Auchnasaul; £960 Achnacreebeg; £940 Auchnasaul; £920 Achnacreebeg; £890 + £850 Tyree

Heifers p/kg: 253p Elderberry; 250p Ardachy and Elderberry; 237p + 233p Tyree; 228p Upper Largie; 225p Tyree

Heifers/head: £820 Tyree; £770 Homestead and Upper Largie; £670 Dunach Estates; £640 Shenavallie and Ardachy; £610 Tyree

Leading Prices

Hoggets

BFL: £62 Drumvore

Cross: £60 Kilbride; £54 TengaBhuidhe and Drumvore; £52 Drumvore

Tex: £50 Craigston

Cross: £50 Homestead and Upper Largie

Ewes

Suff: £72 Achnamonie

Tex: £60 Shenavallie

Cross: £58 Upper Largie

Suff: £55 Glenmachrie

Cross: £52 Auchnasaul

Ewes with lambs at foot

8 BF with twins: £98 Craigston

8 BF with singles: £78 Craigston

United Auctions holds second Tیره spring sale

THE SECOND spring sale of all classes of cattle and sheep was held at Tیره Auction Mart on Wednesday May 11.

An increased entry on the year was sold by United Auctions at levels similar to the corresponding sale last year. A good show of grazing cattle sold well.

Bullocks sold to average £767.17 per head or 222.78 pence per kilo (£785.32 or 226.23 pence per kilo last year). Heifers sold to average £631.32 or 200.07 pence per kilo (£665.14 or 206.65 pence per kilo last year). Bullocks from Heylipol Farm sold to £1,060 per head and Ardeas led this section per kilo at 263 pence. Heifers sold to £880 from Heylipol Farm whilst Grishapol, Coll led this section at 240 pence.

The prices for all classes of sheep at the same sale compared favourably to current mainland rates.

Principal lots and prices

Top prices per head

Bullocks

AA: £1060, £900 and £870 - Heylipol Farm.

CHARx: £1,010 (2) - Heylipol Farm : £940 - Salum : £930 (2) - Heylipol Farm.

LIMx: £1,030 - Salum : £1,000 and £960 - Heylipol Farm.

SALx: £850 - 3 Balevullin.

SIMx: £940, £920 (2), £860 and £840 (2) - Sandaig.

BSH: £500 - Grishapol, Coll

Heifers

BSH: £700 - Grishapol

CHARx: £850 - Heylipol.

LIMx: £880, £850, £820 (2) and £810 - Heylipol Farm.

SIMx: £810 and £720 - Sandaig.

Top prices per kilo

Bullocks

AAx: £228p - Heylipol Farm.

BSHx: £244p(3) - Grishapol, Coll

CHARx: £247p - Heylipol Farm : 244p - 8 Cornaigbeg : 236p (2) and 228p - Salum : 227p - Heylipol Farm.

LIMx: £233p and 226p - Heylipol Farm : 224p - Salum : 221p - Sandaig.

SALx: £263p - Ardeas.

SIMx: £245p (5), 242p, 239p (2), 236p (2) and 233p (2) - Sandaig : 231p (2) and 225p - Lochphuil.

Heifers

BSHx: £240p, 236p (3) - Grishapol.

CHARx: £239p - Salum.

LIMx: £230p (2) - Heylipol Farm.

OTM cattle

AAx: £900 - Heylipol Farm.

BSHx: £820 - 3 Middleton.

LIMx: £950 - Heylipol Farm

SIMx: £940 - Heylipol Farm

Sheep

Hoggs

SUFFx: £67.00 - Druimfhraoich.

TEXx: £63.00 - Heylipol Farm.

Ewes

SUFFx: £50.00 - 3 Middleton.

BELTx: £74.00 and £62.00 - Heylipol Farm

TEXx: £80.00 - Ruaig : £79.00 - Heylipol Farm : £71.00 - Croish : £70.00 - Ruaig.

CHEVx: £67.00 - 4 Heanish.

Cross: £63.00 - 4 Heanish.

Mule: £75.00 - Mannal and Heylipol Farm : £66.00 - Ardeas : £61.00 - Lochside.

BF: £44.00 - Mannal.



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Citroen Xsara 1.4 Litre



2000, 75,711 miles, MOT one year, garaged and serviced every year, good condition.
£900 ono

01967 402031

Bailey Ranger 460/2 2007

2 berth caravan
Excellent condition for age with porch awning
£4,500

Tel 01631 562755 / 07730094865

Renault Kangoo D65 Van



1.9 diesel, only 60k miles, X reg, 9 months MOT, towbar, roofrack, wood lined, VGC
£500

01631 720380 / 07769 516134

WANTED

All cars, vans and 4 x 4's, high mileage, any condition, non runners, MOT failures accepted. Collection anywhere. Top cash prices paid.

Telephone 07840906053

2013 Polo S 1.2



39,400 Miles, FSH, MOT until end of March 2017, 1 Owner, Very Good Condition.
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07826519374/01866833316

1993 Fleetwood Garland



185 twin axle, 5 berth caravan, 4 new tyres, new battery, gas appliances, cassette toilet, hot & cold water, full awning, good condition for age.
£975

Tel 01687 470217 (Lochailort)

Fiat Doblo Van



First Reg Jan 2011 MOT Feb 2017 Mileage 80,000 Good condition
£3000 no VAT

01631 564022 / 07710 060021

WANTED 4x4's

all makes and models, Toyota, Landrover, Mitsubishi, also light commercials, vans, pickups bought, miles no problem, MOT or not, instant decision, same day payment.

Telephone William 07730 130284 or 07538671625 or email wlmotorhomes@outlook.com

Renault Megane



Island car, low mileage, very good condition
£800

Tel: 01770 600273 after 6pm (Arran)

2009 Nissan Navara



72000 miles, Mot April 2017, custom leather interior, spot and running lights, aluminium rear cover, very good condition
£8750

Contact 07751605717

WANTED

All types of good quality 4 x 4 vehicles, Landrovers, Mitsubishi, Kia, Ford etc and all 4 x 4 pickups, must be good condition and reasonable mileage. Older 4 x 4's and non runners/MOT failures etc considered. Will collect.

Telephone 07546 788945

WANTED

motor homes, caravanettes and camper vans, all makes or models considered. Also touring caravans and statics, instant decision, same day payment.

Contact William 07730 130284 or 07538671625 or email wlmotorhomes@outlook.com

WANTED

All types of 4 x 4 vehicles, Landrovers, Toyotas, Nissan, any 4 x 4 considered, also non-runners, failures, single or double cab.

Telephone 01250 884306 or mobile 07885 203020

WANTED

All 4 x 4s, old or new Toyota Hilux, land cruiser, all pickups single or double cabs, any condition, runner or not, high miles no problem.

Tel 07703490572 ask for Robert

WANTED

All types of motor homes and caravanettes, any age or condition. We also buy water damaged or in need of repair. Also all types of touring caravans from 85 onwards.

Telephone 01250 884306 or mobile 07885 203020

WANTED

Any 4x4, Landrover, Nissan, Mitsubishi, Toyota etc, MOT failure or high mileage considered.

Telephone 07340367285 or 01382 843415

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Derigged on launch trailer at Lochranza on Arran. Slab reefed main, new roller jib, basic electronics, all rigging and operational gear in working order. The boat needs cosmetic TLC. See www.jaguarowners.co.uk.g8seq.com for boat details. 6hp Tohatsu engine available but not included.

Contact 07767 494931 or davidbaker99@btinternet.com

Good sea boat, 23'x8'

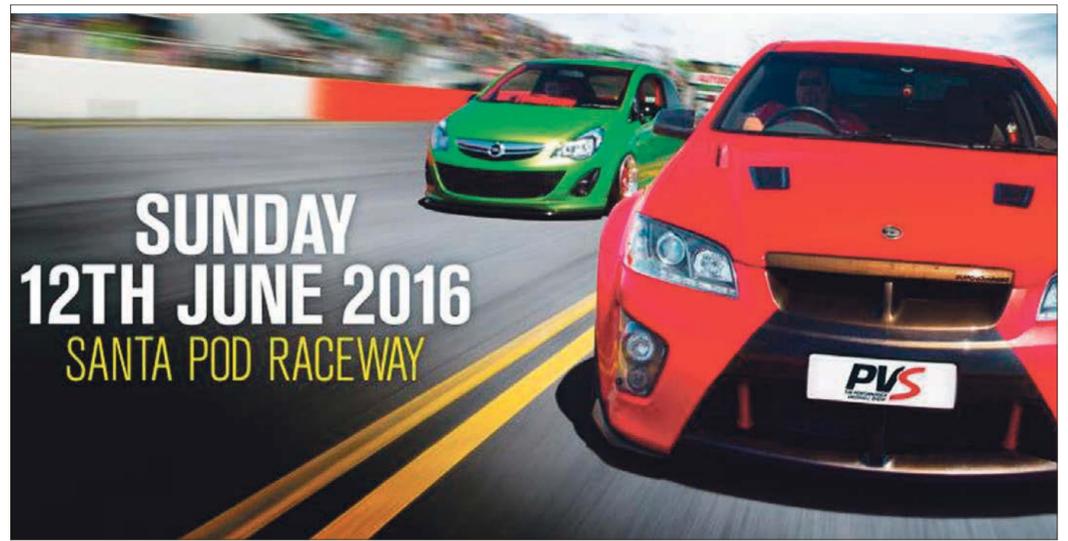
With good onboard engine. To be sold 'as is'. Can be seen in Skye. Apply to Box no 19, The Oban Times, Crannog Lane, Oban, PA34 4HB

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Vaux-hall the fuss about?



SUNDAY 12TH JUNE 2016
SANTA POD RACEWAY

IT'S the show that will leave fans Griffin from ear-to-ear...

Britain's premier event for fans of performance and modified Vauxhalls is gearing up to be one of the busiest yet, with club stand space already sold out and individual tickets selling like hot cakes.

The Performance Vauxhall Show (PVS) takes place at the famous Santa Pod drag strip on Sunday June 12 and includes a number of features that are guaranteed to capture the attention of more than 10,000 expected visitors.

With on-strip action, including the chance for owners to enter their own Vauxhalls in a VX-only 'Run What Ya Brung', Santa Pod will be spilling over with Griffin greats, be they retro Novas, Chevettes, Cavaliers and Astras, or more modern VX220s, Monaros and VXRs.

When classic and modern Vauxhalls aren't going head-to-head on the iconic strip, the famous Santa Pod Jet Car will be in action. The record breaking Fireforce 3 develops more

than 10,000bhp from its helicopter engine, and can reach a terminal velocity of more than 300mph on the ¼-mile strip. But be warned – bring ear plugs!

For those wanting to run something a bit tamer, drag strip tickets cost £20 per car on the day, or £10 on the Saturday for those who arrive early.

As well as the drag strip action, PVS promises a host of other features including a lively retail village for the latest parts, mods and memorabilia, a show and shine, and some of the best and busiest club displays going. Fast Car magazine will be there, along with Performance Vauxhall, with a special show subscription offer of £15 for six issues.

Keep 'em peeled for the 460bhp Corsa D VXR of brothers Reece and Lee Hibbard, Darren Bryce's 454bhp Cavalier Turbo 4x4, Simon Murphy's mental 748bhp supercharged VXR8 and the JDM-arched Astra of Mk5 Owners Club top dog, Nicola Reed.

The team will also be proudly

displaying the superb Vectra VXR of serial feature car owner, Dave Hughes, and the now-famous twin-engined Corsa B built by Adam Beard.

Further fun features include drift trikes, a firing range and a 'Best Wheels' award, sponsored by Wheel Whores.

Although the show itself takes place on the Sunday, part of PVS is the party atmosphere, and camping at the show on the Saturday evening is where the fun really begins. Weekend tickets, including camping, are available for £25 per person if booked in advance (saving £8). A late night bar, DJ and Santa Pod's funfair will all be in action for the evening.

An early bird offer also applies to show day tickets - £18, as opposed to £23 on the gate. To buy tickets, visit www.performancevauxhallshow.co.uk

PVS promises to be an action-packed weekend and a true highlight of the Vauxhall calendar, but hurry, because tickets are selling out fast...

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Discovery Sport SE Tech 180 (7 Seat) Manual Representative Example

On the Road Price*	£34,295.00	Final Payment	£17,339.00
Customer Deposit	£8,830.00	Total Amount Payable	£38,733.00
Total Amount of Credit	£25,465.00	Duration of Agreement	37 months
Purchase Fee (incl. in final payment)	£10.00	Representative APR %	6.9% APR
36 Monthly Payments	£349.00	Interest Rate (Fixed) %	6.69%

*The model pictured is a Discovery Sport SE Tech with optional extras of Xenon pack (£985) and metallic paint (£625) at an On the Road price of £35,905.
Morrisons Land Rover is a trading style of Morrisons (Land Rover Limited) who is acting as a credit broker and not a lender.

Official Fuel Consumption Figures for the Discovery Sport range in mpg (l/100km): Urban 44.1 (6.4) – 50.4 (5.6), Extra Urban 61.4 (4.7) – 62.8 (4.5), Combined 53.3 (5.3) – 57.7 (4.9). CO₂ emissions 139 – 129 g/km.

The figures provided are as a result of official manufacturer's tests in accordance with EU legislation. A vehicle's actual fuel consumption may differ from that achieved in such tests and these figures are for comparative purposes only. Representative Example relates to a Discovery Sport SE Tech 180 Manual. Representative 6.9% APR available on Discovery Sport SE Tech 180 Manual models registered between 1st April to 30th June at participating Retailers only. With Land Rover Freedom Personal Contract Purchase you have the option at the end of the agreement to: (1) return the vehicle and not pay the Final Payment. If the vehicle has exceeded the allowed mileage a charge per excess mile will apply. In this example, 14p per excess mile up to 4,999, or for excess mileage of 5,000 or more, a charge of 28p will apply to each excess mile above the allowed mileage. If the vehicle is in good condition and has not exceeded the allowed mileage you will have nothing further to pay; (2) pay the Final Payment to own the vehicle or (3) part exchange the vehicle subject to settlement of your existing credit agreement; new credit agreements are subject to status. Representative example is based upon an annual mileage of 10,000 miles. Credit is subject to status and only available to applicants aged 18 and over resident in Mainland UK and N.Ireland. This credit offer is only available through Black Horse Limited trading as Land Rover Financial Services, St William House, Tresillian Terrace, Cardiff CF10 5BH. We can introduce you to Land Rover Financial Services and a limited number of other lenders to provide funding for your vehicle. We may receive commission or other benefits for introducing you to such lenders.

West coast recruitment



Supporting People & Communities

Permanent and Relief Support Assistants Required

If you share our passion for supporting people to maintain their independence at home and enjoy a better quality of life. Would love a rewarding job, we would love to hear from you.

We are recruiting now in Oban for Home Care, overnight Response and Housing Support. Campbeltown and Mid Argyll for Home Care. Full driving licence desirable, we pay travel time between visits. Full Training will be provided.

For more information & to apply please contact:
Liz Spence 01546 603072 Email: lizspence@carrgomm.org
 Application packs are also available on our website: www.carrgomm.org/work-for-us
 Alternatively, please contact our Recruitment Team:
Email: recruitment@carrgomm.org Phone: 0131 659 4777



Supporting People & Communities

Service Manager - Oban Salary: £24,699 – £28,929 per annum Type: Permanent

We have a vacancy for a dynamic, motivated and committed individual to manage and take forward our Home Care service based in Oban.

Carr Gomm is one of Scotland's leading care organisations. Everything we do is shaped by our core values of choice, control, interdependence, openness & honesty, and respect. We are a registered charity and not-for-profit company: we put people first, not profits.

If you are interested in improving people's lives within the community... we would love to hear from you!

For more information & to apply
 Application packs are available on our website: www.carrgomm.org/work-for-us
 Alternatively, please contact our Recruitment Team:
 • Email: recruitment@carrgomm.org
 • Phone: 0131 659 4770
 • Post: Carr Gomm, SPACE, 11 Harewood Road, Edinburgh EH16 4NT.
 Closing date 27th May 2016 Interviews will take place 1st June 2016

Location – Lochaber A (Mallaig)
Highland Health & Social Care
Care at Home Worker
14 hours per week, Permanent
Salary Scale: HC04, £17,100 - £19,253 pro rata
Plus weekend enhancements where appropriate



Highland Health and Social Care Services help people from all walks of life, as well as their families or carers. Health and Social Care in Highland provides help and assistance in many situations arising due to illness, disability, old age or poverty.

The post is responsible for supporting the provision of a Care at Home Service for vulnerable people. To provide assistance with key tasks which maintain and promote the independence for people in their own home. For further information please refer to the job specification.

In order to be able to carry out the duties of this post effectively and safely, candidates will be able to provide evidence of experience in dealing with vulnerable adults, especially older people, preferably in a caring capacity. Applicant must have good communication skills – both verbally and in writing. SVQ Level 2 in Care, or a willingness and ability to work towards this qualification within an agreed time scale. For further information please refer to the person specification.

Informal enquiries regarding the post to:
Elspeith Napier, Care at Home Officer, 01397 709826

Application Forms and Job Descriptions can be downloaded via our website www.nhshighland.scot.nhs.uk or available from, and to be returned to, the Employment Services Section, John Dewar Building, Inverness Business & Retail Park, Highlander Way, Inverness IV2 7GE or by emailing your name and address to nhshighland.recruitment@nhs.net

Please quote reference in the subject line of your email – NW6/16/001
Closing date for completed applications: Friday 27th May 2016



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Property Manager West Argyll (based in Oban)
Salary £27,087 to £31,867 per annum 35 hours per week

We require a Manager with experience in the repairs and maintenance of domestic properties to supervise our team of Operatives. Knowledge of H & S, IT skills and an organised approach is needed.

For further information about this post or for an informal chat please contact Phil Burn on 01546 605824
Closing Date: 12 noon on Friday 27th May 2016

Investment Assistant Lochgilhead
Salary £19,368 to £22,787 per annum 35 hours per week

For further information about this post or for an informal chat please contact David McColl on 01546 605842
Closing Date: 12 noon on Friday 3rd June 2016

For further details and to apply visit our website at www.acha.co.uk/recruitment
 If you are unable to access the website contact the Recruitment Team:
 Tel 01546 605917 or email recruitment@acha.co.uk

HOLIDAY LET CLEANER NEEDED

Holiday Let handover cleaner required, Kilmelford.

Saturdays 11am changeover.

Call for details.

Email: paulandkaren.holder@btinternet.com
 Phone: 01651 862107

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For long term forestry mounding contract in Argyllshire. Mounding or machine experience preferable. FMC and first aid would be advantageous. Training will be available for suitable candidate if necessary. Good package available for experienced candidates.

For further details send a brief CV to dashanksforestry@gmail.com or 07768230461.

Charity no SC029947. Co SC277345.



Argyll & Bute TSI require a Finance Officer, based at their Oban office.
 29 hours, £12.38 per hour.

The postholder will be responsible for administering the finances, payroll and Sage accounting for the organisation. They must be experienced at using Sage software, have financial administration experience and work as part of a busy team in a complex organisation. This is a responsible and important role demanding accuracy and an ability to work to deadlines.

For an informal conversation contact the CEO, Glenn Heritage, 01631 564839, For details and application form email shirley@argylltsi.org.uk
 Closing date is Thursday 12th May.



Administrator

We are looking for an experienced administrator to join our Fort William team on a permanent, full-time, basis. The main focus of the role will be to support our professional team in their rural work and make sure our clients receive an excellent experience when working with Bidwells.

Key duties:

- Dealing with enquiries from clients and professionals via telephone and email.
- Processing invoices and maintaining databases.
- Copy and audio typing; to include terms of engagement, reports, letters, memos, minutes, agendas, file notes and other miscellaneous correspondence.
- Coordinating site visits.

Hours of work:
 09.00 to 17.00 Monday to Friday, with one hour for lunch
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We are looking to recruit confident individuals who possess a high standard of communication and customer service skills with the ability to work within a team.

We are recruiting for temporary full-time and part-time Sat/Sun roles.

Interested candidates should call Andrea Verrall, Brightwork on 0141 272 8104 or email your CV to andrea.verrall@brightworkltd.com. Interviews will be held locally.

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kirsty.mcnamee@everwarmgroup.com



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Fixed term – 12 months
35 hours per week

We require an individual with a pleasant and professional manner to maintain client records and prepare VAT returns in our busy accountancy practice for up to 12 months to cover maternity leave. Previous experience would be of advantage but relevant training will be provided. Salary offered will depend on level of experience.

Duties include covering reception, typing, and general office duties.

Please send CV and a covering letter by 27 May 2016 to:
 The Staff Partner at
 Albany Chambers, Albany Street, Oban PA34 4AL
 or by e mail to mail@simmers.co.uk
www.simmers.co.uk

Driver/Pupil Escort (Permanent)
£15,819 - £16,765 pro rata Benderloch/Barcaldine Area Ref: CTF00628
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01546 604334

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public notices

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Comhairle Earra-Ghàidheal agus Bhòid

Argyll & Bute COUNCIL

PLANNING

These applications listed below may be inspected at Oban Lorn and Isles area office Municipal Buildings Albany Street Oban PA34 4AW, between 09:00-12:30 and 13:30- 17:00hrs Monday to Friday and 10:00-12:30 and 13:30-17:00hrs on Wednesday or at the Mid Argyll Kintyre and Isles area office 1A Manse Brae Lochgilhead PA31 8RD between 09:00 - 17:00hrs Monday to Friday and at the alternative locations detailed below during their normal opening times or by logging on to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 (AS AMENDED), RELATED PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

Refval	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
16/01239/PP	Installation of oil tank and external boiler and erection of extensions to outbuilding (part-retrospective)	1 Argyll Terrace Tobermory Isle of Mull Argyll and Bute PA75 6PB	Tobermory Area Office
16/01108/PPP	Site for the erection of dwellinghouse	Land East of Lorn Sawmills Taynuilt Argyll and Bute	Sub Post Office Taynuilt
16/01220/PPP	Site for the erection of dwellinghouse	Plot 2 Land South East of Fonn Aline Aros Isle of Mull Argyll and Bute	Sub Post Office Aros Isle of Mull
16/01221/PPP	Site for the erection of dwellinghouse	Plot 3 Land South East of Fonn Aline Aros Isle of Mull Argyll and Bute	Sub Post Office Aros Isle of Mull
16/00631/PP	Erection of timber chalet	Plot 18 Dalavich Chalet Park Dalavich Argyll and Bute	Sub Post Office Taynuilt
16/01173/PP	Use of land for the formation of a motorhome/camper van site, erection of office/services building, new vehicular access and installation of septic tank	Land North East of Pennygown Farmhouse Glenforsa Isle of Mull Argyll and Bute PA72 6JN	Sub Post Office Aros Isle of Mull
16/01244/LIB	Installation of pole mounted CCTV cameras	Dalmally Railway Station Dalmally Argyll and Bute PA33 1AA	Sub Post Office Dalmally
15/03045/PP	Alterations, extension and partial change of use of dwellinghouse to cafe and erection of shed for bike hire business	Arnabost Dervaig Isle of Mull Argyll and Bute PA75 6QJ	Sub Post Office Dervaig
16/01182/PP	Installation of replacement doors	72-74 Frederick Crescent Port Ellen Isle of Islay Argyll and Bute PA42 7BD	Sub Post Office Port Ellen
16/01224/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse and detached garage	Land East of Gortanachuir Farm (Plot 2) Bruichladdich Isle of Islay Argyll and Bute PA49 7JN	Sub Post Office Port Charlotte
16/01237/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse (amended design relative to planning permission reference 15/01341/PP)	Land South West of Ulva House Strongarth Road Tobermory Isle of Mull Argyll and Bute	Tobermory Area Office
16/00541/PP	Alterations, erection of extension and installation of heat source pump	The Saddlers Shore Street Bowmore Isle of Islay Argyll and Bute PA43 7LB	Bowmore Area Office Isle of Islay
16/01149/LIB	Improvements to accommodation and services; comprising externally, installation of air source heat pump and roof mounted ventilation terminals; and internally, replacement of mezzanine office, replacement of heating and sanitary provision, removal of partitions and linings and installation of new partitioning, staircases and acoustic flooring	Iona Abbey Isle of Iona Argyll and Bute PA76 6SQ	Sub Post Office Isle of Iona
16/01192/PP	Installation of insulated render system to rear (front elevation omitted)	McCalman The Square Bowmore Isle of Islay Argyll and Bute PA43 7JP	Bowmore Area Office Isle of Islay

Written comments can be made to the above address or submitted online <http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/find-and-comment-planning-applications> within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence. Any letter of representation the Council receives is considered a public document and will be published on our website. Anonymous or marked confidential correspondence will not be considered. A weekly list of all applications can be viewed at all Area Offices, Council Libraries and on the Councils website.

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

The applications listed below, along with plans and other documents submitted with them, may be examined online at <http://wam.highland.gov.uk>; electronically at the AREA PLANNING AND BUILDING STANDARDS OFFICE FULTON HOUSE, GORDON SQUARE, FT WILLIAM, PH33 6XY; or electronically at your nearest Council Service Point. You can find your nearest Service Point via the following link https://www.highland.gov.uk/directory/16/a_to_z

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

Reference Number	Development Address	Proposal Description	Alternative locations where application may be inspected and time period for comments
16/01362/FUL	Land 85M NE Of Ramona Banavie, Fort William	Erect house	(14 days)
16/02119/FUL	Land 120M North Of Ardlochy House Gairlochy, Spean Bridge	Erection of house (Renewal of 12/00240/PIP)	(14 days)
16/02102/FUL	Land 25M South Of Rockfield Anahellit, Strontian	Access track and temporary caravan	(14 days)
16/02082/FUL	Invercoe Caravan Park Glencoe, Ballachulish PH49 4HP	Change of use from touring pitches to touring pitches/permanent static caravan pitches	(14 days)
16/02010/LBC	The Old Station Spean Bridge PH34 4EP	Installation of new CCTV cameras	Regulation 5 - affecting the character of a listed building (21 days)

PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW ADDRESS
ePlanning Centre, The Highland Council, Glenurquhart Road, INVERNESS IV3 5NX
Email: eplanning@highland.gov.uk

MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010 1 SINGLE POINT PRIVATE MOORING, LOCH NA CILLE, KILMELFORD

Notice is hereby given that Professor Peter Ghazal has applied to the Scottish Ministers of the Scottish Government, under Part 4 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, in respect of 1 single point private mooring at:

Location	Latitude	Longitude
Loch naCille, Kilmelford, near Oban	56°15.558' N	05°29.520'

(WGS84)

Plans showing the position of the works may be inspected at Kilmelford Village Hall, Kilmelford PA34 4XD

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@gov.scot, quoting reference: MCMS/05930/Professor Peter Ghazal

MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010 ONE PRIVATE MOORING, GANAVAN BAY, GANAVAN, OBAN

Notice is hereby given that Mr Raymond Parrott has applied to the Scottish Ministers of the Scottish Government, under Part 4 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, in respect of one private mooring at:

Location	Latitude	Longitude
Ganavan Bay, Ganavan, Oban	56°26.232' N	05°28.385' W

(WGS84)

Plans Showing the position of the works may be inspected at Municipal Buildings, Albany Street, Oban from Mon - Frid between 09:00 - 12:30 and 13:00 - 16:00 hours.

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 quoting reference: MCMS/05931 Mr Raymond Parrott

First Registration of a Croft

Donald Mackay has registered his croft, on the Crofting Register held by the Registers of Scotland.

Any person who wishes to challenge the registration may apply to the Scottish Land Court by February 5, 2017.

Details of the registration can be found at www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home. The croft registration number is C2691.

Lochaber Fisheries Trust Ltd
SC:024490

Will hold their
A.G.M on Friday 17th June, 2016
Torlundy Training Centre, Torlundy,
at 10.30am.

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First Registration of a Croft

Christopher William Nisbet has registered their croft, Upper Kilchattan, C2694, on the Isle of Colonsay on the Crofting Register held by the Registers of Scotland.

Any person who wishes to challenge the registration may apply to the Scottish Land Court by the 6th of February 2017.

Details of the registration can be found at www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home. The croft registration number is A1616.

First Registration of a Croft

Graeme MacColl has registered their croft Craigan Breck, Lis-more & Appin on the Crofting Register held by the Registers of Scotland.

Any person who wishes to challenge the registration may apply to the Scottish Land Court 09 Feb 2017

Details of the registration can be found at www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home. The croft registration number is C2677

Proposed Assignment of a Croft

Douglas MacCallum is applying to the Crofting Commission for consent to assign the tenancy of the croft at 24 Airds Bay to Ewan MacCallum of Brienz, Airds, Taynuilt PA35 1JW.

If you consider you have a relevant interest in this application, you may submit comments in writing to the Crofting Commission, Great Glen House, Leachkin Road, Inverness IV3 8NW or email info@crofting-scotland.gov.uk within 28 days from the date of publication of the advert.

Please note that any comments you provide are part of an open process and will be made available to interested parties. Your comments would also be released under a Freedom of Information enquiry.

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Form P1 Form of advertisement in an action of declarator under section 9(1) of the Presumption of Death (Scotland) Act 1977

Rule 37.2(2) Court ref no A11/16
Sheriff Court of North Strathclyde at Oban

An action has been raised in Oban Sheriff Court, Albany Street, Oban, PA34 4AL by Mrs Eliza Martin MacAlister, Pursuer, to declare that Scott Albert MacAlister, Defender, who last known address was Rushlea, Toberonochy, Isle of Luing, Argyll is dead.

Any person wishing to defend the action must apply to do so by 10 June 2016 by lodging a minute seeking to be sisted a party to the action with the sheriff clerk at the above address.

A copy of the initial writ may be obtained from the sheriff clerk at the above address.
Date 17 May 2016
Signed
Edward Thornton
17-19 Lochside Street, Oban PA34 4HP
Solicitor for the Pursuer

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Supply and demand rise in April as Scottish housing market picks up

The supply of Scottish residential properties coming on to the market increased for the first time in three months during April, according to the latest RICS UK Residential Market Survey.

Despite a net balance of 8 per cent more respondents reporting an increase in new instructions, demand for residential property also grew, outpacing new supply and continuing to push price expectations higher.

A net balance of 26 per cent more chartered surveyors expect Scottish house prices to rise over the next three months.

Sales remained steady across the country in April and the growth in activity is expected to continue, with a 36 per cent more respondents (net balance) predicting an increase in Scottish residential property sales over the next three months.

Sarah Speirs, Director RICS in Scotland commented: 'We are seeing a welcome increase in properties coming on to the market and we hope this will continue in coming months.'

'However, as demand also continues to grow, this supply will not meet market needs and we call on the newly elected Scottish Government to make the increase of housing supply across all tenures a priority.'

In the lettings market, tenant demand continues to rise and there was a noticeable decrease in new landlord instructions during the first quarter of 2016. Consequently rents are expected to increase further during the next three months.

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Building societies could help stem personal debt crisis, says new report

Britain's building societies are well placed to help stem the nation's personal debt crisis at a grassroots level, with better financial education for young people, according to a new report by the charity, MyBnk.

The nationwide study found that while 59 per cent of societies are already helping young people learn how to bank and budget, a breakthrough could be made in developing long-term positive money habits with a central BSA vision, effective resources and youth sector collaboration.

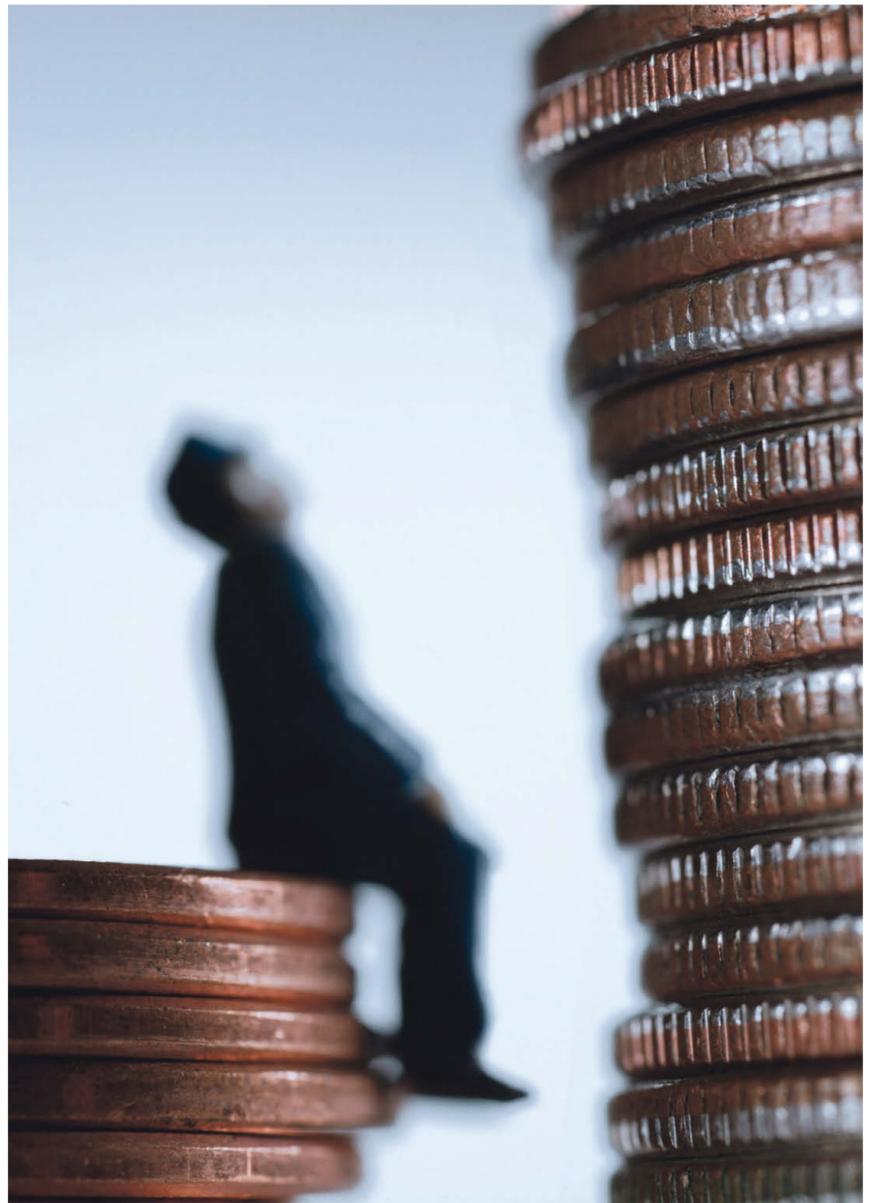
Tens of thousands of five to 25-year-olds are benefiting from dozens of innovative building society projects using intergenerational money advice sessions, school banks and trained volunteers. However, greater efforts on content, methodology and impact measurement are needed to help young people make informed decisions on areas such as pensions and credit, says MyBnk.

Embedded in their communities and with a strong focus on benefitting their members, building societies have a mandate and a sense of social responsibility to deliver financial education, the report concludes.

The BSA has already established a working group to advance key recommendations of the study, while individual societies are continuing to develop their activity alongside experts from the youth financial education sector.

UK personal debt is at a record £1.45 trillion, 17-24-year-olds owe on average £12,215 each (more than half of which is not student debt) and despite curriculum requirements, less than half of young people receive any form of money lessons at school.

Robin Fieth, Chief Executive, BSA said: 'MyBnk's research shows that the building society sector is providing some excellent financial education ranging from the delivery of workshops, online resources and running school banks. Given their links to local communities and emphasis on building long-term relationships with members, financial education is a natural fit with their businesses. There is a considerable appetite to do more. We look forward to building on the report's recommendations to develop the sector's financial education provision through the new working group.'



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Landlord Reg No. 84197-130-22440
EPC rating - C

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£650.00 pcm
Tel: 01852 300393
Reg nos 465530/130/03451 465531/130/03471

'Bank of mum & dad' propping up a quarter of 2016 mortgages

The continuing rise of house prices in the UK is making things increasingly difficult for young people to afford a mortgage deposit. House prices are consistently outpacing average UK wage increases and it is becoming more and more typical for the parents of first-time buyers to help their children by giving their budget a boost.

Although the new Help to Buy ISAs are very popular, new research from Legal & General shows that it is actually the parents that are propping up mortgage deposits the most when it comes to buying a home.

According to the recent research from the financial services firm, buyers parents (also known to many as 'The Bank of Mum and Dad') will contribute towards 25 per cent of all UK mortgage transactions in 2016.

The total sum of these contributions from parents could reach a massive £5 billion, with the average contribution being approximately 7 per cent (£17,500) of the average purchase price. It is predicted that parents in the UK will help finance the purchase of nearly £80 billion worth of property through just over 300,000 mortgages in total.

Chief Executive of Legal & General, Nigel Wilson, worries that this method is unsustainable in the long term and could reach a tipping point.

Mr Wilson said: 'Relying so heavily on the Bank of Mum and Dad risks increasing inequality as many young people today are not lucky enough to be able to access parental support when buying a home, or can't afford to buy even with parental help.'

Mr Wilson also suggested that the heart of the housing problem is supply, and that we only restore balance to the market by increasing the amount of available housing.

Mr Wilson continued: 'We need to fix the housing market by revolutionising the supply side - if we build more houses, demand can be met at a sensible level and prices will stabilise relative to wages.'

Mr Wilson believes the continuation of parental help could not only create inequality in the housing market, but also lead to wider issues for the parents themselves: 'We have a supply-side problem in housing - we are simply not building enough houses. We need to build more, especially as the Bank of Mum and Dad could soon start to experience a funding crisis of its own.'



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Guide price £390,000
The Lookout is a stunning 3 bedroom detached house in an elevated position enjoying panoramic sea views of the town of Tobermory, Sound of Mull and the Ardnarnach Peninsula.

Cnoc Mor, Buessan
• Spacious Detached House
• 4 Bedrooms/2 Bathrooms
• Large Kitchen Diner & Lounge
• Situated in a generous plot
• Far reaching views towards Ardnarnach Peninsula
• EPC Rating - C69
OIRO £215,000
Cnoc Mor is a spacious 4 bedroom house situated in Ardtun near the village of Buessan on the Ross of Mull. The property sits within a generous plot in an elevated position overlooking the stunning Ardnarnach peninsula.

Corran Esplanade, Oban
• Detached bungalow with unobstructed sea views
• 3 Bedrooms / 2 Bathrooms
• Private front garden, driveway parking and garage
• Stunning unobstructed sea views
• EPC Rating - D(48)
OIEO £325,000
Searidge occupies a stunning situation at the end of Obans Corran Esplanade, with far reaching views across Oban Bay with views towards Kerrera and the Isle of Mull. The accommodation comprises kitchen, spacious lounge/dining area with enviable sea views provided by a large window to the front of the property.

Bridge Of Awe
• Semi-Detached House
• 4 Bedrooms/2 Shower Rooms
• Annex Double Room/ Wet Room
• Beautiful Rural Location
• Good Transport Links
• EPC Rating - E (39)
OIRO £170,000
Innishail is a spacious 5 bedroom semi-detached house in the village of Bridge of Awe. The property comprises a hall, downstairs WC, large lounge with adjoining dining room, spacious kitchen and small utility room.

Kentallen, Appin
• One Bedroom Furnished Cottage in Kentallen
• Council Tax Band B
• LL REG: 447066/270/14091
• EPC E (52)
• Parking and Shed Available
• AVAILABLE APRIL 2016
£600 Per Calendar Month
Charming 1 bedroom furnished cottage in Kentallen. This fantastic rental opportunity is situated on the shores of Loch Linnhe and comprises a large lounge, fully equipped kitchen, double bedroom and shower room.

Stevenson Street, Oban
• One bedroom flat
• Located Centrally in Oban
• Unfurnished
• White goods included
• Council Tax Band tbc
• EPC - D
• Landlord Reg: 91986/130/31040
• Deposit and References required
£440 Per Calendar Month
Four, well presented 1 bedroom flats available in Oban town centre. Each bright flat comprises of lounge/kitchen area, bedroom and bathroom.

Albert Road, Oban
• 2 Bedrooms
• Partly furnished
• Landlord Registration No.424701/130/01131.
• EPC Rating - E49.
• No pets or parking available.
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£560 Per Calendar Month
Unique, self contained, mews style apartment with Juliet balconies close to Oban town centre. This partly furnished 2 bedroom flat comprises of a lower level with bedroom & bathroom and upper level with open plan living/kitchen area, a further bedroom & separate WC/wash hand basin.

The Lodge, Connel
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• 1 Bedroom Lodge
• EPC- G10.
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BIRTHS

DAVIDSON - David and Ann are delighted with the arrival of their second grandchild, Iona Eilidh on May 10, 2016. A daughter to Iain and Louise and sister to Callum.

GOLDEN WEDDINGS

CAMERON-MACDONALD- At Oban Old Parish Church on May 4, 1966 by the late Rev. Ian Uist MacDonald, Alastair to Morag. Present address; 17 Menteith Crescent, Callander.

DEATHS

CHISHOLM - Peacefully at Lorn and Islands, Hospital, Oban on May 10, 2016, in her 77th year, Rosemary Chisholm, beloved wife of Donald, much loved mum of Lorn and Neil and mother-in-law of Marie. Sadly missed.

HUNTER - Peacefully, after a short illness, on May 11, 2016, at the Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban, Charles Kelso Hunter of "Summit", Pulpit Hill, Oban, much loved dad of John and David, adored grandfather of Katelyn, Lauren, Fiona and Callum and other relatives around the world. An invitation is extended to all friends to join with the family for "A Celebration of his Life", on Friday May 20, 2016, at the Rowantree Hotel, Oban at 12.30 p.m.

IRELAND - Dougie. Peacefully at R.A.H, Paisley on May 12, 2016. Much loved husband of Lorna, dearly loved dad of Graeme and Derek and loving grampa to Amy-Kara and Ava-Louise Ireland.

MACDOUGALL - Peacefully on May 13, 2016, aged 85 years, Danny, beloved husband of the late Mary, much loved dad of Marian, Liz, Charles, Lorna, Fiona, Donald and Kenny, a loving and dearly loved grandpa, great-grandpa, father-in-law and uncle. Sorely missed. RIP

MACKENZIE - Peacefully at Davenzie, Fairburn, the home of her daughter Heather, on May 16, 2016, surrounded by her most loving family, Sheila MacKenzie (née Kennedy), South Laggan, Spean Bridge. Devoted wife of the late Peter, adored mum of Anne, Peter, Eileen, Heather and the late Catherine, darling "Granny Laggan" of Shaun, Finlay, Ashleigh, Peter, James, Andrew, Jack, Alysha, Lewis and the late Daniel, great-granny of Gracie and Jack, special mother-in-law of Drew, Geoffrey and the late Finlay, a dear cousin and auntie. Funeral service on Tuesday May 24, at 11.30am in the Funeral Home of William T. Fraser and Son, Funeral Directors, Culdueth Road, Inverness, thereafter to Invergarry Cemetery. All friends respectfully invited. Floral tributes and or donations welcome at the service for Cancer Research.

MACPHEE - Peacefully, at the Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban, on Tuesday May 10, 2016, in his 81st year, Donald, (Donnie), formerly of 9A Soroba Road, Oban. A much loved brother and uncle. Funeral service was held on Tuesday May 17 at Oban Parish Church, thereafter Donnie was laid to rest at Pennyfuir Cemetery. Many thanks to the Rev. Christine Fulcher and D & A Munn, Funeral Directors.

MACPHERSON - Peacefully and with great dignity, at Ardfenaig, Ardrishaig on May 14, 2016, after a long illness bravely fought, Anne Christina (née Cameron), aged 87 years, beloved elder daughter of the late Angus and Janet, dearest wife of the late Finlay, much loved mother of Janice and mother-in-law of Brian, dear sister of the late Ewen and Sheena and a loving and respected aunt. Funeral service was held on Thursday, May 19, 2016. A truly wonderful and inspirational lady so sadly missed.

PRESTON - Philip. Gently on May 15, 2016 at home, husband of Allyson, father of Rhoda & Ruth, step-father of Grant. Funeral service at St. Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church, Helensburgh on Tuesday May 24 at 2pm. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, to Maid of the Loch.

STEWART - Jimmy. Peacefully at Peterborough on May 12, 2016, devoted husband of Edna, beloved dad of James and Myra and

doting grandpa. Dear brother of Anne Ritchie and the late Eric and David. Sadly missed.

STRACHAN - Peacefully at home and surrounded by his family, on May 11, 2016, aged 86 years, James Strachan, (Jim), beloved husband of May, father to Robert and Graeme, grandpa to his adoring grandchildren, Ian, Nicola, Matthew, Holly and Jack and much loved father-in-law of Shirley and Susie. Interred in Pennyfuir Cemetery on May 18, 2016.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

BLACK - Jean, Carol, Andrew and all the family would like to thank all our friends and neighbours for all their help and kindness shown to us on the sad loss of Donnie. Also for the lovely cards and flowers received. Special thank you to Rev Dugald Cameron for a beautiful service, organist Ken Moncrieff and Richard for playing the Jacqueline Waltz on the accordion. Thank you to all the staff on Ward B at Lorn and Islands Hospital for all the wonderful care given to Donnie and for their kindness to all of us. Also to Catriona at Hamish Hoey Funeral Directors for her care and professionalism. Thank you to Donnie Files for piping at the graveside. To Moreen and staff for the lovely flowers. To the Royal Hotel for catering. Thank you to all who paid last respects at church and graveside. Collection of £494.35 was raised for Ward B, Lorn and Islands Hospital.

HARDLEY - Dorothy, Tony, Fiona & Olivia Hardley would like to thank everyone for their love and support over the past few weeks since Dennis's passing. For those who knew Dennis personally he was a larger than life character with a kind hearted approach to others, a true gentleman - to those who knew him through his photography, his work helped to inspire others to pick up a camera or to simply appreciate the beauty all around them. The family would also like to thank the Reverend Christine Fulcher and D & A Munn for the funeral arrangements.

MACDONALD - The sisters of the late Barbara MacDonald (Bassie) would like to extend their thanks to all family, friends and neighbours for their many kind expressions of sympathy following Bassie's recent death. Particular thanks to the staff of Ballachulish Medical Centre, especially Dr Calder and Dr Wilmington, the paramedics and all the staff at both Belford Hospital and Raigmore Hospital for the kind care and attention she received. Also to the Very Rev Nicki McNelly Provost of St John's Cathedral, Oban for officiating such a warm comforting service, John Connolly for his kind and heartfelt words and to Ken Jamieson for playing the organ so beautifully. Thank you to Duncan Gunn for his respectful and professional handling of the arrangements. Thank you to Jeannie MacLeod and Bridget Allen for arranging such lovely flowers for the church. Finally our heartfelt thanks to all our local friends and neighbours for their generosity in providing all the catering for all those who attended. It was very much appreciated.

MACINTYRE - South Uist. The family of the late Michael MacIntyre would like to thank all relatives and friends for their kind expressions of sympathy received in their recent sad loss. Special thanks to the staff at Raigmore Hospital Inverness, St. John's Hospital, Livingston and Crofthead nursing home, Fauldhouse for the care they gave to Michael during his hard fought illness, Fr Roddy McAuley for his support and spiritual comfort, staff of Caol Community Centre for catering, McDonald Bros, Florists, Inverloch. We would also like to thank James Brodies Funeral Services, Whitburn and John McLellan funeral services, Fort William for their efficient funeral service arrangements. Kind donations of £300 was collected for CHSS.

MCGILLIVRAY - Sheena and family would like to express a big thank you to all relatives, friends and good neighbours for all their kindness shown to them in their sad loss of Don. For all phone calls, cards, flowers and food. To Rev Richard Baxter for a very touching service and to Scott and his team for efficient funeral arrangements, the West End Hotel for catering, Belford Hospital for their care and to Craig Nevis Surgery. The sum of £735 was raised for Marie Curie (Lochaber). - Sheena.

MEMORIAMS

CAMPBELL - Treasured memories of dear father and grandpa Alasdair, who died May 18, 1988.

Forever in our hearts Always in our thoughts. Lorne and Kathie, Eriskay and Alasdair and Christine, Blairgowrie.

GALBRAITH - In loving memory of Jimmy, who died on May 23, 2014, Joan, who died on May 27, 1998 and James, who died on May 6, 2011. We will always love you and cherish our memories of you. - Christine, Valerie, Colin, Sue and all their families.

KENNEDY - Mary (Gillespie), died May 18, 2008, loving mum and granny. God has her in His keeping, we have her in our hearts, Sadly missed, forever loved. - John, Catherine, John, Niall and Michael.

MACKINNON - Loving memories of dear auntie Dunkie, who passed away on May 20, 2007.

Quietly remembered every day. - The Omand family, Tíree, Renfrew and Lewis.

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 April 6, 1985.

Today, tomorrow Our whole life through We will always love and remember you. Also remembering dear loved ones gone before and after. - Elizabeth, Iain, Iona and Ewan.

MACLENNAN - In loving memory of a dear mother and grandmother Margaret (Mena), who died May 17, 1989.

You always had a smile to share Time to give, time to care Never selfish, always kind These are the memories you left behind. Sadly missed.

- Inserted by her loving daughter Morag, Angus Terrace.

MACLEOD - In loving memory of my son Donald MacLeod who passed away aged 48 years.

We never ask for miracles But today just one would do To see our front door open And my dearest son walk through

To those who have a son Love him while you may Because we wish with all our heart Our son was here today/ Loving you always Forgetting you never. - Mum Peigi, sister Cairn, brother Martin.

MACLEOD - Duncan, who died May 24, 2014. Remembered and loved forever. - Doreen, Gillian, Hilary and families.

MORRISON - In loving memory of Mary, dear mother, grandmother and great-grandmother who passed away on May 17, 2004.

Forever loved, missed and remembered. - Christina, Banny, Laura, Martin, Sinead and Lewis.

MORRISON - In loving memory of Mary our dear mum and granny who passed away May 17, 2004.

Loved and remembered every day. - Teeny, Marie, Ross and families.

MORRISON - In loving memory of a dear mum and granny, Mary, who died May 17, 2004.

Remembered with love. - Lorraine, Paul, Jill and Kyle.

NICOLSON - In loving memory of our dear father and grandfather Donald who died May 22, 1980 also remembering our dear

brothers and uncles, Joseph (Joe), who died April 30, 1987 and Alister accidentally drowned September 16, 1965. Loved and remembered by all the family.

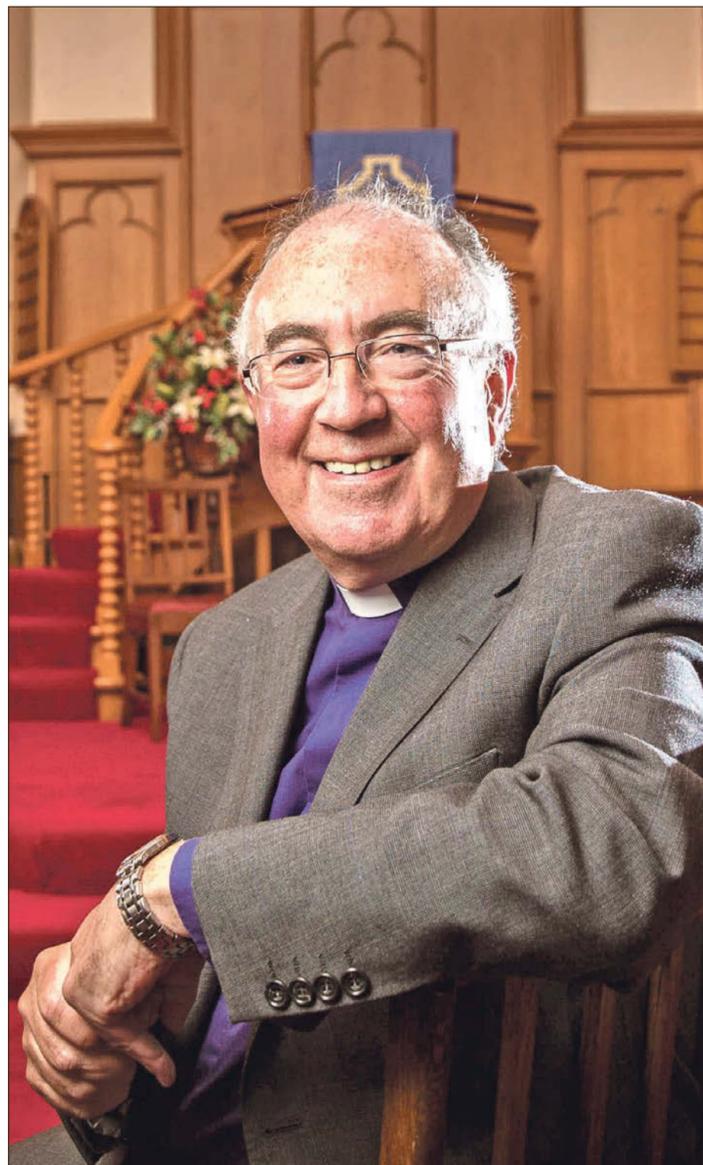
NICOLSON - In loving memory of our dear mother, grandmother and great grandmother Katie who passed away May 21, 2010, also remembering our dear father, grandfather and great grandfather Donald, who passed away August 13, 1987. Loved and remembered always. - Inserted by all the family.

STEWART - In loving memory of Isobel, who died at Lynn of Lorne Care Home, Benderloch, on May 22, 2014, in her 83rd year. Isobel, daughter of the late Duncan and Kate MacFarlane, sister of Flora and the late Cathy, dearest wife of the late James Stewart and beloved mother of Gordon and the late Norma. Always in our thoughts.

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Rt Rev Dr Angus Morrison Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

Right Reverend Dr Angus Morrison steps into the spotlight on BBC Alba

ONE OF the most high profile men in Scotland stepped into the spotlight last week, as BBC Alba took a look into the life of Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

A unique insight into the role, BBC Alba followed Right Reverend Dr Angus Morrison's journey as he moved from parish minister to Scottish moderator.

From Minister to Moderator is an hour-long documentary into the Right Rev Morrison, who was born

in Glenoe and raised in Oban by parents from the Isle of Harris.

The moderator is the national figurehead of the Church of Scotland, who chairs the annual General Assembly and is an ambassador for the church nationally and internationally for a year before being succeeded by the next moderator.

The Right Rev Morrison was chosen as Moderator for 2015-2016, after withdrawing from the role in 2104-15 due to illness, and

this documentary focuses on the busiest year of his life.

BBC Alba followed him through his home territory of Argyll and Lochaber, meeting members of the Boys' Brigade to visiting the Scottish Parliament, meeting the leaders of the political parties, and being at the helm of a lifeboat.

For those who missed From Minister to Moderator, it is available on the BBC iPlayer.

'If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.' (Galatians 5:25)

Thought for the week

'THE BEST things in life are not things.'

This realisation has caused many Oban Times readers to come to Argyll or to stay in Argyll. Like people everywhere we have to make a living but many have also discovered that there is more to life than material well-being.

The natural environment, human relationships and opportunities for

adventure are dimensions of life in which many of us find fulfilment. There is also the realm of the spiritual.

There has been a strong drive in modernity to minimize the spiritual dimension of life. Even Christian faith, if it survives at all, seems to be more about the rational and the ritual than about the spiritual. When we listen, for ex-

ample, to African Christians they are baffled that in the West today we seem to make so little of the spiritual dimension of the faith.

It has been observed that Argyll is a part of the world where many have felt their spirit stirred. There is much both in the natural environment and in the built heritage that speaks to our spiritual yearning.

Might this prompt us to look again at the Bible's account of how the Holy Spirit came to breathe new life into the early church?

Might we discover that God, through the Spirit, brings transformation to people's lives today, just as Jesus did during his days in Galilee?

Kenneth Ross
Parish Minister,
Netherlorn

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Currie wins in the Isle of Man

MULL'S Alasdair Currie, 18, and co-driver Steven Brown, 31, dominated the 1600cc class on the recent Manx Challenge Rally, May 6-7, to a three-minute win.

Currie and Brown decided to take on the famous Manx Rally as part of their season of competing in selected national events, aiming to show potential and gain experience. This was the first time Currie had returned to the island since pass-

ing his driving test in August 2014 at 16 years of age.

Currie said: 'I have always wanted to return and rally the fast and technical Manx roads. A finish is what we set out for and that's exactly what we achieved.'

The team suffered from electrical and fuelling issues, which resulted in major power loss throughout the rally (turning the car off/on 20 times per stage).

However, the youngster was determined to do what was possible with what he had and still came away with a class win.

Currie said: 'I'm over the moon to come away with a win, on what was a very tricky and exhausting rally for me. The stages were phenomenal; Steven and I have learnt so much and we will come away from this with plenty of positives. The car is undamaged, we will cure our mechanical issue and be back

Rallying

out to battle soon.'

Oban's Stewart Morrison and co-driver Sandy Corrigan piloted their Escort MkII to a very impressive 11th place overall in the ultra competitive national section of the event.

They were up against the likes of WRC cars which, up until recently, were competing with world champions at the wheel.

They also secured second place in Class B11. They are hoping they can get that elusive top 10 place soon. Alister MacArthur and Chris Robertson from Lochgilphead continued the season in the MR Motorsport Talbot Sunbeam with a good run over the weekend.

Some issues on stage three, when they lost the exhaust box and clutch cable at almost exactly the same time, nearly spelt disaster but due to their dogged determination to get the car to the finish, not to mention the kindness of a spectator who returned the offending item of exhaust system to service for them, they got the car through to second place in Class B11 in the challenge section of the rally and 33rd overall from a start number of 70.



Oban's Stewart Morrison and Sandy Corrigan.



Alister MacArthur and Chris Robertson from Lochgilphead.



Mull's Alasdair Currie and Steven Brown dominated the 1600cc class at the Manx Rally to win by three minutes. Photos: Westcoastphotos

Shukokai Karate

IONA McCulloch, from Inveraray, passed the coveted black belt test last week at the early age of 13. Iona has trained with Argyll Shukokai Karate and Argyll Martial Arts for the past seven years and has proved her ability many times in competitions and on courses, showing real dedication to her training.

Her examination lasted two hours and included fights with multiple opponents. Congratulations to Iona.

The shield for endeavour, originally introduced into the club in the early 2000s, by Archie



MacAllister from Lochgilphead, was won this year by Archie MacColl-Smith, also from Inveraray.

For club details contact Kenny Gray on: kenni.gray@btinternet.com

Kickboxing

SENSHI Do kickboxing's Craig MacLachlan is ramping up his

training towards the world tournament in Japan in October.

Elsewhere the club continues as normal with kids and adult classes on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings' along with the ladies-only class on Sunday afternoons.

For more information contact Wullie Rodger on: shihanwill@gmail.com



Iona McCulloch from Inveraray passed the coveted black belt recently at the Shukokai Karate Club.

BJJ

OBAN BJJ held its monthly seminar with chief instructor Marcos Nardini on Saturday April 30. The seminar covered the 'De La Riva guard' which is a step up in complex moves and was a sign that Marcos now thinks the club is ready for the next step.

At the end of the seminar club stalwart Lee 'white walker' Williamson received his blue belt which was well earned over the past three years.

The absolute beginners class which is on a Friday at 7pm is continuing to grow and participants are enjoying learning something new with a more slowed and focused look at the many fundamental positions of BJJ.

Normal classes are gearing up towards the next competition on June 4 in Edinburgh where the club hopes to build on the positive results of the last few months.

For club info contact Coogie on coogiepots@gmail.com

Kyokushinkai Karate

A BRIEF history on how kyokushin karate reached Oban;

Having attained high ranks in Judo, Shotokan karate and Goju Ryu karate, Masutatsu Oyama opened his own karate dojo in Tokyo in 1953, named Oyama Dojo. His dojo was first

located outside in an empty lot but in 1956 moved into a ballet school. Oyama's curriculum soon developed a reputation as a tough, intense, hard-hitting but practical style which in 1957 was finally named Kyokushin, which means 'the ultimate truth'.

As the reputation of the dojo grew, students were attracted to train there from within and outside Japan and the number of students grew.

Oyama would choose an instructor to open a dojo in another town or city in Japan, whereupon the instructor would move to that town, and, typically demonstrate his karate skills in public places, in this way, the instructor would soon gain a few students for his new dojo.

After that, word of mouth would spread through the local area until the dojo had a dedicated core of students. Oyama also sent instructors to other countries such as the United States, Netherlands, England, Australia and Brazil to spread Kyokushin in the same way.

South African born Steve Arneil was one of those sent out and he arrived in England in 1965 and after a very short time had established many Kyokushin dojos in the UK. Arneil went on to be the British team karate coach with many successes.

One of the top students of Arneil was Bernard Creton, a very good technician and formidable fighter who was British team captain and placed fifth in the 1979 world karate tournament in Japan. One of Creton's students was Iain Rodger who went on to run a dojo for Creton in Caerphilly, South Wales before moving back to his native Argyll in 2002 and established the Oban dojo, closely followed by the Lochgilphead dojo in January 2003. Rodger is now the assistant chief instructor of the IKKU (Independent Kyokushin Karate Union).

For club info contact Iain Rodger on: 07584 166542 or iain@ikku.co.uk

Dunne and dusted

THE Dunne brothers from Oban excelled at the North District Championships in Inverness on Saturday.

Finbar, the younger brother, won all his three events in the under-15 age group - the shot putt with 12.99metres, javelin

Athletics

throwing 39.22metres and also the discus with 38.24metres.

Paddy won gold in the under 17s javelin with 50.26metres and won silver in the shot putt, throwing 10.88metres.



Winners of Oban Bowling Club's George Barnett Trophy were John Kidd, Helen MacLean and Hugh MacCorquodale.



Winners of Taynuilt Golf Club's three-person team open stableford played last Sunday.



Glencruitten

SEAN Dunstaffnage won the Isis Trophy on Saturday with net scores of 57, 63 = 120.

Sean also had a hole-in-one at the third the previous Saturday. Steven Murphy was second with net scores of 63, 63 = 126.

The Captain of Dunstaffnage Trophy was won by Graeme Darling with net scores of 59, 61 = 120. Alfie MacKenzie was runner up with scores of 68, 60 = 128.

The first round of the Terry Ng trophy takes place on Saturday with a Stableford the following Tuesday.

Fort William

ON SATURDAY May 14 the Craig Paterson Memorial Trophy was played with the following result: 1 Lewis Corbett net 69 (92 - 23); 2 Paul Campbell net 72 (78 - 6); 3 Dougie Duncan net 73 (84 - 11)

Ladies - on Tuesday May 10 a par competition was played with the following result: 1 Theresa Smith 2 up; 2 Kathleen Leitch 1 down; 3 Hazel Cameron 2 down.

On Saturday May 14, the May Medal and first qualifying round of the club championship was played: 1 Hazel Cameron net 71 (87 - 16); 2 Iona Cameron net 73 (92 - 19); 3 Rosemary Macintyre net 74 (86 - 12).

Taynuilt

TAYNUILT Golf Club held a three-person team open stableford on Sunday May 15.

Winners: Gents - 1 Kevin Mills, Mark Grant and Mark Cringean, Taynuilt 112 pts; 2 Mark Henriksen, David Howie and Andrew Diggory, Taynuilt 105 pts.

Ladies - 1 Alice MacCalman, Anne MacCalman and Jane MacIntyre, Taynuilt 98 pts; 2 Sally Thompson, Taynuilt, Donna Campbell and Mary Phillips, Seil 96 pts.

Longest drive: Ladies - Anne MacCalman. Gents - Andy Ronald, both Taynuilt.

Nearest the pin: Ladies - Fiona McGlynn. Gents - Allan Stewart, both Taynuilt.

SPOT THE SHINTY BALL

THIS WEEK'S JACKPOT £2700

LAST WEEK'S SHINTY BALL WAS HERE. . .



This week's nearest the ball winners, who each receive £25 are:

B McMann
Mull Terrace,
Oban

R McPhee
Dalintart Drive
Oban

We have removed the shinty ball from the photograph opposite. Now look carefully at the position of the players and use your skill and judgement to place a cross at the exact point where you think the centre of the ball was. You may have a maximum of 20 attempts on this coupon at a cost of £1.

If you wish to have more attempts, you must enter on separate coupons.

Easy to enter
Cut out your completed coupon and put your entry plus £1 per 20 attempts into a sealed envelope and post it to "Spot the Shinty Ball" Competition, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB by 12noon Tuesday. No refunds will be given for entries received after the deadline.

Competition rules
No responsibility will be accepted for entries which are delayed, mislaid or lost, and proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery.

Please remember to enclose £1 for 20 crosses. The maximum number of attempts on this coupon is 20, but you may enter on separate coupons as many times as you wish. No photocopies allowed. You agree to abide by the rules. How to enter: Mark your crosses using a ballpoint pen. Twenty crosses may be put on this coupon for £1. Send to 'Spot the Shinty Ball' Competition, The Oban Times, P.O. Box 1, Oban PA34 4HB

The game starts with a jackpot of £500 and will increase by £50 per week until it is won outright. To win the jackpot, the centre of your cross must be in the exact centre of the ball. If the crosses overlap the entry will be void.

If no correct entry is received, two 'near miss' prizes of £25 will be awarded. When the jackpot is won, no other prizes will be awarded that week.

competition and no correspondence will be entered into. The final decision rests with the Company. In the event of more than one correct entry, the jackpot will be shared equally between all winning entries. Any decision regarding the awarding of a prize is entirely at the discretion of the Company. The Company reserves the right to declare the competition null and void at any time, subject to its discretion and to make full refund of the price of the coupon to any person who has entered the competition at that time. Employees of Wyvex Media, their immediate relatives and any person otherwise connected with the competition are ineligible to enter.



Please tape your £1 coin here

Name

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SHINTY

Best for all shinty news, results and fixtures

Cammanachd or Kyles will play Inveraray in Celtic Cup final

Gregor Cameron Consultancy Glasgow Celtic Society Cup - semi final

Glasgow Mid Argyll 1
Inveraray 2

Inveraray are through to the Gregor Cameron Consultancy Glasgow Celtic Society Cup Final after they beat Glasgow Mid Argyll 2-1 in their 3pm throw up at Peterson Park, Yoker.

GMA had a familiar teamsheet, whilst Inveraray had David MacPherson and Ally MacDonald back on the bench but John Kennedy, Ally Munro and Grant Griffin were missing.

GMA suffered a blow after just 30 seconds when top scorer Craig Anderson had to come off with the suspected recurrence of a leg injury which hampered him for much of last season.

The home side were by far the better team in the first half. They looked up for the tie and showed a great will to win. Euan Murray dictated play in the GMA midfield and the home centre line and half backs controlled the game.

GMA went ahead from a corner on 25 minutes when Calum McLay punished some poor defending with a well-taken finish at the back post.

LOCHABER and Newtonmore will meet in next month's RBS MacTavish Cup Final while Inveraray await the winners of this weekend's semi-final between Oban Camanachd and Kyles Athletic in the Gregor Cameron Consultancy Glasgow Celtic Society Cup Final.

Cammanachd Cup – first round

Kilmallie W/O v
Aberdour

Kilmallie are through to the Cammanachd Cup second round after Aberdour were unable to field a team for their 3pm throw up at the Canal Parks.

Kilmallie's progress sets up an intriguing derby meeting with Fort William at An Aird in the last 16 of the tournament on Saturday May 28.

RBS MacTavish Cup - semi-finals

Newtonmore 2
Glenurquhart 0

Newtonmore are through to the RBS MacTavish Cup Final after beating Glenurquhart 2-0 in their 1pm throw up at the Eilan.

This was a repeat of the 2015 final but the 'Glen' were unable to copy their success on that occasion.

The 'Glen' created a couple of early chances but 'More keeper Owen Fraser was equal to their efforts.

Evan Menzies got the all-important opening goal on 42 minutes. Paul MacArthur took a free-hit from just inside the

'More half. He played the ball towards Evan Menzies who was just off Lewis MacLennan's shoulder. Menzies gambled the defender would make a rare mistake and miss the ball. The gamble paid off which left the 'Glen' keeper Stuart MacKintosh and Menzies slipped the ball low into the net.

Steven MacDonald sealed the win with a killer second goal nine minutes from time. MacDonald took possession from a free-hit and turned and sent a low, hard drive from around 25 yards out through three or four players. The ball took a couple of bounces on the hard surface before ending up in the corner of the net. This was a very competitive encounter but Newtonmore did enough to win the game notching up another clean sheet despite changes in defence. Graham Cameron was the match referee.

Lochaber 2
Kingussie 1

Lochaber will play Newtonmore in the 2016 RBS MacTavish Cup Final after they beat Kingussie 2-1 at Spean Bridge.

Lochaber boss Ally Ferguson was still without the injured Neil MacDonald whilst Zandz Ferguson and Donald MacRae were unavailable. Jack Dignan returned to the defence as did Brian MacDonald, whilst Barry MacDonald was on the bench. Kevin Ferguson was free of suspension after serving a one game ban for exceeding the disciplinary points threshold.

It could have been 2-0 just before half-time but for a brilliant Scott MacLachlan save from Garry Luke. Inveraray boss Ruairaidh Graham made changes at the break with David MacPherson coming on and Lewis MacNicol being pushed into the forward line.

It was a fired-up Inveraray which started the second half and GMA would pay for not capitalising on their first-half dominance.

Inveraray started to get a grip of the game and now controlled the midfield.

Lewis MacNicol scored a great equaliser from a tight angle on 55 minutes after good build-up play between Garry MacPherson and David Robertson.

Garry MacPherson put Inveraray in front on 63 minutes with a shot that took a wicked bounce in front of GMA keeper Jonathon Oates and ended up in the back of the net.

GMA tried to get the goal that would have taken the tie to extra-time but the Inveraray defence held out with young Ross Montgomery putting in another strong performance.

GMA will be disappointed they never made the most of their first half chances but it's Inveraray who will now face the winners of this coming weekend's semi-final tie between Oban Camanachd and Kyles Athletic.

Robert Baxter was the match referee.

Kingussie co-managers Russell Jones and Davie Anderson also had absentees with the injured Ryan Borthwick added to their growing injury list.

There was a flashpoint for referee Evan MacRae to deal with on 14 minutes. Kingussie were awarded a free-hit in the Lochaber defensive area and Fraser Munro made a run forward and clashed with Jack Dignan. Munro caught the Lochaber defender below the eye with the top of his caman and was rightly red carded.

Lochaber used the extra man at the back, playing with a spare defender in front of the full back.

Just five minutes later, Kingussie's Thomas Borthwick went past Brennan MacDonald but was chopped down. Referee MacRae opted for a yellow card, one of five bookings during this, at times, feisty match.

Kingussie were still very much in the game but they were sunk by two quick goals in the final third of the game. First, a cross-field pass found Pat Toal unmarked at the left-hand side of the 'D'. He shot across keeper Craig Dawson into the back of the net to make it 1-0 with 63 minutes played.

The home side doubled their lead just three minutes later when Stuart Callison sent a glorious strike high into the net to make it 2-0.

Kingussie rallied and pulled a goal back on 74 minutes when Savio Genini smashed home a back-hand, shoulder-high volley from the edge of the 'D' to make it 2-1.

Kingussie went for a leveller but the Lochaber back-line stayed firm and they can now look forward to the 2016 RBS MacTavish Cup Final.

The sides will certainly be familiar with each other before the season is over as they will meet twice more over the next four Saturdays - in the Cammanachd Cup second round at the Dell the end of the month and in the league at Spean Bridge a fortnight later.

Balliemore Cup - first round

Oban Celtic 2
Glenorchy 0

Oban Celtic are through to the Balliemore Cup quarter-finals after they defeated Glenorchy 2-0 at Ganavan.

Celtic had Neil Carmichael, Lee Askew and Ewan MacCorquodale all out through injury, whilst work commitments ruled out Daniel MacMillan, George MacMillan and Kieran Carnie. David MacInnes and Rory Bruce were both back. Oban Celtic were 7-1 winners when the sides met in the Gregor

Cameron Consultancy Glasgow Celtic Society Cup in mid-April. However this was a stronger Glenorchy side.

Glenorchy proved difficult to break down and despite having the lion's share of possession, the home side struggled to hit the target and were left feeling frustrated, going in 0-0 at half time.

Oban Celtic manager Kenny Waterspoon was reluctant to change much as he felt it was only a matter of time before his side got their noses in front.

And with that, Celtic took the lead within minutes of the restart when Fraser Macmillan slotted home from a Daniel Madej cut-back.

The pattern of play remained the same with Celtic again snatching shots at goal but they were almost caught out on a couple of occasions as Glenorchy tried hard to get back into the game.

But Celtic secured their progression into the next round when skipper Daniel Madej cut inside before rifling the ball home to make it 2-0.

Oban Celtic will now host Beaulieu in the Balliemore Cup quarter-finals this coming weekend.

Oban Celtic manager Kenny Waterspoon was satisfied with the win. 'You always have to be content with a win,' he said.

'Was it our best performance? No, but it's pleasing to know we can still grind out results if we are not firing on all cylinders. The difficult games are coming thick and fast and Beaulieu in the next round this coming Saturday are as tough as we will face this season. We will relish the challenge and you just never know.'

Aberdein Considine Sutherland Cup – second round

Newtonmore 5
Skye Camanachd 1

The Newtonmore second team beat the Skye Camanachd seconds 5-1 in their 3.30pm throw up at the Eilan.

Skye boss Davie Pringle made two changes to the squad which beat the Fort William second team in Marine Harvest North Division 1 the previous weekend. Chris Rose and Aonghas MacDonald were both with the Skye first team squad, so Chris MacLennan and Thomas Wilson – both back from hand injuries – came into the squad in their place.

Newtonmore boss Cammy MacDonald had John MacKenzie available but he will miss their next outing as he serves a one-match ban for passing the



Craig Ritchie, Newtonmore, and Billy Urquhart, Glenurquhart fight for the ball during last Saturday's MacTavish Cup semi-final at the Eilan. Photo: Neil Paterson.

disciplinary points threshold. Youngster Iain Robinson started on the bench and Kenny Ross was in midfield. Newtonmore were 5-3 winners when the teams met in the league at the Eilan at the beginning of April.

A John MacKenzie double on 14 and 23 minutes had 'More 2-0 ahead.

Duncan Gorman then struck twice on 33 and 37 minutes to double the home side's advantage.

Iain MacLellan pulled a goal back for Skye on 39 minutes but a David Cheyne goal on the hour mark confirmed Newtonmore's 5-1 win.

Skye found it difficult to contain MacKenzie, Cheyne and the speedy 'More wing forwards and it was a deserved win for the holders. They now face Kinlochshiel second team away in the Aberdein Considine Sutherland Cup quarter finals on Saturday May 28.

Strathdearn Cup – first round

Inverness 0
Kingussie 6

The Kingussie colts were too strong for the Inverness colts, winning their first round tie 6-0 in their 11.30am throw up at Bught Park.

Former keeper Russell Menzies put the Kings ahead on 13 minutes and a Dylan Borthwick goal on 22 minutes made it 2-0 at the interval.

A second Russell Menzies goal made it 3-0 on 53 minutes.

Kingussie added three goals in the final nine minutes to put gloss on the final outcome. John Gibson bagged a brace on 81 and 85 minutes and an Alexander Michie strike three minutes from time made it 6-0.

Kingussie will now travel to Shawbost to play Lewis in the Strathdearn Cup second round on Saturday June 18.

Glenurquhart 3
Glenurquhart 3

The Glenurquhart colts are through to the next round after they beat Glenurquhart 3-2 at Craigard.

Glenurquhart were without Bradley Sneddon who started a two-game ban following his red card against the Lovat second team the previous weekend.

Glenurquhart had James MacPherson in their side and he would make a telling contribution.

James MacPherson gave the visitors the lead on the half-hour mark but Stuart Gregory pulled Glenurquhart level just a minute later.

Stuart Gregory got his and 'Garry's second on 39 minutes to put the home side 2-1 in front.

But two goals in two minutes from James MacPherson completed his hat-trick and gave the Glen side a 3-2 advantage at the break.

There were no goals in the second half and the Glen seconds will now travel to Braeview Park to play the Beaulieu seconds in the next round.

Bullough Cup – first round

Tayforth 2
Lochside Rovers 2

(after extra-time - Tayforth won 4-3 on penalties) Bullough Cup holders Tayforth turned in a fine performance to edge out Lochside Rovers in a sudden-death penalty shoot-out at Levenhall Links. Throw up was brought forward to noon to allow the Lochside players to return home to attend the Oban Live Music Festival.

Lochside Rovers currently top Marine Harvest South Division 1 with Tayforth topping the south's second tier so the visitors started as favourites.

Tayforth opened the match well though and goals from Finlay Stark after five minutes and Connor Sweeney after 11 minutes put them 2-0 ahead.

Michael MacQueen pulled a goal back for Lochside three minutes after the re-start. And that's the way it stayed until four minutes from time when Craig MacMillan drew Lochside Rovers level.

With no further scoring during extra-time, referee David Mitchell took the tie to a penalty shoot-out. The five nominated Tayforth penalty-takers were: Ewan Menzies, Conor Sweeney, Orsten Gardiner, Hamish Anderson and Finlay Stark. Menzies and Stark saw their penalties saved but the others all scored so the shoot-out was tied at 3-3 and went to sudden-death. Ewan Menzies then scored for Tayforth but Lochside missed their spot-hit so Tayforth won 4-3.

Tayforth now will start as favourites when they host the Bute second team in the Bullough Cup quarter-finals on Saturday June 11.

Kyles Athletic 2
Inveraray 0

(after extra time) The Kyles Athletic second team eventually came out on top in their derby meeting with the Inveraray second team, winning 2-0 at Tighnabruach. The first 90 minutes were scoreless so

referee Jon Gallagher took the tie to extra-time.

Kyles went ahead when Brandon Wilson scored after 98 minutes. Craig Martin made it 2-0 on 113 minutes to seal the win.

Dunoon Camanachd 1
Aberdour 3

Dunoon Camanachd played their first home competitive match of the season, going down 3-1 to the Aberdour second team at Dunoon Stadium.

Throw up was delayed as referee Jim Innes was late in arriving. Dunoon made a lively start before Aberdour settled into the game.

Craig Girvan gave the visitors the lead on 10 minutes, punishing the Dunoon defence for failing to clear the ball.

Just 60 seconds elapsed before Chris Bowerman kept his cool and slipped the ball past the keeper to make it 2-0.

Dunoon fought back and had the ball in the net, only for the referee to rule the effort out for offside.

Niamh Donnelly added a third a minute before the break when she sent a low, 25-yard shot into the net.

Duncan Smart pulled a goal back for Dunoon five minutes after the re-start.

The home side had a second goal ruled out for offside but it's Aberdour who go forward to play the Kyles Athletic seconds in the Bullough quarter-finals.

Glasgow Mid Argyll 4
SCOTS Camanachd 3

(after extra time) It took two hours to separate the Glasgow Mid Argyll second team and SCOTS Camanachd with the home side eventually winning 4-3 in their noon throw up at Peterson Park, Yoker.

Former Skye Camanachd player Ian Munro put the Forces side ahead on just four minutes.

Jack Berg equalised for GMA on 11 minutes and that's the way it stayed until the interval.

A Colin Irving double on 57 and 60 minutes put SCOTS Camanachd 3-1 to the good.

GMA's Nick Lavin made it 3-2 with 15 minutes remaining and an Angus MacInnes goal on 85 minutes meant referee Alan Harrison had to take the tie into extra-time.

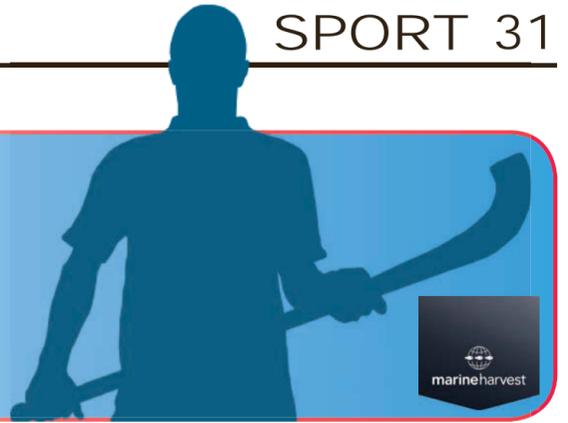
Angus MacInnes was the GMA hero as he netted his second on 105 minutes, just seconds before the end of the first period of extra-time with what proved to be the winner.

GMA will now host the English Shinty Association in the Bullough Cup last-eight next



Fort William's Lewis Clark and Lovat's James Whyte in action during the North Division One game last weekend.

Photo: Donald Cameron.



Camanachd Cup Macaulay Cup MacTavish Cup Celtic Society Cup

Sutherland Cup Balliemore Cup Strathdearn Cup Bullough Cup

Marine Harvest Premiership

**Fort William 1
Kyles Athletic 3**
Kyles Athletic go top of the Marine Harvest Premiership after they came from behind to beat Fort William 3-1 at An Aird.

Fort William co-managers Victor Smith and Adam Robertson recalled youngsters Calum Shepherd and Lewis Morrison to the starting line-up after they missed the previous weekend's 2-2 draw with Lochaber as they were on holiday. Jay MacLeod was free of a two-game ban and he started on the bench. Sean Cruickshank and Graham Campbell were missing.

Kyles Athletic co-managers Fraser MacDonald and Kenny MacDonald were still without the injured David Zavaroni and Roberto Zavaroni whilst Scotland defender Callum Miller was also still unavailable so Roddy MacDonald continued in defence. Andrew King and Scott MacDonald were missing from the side which drew with Kinlochshiel the previous Saturday. Christopher Blair came into the defence with Gordon Whyte starting up front. The Kyles bench consisted of Rupert Williamson and Calum McArthur.

The match, which doubled up for the Drew Ferguson Memorial Cup which Kyles won at An Aird last year, was very even during the first half hour with no clear chances at either end.

A Fort William shy deep into the Kyles' defence on 35 minutes was missed by Roddy MacDonald and the ball landed in the 'D' where Fort wing centre Alex MacMillan was impeded and referee John Angus Gillies had no hesitation in pointing to the penalty spot. Bryan Simpson slammed the resultant spot-hit past the keeper. The ball deflected into the net off keeper John Whyte's right elbow, leaving a noticeable bruise by the end of the game.

It only took three minutes for Kyles to draw level. Fort William keeper Paul Mackay pulled off a fantastic save from a great Dunkie Kerr shot at the expense of a corner which was floated into the danger area and cleared by the home defence. The ball fell for Robbie MacLeod who scored for the second successive Saturday, beating the keeper at his right-hand post.

Kyles took the lead for the first time in the match just five minutes into the second half. Referee John Angus Gillies

applied the advantage rule as Kyles broke forward and Innes MacDonald hit a screaming shot into the top corner of the net to make it 2-1.

Kyles made it 3-1 on 58 minutes. Dunkie Kerr was fouled as he headed for goal but another advantage by referee Gillies allowed Kerr to go on and flick the ball past a helpless Paul MacKay into the net.

This was a good, clean match from two under-strength teams with no cards shown during the 90 minutes.

After the match, Drew Ferguson's mother presented the Drew Ferguson Memorial Trophy to Kyles captain John Whyte. Phil- ipp Nolan selected Fort William defender Sean Cameron as the man of the match.

**Kinlochshiel 2
Oban Camanachd 1**
Kinlochshiel only trail table-toppers Kyles Athletic on goal difference after they came from a goal down to beat Oban Camanachd 2-1 at Kirkton.

Throw up was brought forward to allow the Camanachd players to return home to attend the Oban Live Music Festival.

Kinlochshiel started with a familiar line-up. John MacRae started but his booking against Kyles Athletic the previous Saturday takes him through the disciplinary points threshold so he will miss this coming weekend's league meeting in Portree with neighbours Skye Camanachd.

Oban Camanachd boss Iain Hay was still without Daniel Cameron but forward Willie Neilson returned. Defender Gary McKerracher missed out with a swollen knee so Andrew MacCuish started at half-back. David Lafferty was still missing but Iain Campbell made a welcome return, starting on the bench.

Kinlochshiel started well but Oban then took control and they edged the first half.

They only had one goal to show for their efforts though and it came just five minutes before the break. Willie Neilson played the ball to Daniel MacVicar who flicked it in the air to Scott MacMillan and he volleyed into the net from inside the 'D'.

Just before the break, Daniel MacVicar was put through on goal but 'Shiel keeper Scott Kennedy narrowed the angle and MacVicar's shot came off his leg, deflecting to safety.

If Oban edged the first half, then 'Shiel did like-wise in the second 45 minutes.

Kinlochshiel drew level on the hour-mark when referee Archie

Ritchie penalised Oban keeper Gavin Stobbart for a 'kick'. Stobbart swung his caman to clear the ball but missed his hit and kicked the ball instead, stopping it going into the net. There were no protests from the Oban camp and Jordan Fraser sent the penalty into the bottom right corner of the net to make it 1-1.

The home side now enjoyed a period of pressure and the winning goal came on 65 minutes. Jordan Fraser played the ball down the wing to Donald Nixon and he crossed into the danger-area. Oban had chances to get the ball away but didn't and Keith MacRae took advantage as he drilled a head-height shot hard into the net to make it 2-1.

The 'Shiel defence, with Conor Cormack in particular catching the eye, survived a goalmouth scramble and later, when Willie Neilson collected the ball in space but shot past the post, Oban must have known it wasn't to be their day.

Oban Camanachd boss Iain Hay was disappointed not to take something from the game. 'I thought we did enough to earn a point,' he said after the match. 'We had most of the play in the first half although Kinlochshiel had most of the second half. It's one of these things. We beat them 1-0 at Mossfield last month and you could say that Kinlochshiel deserved a point that day so I suppose things evened themselves out. Kirkton is a difficult place to go and, like ourselves, Kinlochshiel have made a good start to the season.'

**Skye Camanachd 0
Lovat 0**
Skye Camanachd and Lovat shared the points following a scoreless draw at Pairc nan Laoch, Portree.

Skye boss John MacLeod made a couple of changes to the squad which beat Glenurquhart 1-0 in the Artemis Macaulay Cup seven days earlier. Chris Rose came in for Allan MacKinnon and Aonghas MacDonald replaced David MacInnes. Both Rose and MacDonald started on the bench. Steven Morrison was restored to the starting line-up and Will Cowie made his first senior start of the season following his return from a spell in the USA. Iain Murray remained out with a broken finger.

Lovat manager John MacRitchie was without Drew Howie who suffered a broken collar bone in the 2-1 league defeat to Oban Camanachd last weekend and he joined Callum Cruden, Martin Mainland and Graeme MacMillan on the Balgait injury list.

Lovat forced a series of early corners without really troubling Jamie Gannon in the Skye goal.

Skye's Gillesbuig MacDonald and Danny Morrison combined to set up a chance for Jordan Murchison but Stuart MacDonald made a good save with his hand.

Danny Morrison came close to giving Skye the lead when he stretched to steer the ball goalwards from just inside the 'D', after a Lovat defender missed Iain Nicolson's cross from the left. But Stuart MacDonald made a great save with his right foot to keep the ball out of the net.

Lovat had the better chances in the second half with Greg Matheson going close on a couple of occasions. The Skye defence, in which Neil MacVicar and John Gillies were excellent, held out and the points were shared.

Skye stay eighth in the league but they have played fewer games. Lovat climb to fifth, ahead of Kingussie on goal difference, and the sides meet at the Dell this coming Saturday.



Kyles Athletic captain and goalkeeper John Whyte proudly accepts the Drew Ferguson Trophy after his team's 3-1 win over Fort William at An Aird last Saturday. Photo: Paul Paterson Photography.

Marine Harvest National Division

**Bute 1
Caberfeidh 4**
Caberfeidh are just a point off top spot after they beat Bute 4-1 at the Meadows.

Cabers did the damage in the first half. Craig Morrison put them ahead after 10 minutes and Ruaridh MacLeman made it 2-0 on 18 minutes.

MacLeman got his second and Cabers third on 29 minutes and when Callum Macculloch made it 4-0 on 40 minutes, the game was over as a contest.

Bute rallied after the re-start and Ian McDonald pulled a goal back on 65 minutes.

Caberfeidh are now only a point behind league leaders Glasgow Mid Argyll, with only two points separating the top five teams.

**Ballachulish 0
Inverness 6**

Inverness notched their first league win of the season, defeating Ballachulish 6-0 at Jubilee Park.

The suspended John MacDonald was amongst the Ballachulish absentees.

Somhairle MacDonald was missing for Inverness so Allan MacLeod played in goal. There were places for youngsters William MacKinnon and Jack Craig. Inverness full back David Campbell lined-up against his former club.

Arran MacMaster put Inverness ahead on 14 minutes and James Cameron made it 2-0 with 34 minutes played.

Charlie MacDonald then took centre stage, grabbing a hat-trick with goals on 44, 45 and 60 minutes. The Inverness forward has now scored in his side's last four league fixtures, netting six times during this period.

Michael Price added a sixth goal 15 minutes from time and had it not been for some wasteful finishing and some good goalkeeping by Cameron Sutherland, the winning margin could have been even bigger.

Inverness climb off the bottom of the table at Ballachulish's expense but they have played four games more than the Jubilee Park side.

Marine Harvest North Division 1

**Lovat 0
Fort William 6**

The Fort William seconds bounced back from last weekend's 5-0 defeat to the Skye Camanachd reserves to beat Lovat seconds 6-0 at Balgait.

Lovat's Bailey MacKay started a two-match ban following his sending off against Glenurquhart's second team a week earlier.

Fort William player/co-manager Chris Bamber started in midfield.

Scott Henderson got Fort William off to a great start with a three-minute strike.

Lewis Clark on 33 minutes and Grant Disher on 40 minutes had the An Aird side 3-0 up at the break.

The ball ended up in the Lovat net off defender James Grieve 10 minutes after the re-start which made it 4-0.

A Ryan Boyle shot from distance on 65 minutes and a second from Scott Henderson a couple of minutes later made it six of the best from the Fort.

Marine Harvest South Division 1

**Taynuilt 4
Col Glen 1**

Taynuilt go third in the league after they beat Col Glen 4-1 at Taynuilt Sports Field.

Taynuilt were without John Gillies who served a one-match ban for passing through the disciplinary points threshold.

Liam Higgins put Taynuilt in front on nine minutes and a Ryan Gillies double on 30 and 43 minutes made it 3-1 at the end of the first 45 minutes.

Gavin Carswell made it 4-0 on 55 minutes.

When referee Alex MacVicar gave Col Glen a 65 minute penalty, Connor Kennedy stepped up to score from the spot to make the final score 4-1.

Marine Harvest North Division 2

**Boleskine 1
Aberdeen University 5**

There seems to be no stopping Aberdeen University as they continue to rattle in the goals, this week beating Boleskine 5-1 at Smith Park.

Ross Robinson put the students ahead after 18 minutes but Jimmy MacKenzie levelled just a couple of minutes later.

It was the visitors who went into the break 2-1 ahead when Ross Robinson got his second on the stroke of half time.

Alex Duncan made it 3-1 on 70 minutes and Ewan Fraser's goal on 80 minutes meant all four Aberdeen forwards had scored, not for the first time this season.

Alex Duncan got his second five minutes from time to round off the 5-1 win.

Aberdeen University stay in first place in the league, ahead of Lochaber seconds on goal difference, although the Granite City side have played a game fewer, scoring an impressive 52 times in their seven league matches so far.

**Strathspey Camanachd 2
Lochaber 5**

A Keith Neville inspired Lochaber reserves stay second in the division on goal differ-

ence thanks to a 5-2 win over Strathspey Camanachd in their 1.30pm throw up at Granttown Grammar School.

Matthew Davis put Strathspey ahead after 22 minutes but Stuart Matheson drew Lochaber level just 3 minutes later.

Keith Neville gave Lochaber the edge when he scored on 52, 56 and 63 minutes and his quick-fire hat-trick made it 4-1.

Donald Colville pulled a goal back on 82 minutes to make it 4-2.

However Keith Neville got his fourth goal of the afternoon with just 3 minutes remaining - saving the best 'til last with a superb volley to make it 5-2.

**Kilmallie 2
Caberfeidh 3**

The Caberfeidh seconds beat the Kilmallie seconds by the odd goal in five in their noon throw up at the Canal Parks.

Aaron Sandison put Kilmallie ahead on 35 minutes but a James Rolfe goal on the stroke of half time made it 1-1 at the interval.

Cabers took the lead on the hour mark through Colin MacLeman and Robbie Sehar made it 3-1 a couple of minutes later.

Aaron Sandison got his and Kilmallie's second on 75 minutes but Cabers stayed in front to take the points.

Caberfeidh climb to third place in the table. They are a couple of points off the top but they have played more games than the teams above them.

Marine Harvest South Division 2

**Kilmory 12
Bute 0**

Kilmory go second in the table after they overpowered Bute's second team 12-0 in their 1.30pm throw up at MacRae Park. Ally Cunningham was Kilmory's top scorer on the day with five goals.

Alex Cunningham and Hal Jones each scored twice to take their tallies for the season to 23 and 16 goals respectively.

Craig Taylor, Gordon Watt and Rhys Williams got the others.

Kilmory are now two points behind leaders Tayforth with both teams having played five matches. The sides meet this coming weekend at MacRae Park and that game promises to be a cracker.

Fixtures

Friday May 20
Marine Harvest South Division 1
Inveraray v Lochside Rovers
Scot McNeil - 7pm

Saturday May 21
Camanachd Cup first round
Taynuilt v Glasgow Mid Argyll
Alex MacVicar

Gregor Cameron Consultancy Celtic Society Cup semi-final
Oban Caman v Kyles Athletic
Lachie Wood

Balliemore Cup second round
Caberfeidh v Aberdour
Evan MacRae
Strathglass v Taynuilt
Archie Ritchie
Oban Celtic v Beaully
Robert Baxter

Marine Harvest Premiership
Glenurquhart v Lochaber
Deek Cameron
Kingussie v Lovat
Innes Wood - 3pm
Skye v Kinlochshiel
Graham Cameron - 3pm

Marine Harvest National Division
Ballachulish v Kilmallie
David Mitchell
Inverness v Inveraray
Willie MacDonald

Marine Harvest North Division 1
Beaully v Fort William
Neil Ferguson
Kingussie v Glenurquhart
Martin MacLean - noon
Kinlochshiel v Newtonmore
Callum Duff
Skye v Lovat
Daniel MacRae - noon

Marine Harvest South Division 1
Kyles Athletic v Glenorchy
Ewan MacDonald

Marine Harvest North Division 2
Glenarrary v Strathspey
Iain Kennedy
Kilmallie v Boleskine
Jim Innes
Lochcarron v Lochaber
Brian MacKay
Lewis v Inverness
Ronnie Campbell
Caberfeidh v Aberdeen Uni
John Matheson - noon

Marine Harvest South Division 2
Aberdour v Glasgow Mid Argyll
Jon Gallagher
Dunoon v Bute
Alan Harrison
Kilmory v Tayforth
Ross Brown

Throw ups 2.30pm unless stated.

Results

Saturday May 14
RBS MacTavish Cup semi-final
Newtonmore 2-0 Glenurquhart
Lochaber 2-1 Kingussie

Gregor Cameron Consultancy Celtic Cup semi-final
Inveraray 2-1 Glasgow MA

Camanachd Cup first round
Kilmallie v Aberdour
Aberdour unable to raise a team.
Walkover to Kilmallie

Balliemore Cup first round
Oban Celtic 2-0 Glenorchy

Aberdeen Considine Sutherland Cup second round
Newtonmore 5-1 Skye

Strathdearn Cup first round
Inverness 0-6 Kingussie
Glenarrary 2-3 Glenurquhart

Bullough Cup first round
Tayforth 2-2 Lochside Rovers
Tayforth won on penalties
Dunoon 1-3 Aberdour
Kyles Athletic 2-0 Inveraray
Glasgow MA 4-3 SCOTS Caman

Marine Harvest Premiership
Fort William 1-3 Kyles Athletic
Kinlochshiel 2-1 Oban Caman
Skye 0-0 Lovat

Marine Harvest National Division
Ballachulish 0-6 Inverness
Bute 1-4 Caberfeidh

Marine Harvest North Division 1
Lovat 0-6 Fort William

Marine Harvest South Division 1
Taynuilt 4-1 Col Glen

Marine Harvest North Division 2
Boleskine 1-5 Aberdeen Uni
Kilmallie 2-3 Caberfeidh
Strathspey 2-5 Lochaber

Marine Harvest South Division 2
Kilmory 12-0 Bute

MacKay Cup draw

THE CAMANACHD Association has announced the MacKay Cup draw for 2016. There has been a fantastic response from schools and a really encouraging number of entries for this year.

North area:
First round byes - Alvie/Carrbridge primary schools, Inverloch Primary, Kirkhill Primary, Glenurquhart/Balnain primaries, Caol Primary.

First round
Kingussie Primary v Newtonmore Primary
Inverness Gaelic School v Tomnacross Primary
Portree Primary v Plockton primaries
Quarter finals
Glenurquhart/Balnain v Portree/Plockton
Alvie/Carrbridge v Caol
Kingussie/Newtonmore v Kirkhill
Inverloch v Inverness/Tomnacross
Semi-finals
Inverloch/Inverness/Tomnacross v Kingussie/Newtonmore/
Kirkhill
Alvie/Carrbridge/Caol v Glenurquhart/Balnain/Portree/Plockton
North final - neutral venue

South area:
First round byes - Ardnamurchan primaries and Bute primaries
Quarter finals
Rockfield Primary v Glasgow Gaelic School
Park Primary v Kilmory primaries
Semi-finals
Rockfield/Glasgow Gaelic School v Bute primaries
Park/Kilmory v Ardnamurchan primaries
South final - neutral venue

All first round and quarter-final ties must be played by Wednesday May 25.

All semi-final ties must be played by Wednesday June 8.

The north and south finals must be played by June 17.

The MacKay Cup Final will be played on Saturday June 25 at An-Aird, Fort William, with a 2pm throw up.

Both teams contesting the final will have an after-match meal and then be guests at a Marine Harvest Premiership match.



Kilmory's Jamie Hutchison is closed down by Lochaber's Lachlan Campbell during last Saturday's MacTavish Cup semi-final which the Spean Bridge side won by the odd goal in three.

Photo: Abightside Photography.

Saints reach Jimmy Marshall Cup final

Motherwell Thistle	0
Oban Saints	3
Marshall Cup - Semi Final	

OBAN Saints made their fourth consecutive Scottish Amateur Football League Jimmy Marshall Trophy semi-final appearance last Wednesday night at bogey ground Millburn Park, Alexandria.

Saints had never before won a match at the home of Vale of Leven Juniors but, despite an inauspicious start to the evening, finally managed to break that long standing jinx against Premier Division One promotion chasers Motherwell Thistle.

A road traffic accident at the Halfway House, near Dunbeg, resulting in the closure of the A85, almost put paid to Saints' hopes of reaching Alexandria in time to play the match.

However, a perilous diversion along the verges of the almost totally gridlocked Connel back road eventually got the Saints minibus back on track albeit slightly later than planned with only a 15-minute delay to kick off required.

Saints kicked off with the low sun behind them and were quick to try to exploit the wide open spaces of the large playing surface. The front three of Ross Maitland, Dean Smith and Craig MacEwan were looking lively and combined to devastating effect in the fourth minute opening up the Thistle

defence for Ross Maitland to curl a shot from 16 yards into the bottom corner past Paul Aiton's despairing left hand.

Misplaced passes and cheaply conceded possession on the bumpy surface dissipated Saints' early domination allowing Thistle to come more into the match.

A simple ball over the top from Thistle play maker William McMaster caught out the Saints defence in the 23rd minute. McMaster's lofted ball in the inside left channel was anticipated by Ombeni Ruhanduka who ran in behind David McArthur and Craig Campbell and drew a good save from Thomas McCulloch at his near post.

A good spell of Saints pressure just before the half hour almost led to Maitland doubling his tally.

A Cruyff turn from MacEwan took out two defenders and opened up space for a pass across the face of goal to Maitland who looked certain to score.

Unfortunately for Maitland, the ball took a wicked bounce and Paul Aiton was able to scramble across his goal-line and smother the ball at the forward's feet.

Saints had a 32nd minute penalty appeal turned down by referee Jim Rose from a long Willie Gemmill throw from the left. Gemmill aimed for the head of Campbell but the ball appeared to come off the hand of Stuart Hunter. However Mr Rose ruled that Campbell had



Craig MacEwan goes to congratulate Willie Gemmill after he scored Saints' second goal against Motherwell Thistle in last Wednesday's Jimmy Marshall Cup semi final at Millburn Park, Alexandria. Photos and match reports: Derek Black

fouled Hunter and awarded a free kick in Thistle's favour.

After a slow start the second half came to life in the 54th minute with a double let-off for Saints. McCulloch lost the flight of a William McMaster free kick from the left in the low sunlight allowing Rhys Haggarty to send a looping header back over McCulloch's head towards the unguarded net.

Fortunately for Saints the ball hit the crossbar but came out to Ruhanduka who, from four yards out, also managed to hit the bar with McCulloch eventually able to pluck the ball from

the air.

The Oban side finally increased their lead when Maitland flighted a free kick to the back post which MacEwan headed down and back across goal to Gemmill, who resisted the temptation to go for power and instead passed the ball into the net from seven yards.

That proved to be Gemmill's last involvement as manager Alex Craik called Donald Campbell from the substitutes bench to replace him.

Saints looked to exploit another set-piece opportunity in the 66th minute after Dean Smith

had been brought down just inside the Thistle half. Myles McAuley launched the free kick to the edge of the Thistle box with Smith winning a good flick on to Scott Maitland whose left foot shot was blocked for a corner kick. Ross Maitland sent another excellent delivery onto the six-yard line which was powered into the net by Dene Cassells to make the score 3-0.

Manager Craik made a double substitution taking off Smith and Ross Maitland, who made way for Allan Mackay and Keith Millar in a move which signalled a switch to a 4-4-2 formation.

Football

A little bit of the gloss was taken off an otherwise successful night's work when McAuley limped off with an ankle injury in the 80th minute with his place being taken by Jamie Graham.

Saints comfortably saw out the remaining minutes to secure a Jimmy Marshall Trophy final appearance against St Joseph's FP and end a punishing schedule of Wednesday night fixtures on a high note.

The final will be played at Millburn Park, Alexandria on Friday May 27.

Scottish AFL results and fixtures

Football

LAST Wednesday's result: Jimmy Marshall Cup, semi-final - Motherwell Thistle 0, Oban Saints 3. Saturday's results: Premier Division - East Kilbride 0, Oban Saints 0; Finnart 3, Campbeltown Pupils 1; Premier Division One - Motherwell Thistle 5, Dunoon 2; Premier Division Two - Duncanrigg FP 1, Tarbert 1; Division One - Dunoon Athletic 2, Carlton YM 7.

This weekend's fixtures: Friday - Premier Division - Oban Saints v St Joseph's FP, Glencruitten, kick-off 6.45pm. Saturday - Premier Division One - Kings Park Rangers v Dunoon; Premier Division Two - Tarbert v Dumbarton Wanderers. Sunday - Oban Saints v Inverclyde, Glencruitten, kick-off 2pm.

Oban Saints' youth results and fixtures

Youth Football

LAST weekend's results: Under 13s 0, Ardencaple 1; Milngavie 1, Under 13s 5. Scoring for Saints were Connor Moore (2), Ruairidh Munro, Neilly Russell and James Beaton. Milngavie 2, Under 14s 3. Saints scorers were Euan Finlay, Aidan MacPhee and Aaron McKay. Under 15s 2, Dumbarton United 4. On target for Saints were Gary MacCuish and Cameron Kerr. Under 16s no game; Under 19s no game.

This weekend's fixtures: Renton Craigandro v Under 13s; Kilpatrick v Under 14s; Under 15s v Ardencaple; Under 16s no game. Dumbarton Ut v Under 19s.

Oban side make their point in East Kilbride

East Kilbride	1
Oban Saints	1
SAFL Premier Division	

A VERY much down to the bare bones Saints side earned a highly creditable point last Saturday afternoon against title-chasing East Kilbride.

Injuries, work and family commitments left manager Alex Craik with only 10 available players plus himself and the ever-youthful coach Peter MacCallum so full credit is due to those who made the trip.

In a fairly even first half the home side had the better of the chances with Gary McDowal hitting the crossbar with a header and Paul Kerr and Dene Cassells having to make important interceptions to keep the Kilby attack at bay.

With only two minutes of the first half remaining Saints conceded in disappointing circumstances getting caught out with a swift counter attack from their own free kick. With the visitors appealing in vain for an offside decision Kilby danger

man Jonny Diack got in behind Cassells and Scott Maitland and deftly lifted the ball over the advancing Thomas McCulloch and into the net.

Saints were quickly out of the starting blocks in the second half and equalised after just 90 seconds. Craig MacEwan made a good run into the box to get on the end of a Donald Campbell pass. MacEwan tricked his way past two players and delivered a low cross into the six-yard box which Campbell narrowly failed to connect with but the alert

Football

Keith Millar, lurking at the back post, turned the ball into the net.

Saints came close to adding to their tally with Maitland and MacEwan forcing Kilby keeper Graeme McMillan into two good saves.

At the other end Alex Craik turned back the clock with a solid performance at the heart of the Saints defence alongside Cassells.

When Kilby did manage to penetrate the back line they found McCulloch to be in excellent form denying Gary McDowal, Christopher Paterson and David Hepburn.

In the warm strength-sapping East Kilbride sunshine the prospect of Peter MacCallum having to enter the fray inspired the Saints players to find the necessary energy reserves to see out the remainder of the half and secure a thoroughly deserved share of the points.

After a punishing schedule including three consecutive Wednesday night away fixtures Saints can at last look forward to a run of home games commencing on Friday night against St Joseph's FP. The game will take place at Glencruitten with a 6.45pm kick-off. On Sunday, also at Glencruitten they take on Inverclyde. This match kicks off at 2pm.

Etive Vikings host last mini rugby festival of the season

ETIVE Vikings RFC hosted the last Mini Rugby Dalriada Festival of the season in Taynuilt on Sunday. Teams from Oban Lorne, Mid Argyll, Isle of Mull, Lochaber and Etive Vikings attended the festival.

In the P4/5 age group Isle of Mull RFC won the competition by one point from hosts Etive Vikings after winning two and drawing one of their fixtures.

Mull impressively came back from 5-2 down to beat Lochaber 7-5 in what proved to be the most entertaining match of the day.

Mid Argyll RFC won their first Dalriada for a long time by winning the P6/7 age group. Mid Argyll won all of their games going through a tough battle against Lochaber and Etive Vikings.

This puts an end to this season's mini rugby festivals in Argyll.

All partner clubs have hosted at least one very successful festival this season with growing numbers over the course of the year.

Next year it is hoped that Kintyre and Islay will join the teams taking part with both boasting very healthy training numbers after re-establishing their mini rugby sections.

Oban Lorne RFC

OBAN Lorne RFC's competitive season has come to an end with the Green Machine finishing fourth in West Division 1, winning eight and losing nine of their 17 fixtures this season.

Unfortunately the home fixture with Cambuslang will remain unfulfilled on the fixture

Rugby

The Oban squad now turn their attention to this Saturday's Isle of Mull 7s. Oban hope to have a strong team available for the tournament.

Oban will also be taking part in the Islay Beach Rugby Festival on June 11.

Scott called up for UEFA Regions' Cup

OBAN Saints full back Scott Maitland has been called up for the Scotland amateur international squad for the UEFA Regions' Cup preliminary round to be held in Lithuania, starting this weekend.

Scotland play FK Nevezis of Lithuania on Saturday; Tartu from Estonia on Monday, May 23 and finish off with a game against Gothenburg from Sweden on Wednesday, May 25.

The squad fly out from Glasgow airport today (Thursday).

Donald Campbell should also have been in the squad but unfortunately he booked a family holiday and is unable to make the trip to Lithuania.

Football



Scott Maitland



Scott Maitland, Paul Kerr and Donald Campbell congratulate goalscorer Keith Millar.

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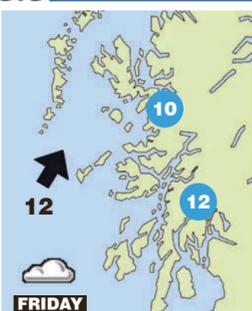
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WEATHER

Thursday	Heavy rain at times Winds moderate southerly Temperatures 8°C to 11°C.
Friday	Cloudy Winds moderate south westerly Temperatures 8°C to 12°C.
Weekend Outlook	Heavy rain showers on Saturday Heavy rain showers on Sunday Winds moderate south south easterly Temperatures 8°C to 13°C.



Stop Press: New pontoons recently installed by North West Marine at Kyle Lochboisdale for visiting yachts

TIDAL INFORMATION
Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday May 19, 2016** are listed below with differences for major ports listed on the right. All times are GMT (add one hour) BST)

Date	am	pm		
Thur	04.03 3.4 10.48 1.2 16.31 3.5 22.39 1.2	Ardrishaig -5.35	Mallaig	+0.25
Fri	04.40 3.6 11.17 1.1 17.06 3.7 23.15 1.1	Campbeltown -5.30	Portree	+0.55
Sat	05.16 3.7 11.47 1.1 17.40 3.8 23.51 1.0	Crinan -0.47	Tobermory	+0.16
Sun	05.51 3.7 12.18 1.0 18.13 3.8 *** **	Islay Port Ellen 2.00	Dover	+5.30
Mon	06.26 1.0 06.24 3.7 12.51 1.0 18.44 3.8	Lochboisdale +0.30		
Tues	01.02 1.1 06.55 3.7 13.21 1.1 19.17 3.7			
Wed	01.37 1.1 07.27 3.6 13.51 1.2 19.51 3.6			

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

Ferry Crossings/Sea States

Oban to Barra/South Uist	Moderate
Oban to Coll/Tiree	Moderate
Kennacraig to Islay	Moderate

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SiMBA help for baby loss

ELLIE FORBES
reporter@obantimes.co.uk

A NEW support group for families bereaved of new babies has been launched in Lochaber.

Simpson's Memory Box Appeal (SiMBA) works throughout the UK, supporting families and friends who have been affected by the loss of a baby before, during or after the birth.

SiMBA currently has support groups in Oban and Lochgilphead, and on Monday May 16 the Lochaber group held its first meeting.

The charity was set up in 2005 by Sara Fitzsimmons, a midwife in Edinburgh, who felt hospitals did not do enough to help parents in their most heart-breaking moments. On Saturday May 14 Ms Fitzsimmons, the charity's director, won the Caring Hero award at the Daily Record's Our Hero Awards.

Plans for the new group in Fort William started taking shape when Highland ambassador for the charity, Susan Simpson, discussed starting a Lochaber support group with a local mother who had lost her second child.

Leah Whyte, 35, from Caol, lost her son Iysa last March. At more than 40 weeks pregnant, Ms Whyte was rushed to Raigmore Hospital in Inverness after Iysa stopped moving. When she arrived in Inverness doctors failed to find her son's heartbeat but one nurse noticed a flicker of a beat on the monitor and so Ms Whyte was rushed into theatre for a caesarean section. Sadly, Iysa died less than an hour later.

Following major complications during her first pregnancy, with



Leah Whyte, left, and Susan Simpson with SiMBA memory boxes.

her son Yusuf, three, Ms Whyte developed post traumatic stress disorder. During this time she resigned from her post with the Scottish Ambulance Service and discovered SiMBA.

The pair have been discussing setting up a support group in the area for more than a year.

Ms Simpson said: 'SiMBA wants to recognise and honour every baby.'

She found SiMBA after her youngest daughter, Eilidh Beth, was stillborn at 34 weeks in 2010. She said: 'Andrew and I left hospital with empty arms, a broken heart and only our daughter's hand and foot prints. I knew that there must be more that could be done for bereaved parents and an online search led me to Sara.'

Ms Simpson said: 'We set up the support groups because we need to bring people together to share experiences with each other and come up with coping mechanism. We want to teach people that the loss of a child is not something you move on

from but something we can learn to live with, and together we can.'

SiMBA has now offered Ms Whyte a place on their next training course in October to become a support group facilitator.

Ms Simpson said: 'We are a positive charity that deals with tragedy but we want to help families gather special memories of their child and encourage them to continue to build memories.'

The charity supplies memory boxes and precious items to hospital units to be gifted to bereaved families. The charity also hosts an annual Butterfly Release that brings families together in an act of remembrance. This year's events in Oban and Lochaber are on August 20. Meetings in Lochaber will be held from 7-9pm at The Hub, Fort William, on the third Monday of each month.

Ms Simpson added: 'Being from a small village, I am so passionate about reaching our most rural communities to spread the support.'

Memorial to a much-loved shinty star



The annual memorial shinty match in memory of Drew Ferguson, who died suddenly three years ago, aged just 24, was played at the weekend between Fort William and Kyle. Drew's mum Sheila presented the man of the match award to Fort William defender Sean Cameron. Full report and more pictures on page three.

Bold move to pay for new houses

A NEW move is to be made to secure funding for the construction of 'dramatically' more social housing.

Highland Council is to ask the Scottish government for an increase in housing grant to pay for the building of the maximum possible number of new homes.

Councillors have agreed a motion to approach the administration at Holyrood to request the same level of grant as housing associations.

Councillor Margaret Davidson, Aird and Loch Ness, put forward the motion, which was seconded by Councillor DREW MILLAR for Eilean à Cheò.

Mrs Davidson said it would be 'really helpful' for the council to be given equal levels of funding. She said: 'If it increases the rate of grant the council gets, we could dramatically increase the supply and number of council houses we provide.'

In central Lochaber alone - Fort William, Caol, Corpach, Banavie, Upper Achintore, Inverloch, Lochyside, Torlundy, Claggan and the Plantation - the housing demand far exceeds the supply, with 3,035 applicants on the housing and transfer lists while there is a total supply of only 1,213 homes available and 67 re-lets, a trend mirrored across Highland region as a whole.

Hunt continues for hillwalker

POLICE in Lochaber are appealing for information to assist in the search for Edward Davies, 39, from Hampshire who has been missing in Glencoe area since last Wednesday May 11.



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Town's only jeweller's is to close

KATIE CARABINE
reporter@obantimes.co.uk

FORT William's only jeweller is to close down in the next couple of months.

David Martin, who has been running his shop and repair service in the town for 28 years, says he plans to close the shop by the end of June.

Mr Martin has said it will be 'a bit of a wrench giving it up' but he feels he has no choice as he has lost so much business since the west end of the High Street was redeveloped in 2010 as part of a Routes West project.

He said: 'It's demoralising

when you had a good business for 20-odd years and then trade goes through the floor.'

The redevelopment, which Mr Martin described as 'ridiculous', was planned to make the town centre 'easier to access and use', according to Alex Neil, who was the Scottish government's minister for housing and communities at the time.

Mr Martin also claims there was no consultation with West End businesses and that he was simply sent a letter stating the plans for the redevelopment.

At the time this was happening, Mr Martin was experiencing health issues which

prevented him from being able to express his concerns. Had this not been the case, he says, he would have 'fought tooth and nail to stop it'.

His objection was to the relocation of the pedestrian crossing from outside his shop, which meant people were directed straight down the High Street and did not pass his premises any more.

Also, the railings on the corner of the High Street and Middle Street were shortened to allow for the new crossing, where before they were all along the full stretch of road, which had again directed people past Mr Martin's shop door.

The pavement was also widened further up the High Street, which meant fewer tour coaches stopping at that end of the street.

Mr Martin will continue to repair clocks from his home once the shop has closed.

A spokesperson for Highland Council said: 'We carried out before and after footfall counts which show footfall to the West End has almost doubled.'

'In addition, four new national outlets opened in the immediate area which the developer attributed to the creation of the Square. All of these have contributed to footfall at Gordon Square.'

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Photo Taken By: Pete Conway

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Fort William cinema could be open again within a year

ELLIE FORBES
reporter@obantimes.co.uk

LOCHABER Cinema Group's ambitious plans to reopen the Fort William movie theatre have taken another step forward with the granting of charitable status. The group has registered as a social enterprise, for the advancement of arts, drama and science, as well as for the provision of recreational facilities. This will enable the group to make progress with plans to reopen the cinema in Cameron Square, Fort William, following its closure 10 years ago. The chairwoman of the group, Marie Macpherson, told *The Oban Times* that the building would be run as a two-screen cinema, one of which would be a multi-purpose events venue, which could be used as a community hall or for other local events.

Ms Macpherson added that the building now needed to be surveyed and this should take place in the next six weeks. She added: 'We need a new lift and our fire escapes need to be upgraded. The work is going to cost around £500,000 to get the building up to public standard.' The group said that the next steps would be negotiating the lease on the building and attracting funding, which could possibly come from the National Lottery. The group also wants the cinema to create full- and part-time jobs. Ms Macpherson added: 'We hope to have the cinema finished this time next year but, of course, if we can get it done sooner, we will. 'We are doing everything we can to get it completed as soon as possible.'



Chairwoman of Lochaber Cinema Group Marie Macpherson outside the cinema in Fort William's Cameron Square.



Sheila Ferguson, centre, with the winning Kyle team and presenting the memorial trophy to their captain, John Whyte, inset.

Shinty teams in memorial game for Drew

FORT William shinty team held their annual memorial match in memory of Drew Ferguson at the weekend. The shinty star tragically died three years ago at the age of 24. Saturday marked the anniversary of Drew's death, and the Fort boys were out in full force, playing against Kyle.

Drew's mum, Sheila Ferguson, told *The Oban Times*: 'The match was a bit last minute but the boys wanted to play today. I'm delighted with the turnout for the match.' Sadly, for the Fort boys, they lost to visitors Kyle 1-3, but Fort defender Sean Cameron was awarded player of

the match. It was a beautiful day for the match, which was held at Fort William shinty club, and afterwards both teams and supporters were invited for tea and a buffet in the clubhouse. Mrs Ferguson presented the Drew Ferguson memorial trophy to Kyle's team captain John Whyte.

Holocaust survivor is to visit school

A HOLOCAUST survivor has been invited to Lochaber High School to talk to pupils about his experiences as part of the school's participation in the Lessons from Auschwitz programme. The programme, which is organised by the Holocaust Educational Trust, takes two sixth-year pupils to Poland for the day to visit Auschwitz as part of the project, and this year's successful applicants from Lochaber High School were Katie Laidlaw and Lewis Ross. Harry Bibring was asked to give a speech to second year pupils and prominent members of the Lochaber community. During the Holocaust, Mr Bibring was separated from his family but was brought to Britain as part of the Kindertransport scheme. The event will take place in Lochaber high on Tuesday June 21 and there will be an opportunity for questions after the presentation.

Driver training for volunteers on offer

MINIBUS driver training is on offer for volunteers who work with community groups in Lochaber. The Lochaber Transport Forum will be offering training to community transport and voluntary sector groups wishing to access the use of mini buses to further their cause. The course, which is being funded from the Highland Council Community Transport budget, would enable groups to travel for events and allow clubs to drive teams to other venues for fixtures. To take part, drivers must already hold a D1 on their licence. Training is available on Saturday May 28 and once drivers have their MIDAS certificate they can pay a small registration fee, of around £6, to be eligible to drive High Life Highland and Highland Council minibuses.

Toasting success for new café

GUESTS from Lochaber were invited to celebrate the official opening of the West Highland College's new Café TOAST. Around 60 people attended the launch, after the college completed the refurbishment of the café area, an upgrade of the training kitchens and Changing Places facility, for those with a disability. TOAST provided visitors with a complimentary afternoon tea, showcasing the wide variety of homemade healthy meals, soups, salads, sandwiches and sweet treats that are available from the café. Each guest also received a goodie bag containing a sweet treat and loyalty card for future visits. Fiona Haberl, café manager, said: 'We really are delighted to have such an enthusiastic turnout for our opening event. Our aim is to provide high quality, healthy food at a reasonable price, to our



Celebrating the opening of the new cafe, left-right, Mairi Mooney, Elma Kelly, Fiona Halbert, Liz Donaghue and Elana Campanile.

staff and students. 'However we very much want to welcome the public to sample our great food too and the café is open for everyone to enjoy all year round.' TOAST also has plans to have event catering as well as made-to-order packed lunches and frozen ready meals. Mairi Mooney, the new business manager for the café, said: 'It's great to

see so many local clubs and community groups creating such a lively atmosphere in the college today and we hope to see everyone again soon. 'We will also be catering for various special events over the summer months, so I would urge everyone to come along, sample some of our lovely food and keep an eye on what is going on in Café TOAST.'

POLICE FILES

- Between 3pm and 7.15pm on May 10 an attempt was made to force entry into a house on Bruce Place, Plantation, Fort William via the front door where damage was caused to the handle and lock.
- Between 5pm May 8 and 11am on May 9, two vehicles had their tyres slashed on Kennedy Road, Plantation, Fort William.
- About 4.45pm on May 8 a man approached a cyclist sitting on a bench at The Parade in Fort William, complimenting him on his bicycle. After asking the cyclist to try the bike, the suspect rode off towards the An Aird area. The suspect is described as about 22 years of age, white, 6ft tall, of slim build, with short dark hair, dark blue jeans but not wearing a top.
- Between 7pm on May 7 and 9am the following day, 100 litres of fuel was syphoned from a boat called *The Big Dipper* at Mallaig Harbour.
- About 12.50am on May 7 on Moss Road, Caol, a set of industrial jump leads, red and black in colour, were taken from a vehicle.
- Between May 5 and 7, six bags of wooden pellets used for a biomass heating system were stolen from the rear of an address on Blar Mhor road, Caol.
- Between April 28 and 29 a parking meter at the Glen Nevis visitor centre was damaged after an attempt was made to gain entry to the cash box it contained.
- Between 3pm and 5.10pm on April 28 a folding motorised golf trolley was taken from a cupboard in the changing rooms at the Dragon's Tooth golf course at Ballachulish.
- Between April 25 and 27, a vehicle was scratched along the bonnet and front doors while parked at an address on Heather Grove, Caol.
- Between March 18 and 28 approximately 300 litres of fuel was taken from a compressor drilling machine sited in a layby about a quarter mile west of Poulary, Invergarry, while being used in connection to house building at the location.
- Police are keen to speak to anyone who has any information about these incidents and remind the community to secure all property and valuables and to lock outhouses, sheds and vehicles. Police also request assistance from the community in the prompt reporting of any suspicious people, vehicles or activities, and to contact 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111.

TV star Paul drops into youth hostel beside loch

ONE of Britain's best-loved comedians and broadcasters Paul Merton recently visited Scotland's Loch Ossian Youth Hostel on Rannoch Moor as part of his current television series on Channel 4, which aired on Sunday evening. Paul Merton's Secret Stations explores the world of request stop railway stations in Britain. More than 150 of Britain's railway stations are request stops, where passengers have to put their arm out at the station, to get the train to stop at the platform. He visited Loch Ossian as part of his travelogue, in which he looks into the history of the stations, and meets the people who live and work around them to learn more about the unusual, and often overlooked, stations. In the final part of the programme, Mr Merton requested a stop at Corroul Station on the West Highland, Glasgow to Fort

William, line. From there he took a 20-minute walk to Loch Ossian where he talked to Jan Robinson, the hostel manager, who runs the 20-bed youth hostel all year round. The cosy hostel is eco-friendly too, with wind turbines, solar panels, composting toilets and a reed bed grey water drainage system. Ms Robinson said: 'We had a very lucky day for Paul's visit - the weather was amazing, sunny, blue sky, calm and no midges. 'Paul definitely appreciated the remoteness of the location, as well as asking all about the youth hostel and Scottish Youth Hostel Association. 'He was also very interested in the youth hostel's environmentally-friendly and energy-efficient systems.' The three-part series is available through catch-up on Channel 4.

BT seeks to hire new engineers

BT HAS announced plans to recruit an additional 35 engineers in the Highlands and islands. The company is particularly keen to hear from people in the areas of Fort Augustus, Fort William, Salen on Mull, and Lochailort. The new engineers will help Openreach, BT's local network business, to install new lines and fixing faults more quickly.

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DWP change catches out Mull man

SANDY NEIL
sneil@obantimes.co.uk

A DISABLED man on Mull faces becoming 'a prisoner in his own house', when the UK government removes his car this month due to changing welfare benefits.

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) has ordered Alex Fletcher, who lives in Bunessan, to return his car by the end of May because he fails to qualify for it under the new Personal Independence Payment (PIP).

The 61-year-old told *The Oban Times*: 'I've got arthritis in almost every joint of my body. It's painful. It'll take me an hour to walk 50 yards to the shops. Without my car, I'm going to be a prisoner in my own house.'

Mr Fletcher spent his career in construction, building roads for Argyll and Bute Council until he was retired on doctor's orders in 2010.

'I was told I was to be pensioned off, as unfit to work,' he said. 'I didn't want to retire: at the time I was thinking how am I going to live?'

Since his medical retirement, Mr Fletcher has qualified for the use of a car to travel around Mull independently under the Disability Living Allowance (DLA) – until the government rolled out its PIP replacement, which he failed to understand when re-applying for his disability benefits.

'I didn't know anything about it,' he said. 'I didn't get hold of the lady who helps me with the forms and I only had a couple of days to fill it in. I made a balls-up.'

His confusion arose, he explained, because instead of the DLA's three categories – higher, middle and lower – PIP only gave two categories – higher and lower. He recalled the PIP form asking how far could he walk.

'At that time it was between 20 and 24 metres, which put me in the lower

category,' he explained. 'You have to be in the higher category for the car. To qualify you can only walk under 20m. Now I'm lucky to do 20 metres.'

A week ago the government's Motability Scheme, which leases cars to disabled people, sent Mr Fletcher a letter asking him to return the Peugeot 308 to a dealer in Campbeltown by May 31, 2016.

'It's going to be very hard without the car,' he said. 'I've got a lot of hospital appointments.'

He said that half-hour appointments at Mull and Iona Community Hospital in Craignure could take up to five hours by the island's public transport, while taking the bus and ferry to Oban's Lorn and District General Hospital could involve a 12-hour day. 'It's not doing my legs or feet any good,' he said.

'Sitting in public transport can be very painful. They've got kneeling buses, but the bus drivers say they don't always go low enough for my needs. We are lucky in that the community raised enough money to buy a community minibus to get people to appointments, but that only works if I'm the only one who needs to get to a certain place at a certain time. It's very hard to work out a situation that would work for everybody. Either they're knackered or I'm knackered.'

'I can manage, but it's going to be a struggle,' he said. 'I have started an appeal, but that could take months. I hope it works, I have to try.'

The DWP is offering Mr Fletcher, as it does others leaving the Motability Scheme, 'a one off £2,000 transitional support package'. But to receive the package he must return his car to the dealer on or before May 31, even if he has lodged an appeal.

Mr Fletcher added that he was keen to raise awareness about the DWP changes so others are not caught out.



KT Tunstall wowed the audience at Oban Live on Saturday, where she was headlining, having flown in from Los Angeles to perform in front of the large crowd at Mossfield Stadium in Oban. The singer had earlier taken time out to meet with fans and shared a joke with *Oban Times* staff while posing for a 'selfie'. For full coverage of the Oban Live event, including four pages of photographs, turn to page 12. Photograph: Alan Kinghorn

TIMESLINE

Public meeting to discuss Ganavan

FOLLOWING representation from the community about Argyll and Bute Council's plans for land at Ganavan, Oban Community Council will be hosting a special public meeting on Monday (May 23) from 6pm to 7pm in the Phoenix Cinema, Oban.

There will be an opportunity for members of the public to voice any concerns they may have and the community council will then submit these comments to Argyll and Bute Council.

Isle of Eriska goes for gold

THE Isle of Eriska hotel is going for double gold at the Catering Scotland (CIS) Excellence Awards.

The luxury five-star, family-run private island has been shortlisted for both Independent hotel and independent restaurant of the year at this year's awards, which will take place in Glasgow on Thursday May 26.

Artists wanted for St Conan's project

ST CONAN'S Kirk has been chosen as one of the top 100 Scottish buildings of the 20th century.

The Friends of St Conan's Kirk are now calling on artists and Oban Art Society to help create a wonderful 'Paint your way around the Kirk' – offering an opportunity to contribute an interpretation of the Kirk's architecture and also display work.

To get involved contact Monica Smyth on 01631 562668.

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UCI MOUNTAIN BIKE WORLD CUP

PRESENTED BY SHIMANO

This year's multi award winning Fort William leg of the UCI Mountain Bike World Cup and BUFF@4X Pro Tour will be held over the first weekend of June (4th and 5th) and is billed to be the most exciting yet with new technical features and jumps being added to the 2.8km downhill course.

Recently named as the number one cycling event to attend in 2016 by Red Bull, and voted as UCI Best World Cup by teams, officials, riders and media a record-breaking nine times since 2002, the Fort William event is the third stage on the UCI World Cup downhill calendar.

More than 200 of the sports biggest stars, including 2015 World Champions, British rider Rachel Atherton, and France's Loic Bruni, will be competing on the slopes of Aonach Mor.

Alongside the competition, famous trials rider and YouTube record breaker Danny MacAskill, with his Drop and Roll Street Trials team, will be performing an range of impressive tricks and stunts which have won him his huge global fan base.

There will also be a variety of bike manufacturers, bike-wear brands and team sponsors stands in the World Cup Village, as well as plenty of food and drink stands offering the best of Scottish produce.

This year will be the last chance to see Steve Peat or 'Peaty' competing at the event.

Mike Jardine from Rare Management, the organiser of the event, said:

'We expect this year to be extra special as the mountain bike community

says goodbye to one of the true legends of the sport. The atmosphere will be electric.'

Since the UCI World Cup came to the Highlands 14 years ago, more than 250,000 fans have attended and the event has brought a welcome boost of £30m to the local Highland economy.

Paul Bush OBE, Visit Scotland's Director of Events, said: 'We have supported the UCI Mountain Bike World Cup for many years now and are looking forward to the 2016 event as much as ever.'

'The event is hugely important for the Highlands and for Scotland as a whole, and we are sure that mountain bike lovers in their thousands are already making travel arrangements for this exhilarating weekend of action'

Prices are the same as last year with tickets costing from £14 for adults and £8 for children aged between 6 and 17. Family packages are also available starting from £36.

Further information and ticket sales available at www.fortwilliam-worldcup.co.uk.



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Residents cause a stink over scheme for sewage disposal

SANDY NEIL
sneil@obantimes.co.uk

SCOTTISH Water's plans to pump sewage from Seil into a conservation area at Easdale Bay will contravene European law, island campaigners have claimed.

At Seil and Easdale's most recent community council meeting, The Seaview Residents group outside Ellenabeich accused Scottish Water (SW) of wasting £11 million of taxpayers' money on the 'badly designed and built' Clachan Seil Waste Water Treatment Works at Balvicar, installed in 2008 against the community's wishes.

The membrane plant, unable to separate run-off from heavy rain, has been causing an overflow of untreated human waste into Balvicar Bay.

Scotland's environmental regulator SEPA (Scottish Environment Protection Agency) has been reviewing 'the high frequency of spills from the combined sewer overflow'.

And SW has acknowledged the plant is 'currently not able to consistently treat all the waste water flowing into it', attributing it to 'membrane fouling, over-optimistic design filtration and freshwater ingress'.

The Seaview Residents group said Scottish Water's spillage data from 2012-14 'makes disturbing reading', citing 365 spillage events in 2014 alone, far above the 1.6 predicted each year.

Last year, according to SW's annual January report to SEPA, records ceased due to 'telemetry signal issues' from January 1 to August 8, after which the plant



There are fears that raw, untreated sewage will be flung ashore at Seaview Terrace every time there is stormy weather.

overflowed untreated sewage 41 per cent of the time.

'So by poor design or incompetence,' the group added, 'Scottish Water has succeeded concentrating raw sewage from 160-plus properties into the most significant shellfish growing area of Seil Sound.'

The Seaview Residents group is 'totally opposed' to SW's '£1.8 million' holistic solution to turn the Clachan/Balvicar plant into

“Waters of the shoreline around Easdale will be polluted”

a pumping station, and pipe raw sewage over the 50m high hill to a new septic tank at Seaview Terrace, then out into Easdale Bay, which is a Marine Protected Area and a Special Area of Conservation. More than 50 per cent of Seil's adult population signed a petition against the idea last year.

'As freshwater floats, with the prevailing winds, the waters of the shoreline around Easdale

will be polluted,' they wrote, quoting one resident who called it 'breathtaking in its ineptitude'.

Seaview resident Jean Ainslie argued untreated sewage would still spill into the bay, and be vaporised by storms, blowing it on to roads, gardens and fields where livestock feed. 'They are looking at the cheapest and nastiest solution,' she told *The Oban Times*.

At the last community council

meeting, Ms Ainslie, the group's spokesperson, argued a UV treatment plant would cause minimal disruption and remove the need to pump sewage over the hill. She added: 'We believe if Scottish Water pushes ahead with its original proposal to pump poorly-treated sewage into the Special Area of Conservation, it will be in breach of European directives and it may be necessary to take a complaint to Europe to stop this.'

Scottish Water said it is studying alternatives. When asked what and where its other options were, and when investigations would begin, it responded: 'We are currently developing a project to meet European directive requirements for waste water treatment at Seaview Terrace.'

'At the same time, we are looking at options to address performance issues at the current treatment works at Balvicar, with a focus to ensure we deliver compliant and sustainable waste water services for customers on Seil. This project remains at a relatively early stage and we are currently carrying out investigation work.'

SW also invited community councillors and Argyll and Bute councillors to join a stakeholder group, chaired by Michael Russell MSP, with 'an independent expert', who those at the meeting discussed appointing themselves. But SW responded: 'We will be appointing an external independent expert to help guide thinking and provide additional reassurance as part of this stakeholder group.'

A community information event will also be announced soon.

Motorists are driven to distraction by bad road

DRIVERS in Oban have raised concerns about the state of the road surface and traffic flow at the junction of Soroba Road and Lynn Road.

The Oban Times has received a number of complaints.

One driver, who asked not to be named, said: 'While the potholes the length of Soroba Road are becoming a serious issue, particularly at the junction with the high school, my main issue is that the road is always congested.'

'At morning rush hour, I have seen cars at a virtual standstill all the way back to the waterworks as you head out of Oban towards Kilmore.'

'Other than the traffic lights at the high school junction, there seems to be no apparent reason for this.'

'The traffic lights at the junction often seem to be out of sequence, so maybe that is the cause.'

'There has been talk in the town that what is needed there is a roundabout, which would no doubt help the traffic flow in the area.'

After contacting Argyll and Bute Council about the concerns, a spokesperson told *The Oban Times*: 'We are aware that this [congestion] is a matter of concern and are looking at adjusting the sequence of the lights to optimise the flow of traffic while at the same time maintaining pedestrian safety.'

'There are no current plans for a roundabout.'

'The roads are maintained on a regular basis but if people have any particular concerns they should get in touch with the council.'

To contact the council about a roads issue, visit www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/transport-and-streets or call 01546 605514.

Bike run could be one in a million

OBAN is the starting point tomorrow (Friday) for a £1 million fundraising quest, as a group of cyclists embark on a 260-mile, three-day coast to coast challenge for four Scottish charities.

More than 90 current and former employees of BP are saddling up to raise money for MND Scotland, mental health charity Support in Mind Scotland children's charity Charlie House and family support charity Home-Start Aberdeen.

In its seven previous years, the coast to coast event has raised more than £837,000, which includes matched funding from BP, and the group is hopeful that this year's efforts will propel the total into seven figures.

The cyclists will split into two groups, following a south route from Oban and a north route from Skye, with both finishing



The intrepid band of cyclists display the routes they're ready to roll across.

together in Aberdeen on Sunday. The Oban group will set off from outside the Lancaster Hotel between 8am and 9am.

'This is a particularly important year for the coast to coast

challenge,' said participant Jon Turnbull, who has been involved since day one. 'There is an extra buzz due to the £1 million target and the additional capacity to raise even

more for good causes.' Anyone who wishes to donate to this year's coast to coast fundraising effort can do so at: http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/team/c2c_8.



Nick and Nikki Horne show their awards along with staff Lorraine O'Hare and Rita Thomson.

Hotel is simply the best

A FAMILY-RUN hotel in Port Appin has received multiple accolades at a prestigious awards ceremony.

The Pierhouse Hotel was recognised in five categories at the Scottish Hotel Awards 2016, winning bar of the year and family hotel of the year for the Argyll and Lomond area.

People of Excellence Awards were given to the hotel's food and beverage manager Lorraine O'Hare, and bar manager Rita

Thomson. Pierhouse owners Nick and Nikki Horne were also crowned Scottish independent hoteliers of the year.

On receiving the prizes, Mr Horne said: 'Nikki and I are delighted to receive these awards and to see our team being recognised in this way.'

'It is an honour to be named Scottish independent hoteliers of the year - and it's a reflection of the passion and hard work of the whole team.'

Islanders praise new ferry service

THE ADDITION of an extra ferry on the Oban to Craignure service is revolutionising island life for local residents as well as visitors.

CalMac recently switched the *MV Coruisk* from the Mallaig to Armadale (Skye) route due to the expected increase in passenger numbers to Mull this summer following the introduction of the Road Equivalent Tariff (RET) last year.

Mull Councillor Alistair MacDougall welcomed the new ferry service for the island. He said: 'The addition of the *MV Coruisk* has made a huge difference to the island.'

'With the introduction of the RET making ferry travel much cheaper, we anticipated an increase in visitors and were delighted when it was confirmed there would be an extra ferry.'

Councillor MacDougall, who is Argyll and Bute Council's policy lead for transportation, added: 'Not only is it a wonderful resource for tourists to visit our beautiful island - providing a huge boost for local businesses, from cafés to outdoor sports companies and everyone in between - it's great for local people, meaning there are now sailings every daylight hour,

making Mull better connected to the mainland.'

'To accommodate this huge increase in visitor numbers, our piers and harbours team has made small improvements to Craignure pier, as well as putting measures in place to effectively manage traffic coming off the ferry, making for a smooth arrival to Mull.'

Councillor Mary-Jean Devon, who also lives on Mull, said: 'We are so pleased with this new service. It's providing such a boost to the island, bringing in people, supporting jobs and creating more for local people on the boat itself. 'From a children and fam-

ilies perspective, it's a real game-changer, making it so much easier for people to get on and off the island for medical appointments as well as for our children getting to and from Oban.'

'It's opening up even more opportunities for them to get involved in sports and recreation clubs or even do something as simple as go to the cinema.'

'With a ferry every hour, it takes the time pressure away.'

'Island connectivity is so important for the health and wellbeing of our community.'

'We're delighted and hope that the service continues long into the future.'

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Kinlochleven to host Enduro World Series qualifying event

Riders will be able to enjoy the very best of the Highlands in November

NO FUSS Events has announced that Kinlochleven will host the UK's only mountain bike Enduro World Series (EWS) 2017 qualifier event.

The event, which is to be held in November of this year, will be hosted by Fort William-based No Fuss Events.

The first two rounds of the 2016 EWS in Chile and Argentina gathered a huge amount of media attention; a very positive sign for Kinlochleven and for Scotland. No Fuss and POC Scottish Enduro Series have been working with the EWS for the past two years.

Lochaber is a mountain bike venue with a reputation for some of the finest mountain bike trails and challenging enduro stages, and Kinlochleven will be the perfect venue for what will be the UK's premier mountain bike enduro event in 2016.

Frazer Coupland, partner at No Fuss Events, said: 'We are delighted to be hosting this qualifier event.'

'We have no doubt that the trails and the stages

in Kinlochleven will deliver and riders will be able to enjoy the very best of the Highlands in November.'

Chris Ball, director of the Enduro World Series, said: 'As a Scotsman myself, it's an honour to be able to showcase the world-renowned big mountain backdrop with No Fuss Events in the iconic Kinlochleven.'

Extra attention

The recent announcement that the 2016 International Mountain Bike Conference – Innovation Edition - will be held in the Highlands in the days leading up to the EWS qualifier will bring extra attention to Lochaber.

Mr Coupland added: 'With the International Mountain Bike Conference and the EWS qualifier being staged in the Highlands in November the media spotlight will be firmly focused on Scotland's outdoors and active tourism industry.'

'We look forward to hosting riders, spectators and conference delegates to Kinlochleven for what will be a fantastic event showcasing the best enduro riding to be had in the UK.'



The trails at Kinlochleven have been picked to showcase riders' skills in the Enduro World Series.

Darren decides to hang up his boots

Football



Darren Quigg

A PROMOTION at work has meant that Fort William FC captain and club stalwart Darren Quigg has had to step down from his role as captain and as a player for the Lochaber side.

Fort manager Ally Ewen said: 'Darren has been a tremendous leader and has been fully committed during my time at the club and he leaves a big void in the team to be filled.'

'I'd personally like to thank Darren for all his efforts, he's been a pleasure to work with.'

'I fully accept work and family come first and I wish Darren all the best. The door is always open for him.'

The club's AGM will take place on Wednesday May 25 in the Social Club starting at 7pm.

Fort William are on the lookout for a physio to provide medical assistance at their home games next season. Phone 07803 049571 for more information.



Competitors in the annual charity Am-Am, at Fort William golf club.

Lochaber Rotary Club holds annual AmAm

LOCHABER Rotary Club will be hosting its 16th annual charity Am-Am golf tournament at the end of the month.

Held at Fort William's 18-hole golf club, the event will showcase some of Lochaber's fantastic scenery, with views of Ben Nevis from the course.

Talking about the tournament, which will take place on May 29, rotary president Terry Lee said: 'We are extremely grateful to our sponsors and to the golf club for allowing us to use their course for this annual competition. It is a major fund raiser for our charity programme and enables us to support numerous good causes in Lochaber.'

Over the last 15 years the tournament has raised

Golf

more than £50,000 for charities and good causes, with the help of a multitude of Lochaber sponsors and Scotland-wide participants.

Teams of four play for the annual Rotary Trophy, and there are generous prizes on offer both for teams and for individuals. As well as prizes for the first three places for visitors, ladies and gents, prizes are also awarded for yellow ball, nearest the pin at four holes, and longest drive in the men's event. Team entry forms, £40 per team, can be obtained at the golf club.

Tight at the top in welfare league

RESULTS from last week:

Caol Utd 3-0 Nevis Range (walk over)

Tekkerslovakia 5-4 Mallaig

FW U-17s 2-1 Ballachulish

Fixtures:

Wednesday May 18:

Tekkerslovakia v FW U-17s

Canal Park

Friday May 20:

Mallaig v Caol Utd

Mallaig

Monday May 23:

FW U-17s v Nevis Range

High School, JB Cup

Wednesday May 25:

Tekkerslovakia v Ballachulish

Canal Park, JB Cup

Welfare football

	P	Pts
Caol Utd	4	10
Mallaig	4	9
Tekkerslovakia	4	9
FW U-17s	4	4
Nevis Range	4	3
Ballachulish	4	0



From left, Alan Lawrie of Kinlochleven receives the MacKleaners shield from club president Bill Clark on winning the pairs bowling competition at the Railway Bowling Club Inverlochly with his pairs partner Allan MacDonald Fort William. Also in the picture are runners up Lyn Donald and Bobby Lawson. Photo: Anthony MacMillan Photography



John Mcleod was Fort William's top scorer last season. John is seen receiving his award from Fort assistant manager Kevin Munro.



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Stop Press: New pontoons recently installed by North West Marine at Kyle Lochboisdale for visiting yachts

TIDAL INFORMATION
Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday May 19, 2016** are listed below with differences for major ports listed on the right. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

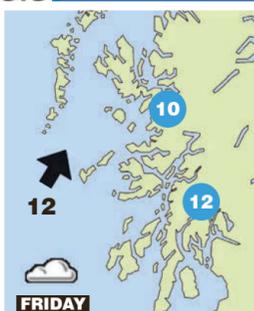
Date	am	pm			
Thur	04.03 3.4 10.48 1.2 16.31 3.5 22.39 1.2	Ardrishaig	-5.35	Mallaig	+0.25
Fri	04.40 3.6 11.17 1.1 17.06 3.7 23.15 1.1	Campbeltown	-5.30	Portree	+0.55
Sat	05.16 3.7 11.47 1.1 17.40 3.8 23.51 1.0	Crinan	-0.47	Tobermory	+0.16
Sun	05.51 3.7 12.18 1.0 18.13 3.8 **** **	Islay Port Ellen	2.00	Dover	+5.30
Mon	00.26 1.0 06.24 3.7 12.51 1.0 18.44 3.8	Lochboisdale	+0.30		
Tues	01.02 1.1 06.55 3.7 13.21 1.1 19.17 3.7				
Wed	01.37 1.1 07.27 3.6 13.51 1.2 19.51 3.6				

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)



WEATHER

Thursday	Heavy rain at times Winds moderate southerly Temperatures 8°C to 11°C.
Friday	Cloudy Winds moderate south westerly Temperatures 8°C to 12°C.
Weekend Outlook	Heavy rain showers on Saturday Heavy rain showers on Sunday Winds moderate south south easterly Temperatures 8°C to 13°C.



Ferry Crossings/Sea States

Oban to Barra/South Uist	Moderate
Oban to Coll/Tiree	Moderate
Kennacraig to Islay	Moderate