

# The Oban Times

## & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Established 1861 No 8097

Thursday 31 May, 2012

[www.obantimes.co.uk](http://www.obantimes.co.uk)

77 pence

### Oban Bay swimmer charged after being rescued

A STUDENT has been charged with culpable and reckless endangerment after attempting to swim to Kerrera from Oban's Esplanade.

Multiple 999 calls were made just after 10pm last Friday by witnesses who reported the man was struggling in the water.

The 27 year old was able to hold onto a vessel in the bay, before being transferred to Oban lifeboat.

Oban Police chief inspector Brian Auld said: 'As temperatures rise people are tempted to cool off in the water but it is colder than they expect, which has an impact on their ability to swim.'

### Arrest made after death in Dunoon

A 33-year-old man has been arrested in connection with the death of a man found in a house in Dunoon.

The body of Mark McGaughie, aged 33, was discovered at around 1am on Monday inside his house at Cowal Place.

A report will be sent to the Procurator Fiscal.

### Jura sudden death

A MAN attending the Jura Fell Race at the weekend suddenly died during the event.

The mountain rescue team on the island reported the 68-year-old man from Cheshire had collapsed and had stopped breathing at around 11am on Saturday.

He was flown out to the Southern General Hospital in Glasgow and pronounced dead around 1pm.

It is understood he was marshalling for the race.

### Wildlife Trust hosts last event at Achnacloch

THE Lorn and Mid-Argyll Wildlife Trust will hold its last event at Achnacloch Woodland Gardens near Connel this Saturday (June 2).

The Trust has held an event there for the past 27 years but this will be the final one following the death of estate owner, Mrs Jane Nelson, last year.



Lova Stahl, aged 6, and Lexi Sloan, aged 9, cool down from the heat of Oban's Esplanade with some delicious ice cream 15\_122sun02

## Daughter inspires 250-mile charity cycle ride from Oban Hospital scare sparks idea to raise funding

DADDY'S girl Lauren Gibson is hoping to be a good luck charm for her father after she inspired him to plan a 250-mile charity cycle.

The five-year-old Oban girl was diagnosed with Diabetes (type one) after being rushed to hospital by her parents Gordon and Isabel.

And Gordon, who works with Network Rail in Crianlarich, says the experience was so shocking, he organised a cycle from John O'Groats to Oban over three days in September to raise money for Diabetes UK.

His demanding training schedule for the event sees the railwayman leave his house in Morvern Hill at 4am to cycle to Creagan Bridge and back, before getting ready for work and driving an hour to Crianlarich to start his shift at 8.30am.

Gordon said: 'I have been trying to cycle at least 30 miles every day but closer to the time I will be doing longer runs.

'It sounds hypocritical but I only thought about doing this after it happened to one of my own. I could have done a charity cycle before now but when I saw Lauren in hospital and saw how upset she was, I had to do something.'

Lauren was taken to hospital in late February after her parents noticed she was feeling weak and was drinking a lot of water. After taking a blood sample and administering insulin, staff at Lorn and Islands Hospital transferred the youngster to the Royal Alexandra in Paisley, where she spent four nights.

'It was very nerve-wracking and very worrying,' said Gordon. We have had to change our routines and learn how to give injections but Lauren just takes it in her stride. She's been magnificent throughout the whole thing.'

Gordon is in the process of collecting sponsor money but pledges can also be made through his Facebook page.

## Alleged drink driver sleepwalked into car

AN OBAN Sheriff has accepted that a local fish and chip shop owner accused of drink-driving was sleepwalking when he got behind the wheel.

George MacDonald, aged 74, of Campster House, North Connel, admitted driving with twice the legal alcohol limit on August 14 last year.

At a 'special reasons hearing' on Monday in Oban Sheriff Court, MacDonald had his licence endorsed with nine penalty points and was fined £500.

The court heard MacDonald, who runs Oban Fish and Chip Shop, woke up in Pennyfair Cemetery car park at 4am, standing beside his car in his underpants and a shirt after he had driven from his home.

His wife, Lillian, had phoned the police after he got out of bed, left the house, and she heard the car reversing into the fence and drive off at speed. Police officers caught up with MacDonald after he had left the car park and had begun driving home.

MacDonald said in evidence: 'I had driven from my home, for what reason I have no idea. I had no idea where I was.'

Sheriff Richard McFarlane said: 'There is nothing sinister with regard to the sequence of events.'

'This is an extremely unusual case.'

# Heat wave

## West coast hotter than Mediterranean as temperatures soar

SUPPLIES of Oban ice cream hit an all-time low at the weekend as people made the most of a mini heat wave that swept across the country.

Soaring temperatures saw Scotland's west coast beating Spain's Madrid, Italy's Rome and Africa's Nairobi and matching Brazil's Rio de Janeiro in the temperature stakes on Monday, before Oban returned to more seasonal weather on Tuesday.

Alec MacKenzie from The Pokey Hat in Oban said that ice cream sales went through the roof as the temperature in the town reached the high twenties.

'We were close to running out on both Saturday and Sunday,' he told *The Oban Times*. 'We couldn't make the ice cream fast enough as we were selling it so quickly.'

Alec who makes all his own ice cream said he and his staff spent the entire weekend trying to keep up with demand.

'I just hope this isn't the summer,' he added. 'We could do with a few more months of weather like this.'

The highest temperature of the week was recorded in Kinlochewe, where the mercury hit 82.6F (28.1C).

In contrast, temperatures in Tenerife in the Canary Islands were 68F (20C) and in Athens, Greece, 73F (23C).

Local temperature records show that Tieve reached 21.5C on Sunday, Campbeltown 23.8C on Monday and Islay 25C on Sunday.

David Nicholson, visitor services advisor for VisitScotland in Oban said the sun had helped bring people to the town.



He said: 'There was a noticeable increase in visitors on Monday and we had heaps of people booking boat trips and excursions on the Waverley for the coming weeks.'

'There were plenty of foreign tourists out and about but the majority of people seemed to be British holidaymakers.'

'The sun has definitely kicked-started the summer and helped to boost tourism in the region.'

However according to the Met Office, Argyll will need to pull out the woolly jumpers from the cupboard once again, as temperatures are set to dive back down to barely double figures.

Met Office forecaster Ken McEwan said: 'While it will be fundamentally high pressure in charge, it will be a cold high, rather than a warm high that we had last week.'

'So certainly sunny skies again for the weekend, but with temperatures around the 12C-mark, with light winds over parts of the Highlands, there is the possibility of a touch of ground frost.'

'So, basically we have a couple of seasons within the space of a week.'

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Lauren Gibson gives her dad a big hug as he prepares for his 250-mile cycle over three days. 15\_122gibson01

**The Argyllshire Gathering**  
**OBAN HIGHLAND GAMES**  
Mossfield Park, Oban  
**Thursday 23rd August 2012**  
**March to Games Field leaves Station Square at 10.30am**  
**OBAN HIGH SCHOOL PIPE BAND**  
12noon from Station Square  
**Highland Dancing • Track & Field Events • Traditional Heavy Events • Piping**  
Juvenile Exhibition Shinty (starts 9.30)  
Tug O' War • Fun Races • Heritage Tent • Trade Stands

## Balvicar kayaker found dead

A KEEN sportsman and community stalwart was found dead in his kayak off Balvicar at the weekend, following a large-scale search.

Iain Fullarton, aged 65, from Balvicar, had gone kayaking last Friday but after he failed to return he was reported missing.

Emergency services, two helicopters and Oban lifeboat searched overnight and into the next day, by which time other local boats had joined in the search across a wider area. The search concluded at around lunchtime on Saturday after a small private helicopter reported spotting a kayak two miles west of Insh Island.

Mr Fullarton, who was a grandfather and married with three sons, was involved in many community groups and had most recently been treasurer of both Kilbrandon Church of Scotland and Isle of Seil Golf Club.

Seil and Easdale Community Council chairman Seumas Anderson described Mr Fullarton as 'a good community man, who was always willing to help out'.

Mr Anderson said: 'He was on the Seil Village Hall committee when we built the new hall and was an active member of the golf club. He was a regular at the summer ceilidhs and I recall he always added colour to the occasion with his kilt.'

'He was always there to support things in the area and was always there to help out. He was a good community man.'

**PIPING COMPETITIONS**  
Tuesday 21st August 2012  
Silver Medal  
Corran Halls  
Wednesday 22nd August 2012  
PIOBAlREACHD  
Gold Medal  
Corran Halls  
Silver Medal Final  
Corran Halls  
MacGregor Memorial Competition  
Regent Hotel  
Senior Piobaireachd  
Corran Halls  
**LIGHT MUSIC:**  
March, Strathspey & Reel  
(former winners) - Corran Halls

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The Oban Times

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

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Sick diver airlifted from Crinan

A DIVER was treated for decompression sickness after being rescued from Crinan on Sunday. The casualty was taken to Lorn and Islands Hospital by the Prestwick helicopter Rescue 177 and was subsequently transferred onto the hyperbaric chamber at Dunstaffnage for treatment.

Granite to enhance Oban waterway

A NOVEL project to clean up Oban's Black Lynn burn will not only see rubbish removed from the water way, but create a new habitat for fish. The joint project between Oban in Bloom, Oban BIDS and Oban Litterbusters will see 30 tonnes of granite from Glensanda quarry put in, with an equal quantity of litter and waste product removed from the burn. One of the organisers, Graham MacQueen, said: 'The stone can be very helpful for the fish to shelter behind and it will also make the Black Lynn look far more attractive.'

'For every tonne we put in the burn we'll remove a tonne of bricks, glass and metalwork etcetera. 'Hopefully, it'll leave the burn looking really good.'

Speeding drivers still being caught at Kilninver

AS POLICE continue to monitor drivers speeding through the village of Kilninver, six people were caught out on Thursday and Friday last week during two one-hour periods. Police officers monitored the speed of traffic between 11.30 and 12.30 on both days.

Carbofuran case deferred again

A FARM manager who admitted possession of an illegal and highly toxic pesticide had his sentence further deferred by Oban Sheriff Court last week. Tom McKellar, aged 50, of Fir Park Cottage, Auch Estate, Bridge of Orchy, pled guilty to possessing Carbofuran on July 17, 2009. But before sentencing defence agent Mr McKie said Mr McKellar was aware he had a blue granular substance but did not know it was Carbofuran - instead believing it to be another legal pesticide. He added: 'There would be no case to use Carbofuran as there was no rapor problem on the farm.'

The search for traces of the pesticide began when a golden eagle was found dead on the north facing slopes of Glen Udlaidh and tests showed Carbofuran to be present. But Sheriff Small said: 'There is no suggestion that he was complicit in poisoning these animals, I am dealing with this as a case of possession.'

Amid confusion over whether an accused person must have knowledge of an item to be legally in possession of it he added: 'I need to be addressed on the question of whether it is strict liability or not, I need to be persuaded it is a proper plea.'

Sheriff Douglas Small deferred sentencing until July 23 for legal matters to be settled.

Argyll urged to back bumblebees

ARGYLL residents are being urged to turn their gardens into bumblebee oases after numbers declined steeply due to agricultural changes destroying their natural habitat.

The Bees for Everyone campaign, funded through a £340,000 grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and run by the Bumblebee Conservation Trust (BBCT), aims to raise public awareness of the threats bumblebees face.

They want to inspire gardeners of all ages to get planting, and will provide opportunities for people to learn more about these hard-working pollinators.

Television presenter Kate Humble is urging the public to get involved. She said: 'Anyone can become involved and it doesn't matter where they live.'

Invasive weed leaves council caught in a knot

QUESTIONS are being asked over Argyll and Bute Council's policy regarding invasive weed growth on its land after an Oban businessman found Japanese Knotweed growing next to his property.

Gregor McKechnie, of Glenrigh Guest House on Oban's Corran Esplanade, found the invasive weed growing profusely

on council owned land adjacent to the hotel earlier this month. He reported it to the council, who had just cut the grass there, but no action was taken to remove the weed in the three weeks since.

Concerned that the Japanese Knotweed may spread onto his property and potentially cause damage, he again contacted the

council and was left frustrated at the response. He said: 'Three weeks ago the growth was quite small but it's quite a growth now and I contacted the council again to ask what they were going to do about it. 'They said they don't have the resources. 'I thought the idea was to eradicate the weed?'

'I think it's pretty damn disgraceful, there's plenty of pen-pushers at the council but when you need to get anything done they're short of manpower. If we all took the council's attitude, we'd be overrun with the weed. Something needs to be done.'

Japanese Knotweed is notoriously difficult to remove.

Spread by rhizomes, it can be treated with chemicals over a three year period or removed via a significant excavation. Some homeowners have reportedly been denied house insurance because the weed was growing on their land.

A spokesperson for Argyll and Bute Council said: 'The matter is being dealt with by

Argyll and Bute Council. 'The council's policy on treating Japanese Knotweed on its own land is very clear. The priority is to treat roadside sightlines so drivers can see where they are going. It is also the council's responsibility to take action to prevent the weed travelling to neighbouring properties.'



The hogshead of Oban Single Malt will be used to raise vital funds for Oban Lifeboat in their 40th anniversary year. 16\_t22hog01

Oban lifeboat raises a very special dram to 40th anniversary

TWO hundred bottles of a unique 18-year-old Oban malt whisky will be sold to raise thousands of pounds for Oban lifeboat, helping to save countless lives.

A hogshead of the special single malt from Oban Distillery was released last week to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the town's lifeboat service.

Casked in 1994 on the eve of the distillery's bicentenary celebrations, the manager decided the cask should be put aside to

celebrate four decades life-saving by the RNLI.

Ronnie McKillop, the coxswain of Oban Lifeboat said they were delighted with the finished barrel.

'It's absolutely fantastic - we've had a wee sample already,' he said.

'This is a very special whisky and we are hoping to be able to produce around 220 bottles depending on the final strength.'

Mr McKillop said that the potential to raise vital funds

for the lifeboat from the whisky were 'massive'.

He said: 'If we can sell these for around £100 each - and maybe more - then we could be looking at making around £25-30,000 for the Oban Lifeboat. 'By holding back bottles and sending them to auction just four times a year we can drip feed funds straight into the Oban lifeboat fund. It's superb.'

According to Ronnie Whitford, operations manager at Oban Distillery, this cask is one of the finest the distillery has produced. He said: 'For 18 years it has been maturing here in Oban and it is a spectacular whisky. We are delighted with how it tastes and think it could become a real collectors item.'

The lifeboat crew are hoping to have the cask bottled by September to allow the first bottles to go on sale later this year.

Those not sold to crewmembers will be auctioned in the coming years.

'Caravan tax' has had to be modified

THE Government has announced that it will modify plans to change VAT on static caravans, much to the relief of holiday park operators throughout Argyll.

It is a move that will cost the Treasury £70 million but the policy changes will mean static caravans will be charged VAT at a rate of only five per cent.

The Chancellor, George Osborne had originally intended to impose VAT of 20 per cent on static caravans, but will now scale it back and delay implementation from October to April next year.

The planned 'caravan tax' had been opposed by several MPs including Argyll and Bute's.

Alan Reid MP said: 'The Treasury's own impact assessment suggested that imposing VAT on static caravans would cut demand by 30 per cent.'

'That is a huge fall in demand for any business to cope with, never mind those already struggling because of the recession.'

Mr Reid said that the five per cent rate is being introduced to acknowledge the uncertain boundary between residential and non-residential caravans.

He added: 'Fewer caravan sales mean fewer owners, which obviously means fewer people visiting rural constituencies such as mine and spending their money in the rural economy.'

'People living in remote areas with fragile economies would have lost their jobs if this VAT measure had gone through and would have found it very difficult to get another job where they live.'

Secretary of State on Isle of Islay

THE Secretary of State for Scotland was in Islay on Monday as he began a week-long tour of the country.

Michael Moore MP visited the Islay Energy trust at their offices in Bowmore before travelling to Port Askaig to see the site of the new Scottish Power Renewables tidal energy project.

He then went to Craignis Farm where he was given a tour that included the oyster beds on the shores of Loch Gruinart.

Finally he went to Bowmore Distillery where he was given a tour of the facility.

Six arrested after Oban street brawl

SIX men were arrested for disorder following a fight in George Street, Oban, in the early hours of Sunday morning.

The incident happened just after 2am and officers in attendance had to draw their batons to restore order.

All six men were issued with fixed penalty notices.

Driver charged after overtake

A DRIVER who overtook another vehicle on the Bealach-an-Righ, Oban has been charged for driving without due care and attention.

The 26-year-old man allegedly overtook on a right-hand bend coming down the hill into Oban.

He is now subject of a report to the procurator fiscal.

NEWSDESK

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Above: Doug Anderson, right, collects the Best Factual Photography BAFTA with colleague John Aitchison, who hails from Tayvallich in Mid Argyll.



Left: Doug took this photograph of his family enjoying Coll's stunning white beaches during his stay there throughout May.

BAFTA award winner finds the Isle of Coll 'intoxicating'

HE HAS just won a BAFTA for his stunning camerawork on the BBC's Frozen Planet nature documentaries, but for Doug Anderson there's no place like Coll.

The award-winning cameraman prepared for this month's BAFTA ceremony - where he and Tayvallich colleague John Aitchison collected the team's award for factual cinematography - by spending a few weeks on the island with his family, having fallen in love with it during a previous filming trip.

While Doug's job takes him to some of the most remote and exhilarating locations in the world, he says Coll is completely unique.

He said: 'I first came across to Coll last summer for a couple of trips filming basking sharks for a BBC Scotland three-part wildlife series on the west coast, due for transmission in 2013. 'My team stayed with Inness and Caroline Henderson down in the Castle at Breachacha right in the heart of the RSPB reserve. We launched the boat every day on the sand right in front of the castle. 'Coll is intoxicating. A mix of amazing people and hospitality, incredible wildlife experiences on land and in the water, and a general feeling of health and well-being have got me hooked and I'm hooked. 'This year we organised to come up for a month to do some large format stills photography and instead of, like last summer, bringing a bunch of divers, I brought my wife Rosie and our three children.

'Right now I'm in the planning phase for a 3D underwater shoot in the Red Sea this summer. It is a sequence for a BBC enchanted film on Africa called Enchanted Kingdom. '3D could not be more different to 2D. For starters, the kit is huge. Our camera housing weighs close to 300 pounds and it's going to take two of us to push it around in the water. 'Everything about the technology and the act of filming is more complicated and slower but when the shots are done and projected up on the big screen the results are stunning. 'Honestly, I've not been as excited about anything for years. 'Regardless of that, he's already planning his next trip to Coll, which he says offers him the ideal chance to get away from the hustle and bustle of a busy work schedule. Doug said: 'There is something about Coll in the springtime that makes it difficult not to be at least in some way meditative. 'The corn crakes are already calling and soon the machir will be alive with flowers and birds, and the sea full of mackerel and sharks. It feels like a landscape about to explode with life unfettered by the usual sapping influences of 21st century life. 'Being here just now, one can't help feel the potential in my and my family's own lives. I'm really going to make an effort to get them back in late summer. 'It's just a few short weeks but the change in the land and the sea is something I would love to experience.'

Step Aboard Paddle Steamer Waverley for a Great Day Out!

Advertisement for Waverley steamers with sailing schedule from Oban North Pier and Tobermory. Includes dates like Saturday June 2, Sunday June 3, Tuesday June 5, Saturday June 9, Sunday June 10, Monday June 11 and details of routes and prices.

Book at local Tourist Information Centres or call 0845 130 4647 Book Online www.waverleyexcursions.co.uk



Councillor Roddy McCuish and children from Dalmally Primary School mark the building of eight new homes by planting a commemorative tree. 16.122d01

## First sod cut for Dalmally housing

WORK on the first affordable housing scheme in the village of Dalmally for a generation officially began on Tuesday when Councillor Roddy McCuish cut the first sod.

The development being built by Argyll Community Housing Association (ACHA) will provide eight new homes in Scott Terrace, on a site next to Dalmally Primary School.

In his first public appointment since becoming leader of the council earlier this month, Councillor McCuish said there was a feeling of confidence in the Dalmally community.

'These will be the first affordable houses built in Dalmally since 1980 so they are long overdue,' said Mr McCuish. 'There is a real sense of optimism in this community now and I hope it will continue for many years to come.'

Alastair MacGregor, ACHA's chief executive said: 'We are absolutely delighted to be building eight new homes in Dalmally.'

'This will ultimately support the local school with families with children and it shows the importance of affordable housing in our rural villages throughout Argyll.'

Continuing concerns about the lack of affordable housing in the region were raised this week by Highlands and Islands MSP Jamie McGrigor who welcomed the new houses at Dalmally.

He said: 'Housing associations like ACHA are doing a good job with limited resources and deserve our support. However, the lack of affordable houses in our rural and island communities is placing real strain on too many families and is holding back economic growth.'

## Man who wrote to boy appears in Oban Sheriff Court

A MAN has appeared at Oban Sheriff Court accused of sending written communication of a sexual nature to a boy under the age of 16.

Jamie Patel, aged 30, of 109 East Way, Eastfield, Scarborough, appeared from custody last Friday and pled not guilty to sending sexual written communication to the boy between May 14 and 23 this year. A trial diet has been set for July 10, with an intermediate diet on June 26.

An application for bail was granted.

## Lochgilhead windfarm shortlisted for major award

A WIND farm which will generate millions of pounds to benefit a local community has been shortlisted for a major award.

The £17 million AlltDearg Community Wind Farm near Lochgilhead has been nominated in the Community Project category of the Energy Awards organised by Renewable UK.

James Lithgow of Ormsary, who together with the neighbouring Stronachullin Estate owns the site and formed the AlltDearg Wind Farmers partnership to develop the scheme said: 'There has been a huge amount of hard work from everyone to develop this community project without any public sector support so we're delighted it has been shortlisted for these awards.'

## Lifeboat assists stranded yacht

OBAN lifeboat, which had one of its busiest weekends for some time, was called out on Saturday to assist a yacht that had been stranded.

The Moody 376 *Camelin II* had battery failure at around 4.50pm around the Creag Islands.

The yacht was quickly helped by the yacht *Lara*, which got it under tow, and the lifeboat took over on arrival, taking the *Camelin II* in to Dunstaffnage.

## 'Hero' saves youngster being swept out to sea

AN OBAN teenager, who took a half-day off work to enjoy the sunshine, ended up a hero after rescuing a five-year-old boy from being swept out to sea on a Lilo.

In sea conditions described as 'a recipe for disaster', with a strong offshore breeze and out-going tide, the inflatable had drifted 200 metres out to sea from the shore at Ganavan Sands last Friday.

As worried onlookers phoned the coastguard, Fortcath's storeman Danny McMaster, 19, who had clocked off from work early to enjoy the sunshine at Ganavan, swam out to try and save young Oban boy John Scott.

'I couldn't see how anyone else could get out to him quickly enough,' said Danny, 'so I just went for it. I didn't think about what I had done until I was halfway out. From the beach

he looked a lot closer but was probably drifting out as I was swimming towards him.'

As Danny reached John, Ganavan resident Alistair Hally, 54, who lives in one of the newly-built houses at Ganavan Sands, set out in his tender to retrieve them. A keen sailor, Alistair described the conditions as 'a recipe for disaster' and remarked on Danny's bravery.

Danny added: 'When I got to John my arms felt tired, so I was glad to see the boat. I just started talking to him about who he was and where he went to school to keep his mind off the cold. I had started to pull him back in but we were making slow progress.'

John's mother, Kelly MacCracken, 30, called Danny 'a hero' but the term doesn't sit comfortably with the teenager.

'There are lots of other people who could do what I did. I'm just glad I took a half-day off work.'

Oban coastguard station officer Iain MacKinnon said: 'If you use these inflatables they must be tied to the shore, so the child can be pulled back in at any point. It is often the case that when someone does swim out to help it is the rescuer who ends up in difficulty.'



'Hero' Danny MacMaster

## Drill trailer stolen from near Taynuilt

POLICE have begun hunting thieves who took around £15,000 worth of drilling equipment and a trailer from Muckairn House, Taynuilt.

The Ifor Williams twin-axle tipping trailer, registration SX06 EOG, contained a drill hammer, drill bits and water pipes, among other pieces of equipment used for drilling and digging wells.

It was stolen sometime between Thursday and Friday last week when thieves broke through a padlocked gate.

Oban Police chief inspector Brian Auld said: 'We are keen to hear from anyone who may have information regarding this theft. Did those responsible approach anyone at that time looking for scrap metal or did anyone see any suspicious vehicles going into remote locations?'

Oban Police can be contacted on 01631 510 500.

## Dialysis machine bid for hospital moves forward

THE DRIVE to get a dialysis machine into Lorn and Islands Hospital took a major step forward after campaigners last week met with health secretary Nicola Sturgeon.

At the meeting in Holyrood, organised by Argyll and Bute MSP Michael Russell and Oban North and Lorn councillor Louise Glen Lee, Taynuilt residents Cathy Reid and Florence Anderson spoke about the high demand for dialysis services in the area.

Cathy had already persuaded Mr Russell and councillor Glen Lee to take up her case.

Councillor Glen Lee said: 'Nicola Sturgeon said she was supportive of a dialysis machine and although she cannot force NHS Highland to put one in Oban, she suggested Oban would be a good candidate to get a 'satellite' unit

'The need for a machine in Lorn and Islands Hospital is a pressing one, to meet the needs of many dialysis patients.'

'I can't see a way forward without getting a satellite unit into the hospital.'

## Impatient patient stole medicine from Oban hospital

AN IMPATIENT patient at Oban's Lorn and Islands Hospital stole medical equipment after waiting for three hours to be treated.

Claire Morrison, aged 22, of 7E Miller Road, Oban, pled guilty at Oban Sheriff Court on Monday to stealing a quantity of injection suspension fluid, two needles, an airway and a fibre-glass cast tape from the hospital the previous day.

The court heard Morrison had gone to hospital with her boyfriend after he was assaulted but was seen on CCTV leaving with the items.

Prosecutor fiscal Eoin McGinty described the theft as 'bizarre', as the items had no value.

Sheriff Richard McFarlane fined Morrison £130.



St Columba's pupils Eve Beaton, Callum Shaw and Kieron Hopkin will be cooking for the Queen later this month. 16.122c01

## Banquet fit for the Queen

FIGS with Argyll ham and Isle of Mull blue cheese, lavender shortbread with cream and blueberries; just some of the delights on the menu for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee thanks to an Oban primary school.

The recipes were created by the pupils at St Columba's in response to a challenge from the Duchess of Cornwall to create a modern menu for the Queen.

More than 200 schools sent in entries and the four winners were chosen by Mark Flanagan, the royal chef.

He looked both at the recipes the children created and the amount of research they had

done into local produce and its royal connections.

St Columba's primary seven pupils were the only Scottish school to win and are going to Buckingham Palace to help prepare and serve the food on the June 15.

Head teacher Sarah-Jane MacSween said that to be the only school in Scotland to win the competition was an 'immense achievement'.

'I'm incredibly proud of all the children as this is a very prestigious competition to win,' she told *The Oban Times*.

'It's very special for the children to be involved in the

Jubilee celebrations and hopefully in many years to come they will look back and remember it as an exciting and worthwhile experience.'

The Duchess of Cornwall came up with the idea to ask schoolchildren to create a modern equivalent of coronation chicken, a dish invented almost 60 years ago for the Queen's Coronation banquet.

The challenge was to create dishes based on food produced in their part of the country so St Columba's used locally caught seafood as well as other ingredients from Argyll.

Commenting on the quality

of the entries, Alexia Robinson, organiser of the competition, said: 'We are hugely impressed by the very high standard of the menus that schools have created for Her Majesty.'

'Professional chefs across the country wanting to offer Diamond Jubilee menus in their pubs, hotels and restaurants could draw inspiration from what the children have come up with.'

'Everyone involved is looking forward to seeing the children's menus prepared for The Queen and it is great that the children are coming to Buckingham Palace to help.'

## Drink driver caught twice in one day

A CONSTRUCTION worker has pled guilty in court after police officers caught him drink driving twice in the same day.

Sunny Kumar, who is working in the area, but lives in Barking, Essex, pled guilty to two complaints of drink driving just hours apart in Oban.

Police noticed Kumar's van being driven slowly on the Corran

Esplanade in the early hours of Sunday morning and charged him after he gave a breathalyser reading of 76 microgrammes in 100 millilitres of breath.

The legal limit is 35 microgrammes.

Returned to van  
The 25 year old was released in an undertaking to appear at court at 3.50am but returned to his van

and was seen by police driving it in the Corran Halls car park and was arrested.

Defence solicitor Laura Russell said her client was moving his car into a parking bay at the Corran Halls and thought he would be allowed to do so.

Sentence was deferred until June 14 for Kumar to produce his driving licence.

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New Disney film *Brave* has placed Oban below the Scottish border

## Brave map re-draws Scottish border line

DISNEY might be releasing a new animated film *Brave* based in Scotland but it seems they don't know much about the country if the above map is anything to go by.

The film company published an advertising video promoting the film on YouTube but bosses appear to have depicted the Scottish/English border as starting near Oban and finishing in Edinburgh.

Fife is also depicted as being separate from the rest of Scotland.

And rather than label England as independent of Scotland, Disney bosses have decided to brand it as the United Kingdom, a term which encompasses both Scotland and England as well as Wales and Northern Ireland.

**DUART CASTLE**  
ISLE OF MULL

**What's on June 2012**

- The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Beacons  
Monday 4th June - 10pm. FREE
- Duart's Pipers & Highland Dancing Day \*  
Sun 10th June - 2pm to 5pm
- Mull Gaelic Choir \*  
Sat 16th June - From 2pm
- Frasers Dragoones  
Sun 24th June - 11am to 3pm. FREE

\*Free with admission

The castle will be closed to the public Saturday 23rd June for the centenary Maclean Gathering. For tickets to the Clan Gathering and for more information please visit [www.macleangathering.org](http://www.macleangathering.org)

Tel: 01680 812 309  
Web: [www.duartcastle.com](http://www.duartcastle.com)  
Email: [guide@duartcastle.com](mailto:guide@duartcastle.com)

**WIN TICKETS to 2 PAIRS TO GIVEAWAY**  
**Belladrum Festival**  
3rd & 4th August 2012

**tartan heart belladrum festival**

Belladrum Tartan Heart Festival, also known as Bella, is simply the friendliest, wackiest, most inclusive festival in Scotland that attracts 15,000 people over two days. This year, Scots indie stars Travis and Liverpool band The Wombats will headline the 9th year of Bella. As well as music, the Beaulieu based festival offers the very best in debate, comedy, literature, drama, theatre, burlesque, green crafts, mind and body treatments, children's entertainment and a ceilidh on August 2. For the full line up visit [www.tartanheartfestival.co.uk](http://www.tartanheartfestival.co.uk).

**The Oban Times is giving two lucky readers the chance to win a pair of weekend tickets with camping to this year's Belladrum Tartan Heart Festival. Each ticket is worth £95.**

To enter, simply collect two tokens - here is token one. Token two will be printed next week, June 7. Full details on how to send in your tokens in next week's Oban Times.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS: The prize is as stated. No cash alternative. The Editor's decision is final. Photocopied entries will not be accepted. One entry per purchased copy. The winner may be asked to take part in publicity and may appear in a Wyvex Media publication and website. This competition is not open to Wyvex Media and associated company employees and their families. This competition is open to readers of other Wyvex Media publications.

Search on for young writers

INNOVATIVE school pupils on the west coast are being invited to produce two pages of content for ScottishPower's 'Green' magazine to win £500 to spend on a school environmental project.

Dare to Dance for school funds

AROUND 130 children and 25 members of staff from Oban Primary Campus will be participating in a dance show to raise money for school funds.

Nevis Centre searches for new play area name

THE NEVIS Centre in Fort William is still taking last minute entries for a competition to find a name for its new play area.

All P7 children in Lochaber are being asked to suggest the ideal title for the centre's latest attraction, which will be open in time for the summer holidays.

Mark MacLennan, Nevis Centre nursery and soft play manager, said the best entry would earn the winner's P7 class two hours free play in the new area.

Lifeboat helps ill cruise passenger

OBAN lifeboat Mora Edith Macdonald was launched in the early hours of the morning last Tuesday in response to a call from the cruise ship Hebridean Princess.

Islanders dismayed as mobile bookshop comes to a halt

THE ONLY commercial travelling bookshop servicing Argyll's rural areas and the isles has completed its last run after nearly 10 years.

Waterstones on Wheels - understood to be the only service of its kind operating in Scotland - has been withdrawn from service after the company ruled it had become uneconomical to

continue to provide the service. Started by the staff of the shop when it was still Ottakers in 2003, the bus was well received across the isles, giving islanders a chance to browse books rather than simply read descriptions on the internet.

It was a popular service, particularly with schools, and the decision has been greeted with dismay. A regular user of the shop on Lismore told The Oban Times: 'We used to book Waterstones to come over here so we could browse the books. Everyone here used it.'

'They have supplied this service to people who can't get to a bookshop. I know the staff are very, very disappointed about this and so are we.'

Obviously, costs funding it is one aspect. What sales would be is another. 'It's something the shop's staff started themselves. They had the idea and funded it themselves from their own budget.'

change of hours at the store, or greater impact from internet sales. 'Internet sales have always been a factor - since before the bus was used. It wasn't about that though, it was much more about providing a different experience. However, we are simply no longer able to provide the service.'



Lochaber Speciality Food Producers are gifting finest West Highland fare to the Dalai Lama.

West Highland fare for Dalai Lama

THE DALAI Lama is to be presented with a bumper hamper of West Highland fare when he comes to Inverness next month.

Producers' selection box will include haggis and black pudding, kippers, smoked salmon and venison, Highland oatcakes and shortbread.

Dalai Lama is a world recognised figure and we in Lochaber would like to mark the occasion with something 'simply Scottish'.

keeping alive our tradition of hospitality. So, in the same way that we acknowledged the Pope's visit to Scotland in 2010, we are presenting this hamper to the Dalai Lama.

Royal Mail to alter 'look' of letters to counter competition

LETTERS dropping through your letterbox could soon look a bit different - with a 'delivered by Royal Mail' mark to be stamped on them.

confusion following the influx of other mail carriers to the industry. They also want to recognise the effort put in by postal workers.

to 29 million addresses, six days a week is a major task. The new mark ensures that postmen and women get recognition for the vital task they complete every working day.

we want customers to be aware of the difference. It is important we avoid customer confusion in the UK's competitive postal market, where many items are handled by providers other than Royal Mail.

Developers deny Dunbeg 'ignored' claim

Concerns over new building

THE DEVELOPERS of the new European Marine Science Park (EMSP) in Dunbeg have denied accusations by the local community council they ignored the local community.

Concerns over new building tory consultation requirements we have consulted the Dunbeg community on a number of occasions throughout the process.

'Appalled' 'Dunbeg Community Council is appalled by the new design and by the lack of consultation,' he said. 'It is difficult to imagine how this Nissen hut, or perhaps more appropriately, aircraft hanger can possibly be landscaped. We understand the new plans were first shown at Atlantis Leisure with no-one from the village being informed.'

'Sensitive landscaping will indeed be a feature of the science park and, following local consultation, a barbecue and leisure area, a wildflower area and a new footpath to the beach have been included.'

Police appeal after South Uist theft

New school site targeted

WESTERN Isles police are appealing for information about a sneak-in theft at the construction site of the new Daliburgh Primary School on South Uist.

PC Adrian Kay of Benbecula police said: 'Most of these tools belonged to self-employed tradesman, who had bought them out of their own pockets. They depended on these for a living and this theft has hit them all financially.'

'We urge the public to come forward with any information they may have, either about the night in question, or about anybody selling used tools locally.'

Anyone with any information should contact Balivanich Police Station on 01870 602374. Alternatively, Crimestoppers can be contacted confidentially on 0800 555111 or online at crimestoppers-uk.org.

A large advertisement for a corkboard featuring various local business cards. The cards include: 'HERE'S MY CARD', 'Oban-Blinds', 'FRANK'S AUTOPARTS OBAN', 'WEST COAST BUILDERS', 'Graham Scott, Dip FA INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL ADVISOR', 'DM HALL chartered surveyors', 'Home Reports by DM Hall', 'PMG SERVICES TRUCK & PLANT MAINTENANCE', 'R A Clement Associates Chartered Accountants & Business Advisors', 'Calum MacLeod BUILDING CONTRACTOR LTD', 'KILMELFORD YACHT HAVEN', 'Carpet Services OBAN', 'Tree Services', 'interior furnishings', and 'CRAIG MACDONALD Domestic Appliance Repairs, Spares and Sales'.

# Lucky ticket winners ready for Rockness

THE LUCKY pair to win tickets to Rockness have been revealed as Mary Cattaneach of Kinlochleven and Anne MacGillivray of Spean Bridge.

They each get a pair of weekend camping tickets for the festival, each worth £159. Biffy Clyro, Mumford and Sons and Ed Sheeran will headline the festival, which will be held on June 8-10.

Mary said this was the first time she had ever won a competi-

tion, and was 'delighted' with her prize.

She said: 'This is the first competition I've ever won in my life. I like Mumford and Sons, so I'm very keen to see them.'

Mary will be taking her 18-year-old son Robert with her to the festival.

However Anne told *The Oban Times* she had won four competitions in the past four years, including an *Oban Times* competition for tickets to last

year's Trials World Championship.

She said: 'My daughters really want to see Mumford and Sons, and I've already won tickets for the mountain bike world cup so I'm letting them go.'

The pair won the competition by collecting two tokens from *The Oban Times* and correctly answering the question 'At which famous loch does Rockness take place?', the answer being Loch Ness.



Winners Mary and Anne, with Anne's daughters Michelle and Lucy. 20\_122comp01

# Awards for Oban patisserie, Barcaldine guesthouse and Scottish orienteering event



Heinz Bossard with his prizewinning cakes and pastries.

A FIVE-Star Barcaldine-based guesthouse and the Scottish Six Day Orienteering Event are celebrating after having reached the national final of the Scottish Thistle Awards following the regional final in Glasgow last week.

Organised by VisitScotland and hosted by one of their directors, Riddell Graham, the new format of this year's awards recognises the exceptional efforts made by tourism busi-

nesses throughout Scotland.

David Adams McGilp, regional director of VisitScotland, said: 'This has been a wonderful occasion and, in particular, I would like to congratulate the Ardnorn B&B and Oban 2011 - Scottish 6 Day Orienteering Event which have made it through to the final of this year's Scottish Thistle Awards in November.'

'Argyll has a great deal to offer visitors in terms of the

CRAFT baker Bossard's Patisserie of Oban took two regional bronze awards at the recent Scottish Baker of the Year Awards.

**Strawberry tarts**

The baker won Highlands and Islands and Grampians regional bronze certificates for its strawberry tarts and morning rolls.

TV judge and artisan baker Paul Hollywood presented them with their awards at a glittering ceremony hosted by Scottish Bakers, the association that supports and promotes the interests of Scottish Bakers across the country.

'We are extremely pleased to

have been recognised as one of the best bakers in Scotland' said Sylvia Bossard.

**Team work**

'We put all our energies into making consistently good quality products and this has been recognised by the judges.'

'But we could not have come this far in the competition without our team and the customers who voted for us.'

The Scottish Baker of the Year Awards was devised by Scottish Bakers to raise awareness of the bakery industry in Scotland.

Overall Scottish Baker of the Year was won by Harry Gow Bakers from Inverness.



Paul Frost and Lynne Walker of the Scottish Six Day Orienteering Event, and Karen and Sean Webster of Ardnorn B&B were winners at the regional heat of the Scottish Thistle Awards which were presented by Riddell Graham of VisitScotland.

quality of things to see and do and the places to stay and this award helps attract more people to the area.'

Karen O'Byrne, who with husband Sean are owners of Ardnorn B&B, said she was delighted with the award.

'We're thrilled to have won this award because it is wonderful to have all our hard work recognised,' she said.

The Scottish Thistle Awards celebrate excellence across the

industry with special emphasis on quality and enhancing the overall visitor experience.

VisitScotland's Quality Assurance Scheme seeks to capitalise on this further and aims to position Scotland as one of the world's best visitor destinations.

The Scottish Thistle Awards celebrate excellence across the industry with special emphasis on quality and enhancing the overall visitor experience.

## Man pleads guilty to 'provoked' assault in Oban

A MAN has admitted an assault, claiming he had been provoked over a period of time by the complainant.

Kevin McLetchie, aged 24, of 13 Glenfoot Terrace, Miller Road, Oban, pled guilty to assaulting the man last Saturday in the common close at Miller Road by repeatedly punching him on the head and body.

**Comments**

Defence agent Stephen Macleod said the complainant had made comments about McLetchie's partner and had provoked his client into challenges to fight.

Mr Macleod said: 'That night he consumed a modest amount of alcohol and following further challenges from the complainant went beyond the limits of his ability to restrain himself.'

Sheriff Richard McFarlane deferred sentence until June 26 to obtain background reports.

The crown accepted a not guilty plea from McLetchie's co-accused, 30-year-old James Hendry, of Room 12, Ross House, Breadalbane Street, Oban.

## Author reveals the secrets of Argyll's seas for festival week

ARGYLL author and former journalist Marian Pallister used her storytelling skills to reveal the secrets of Argyll's seas to an enthralled audience at Waterstones in Oban.

**History**

Ms Pallister, a graduate in history and European culture, was speaking at the bookstore last Wednesday, when she gave her presentation on Secrets of the Sea, part of this year's Festival of the Sea.

The Kilmichael-Glassary resident told *The Oban Times*: 'We live on the edge of the sea and our history is tied up in it.'

'My presentation explains the importance of the things we find in the sea and how they have helped shape who we are and where we come from.'

**Books about Argyll**

Ms Pallister, who has been a full-time author for 10 years, has had seven books published, many of which are about Argyll.

She added: 'A number of my books are about Argyll and its social background and history. I like this kind of event be-



Marian Pallister with some of her published works at Waterstones bookstore in Oban. 15\_122marian01

cause I like to talk to people who may have read my books and are interested in this kind of thing. I can hopefully have a good chat with them'

A former Glasgow Herald journalist, Ms Pallister has worked in Africa and Bosnia and lectured at Napier University before becoming an author.

# £1 buys former airbase for community

## Campbeltown wins bid after four years

FOR just £1 the community of Campbeltown has this week acquired a former Royal Air Force base at Machrihanish in Kintyre.

This will not only benefit the Kintyre peninsula but also the wider area.

In the largest and most complicated community buyout seen to date, Machrihanish Airbase Community Company (MACC) finally secured the deal from the Ministry of Defence (MoD) after four years of continuous negotiations and painstaking effort.

The *Oban Times* was reassured this week the site has proved negative for radioactive activity - something that has been questioned time and again.

Environment minister Stewart Stevenson met with board members and directors of MACC for a tour of the base on Monday.

The site boasts more than 200 buildings, one of the Europe's longest runways, and 1,025 acres of land.

The buyout has been completed with support and financial assistance from the Scottish Government, Highlands and Islands Enterprise, Scottish Water and the MoD.

Mr Stevenson told *The Oban Times*, this would create potential for tourism and further industrial capabilities.

'This is a very different kind of buyout than we've been used to elsewhere in Scotland.'

*"This is a very different kind of buyout."*

**Environment minister Stewart Stevenson**

'With the capabilities of the base and the substantial investment made by the military over the years, there is the potential for the buyout company to bring in companies,' he said.

'This site offers such a variety of options that I know MACC is looking at and is talking to a range of people to create these opportunities.'

He said a survey was carried out which has given the all clear for important contaminants.

Chairman of MACC, Ian Wardrop, said the next steps were to fully inform the community of the plans for the future.

A public meeting will take place on June 14 to show the community what they have for their money.

'This will be something the community has for generations,' he explained. 'We will build on what we've got, and the money made will remain in the community.'

He said initially money which is made will be invested into the base, and thereafter profit will be fed back into the community.

### Lorn Lines

ALEX Milligan has become the president of Oban and Lorn Lions Club - for a second time.

At an event in the Great Western Hotel, Oban last Wednesday outgoing president, Jim Edge handed over the chain of office to Alex who will be president for the coming year.

Alex, who was the president of the club in 2002, thanked the club for their confidence in allowing him to take over the post once again and promised to carry on the good work that Lions Clubs do in their community and elsewhere around the world.

The club are always keen to recruit new members and an information point will be set-up at the Oban Lions Club

Alex Milligan, left, is handed the Oban and Lorn Lions Club chain of office by outgoing president Jim Edge.

The club are always keen to recruit new members and an information point will be set-up at the Oban Lions Club

AS PART of National Smile Month (May 20 - June 20), primary school pupils in the Oban area have been thinking about what makes them feel happy.

The children have been working alongside oral health improvement (OHI) staff throughout May and June to collect ideas and thoughts on what makes them smile. A display board showing their ideas can be seen in various locations throughout Argyll.

OHI staff Yvonne Sloss, Rhona Gillespie, Margaret Morrison and Alison Grattan ran a workshop at Rockfield Primary School, which covered PH testing of drinks, sugar labelling and various other topics.

The aim of the project was to encourage pupils to think about their own health and well-being, in light of current evidence that shows 25 per cent of adults don't brush twice a day.

The next National Smile Month event in Oban is being held at Atlantis Leisure on the June 19.



Pupils at Rockfield Primary School wear their smiles as part of National Smile Month.

A CONCERT this weekend could set the stage for a new chamber festival, organised by one of Lorn's most talented musical exports.

Andrew Dunlop, who hails from Connel, studied at the Eastman School of Music in the U.S. and the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester.

Now the 26 year old plans to get more people in the area involved in classical music by organising Lorn Live Chamber Festival in August and September.

Fundraising for the proposed festival will begin this Sunday at St John's Cathedral, when Andrew hosts, 'An Afternoon at the Opera', which will feature guest performances by four opera singers.

Park Primary School received a generous donation from Oban FM Cash for Kids that allowed the club to buy new shiny sticks, enabling every child the chance to play. Park Shinty Club is going from strength to strength this year. It has seen its numbers swell considerably and really appreciates Cash for Kids support.

Send your news and views from the Lorn and Oban area to Euan Paterson at *The Oban Times*  
 epaterson@obantimes.co.uk 01631 568000

### THE ROAD TO THE ISLES Agricultural Show

Livestock, Handicrafts, Baking and Floral Classes

Judging commences at 10.30am

Afternoon entertainment commences at 1pm

RIDERS OF THE STORM  
 EQUESTRIAN STUNT TEAM  
 Open Dog Show  
 Sheep Shearing Demonstrations (hand & machine)  
 Chain Saw Carving Display  
 Parade of Highland Cattle

Further information: Tel: 01687 450655

Saturday 9th June 2012 Camusdarach, Arisaig  
 (by kind permission of the Stuart Family)

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### Celebrating Voluntary Action in Argyll & Bute

Argyll Voluntary Action NHS Highland Argyll & Bute COUNCIL

Individual Volunteer of the Year	Join us at the Volunteer of the Year Awards 2012	Social Enterprise Volunteer
Voluntary Organisation of the Year	Council Chambers, Kilmory	Timebank Heroes
NHS Volunteer	Friday 8th June 2012. 10am - 3pm	Young Volunteer

All welcome to join this day of celebration! And some surprises!

Contact 01631 564839  
 Antonia@argyllvoluntaryaction.org.uk

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OT

Young mother's lucky escape as car is wrecked

A YOUNG mother of two from Fort William was taken to the town's Belford Hospital by ambulance after her car was wrecked in an accident on the A82 near Invergarry at 12.05am on Monday morning.

Local history society looks back at successful year

LOCHABER Local History Society will reflect on last year's successful series of talks and plan for next year's session at its meeting in the Alexandra Hotel next Thursday at 7.30pm.

First council meeting targets voting system

HIGHLAND councillors will get together in Inverness today (Thursday) for the first full council meeting since elections earlier this month - with changes to the current voting system top of the agenda.

NEWDESK 01631 568000



Heather's Walk: Margaret Simpson and Sarah Walker lead the procession from Kilmallie Hall towards the Caledonian Canal. 20.122walk01

Walkers step out and raise £5,000 for hospice

AROUND 90 people took part in the annual two-mile sponsored 'Heather's Walk' in searing heat in Corpach on Sunday, raising more than £5,000 in the process.



Lochaber Rugby Club awards night success

Lochaber Rugby Club held its annual awards night in the clubhouse at Banavie on Saturday night. Lochaber RFC president Alistair MacKinnon, second right, presents trophies to, left to right, most improved player Ally Donaldson, club person of the year Kenny Rigg, player of the year Donnie MacDonald and right, special award to Keith Garrick.

Master vows to sail to Fort William without pilot

A 17,000-tonne cruise liner is set to steam through the Corran Narrows on Loch Linnhe on Monday morning - without the aid of a pilot.

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

A welcome from Provost of Lochaber Allan Henderson and a piper also had to be ditched.

The 573-foot, seven-deck Ocean Countess is due to drop anchor off Fort William around 8.30am with 800 passengers - just nine days after her larger sister ship, the Marco Polo, scrapped its scheduled call at the port only hours before it was due.

The weather is looking reasonable and is the only thing that could stop it. Lochaber wards manager Dot Ferguson said arrangements for the arrival of a liner at Fort William would be again be made - the vessel is planned to be at anchor from 9am to 5pm - but had yet to receive confirmation of the visit.

According to Mr Bastow, the Marco Polo's Master judged the Corran Narrows too risky without expert assistance.

CMV said the decision was 'due to a non-availability of suitably qualified pilots to assist the Master through the Corran Narrows and into Upper Loch Linnhe'.

She said: 'It will be a repeat of what we had in place last Saturday. We would hope to get the provost on board to give a welcome to Lochaber and make a piper available to welcome passengers - but in the absence of times we don't know when they coming off.'

Two Campbelltown-based pilots had been approached, but they had only guided ships on the Forth at Rosyth and Leith.

The shock news wrecked local plans to roll out the red carpet - but CMV says the Ocean Countess call is still on. Speaking from the the liner's bridge as she prepared to leave Liverpool on Tuesday, CMV director Richard Bastow insisted that ship's Master Dimitris Ntaoutis, from Greece, was confident navigation should present no problems.

Dozens of Lochaber businesses including tour operators, shops and eateries were left counting the cost of the 22,000-tonne Marco Polo's no-show. Some, especially on Fort William High Street, had hired extra staff for the day in anticipation of extra customers.

And in a clear reference to the liner Costa Concordia's tragic sinking off Italy in January, he said: 'In the light of maritime events this year you can't be too careful if you are going to somewhere you are unfamiliar with.'

Residents shocked as man found dead in Glencoe village

GLENCOE residents were left in shock after a man was found dead in the village on Tuesday morning.

up from England. One local resident said: 'People are very sad about it - it's a terrible thing to happen.'

confirmed the body of a 63-year-old man was found at the humpback bridge in Glencoe at 10.35am.

The man, named locally as Dave Hammond, is believed to have lived in Glencoe for a number of years after moving

'There's a kind of hush over the village, something seems not quite right.'

There are no suspicious circumstances, police said. A report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.

Advertisement for Rembrand Timber Limited, celebrating 30 years in business. Features a list of products including sheet materials, soft and hardwood timber, doors, windows & stairs, log cabins, garden products, ironmongery/tools, and building materials. Contact information for Glenshellach Business Park is provided.

Large advertisement for Glengallan, featuring the headline 'Spotlight on Glengallan'. It describes the business as the epicentre of Oban, offering assistance with all aspects of steelwork, security grills, and furniture. It also mentions the popular Snackvan and the growing business community in the area.

Advertisement for Lorn Weld Welding & Fabrication Services. It shows images of steelwork and lists services such as welding and fabrication in all types of steelwork, stainless steel, and aluminium. Contact details for Lorn Weld are provided.

Advertisement for James Smith & Company (Connell) Ltd. It features the company logo and lists services including new builds, extensions, renovations, design and fit kitchens and bathrooms, plumbing, heating, and electrical work. Contact information for James Smith is provided.

Advertisement for the Snack Van at MacQueen's. It describes the snack van, lists menu items like hot filled rolls, home-made soup, venison burgers, and cheeseburgers. It also mentions the location and operating hours.

Advertisement for Dawson Energy and 3sun Group. It highlights the expertise behind servicing the world's energy industry, listing services like inspection, on-site testing, installation, and modifications. It also mentions a 3D visually based inspection system for wind turbines.

# Fifteen Argyll and Bute projects gain Big Lottery cash

MULL-BASED Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust is one of 15 projects in Argyll and Bute to share grants totalling more than £100,000 from the Big Lottery Fund.

The trust has been awarded £10,000 to provide educational trips for young people onboard their vessel *Silurian* as

well as a programme of school visits and outreach services. Other grants included £9,950 for MULL-based charity Brain Tumour Buddies, £9,800 for Rhinns of Islay Hall Committee and £8,934 for Islay and Jura Community Enterprise. Bowmore Harbour Improvements

Association was given £10,000 to buy equipment to dig out sand and silt from the harbour basin. Grants were also awarded to Islay High School, Coll Recycling Group, West Highland Housing Association and the Iona Community. Argyll and Bute's MSP, Michael

Russell has praised the 15 organisations across the region who have successfully been awarded funding. He said: 'The sense of community across Argyll and Bute is thriving. Congratulations are due to everyone involved in these successful bids and for the remarkable work they do. I have

written to all 15 successful organisations to congratulate them and wish them well. Although I have previously been in contact with almost all of them, I have reiterated my willingness to visit them all over the summer months to lend further support and to see first hand the fantastic work they do.'

## Islay school turns to biomass heat

ISLAY High School is on course to install a biomass boiler heating system in an effort to reduce its heating bill.

Argyll and Bute Council's new planning and licensing committee was due to meet yesterday (Wednesday) to decide on the school's planning application to install a biomass boiler, including plant room and woodchip store. The application is recommended for approval, subject to conditions.

The Bowmore-based school has also applied to erect security fencing, new retaining walls and pipework, alterations to access and the relocation of existing gates and fencing.

## Man arrested for obstructing medical staff

A MAN has been charged for two separate incidents of obstructing medical staff in Oban.

The 40-year-old was charged last Thursday for obstructing nursing staff at Lorn and Islands Hospital and then for obstructing ambulance staff on Saturday.

## Pet advice as hot weather attracts more fleas

OBAN'S Pets at Home store is offering free expert advice on keeping animals and homes free from fleas.

With warmer weather attracting more fleas, the store is inviting customers to come in for lessons that could benefit the health of their pet.

Store manager Cara Bald said: 'If you're concerned about fleas, come in to the store and speak to our advisors. Pet owners using spot-on treatments for the first time will find the sessions particularly useful.'

# Wild fires strike at west coast

## Firefighters warn public to take care in warm weather

A KILOMETRE of hillside at Glangallan on the south side of Oban was lit up in flames on Friday night after a hill fire swept across the woods and brushland.

Fire fighters responded to an initial call on Friday afternoon and the flames were quickly extinguished.

However strong winds reignited the flames at around 7pm and 18 firefighters worked through the night to extinguish the inferno near the water treatment plant.

It took 12 hours in total to put the fire out, as fire crews were forced to retreat in the early hours of Saturday morning due to poor visibility.

The incident prompted Strathclyde Fire and Rescue to warn members of the public to take care during the warm weather not to cause grass fires.

Dougie Black of Strathclyde Fire and Rescue in Oban said: 'It was really windy on the top of the hill and that made it difficult to tackle the flames.'

'When we were called out originally it didn't take long to put it out but the wind kicked-started it again because the moss was still smouldering under-

neath. A decision was taken at about 3.30am to stop because the fire was under control but we were back up there on Saturday morning and it wasn't finally out until 1pm.'

The cause of the fire is still unknown.

Meanwhile on the Isle of Colonsay fires swept across the hillside near to the cottages at Kiloran Bay on Friday afternoon.

The blaze began about 4pm on Friday and firefighters worked through the night and managed to extinguish the inferno on Saturday morning before it reached the properties.

Walter Williams, 81, who farms close to the site of the fire said the flames were 'sky high'. 'There were three houses close to the fire including mine,' he said.

'I would say that at one point the flames were no less than 50 yards from the house but we weren't too concerned.

'Thankfully nobody was hurt and no property was damaged. 'The worst damage has been caused to the poor birds. There will have been lots of them nesting on the hill.'



A grass and woodland fire rages throughout Friday evening and night above Oban's Glenshellach area. Fire crews tackled the blaze on several fronts. Photograph by Kevin McGlynn.



A grass and heather hill fire on the Isle of Colonsay threatened homes and property last Friday.

## Youth games at Oban get under starter's orders

AS OLYMPIC fever grips the country the region is preparing for the Secondary Youth Games that will be going ahead in style next week.

The event for 600 first and second year pupils throughout Argyll and Bute is being held in Oban Tuesday June 14.

Councillor Douglas Philand, spokesman for sport, said: 'Our Secondary Youth Games is an annual event designed to inspire our young people and encourage lifelong participation in sport.'

'This year's event promises to be extra special in celebration of the Olympic year.'

The games will begin with an opening ceremony at which the Glasgow Warriors rugby players will make a special appearance at 11am in Mossfield Stadium.

From noon, an array of sports events including athletics, football, golf, shinty, dance and hockey will provide entertainment and fitness throughout the afternoon at a number of venues in Oban.

## Previous records could be heard under law change

THE LAW could soon be changed to allow judges and juries to hear of an accused person's previous record.

The Scottish Law Commission suggests that present rules restricting the use of evidence that the accused has acted in a similar way on other occasions lacks 'both logic and coherence'.

They recommend that the law recognise that such evidence can be highly relevant to the question of guilt or innocence and should be admissible.

Lead Commissioner Patrick Layden QC said: 'Evidence of how the accused has acted on another occasion is relevant to whether he has acted in a similar way in relation to the offence with which he is charged.'

'It does not become irrelevant because he has been convicted on that other occasion. This report, if implemented, will ensure that the jury can consider all relevant information.'

## Mull Lines

MULL'S first Zumbathon - a challenging two-hour session - will take place in Tobermory next weekend.

The event will be held in the village's Ledaig car park on Sunday June 10, around the time cyclists participating in the annual Cyclosporive will be returning from their ride.

One of the organisers, Andrea MacPhail, said: 'It should be quite a spectacle, between the Zumba ladies and the men in shorts. It is open to anyone who wants to join in on the day.'

The Zumbathon, which takes place at 1pm, is being held in conjunction with the Moonwalk the night before and many people will be completing both events and raising money for Cancer Research UK.



Arlene with her award.

A MULL coffee shop owner was awarded a prize at last week's Moffat Travel and Tourism Awards at the Blythswood Hotel, Glasgow.

Arlene Robb, who opened Arlene's Coffee Shop in Craignure in June 2011, took home £1,500 after winning the economic and community impact award.

She said: 'I started the business when I saw a gap in the market and it has been really busy. I get a lot of support from the community and a lot of the locals are repeat customers.'

'I got a loan from PSYBT to get the business started. I want to thank them because I would have struggled without it. I'm pleased to have won, it is a great achievement.'

The awards, in their fifth year, are run by The Prince's Scottish Youth Business Trust (PSYBT) and supported by

The Moffat Charitable Trust.

Jamie Moffat said: 'We are delighted to be able to continue funding and recognising young people in Scotland who have a passion for business and who are striving to make a positive impact in their local communities.'



Heather Waller, head teacher of Ulva Ferry Primary School, receives the cheque at Craignure as the pupils set off.

SCHOOL pupils on Mull are heading off on an adventure thanks to a grant from Mull Environmentally Sensitive Solutions (MESS).

Primary six and seven pupils from Ulva Ferry School went on a Kingswood activity holiday after receiving £440 from Hazel Cowe, manager of MESS. Hazel said: 'We are delighted to be able to help the schools of Mull and Iona with their trip to Kingswood.'

MESS relies on donations of clothing via textile banks around the island, which are then sold through the Castaways Shops. Surpluses from sales in the shops are then donated back to the community. The closing date for applications for MESS funds is June 30 2012. For an application form or to volunteer in the shops, please contact Hazel Cowe on 01680 812902 or email hcowe@mict.co.uk.

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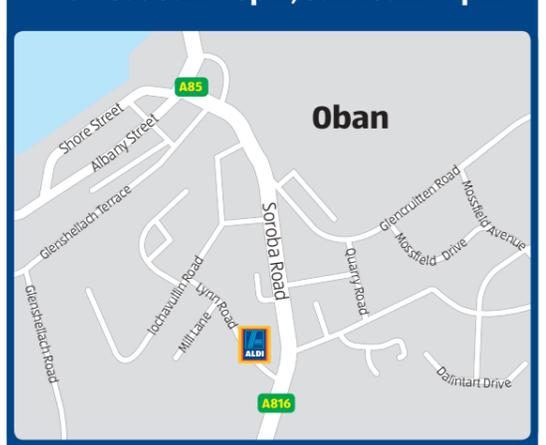
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# 2012 SCOTTISH HOTEL AWARDS

This year's Scottish Hotel Awards were presented at the 9th annual Awards Night Party held in the Grand Ballroom of the Thistle Glasgow on Sunday May 20 and once again the west coast's reputation for hospitality and high standards of excellent catering were recognised.

Established as 'the' big annual occasion for Scottish hoteliers and those in the hospitality industry, the Awards' motto is 'Encouraging, Recognising & Rewarding Excellence'... and much was in evidence this year.

The whole point of this comprehensive awards program is to actively encourage, guide and recognise the highest standards at each individual hotel; then consider the national, comparative picture to produce results helpful to both those within the industry and also the consumer.

'I wish The Scottish Hotel Awards every success and congratulate all winners', said Scotland's First Minister.



Creggans Inn



Glenisle Hotel and Bistro



Duisdale and Torvaig Hotels



Taychreggan Hotel



Glenfinnan House Hotel



Loch Melfort Hotel and Restaurant

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HOTEL | BISTRO  
Isle of Arran

**Island Hotel of the Year 2012**  
Gold Medal for Hospitality 2011 & 2012

Shore Road, Isle of Arran, KA27 8LY  
Tel: 01770 600559 enquiries@glenislehotel.com www.glenislehotel.com

This ancient, island inn is now an award-winning boutique hotel after a major refurbishment. Top London designer Adrienne Chinn used the colours of the island and worked with local crafts people to create a refreshing and relaxing ambience with true island character. Their hard work has been recognised by the Scottish Hotel Awards and the Glenisle has been awarded the prestigious Island Hotel of the Year award as well as a Gold Medal for Hospitality for the second year running. These awards celebrate more than just the beautiful rooms and public areas but also the friendly and attentive service which ensures that you leave feeling relaxed and refreshed. The Isle of Arran is truly a Scottish paradise and if you're heading there this summer or autumn do yourself a favour and stay at the Glenisle. The hotel truly captures the spirit of the island and is now officially recognised as one of the best island hotels in the country.

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Luxurious Romantic Taychreggan has the most stunning view's of Loch Awe. It enjoys an idyllic setting in 40 acres of woodland grounds. Licensed to offer religious and civil wedding ceremonies inside or out in the grounds. Professional service and excellent cuisine awaits you in our recently refurbished 18 bedroom drovers inn. Our Chef William Hay has gathered an abundance of knowledge working in some of the best restaurants and hotels in Britain. His love and passion for Scottish cooking, has drawn him to Taychreggan to utilize all the wonderful produce that's on our door step here in Argyll & Bute. He has keenly researched historical Scottish dishes rethought for to-days pallet using modern techniques. Visit Taychreggan for a taste of Scotland.

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Email: reception@lochmelfort.co.uk www.lochmelfort.co.uk

Loch Melfort Hotel was the proud winner of Small Country House Hotel of the Year 2012 at last week's Scottish Hotel awards. The owners, Calum and Rachel Ross, also picked up a prestigious Gold Medal for hospitality. Rachel said 'We are delighted to have won two awards and they reflect the hard work and dedication of all our staff. We are really lucky to have a fantastic team of local staff and a hotel that is situated with such stunning sea views. We pride ourselves on local sourcing and the wonderful local produce of the surrounding area has helped us to retain 2 AA Rosettes in Asknish Bay Restaurant for the last 11 years'. Last week Loch Melfort Hotel was also finalist at the Catering in Scotland's Independent Hotel of the Year Award and they have consistently won hotel awards every year since they bought the hotel 4 years ago.

*The Creggans Inn*

**2012 SCOTTISH INN OF THE YEAR AWARD**

The Creggans Inn was awarded the Inn of the Year award at the Scottish Hotel Awards.

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- Traditional Pub with Real Ales & Whisky
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*Glenfinnan House Hotel*  
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GLENFINNAN House Hotel won the Highland wedding award at the recent Scottish Hotel Awards. Glenfinnan House Hotel lies in the picturesque banks of Loch Shiel also took home a gold medal in the real and local food section from the ceremony, held in the Thistle Hotel, Glasgow. Located in some of the finest scenery the west Highlands has to offer, Glenfinnan House Hotel provides the perfect venue for romantic breaks, weddings, evening meals and bar lunches. The hotel - a fine stone mansion dating from 1755 offers a custom wedding service, with each ceremony individually tailored to suit the needs and desires of the client. The hotel can provide everything from wedding planning to flower arrangements, as well as award-winning food and hand made wedding cakes. Co-manager Duncan Gibson, who is also head chef at the hotel, said: 'We've won various awards in the past. It's recognition of all the people and the hard work they do, which is nice.'

*Duisdale House*  
HOTEL & RESTAURANT

*Torvaig House*  
HOTEL & RESTAURANT

**SCOTTISH HOTEL OF THE YEAR AWARDS 2012**

**DUISDALE & TORAVAIG HOTELS OF SLEAT, ISLE OF SKYE ARE DELIGHTED WINNERS OF:**

**CUSTOMER CARE AWARD:**  
INDIVIDUAL DAVID MACLENNAN

**SPECIAL WEDDING AWARD:**  
DUISDALE HOUSE HOTEL & SOLUS NA MARA

**HOSPITALITY GOLD MEDAL:**  
MORAG MACDONALD, TORAVAIG HOUSE HOTEL

01471 833 202 www.duisdale.com

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**KINLOCHLEVEN**

KINLOCHLEVEN Library will be among west Highland venues celebrating Bookbug Week from June 8 to 15. A special 'Active Bookbug' character, nicknamed *Fitbug*, has been created by children's author and illustrator Debi Gl-iori for the events programme, and a *Fitbug* session will be held at the library at 2.45pm on June 12.

Ardnarmurchan and Fort William libraries will also host *Fitbug* sessions at 11.15am on June 11 and at 1.30pm on June 13, respectively.

**LUING**

A LUING resident has raised hundreds of pounds for Macmillan Cancer Care by holding an afternoon tea in Cullipool Hall. Pam Shairp, along with friends and neighbours, raised £460 for the charity which campaigns for better cancer care for patients while supporting families.

Pam's previous causes have included Friends of Oban Hospice and the British Heart Foundation.



THE CONGREGATIONS of Kilbrandon and Kilchattan Church of Scotland on the islands of Seil and Luing have been supporting Christian Aid Week.

The groups have been contributing towards the book stall in St John's Cathedral in Oban and red Christian Aid envelopes have also been getting filled.

Jean and John Alexander of Cullipool also organised a family fun cheese and wine evening on Saturday May 12 in

the village hall. A small, but enthusiastic gathering of people from Luing and Seil led to an evening of friendship and fun, with a quiz and pass the parcel.

The total of £86 was raised for Christian Aid through donations on the night.

**ISLAY**

AS PART of the Fèis Ìle Music and Malt celebrations, Martine Nouet and Francois Bernier were due to host two 'Cooking With Whisky' classes in Islay High School kitchens.

On Tuesday their class and meal featured mussels steamed with Laphroaig whisky, while today (Thursday) Kilchoman Distillery will be showcased, as the chefs cook venison with their spirit.



DATES for this year's Isis skiff rowing races in Islay have been set: Sunday June 3 in Port Ellen; Sunday July 8; Sunday July 22; Sunday August 5; Sunday August 19; Sunday September 2.

Although times and locations are yet to be confirmed it is hoped that at least one race will take place within Loch Indaal this year.

For those new to the club, there are two rowing skiffs; Isis and Isis 2, crewed by four rowers and a helm. Races vary in distance from short sprints of 800m to longer races of over a mile, with the two boats usually racing side by side.

The boats are kept at the pontoons in Port Ellen, and they should be in the water in the next week or so.

Membership forms are available from Jack Glover email theboatyard@btconnect.com, Jamie McFarlane email maolbhuie@hotmail.co.uk or



**BANAVIE**

Banavie P6 pupils Laura Davie, Jaynie Ireland and Isla MacEachen enjoyed having their faces painted at the school's recent fun night, which raised £3,280.

Karen Siddall email karen\_siddall@hotmail.co.uk, or can be completed on the day of the race.

Also on boating topics, the recently launched 'Lily Bheag' at Portnahaven has been taken out in the bay at Portnahaven by local rowers and with smiles all round the new St Ayles Skiff looks set fair to be a successful addition to Islay's rowing boat fleet.

**SKYE**

THREE drama schools will be held this summer at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig (SMO), the Gaelic college on Skye, under a groundbreaking deal with the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland to jointly promote

Gaelic culture and art. A 'Drama Weekend Masterclass' will be held on June 9-10, 'Acting: Gaelic Drama' between July 30 and August 3 and 'Teaching acting through Gaelic' from August 6-10.

Actors and anyone interested in Gaelic drama will have the chance to improve acting and teaching skills under the guidance of four renowned professionals. Leading the courses will be RCS vice principal Professor Maggie Kinloch, actor Arthur Donald, director Liz Carruthers and Professor Jonathan Needlands.

Alasdair Mackay, short course manager at SMO, said: 'Drama was for many years an integral part of Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, with many of today's recognised actors working in Gaelic drama having spent time at the college either as students or tutors.'

**LISMORE**

LISMORE Primary School pupils have completed a detailed project on all aspects of the Olympics just in time to stage their own Olympic torch relay.

Youngsters in primary two, three and four coincided the event with the real Olympic torch arriving in Britain. They also planted Olympic capsules which will be opened in four years time.

Once the run was complete, the pupils received medals, certificates and ice cream from classroom assistant and project organiser Hazel MacCormick.



THE FESTIVAL of Museums took place from May 18 to 20 with events nationwide including two in Lismore

Heritage Centre. Lorraine King organised a night at the museum for children on the Saturday, when youngsters explored by torchlight and listened to stories by Barbara McDougall.

Sunday saw a knit and natter session in the café. Eighteen people attended with food provided by Beth Campbell while Mairi Campbell and friends led the impromptu entertainment.



EDWARDIAN teaching was in store for Lismore school pupils recently as they visited an exhibition of an Edwardian classroom at the local museum.

An invitation from the curator, Jennifer Baker, for a trip back in time saw the pupils taking part in a quiz about the various objects they saw. They then had to change into costumes to play their parts as Edwardian children.

Mrs Williamson, aka Freda Drysdale, rang the bell and lined them up for their first les-

son, spelling. Sitting up ramrod straight with arms folded while she talked and writing on slates were just two of the things they encountered.

At play time they were introduced to peever, chuckies, skipping, marbles and gird and clear which some youngsters took to very well.

The children were taught in Edwardian style.



Caroline Willis with her award at Port Appin pier.

LISMORE'S Caroline Willis was celebrating an individual achievement at this year's Scottish Hotel Awards.

Caroline, operations manager at the Pierhouse Hotel, across the water in Port Appin, was presented with a Hospitality Gold Medal at a prizegiving ceremony in Glasgow's Thistle Hotel on May 20. The Pierhouse also won the Seafood Dining Award.

Proprietor Nick Horne said: 'Caroline's award was a really fine achievement and we are really proud of her.'

**STRATH OF APPIN**

PUPILS from Strath of Appin Primary School were visited by James Kelly from Mary's

Meals, who talked about the charity's backpack project.

Mr Kelly spoke to children in primary 1, 2, 3 and the Pre-5 Unit about how successful this project had been in helping to save the lives of children overseas.

The work of the charity inspired the Appin children, who have decided to support the backpack project.

The older children wrote and sent flyers out to the local

community asking for donations of basic items that they could then pack into backpacks in the school. The children had great fun sorting and packing items such as spoons, toothbrushes, pens, balls and clothes and filled 25 backpacks.

These will now be transported in containers from Scotland to Mary's Meals projects in countries including Liberia, Malawi, Haiti, Uganda and Kenya.

**DUNBEG AND LOCHNELL**



**Pupils go for gold at 'Lochbeg' Olympics**

Pupils from Dunbeg and Lochnell primary schools and nurseries gathered together on a beautiful day for their 'Lochbeg' Olympic Games at Dunbeg Primary. While the older pupils competed in football, handball and volleyball tournaments, the nursery children enjoyed their own mini games and led the opening parade - complete with togas and Greek head wear.

**ARDNAMURCHAN**



**Best bridge builders celebrate**

Pupils from across Lochaber tested out their construction skills recently at an event organised for local schools at Lochaber College, Fort William. Nine teams took part in the Lochaber finals of the Construction Bridge Building Challenge. Two teams each from Mallaig and Ardnarmurchan High Schools and four from Lochaber High School and one from Kinlochleven High School had to build a bridge using plywood, MDF and a glue gun, and had 30 minutes to plan their ideas and then three hours to make it. After all the building, the teams had to test their bridges out by putting weights on them in till they snapped. Pictured is the winning Ardnarmurchan team - Megan MacPherson, Emma Cameron, Ellie Coldwell and Caitlin Borwick.



The Plockton team take a break on the way to Drumnadrochit.

**Group hits the road for bike and hike**

TEN INTREPID Plockton people set off from Fort William for Drumnadrochit on Saturday May 5 in the Monster Bike and Hike to raise money for Maggie's Centres.

The group was among almost 600 people taking part - and successfully completed the silver challenge, which

**PLOCKTON**

involved cycling the first 32 miles and hiking the 21 miles to Drumnadrochit.

Alasdair Hendry and Alex Fergusson, Angie and Myra Campbell, Shona Jones, Malcolm Mackenzie, Alexander

Mackenzie and David Hay, all from Plockton - David with Plockton connections - Jane Robertson and Peter Fagan from Edinburgh - were supported by Sarah Bruce, Alan and Joanne Moss and Kate Robertson.

So far they have raised just over £8,000 and more money is still coming in.

**EASDALE**



Pupils from Easdale Primary School carried out a beach clean in front of the school as part of the Festival of the Sea, using equipment from The Grab Trust. The pupils are also going to do some art work for the festival.



Fort William Primary School pupils tried to clear part of the Loch Linnhe shoreline of litter - but found the wind had beaten them to it! The youngsters roamed along the loch side outside the school

**FORT WILLIAM**

armed with gloves, bibs, bin bags and litter picks but found little to collect. Head teacher Sue Commander told *The*

*Oban Times*: 'I think the wind has maybe blown most of it elsewhere.' Amongst the items the children did manage to find were cans, water bottles, crab shells, empty packets of crisps and a car wheel. 20\_0211ter01

**INVERGARRY**

A WHEELCHAIR is available for loan to people with mobility issues in the Invergarry area.

Anyone wishing more information should contact Lea MacNally on 01809 511220 or email wheelchair@glengarrylife.com.

**PORTREE**

PORTREE Primary School Parent Council has received a £10,000 Awards for All grant from the Big Lottery Fund.

The money will go towards new equipment and safety surfacing in the school's playground. Features will include a trim trail, play train and octagonal pavilion.



ATLAS Arts in Portree will welcome contemporary artist and sculptor Alex Frost to Tigh-na-Sgìre on Saturday, the third of seven events in its 'Talking Art' series.

Mr Frost will discuss his recent work, which includes a mosaic mural in Easterhouse, Glasgow.

ATLAS director Emma Nicolson described Mr Frost as 'one of Scotland's exciting young visual artists'. The free, hour-long event begins at 2pm. Booking is advisable through admin@atlasarts.org.uk or on 01463 720886.

Next in the series is Harris-based sculptor Steve Dilworth who will present his latest work on Thursday July 12 at 7pm.

**RAASAY**

RAASAY crofter Paul Camilli counts raising pigs as one of his many activities - but his South Arnis stock is in need of some replenishment.

He told *The Oban Times*: 'We're looking for some Tamworth gilts to bring on and inject some fresh blood into our herd.' Anyone who can help can contact Paul on 01478 660313.



STUDENTS and friends of Ceol na Mara are staging a concert and ceilidh in Raasay Community Hall next Friday, June 8, at 7pm.

The event, in aid of the Muscular Dystrophy Association and acoustic panelling for the hall, will showcase a mixture of traditional and contemporary music from Skye and Raasay's finest young talent.

**KYLE**

KYLE Village Hall is currently hosting a youth café every Thursday evening from 7 to 9.30pm. All young people from first year upwards are welcome to drop in and take part in activities which will include a cook group, DJ sessions mixing music, fresh water kayaking and jewellery making sessions. Other attractions include indoor sports and the chill café.

Plockton High School is recruiting a new youth committee who will soon be putting a programme together for the autumn and winter. Anyone interested in taking part or getting involved should go along to the café. Adult volunteers able to help out should contact lycinfo@gmail.com or 01599 534505.

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# The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

## Recession affecting rural life - again.

IT IS alarming to read this week that the recession could be killing off rural areas throughout Scotland, and two Argyll towns are topping the list.

Campbeltown and Dunoon are both at high risk of job losses and cutbacks destroying their communities - and they share first place in the league of economic losers.

Sadly, Castlebay on the island of Barra also features prominently in the top 10.

In some ways it could be argued that we didn't need a report to tell us that the social history of rural communities is repeating itself. With fewer jobs, a lack of affordable homes and a lot less money the trend for people to desert rural areas in favour of urban developments is well documented.

The economic downturn in some towns is clearly leading to rising unemployment, migration away from the region and a decline in local service provision; all putting the long-term sustainability of towns like Dunoon at risk.

This has implications for the population of the town itself, and of its surrounding rural area in terms of the ability of people to access vital services, including employment and health care.

This is particularly the case in some of our more remote areas where residents often have limited choice in terms of the services they can access.

The report's author argued that larger towns with populations between 10,000 and 125,000 dominated the most vulnerable top 20, while smaller towns with populations of between 3,000 and 10,000 tended to rank between 20 and 40.

Ironically small rural settlements with less than 3,000 people tended to be among the less vulnerable. Towns play a vital role in Scotland's rural and regional development, but they tend to fall into a gap between urban and rural Government policies.

### GLASGOW LETTER

#### West End Festival 2012

THE HUGE contribution made to the city of Glasgow over many years is to be recognised during the forthcoming West End Festival in a long-term project, Glaschu nan Gaidheal, a guided coach tour.

It will visit many of the areas of Glasgow which have been important to Gaelic and on which Gaelic has impacted right up until the present day.

The tour was written and designed by Coinneach MacLean, a Blue Badge tour guide in the tourist industry, and he will be leading each of the tours. Each tour will start at An Leanaig, Glasgow's Gaelic Centre, and will visit Partick, Glasgow University, Argyle Street, the Broomielaw, Paisley Road Toll and Govan. In addition, at Kelvingrove Art Gallery, participants will hear about the link the artist Samuel Peploe had with South Uist and as well as visiting locations currently of importance to the Gaels there will be the opportunity to see, or at least see where they use to be, establishments visited after a hard day's toil as part of the 'Skye Navy' or after work in the many shipyards and docks which were on either side of the river.

The tours will take place on June 9 and 16 between 10am and 1pm and later in the summer there will be further tours during the week of Piping Live 2012 which starts on Monday August 13.

For further information on the tours contact Duncan MacNeill telephone 0141 342 4119, email duncan@anlochran.com.

An Lochran and Iomairt Ghaidhlig Glaschu has also been busy organising activities, even more than at previous West End Festivals, over a wide range of subjects, and it is hoped these will be attended by people who have never attended a Gaelic event.

The proposed programme is: Gaelic Singing, Monday June 4, 11 and 18. Ceilidh dancing, Tuesday June 5, 12 and 19. Gaidhlig, Wednesday June 6, 13 and 20. Accordion, Thursday June 7, 14 and 21. All of the above will be from 7pm until 8.30pm. On Saturdays June 9, 16 and 23 there will be workshops on the bodhran and whistle from 2pm until 3.30pm. The venue for all of the above will be An Leanaig, 22, Mansfield Street, Partick, and the cost for each will be £2 per session.

#### Shinty success

OVER the years I have questioned my sanity as I have watched sport, and more especially shinty in recent years, in atrocious weather conditions but this was certainly not the case last week when Glasgow Mid Argyll played away to Skye

Camanachd in the quarter final of the Balliemore Cup. If the weather conditions provided a surprise, with temperatures in the mid 20s, so also did the result of the game with the city team overcoming their much fancied opponents 2-1.

A well-deserved victory was the consensus at the end of the game and the pleasing aspect of this victory was that it was achieved with a team which consisted predominately of players who were introduced to the game in the city environment unlike in the past when Glasgow shinty teams relied on those who had come to the city to work or study.

Well done to all those involved and they can now look forward to a semi-final tie to be played on June 30 against Lochaber.

#### Piping tuition

AS IS customary, there will be summer piping schools at both the National Piping Centre and the College of Piping during the school holidays.

Weekly courses will take place at the former during weeks beginning July 2, 9 and 23. For more information and to book a place visit the website at [www.nationalpipingcentre.co.uk](http://www.nationalpipingcentre.co.uk) and click on the seasonal school page.

At the College of Piping there will be weekly courses starting on Monday July 2 until Friday August 10 and the website address is [www.college-of-piping.co.uk](http://www.college-of-piping.co.uk).

#### Diary dates

**Thursday May 31:** Glasgow Uist and Barra Association, AGM, Lourdes Secondary School, 7.30pm. Live at the Star, St Andrew's in the Square, 8pm - Tannahill Weavers.

**Friday June 1:** Royal Conservatoire of Scotland Junior Traditional Music Concert - 7pm. Tolbooth, Stirling, 8pm, Tannahill Weavers.

**Sunday June 3:** Tolbooth, Stirling, 8pm, Capercaille. Wednesday June 6: Glasgow Skye Association, AGM, Partick Burgh Hall (Room 9), 7.30pm

**Thursday June 7:** Glasgow Islay Association, AGM, Partick Burgh Hall, 7pm. Live at the Star, St Andrew's in the Square, 8pm - Anthony John Clarke

**Friday June 8:** Glasgow Skye Association, Social Evening, Redhurst Hotel, cost £12 including high tea. Places to be reserved by Monday June 4 - telephone 01786 832278.

#### Pub scene

ERISKAY Lilt will be playing in the Park Bar on both Friday and Saturday evening with Willie Cameron/Martin Pottinger on Sunday while in the Islay Inn it will be Crooked Reel on Friday and the Keelies on Saturday.

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



## Inner Wheel Club of Oban 1970/71

Mrs Helen Jackson of Oban submitted this week's flashback photograph which shows members of the Inner Wheel Club of Oban in 1970/71. The club celebrated its 60 years this year. Back row: Molly MacLeod; Hilda Hutton; Enid Henderson; Ellen Anderson; Mrs Wotherspoon; Nancy Laird Parker, Bobbie Cathro; Olive Chalmers, Isobel Graham; Jean Dickson and Jean Hutchison. Middle row: Clare Orr; Molly MacLeod; Minnie Mowatt, Phillis Baker Beal; Barbara Allan; Morag Robertson; Helen Jackson and Betty Wilson. Seated: Katherine Corson; Janette Creran; Chrissie Neil, Ruth Whyte and Daisy Renfrew. Prints or emails must be accompanied by a caption, name, address and telephone number. Anyone wishing their prints returned must supply a stamped addressed envelope.

## Letters to the editor

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### Frustration at Ganavan dog walkers

Sir, It's great to see the beach at Oban's Ganavan sands return to the way it was.

I've had many a good day out there over the years. However, I'm becoming more and more frustrated that each time I go there, there are people walking their dogs on the beach despite signs saying not to do so.

There was even a well known Oban council employee's family there on Sunday on the beach with their two dogs running wild.

Is this another rule Argyll and Bute Council has chosen to ignore? Is it unpoliceable and the signs are just there for show? **J Campbell, by email.**

### Perfect solution on the road

Sir, As Mr Rodgers continues his quest to drive faster by suggesting cyclists take to the pavements, I think I've come up with the perfect solution for him.

His own web site would allow him to post his car journeys in advance, leaving times, destinations, routes and the speed he wishes to travel.

Other road users could log on and those wanting to travel at the same time and to the same place as him but at a slower speed could either alter their journey times accordingly or just park in a lay-by until he passes, thus enabling him to drive virtually unimpeded.

The web site could even have a catchy name, such as 'Rodgers traffic dodges'. **Key W, Nevis Cycles, Oban.**

### Council private registration plate anger

Sir, Could the new leader of Argyll and Bute Council, through the columns of your newspaper, please explain why the transport department keep transferring the private registration number ESB 1X at taxpayers' expense?

This number is of no importance and should be sold with the revenue put to a good cause.

And if there are any other private numbers on council vehicles these should be put on the open market too.

While we are in hard times, keeping these plates does not look good and makes you wonder what Argyll and Bute Council is trying to achieve. Surely it should be best value? As a taxpayer, I await your reply on this matter through The Oban Times.

I have written to various departments but as yet have not had a reply. **Stephen Johnstone, Ardentinny.**

### Apprenticeships crucial

Sir, The dramatic impact of the recession on construction apprenticeship numbers has been confirmed by new figures released by the Scottish Building

Apprenticeship and Training Council.

These figures show that the number of building sector apprentices registered fell by 52 per cent between 2007 and 2010. But they also suggest that the industry may be starting to turn the corner, with 53 more apprentices registered in 2011 than in 2010.

With the country facing unprecedented youth unemployment, apprenticeship opportunities in the construction sector remain crucial, offering so many young people the opportunity to develop specialist skills and to pursue a rewarding career in a strategically important industry. And with business failures at a record level, the proportion of construction employers engaging apprentices has held up remarkably well.

With numbers beginning to show signs of stabilising, employers are fully committed to offering new opportunities and attracting new blood into the industry.

We are ambitious about the future and look forward to a time when apprentice numbers can return to the levels seen some five years ago. In the meantime, this year's Scottish Apprenticeship Week is an important opportunity to celebrate the achievements of Scotland's apprentices - in the construction industry and throughout the economy.

**Michael Levack, Chief Executive, Scottish Building Federation, Edinburgh.**

### Credit where credit is due

Sir, A few weeks ago I wrote to your paper with some rather derogatory observations on the timing of the work being done on the Lochybridge roundabout.

Since then I've been both very surprised and very pleased to note that, basically, the job's been done - and not only done, but done well and quickly.

In the spirit of 'due credit where credit is due', I therefore hereby retract my previous comments and say 'well done' to all concerned! **Dave Kerr, Onich.**

### Thanks for election support

Sir, I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all the voters who showed their support for me with one of the highest voter turnouts in the UK of 50.62 per cent.

We managed to almost double the Conservative Party vote to 553 first preference votes compared to the Lib Dem's 540 but sadly lost on the seventh and last stage of the vote.

On these numbers, I have full confidence that with the same local campaign support next time we will take one of the three seats and be a strong voice for Kintyre and The Islands. A large percentage of my support in this election came from non-Conservative voters and I am grateful so many put their personal differences aside and voted for me personally.

Thanks should also be given to Roy and Sara Rutherford, Dr Bill and Charlotte Hanbury and Jamie McGregor for their time and hard work in the days prior to the election and to the huge

amount of help from Douglas, Pauline Houston and Martyn McIntyre. Last but not least, many thanks to my family who pulled out all the stops for me in this election. I have been taken aback by all the letters of support, Facebook messages, E-mails and phone calls that have been flooding in both before and after the election.

I would like you all to know that you haven't lost a voice for Kintyre and The Islands I was campaigning and speaking up for our ward before the election and will continue to do so now the election is over.

I wish the three elected councillors all the best for the future. **Alastair Redman, Portnahaven, Isle of Islay.**

### Tower proposal was a good one

Sir, I was saddened to read in last week's Oban Times that Argyll and Bute Council had turned down proposals for the 'Ring of Fire' in McCaig's Tower.

I completely agree with Mr MacQueen that the proposed bonfire inside the landmark would have been an ideal way to attract national attention for Oban's Jubilee celebrations.

The bonfire had the potential to be one of the most unique ways of commemorating the nationwide event - as well as incredibly visually attractive.

It is sad that the council did not recognise it as so. I fully accept that there were concerns about the safety of such a venture but I believe such an event could have gone ahead safely if the appropriate backing had been there from the council and emergency services.

Sadly I cannot see the town's other jubilee celebrations putting Oban on the map in the same way. **H MacIntosh, Oban.**

### Tax cyclists and caravanners

Sir, I fully agree with A Rodger of Oban, re cyclists in The Oban Times Letters Page last week.

These numerous and beautifully engineered cycle routes have been developed at considerable cost to the taxpayer specifically to enhance the cycling experience for members of the public, encourage more people to take up a healthier lifestyle through cycling and, very importantly, take cyclists off busy roadways where they are a constant danger to themselves and other road users.

Perhaps one solution would be to levy a tax on bicycles. Exemptions could be put in place for children and/or off-road bikes and then at least those who continue to use the roadways would be contributing

to the upkeep. Taking this logic one step further, this week the Government did a sharp u-turn on static caravan tax. It is not static caravans that should be the target of taxation but the touring variety of which there appears to be an increasing number.

My sympathy goes out to the tour bus and heavy goods vehicle drivers who travel the Loch Lomond road daily and are regularly confronted with what A Rodger has aptly described as 'moving roadblocks'.

Combine cyclists and touring caravans on the same stretch of road and you have an accident waiting to happen. **D MacDonald, East Kilbride.**

### Police target-led culture

Sir, I refer to Councillor Fred Hall's letter on the above in The Oban Times of May 24.

Policing in this area has changed considerably in practice over the last four years.

No matter how re-branding of officers as 'community officers' is applied, or shifts are suddenly re-arranged to respond to community identification of under-staffing, the fact remains that this area is not being policed correctly. It is now, as has been recently shown by fatality, ripe for exploitation by those who wish to deal in the single most socially-corrosive dynamic, one which destroys lives, destroys families, destroys neighbourhoods. Controlled drugs.

This how people die of overdoses, others seriously assaulted, property is stolen, homes are attacked, the young are riven from their families. - Heroin, Cocaine, Amphetamine, Cannabis. This is where police priorities must lie.

There is no imperative on drug suppliers/couriers to take a left turn on the A85 at Connel Bridge in order to ply their wares at Fort William only.

The only current deterrent is the possibility of a speeding ticket.

Excessive Fixed Penalty tickets are counter-productive when it comes to keeping a local community on-board.

Of course, placing a speed gun at Kilniver is like shooting fish in a barrel - but a very easy way to prove the efficacy of an anti-speeding rationale, particularly if it produces a 100 per cent detection rate.

If there is such a persistent problem then explore other available methods to control speed and free up officers to patrol the two trunk roads leading to Oban. **Name and address withheld.**

Letters Page  
The Oban Times  
PO Box 1  
Oban

### 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](mailto:editor@obantimes.co.uk).



**Beachd Ailein**  
Ailean Caimbeul

THA MI AG AONTACHADH le stiùiriche na pròiseict rannsachaidh Sòillse, an t-Àrd-Ollamh Rob Dunbar, a thaobh an fheum air tuilleadh rannsachaidh mu fhoghlam tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig.

Chan e amas na h-obrach seo teagamhan a chur anns an t-siostam a tha air fàs cho soirbheachail thar nan còig bliadhna fichead a chaidh, ach tha e deatamach dèanamh cinnteach gum bheil laigsean sam bith a dh'fhaodadh a bhith ann air lorg 's air an leasachadh. Tha foghlam tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig, mar innleachd foghlaim sam bith, ag atharrachadh mar a tha e a' dol air adhart agus 's e dleastanas luchd-lìbhrigidh a bhith a' sireadh an eifeachdais as fheàrr às.

Ged nach b' e rannsachadh saidheansail a bh'ann, bha e inntinneach beachdachadh air an dealbh a nochd ann an aithris air BBC Alba mu chlas sònraichte a Sgoil Phort Rìgh agus an ire gum bheil an cànan a' leantainn ann am beatha nan ochdnar a bh'inn. Chan eil ach trìuir a' cleachdadh na Gàidhlig gu cunbhalach is càch gu ire mhòr air tìdh as a' chànan a' chall. Na mo bheachd fhìn, 's e tha cudromach a thoirt às an sgeulachd seo gum bheil faisg air leth nan daoine seo air an cànan a ghlèidheadh is a thoirt air adhart agus chan eil càch air an foghlam bhunaitheach a fhuair iad tron Gàidhlig a' chall air chor sam bith. Dhearbh iad uile gur ann aig toiseach an cuid foghlaim àrd-sgoile a chaidh iad ceangal ri Gàidhlig. Carson a bhiodh sin na annas is fios glè mhath againn gum bheil laigse mhòr fhathast ann an ire foghlaim tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig anns an àrd-sgoil. Tha dearbhadh ann gum bheil àireamh mhòr den chloinn a tha a' fàgail na bun-sgoile le fìleanas ann an Gàidhlig gun chomas aca air leantainn air adhart ag ionnsachadh tron chànan. Le saidheachadh mar sin 's ann a' lha e na annas gum bheil uimhir den òigridh a' ghlèidheadh a' chànan oir tha sinn fhathast mar gum bithe a' leagail bhunaithe agus a' togail thaighean ach gum chomas mullaichean a chur orra. Chan eil e na iongnadh an uairsin gum fàlbh mòran den obair sin às a chèile nuair nach eil crìoch dhòigheil ga chur air.

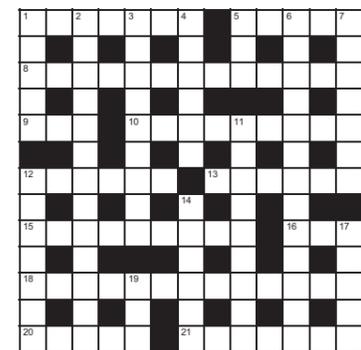
Shaoilinn fhìn gum dearbh rannsachadh gum bheil eifeachdas foghlam tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig a sior dhol ann meud, ach chun an tèid drochachd na làidir a stèidheadh a bheir foghlam àrd-sgoile seachd chun na h-aon ire, chan eil sinn dol a dh'fhaotainn làn luach air cuid saothrach.

LIKE any education delivery system, Gaelic Medium Education is evolving and it is appropriate that its effectiveness is continually monitored.

Previous research has established that GME is delivering effectively at primary school level but there is a dramatic loss of students in the transition to secondary education. This is largely due to lack of GME secondary subject provision and maximisation of the best value from investment in Gaelic demands this service.

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

## GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD



### Across

- 1 Sugar type (7)
- 5 Stand in (5)
- 8 Beauty of a building (13)
- 9 Barley bristle (3)
- 10 Needing immediate results (9)
- 12 About a quarrel (6)
- 13 Reason to close up shop (6)
- 15 Mother's helper? (9)
- 16 Moray or electric (3)
- 18 Approved (13)
- 20 Feudal lord (5)
- 21 Log holder (7)

### Down

- 1 Exotic flavor (5)
- 2 Invincible (13)
- 3 Start point (9)
- 4 Release (6)
- 5 Allow (3)
- 6 Floor cleaner (6,7)
- 7 Not professional soldiers (7)
- 11 Not from the horses mouth! (9)
- 12 Last service (7)
- 14 Medicinal shrub (6)
- 17 Burdened (5)
- 19 Organ of sight (3)

Last week's solution



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Police files

A GENERATOR was stolen from a boat on the shorefront between Caol and Corpach sometime between Wednesday May 16 and Friday May 25.

AN UNSECURED ladies mountain bike removed from Polmona, Claggan, sometime between Tuesday May 22 and Wednesday May 23 was found last Thursday in the Glen Nevis area.

Anyone with knowledge of these incidents is asked to contact Fort William Police Station on 01397 702361 or the confidential line on 01397 702000.

Members of the public may also report any crime, offence or anything suspicious by phoning Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

New Wester Ross community centre opens

A NEW centre designed to be at the heart of a Wester Ross community officially opened its doors on Tuesday.

The GALE Centre at Achtercairn in Gairloch will house office accommodation, a tourist information centre, gallery space for local artists and craft producers and exhibition space for local groups and businesses.

Local community group Gairloch and Loch Eive Action Forum (GALE) masterminded the £800,000 project.

# Chainsaw stand-off lands man in jail

Former forestry worker barricaded himself inside home

A FORT William man who barricaded himself in his house for four-and-a-half hours and warded off armed police with a chainsaw has been jailed for 13 months.

Brian MacDonald threatened to 'cut the legs off' and kill any officers who came into his house during the stand-off.

Police went to MacDonald's house at 4 Glen Nevis Place on April 24 to arrest him after the 41-year-old failed to appear in court. He had been due to be sentenced for shouting and swearing, threatening violence on police officers and repeatedly kicking a police van on Fort William High Street on July 24.

Officers arrived at 11.45pm and found MacDonald drunk and unco-operative. He refused to let them inside and warned them: 'You'll lose a few police officers tonight.'

MacDonald set up a blockade of wooden planks behind the front door to stop officers from getting into the building.

The former forestry worker then turned on his chainsaw and repeatedly brandished it from inside his living room at the officers outside the house.

Armed police and negotiators were called to the stand-off, which ended when MacDonald passed out at around 4.15am.

Fort William Sheriff Court heard MacDonald made numerous references during the

incident to Raoul Moat, the man who shot three people, including a police officer, in Cumbria in 2010.

Procurator Fiscal Alison Wylie said: 'He repeatedly mentioned Raoul Moat, praising what he had done and saying how he hates police with a passion.'

'He said if they [police] came into the house he would cut their legs off and blind them.'

**Resentment**

Defence solicitor Stephen Kennedy said: 'For many years he has harboured resentment towards the police. He has felt the police deal with him in a heavy-handed manner, target him and accuse him of crimes he has not committed.'

'He is not proud of his actions. He is severely embarrassed and

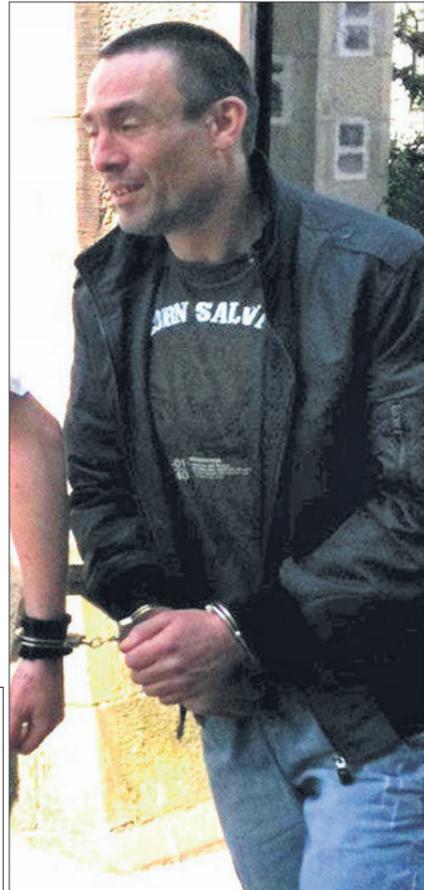
deeply ashamed of what he has done.'

Sentencing MacDonald, Sheriff Douglas Small said: 'The offences I have heard about are particularly unpleasant. There is only one sentence I can impose and that is one of custody.'

Appearing from custody, MacDonald admitted threatening to kill and injure the officers, repeatedly operating a chainsaw and blockading himself inside his house.

MacDonald was also sentenced for behaving in a threatening or abusive manner on Fort William High Street on August 4.

He previously pled guilty to verbally abusing door stewards and police officers outside the Maryburgh Inn and threatening to shoot them with a shotgun.



Jailed: Brian MacDonald is led from court in handcuffs.

Pupils' short films to be screened at festival

PUPILS at the Nicolson Institute in Stornoway and Paible School in North Uist are to have their short films screened during one of Scotland's largest creative industry festivals.

The five-minute clips, commissioned by BBC Scotland under its learning project, will be shown during goNorth in Inverness on June 6 and 7 and can be viewed online at www.bbc.co.uk/programme/p00k13/ clips.

They were made in collaboration with ScreenHI, which develops the film industry in the Highlands and Islands.

Boxing club show a sell-out

NETHER Lochaber Amateur Boxing Club's first home show on Saturday is a sell out, according to head coach Martin Glensk.

All 170 tickets for the 12-bout event at Kinlochleven High School theatre have been snapped up.

Eight boxers from the local club are billed to fight opponents from as far afield as Peterhead and Kilmarnock.

Mr Glensk told *The Oban Times*: 'It's our first show so there's a wee bit of history being made.'

A kids' skills bout will act as a curtain raiser for the action. The evening starts at 8pm.

'Class night' in store as bands take to Crofters' stage

FORT William band Bronco Fiasco and ex-Lochaber group Skeleton Verse will support top English rockers Heaven's Basement in the town's Crofter Bar on Saturday night.

Described in the national press as 'a band with hearts as big as The Verve', Bronco Fiasco is fronted by vocalist Marc MacMaster and have supported Big Country.

Brian Jamieson of Skeleton Verse, now Glasgow-based and formerly known as The Paradox, said: 'It looks like being a class night.'

Astley Hall hosts produce fair

THE ASTLEY Hall in Arisaig will host a local produce fair next Thursday.

A range of plants, homemade foods and crafts will be on display.

Refreshments will be available at the free entry event, which begins at 11am.

Newsdesk  
01397  
703003

# New Lochailort fish farm hatchery work on track

WORK on a massive new £15million fish farm hatchery at Lochailort is on track to be completed by the end of the year.

The *Oban Times* was given an exclusive first look at Marine Harvest's ongoing works with a guided tour by site manager Steve McCaig and hatchery technician Paul Fletcher.

The 150,000 square foot building will contain around 13 million Atlantic salmon smolts which will be transferred to Marine Harvest sites across Scotland to grow into full sized fish. When it is finished the facility will house 12 staff - six of them in the hatchery.

Around 110 people are working on the site as contractors Robertson aim for a December completion date.

**EXCLUSIVE REPORT** by RICHARD HADDOCK rhaddock@obantimes.co.uk

Seven miles of pipe work are being laid in construction, and at its highest point the new building will be 11metres tall with a protective green wall around the site to avoid spoiling the local landscape. Mr McCaig told *The Oban Times*: 'We've been on site since January and construction will be completed by Christmas. It is due to start operating around March next year.'

An average of one-and-a-half metres of peat was removed from the site before any work could take place and Mr McCaig said most of the exhumed matter

is being reused in the building process.

He said: 'All the excavated material is being collected and placed into our reclaimer and crusher machines to allow us to recycle the materials, such as ground rock and sand materials for building. We will be using around 8,000m<sup>3</sup> of concrete.'

'It means we don't have to have lorries coming up and down from Fort William bringing materials up, which is good for everyone.'

Mr Fletcher told *The Oban Times* the operation had only suffered one minor hold-up so far, but was still on track.



Robertson's site manager Steve McCaig and Marine Harvest hatchery technician Paul Fletcher showed *The Oban Times* around the site. 20\_1225te06



Angler Donald does the double

Donald Ross from Portree won the annual John Peter's Beat fishing competition for the second time at Storr Lochs, Skye, on Saturday. Donald is pictured receiving the winner's shield from Catriona MacDonald. Second was Donald Gillies from Borve and Neil Cameron of Treaslane was third. Also pictured are competing anglers and the MacDonald family.

MSP welcomes cut in drink-drive limit

SKYE, Lochaber and Badenoch MSP Dave Thompson has welcomed the Scottish Government's move to cut the drink-drive limit as a matter of priority.

Justice Secretary Kenny MacAskill announced this week the present limit of 80mg of alcohol per 100ml of blood would be reduced to 50mg as soon as possible. Mr Thompson, who has been campaigning to reduce the limit for five years, said nominating a driver when going out was 'a small price to pay for saving lives'.

Smiles all round as sun shines on Fort William school fete



Fort William Primary School held its school fete last Thursday night with pupils, parents, teachers and friends of the school enjoying the glorious sunshine.

On offer were baking stalls, a bouncy castle, nail and face painting, a beat the goalie competition as well as refreshments.

A raffle was held, with a number of prizes donated by local companies, and Lochaber High Junior Pipe Band entertained with traditional music. Head teacher Sue Commander told *The Oban Times*: 'We've had lovely weather and everybody has worked really hard. It's a fundraiser, but it's also a nice happy family event.' 20\_1225te01

Fight to save Fort FC goes down to the wire

THE FIGHT to save Fort William FC has gone down to the wire, with the committee anxiously waiting for someone to put themselves forward to takeover as club chairman.

As revealed in *The Oban Times* last week, the club need to have a new chairman and secretary in place or face expulsion from the Highland League after incumbent John Wattman announced

he was stepping down. An extraordinary general meeting was held last night (Wednesday) and as *The Oban Times* went to press no candidates had yet come forward.

Highland League chairman Finlay Noble told *The Oban Times*: 'We're fairly hopeful of Fort William surviving and we will do everything we can to try and keep them afloat.'

Hopefully there is people in the community in Fort William who can come on board and do their bit because it's a cracking wee club with a fantastic youth policy. We are moving ahead on the basis that Fort William will be in the league next year.' He added: 'We're not inviting any other clubs to apply because as far as we're concerned we already have 18 clubs.'

Outgoing chairman and secretary John Wattman said: 'I've no intention of staying on in an office bearer's role. I'll continue on the committee but not as secretary or chairman.'

The club held an AGM two weeks ago where the roles were expected to be filled but no one put themselves forward meaning a new committee could not be formed.

Town's poker ace heads to capital to compete with top 40

A FORT William poker ace will be the only Highlands representative when some of the best players in Scotland compete in Edinburgh today (Thursday).

Steve Macmillan is one of 40 people taking part in the 'Grassroots' Texas hold'em tournament at Genting Poker Club.

The 35-year-old said: 'I've only been playing Texas hold'em poker a short while but I would say that interest in the game has grown tenfold in the past few years.'

'The local poker league has a great variety of players and I've improved my game very much by being part of it.'

# Much needed help

The Crerar Hotels Trust has collaborated with Pain Association Scotland to provide a specialist self-management course for people with long term painful conditions. The course was well attended with a 100% course completion rate and with people travelling in from as far away as Lochgilphead.

Phil Sizer, Training Director from Pain Association, said that 'this is the first time that we have been able to run this important course in Oban and we are very grateful to The Crerar Hotels Trust for recognising the need to help people with a health problem that is often marginalised and misunderstood'. Our course focuses on helping people to improve quality of life despite a painful condition. He added that 'specialist self-

management for chronic pain is hard and expensive for people in Argyll to access, travel alone is difficult for many people with chronic pain, so providing a local resource is vital'.

Participants on the course commented that they 'enjoyed the unique style of interaction which helped them to relax and learn in a way that suited them'. One lady said that the course provided 'much needed help' and that she 'now understands that she can manage her pain and that she has begun to take positive steps to improve the quality of her life in ways that she didn't think possible or relevant before'.

The course also helped people who already attend Pain Association's monthly meetings that are now hosted at the Oban Bay Hotel and Spa.



Phil Sizer (left) Training Director, Pain Association Scotland receiving cheque from Darrell Williams, General Manager Oban Bay Hotel and Spa on behalf of The Crerar Hotels Trust.

For more information on our monthly self-management groups please contact Pain Association Scotland on 0800 783 6059

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Dr John Howe, with his son, Alex, aged eight, and dog Juno, will lead an expedition to digitally map the seabed of Oban, Lorn and the Isles. 15\_122inid01



Dr Henrik Stahl used the Festival of the Sea to host an open day explaining the reason behind his carbon capture project in Ardmucknish Bay. 15\_122carbon01

# Festival of the Sea success in the sun

FESTIVAL of the Sea 2012 has been hailed a huge success by offering a variety of mainly well-attended events.

The hot, sunny weather contributed to large attendances at outdoor events, such as open days at Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS) and the Northern Lighthouse Board.

However, it was a factor in a lower turnout to some of the indoor events throughout the 10-day event, which finished on Monday.

**Thrilled**  
Festival of the Sea co-ordinator Helen McNeill, who works for SAMS, said: 'We are absolutely thrilled with the support from the community.'

'The weather really favoured the weekend events, such as our own open day last Saturday and the open day the weekend before which combined the Northern Lighthouse Board, Oban Lifeboat Station, Oban Sailing Club and Stramash, all lined up along Gallanach Road. That worked really well.'

SAMS attracted people 373 to its open day last Saturday, where visitors found out more about marine life and SAMS' various sea-going projects, including the 3.2m euro

INIS (Ireland, Northern Ireland and Scotland) Hydro, a project that will see the seabeds around these countries digitally mapped for the first time.

A crew on board the SAMS research vessel *Calanus* began mapping between Oban and Jura on Monday using Hydro Graphic Surveying.

The open day was the public's final chance to find out more about the equipment used in this important expedition.

Dr John Howe, who is heading the expedition, said: 'The last comprehensive mapping of this area was done in the 1950s so we will be out for 90 days until September using this technology to measure obstacles, wrecks and the depth of the approach to harbours, among other things. The maps we produce from that will be available to everyone.'

At another open day, those interested in SAMS' carbon capture project in Ardmucknish Bay, near Benderloch, also had the opportunity to quiz the project leader Dr Henrik Stahl last Friday.

SAMS, which organises the festival, said it had initial plans to hold another Festival of the Sea in two years.



Allan Campbell McLean, second right, with his family in Skye in 1964.

## Skye novelist celebrated at book festival

THE LIFE and work of the great Skye novelist Allan Campbell McLean will be celebrated at a special event at the Skye Book Festival - Fèis Leabhraichean an Eilein - in July.

This year marks the 90th anniversary of the birth of the author of 'The Hill of the Red Fox' and 'The Year of the Stranger', written by McLean along with his other classic Skye novels while he lived in Trotternish in the 1950s and 1960s.

McLean was born of Highland ancestry in England in 1922 and

moved to Skye after the Second World War.

Skye Book Festival committee chairman Donald MacDonald said: 'Allan Campbell McLean died in 1989 but his writing has proved timeless. Several of his Skye novels are as popular now as ever.'

**Great books**  
'But he was also known and liked as a man throughout Skye. We intend this event to reflect not only his great books but also his decades spent living in this island, which he loved and

which continues to appreciate him in return.'

The Allan Campbell McLean Night at Skye Book Festival will feature Duncan MacDonald's documentary film 'An Gàidheall Gallda/The English Skyeman'. There will also be readings from his books by local children and a talk followed by an open discussion of McLean and his work featuring former friends and colleagues and the author's son, Gus McLean, who was brought up in Skye. Fèis Leabhraichean an Eilein

will be held at Aros in Portree between July 24 and 28. The book festival has already secured the presence of the perennially controversial politician Tam Dalyell, who will discuss his autobiography 'The Importance of Being Awkward' and reflect upon his long and tumultuous career. Several more outstanding events and authors will feature in the festival.

Mr MacDonald said: 'We have an exciting line-up in preparation and look forward to releasing full details in the near future.'



## Roars of laughter as Bill Bailey brings new show to town

Comedian Bill Bailey brought roars of laughter to a packed Corran Halls, Oban, last week, touring with his new show *Qualmpeddler*. The stand-up, musician and actor pondered Britain's obsession with celebrity culture, questioned whether he'd be allowed back in Scotland after 2014 and shared his experiences of a recent trip to China. Of course, music played a big part of the show, with a flourish on the sax drawing a particularly large cheer from the audience. 07\_122billb1

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### what's on oban

Thursday 31st May > Ceilidh Night  
Skipinnish Ceilidh House 9pm-till late

Thursday 31st May > Disco  
Skipinnish Ceilidh House 11pm-2am

Fri 1st & Sat 2nd June > Two Can Dan  
Markie Duns

Saturday 2nd June > Nightclub with DJs  
Skipinnish Ceilidh House 11pm-2am, £5 entry

Saturday 2nd June > Signal Fires  
O'donnells Bar

Sunday 3rd June > Too Far North  
Markie Duns

Monday 4th June > Quiz  
Markie Duns with Quizmaster Stevo

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### what's on lochaber

Friday 1st June > The Outside Track, 7.30pm  
Fort William Skipinnish Ceilidh House Tickets £10/£12

Saturday 2nd June > Nightclub 10pm till 2am  
Fort William Skipinnish Ceilidh House Beat the Beats

Saturday 2nd June > SHOOGLINITY  
Glenug Hall 9pm - www.glenug.org.uk

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### Local Producers Market

Thursday 7th June  
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**LOTS TO EAT AND DO**  
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## Rockfield goes for gold at sports day

### Olympic theme as sun shines on Mossfield

THE SUN shone on an Olympic themed sports day held at Mossfield recently - with the event taking place on the day it was scheduled for a change.

Rockfield Primary School held its annual sports day last week, with Oban High School Pipe Band welcoming everyone to the field.

Organiser Isobel Boyd said: 'For the first time for a number of years Rockfield Primary School managed to hold its school sports on the day on which it was scheduled and a perfect day for sports it turned out to be.'

'In the Olympic year the pupils designed and made their own Olympic torches, with one chosen to represent each class. Rockfield began their sports in Olympic style with each class running around the track behind their winning torch bearer to the tune of Chariots of Fire.'

'This was followed by class races, relay races and clan activities. Well done to the P6 championship winners Grace Thompson and Oran Bryce and the P7 championship winners Alana McPhee and Lauren Moore. Round Table Cup: winner Craig Easton; runner-up Sam Forbes.'

helping to make sports day such a success.'

Results: P6 girls 100m sprint: winner Ilona Vermot; runner-up Fionn Keys. P6 girls 200m sprint: winner Isla Head; runner-up Ilona Vermot. P7 girls 100m sprint: winner Alana McPhee; runner-up Kirsty McCormick. P7 girls 200m sprint: winner Alana McPhee; runner-up Oran Bryce. P6 boys 100m sprint: winner Mark McKnight; runner-up Oran Bryce. P6 boys 200m sprint: winner Oran Bryce; runner-up Mark McKnight. P7 boys 100m sprint: winner Sam Forbes; runner-up Ruaridh Horne. P7 boys 200m sprint: winner Craig Easton; runner-up Sam Forbes. P6 Championship: Duncan MacDougall Memorial Quaiach: winner Grace Thompson; runner-up Isla Head and Molly Macpherson. Boys PTA Trophy: winner Oran Bryce; runner-up Nathan Cummings. P7 Championship J G Mathieson Cup: winner Alana McPhee; runner-up Kirsty McCormick and Lauren Moore. Round Table Cup: winner Craig Easton; runner-up Sam Forbes.



Rockfield pupils celebrate their sports day success. 16\_122sport02



Primary 4 and 5 Gaelic medium pupils Irene Clyne, Eilidh MacKinnon, Chloe MacPhee and Aoife Ni Bhaoghailh enjoyed the bouncy castle at Bun-sgoil Shlèite Spring Fair.

## Bun-sgoil Shlèite spring fair success

AN IMPRESSIVE £1,500 was raised recently at the Bun-sgoil Shlèite Spring Fair.

The event was very well-attended and this year the weather was a welcome bonus. There was something for everyone to do from the usual stalls to pony riding, a bouncy castle, BBQ, face painting, a café, beat the goalie, silent auction and a host of great raffle prizes.

Two new competitions proved popular with the children; the Junior Masterchef and the vegetable animal

competitions attracted extremely high standards making judging a difficult task. Masterchef winners were: Lachlan Mieski (Sgoil-àraich/Nursery), Kiera Duncan (P1-2), Louis Miller (P3, 4 and 5) and Ross McKenzie (P6-7); with a special award going to Shannon MacDonald for her presentation.

Vegetable animal winners were: Jessica Miller (Sgoil-àraich/Nursery), Jessica Hanson (P1-2), and Aoife Ni Bhaoghailh (P3, 4 and 5).

Thanks go to everyone who helped make the day such a great success.



The team from Rockfield's Duart Clan won the football cup. 16\_122sport01

Oban Times LEISURE TIMES  
Oban Times LEISURE TIMES

**CREAR Piano in Peril fundraising concerts**  
Steven Osborne (piano)  
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Péter Tóth (piano)  
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E concerts@crear.co.uk  
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Scottish Wildlife Trust  
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Saturday 2nd June  
12 noon until 4.00pm

Art Exhibition  
**Lochaber Art Club Annual Exhibition**  
Ben Nevis Distillery  
Fort William  
Saturday 26 May to Wednesday 6 June  
10am til 6pm  
Closed Sunday  
Free Entry, all welcome

**Ceilidh and Dance**  
in aid of Ayr Hospice  
Friday 1st of June 7.30pm  
Victory Hall Benderloch  
Bar Open  
Admission £3 children under 12 free (must be accompanied by an adult!)

To All Oban Residents aged 60yrs and older  
Special Guest Invitation  
Free invitation to enjoy  
The Celebration of HM the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Lunch  
Sunday 3rd June  
Jubilee Big Lunch  
Argyllshire Gathering Halls, Oban  
2pm - 4pm  
Coffee/Tea, Sandwiches and Cakes will be supplied  
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### An Afternoon at the Opera

Sunday 3rd June at 3.30pm  
St John's Cathedral, George Street, Oban

Andrew Dunlop and friends will be performing a selection of well known arias and duets from the best loved operas by composers including Mozart, Rossini and Verdi.

Tickets available at the door.  
Adults - £8, Concessions - £6, Under-18s - Free

All proceeds go towards the inaugural 'Lorn Live' Chamber Festival held in August and September 2012.

## COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

Oban & Lorn Lions Club  
**ANNUAL CHARITIES DAY**  
Carnival & Street Fair  
Station Square, Oban  
1pm - 4pm  
Saturday June 9  
Carnival Parade leaves from Corran Halls for Station Square at 1.15pm

**Oban U3A**  
Tuesday 5th June 2012 at 10.30am  
Soroba House Hotel, Soroba Road, Oban  
A warm welcome to members new and old for our Monthly coffee and chat meeting

We're Fundraising in aid of Anthony Nolan  
Oban Friends of Anthony Nolan Charity Shop  
Oban Youth Café, 4 Albany Terrace, George Street, Oban  
Monday 4th June - Saturday 9th June  
10am - 4pm  
Bargain Clothing, Jewellery, Books, Bric a Brac and lots more

**Fasnacloich Gun Club**  
Open Shoot  
2nd June  
2 x 25 dtl  
12.00 start

Plutôt la Vie Presents  
**'By the Seat of Your Pants'**  
Craignish Village Hall, Ardfern  
Wednesday, June 6th, 6pm  
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**Jubilee Swing**  
Friday June 1  
Argyllshire Gathering Halls 8pm  
Taynuilt Swing Band  
Ballet West • Sequence Choir • Dance Demos  
Supper  
Tickets £8 Alba  
Doors open 7.30  
Proceeds for Oban Winter Festival

**KILMARTIN GLEN GUIDED WALKS**  
Monday 4th June and Wednesday 6th June  
Come and join us for a Free Guided Walk through Kilmartin Glen. Meet at Kilmartin House Museum. 1.30 pm - 4.00 pm. No booking required. For more details contact: www.kilmartin.org 01546 510278

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# Farming

## Securing the future of dairy farming in Kintyre



Mark Rennie and sister Emma, right, with Megan Duran, centre, who is helping out on the farm.

INSTALLING a more efficient milking parlour has allowed a Gigha farm, just off the Kintyre peninsula, secure its future and to help ensure milk still comes from the island for the foreseeable.

Over the last year Tarbert Farm, owned by the Rennie family has undergone some important changes which will benefit it and the island.

They bought and installed a second hand milking parlour, helping to cut their milking time of their 65 dairy cows.

The Rennie family moved to Gigha and took over Tarbert Farm in 1968.

Emma Dennis, née Rennie, took over in 2002 and now with brother Mark, run the farm at the island's north end.

Last year they got rid

of their sheep last year to allow them to rear more dairy cattle to increase their milking.

'We need to keep the amount of milk coming from the island up, so we decided to get rid of the sheep and bring in more cattle,' said Emma.

'We used to just have summer calving, but our aim is to now calve all year round.'

The 5-a-side Fullwood parlour, allows them to monitor how much milk each cow is producing, effectively lowering costs as they are using less cake to feed the beasts.

'Using this new system means we don't use as much cake, as it's an automatic feeder,' explained Emma who took over running the farm from her father in

2002. 'We can see exactly how much milk each cow is producing so can feed them according to that.'

'Before the milk went into a centralised tank so we couldn't see how much there was from each individual cow.'

It took the family around nine months to install the parlour, using just half of the parlour to milk during that time, using a bio with a pipeline to the tank.

With the milk tanker now only coming every second day to the island to collect milk from the three farms, Tarbert Farm has had to also extend its storage and cooling tank.

'We have had to accommodate the cut First Milk made. It was getting too expensive to bring the tanker over every day,' Emma told

The Oban Times.

She said the tanker collects 1,600 litres every second day from them.

'As long as we produce one million litres a year First Milk is quite happy with that,' she said.

### Plans are being finalised for revamped creamery

WORK is on going to progress and finalise plans for the redevelopment and investment in Campbeltown Creamery, Kintyre.

First Milk, which owns the creamery, is liaising with the local farming community to create a brand new cheese-making facility at its current site of Witchburn Road, Campbeltown.

Once complete the revamped creamery will secure the future of 38 dairy farms and 100 jobs on the peninsula.

Over the last few years, First Milk has progressed plans to sell its existing Campbeltown site to Tesco and backed by grant funding from the Scottish Government, relocate to a new location in the town.

However, it was revealed in January, Tesco now indicated it no longer wished to purchase the site in order to build a larger store in the town; as a result the creamery will remain at its current location.

The new factory will allow for increased production and provide processing efficiencies, which cannot be achieved at the current plant.

The new facility will be funded by two sources: up to £2 million from the Scottish Government and funds from First Milk, the UK's leading dairy farmer co-operative.

A First Milk spokesman said: 'Whilst we are not in a position to share any finalised plans at this time, the shape and direction of our plans are focused on creating a modernised creamery that can service the current and future growth of our brands, and business.'

## Luining spring sale attracts record entry at Dingwall

A RECORD entry of 98-head at the Luining Society's fourth spring sale at Dingwall traded soundly leaving a very high clearance rate and plenty of new buyers for this rapidly expanding breed.

Pedigree Luining bulling heifers were bid to 2,000gns with 49 selling to average £1,398; nine in-calf Luining heifers traded for an average of £1,458; 13 Luining yearlings sold to average £877; four Sim-Luining bulling heifers sold to average £1,286; 11 Sim-Luining yearlings sold to average £794 with two bulls selling to average £5,670.

The sale started with the in-calf heifer section and all stock coming from the Monzie herd. The top price of 1,500gns was achieved with the first pair of roan polled heifers in the ring with the consignment of nine selling to average

£1,458. Forty nine pedigree bulling heifers followed and sold for an average of £1,398 with a top price of 2,000gns being hit by M.J. McCall of the Kilbrora herd for a pair of red Benhar Houston sired daughters that sold to new buyer Libby Elles of Balgonar Farm, Galine. This pair had earlier won the overall championship for best pair of Luining heifers and received prize money from Harbro and W.A. Geddes as well as the much sought after Lady Anne Memorial Cup courtesy of Welbeck Scottish Farms. The Kilbrora herd topped the average charts with an impressive £1,771 for eight heifers.

Other notable averages included F.S. Renwick from Lochbroom who sold five for £1,480; A.L. & A.C. McCall from Culmally who sold six heifers to average £1,435; Mrs M. MacKenzie of Loggie sold two to

average £1,428; J.J. & R. Cameron of Monzie averaged £1,417 for six; Arisaig Farms levelled at £1,348 for six and Cadzow Bros. from Luining averaged £1,330 for three. Also in the bulling heifer section were four strong Sim-Luining heifers from Welbeck that averaged £1,286.

A large yearling section very unique to the Dingwall sale followed on; 13 Luining yearlings sold to average £877 with a top of 1,000gns being hit twice - firstly for a pair of Benhar Houston sired daughters from the Kilbrora herd of M.J. McCall and secondly by a pair of Wooplav Endeavour sired daughters from the Welbeck Scottish Farm. Eleven Sim-Luining yearlings completed the female section selling to average £794.

Two bulls were forward at the end of the sale which both sold

very well. The red bull Monzie Meerkat from J.J. & R. Cameron sold for 6,200gns to R.W. Moffat from Wooplav, Galashiels and the momentum continued with the red polled bull Welbeck Maverick selling for 4,600gns to Bob Hindmarsh from Blakehopeburnhaugh, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

Luining Society chairman Steven Murray said: 'Trade was strong today despite the late spring taking the usual bloom off our cattle and forty-head more on the year entered for this sale. We can be very pleased that we still managed to average £1,398 for our core offering of Luining bulling heifers - a lot of which went to new buyers.'

'This sort of trade allows a lot of new people to get a start in the breed which is exactly where we need to be presently.'

## Greenland white-fronted geese find protection

Quarter of the entire population migrates to Islay

ONE OF Europe's rarest species of geese, which winters on Scotland's west coast, will receive special protection in an international agreement signed last week in France.

The Greenland white-fronted goose was subject of an African-Eurasian Waterbird Agreement (AEWA), which brings together representatives of 67 governments and many other interested organisations every three years to discuss conservation needs of migratory waterbirds.

Greenland white-fronted geese breed in west Greenland and migrate through Iceland to Ireland, and northern and western Britain. Half of the entire population winters in Scotland and half of those migrate to the Isle of Islay.

Total numbers fell from a peak of 35,600 in 1999 to just 22,600 in 2010 and the species has been 'Red-Listed' under international conservation

criteria, and is a priority for action in the UK.

The draw to Scotland's west coast, and Islay in particular, is thought to be the peat bog habitat, where the birds prefer to roost.

The AEWA plan calls for: improved monitoring and research into the causes of population decline; actions on wintering areas in UK and Ireland, and staging areas in Iceland, to ensure that geese return to Greenland in the best condition for successful breeding; urgent efforts to further reduce unnecessary causes of death - for example, through collision with man-made structures, illegal killing or killing on migration routes; measures to further improve feeding habitats and reduce conflicts with humans - especially in agricultural areas; and improved protection and management of important areas used by the geese in all parts of



their international range. Dr Ian Bainbridge, head of science for Scottish Natural Heritage, said: 'We identified Greenland white-fronted geese as a priority for conservation action in 2005. For this species it is vital that the action is international, and it

has been a pleasure to work with colleagues in other countries and organisations.'

'Now we have agreed the conservation actions these geese need to ensure their survival, we need to start putting this plan into action.'

## Strong demand for quality Highlanders at Dingwall sale

DINGWALL and Highland Marts Ltd sold 97 Highland cattle at their eighth annual sale of pedigree and commercial Highland cattle at Dingwall last Wednesday when there was a strong demand for quality breeding stock.

Breeding cattle sold to £1860 for a six year old pedigree cow with bull calf at foot from J S Mackenzie, Alaval, Benderloch.

Cows with bull calves from 14 Drynie Park, Mulbuie sold to £850 and £830, while WGC Farming, Kilmartin sold to £780.

Cows with heifer calves sold to £850 from 4 and 5 Totescore and to £700 from Alaval.

In-calf cows sold to £620 and £600 from Alaval, while heifers with bull calves at foot sold to £700 from 7 Ferrindonald, Sleat and to £640 Dalchiel.

Bullocks sold to £670 from 8 Corntown, Conon Bridge, £630, 8 Corntown; £560 8 Kingsburgh, Snizort and £500 Dalchiel, Dornoch, while heifers sold to £540 from Rainbows End, Isle of Skye.

Bulls sold to £1000 three times, from Mackenzie, Alaval, Benderloch; the Scottish Government's Bull Stud at Knocknagael and Culnaha Cottages, Nigg.

## Ewes with lambs at foot sell to £196 at Stirling

CALEDONIAN Marts (Stirling) Ltd had forward 825 store and breeding sheep on Monday when ewes with lambs at foot sold to £196.

The top price was paid for Beltex cross ewes with twins at foot from M Kennedy, Lurgan. Mules with twins from Innieshevan sold to £185, with Texel ewes with twins from Mid Forrest selling to £184.

Texel ewes with singles at foot from Munieston sold to £160, with Mules with singles from Innieshevan to £136 and Cheviot crosses with singles from High Craigton to £125. Cheviots with singles from Carloan also sold to £124 with the same home selling Blackfaces with singles to £108.

Feeding ewes sold to £54 for Cheviots from Urrard Estates and hogs sold to £80 for Texels from Redhall.

## Cows with calves sell to £2,000 at Dingwall

DINGWALL and Highland Marts Ltd sold 142 store cattle at Dingwall last Wednesday with a firm trade throughout the sale particularly for quality breeding types.

Cows with bull calves sold to £2000 twice for a British Blue cross cow with a Charolais cross calf and a Simmental cross cow with a Simmental cross calf both from Smallburn Farms.

Cows with heifer calves sold to £1,600 for a Charolais cross cow with a Limousin cross calf from Smallburn Farms Ltd.

In calf cows sold to £1,320 twice for a Simmental cross and a Saler cross from Lower Whitebog, Fortrose.

Heifers with male calf sold to £1,700 twice for a British Blue cross with a Limousin cross calf and a Simmental cross with a Shorthorn cross calf, both from Smallburn Farms Ltd, Elgin.

Heifers with female calves sold to £1,750 for a Simmental cross with a Charolais cross calf from 4 & 5 Totescore, Isle of Skye.

Bullocks sold to £920 for Shorthorn crosses from Craigroy, Edderton.

Bulling heifers sold to £1,040 for a pair of Aberdeen Angus crosses from 3 Glen, Claign, Isle of Skye.

Bulls sold to £2000 for a Simmental from Torran Farm, Delny and £1,700 for a Simmental from Dunalastair Estate.

## Farmers urged to take part in rural survey

FARMERS and land managers across Argyll and the Isles are being urged to make their contribution to a survey being carried out by the local Agricultural Forum.

The survey will be distributed by the Scottish Agricultural College in the next week and will help form a new strategy giving the Forum a clearer view on issues to address.

**Nine years old**  
The survey was last carried out nine years ago and development manager for Argyll and the Islands Agricultural Forum, Fergus Younger said a lot has happened since then.

'Many factors have altered the way in which the farming industry manages the countryside,' he said. 'The impact of EU policy, global trade issues, the supply chain balance of power and climate change targets are all having an impact on individual rural businesses.'

'Livestock prices are very different today, but so too are the costs of fuel, fertiliser and feed.'

Represented on the forum are farming, crofting and landowners bodies like NFUS, SCF and Scottish Land and Estates.

There are also conservation groups like RSPB Scotland, as well as local authorities, development agencies and advisers, including the Scottish Agricultural College (SAC).

According to SAC's Oban based senior consultant Niall Campbell, firm evidence and an understanding of the trends in local farming activity over recent years will support the Forum's case.

He said: 'We can always speak about what rural business people are saying, but hard evidence from a survey like this adds more weight.'

'It will update our knowledge about what farming, forestry, crofting and aquaculture contributes to the area, including employment, biodiversity and tourism.'

'When the forum and associated stakeholders lobby government they will do so from a position of knowledge, especially during national and regional consultations about Common Agricultural Policy reform.'

Since the last survey the subsidy regime has been decoupled or separated from the number of sheep or cattle kept.

This had led towards a general trend towards lower stocking rates.

The beef herd in the Argyll area has reduced by more than the Scottish national average.

While the dairy herd has contracted, it has been less pronounced, although a slightly higher percentage of holdings have dispersed their dairy compared with the average.

'Being able to assess the impact of previous policy change will bring structure to assessing the implications for future proposals,' said Fergus Younger.

'Beef and lamb values have increased 60 per cent since 2008, but feed costs have increased 100 per cent and fertiliser is up 230 per cent since 2005.'

'The Agricultural Forum wants to consider these factors and their influence on future farm policy.'

## Bullocks sell to 391.5p per kilo at Fort William

DINGWALL and Highland Marts Ltd sold 2044 store and breeding cattle, 32 OTM cattle and 463 sheep at Fort William last Friday when all classes sold at extreme rates.

Bullocks averaged 220.9p and sold to 391.5p per kilo for a 212kg Limousin cross from 17 Inveroy, Roy Bridge, and £1060 for a Limousin cross from Strone Farm, Fort William.

Heifers averaged 213.7p and sold to 268.1p per kilo for a pair of 235kg Shorthorn crosses from Ardtornish Farms and £890 for a 438kg Limousin cross from Strone Farm.

Bulling heifers averaged 229.5p and sold to 280.1p per kilo for a 357kg Shorthorn cross from National Trust for Scotland, Isle of Canna, and £1080 for a 396kg Shorthorn cross also from Isle of Canna.

Breeding cattle sold to £1,300 for a Limousin cross cow with bull calf at foot from Insh Farm, Spean Bridge.

OTM cows averaged 123.7p and sold to 156.7p per kilo and £1070 for a 683kg Limousin cross from Fersit, Roy Bridge.

OTM clean heifers averaged 152.3p and sold to 154p per kilo for a 500kg Limousin cross from Tigh Airigh, Blarmacfoldach, and £790 for a Simmental cross from Mucconir Farm, Spean Bridge.

Ewes with lambs at foot sold to £168 for a Suffolk ewe with twin Suffolk lambs from Drumbeie, Drumadrochit, £145 for a Beltex ewe with single lamb at foot, £138 for a Mule ewe with twins at foot, both from Balmaglaster and £130 for Cheviot ewes with Texel lambs at foot from Alaval. Lambs sold to £77 for Crosses from Fassieferrn, Inverloch.

Feeding ewes sold to £74 for Beltex crosses from Aberchaldar, Gorthleck (Ross).

Feeding rams and widders sold to £77 for a Bleu du Maine ram from Aberchaldar (Ross).



Emma empties some of the milk into a bucket which can be fed to the calves.



Tarbert Farm has had to extend its storage and cooling tank as the milk tanker now visits the island every second day, instead of once a day.

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Closing date for all posts: 15 June 2012.  
To apply visit our website

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Closing date for applications 15 June 2012.  
Appointed on merit; committed to diversity and equality.

**The Princess Royal Trust for Carers**  
North Argyll Carers Centre

North Argyll Carers Centre is a value-based charity, which supports those who look after a family member or friend due to illness, disability, frailty or addiction on an unpaid basis. We provide information and advice as well as practical and emotional support through our Carers' Centres. The organisation is seeking to recruit the following:

**Carers Support Worker**  
18 hours per week - £19,000 pro-rata  
Five of the hours is subject to continuation funding. This post requires a highly motivated individual who understands issues affecting carers. For an application pack or more information contact the Carers' Centre on 01631 564422 or Email: [morag@northargyllcarers.org.uk](mailto:morag@northargyllcarers.org.uk)

Successful applicants will be required to join the PVG Scheme. Use of car and a clean driving license essential.

North Argyll Carers Centre's commitment to Equal Opportunities is reflected in our selection process.

**CLOSING DATE:**  
Monday 18th June 2012 at 12 noon  
Interview date 4th July 2012  
Registered Charity no: SC040902

**HC one of a kind**  
Kintyre Care Home, Campbeltown.

**Head Cook**  
40 hours per week. £7.60 per hour.

Candidates must be flexible and have recognised catering qualification and be able to deliver basic food hygiene training within the care home to all staff. In addition to setting rotas, working within budget and be able to deliver nutritionally balanced and appetising meals.

For further information please contact Home Manager Annette on 01586 553615 quoting reference number HC033129.  
Closing date: 15 June 2012.  
Subject to disclosure. We are an equal opportunities employer.

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Argyll Community Housing Association

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**Closing Date: 12 noon on Friday 8th June 2012**  
Interviews for this post will be held in Ardrishaig on Tuesday 19th June 2012

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**Seasonal staff - full or part time**

To work in our busy coffee shop Craignure, Isle of Mull.

Applicant should be hard working and friendly.  
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We are looking for a team player and someone with a flexible approach to their work.

Must be able to start by July or sooner if possible.

For further information and to apply for this position online, go to: [www.smi.ac.uk](http://www.smi.ac.uk) Alternatively, please write to: Human Resources, Mate, (Job Ref. D04/12.IE), The Scottish Association for Marine Science, Scottish Marine Institute, Oban, Argyll, PA37 1QA or e-mail [recruitment@sams.ac.uk](mailto:recruitment@sams.ac.uk)

Closing date: Monday 11th June 2012

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An excellent opportunity has become available for a Deputy Manager at our Nursing Home in Benderloch

We are looking for a professional and motivated person with at least two years' experience in dementia and elderly care at management level.

Candidates must be a part of the NMC register and hold a current pin number.

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Salary negotiable depending on experience

To apply for this position please contact Arlene Campbell (Manager) or Barbara Cowan (Administrator) on 01631 720 278 for an Application form and Job Description

Closing date for this position is Monday 11 June 2012

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Joint Selling Agent: Goldsmith & Co | 0131 476 6500 | [rms@goldsmith-estates.com](mailto:rms@goldsmith-estates.com)  
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**Strathbane, Southend**  
A superb four storey home forming part of a larger Victorian Villa, set in the heart of Southend with excellent views to Sanda, Ailsa Craig and the Irish coast.  
**Guide Price £160,000**

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Recently renovated throughout, a superb detached bungalow located in a woodland setting close to the village of Tayinloan.  
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A site with Planning Permission in Principle for the erection of 3 dwellings. About 0.65 hectares (1.60 acres), comprising the former sawmill.  
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**One bedroom flat, Tarbert.**  
Responsible mature single person or couple sought for this newly refurbished and newly furnished first floor flat in the centre of Tarbert, close to waterfront. Long let preferred. Sorry, no pets, no smokers, no DSS. References required.  
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**West Coast Property Guide**  
**West Coast Property Guide**

### TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

The applications listed below, along with plans and other documents submitted with them, may be examined between the hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays) at the AREA PLANNING AND BUILDING STANDARDS OFFICE, FULTON HOUSE, GORDON SQUARE, FORT WILLIAM, PH33 6XY; online at [www.highland.gov.uk](http://www.highland.gov.uk) and, where given, the alternative location(s).

Written comments should be made to the EPC at the contact details below within the time period indicated from the date of this notice. Anyone making a representation about this proposal should note that their letter or email will be disclosed to any individual or body who requests sight of representations in respect of this proposal.

Reference Number	Development Address	Proposal Description	Time period for comments
12/01620/FUL	Land West of Frisealoch Roshven Glenig Lochailort	Change of use of vacant land to garden ground	(14 days)
12/01667/542	Land 200m North East of Ardloch House Gairloch Spean Bridge	Section 42 application to remove condition 2 of 11/04007/FUL (to allow the holiday letting unit to be occupied prior to the construction of the main dwelling)	(14 days)
12/01715/FUL	Allt Nan Cailleach Burn 1km North of Stronitran	Installation of 100KW hydro scheme	(14 days)
12/01892/MSC	Site at Blar Mor and Corpach Moss Banovie Fort William	Application for Matters Specified in Condition, pursuant to condition 2 of PIP 10/02634/PIP to discharge conditions 4 (part) and 18 in so far as they relate to the class 11 Soi Generis (Police Station with Ambulance Station)	(14 days)
12/01900/MSC	Site at Blar Mor and Corpach Moss Banovie Fort William	Application for Matters Specified in Condition, pursuant to condition 2 of PIP 10/02634/PIP to discharge conditions 4 (part) and 8 to prepare land for development and establish landscape amenity bund (in part)	(14 days)
12/01910/FUL	Site 40m West of Cui A Chiarain Corpach Fort William	Erection of timber tractor store	(14 days)
12/01946/FUL	Gairloch Bay Holiday Site Gairloch Spean Bridge	Erection of chalet 1 (amended design to 09/00158/FULL0)	(14 days)
12/01953/PIP	Land 250m North East of Bellsgrange Lodge Stronitran Acharacle	Erection of house and garage (renewal of 08/00356/OUTL0)	(14 days)
12/01358/FUL	Nevis Range Development Co PLC Torlundy Fort William	Construction of 2 bike trails and alteration of downhill track under gondola line (between tower 5 and tower 3) to create a jump track. Conversion of existing track to spectator path	(14 days)
12/01645/FUL	Taj Mahal Shopping Centre Glenlyon Street Cool Fort William	Alterations to existing buildings to form ground floor takeaway/restaurant and 2 no. first floor apartments (amended design to 10/01187/FUL)	(14 days)
12/01745/FUL	Land to North East of Duror Parish Church Duror	Demolition of workshop and erection of two houses and associated access	(14 days)
12/00429/FUL	Land 70m West of Acharacle Parish Church Acharacle	Change of use of land to form extension to burial ground	(14 days)
12/01934/FUL	Site 170m South of Polish House Lochailort	Mineral working (previously broken hard rock deposit extraction)	(14 days)

PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW ADDRESS  
ePlanning Centre, The Highland Council, Glenurquhart Road, INVERNESS IV3 5NX  
Email: [eplanning@highland.gov.uk](mailto:eplanning@highland.gov.uk)

### WATER ENVIRONMENT AND WATER SERVICES (SCOTLAND) ACT 2003

#### WATER ENVIRONMENT (CONTROLLED ACTIVITIES) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2011

#### APPLICATION FOR AUTHORISATION

#### ETIVE 6 (SAILEAN RUADH)

**Please note that this Notice is a reissue of an earlier Notice which incorrectly identified the farmed species as Atlantic Salmon. SEPA apologises for any inconvenience this may have caused.**

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with regulation 13 of the above Regulations, that an application has been made to the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) by Dawfresh Farming Limited for authorisation to carry on a controlled activity in Loch Etive namely:

Etive 6, Sailean Ruadh marine cage fish farm, as follows:

Description of Controlled Activity	Waters affected	National grid reference
Discharge of waste effluent from marine cage farming of Rainbow Trout with an increase to the maximum tonnage of 2500 tonnes.	Loch Etive	NM 9830 3410

SEPA considers that the above controlled activity is likely to have an impact on the water environment and on the interests of other users of the water environment.

Any person affected or likely to be affected by, or having an interest in, the application may make representations to SEPA in writing within 28 days beginning with the date of this advertisement, at the following address, quoting reference number CAR/L1042067

**Registry Department, SEPA, Dingwall, Graesser House, Fodderty Way, Dingwall, IV 15 9XB**

A copy of the application and any accompanying information may be inspected free of charge, at the above address, between 9.30 a.m. and 4.30 p.m. Monday to Friday (except local and national holidays) and by prior arrangement at SEPA's Lochgilphead Office, 2 Smithy Lane, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8TA, 01546 602876. Alternatively, the application may be viewed on SEPA's website at: [www.sepa.org.uk/about\\_us/consultations.aspx](http://www.sepa.org.uk/about_us/consultations.aspx)

A statement of the reasons for SEPA's assessment that the above controlled activity or activities is likely to have an impact on the water environment will be made available by SEPA on request by contacting the above office.

Written representations received by SEPA within 28 days of this advertisement will be taken into consideration in determining whether or not to grant the application. Any such representations will be placed in a public register unless the person making them requests that they should not be. Where such a request is made SEPA will include a statement in the register indicating that representations have been made which have been the subject of such a request.

When ready to determine the application, SEPA will serve notice on any person who has made a representation within 28 days of this advertisement, informing them of SEPA's proposed determination and giving them the opportunity to notify the Scottish Ministers in writing that they object to SEPA's proposed determination within 21 days of the notice being served.

Before determining the application, SEPA will:

- assess the risk to the water environment posed by the carrying on of the activity or activities;
- assess the indirect effects of that impact on any other aspects of the environment likely to be significantly affected;
- consider any likely adverse social and economic effects of that impact and of any indirect environmental effects that have been identified;
- consider the likely environmental, social and economic benefits of the activity;
- assess the impact of the controlled activity or activities on the interests of other users of the water environment;
- assess what steps may be taken to ensure efficient and sustainable water use; and
- apply and have regard to relevant legislation.

SEPA will then either grant or refuse to grant an authorisation to carry on the activity or each of the activities referred to above and will make its decision available to the public together with the main reasons for it, the matters considered in making it and, if granted, details of any measures that will be taken to mitigate the impact.

**Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES**

**Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES**

#### DECROFTING DIRECTIONS ISSUED

Name, Croft, Extent/Reason, Conditions, Case number  
Mrs C C A Cameron  
6 Blich, Ardour  
0.060 ha - Croft house site and garden ground/Whole croft  
4.85.38685  
Conditions: 2a & 4  
Mrs J Traynor  
28 Anahell, Ardnarmurchan & Sunart  
0.18 ha - Site for a dwelling house  
4.86.37597  
Conditions: 1, 2b, 4

#### Proposed Let of a Croft/Part of a Croft

Mr James Adam is applying to the Crofting Commission for consent to let the tenancy of part of the croft at 1, 2, 3 & 4 Kilvaree, Connel to Mr Michael Davidson of Lochnell Cottage, Lochnell Estate, Benderloch, Argyll, PA37 1QU.

If you are a crofter, shareholder or owner of a croft in the township, or if the Commission consider that you have a direct interest in this application, you may submit comments on the proposal in writing or some other permanent form to the Crofting Commission, Great Glen House, Leachkin Road, Inverness, IV3 8NW (e-mail [info@crofting.scotland.gov.uk](mailto: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. Frivolous, vexatious or unreasonable comments cannot be accepted.

### Spotlight Musical Theatre Group AGM

Will take place on  
Tuesday 26th June 2012 at 7.30pm  
Guide Hall, Soroba Road, Oban  
All welcome

### Benderloch and North Connel Drama Club AGM

Monday 25 June at 7.30pm  
Club Hut, Keil Farm, Benderloch

**69%**  
of the business community  
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Further particulars from:  
The Secretary, (01631) 710314  
or e-mail: [seccganobain@aol.com](mailto:seccganobain@aol.com)

### APPEAL BY TAXI OPERATORS AGAINST FARESCALES

An Appeal has been lodged with the Traffic Commissioner for the Scottish Traffic Area under Section 18 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 against the Taxi Farescales proposed by Argyll & Bute Council. In accordance with Rule 3(1) of the Licensing and Regulation of Taxis (Appeals in Respect of Taxi Fares) (Scotland) Order 1985, the Traffic Commissioner HEREBY GIVES NOTICE of her decision to proceed with a PUBLIC HEARING on Wednesday, 13 June 2012 at 11am in the Balmoral Room at The Queens Hall, 9 Argyll Street, Dunoon PA23 7HH.

Mr Colin Flower  
Senior Team Leader  
Office of the Traffic Commissioner for the Scottish Traffic Area Level 6  
The Stamp Office  
10 Waterloo Place  
Edinburgh EH1 3EG

### AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH PUBLIC MEETING THE ROYAL NATIONAL MOD

is to be held in OBAN in OCTOBER, 2015

All interested are invited to the meeting to be held in St. Columba's Hall (Non-Gaelic speakers welcome) Tuesday 12th JUNE 2012 at 7.30 p.m.

The purpose is to form a Local Committee to work with the organising body of An Comunn Gàidhealach

### Notice of AGM DALMALLY COMMUNITY COMPANY

will hold their AGM in the Community Centre at 7.30 PM on Wednesday 20th June All members and guests welcome.

**Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES**

To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us @ [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk)



### PLANNING

These applications listed below together with other related documents may be inspected between 09:00 - 17:00hrs Monday to Friday at Municipal Buildings Albany Street Oban PA34 4AW, at the alternative locations detailed below or by logging on to the Council's website at [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk) Written comments for the following list of applications should be made to the above address within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence.

#### TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2008 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT

Ref	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
12/00907/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse, installation of septic tank and formation of new access.	Land South East of Tigh Na Bata Kilmelford Oban Argyll And Bute PA34 4XA	Sub Post Office Kilmelford
12/00934/PP	Erection of extension to dwellinghouse.	Shepherds Cottage Kilinver Oban Argyll and Bute PA34 4JU	Oban Area Office
12/01031/PP	Erection of detached garage	Taigh A Ghiuthais North Connel Oban Argyll and Bute PA37 1GX	Sub Post Office Ledaig
12/01094/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse	Land West Of Lianag Beadoun Tobermory Isle of Mull Argyll and Bute PA75 6GA	Tobermory Area Office
12/01109/PPP	Site for the erection of dwellinghouse	Glencruitten Home Farm Oban Argyll and Bute PA34 4QB	Oban Area Office
12/01145/PP	Change of use from a dwellinghouse to a house of multiple occupation	Aros Taynuilt Argyll and Bute PA35 1JE	Sub Post Office Taynuilt

#### TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 (AS AMENDED), RELATED PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

Ref	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
12/00814/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse with integral garage, installation of septic tank, upgrade of existing access and formation of new vehicular access	Land South West of Glenmore Farm Kilmelford Oban Argyll And Bute PA34 4XA	Sub Post Office Kilmelford
12/01090/LIB	Block up existing kitchen window to the rear of dwellinghouse and form new window opening	8 Port Ramsay Isle of Lismore Oban Argyll And Bute PA34 5UN	Sub Post Office Lismore
12/01112/PP	Change of use and alterations from public convenience to Class 1 shop.	Public Toilet Main Street Tobermory Isle of Mull Argyll And Bute	Tobermory Area Office

These applications listed below together with other related documents may be inspected between 09:00 - 17:00hrs Monday to Friday at 67 Chalmers Street Ardrishaig PA30 8DX, at the alternative locations detailed below or by logging on to the Council's website at [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk) Written comments for the following list of applications should be made to the above address within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence.

#### TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2008 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT

Ref	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
12/00726/PPP	Site for the erection of dwellinghouse and installation of septic tank.	Plot E Land North of Swallows Roost Kilmelford Port Ellen Isle of Bute	Sub Post Office Port Ellen
12/00771/PPP	Site for the erection of dwellinghouse and installation of septic tank.	Plot C Land South West of Tir Nan Og Kilmelford Isle of Bute	Sub Post Office Port Ellen
12/00772/PPP	Site for the erection of dwellinghouse and installation of septic tank.	Plot B Land South West of Tir Nan Og Kilmelford Isle of Bute	Sub Post Office Port Ellen

These applications listed below together with other related documents may be inspected between 09:00 - 17:00hrs Monday to Friday at Whitegates Offices, Whitegates Road, Lochgilphead, PA31 8SY, at the alternative locations detailed below or by logging on to the Council's website at [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk) Written comments for the following list of applications should be made to the above address within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence.

#### TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2008 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT

Ref	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
12/00904/MFF	Formation of fin fish (Atlantic Salmon) farm.	Proposed Fin Fish Farm Loch Scridain Isle of Mull Argyll and Bute	Sub Post Office Craignure
12/01176/MFF	Formation of fin fish (Atlantic Salmon) farm.	Proposed Fin Fish Farm North Gometra Loch Tuath Isle of Mull Argyll and Bute	Sub Post Office Dervaig

These applications listed below together with other related documents may be inspected during office hours in the register of planning applications kept by the Planning Authority, at Whitegates Offices, Whitegates Road, Lochgilphead, PA31 8SY; and by logging on to the Council's Website at [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk) and going through the 'Online planning and Building Standards Application Information' system during the period of 28 days beginning with the date of this notice.

Copies of the environmental statement may be purchased from The Scottish Salmon Company at a cost of £80.00 for a paper copy and £5.00 for a CD version.

Any person who wishes to make representations to Argyll and Bute Council about the environmental statement should make them in writing within the period to Mr R. Kerr, Principal Planning Officer, Whitegates Offices, Whitegates Road, Lochgilphead, PA31 8SY

Planning Application Reference Number: 12/01176/MFF

Proposed development at Proposed Fin Fish Farm, North Gometra, Loch Tuath, Isle of Mull, Argyll and Bute

Notice is hereby given that an environmental statement has been submitted to Argyll and Bute Council by The Scottish Salmon Company relating to the planning application in respect of formation of fin fish (Atlantic Salmon) farm, notified to Argyll and Bute Council.

A copy of the environmental statement and the associated planning applications may be inspected during office hours in the register of planning applications kept by the Planning Authority, at Whitegates Offices, Whitegates Road, Lochgilphead, PA31 8SY; and by logging on to the Council's Website at [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk) and going through the 'Online planning and Building Standards Application Information' system during the period of 28 days beginning with the date of this notice.

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Argyll and Bute Council encourages planning applications to be made on-line through The Scottish Government website: <http://eplanning.scotland.gov.uk>

The Council maintain a Register of planning applications which can be viewed through normal office hours at Planning and Regulatory Services, Whitegates Offices, Whitegates Road, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8SY.

A weekly list of applications can be viewed at the above address and at all Council Libraries.

Any letter of representation the Council receives is considered a public document and will be published on our website. Anonymous or marked confidential correspondence will not be considered.

### DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

#### THE ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL (CRANNAIG-A-MHINISTER AND GLENMORE ROAD, OBAN) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) ORDER 2012

On Monday 28th May 2012, Argyll and Bute Council made the above named Order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, which will make it unlawful for any person to drive or cause or permit to be driven any vehicle on the lengths of road detailed below.

Cranraig-a-Mhinister - From its junction with Dunuaran Road extending in a north westerly, south westerly and southerly direction to its junction with Pulpit Drive a distance of 688 metres or thereby.

Glenmore Road - From its junction with Pulpit Drive extending in a south easterly direction, for a distance of 30 metres or thereby.

These restrictions are required to allow resurfacing work to be carried out.

Alternative routes will be signed in an appropriate manner.

The restrictions imposed by this Order will be in operation daily between 0800 and 1800 hours from Monday 11th June 2012 until Friday 22nd June 2012 or until the works are complete, whichever is the earlier.

Access to affected properties will be maintained but may be subject to delays. For further information please contact: Roads & Amenity Services, Jacksons Quarry, Millpark Road, Oban, 01631 563264.

#### THE ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL (QUEENS PARK PLACE AND STATION ROAD, OBAN) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) ORDER 2012

On Monday 28th May 2012 Argyll and Bute Council, made the above named Order under Section 16A of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, which will make it unlawful for any person to drive or cause or permit to be driven any vehicle, with the exception of emergency services vehicles, through the entire length of Queens Park Place and Station Road, Oban in order to permit the holding of Charities Day on or near those roads.

The Order, which shall be effective when indicated by signs, will be in operation between 0600 hours and 1800 hours on Saturday 9th June 2012.

Alternative Route: There is no alternative route.

Sandy MacTaggart, Executive Director, 1A Manse Brae, LOCHGILPHEAD PA31 8RD

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**MAMAS'N PAPAS** ROCKER Mamas 'n Papas rocking cradle. As new, £20 Telephone 01631 565331.

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**MOTHERCARE PLAYNEST** Jungle Playnest and Gym. As new, £20 Telephone 01631 565331.

**QUINNY ZAPP** black in colour, a great pram that folds very small, good condition, comes with clear waterproof cover, £45 Telephone 01631 567043.

**BICYCLES**

**CLAUD BUTLER** MOUNTAIN BIKE kids bike with 20" wheel, ideal for summer use or as a spare at grandparents house. Good bike Avg cond (£230 new). Onich area, £40 Telephone 01855 821568.

**KIDS BMX BIKE** BMX with 20" wheel, suit 6-12yrs, black frame with blue decals. As new cond, unwanted gift. Make ideal present. Onich area, £45 Telephone 01855 821568.

**BUILDING / DIY**

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**BREAKFAST BAR** LEG BRUSHED chrome height 870mm, height adjustable up to 25mm - new and unused in box with fittings. North Connel area, £10 Telephone 07888 677645.

**DEWALT FLIP OVER** SAW model DW742, little used, £350 Telephone 07765 007588.

**HERAS FENCING** 28 sheets of heras fencing, 18 feet/blocks. Collection only, £400ono Telephone 01631 740224.

**VELUX WINDOWS** two Velux roof windows in pine GGL/M06, 78 x 118. Collection only, £350 Telephone 01631 740224.

**CARAVAN EQUIPMENT**

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**PERSONALS**

**Shirley Keen** would like to thank all family and friends for a fantastic surprise party at the Golf Club. Special thanks to Catherine, Gary, Kevin and Julie and all who helped to make her night so memorable.



**This wee smasher** has just turned 40 And still looks great in a swimsuit Happy Birthday to Jacqui Buchanan With love from all the family

**NICHOLSON ANNA** Very many thanks to Poppy, Lucy and all my very generous friends for all the cards, gifts and donations on my birthday. £725 was collected for the Falls of Dochart Retirement Home.

**HAPPY 21ST** 31/05/91 CAROLINE



LOTS OF LOVE FROM MUM, DAD & ALL THE FAMILY

I would like to say a very big thank you to everyone who helped me move house. To Mags for her fabulous hard work, great food and support, Caroline for her never ending energy, Judy and Samantha for all their great help and support. Shaun for his boxes, Ryan, Steven and Dondie for their hard work. Gavin, Neil and Duncan for their power and stamina. Mum and Dad for always supporting in the background, to all the lovely people who I work with and for their constant kind words and support. Thank you all. Loads of love. Sally Payne

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YOUR attention is drawn to the following terms and conditions which relate to the placing of advertisements in all publications owned by Wyvex Media Limited.

Parties to this agreement are the Publisher, Wyvex Media Limited Limited on the one part and the Advertiser on the other part. The Publisher publishes newspapers, magazines, books and provides advertising space therein or provides for the delivery of advertising materials to the public within these publications.

1. Advertising copy shall be legal, decent, honest and truthful and comply with the British Code of Advertising Practice and all other codes.

2. The Publisher does not guarantee the insertion of any particular advertisement.

3. The Publisher reserves the right to cancel or alter the advertisement by giving reasonable notice.

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7. The Publisher shall not be liable for any loss or damage occasioned by any total or partial failure (however caused) of publication or distribution of any newspaper or edition in which any advertisement is scheduled to appear. In the event of any error, misprint or omission in the printing of an advertisement or part of an advertisement, the Publisher will either re-insert the advertisement or relevant part of the advertisement, as the case may be, or make reasonable refund or adjustment to the cost. No re-insertion, refund or adjustment will be made where the error, misprint or omission does not materially detract from the advertisement.

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10. Adverts under the value of £75 must be paid on acceptance of order by the Publisher. All advertising on a credit basis must be agreed with the Publisher in advance.

11. Payment of any invoice raised by the Publisher will be due 15 days from the date of invoice or as otherwise directed on the invoice. In the event of non-payment the Publisher may charge late payment interest at a rate of 2% and this is chargeable on a daily basis from the due date until the bill is paid. In addition the Publisher may charge a late payment levy of £10 as an administration fee. In the event of late payment the Publisher reserves the right to disallow any discounts given and to raise an additional invoice for the discount which will be treated as though it has been raised with the original invoice.

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BIRTHS

**MACLEAN - JOHNSTON**  
Kenny and Eilidh are delighted to announce the safe arrival of their beautiful daughter, Lois Yvonne MacLean, on May 7, 2012, third granddaughter for Roseann and Kenny, first granddaughter for Yvonne and John. Thanks for all the care received from Oban and Paisley Hospitals.

MARRIAGES

**ELLERT-MCDERMOTT**  
A fantastic, fun filled wedding took place on Saturday May 5 between Heidi, only daughter of Reinhard and Anne and the rather lovely Roger, son of Alan and Hilary. The service was at St Mary's Church, Wotten Under Edge, Gloucester, then celebrations continued at the Berkeley Square Hotel, Bristol. Everyone had a wonderful day.

**HEALEY - GREAVES**  
At Barcaldine Castle, Benderloch on Thursday May 10, 2012 by Fiona Dickie, Kieran Denis, youngest son of Denis and Sandra, to Jessica Anne, youngest daughter of Mike, Philippines. Terrific day had by all.

DEATHS

**MACKAY** - (Glenelg). Peacefully at An Acarsaid, Broadford, Isle of Skye, on Wednesday, May 23, 2012, Isabella, beloved wife of the late Tony MacKay, a dearly loved and loving mother, mother-in-law, granny and great-granny. The Funeral service will take place at Glenelg Church of Scotland on Tuesday, June 5, 2012 at 2pm thereafter to Glenelg Cemetery.

**MACLENNAN** - Effie of Caoilas-an-Eilean, Isle of Coll, passed away on May 28, 2012, eldest daughter of the late Donald and Rachel Sutherland and sister of the late Margaret, dearly loved mother of Rachel, Ewen, Elizabeth and Donald, much loved granny of Elizabeth, Katherine, Rachel, Daniel and David, loving aunt of Donald. In our hearts forever. Funeral service will take place on Coll, Saturday June 2, 2012.

**McCALL** - Andrew (Andy). Suddenly at Hairmyres Hospital, East Kilbride on May 25, aged 31 years. Beloved husband of Suzy, adored son of Sandra and Tom, wonderful brother of Valerie, proud uncle of Emily and treasured friend of so many. Rest in peace our beautiful darling boy.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

**MACLEAN** - Morag, Donald and girls would like to thank all family, friends and neighbours who provided support during this difficult time, especially those who visited Morag during her final weeks. Your expressions of kindness are genuinely appreciated. We would like to express our sincere thanks to Reverend Elspeth Maclean for her help with funeral arrangements and also a special thanks to the Reverend Peter Williams for conducting the Service and Lachie MacKinnon for his comforting Gaelic prayer. Thanks to Doctor Holiday and Doctor Todd together with the local nurses, and ambulance team for their help and care during the last few months. Our gratitude to 'The Scarinish Hotel' and staff for providing a welcome and refreshments. Additionally, we would like to express our thanks to the Coop Funeral Service Glasgow and Tice who provided a professional and empathetic service. Many thanks for those who contributed to the 'Tigh a Rudha' Comfort Fund raising a total of £340.

**RUSSELL** - Billy, Sandra and Family would like to thank all our relatives, friends and neighbours for their heartfelt sympathy on the sudden loss of our kind, sensitive and loving son, brother and uncle Martin. Sincere thanks to the Reverend Dugald Cameron for his comforting service and visits, many thanks also to young Ian and all at D & A Munn for their caring and sympathetic arrangements. The retiring collection raised a total of £647.27 for Asthma UK, thanks to all.

**TURNER** - Kenny and family would like to thank all friends and neighbours for their cards, calls and kind words of sympathy and support following our sad loss of Margaret. A special thanks to Hilary and the Macmillan nurses. To Hamish Hoey & Sons for their sympathetic handling of the funeral, to Rev Dugald Cameron for a lovely service, and the Rowntree Hotel for refreshments. The sum of £456.15 was raised to be shared between Cancer Research and Macmillan nurses.

MEMORIALS

**BARR** - In loving memory of Johnny our dad and pap, died May 31 2011.

- Peter, Ann and families.

**BEATON** - In loving memory of my dear wife Lizzie who passed away on June 2, 2011.

Always in my thoughts  
Forever in my heart

- Archie

**BEATON** - Precious memories of Lizzie who passed away June 2, 2011 beloved mother of Sheena and Donald, loving granny of Diarmid, Amy, Dawn and Kenzie, a dear mother in law, sister, aunt and great aunt.

Always loved, always remembered, sadly missed.

**BRYARS** - Craig November 1978 - June 2003  
A little tribute small and tender

Just to say that we remember  
Mam, Dad, Darin and family xx

**CURRIE** - In loving memory of our dad Archie who passed away June 1, 1998.

The years may pass  
But still you stay  
As near and dear as yesterday.

- Mairi  
- Allan, Gillian & family

**DOWNIE** - In loving memory of our dad and grampa George, who died on May 28, 1968 and our mam and nana Aggie, who died on June 7, 2001.

We hold you both within our hearts  
And there you shall remain  
To walk with us throughout our lives

Until we meet again.  
- Inserted by Betty, Auriol and families, Fort William, Inverness and Edinburgh.

**HUNTER** - Loving memories of Linda, my beautiful and brave daughter.  
Forever loved.  
- Ma xxxx

**HUNTER** - June 3, 2009. My sister Linda.  
To us you were so special  
What more is there to say  
The pain is still within our hearts

As we think of you each day  
We love and miss you.  
- Monica and Brian.

**KING** - Frances May, died May 31, 2010.  
Close to our hearts  
You will always stay  
Loved and remembered  
Every day.

- George, Raymond and Gordon.

**KIRKPATRICK** - Cherished memories of Catherine a devoted wife, mother, Gran and sister who passed away on May 31, 2001.

Remembering you is easy  
We do it every day  
Missing you is the heartache  
That never goes away.

- Angus and sons Allan and Gary and the rest of the family.

**LAMONT** - Effie. In loving memory of our dear mother and gramma Effie Lamont who passed away on June 2, 2001, also remembering our beloved father Archie who died on January 5, 1987 and loved ones gone before and since.

Fondest memories of happy times shared.  
Ever in our thoughts.

- Johann, Archie and family Glasgow and Innes, Katie and family, Isle of Lewis.

**MACCALLUM** - In loving memory of Norman who passed away on May 31, 2011. Sadly missed and forever in our thoughts.

- Love Barbara, Neil, Mairi, Elizabeth and families, Fionnphort, Isle of Mull.

**MACINTYRE** - Loving memories of Kenny who died May 30, 1999.  
You continue to be our inspiration with your humour, tenacity and generosity.  
Your spirit lives on in our growing family of five grandchildren.  
Loved and missed always.  
- Elizabeth, Kenny, Colin and families.

ECCLESIASTICAL NOTICES

**ASSOCIATED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, OBAN**  
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MA, MTh  
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All welcome

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Sunday 2 June 2012  
St John's Cathedral, Oban  
Choral Evensong in celebration of  
H.M. The Queen's  
Diamond Jubilee..... 15.00  
Sunday 3 June 2012  
Trinity Sunday  
St John's Cathedral, Oban  
Holy Communion..... 08.00  
Sung Eucharist..... 10.15  
Loop System  
Large Print Hymn Books  
All Welcome  
Kilbrandon Kirk  
Holy Eucharist..... 15.15  
Holy Cross, Portnacraoish, Appin  
Evensong..... 18.00  
St Columba, Gruline, Mull  
Holy Communion..... 11.00

St Columba,  
Bishop's House, Iona  
Holy Eucharist..... 08.00  
Evensong..... 20.15  
Holy Eucharist.....  
..... Wed 6 June 14.30

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Though for the week

Leviticus chapter 25 verse 13

"In this year of Jubilee you shall return, every one of you, to your patrimony".

Duty is that facet of love which takes over, inspires us, makes us faithful, long after the glamour and the novelty have past.

Love is of God and makes God known to us whether we always recognise that fact or not, that is what Our Lord Jesus Christ lived and died and rose again to prove.

Duty is the recognition of love which we share, and love which draws us together into God's Life.

Whatever our feelings about the concept of Monarchy, there is no doubt that Elizabeth Alexandra Mary, Duchess of Edinburgh has done her duty, she has been faithful to the God who is love, through that much denigrated concept of duty.

We need to remember in this year of Jubilee, that the whole idea of Jubilee and celebration is based upon the Old Testament concept that every fifty years debts are to be cancelled and all property returned to its original owners.

As we celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee it is our duty to keep in mind the very ideas of economic justice, international peace, mutual understanding which are embodied in the very word Jubilee.

Such ideas, concepts, show God is with us and His Holy Spirit is moving among us.

The Right Reverend Kevin Pearson  
Bishop of Argyll and The Isles



Three new elders were welcomed into the kirk session of St Munda's Church of Scotland, Ballachulish last Sunday. A large congregation saw Derina Chisholm and Graham Robertson, both of Ballachulish and Lynn Brown of Glencoe ordained as elders. The Rev Moira Herkes also welcomed a group of visitors from Iowa, USA to morning worship. They had spent a few days on Iona and were finishing their holiday in the area. And what fantastic weather they had. (We didn't like to tell them it occasionally rained here!). Following the service, a buffet lunch was served in the church hall.

25 Years Ago Those Were The Days  
The Oban Times

Thursday, June 4, 1987

Community Council impressed by station plans

THE PROPOSALS for development of the station site in Oban met with general approval from members of Oban Community Council, at a recent meeting.

The only major grievance which members had was the lack of a library on the site. Mr Sydney Beaton said that walking to the Corran Halls to visit the present town library was awkward for elderly people, especially in winter.

Mrs Norma Wright said that the real problem was of access to the library for disabled people as the library is reached by a fairly narrow stair.

District councillors Noel Faccenda and Willie Hunter repeated that the problem was one of finance.

Whether the district council bought or leased a building at the new station development, there was still not enough money.

Councillor Hunter said: 'It is to be hoped that when all the final costings for this development are complete money can be found somewhere for a library. But we are squeezed on both capital and revenue accounts.'

Lead free petrol for Highlands

THE FIRST unleaded petrol in the Highland region went on sale at Nether Lochaber filling station at Onich on Tuesday.

The station has been operating since 1927 under the management of the Cameron family who also run the newsagent's shop there.

Mr Angus Cameron said: 'The tourist board and the hotels have said that the foreign visitors won't come unless they are guaranteed unleaded petrol.'

The petrol, which is one grade, sells at £1.77 per gallon, the same price as ordinary four-star petrol.

Mr Cameron, whose daughter Anne-Marie Cameron manages the filling station said: 'We have been asked in the past for unleaded petrol.'

Tralee Action Group demand their local councillor's resignation

MEMBERS of the Tralee Beach Action Group (T-BAG) are to call for the resignation of their local district councillor over the beach issue.

The pressure group, formed after mineral extraction escalated at the beach earlier this year, say that councillor John Sharples acted against the interests of local people.

He seconded a move to turn down an application for mineral extraction at Saulmore, near Dunbeg.

T-BAG had hoped that Saulmore would be approved and that sand and gravel for infill at Oban Railway Pier could be taken from there instead of Tralee.

It was large quantities of sand and gravel being taken from Tralee for the final phases of work on the pier that brought matters to a head earlier this year.

T-BAG had hoped that the company which is carrying out the pier works, Monks, would agree to take material from Saulmore instead of from Tralee.

Supermarket plan agreed at Lochavullin

PETER K Plimley, the preferred developer for the station site in Oban, the preferred developer for the station site in Oban has received district council approval to plans for a supermarket and a "non-food" store at Lochavullin.

Because the proposal is contrary to the current local plan, the plans will now need to be approved by Strathclyde Regional Council, director of planning Mr Michael Oliver said that indications were that the regional council would also give their approval.

But Strathclyde Region's divisional engineer objected to the plans in a submission to the council, on the grounds that this land had originally been zoned for car parking.

However, Mr Oliver told committee members that Plimleys would be providing 215 car parking spaces at the development site. Together with a new car park on the station site, this should meet the need in Oban.

£21,000 church appeal

WORK is now well underway on the restoration of the old Cille Choirill Church in Brae Lochaber.

A total of £21,000 is needed to pay for the work which involves putting a foundation under the gable end wall to make the building safe.

Mr Archie MacFarlane, chairman of the fund raising appeal committee said: 'If the work was not done the wall would have eventually fallen down.'

After the structural work - which is being carried out by an English firm who specialise in this field - is completed, landscaping work will be carried out free of charge as a donation by a local firm.

Factory gold safety award

KELCO AIL's factory at Barcaldine, near Oban, has won the company's prestigious gold award for safety during 1986. Barcaldine has proved to be the safest factory for workers in the whole of Kelco - covering those in Britain and the United States.

Last week managing director of Kelco International, Mr Jurgen Dominik, travelled to Barcaldine specially to present the gold awards. He congratulated the workforce on their excellent safety record.

There were no accidents leading to time off work at the factory during 1986. And what was more, said Mr Dominik, Barcaldine was also accident free so far in 1987.

Following the ceremony last week the workforce enjoyed a special lunch.



Ship's carpenter retires

OVER 20 years of service as ship's carpenter on board the lighthouse tender Fingal were marked last week when the ship's company gathered to honour Mr John MacCallum.

Mr MacCallum joined the lighthouse service in 1958 when he served on the Hesperus. He moved to the Fingal in 1964 as gasman, becoming ship's carpenter in 1966.

His earlier career had included a time with MacDonald's Tweed Mill in Oban. During the war he served with the RAOC and RASC at home and in Italy.

Mr MacCallum is a native of Kilmartin. He is a church elder in Oban and he and his wife, Isobel, have four children, all married.

Captain William Evans of the Fingal presented Mr MacCallum with a television from his colleagues and friends. Mrs MacCallum was presented with a brooch.



Music workshop success

A GROUP of young competitors pictured here at the recent music workshop held in Fort William.



Managing director of Kelco International, Mr Jurgen Dominik, travelled to Barcaldine specially to present the gold awards. He congratulated the workforce on their excellent safety record.

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**WEDDINGS**

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# Kilmallie in relegation danger after derby defeat

'It was hammer and tongs the whole way through the match'

REPORT BY RICHARD HADDOCK rhaddock@obantimes.co.uk

FORT William piled the relegation pressure on neighbours Kilmallie with a 3-1 win in the local derby in Caol on Saturday. Kilmallie are rooted to the bottom of the Orion Premiership having picked up just three points from their first 10 games, while the win moved Fort up to sixth place, five points clear of the relegation zone.

**Sapped**  
A large crowd turned out at Canal Parks for the game, but the strong sunshine seemed to

have sapped some of the players' energy as the first half was played out mainly in midfield. Referee Billy Wotherspoon had to stop the game for several minutes after a small dog ran out of the crowd and started chasing the ball. Eventually players and supporters managed to clear the pooch from the field and play was allowed to continue. There was little for either keeper to do until Fort forward Daniel Stewart struck five minutes before half time to give his side the lead. Bryan Simpson had the chance to double the lead soon after but saw his penalty saved by Kilmallie keeper Kevin Toye.

## SHINTY

Ryan Campbell's made the score 2-0 just after the hour, and while the home side put in plenty of effort they were unable to craft many chances.

**Sealed**  
Kilmallie's Martin Stewart pulled a goal back with four minutes to play, but within 60 seconds Campbell sealed the win with his second of the game. Fort manager Peter MacIntyre told The Oban Times he felt his team put in the better performance on the day. He said: 'I think we deserved it. There was quite a strong wind



Fort's Gordy MacKinnon challenges a Kilmallie defender for the ball during Saturday's match. 20\_f22shinty01

and Kilmallie probably had more possession in the first half, but our keeper didn't have much to do. I thought in the second half we were the better team and we created more chances. 'Our finishing was better than it has been in recent weeks, we've not been finishing off the chances we've been creating. 'It was very, very hot but both teams kept going and it was hammer and tongs the whole way through.'

**Creating**  
Kilmallie chairman Hugh MacIntyre said: 'They threw it away in the first half: we had plenty of the ball but we didn't create anything. It's been like that all season. Our forwards are playing well but not creating enough. 'The players faded towards the end of the game. It was hot but it was the same heat for everyone out there. They are not as fit as

they should be.' Kilmallie have a chance for immediate revenge when the two sides again do battle at Canal Parks in the Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup second round this Saturday. For more preview and team news see the shinty page inside.

## Sail Caledonia classic boats event

### SAILING

LOCHABER Yacht Club plays host to the start of the annual Sail Caledonia event on Saturday, in which a fleet of up to 14 classic sailing boats powered by sail and oars will complete the 60-mile journey from Fort William to Inverness. The flotilla will follow the Caledonian Canal and the Great Glen's natural lochs - Loch Lochy, Loch Oich, Loch Ness and Loch Dochfour - on their way to the Highland capital. The crews, who come from as far afield as France and Holland, will compete in races as well as enjoying exploring the Great Glen - and some Scottish style socialising, at cèilidhs. The club's next big event is the annual regatta from June 18-24, with activities planned for each day, followed by a barbecue outside the clubhouse. Since the club's 'Three Peaks' race was shortened to 'Two Peaks' May 13 due to poor weather, the regatta will include a 'One Peak' race as part June 19, in conjunction with Lochaber Athletic Club. Runners and crew will sail across Loch Linnhe to Meall Slamain, which the runners will ascend, then re-join the boats to sail back to the clubhouse. Friday, June 22 is 'try a boat' evening and any one wishing to try out sailing can come along and have a short sail in a club boat - from anything from a Wayfarer dinghy to a 30-foot cruiser.

## Welfare league

### FOOTBALL

BALLA UTD and BA Club lead the way in the Welfare Football League after both teams picked up wins in the last week. Balla Utd beat Lundavra 2-1 in Kinlochleven on Friday night while BA Club won 5-1 against Lochaber in Fort William as both sides maintained their 100 per cent record after three games. Earlier in the week BA recorded the biggest win of the season so far, defeating Celtic 13-0 last Tuesday. Celtic then lost 10-0 to Caol Cosmos the following night. Celtic's match on Monday night was called off as opponents Ballachulish could not raise a team, giving Celtic a 4-0 win. The other game of the week saw Mallaig defeat Ballachulish 9-1 in Kinlochleven.

## Kilchoan's fixtures

### FOOTBALL

SCOTLAND'S most westerly football club have announced their fixtures for this summer. Ardnamurchan-based Kilchoan FC's first game will be away to Glasgow Giffnock on Saturday June 9, followed by a home tie against Iona FC on June 30. The annual grudge match against local rivals Coll FC will be held on July 14, with the islanders playing host for this year's match. A few spaces are still left on the Islander ferry, which will take fans and players across. The summer season ends with a trip to Bristol to take part in a tournament with teams from all over Europe over the August bank holiday weekend.

## Cyclists defy 80-degree heat in the Skye Mor endurance challenge

### CYCLING

FOUR ISLE of Skye cyclists defied 80-degree heat to complete the gruelling Skye Mor road cycling endurance challenge on Saturday. In a field of 72 who completed the course, Keith Ranicar from Dunvegan finished in a rapid 4hrs 46mins 45 secs - the second fastest time overall. Ian Stewart arrived back in Portree in 6.51:30, John 'Jocky' White from Kilmuir in 7.08:10 and Gill Housby of Columba 1400 in Staffin in 7.57:50. The 95-mile loop round the north of the island, which involved 5,914 feet of ascent, followed the A855 from Portree north to Staffin then round the northern tip of Skye to Uig, back towards Portree on the A87 and right onto the A850 to Dunvegan. The field then turned onto the A863

for the Sligachan Hotel, left onto the A87 and back to Portree. Sergeant Andrew Shaw from Portree, who has completed the Skye Mor three times, was in uniform on Saturday to help police the challenge. He told The Oban Times: 'It was a very well-run event that had a minimal impact of traffic. There were no incidents and it looked as though a good day was had by all.' The Skye Mor and a shorter challenge on the day, the Skye Beag, were part of the Skye Sportive, one of a series of road cycling challenges held over the summer by Strathpeffer-based Hands On Events.



The field makes its way along the Staffin road in the Skye Mor. Photo: Iain Smith

## 'Happy Hackers' win Rotary Club Am Am

### GOLF

THE ROTARY Club of Lochaber's annual Am-Am golf tournament attracted 164 golfers to Fort William Golf Club on a sunny Sunday. The competition was won by the 'Happy Hackers' - Neil Feggins, David Martin, Brian Gillespie and John Martin. The Highlanders - Stewart Duncan, John Cameron, Alan Overend and David MacDonald - finished in second just two shots behind. The competition saw the best two scores out of the four added together. The prizes were handed out at a ceremony in the clubhouse at the end of a long days play, with a number of competitors complaining of sunburn. On Saturday the club held the Gleneagles Medal with Peter Stewart winning with a net round of 69. Martin Duncan took the runners up slot after his net round of 70 left him one shot of the lead.

David Fairgrieve shot 71 to take third. Last week the ladies' LGU extra medal and eclectic competition was held with Kathleen Leitch taking a comfortable eight shot win over Rosemary Macintyre and Ann Lovatt. Am-Am results: 1, Happy Hackers - Neil Feggins, David Martin, Brian Gillespie and John Martin - 112; 2, Highlanders - Stewart Duncan, John Cameron, Alan Overend and David MacDonald - 114; 3, Early Birds - Frank Sweeney, Paul Campbell, Pat Cassidy and Peter Stewart - 122 (B/H); 4, Crofter Bar - Dale Monk, Joe Sweeney, Owen Sweeney and John Sweeney - 122. Ladies: 1, Kraggies - Ann Lovat, Rosemary Macintyre, Kathleen Leitch and Gail Anderson - 131. Yellow ball: Spean Commandoes - John MacPhee, Angus Morrison, Lachlan Campbell and Neil MacDonald. Longest drive: Men - Lachlan Campbell; Ladies - Gail Anderson. Nearest the pin: 3rd - Owen Sweeney; 6th - Martin Duncan; 12th - Owen Sweeney; 16th - George Waterstone.

## Murdo Gordon wins round two of the Skye Cup

### GOLF

ROUND two of the Skye Cup at the Isle of Skye Golf Club saw Murdo Gordon take the win with a round of 69 (net 61). Alex Munro was runner up after going round the Sconser course in 72 (net 62), with Murdo Beaton third with 77 (net 63). The midweek medal saw Mike

Mace take the win with a round of 74 (net 62). John Murray's better inward half gave him second place after he and Gillies Nicolson both went round in net 63.



The derby match drew large crowds with both sets of supporters packing out Canal Parks. 20\_f22shinty02

## Cricket club continue good run of form

### CRICKET

FORT William Cricket Club continued their impressive recent form with a 62 run victory over Elgin at the BA Club on Saturday. Despite the early loss of usual run-makers Colin Jennings and DJ Duncan, Fort still had plenty to offer, with Charlie Luxton batting magnificently for 90 and unlucky not to make his maiden century. His club record partnership of 148 with skipper Kevin O'Meara (79) took Fort to 229 for five. Davy Duncan scored a quickfire 36, and Lindsay Gordon smashed a four and a six off his two balls to help Fort reach a best ever total of 252 for six. Fort found it hard to remove Elgin's opener Matt Hastie (51). At 118 for one, Elgin were still in the hunt, but Derek Spencer

caught and bowled Hastie his partner soon followed, clean bowled by Lindsay Gordon. Gordon's (4-34) and Spencer (3-20) helped Fort bowl out Elgin for 190. The Lochaber side's third consecutive league win means they still top the table in a very promising season. Captain O'Meara picked out Luxton's innings as the highlight of a great day. The reserve team also managed a win with a hard fought victory over Skye and Lochalsh in Fort Augustus. Fort scored 136 for 84 all out. This weekend Fort visit Forres on Saturday while the reserve side host Northern Counties at the BA on Sunday.

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No responsibility will be accepted for entries which are delayed, mislaid or lost, and proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery. The Company's decision is final on all matters relating to the competition and no correspondence will be entered into. The final decision rests with the Company.

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# Oban Camanachd's indiscipline rears its ugly head again

## Rippon sees red for violent conduct after confrontation with referee

**OBAN CAMANACHD'S** indiscipline has reached crisis point after Matt Rippon was sent off for violent conduct towards the referee and had to be pulled away by teammates as he confronted the official at full time last Saturday.

Camanachd lost a thrilling Balliemore Cup match against Lochaber at Mossfield but few people were talking about the scoreline, which ended 3-2 after extra time; Iain 'Scally' MacMillan had scored twice to give his side a 2-1 lead at one stage.

The dismissal follows two red cards the previous weekend. The Camanachd management team has condemned Rippon's actions but suggested referee Innes Wood should not have taken charge of the game and stated the club had asked the Camanachd Association on two occasions to change the official.

Camanachd co-manager Andrew Pearson, who said he was considering his own position following last weekend, said: 'Matt pushed his head into the referee's face to get sent off, which he shouldn't have done. But I think the referee contributed to the aggressive atmosphere, instead of calming things down, and we asked he did not referee this game because there is history there with Lochside Rovers.'

'That aside, I am not excusing what Matt did; he was out of control at the end and I think he can expect a long ban. Our concern is what this might mean for the club.'

Co-manager Diarmid MacMillan was also red carded on the day. The club was due to hold an emergency meeting yesterday (Wednesday) to discuss the incident.

Camanachd Association chief operating officer Torquhil Macleod said the association was waiting on the official reports from the referee and the match assessor and could not comment further.

**OBAN CELTIC** have to take something from their South Division One clash with Taynuilt on Saturday, or risk being relegated.

That was the message from club representative David Hamilton, who urged the team to start picking up points.

He said: 'This weekend is one of those games we have to take something out of. If we don't,

it is going to be a very difficult season. 'Taynuilt are one of the teams around us in this league, so we have a better chance but we need to start taking our chances.'

Missed opportunities cost Celtic dearly once again last Saturday when they lost 3-0 to Glenorchy in Dalmally, although David described two of the opponents' goals as 'speculative'.

'We matched them in every aspect of the game, apart from taking chances,' he added. 'If you looked at that fixture on paper we would have been lucky to get anything out of the game but we had them under pressure a lot during the second half.'

**TAYNUILT** manager Davy Thomson said he was happy his side had achieved his target of three points from the last two games, as he prepares to take on Oban Celtic on Saturday.

'This weekend is a very important game for us,' he said. 'If we can beat Celtic it will give us a bit of breathing space and will take us away from the bottom two in the league. We have to get something from it.'

Davy said he was happy with a 2-2 draw with Strachur last weekend, as his side had come back from 2-0 down thanks to goals from Stuart Scott and a Michael MacQueen penalty.

'I am quite happy with a draw but I think over the piece we probably should have won it.'

**LOCHSIDE ROVERS** travel to Inveraray this Saturday, still hurting from their first defeat of the season. The Oban side leaked nine goals but scored four of their own in an entertaining match in Tighnabruach.

Lochside retain their top-of-the-table status, however, with 11 wins from 12 games so far.

**NEWTONMORE** will be keen to avoid becoming a big name scalp when they host Beaulieu in the Camanachd Cup second round on Saturday.

The reigning cup champions will not take the north division one side lightly, with Beaulieu having knocked high-flying Lovat out of the MacTavish Cup earlier this year.

Norman MacArthur's side salvaged a 2-2 draw in the Badenoch derby last weekend after being 2-1 down with 11 minutes to play.

Ronald Ross opened the scor-

ing for Kingussie in the 16th minute, before John MacKenzie equalised in the 34th minute. The scoreline only stayed level for two minutes before Ross scored his second of the game.

'The More had an extra man for a large period of the game after Lee Bain was sent off for fighting, but they could not make the advantage count until the 79th minute when Calum Stewart scored the equaliser.

The draw stretches Newtonmore's unbeaten run to eight league games and keeps their place at the top of the league.

**KILMALLIE** go into Saturday's Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup match against Fort William looking for revenge after being handed a 3-1 home defeat by their derby rivals in the league.

The Blues' poor form in the Orion Group Premiership has seen them collect a solitary win and just three points from 10 games played, leaving them adrift at the bottom alongside fellow strugglers Bute.

Shinty observers, however, rate Kilmallie more highly than that and if their overall play this season has been decent - except when it comes down to converting pressure into goals.

Shinty's premier cup competition, therefore, gives the Canal parks side a chance to cast aside their league form and show what they are capable of - and the prize of dumping their old foes out of the Camanachd is a huge incentive.

### SHINTY

Ronald Ross and co. to Kirktion in the Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup second round on Saturday looking to banish memories of their 7-1 mauling at Inveraray last weekend.

'Shiel's form had been impressive before the long trip south, with a 2-1 win against Newtonmore in the Artemis MacAulay Cup and a 3-0 victory against Kilmallie in their last two outings.

But the wheels came off in a big way against Inveraray after Finlay MacRae opened the scoring on seven minutes as the Argyll men took the game by the scruff of the neck and banged in seven goals without reply.

Now Johnston Gill's men have the difficult task of dealing with Kingussie, who are showing signs of a return to top form after their 2-2 draw against league leaders Newtonmore.

**SKYE CAMANACHD** play their second cup game in a week when they welcome Glenurquhart in the Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup second round to Paic nan Laoch on Saturday.

And the Portree men will be keen to improve on last week's showing when they went down to a surprise 2-1 home defeat to Glasgow Mid Argyll in the Balliemore Cup.

Skye were missing five key players for the game and it told - but coach Allan MacRae should be able to field a significantly stronger team for the visit of the premiership side.

Chris Rose, who plays either at wing centre or full centre, should be fit after an ankle knock, while left back Jamie MacDonald is looking a hopeful starter as his knee injury clears.

Iain Morrison should also be available once more, but talented full back Stevie Morrison will be missing through holiday commitments. Gibbs MacDonald will also be absent because of long term injury.

MacRae told *The Oban Times*: 'We need to play as solid as we can and really run at them. It will be a nice test for the boys to see what the step up is like. 'I have not seen Glenurquhart for a while but we played against them in a friendly last year and I know they have some good forwards.'



Kinlochshiel's Keith MacRae tries to stop Inveraray's Andrew McMurdo breaking forward during last Saturday's Orion Premiership match at the Winterton. The Royal Burgh side came away with an impressive 7-1 win.

few goals and are obviously a decent team. 'We will have the same squad as last week and won't be taking any chances on Saturday.'

**BUTE** manager Barry Martin says he will 'build from the back' for this Saturday's Camanachd Cup tie, as he faces an injury crisis at the club.

But face a trip to Lochaber with two fresh casualties from the last week: Gordon MacMillan is out with a broken ankle and Ian MacDonald is nursing a hamstring injury.

Barry said: 'Last weekend we pulled Hector Whitelaw back into defence to give us a bit of stability and almost got a result. 'The injuries are becoming a real problem and we will just have to keep raising the second team and go to Lochaber with what we've got.'

**KINGUSSIE** travel to Balmacara to take on a Kinlochshiel side hurting following a humbling 7-1 loss to Inveraray last weekend.

Kings meanwhile picked up a battling point in the Badenoch derby after playing for more than an hour with 11.

Manager Russell Jones told *The Oban Times*: 'Under the circumstances, playing with 11 men in that heat for over an hour, we have to be happy with a point. The shift the boys put in was absolutely phenomenal. But if it had stayed 12vs12 I think we would have gone on to win it, we were well on top of the game.'

Jones also said 'Shiel's result last weekend will have no bearing on the cup tie this Saturday. He said: 'Every game is different. The league is so tight that any team can go out and get a big win. It's the Scottish cup; they will regroup and go out and play and it will be a very tough game for us.'

Lee Bain will miss the tie through suspension after getting sent off against Newtonmore - a decision Jones said he didn't fully understand.

'The Newtonmore player has pushed Lee in the face and Lee pushed him back. If you raise your hands you've got to go off, but surely both players have to go?'

**FORT WILLIAM** square up against local rivals Kilmallie at Canal Parks on Saturday for the second time in seven days - this time in the Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup second round.

The An Aird men go into the match as nominal favourites after dumping their neighbours 3-1 in the Orion Group Premiership at the same venue before a 300-strong crowd last weekend.

One one-off cup clash represents a different prospect entirely, however - a fact Fort coach Peter MacIntyre is all too aware of.

He told *The Oban Times*: 'We are back to square one - we have to start from scratch all over again for this one. 'We will have to get control of the middle of the park and get the ball up to our forwards if we are to have a chance of repeating Saturday's result.'

'Alex Duncan put in a great shift for us as did team captain Bryan Simpson and if we get the

same kind of performances from these two guys it will give us a great chance.'

On the squad selection front, it's swings and roundabouts for Fort. Stevie Stewart will return from suspension, but Duncan Rodger will sit out the derby match to serve a one-match ban.

Other than that, MacIntyre should have a full squad to call on.

**KYLES ATHLETIC** trainer James Perlich said the Tighnabruach outfit are determined to make their mark on this season's Camanachd Cup.

Always the most sought after honour in the Cowal village, the Camanachd Cup has been an elusive prize in recent years.

An away tie at Glasgow Mid Argyll is the next hurdle this season and James insists the South Division One team will be no pushovers.

This is the cup the boys are really hungry for,' James said. 'GMA have beaten Oban Camanachd already, which is no mean feat, so we will be giving them the respect they deserve. 'We know we are not just going to turn up and get a result.'

Goal threat Ewan Campbell is missing this weekend for the visitors but it was last season's goalscoring hero, Roddy MacDonald, who gave them victory last weekend against a determined Bute team.

James said: 'Bute are very dogged and don't let you get into a flow, but we scored just before half time, which helped us. 'We had plenty chances to score but the boys didn't get frustrated. 'I think we are benefiting from having a more settled team.'

Donald Irvine is likely to return to action this weekend.

**LOCHABER** will be looking for another premiership scalp when they welcome Bute to Spean Bridge on Saturday.

Michael Delaney's men will be playing in a cup competition for the fourth successive weekend, having followed up their MacAulay Cup semi final win over Kingussie with a 3-2 win over Oban Camanachd in the Balliemore Cup last weekend.

Delaney said his side's impressive form would have to continue if they want to progress past Bute.

He said: 'To get anything against Bute we'll have to be at the top of our game. We should have everyone available. We've been playing against premiership teams and teams of that

calibre for the last few weeks, so we know we have to play well even to compete with them.'

Lochaber needed extra time to get past Oban, with Stuart Calison grabbing the vital winner. Delaney said: 'It was very close. We probably started the better in the second half, but we are always confident we can score goals. We probably had our best spell in the last 10 minutes of the game. In extra time Oban started better but I think we had the better of the second half.'



### Results

**Saturday 26 May 2012**  
Friday 25th May  
Marine Harvest North Division 2  
Newtonmore 7 - 2 Kingussie

**Saturday 26th May**  
Balliemore Cup Quarter Final  
Skye 1 - 2 Glasgow Mid Argyll  
Oban Camanachd 2 - 3 Lochaber  
Beaulieu 6 - 1 Inverness

**Orion Group Premiership**  
Bute 0 - 1 Kyles Athletic  
Inveraray 7 - 1 Kinlochshiel  
Kilmallie 1 - 3 Fort William  
Kingussie 2 - 2 Newtonmore  
Lovat 5 - 1 Glenurquhart

**Marine Harvest North Division 1**  
Lochcarron 1 - 5 Caberfeidh

**Marine Harvest South Division 1**  
Kilmory 4 - 1 Aberdour  
Strachur 2 - 2 Taynuilt  
Glenorchy 3 - 0 Oban Celtic

**Marine Harvest North Division 2**  
Fort William 2 - 1 Skye  
Glenurquhart 4 - 1 Lovat  
Kinlochshiel 1 - 0 Glengarry

**Marine Harvest South Division 2**  
Aberdour 1 - 3 Tayforth  
Ballachulish 2 - 1 Ardnarmurchan  
Bute 3 - 3 Col Glen  
Inveraray 15 - 0 Glasgow MA  
Kyles Athletic 9 - 4 Lochside Rovers

**Marine Harvest North Division 3**  
Caberfeidh 2 - 3 Strathspay  
Kilmallie 10 - 0 Inverness  
Lewis 2 - 6 Beaulieu  
Lochbroom 5 - 1 Boleskine  
Strathglass 4 - 0 Lochcarron

**Youth Results**  
Under 17 Marine Harvest London Shield  
Glasgow MA 0 - 11 Oban Camanachd

**Under 17 Marine Harvest London Shield**  
Kinlochshiel 5 - 0 Lochaber

**Under 17 Marine Harvest London Shield**  
Caberfeidh 1 - 2 Lovat  
Skye 3 - 2 Glenurquhart  
Oban Celtic 3 - 3 Fort William

**Under 14 Marine Harvest Leagues**  
Beaulieu 3 - 10 Newtonmore  
Kinlochshiel 12 - 0 Uist  
Caberfeidh 2 - 1 Lovat

**MacKay Cup Final (Primary School)**  
Rockfield 3 - 2 Kingussie

### Fixtures

**Saturday 2 June 2012**  
Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup 2nd Round  
Glasgow Mid Argyll v Kyles Athletic  
Colin MacDonald - 3pm throw up  
Inveraray v Strathglass  
Dunkie Kerr - 3pm throw up  
Kilmallie v Fort William  
Ted MacDonald - 3pm throw up  
Kinlochshiel v Kingussie  
Innes Wood - 12 noon throw up  
Lochaber v Bute  
Graham Cameron - 1.30pm throw up  
Lovat v Kilmory  
Evan MacRae  
Newtonmore v Beaulieu  
David Mitchell - 3pm throw up  
Skye v Glenurquhart  
Deck Cameron

**Marine Harvest North Division 1**  
Inverness v Caberfeidh  
Calum Duff

**Marine Harvest North Division 2**  
Fort William v Glengarry  
Graeme MacMillan  
Kingussie v Lovat  
Graeme Irvine

**Marine Harvest South Division 1**  
Aberdour v Strachur  
Billy Wotherspoon  
Oban Camanachd v Glenorchy  
Graham Irving  
Oban Celtic v Taynuilt  
Duncan Kelly

**Marine Harvest South Division 2**  
Ballachulish v Bute  
Robert Baxter  
Glasgow Mid Argyll v Col Glen  
Lachie Wood - 12 noon throw up  
Kyles Athletic v Aberdour  
Jim Innes  
Inveraray v Lochside Rovers  
Ewan Angus Gilchrist - 3pm throw up  
Ardnamurchan v Tayforth  
Dougie Cameron

**Marine Harvest North Division 3**  
Inverness v Boleskine  
Duncan Freshwater - 12 noon throw up  
Lewis v Kilmallie  
John Matheson  
Lochcarron v Beaulieu  
John Sloggie  
Strathglass v Strathspay  
Ronnie Campbell  
(All throw ups 2.30 unless stated)

**Womens Camanachd Association**  
Fixtures Sunday 27th May 2012

**Marine Harvest Challenge Cup**  
Ardnamurchan v Strathglass  
Skye v Dunadd  
At Invergarry Throw-up 2.00pm

**Marine Harvest National Division 1**  
Tir Conaill Harps v Glengarry  
Badenoch & Strathspay v Aberdour  
(All throw ups 2.30 unless stated)

**Youth Fixtures**  
Sunday 26th May  
U17 MacTavish Cup Semi Final  
Aberdour v Oban Celtic  
At The Dell, Kingussie - Throw-up 12.00pm

**Monday 28th May**  
U17 MacTavish Cup Semi Final  
Glasgow MA v Oban Camanachd  
At The Winterton, Inveraray - Throw-up 6.45pm

**Under 14 MacMaster Cup**  
Caberfeidh v Kinlochshiel

**Tuesday 29th May**  
U17 MacTavish Cup Semi Final  
Lochaber v Skye  
At Battery Park, Lochcarron - Throw-up 6.45 - (Extra time & Penalties)  
Glenurquhart v Kinlochshiel  
At Castle Leod, Caberfeidh - Throw-up 6.45 - (Extra time & Penalties)

**Marine Harvest Under 17 London Shield**  
Kilmallie v Kingussie  
Beaulieu v Strathglass

**Friday 1st June**  
Under 14 MacMaster Cup  
Beaulieu v Caberfeidh / Kinlochshiel  
Kilmallie v Oban Celtic  
Kingussie v Newtonmore



Eyes on the ball as Oban Camanachd's Andrew 'Papa' McCuish races past Lochaber's Stuart Callison during last weekend's controversial Balliemore Cup tie at Mossfield Stadium.

# Primary league youngsters turn on the style at sun baked community pitch

THE SUN came out to greet the players taking part in the latest round of fixtures of the Oban Express Primary Football League on Sunday at the community 3G pitch and the grass rugby pitch.

The seniors started with an exciting match between the Saints 02's and Wasps with chances at either end before Lewis Campbell cleverly lobbed the ball into the net over stranded goal keeper Cammie McMillan. The 02's doubled their lead when Euan Logan ran on to a fantastic through ball and finished well then Aiden MacPhee put the game to bed with a third. The 02's took on Galaxy next and after a stuffy start ran out comfortable winners with Jude Bain claiming the opener and further counters from Logan and MacPhee.

In a great day for Saints 02, they encountered an in form Lochnell team and went quickly into the lead with almost the first move of the match which left Lewis Campbell in

space and the wee man made no mistake with the drive into corner. Lochnell tried to force the game but the Saints defender Cameron Clark stood tall to the challenge and the hard working Sam Coates in midfield made the difference when he found Campbell in space again and he doubled the lead. Despite pushing hard Lochnell couldn't find the net and the Saints protected their 100 per cent record on the day.

Lochnell had been on a high in their previous two matches and had comfortably defeated Lochgilphead Scorpions with a Stewart MacAllister double and a hat trick from Finlay Bennett after Cameron Williamson had given the Scorpions an early lead. Lochnell's matches with Thistle are always close encounters and their match this week was goal less at half time but a Bennett thunderbolt broke the dead lock then MacAllister sealed the win with a solo effort. Lochnell made it three wins on the bounce when

MacAllister scored twice against Red Star without reply. he Lochgilphead Red Star had a mixed day at the office as they also lost to the All Stars who had Ruairraidh Horne on target with Andy Ritchie again finding the net with Brodie Kalachi grabbing a consolation but the Red Star went on to find their range recording no less than 13 goals in their next two matches against Jags and Tralee with Ewan Litster netting a hat trick against Jags and Joseph Harper scoring twice in each game. Finn Scott and Kalachi also scored twice against Tralee with Calum Guy helping himself to a rare goal and Mark McKnight scoring a late consolation penalty for Jags.

The Jags themselves had drawn their previous two encounters with a stuffy nil nil against the hard working Galaxy and a one draw with Wasps where goals from Rory Dowd and Mark McKnight cancelled each other out. Their stable mates Thistle started their day winning

### PRIMARY FOOTBALL

at Saints 03 and had Rory Dowd, Jamie Anderson and Scott Mossman all on target without reply. Thistle also recorded an impressive two nil score line against the All Stars with Keir MacLean and Cameron Hill claiming the all important goals.

In a hard day for the Scorpions, they suffered at the hands of the All Stars who again had Horne on target with Cammy Williamson again netting a consolation goal but they regained some pride with a hard fought draw coming from behind for a share of the spoils with a cracking long range lob from Jamie Munro then holding out thanks mainly to some stalwart defending from Michael McCurry.

The league takes a one week sabbatical next week for the Queen's jubilee celebrations

## Rotary Club Am Am at Glencruitten

GOLF

GLENCRUITTEN Golf Club held its Senior Open on May 23. The course was in good condition and the weather hot and sunny.

Alan Garret was the winner of the Stableford competition with 36 points. Ken Oxland, Kenny Munro and Michael Mullen had 34 points, with Ken taking second place with BIH and Kenny in third place. Mary Plunkett won the ladies section with 31 points, Rosie Barbour taking second place with 26 points.

On Sunday the Rotary Club of Oban holds its Am Am at Glencruitten. This is the 27th year of the competition and thousands of pounds has been raised for local good causes in this time. Fifty teams will compete for the Bank of Scotland Trophy, which was won last year by Cuan Mor.

## Mixed Open results from Killin

HANDICAP: 1 Ian and Anne Douglas (Lochwinnoch) 64; 2 Andrew and Annie Leitch (Harburn) 65 BIH 3 Jim and Maureen Burton (Killin) 65 BIH. Scratch 1 Joe And Aileen Kennedy (Harburn) 75; 2 Derek and Catherine Robertson (Auchterarder) 76; 3 Gordon Aitken (Killin) and Caroline Dunbar (Aberfeldy) 78

Best Killin (Bill Mitchell Salver): Jim and Maureen Burton Best Overall (McRobert Thistle Cup); Ian and Anne Douglas (Lochwinnoch)

Nearest Pin: Ladies (14th) - Irene Hill (Taynuilt), Gents (11th) - T Lang (Harburn)

Magic Twos: Jim Ronald and Laura Aitken (Killin), Derek Robertson and Catherine Robertson (Auchterarder), Chris Martin (Callander), and Louise Woodburn (Muckhart).

# Chris plays major role for Team GB at the Olympics

SAILING

OBAN based Chris Owen has been chosen to play a major role in Team GB's Olympic sailing campaign.

The well-known sail designer, now fronting his new business SailTrimCoach, is helping oversee the 49er Olympic Campaign in Weymouth where the sailors are already practising hard for the 2012 games in August.

Chris is shore manager for the team working with Olympic coach Paul Brotherton, who coached the Yngling girls to their successful Gold medal in 2008 and is a world class sailor himself. It was a Chris Owen designed spinnaker that was used in this campaign and pointed up as the winning edge in the downwind sections of the racing in Beijing.

Chris is in charge of all the sails that are being used in both the run-up to the Olympics and in organising the best sails for



Chris Owen will make up part of Team GB's sailing team at the Olympics.

the medal races. Last week a new boat arrived for the team and Chris was in Weymouth to oversee the rigging and sails for the boat that will be sailed by Stevie Morrison and Ben Rhodes who have been through a punishing selection process before being chosen for the GBR team.

Chris said: 'Stevie and Ben were disappointed in Beijing in not scooping the gold medal so are hungry for success this time, not least since it's being held in the UK.'

Performances

'It's a very full-on schedule with training and so far things are going well. We are preparing the boat for Sail for Gold racing which starts next week and that's when the performances will really start to show.'

Although playing this pivotal role in the campaign, Chris is still working as SailTrimCoach with customers all over Scotland. He competed with Iain Laidlaw on Jaywalker at Savills Kip Regatta finishing second overall in IRC Class 4 and taking two firsts in the series from winners Fever. He will be competing with Iain at the Brewin Dolphin Scottish Series starting tomorrow (Friday) and isn't forgetting the smaller events when he takes part in Glencoe Regatta's 40th anniversary celebrations on June 15 and 16.

His SailTrimCoach business helps sailors help maximise their boat's performance on the water.



## MacKay Cup comes back to Rockfield after 35 years

Rockfield Primary School won the MacKay Cup on Saturday, defeating Kingussie 3-2 in an enthralling final at Mossfield Stadium, Oban. The Oban youngsters were 2-0 down at half time, but a superb second half fight back with goals from Euan Logan and two from Lewis Buchanan meant the cup was won by Rockfield for the first time in more than 30 years. Photograph by John MacTavish.

## Riders gear up for Killin trials event

RIDERS from all corners of the UK and Ireland will converge on Killin this weekend for the Bob MacGregor Memorial Trial.

In what is the biggest trial outside of the Lochaber-based Scottish Six Days Trial, the memorial trials event has attracted 150 riders, with up to 80

turned away after reaching the maximum entry.

The two-day trial starts and finishes in Killin, taking in Dochart Falls, Breachlach Falls and Finlarig.

Killin's Bobby Lafferty, a director of the Bob MacGregor Trials Academy, who runs the

memorial trial, said: 'Bob MacGregor was the only Scot to have won the Scottish Six Days Trial and was from Killin.'

He travelled all over the world competing but had a shop here that he opened in 1925.

The shop just closed last Christmas but still had the

TRIALS BIKING

MacGregor Stores sign above the door.'

This is the seventh year of the memorial trial and Bobby expects Bob's two daughters, who live in Sweden and Belgium, to be on hand to present the prizes.

## Paterson Trophy match on Saturday

FOOTBALL

THE ANNUAL Joe Paterson Memorial Trophy match between an Argyll Select and a Scottish Amateur League Select will take place at Glencruitten Park, Oban, on Saturday.

The Argyll squad will be selected from players from Campbeltown Pupils, Dunoon, Lochgilhead Red Star, Tarbert and host club Oban Saints.

## Top spot for Kenny

TENNIS

KENNY Drummond is in pole position to qualify for September's Superset Finals at Oban Tennis Club after winning his second Superset Monthly Series.

He beat Willie Gemmill 6-4 in the final of the event on May 20 to follow up his victory in April.

Willie got some revenge, though, when he teamed up with Stuart Fraser to beat Kenny and Mohammed Arshad 6-4 in the doubles final.

With 200 ranking points, Kenny is well ahead as the players prepare for the next qualifier at Atlantis Leisure on Sunday June 17.

## Saints youths - results and fixtures

YOUTH FOOTBALL

LAST weekend's results in the Dumbarton Development League.

Saturday: Under 13s 4, Milngavie 1. Liam Higgins (2), Jay Cooper and Lomond MacPherson got the goals for Saints. Sunday: Renton 4, Under 13s 1. Netting for the Saints was Ewan MacLellan. Westerton 6, Under 14s 1. Saints score was Ross MacMillan. Ailander 6, Under 15s 1. Netting for Saints was Stephen McMullen. Saturday - Under 16s 4, Helensburgh 2. Saints scorers were Ryan MacDougall (2), Liam MacEachan and Aidan Campbell. Sunday - Under 16s 1 Clydebank Phoenix 1. On target for Saints was Ryan MacDougall.

This weekend's fixtures: Under 13s v Helensburgh; Under 14s v Goldenhill; Under 15s finished their fixtures; Port Glasgow v Under 16s.

## Tobermory GC

GOLF

RESULTS from the Lions Day Competition played on Saturday May 26.

Ladies: 1 Margaret Ingram; 2 Olive Brown; 3 Catherine Ann MacCrae. Juniors: 1 Scott Paterson 51 points(50); 2 Lewis Wilshire 42 points (11); 3 Ross MacCrae 35 points (19). Gents: 1 Ross Laurie 38 points(23); 2 John Wilshire 36 points (22); 3 Graham Davidson 34 points (07). 1st round of Centenary Club Championship: 1 Mike Campbell 82-21-61; 2 Donald Dods MacLean 74-12-62; 3 John Wilshire 85-22-63.

The Winner of the Ladies open day was Alison Baxter (Swanston)with 38 points.

## Connell prizegiving

CARPET BOWLS

CONNEL Carpet Bowling Club's annual dinner and prizegiving was held on May 18 in the Hawthorn Restaurant, Benderloch.

President Roddie MacLeod welcomed everyone and invited vice president Rosemary Miller to present prizes.

Winners: Mr & Mrs A B MacPhee Cup - Peter Henderson; Albrecht Cup - Marion Fisher; MacPherson Doubles Shield - Graham Britton and Anne Campbell; Doubles Shield - Jean Twort and Anne Campbell; The Dugie Boyd Memorial Trophy - Sandy Carr; Cruachan Cup - Ronnie MacIntyre; League Rinks Team winners - Mike Perrett (skip), Ronnie MacIntyre, Anne Campbell and Donald Henderson. Reserve: Graham Britton.

## Saints end the season with two away fixtures

Thursday Scottish Amateur League Premier Division

Aikenhed Thistle 3

Oban Saints 4

SAINTS completed their league campaign last week, playing two games. On Thursday they travelled to take on last year's champions Aikenhed Thistle and recorded a hard fought 4-3 win.

The home side opened the scoring in the sixth minute but the visitors drew level three minutes later when Donald Campbell was upended in the box. Donald took the spot kick himself and sent the keeper the wrong way.

The home side went in front again in the 24th minute when Lee Harvey volleyed home a well-taken goal.

Again the lead was short lived as the Oban lads drew level

when Donald Campbell set up Asen Gaydardshiev and the Bulgarian striker cleverly steered the ball home to make the half time score 2-2.

The second half was only two minutes old when the home side took the lead when Lee Harvey outjumped the Saints defence to head the ball home.

Five minutes later it was all square again when Asen got on the end of a Willie Gemmill throw-in to head the ball past the stranded Jag's keeper.

The game was flowing from end to end and Saints have keeper Graham Douglas to thank for a couple of good saves.

The visitors took the lead for the first time in the match in the 66th minute when Marc MacCallum got on the end of a Willie Gemmill corner to force the ball over the line to make the score 4-3.

Both teams created another couple of half chances but there was no further scoring and Saints ran out winners in a hard-fought, but sporting encounter. Saints won the premier Division in 2009/10 and have finished in second place for the last two seasons.

Saturday

Rolls Royce EK 2

Oban Saints 1

SATURDAY saw the Oban side play their last game of the season when they travelled to take on East Kilbride team Rolls Royce, but unfortunately the local lads couldn't end the season on a winning note going down 2-1 in a rather bad tempered match at Murray Park.

The pitch was very hard and bumpy which made it impossible to get the ball down and play it on the ground.

The home side went ahead in the 13th minute when a cross from the left was allowed to go right across the Saints penalty area to the unmarked Scott MacEwan who slotted the ball home.

Saints were claiming for a penalty at one end when Rolls Royce broke clear and with the Saints defence posted missing the ball was squared into the path of Kevin Wilson who made no mistake from close range.

FOOTBALL

Saints came more into the game in the second half, playing against a stiff breeze, and had a stonewall penalty turned down when Donald Campbell was brought down in the box.

Saints pulled a goal back when Willie Gemmill fired in a great free kick which Donald Campbell got the slightest of touches to and the ball flew high into the net.

Although putting the home defence under pressure for the final ten minutes Saints couldn't get the equaliser and they went down by the odd goal in three. Manager Iain Jackson was disappointed with the performance on Saturday, but pleased with the progress the team has made over the season.

He said: 'We finished the league in second place, won more games, scored more goals and got more points than we got the last season, so things are improving but we still need to work harder on our game.'

'The boys will now have four or five weeks off before we start training again in preparation for the Keyline Cup tournament on July 14.'

'We're looking to strengthen the squad for next season so any new players will be made welcome at pre-season training.'

## John McPhee gets wildcard entry for world championships



John McPhee.

CONNEL rider John McPhee has been granted a wildcard to next month's MotoGP World Championship round at Silverstone.

The announcement comes just a week after news the Racing Steps Foundation (RSF)-backed Moto3 rider was to receive a wildcard entry into round five of the championship at Catalunya next weekend.

The 17 year old, who will be joined at Silverstone by teammate Fraser Rogers, rides in the CEV Buckler Moto3 Championship and has racked up a podium finish in each of the opening two rounds.

John welcomed the wildcards saying: 'It's great to get the chance to compete at World Championship level again. I learned a lot last year and this will give me another lesson in what it takes to get to the top.'

'The team has done pretty well so far with the new bike in Spain so it will be good to see how competitive we are when we are up against the World Championship teams and riders.'

The Grand Prix takes place at Silverstone on June 17.

## Impressive display from Oban CC

LAST Sunday at a sun-drenched Taynuilt, Oban CC maintained its impressive start to the Argyll and Islands League with a crushing 9-wicket defeat of defending champions Sannox from Arran.

Sannox captain Brookes put his side in to bat but Andrew Leach made an early breakthrough when he trapped Kemp leg before wicket.

Determined

Dunn and Marriott failed to trouble the bowlers but Brookes' 34 was a typically determined innings which helped his side

recover to 65 for 4. Allan Laycock ripped through the Sannox tail to finish with figures of 4 for 13 and to leave the visitors 89 all out.

Muir opened the bowling for Sannox with a maiden over but Duncan Campbell eased the pressure with successive boundaries in the second.

Too often the Sannox bowling was either short or wide and Campbell and Leach helped themselves to the buffet bowling which was on order.

Campbell went for 25 after

CRICKET

unluckily dragging the ball on to his stumps but this only brought more misery for Sannox as Allan Laycock smashed an array of boundaries.

Unbeaten

Leach made a fine unbeaten 31 and Laycock hit the winning runs to finish on 34 not out which left Oban winners by nine wickets.

This Sunday Oban travel to Kintyre for another league match against Carradale.

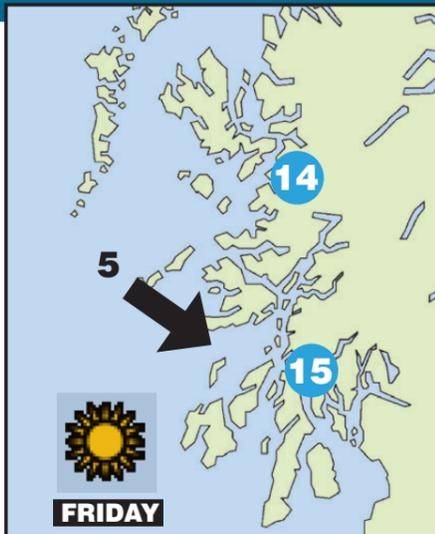
## Weather

Thursday Cloudy  
Winds light west, north westerly  
Temperatures 9°C to 15°C

Friday Sunny  
Winds light west, north easterly  
Temperatures 9°C to 15°C.

Weekend Sunny  
Outlook Winds light north easterly  
Temperatures 9°C to 16°C.

Ferry Crossings/Sea States  
Oban to Barra/South Uist Moderate  
Oban to Coll/Tiree Moderate  
Kennacraig to Islay Moderate



## Tides

Tide tables for Oban during the week from Thursday, May 30, 2012 are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath.

All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am	pm
Thur	01.18 3.3 08.06 1.4 14.22 3.2 20.02 1.2	
Fri	02.32 3.5 09.06 1.2 15.17 3.4 21.08 1.0	
Sat	03.31 3.6 09.58 1.0 16.05 3.7 22.08 0.8	
Sun	04.22 3.8 10.47 0.8 16.50 3.9 23.03 0.6	
Mon	05.10 3.9 11.33 0.6 17.35 4.5 23.55 0.5	
Tues	05.56 3.9 12.19 0.5 18.20 4.1 *** **	
Wed	06.45 0.5 06.41 3.8 13.05 0.5 19.04 4.0	

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

Ardrishaig	-5.35	Portree	+0.55
Campbeltown	-5.30	Tobermory	+0.16
Crinan	-0.47	Dover	+5.30
Islay Port Ellen	2.00		
Lochboisdale	+0.30		
Mallaig	+0.25		

## The Oban Times weather is brought to you in association with



website: [www.northwestmarine.co.uk](http://www.northwestmarine.co.uk)  
Address: 7E Glengallan Rd., Oban, Argyll. PA34 4HG  
Ph: 01631 565740 Fax: 01631 565780  
email: [enquiries@northwestmarine.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@northwestmarine.co.uk)

# **The following pages are from the Fort William (Northern) Edition of The Oban Times.**

The Oban Times prints two editions of the paper. There is the main edition as well as the Fort William (Northern) Edition.

Sometimes pages that appear in the Fort William edition do not appear in the main edition (and vice versa).

As an electronic subscriber you get the main edition plus the pages that appear in the Northern edition.

# The Oban Times

## & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Established 1861 No 8097

Thursday 31 May, 2012

www.obantimes.co.uk

77 pence



### INSIDE THIS WEEK

#### Collect tokens and win tickets to Belladrum Festival

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#### Young mother's lucky escape as car is wrecked

A YOUNG mother of two from Fort William was taken to the town's Belford Hospital by ambulance after her car was wrecked in an accident on the A82 near Invergarry at 12.05am on Monday morning.

The woman had swerved to avoid a deer and lost control of the Toyota Aygo, which spun several times and hit a wall before ending up on its side.

The 29-year-old sustained cracked ribs, facial bruising and severe bruising to her body from the seatbelt.

She was discharged from hospital at 5am on Monday.

She told *The Oban Times*: 'The police said to me you are one lucky, lucky girl.'

'I can't believe I managed to crawl out of that car alive.'

#### Local history society looks back at successful year

LOCHABER Local History Society will reflect on last year's successful series of talks and plan for next year's session at its meeting in the Alexandra Hotel next Thursday at 7.30pm.

Over the past eight months speakers gave presentations on topics including Roy Bridge, Rum, land ownership and old Lochaber.

Everyone welcome.



Heather's Walk: Margaret Simpson and Sarah Walker lead the procession from Kilmallie Hall towards the Caledonian Canal. 20.122wa101

#### Walkers step out and raise £5,000 for hospice

AROUND 90 people took part in the annual two-mile sponsored 'Heather's Walk' in searing heat in Corpach on Sunday, raising more than £5,000 in the process.

The walkers left Kilmallie Hall at 1.30pm and headed for Banavie swing bridge and back again to raise money for Highland Hospice.

As well as the walk, there were also stalls, baked goods for sale and a bouncy castle in the Kilmallie Hall car park.

**Auction**

An auction held was held in local pub Tradewinds on Sunday night, with a number of items sold off, including a specially embossed shinty caman from

Kilmallie and a boat trip to Fort Augustus. Margaret Simpson and Sarah Walker set up the event five years ago in memory of their close friend Heather Robertson.

Margaret told *The Oban Times*: 'It was very hot, a lot of people suffered a bit going round, some of them were even pouring water

over each other. I would like to say thanks to all the businesses, the helpers and everyone who took part.'

'I also want to thank Kilmallie Hall and Bob McWalter, who was a very good auctioneer.' Heather's Walk has now raised more than £45,000 since its inception.

## Master vows to sail to Fort William without pilot

EXCLUSIVE

REPORT by

STEPHEN NORRIS

[snorris@obantimes.co.uk](mailto:snorris@obantimes.co.uk)

A 17,000-tonne cruise liner is set to steam through the Corran Narrows on Loch Linnhe on Monday morning - without the aid of a pilot.

The 573-foot, seven-deck *Ocean Countess* is due to drop anchor off Fort William around 8.30am with 800 passengers - just nine days after her larger sister ship, the *Marco Polo*, scrapped its scheduled call at the port only hours before it was due.

Charter company Cruise Maritime Voyages (CMV) confirmed to Highland Council by email at 2.50pm on Friday the visit was off - only 17 hours before the Saturday 8am arrival time.

CMV said the decision was 'due to a non-availability of suitably qualified pilots to assist the Master through the Corran Narrows and into Upper Loch Linnhe'.

The shock news wrecked local plans to roll out the red carpet - but CMV says the *Ocean Countess* call is still on.

Speaking from the liner's bridge as she prepared to leave Liverpool on Tuesday, CMV director Richard Bastow insisted that ship's Master Dimitris Ntaoutis, from Greece, was confident navigation should present no problems.

He told *The Oban Times*: 'He has indicated that he is prepared

to enter Loch Linnhe without a pilot. He is looking forward to meeting the people of Fort William.

'The weather is looking reasonable and is the only thing that could stop it.'

Lochaber wards manager Dot Ferguson said arrangements for the arrival of a liner at Fort William would be again made - the vessel is planned to be at anchor from 9am to 5pm - but had yet to receive confirmation of the visit.

She said: 'It will be a repeat of what we had in place last Saturday.'

'We would hope to get the provost on board to give a welcome to Lochaber and make a piper available to welcome passengers - but in the absence of times we don't know when they coming off.'

Dozens of Lochaber businesses including tour operators, shops and eateries were left counting the cost of the 22,000-tonne *Marco Polo*'s no-show.

Some, especially on Fort William High Street, had hired extra staff for the day in anticipation of extra customers.

A welcome from Provost of Lochaber Allan Henderson and a piper also had to be ditched.

The vessel left Stornoway and called at Ullapool and Invergordon instead.

According to Mr Bastow, the *Marco Polo*'s Master judged the Corran Narrows too risky without expert assistance.

Two Campbelltown-based pilots had been approached, but they had only guided ships on the Forth at Rosyth and Leith.

Both had piloted vessels up to 100 metres at Corpach, but that was judged insufficient.

And in a clear reference to the liner *Costa Concordia*'s tragic sinking off Italy in January, he said: 'In the light of maritime events this year you can't be too careful if you are going to somewhere you are unfamiliar with.'

'It has to be the master's call and he decided the risk factor was too great.'

'We are extremely disappointed.'

Local councillor Brian Murphy said: 'I felt they could they could have let us know a lot sooner, especially given that quite a few shops made preparations for the visit by taking on extra staff and so on. It was a big let down at more or less the last minute. Hopefully we can get a better result on Monday.'

#### First council meeting targets voting system

HIGHLAND councillors will get together in Inverness today (Thursday) for the first full council meeting since elections earlier this month - with changes to the current voting system top of the agenda.

Independent councillors will propose setting up a working group to examine whether a different method of voting would boost voter turnout.

Only 41.6 per cent of eligible voters in the Highlands took part in the May 3 election, down massively from 53.85 per cent in

2007. However, there were less spoiled votes - down from 1.8 per cent in 2007 to 1.2 per cent.

The independent motion reads: 'The independent group is very disappointed at the low turnout in the recent election and we believe people are confused by the STV system.'

'We propose that this council forms a short life cross party working group to formulate proposals to Scottish Government on ways of increasing voter turnout and engaging with the electorate.'

The single transferable vote (STV) system, which allows the voter to rank the candidates in order of preference, was first introduced for council elections in 2007.



#### Lochaber Rugby Club awards night success

Lochaber Rugby Club held its annual awards night in the clubhouse at Banavie on Saturday night. Lochaber RFC president Alistair MacKinnon, second right, presents trophies to, left to right, most improved player Ally Donaldson, club person of the year Kenny Rigg, player of the year Donnie MacDonald and right, special award to Keith Garrick. The end of season do was followed by more good news - former ladies captain Sandra (McAuslane) Chisholm and her husband Jamie celebrated the birth of their baby girl Evie on Monday. The new arrival was born at 3.30pm weighing in at 6lb 14oz. Mum and baby are both well.

#### Residents shocked as man found dead in Glencoe village

GLENCOE residents were left in shock after a man was found dead in the village on Tuesday morning.

The man, named locally as Dave Hammond, is believed to have lived in Glencoe for a number of years after moving

up from England. One local resident said: 'People are very sad about it - it's a terrible thing to happen.'

'There's a kind of hush over the village, something seems not quite right.'

Northern Constabulary

confirmed the body of a 63-year-old man was found at the humpback bridge in Glencoe at 10.35am.

There are no suspicious circumstances, police said. A report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.

## Report warns government: act now or towns face decline

A LANDMARK report on the state of Scotland's rural communities has warned that five west Highlands and Islands towns face decline without proper government support.

Castlebay, Stornoway, Lochboisdale, Portree and Fort William all made the top 40 in the Rural Scotland in Focus 2012 survey of 90 towns deemed most at risk of losing young people, jobs and services.

The report, launched in Edinburgh on Monday, ranked Castlebay ranked at ninth in its 'vulnerability index', Stornoway at 22nd, Lochboisdale

26th, Portree 27th and Fort William 31st.

Income, working age population, job seekers allowance claimants and public sector employment levels were the index's four main indicators. The paper, produced by the Scottish Agricultural College, set out the economic, social and demographic characteristics of rural Scotland, how these are changing and the implications of the changes for policy and practice.

**Housing**

Topics covered include rural housing and migration, the role

of towns and the private and third sectors, high-speed broadband provision and the implications of a 'low carbon' future.

Community Land Scotland chairman David Cameron welcomed the report as a welcome 'state of the nation' overview of rural Scotland - and said local control of land was key to any revival.

He said: 'We believe it is through community ownership of land that the interests of rural Scotland's development will be best served.'

'We want to ensure that, by the time of the next such SAC report in

a couple of years, the amount of land in community ownership will have grown substantially and that the policy and legislative developments that are necessary to keep progress moving, for example to the Land Reform Act, will have happened.'

**Broadband**

'We also welcome the recognition that access to next generation broadband is an essential for rural development and we believe local communities have a strong part to play in helping deliver that, in partnership with development agencies.'



#### Stephen French solo exhibition at Resipole Studios

New paintings from his Kilchoan studio.

An eclectic mix of figurative and abstract modules afford exciting 'pic n' mix' blends and contrasts. See them at the installation at Resipole Studios.

The exhibition runs until the 20th June OPEN 11 - 6 pm - closed Mondays

by acharacle, argyll, ph36 4hx - 01967431506 [info@resipolestudios.co.uk](mailto:info@resipolestudios.co.uk) [www.resipolestudios.co.uk](http://www.resipolestudios.co.uk)



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# Welcome return of Morar Gala Day

A WEST Lochaber community has been successful in resurrecting a major local event last staged around 35 years ago. And Morar Gala Day on Monday promises to be a great community day out thanks to weeks of planning.

By STEPHEN NORRIS snorris@obantimes.co.uk

Traditionally a highlight of the year in Morar, the gala day fell into abeyance in the 1970s. But now hopes are high that after Monday the event will return to Mallaig and Morar playing field on its usual annual basis. Morar Community Trust has spearheaded efforts to revive the gala. But chairwoman Tina Heinonen stressed organising the day had been a real joint effort. She told *The Oban Times*: 'The trust pushed it forward, but it really has been organised by members of the community. The main reason we are holding it is to resurrect community spirit and get the community together again. "I think the gala day will be very important for Morar. "In smaller communities especially, sometimes everyday life takes over and you forget the fun aspect of coming together on a special day.' Attractions include children's races, food stalls and bric-a-brac stalls. Members of the community have also donated their time and services for a 'slave auction', ready to be hired out to the successful bidders. The gala day runs from 12pm to 4pm and is a free event.



## Unusual guests visit Arisaig classroom

Arisaig Primary School youngsters enjoyed a visit from some unusual guests last week when two pupils brought in toads, newts and snails from home. P6 pupils Thomas Benfield and his sister Jenny, P7, brought the pond creatures in to let their classmates have a look and feel. Jenny told *The Oban Times*: 'We have a big pond at home so we caught some of the animals and brought them in.'

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## Fèis Àrasaig joins games line-up

ARISAIG Games has announced a new cultural addition to its programme - Fèis Àrasaig.

The event - part of Arisaig Week from July 23 in which the games is the centrepiece - is part of the bigger Fèis Oigridh na Mara (FOM), the young people's fèis by the sea.

FOM covers Arisaig, Morar, and Mallaig and provides continuing instruction for local youngsters.

Fèis manager Rosemary Bridge told *The Oban Times*: 'It's great that we are able to play a part in the very successful fèis movement, helping young people develop their skills and talents in traditional and Gàidhlig music and song culture.'

She added: 'We are very grateful to Fèis Oigridh na Mara for all the help and support they have given us with our work. Without them, and Maria MacInnes, Lochaber Fèis development officer at Fèisean nan Gàidheal, it would have been a whole lot more difficult. This way we make the best of all the talent around, and that's what's important for our youngsters.'

Fèis tutors will include local musician Ewen Henderson and Sileas Sinclair, a former leader of Oban Gàidhlig Choir. The three-day event, based at Arisaig Primary School, will culminate with a performance at Arisaig Games on the final day.



Artist Caroline Cooke, the Co-op's Frances Griffin and Kinlochleven High School pupils Becky MacInnes, Corina Charge and Charlotte Duffy with Ballchulish P15s.

## Pupils put creative talents to good use

BALLCHULISH Primary School children have put their creative talents to good use - by painting a colourful mural on their local underpass.

The eight-day job, part of their Eco Schools programme, saw the whole school pick up a brush to brighten up the pedestrian walkway under the A82.

A group of 12 adults from the community and three pupils from Kinlochleven High School helped paint the attractive forest scene.

The tunnel had been covered by graffiti and it is hoped the makeover will mean all young people take new pride in the community artwork.

By CALUM YOUNG

Rob Malpas, duty manager at the local Co-op, allowed the children to place a donation bucket in the store.

More than £350 was raised towards the project, which was led by Ballchulish P3-4 teacher Mrs Milne and Caroline Cooke, a well-known local artist.

Caroline volunteered her services - and even spent more than £300 herself, providing the paint and other equipment.

She told *The Oban Times*: 'We hope it brightens up the village and will be there to enjoy for many years.'

## Woman admits scratching cars

A FORT William woman has admitted deliberately scratching the bodywork of eight cars in the town.

Appearing from custody, Rebekah MacDonald, of 6 Camanachd Crescent, pled guilty to recklessly destroying or damaging the vehicles on various streets in Fort William on April 27, 28 and May 1.

MacDonald also admitted damaging the tyres on two of the cars and being in possession of a knife in a public place on Mary Street, Fort William, on May 1, Fort William Sheriff Court heard.

The 22-year-old's sentencing was deferred until June 6 to allow further time for reports to be prepared.

## Minibus break-in trial postponed

THE TRIAL of two Lochaber men accused of breaking into a minibus in Corpach on New Year's Day with intent to steal is due to be heard on June 18.

Liam Johnstone, aged 21, of Aon Sealladh Na Beinne, Camaghael, and Kevin Sabiu, aged 17, of Harland, Glen Nevis, both deny breaking into the minibus on Hillview Drive.

The pair had been due to stand trial at Fort William Sheriff Court last week but the date was postponed because of a lack of court time.

## Man denies supermarket threats

THE TRIAL of a Fort William man accused of threatening a man at Morrisons supermarket is due to be held at the town's Sheriff Court on June 20.

Stuart Crichton, aged 42, of 26 Grange Road, denies behaving in a threatening and abusive manner on September 28.

## Cool resident pleads not guilty to assault

A CAOL man has denied repeatedly striking his wife on the face to her injury in her home.

George Pullar, of 11 Rowan Drive, pled not guilty to assaulting the woman at an address on Alma Road.

The 45-year-old also denies behaving in a threatening or abusive manner by shouting and threatening her. The alleged incidents occurred on March 21.

Pullar is due to stand trial at Fort William Sheriff Court on June 19.

## New boiler slashes cost of heating Lochaber High

LOCHABER High School (LHS) has slashed its heating bills after installing a renewable heating system.

Industry specialists HWEnergy at Torlundy put in a biomass boiler last March - and latest figures show savings of around 25 per cent. Prior to the installation, the school was spending up to £170,000 a year on oil.

In addition to savings, an estimated £40,000 annual income is going to Highland Council under the government's Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI).

The scheme gives payments to non-domestic properties generating heat through renewable energy sources.

The new biomass system is part of council strategy to switch to eco-friendly heating. HWEnergy supplies 300 tonnes of wood chip annually as fuel and is responsible for maintenance. LHS head teacher Jim Sutherland said: 'The biomass system complements the £26 million refurbishment and rebuilding programme which is underway and will see our school building brought up to 21st century standards.'

'Since being installed it has proved to be very efficient and reliable and aesthetically it fits in well with our new buildings. 'The older school buildings are not well insulated which makes them difficult, and expensive to heat. The biomass system, alongside our improvement works, will ensure that it costs us less to keep warm and will help us to use energy in a more efficient way.'

HWEnergy managing director Bruno Berardelli said: 'All our fuel is sourced from Scottish forestry operations. 'As a Scottish company, using Scotland for our supply chain means we're re-investing in the local economy, helping communities improve and sustain their buildings and helping them secure cash returns through their use of renewable energy sources.'



## Muck Primary wins first Green Flag

Muck Primary School and nursery have celebrated after being awarded their first Eco Schools Green Flag. The school, which has six pupils with a further two in the nursery, impressed the assessor with their efforts to be environmentally friendly and passed with flying colours. Teacher Len Whatley said the pupils were 'delighted' with winning the flag.

Newsdesk 01397 703003 703003

## Hebridean Celtic Festival granted £5,000 windfall

THE AWARD-winning Hebridean Celtic Festival has scooped a £5,000 windfall for this year's summer spectacle.

The cash, from the PRS for Music Foundation, will boost local efforts to promote up-and-coming musical talent.

HebCelt was one of just 30 applications approved from the 400 received by the foundation for the latest round of awards. James Hannam of PRSMF said: 'HebCelt was selected partly due to its strong Gaelic roots and also its ability to attract new audiences and the wide range of folk artists being programmed.'

Festival director Caroline MacLennan said: 'We are delighted to receive this financial assistance from such a prestigious organisation as the PRS for Music Foundation. 'Supporting and encouraging new talent is one of the key aims of the festival. The second stage programme is primarily aimed at promoting emerging artists, both local and visiting.'

This year's festival, the 17th, runs from July 11 to 14 at Lewis Castle in Stornoway and will be headlined by The Waterboys, The Proclaimers and Cassidy.

The Islands Stage will see a range of artists creating new work across contemporary traditional, bluegrass and indie genres, including Idlewild frontman Roddy Woomble, Washington Irving, Sketch and The Sea Atlas. The stage will also host Glasgow-based three-piece Muran who earlier this month earned a slot in the main arena by winning the festival's One Step Further competition to find new talent. Last year the festival attracted an audience of 14,500 to Lewis, 46 per cent of whom were visitors to the area, including fans from across Europe, the USA and Canada.

# Step Aboard Paddle Steamer Waverley for a Great Day Out!



Waverley also sails from: Fort William, Kyle of Lochalsh, Raasay, Coll, Armadale, Broadford & Gairloch!

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<p><b>ISLE of STAFFA</b> SATURDAY JUNE 9 Leave 10am back 8pm Sail through the Sound of Mill- view Treshnish Isles as you steam to visit the Isle of Staffa - see the world famous Fingal's Cave! £41 SC £37</p> <p><b>ISLE of COLL</b> SUNDAY JUNE 10 Leave 10am back 7pm Steam through the Sound of Mull to visit the Isle of Coll £37 SC £35 or stay aboard for a cruise viewing the Island's coastline £39 SC £37</p> <p><b>MULL of KINTYRE via A WHIRLPOOL</b> MONDAY JUNE 11 Leave 9am back 6.30pm Steam past the Isles of the Sea &amp; the famous Coryreckan Whirlpool - view the islands of Jura,Islay &amp; Gigha - and sail round the Mull of Kintyre to Campbeltown where you join your coach for the return journey to Oban £29 SC £27</p>	<p><b>ISLE of TREE</b> TUESDAY JUNE 5 Leave 10am back 7.30pm Enjoy a cruise to the Inner Hebrides - sail along the coast of Coll and visit Tree £37 SC £35 or stay aboard for a cruise on Gunna Sound £39 SC £37</p>

Book at local Tourist Information Centres or call 0845 130 4647 Book Online www.waverleyexcursions.co.uk

Gift Aid: If you are a UK taxpayer then the Charity can claim an extra 25% from the taxman to help preserve these ships. WSN Co Ltd, Glasgow G3 8HA. SC005832. All fares include a voluntary 10% donation.

Police files

A GENERATOR was stolen from a boat on the shorefront between Caol and Corpach sometime between Wednesday May 16 and Friday May 25.

AN UNSECURED ladies mountain bike removed from Polmona, Claggan, sometime between Tuesday May 22 and Wednesday May 23 was found last Thursday in the Glen Nevis area.

Anyone with knowledge of these incidents is asked to contact Fort William Police Station on 01397 702361 or the confidential line on 01397 702000.

Members of the public may also report any crime, offence or anything suspicious by phoning Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

New Wester Ross community centre opens

A NEW centre designed to be at the heart of a Wester Ross community officially opened its doors on Tuesday.

The GALE Centre at Achtercairn in Gairloch will house office accommodation, a tourist information centre, gallery space for local artists and craft producers and exhibition space for local groups and businesses.

Local community group Gairloch and Loch Ewe Action Forum (GALE) masterminded the £800,000 project.

Chainsaw stand-off lands man in jail

Former forestry worker barricaded himself inside home

A FORT William man who barricaded himself in his house for four-and-a-half hours and warded off armed police with a chainsaw has been jailed for 13 months.

Brian MacDonald threatened to 'cut the legs off' and kill any officers who came into his house during the stand-off.

Police went to MacDonald's house at 4 Glen Nevis Place on April 24 to arrest him after the 41-year-old failed to appear in court. He had been due to be sentenced for shouting and swearing, threatening violence on police officers and repeatedly kicking a police van on Fort William High Street on July 24.

Officers arrived at 11.45pm and found MacDonald drunk and unco-operative. He refused to let them inside and warned them: 'You'll lose a few police officers tonight.'

MacDonald set up a blockade of wooden planks behind the front door to stop officers from getting into the building.

The former forestry worker then turned on his chainsaw and repeatedly brandished it from inside his living room at the officers outside the house.

Armed police and negotiators were called to the stand-off, which ended when MacDonald passed out at around 4.15am.

Fort William Sheriff Court heard MacDonald made numerous references during the

incident to Raoul Moat, the man who shot three people, including a police officer, in Cumbria in 2010.

Procurator Fiscal Alison Wylie said: 'He repeatedly mentioned Raoul Moat, praising what he had done and saying how he hates police with a passion.'

'He said if they [police] came into the house he would cut their legs off and blind them.'

Resentment

Defence solicitor Stephen Kennedy said: 'For many years he has harboured resentment towards the police. He has felt the police deal with him in a heavy-handed manner, target him and accuse him of crimes he has not committed.'

'He is not proud of his actions. He is severely embarrassed and

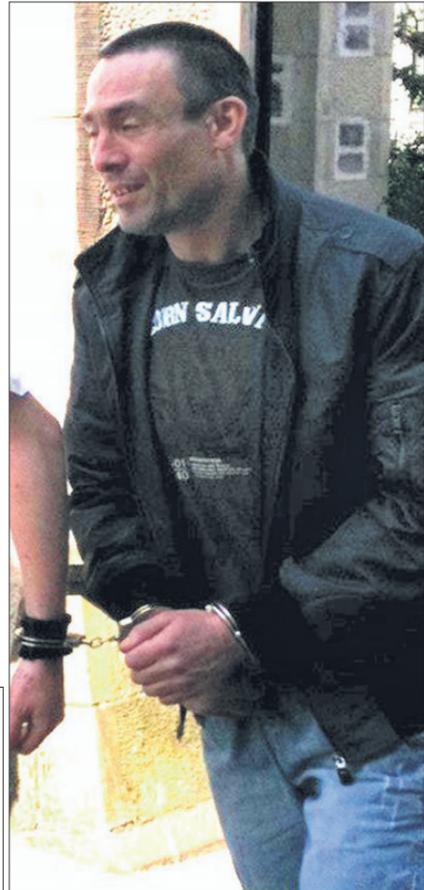
deeply ashamed of what he has done.'

MacDonald, Sheriff Douglas Small said: 'The offences I have heard about are particularly unpleasant. There is only one sentence I can impose and that is one of custody.'

Appearing from custody, MacDonald admitted threatening to kill and injure the officers, repeatedly operating a chainsaw and blockading himself inside his house.

MacDonald was also sentenced for behaving in a threatening or abusive manner on Fort William High Street on August 4.

He previously pled guilty to verbally abusing door stewards and police officers outside the Maryburgh Inn and threatening to shoot them with a shotgun.



Jailed: Brian MacDonald is led from court in handcuffs.

Pupils' short films to be screened at festival

PUPILS at the Nicolson Institute in Stornoway and Paible School in North Uist are to have their short films screened during one of Scotland's largest creative industry festivals.

The five-minute clips, commissioned by BBC Scotland under its learning project, will be shown during goNorth in Inverness on June 6 and 7 and can be viewed online at www.bbc.co.uk/programme/p00k13/ clips.

They were made in collaboration with ScreenHI, which develops the film industry in the Highlands and Islands.

Boxing club show a sell-out

NETHER Lochaber Amateur Boxing Club's first home show on Saturday is a sell out, according to head coach Martin Glensk.

All 170 tickets for the 12-bout event at Kinlochleven High School theatre have been snapped up.

Eight boxers from the local club are billed to fight opponents from as far afield as Peterhead and Kilmarnock.

Mr Glensk told The Oban Times: 'It's our first show so there's a wee bit of history being made.'

A kids' skills bout will act as a curtain raiser for the action. The evening starts at 8pm.

'Class night' in store as bands take to Crofters' stage

FORT William band Bronco Fiasco and ex-Lochaber group Skeleton Verse will support top English rockers Heaven's Basement in the town's Crofter Bar on Saturday night.

Described in the national press as 'a band with hearts as big as The Verve', Bronco Fiasco is fronted by vocalist Marc MacMaster and have supported Big Country.

Brian Jamieson of Skeleton Verse, now Glasgow-based and formerly known as The Paradox, said: 'It looks like being a class night.'

Astley Hall hosts produce fair

THE ASTLEY Hall in Arisaig will host a local produce fair next Thursday.

A range of plants, homemade foods and crafts will be on display.

Refreshments will be available at the free entry event, which begins at 11am.

Newsdesk 01397 703003

New Lochailort fish farm hatchery work on track

WORK on a massive new £15million fish farm hatchery at Lochailort is on track to be completed by the end of the year.

The Oban Times was given an exclusive first look at Marine Harvest's ongoing works with a guided tour by site manager Steve McCaig and hatchery technician Paul Fletcher.

The 150,000 square foot building will contain around 13 million Atlantic salmon smolts which will be transferred to Marine Harvest sites across Scotland to grow into full sized fish. When it is finished the facility will house 12 staff - six of them in the hatchery.

Around 110 people are working on the site as contractors Robertson aim for a December completion date.

EXCLUSIVE REPORT by RICHARD HADDOCK rhaddock@obantimes.co.uk

Seven miles of pipe work are being laid in construction, and at its highest point the new building will be 11metres tall with a protective green wall around the site to avoid spoiling the local landscape. Mr McCaig told The Oban Times: 'We've been on site since January and construction will be completed by Christmas. It is due to start operating around March next year.'

An average of one-and-a-half metres of peat was removed from the site before any work could take place and Mr McCaig said most of the exhumed matter

is being reused in the building process.

He said: 'All the excavated material is being collected and placed into our reclaim and crusher machines to allow us to recycle the materials, such as ground rock and sand materials for building. We will be using around 8,000m<sup>3</sup> of concrete.'

'It means we don't have to have lorries coming up and down from Fort William bringing materials up, which is good for everyone.'

Mr Fletcher told The Oban Times the operation had only suffered one minor hold-up so far, but was still on track.



Robertson's site manager Steve McCaig and Marine Harvest hatchery technician Paul Fletcher showed The Oban Times around the site. 20\_1225ite06



Angler Donald does the double

Donald Ross from Portree won the annual John Peter's Beat fishing competition for the second time at Storr Lochs, Skye, on Saturday. Donald is pictured receiving the winner's shield from Catriona MacDonald. Second was Donald Gillies from Borve and Neil Cameron of Treaslane was third. Also pictured are competing anglers and the MacDonald family.

MSP welcomes cut in drink-drive limit

SKYE, Lochaber and Badenoch MSP Dave Thompson has welcomed the Scottish Government's move to cut the drink-drive limit as a matter of priority. Justice Secretary Kenny MacAskill announced this week the present limit of

80mg of alcohol per 100ml of blood would be reduced to 50mg as soon as possible. Mr Thompson, who has been campaigning to reduce the limit for five years, said nominating a driver when going out was 'a small price to pay for saving lives'.

Smiles all round as sun shines on Fort William school fete



Fort William Primary School held its school fete last Thursday night with pupils, parents, teachers and friends of the school enjoying the glorious sunshine.

On offer were baking stalls, a bouncy castle, nail and face painting, a beat the goalie competition as well as refreshments.

A raffle was held, with a number of prizes donated by local companies, and Lochaber High Junior Pipe Band entertained with traditional music. Head teacher Sue Commander told The Oban Times: 'We've had lovely weather and everybody has worked really hard. It's a fundraiser, but it's also a nice happy family event.'

Fight to save Fort FC goes down to the wire

THE FIGHT to save Fort William FC has gone down to the wire, with the committee anxiously waiting for someone to put themselves forward to takeover as club chairman.

As revealed in The Oban Times last week, the club need to have a new chairman and secretary in place or face expulsion from the Highland League after incumbent John Wattman announced

he was stepping down. An extraordinary general meeting was held last night (Wednesday) and as The Oban Times went to press no candidates had yet come forward.

Highland League chairman Finlay Noble told The Oban Times: 'We're fairly hopeful of Fort William surviving and we will do everything we can to try and keep them afloat.'

Hopefully there is people in the community in Fort William who can come on board and do their bit because it's a cracking wee club with a fantastic youth policy. We are moving ahead on the basis that Fort William will be in the league next year.' He added: 'We're not inviting any other clubs to apply because as far as we're concerned we already have 18 clubs.'

Outgoing chairman and secretary John Wattman said: 'I've no intention of staying on in an office bearer's role. I'll continue on the committee but not as secretary or chairman.'

The club held an AGM two weeks ago where the roles were expected to be filled but no one put themselves forward meaning a new committee could not be formed.

Town's poker ace heads to capital to compete with top 40

A FORT William poker ace will be the only Highlands representative when some of the best players in Scotland compete in Edinburgh today (Thursday).

Steve Macmillan is one of 40 people taking part in the 'Grassroots' Texas hold'em tournament at Genting Poker Club.

The 35-year-old said: 'I've only been playing Texas hold'em poker a short while but I would say that interest in the game has grown tenfold in the past few years.'

'The local poker league has a great variety of players and I've improved my game very much by being part of it.'

Advertisement for Duart Castle, Isle of Mull, featuring event listings for June 2012: The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Beacons (Monday 4th June - 10pm. FREE), Duart's Pipers & Highland Dancing Day\* (Sun 10th June - 2pm to 5pm), Mull Gaelic Choir\* (Sat 16th June - From 2pm), Frasers Dragoons (Sun 24th June - 11am to 3pm. FREE). Includes contact info: Tel: 01680 812 309, Web: www.duartcastle.com, Email: guide@duartcastle.com.

Advertisement for Tartan Heart Belladrum Festival, 3rd & 4th August 2012. Features 'WIN TICKETS to 2 PAIRS TO GIVEAWAY Belladrum Festival'. Includes text: 'The Oban Times is giving two lucky readers the chance to win a pair of weekend tickets with camping to this year's Belladrum Tartan Heart Festival. Each ticket is worth £95.' Includes a 'TOKEN 1' graphic and terms and conditions.

**Shopmobility Lochaber increases opening hours**

FORT William charity Shopmobility Lochaber has increased its opening hours during the week and will now open on Saturdays.

The charity, which provides scooters and electric chairs to people with mobility problems, is now open from 9am to 4pm Monday to Friday and from 10am to 2pm on Saturday.

Charity co-ordinator Billy Ward told *The Oban Times*: 'The Saturday opening is for the summer months initially, but if there is sufficient demand for the service we will try to carry it on throughout the year.'

**South Uist firm wins salmon award**

A SOUTH Uist-based salmon business has been voted best in its class at the 2012 Scotland Food and Drink Awards – the country's food 'Oscars'.

Loch Duart Ltd won the fish category for its smoked salmon range at a glittering awards ceremony in the Hilton Dunblane Hydro last Thursday.

Entries in the hotly contested competition were judged by a panel comprising industry experts and journalists.

**Gaelic-speaking pupils in TV spotlight**

THE THIRD series of BBC ALBA's children's show *Gleusta* is set to begin filming at Fàs at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, the Gaelic College on Skye next month.

Produced by Morag Stewart for Sleat-based Sealladh TV and directed by Michael Hines, the new series will feature teams of Gaelic-speaking pupils from primary schools throughout Scotland.

Over 12 programmes, with new games and help from special guests, they will compete for the coveted *Gleusta* trophies. Among those participating in this series will be teams from the Western Isles, Edinburgh, Inverness, Skye, Argyll and Bute, Glasgow and Perth.

The series will be presented by Linda MacLeod from North Uist and will be broadcast on BBC ALBA later this year.

**Lotto rollover up for grabs**

A ROLLOVER jackpot of £600 is up for grabs this week in Fort William FC's weekly lotto draw. Numbers last week were 05-15-19.



Carbost pupils will wear their own-design t-shirts at the mini-Olympics at Portree.

**Olympic fever takes hold as Skye pupils go for gold**

FEVERISH preparations are underway at a Skye primary to run a 'mini-Olympics' in Portree for the island's smaller schools.

Organisers-in-chief are pupils and staff at Carbost, where the children have set up their own Olympic committee to co-ordinate the June 13 event.

The big sports day out got the green light after an enthusiastic response to emails inviting all Skye primaries with a roll under 40 to take part.

All but two of the eight schools contacted said yes – leaving Carbost teachers and support staff with the huge logistical problem of catering for around 130 children on the day.

Competitors will line up for football, basketball, shinty and tug-o-war. Relay, sprint and

By STEPHEN NORRIS snorris@obantimes.co.uk

middle distance races will also feature on the programme.

Each of the nine teams will compete under the flag of a country, with Carbost's two squads representing Jamaica and Russia.

Kilmuir will take the field as China and the USA, Staffin as Spain and Argentina, Raasay as Greece and Edinbane as Brazil. Struan and Knockbreck will compete jointly as Mexico.

The event was to have been held at Struan Primary – until competitor numbers snowballed.

Now P4-7 teacher at Carbost Helen Nicolson, assisted by PE teacher Mrs MacGuire, are help-

ing pupils organise and train for the sporting spectacular.

Ms Nicolson said: 'We originally had thought of Struan as the venue, but the response was greater than we thought.'

'When we added up all the children we discovered we had 130 altogether, which meant we had to move it to King George V Park in Portree.'

'That's fine, because it means we have the community centre there for back up as well.'

She added: 'We are at the stage now of getting the entries back and ironing out some of the problems.'

The Carbost committee also designed their own Olympic t-shirts, which they will wear while taking part in the mini-Olympics events.



Arisaig woman Rosemary MacEachen takes her first go on a computer with Jane Beaton from Citizens Online.

**New project helps Arisaig residents get online**

TECHNOPHOBIC Arisaig residents will have the chance to try their hand at using a computer and the internet after a project was launched at a local centre.

The Arisaig Land, Sea and Islands Centre saw the start of the Get IT Together project, run by national charity Citizens Online, which aims to bring broadband internet to remote areas of the Highlands.

A laptop computer with internet access, and a mouse and scanner has been installed to help increase locals' skills and confidence in using computers and the internet. Arisaig Community Trust development officer Alison Stewart has been

working with Jane Beaton of Citizens Online to set up the project, with financial help from a BT Community Connections award which provides free broadband connection for 12 months. Ms Stewart said: 'The digital age has so far bypassed the centre so one of the main improvements is to introduce some new technology. We've been fortunate to receive a BT Community Connections award which is helping to cover the installation costs.' ACT is in the process of taking over running the centre, which offers an exhibition of history of the area old and new with photographic displays and artefacts.

**South Lochs residents' first chance to visit land of their ancestors**

A GROUP of people from South Lochs in Lewis will make an emotional trip to visit the land of their ancestors for the first time next Saturday.

The party will be among 12 making the voyage from Kyles Scalpay at 11am to the now uninhabited South Paice area of the island. The remote peninsula

By STEPHEN NORRIS snorris@obantimes.co.uk

on southeastern Lewis is only accessible by sea or a 10-mile walk in from Eishken Lodge near Balaban.

It is hoped the Eishken Estate motorboat will be able to make landings at Kenmore, Bagh

CiarachandBaghReimseabhaidh to allow passengers to visit the ruined settlements between Loch Seaforth and Loch Claidh. Others will be viewed from the vessel.

The area was once home to hundreds of people before the Seaforth Mackenzie's evicted them from around 30 small

villages in the early 19th century to make way for a deer park – from which the present day Gaelic name derives its name.

University students and visitors will also be aboard the boat for the trip, which is being organised by the Islands Book Trust.

IBT chairman John Randall

told *The Oban Times*: 'We are fully booked.'

'On this particular trip there will be people from the South Lochs area whose ancestors came from the area we will be visiting.'

He added: 'We have several other boat trips coming up this summer.'



Winners Mary and Anne, with Anne's daughters Michelle and Lucy.

**Lucky ticket winners ready for Rockness**

THE LUCKY pair to win tickets to Rockness have been revealed as Mary Cattannach of Kinlochleven and Anne MacGillivray of Spean Bridge.

They each get a pair of weekend camping tickets for the festival, each worth £159. Biffy Clyro, Mumford and Sons and Ed Sheeran will headline the festival, which will be held on June 8 to 10.

Mary said this was the first time she had ever won a competition,

and was 'delighted' with her prize.

She said: 'This is the first competition I've ever won in my life. I like Mumford and Sons, so I'm very keen to see them.'

Mary will be taking her 18-year-old son Robert with her to the festival.

However Anne told *The Oban Times* she had won four competitions in the past four years, including an Oban Times competition for tickets

to last year's Trials World Championship.

She said: 'My daughters really want to see Mumford and Sons and I've already won tickets for the mountain bike world cup so I'm letting them go.'

The pair won the competition by collecting two tokens from *The Oban Times* and correctly answering the question 'At which famous loch does RockNess take place?', the answer being Loch Ness.

**Archive gift to Canna islanders**

A DIGITISED archive of sound recordings compiled by Gaelic historian and Canna owner John Lorne Campbell has been gifted to the island.

Tobar an Dualchais/Kist o' Riches director Mairead MacDonald presented Canna property manager Stewart Connor with the boxed collection in Canna House last week.

The TD/KR project at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, the Gaelic college on Skye, digitises oral Gaelic and Scots song, stories and music from old recordings to save them as a permanent publically available online archive.

John Lorne Campbell, who gifted Canna to the nation under NTS stewardship in 1981, pioneered the collecting and recording of Gaelic song and story.

He also gifted his library, archives and sound, made over a period of 30 years and amounting to more than 1,500 Gaelic songs and 350 folktales, to the trust. Ms MacDonald said: 'We are very pleased to have been able to play a part in the preservation of John Lorne Campbell's work



Tobar an Dualchais/Kist o' Riches director Mairead MacDonald presents Canna property manager Stewart Connor with the digital copy.

and to make some of the sound recordings available worldwide. It has been a privilege to work with these recordings.'

**Lochaber flag to fly at Diamond Jubilee Pageant on Thames**

A FLAG fluttering amid the flotilla in the Thames Diamond Jubilee Pageant on Sunday will have 'made in Lochaber' provenance.

More than 1,000 boats will muster on the river to celebrate Queen Elizabeth's 60 years on the throne.

And one, a former police launch owned by Drimmin man Roderick James, will fly a banner made up of 16 panels designed by schoolchildren at Acharacle and Spean Bridge primary



Heading down the Thames: the Inverness-shire ensign designed by local children.

schools. The artworks, which were digitalised then printed onto the white linen pennant, all have an Inverness-shire theme. Aldourie Primary near Dores and Drummond School in Inverness also contributed designs.

Lord Lieutenant of Inverness-shire Donald Cameron of Lochiel commissioned the four schools to design the flag.

He told *The Oban Times*: 'I think it's tremendous, especially as it was created by the children. They have done a really good job.'

Mr James, who also owns a houseboat on the Thames as well as a home in Drimmin, will skipper *Priority*, a 1958 former Metropolitan Police launch.

His daughter Lucy will be aboard, as will Deputy Lord Lieutenant James Witherspoon, Mr James' wife Amanda and Jane Stuart-Smith and Hugh Raven from Ardnornish Estate.

The party will represent the lord lieutenant at the event.

**Rum's population on the rise as community projects take off**

RUM'S POPULATION is on the rise - three years after local people began taking over ownership of land and properties in Kinloch from Scottish Natural Heritage.

The number of permanent residents now stands at 40 - up around 30 per cent on 2009 - after eight new people made the island their home this year.

Since the takeover, the Isle of Rum Community Trust has also won grant funding for community development projects.

An extension to the village hall to provide a kitchen and outdoor deck area has been built, while new showers have been installed at the campsite.

Tourist signs have been improved, new upmarket camping cabins built and the pier now boasts a waiting shelter and composting toilet.

The community has also obtained a Climate Challenge Fund grant to erect a community

polytunnel, improve energy efficiency of the village hall, and to encourage community composting.

Vikki Trefler, development officer with the trust, told *The Oban Times*: 'There is a general sense that things are starting to happen here, with plans for a community-owned bunkhouse and grand designs for a steading redevelopment.'

**Optimism** 'There's a real sense of energy and optimism for the future, with new people moving to the island and community projects really taking off.'

'We've had a lot of visitors already this year but there's so much space it never feels crowded - it's a great place to be!'

Two of the three new crofts created have been let, Ms Trefler said, while the community ranger service on Rum is offering an expanded programme of events.

**Celebrating Voluntary Action in Argyll & Bute**



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**Oban Bay swimmer charged after being rescued**

A STUDENT has been charged with culpable and reckless endangerment after attempting to swim to Kerrera from Oban's Esplanade.

Multiple 999 calls were made just after 10pm last Friday by witnesses who reported the man was struggling in the water.

The 27 year old was able to hold onto a vessel in the bay, before being transferred to Oban lifeboat.

Oban Police chief inspector Brian Auld said: 'As temperatures rise people are tempted to cool off in the water but it is colder than they expect, which has an impact on their ability to swim.'

**Arrest made after death in Dunoon**

A 33-year-old man has been arrested in connection with the death of a man found in a house in Dunoon.

The body of Mark McGauchie, aged 33, was discovered at around 1am on Monday inside his house at Cowal Place.

A report will be sent to the Procurator Fiscal.

**Jura sudden death**

A MAN attending the Jura Fell Race at the weekend suddenly died during the event.

The mountain rescue team on the island reported the 68-year-old man from Cheshire had collapsed and had stopped breathing at around 11am on Saturday.

He was flown out to the Southern General Hospital in Glasgow and pronounced dead around 1pm.

It is understood he was marshall for the race.

**Wildlife Trust hosts last event at Achnacloich**

THE Lorn and Mid-Argyll Wildlife Trust will hold its last event at Achnacloich Woodland Gardens near Connel this Saturday (June 2).

The Trust has held an event there for the past 27 years but this will be the final one following the death of estate owner, Mrs Jane Nelson, last year.

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Lova Stahl, aged 6, and Lexi Sloan, aged 9, cool down from the heat of Oban's Esplanade with some delicious ice cream 15\_122sun02

# Heat wave

West coast hotter than Mediterranean as temperatures soar

SUPPLIES of Oban ice cream hit an all-time low at the weekend as people made the most of a mini heat wave that swept across the country.

Soaring temperatures saw Scotland's west coast beating Spain's Madrid, Italy's Rome and Africa's Nairobi and matching Brazil's Rio de Janeiro in the temperature stakes on Monday, before Oban returned to more seasonal weather on Tuesday.

Alec MacKenzie from The Pokey Hat in Oban said that ice cream sales went through the roof as the temperature in the town reached the high twenties.

'We were close to running out on both Saturday and Sunday,' he told *The Oban Times*. 'We couldn't make the ice cream fast enough as we were selling it so quickly.'

Alec who makes all his own ice cream said he and his staff spent the entire weekend trying to keep up with demand.

'I just hope this isn't the summer,' he added. 'We could do with a few more months of weather like this.'

The highest temperature of the week was recorded in Kinlochewe, where the mercury hit 82.6F (28.1C).

In contrast, temperatures in Tenerife in the Canary Islands were 68F (20C) and in Athens, Greece, 73F (23C).

Local temperature records show that Tiree reached 21.5C on Sunday, Campbeltown 23.8C on Monday and Islay 25C on Sunday.

David Nicholson, visitor services advisor for VisitScotland in Oban said the sun had helped bring people to the town.



He said: 'There was a noticeable increase in visitors on Monday and we had heaps of people booking boat trips and excursions on the Waverley for the coming weeks.'

'There were plenty of foreign tourists out and about but the majority of people seemed to be British holidaymakers.'

'The sun has definitely kick-started the summer and helped to boost tourism in the region.'

However according to the Met Office, Argyll will need to pull out the woolly jumpers from the cupboard once again, as temperatures are set to dive back down to barely double figures.

Met Office forecaster Ken McEwan said: 'While it will be fundamentally high pressure in charge, it will be a cold high, rather than a warm high that we had last week.'

'So certainly sunny skies again for the weekend, but with temperatures around the 12C-mark, with light winds over parts of the Highlands, there is the possibility of a touch of ground frost.'

'So, basically we have a couple of seasons within the space of a week.'

## Daughter inspires 250-mile charity cycle ride from Oban Hospital scare sparks idea to raise funding

DADDY'S girl Lauren Gibson is hoping to be a good luck charm for her father after she inspired him to plan a 250-mile charity cycle.

The five-year-old Oban girl was diagnosed with Diabetes (type one) after being rushed to hospital by her parents Gordon and Isabel.

And Gordon, who works with Network Rail in Crianlarich, says the experience was so shocking, he organised a cycle from John O'Groats to Oban over three days in September to raise money for Diabetes UK.

His demanding training schedule for the event sees the railwayman leave his house in Morvern Hill at 4am to cycle to Creagan Bridge and back, before getting ready for work and driving an hour to Crianlarich to start his shift at 8.30am.

Gordon said: 'I have been trying to cycle at least 30 miles every day but closer to the time I will be doing longer runs.'

'It sounds hypocritical but I only thought about doing this after it happened to one of my own. I could have done a charity cycle before now but when I saw Lauren in hospital and saw how upset she was, I had to do something.'

Lauren was taken to hospital in late February after her parents noticed she was feeling weak and was drinking a lot of water. After taking a blood sample and administering insulin, staff at Lorn and Islands Hospital transferred the youngster to the Royal Alexandra in Paisley, where she spent four nights.

'It was very nerve-wracking and very worrying,' said Gordon. We have had to change our routines and learn how to give injections but Lauren just takes it in her stride. She's been magnificent throughout the whole thing.'

Gordon is in the process of collecting sponsor money but pledges can also be made through his Facebook page.

## Alleged drink driver sleepwalked into car

AN OBAN Sheriff has accepted that a local fish and chip shop owner accused of drink-driving was sleepwalking when he got behind the wheel.

George MacDonald, aged 74, of Campster House, North Connel, admitted driving with twice the legal alcohol limit on August 14 last year.

At a 'special reasons hearing' on Monday in Oban Sheriff Court, MacDonald had his licence endorsed with nine penalty points and was fined £500.

The court heard MacDonald, who runs Oban Fish and Chip Shop, woke up in Pennyfuir Cemetery car park at 4am, standing beside his car in his underpants and a shirt after he had driven from his home.

His wife, Lillian, had phoned the police after he got out of bed, left the house, and she heard the car reversing into the fence and drive off at speed. Police officers caught up with MacDonald after he had left the car park and had begun driving home.

MacDonald said in evidence: 'I had driven from my home, for what reason I have no idea. I had no idea where I was.'

Sheriff Richard McFarlane said: 'There is nothing sinister with regard to the sequence of events. 'This is an extremely unusual case.'

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## Spotlight on Glengallan

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THE EPICENTRE of Oban may be considered to be in George Street, or Argyll Square, but Glengallan Industrial Estate could claim to be its industrial heartbeat.

It is home to some of the town's most established businesses, yet also plays host to the up-and-coming success stories.

Among them are some familiar company names that demonstrate the range in skills and size of the business that have made home there: Dawson Energy, renowned for their expertise in renewables and engineering; the respected timber merchants and building materials provider at Rembrand Timber; and the highly-skilled staff at Lorn Weld,

who offer assistance with all aspects of steelwork, security grills and gate, sign posts and even stairs and furniture. Not to mention the trusted and reliable James Smith Builders and the popular Snackvan, which has an amazing variety of hot and cold foods, all with ingredients sourced from local suppliers. From there, Annie Johnstone feeds the estate workforce, as well as visitors to the business park.

Each one can claim to be part of a growing business community in a developing part of the town, which offers the prospect of growth and prosperity in an often depressing time for business.

**Snack Van at MacQueen's**

Owner Annie Johnstone started her snack van on 1 November 2011, with thanks to Graham MacQueen and family for her pitch on the main road just beside MacQueen's warehouse.

Annie sells a wide range of hot and cold food, the ingredients for which are all sourced locally, including:

- Full, cooked breakfasts
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Councillor Roddy McCuish and children from Dalmally Primary School mark the building of eight new homes by planting a commemorative tree. 16.122da01

## First sod cut for Dalmally housing

WORK on the first affordable housing scheme in the village of Dalmally for a generation officially began on Tuesday when Councillor Roddy McCuish cut the first sod.

The development being built by Argyll Community Housing Association (ACHA) will provide eight new homes in Scott Terrace, on a site next to Dalmally Primary School.

In his first public appointment since becoming leader of the council earlier this month, Councillor McCuish said there was a feeling of confidence in the Dalmally community.

'These will be the first affordable houses built in Dalmally since 1980 so they are long overdue,' said Mr McCuish. 'There is a real sense of optimism in this community now and I hope it will continue for many years to come.'

Alastair MacGregor, ACHA's chief executive said: 'We are absolutely delighted to be building eight new homes in Dalmally.'

'This will ultimately support the local school with families with children and it shows the importance of affordable housing in our rural villages throughout Argyll.'

Continuing concerns about the lack of affordable housing in the region were raised this week by Highlands and Islands MSP Jamie McGrigor who welcomed the new houses at Dalmally.

He said: 'Housing associations like ACHA are doing a good job with limited resources and deserve our support. However, the lack of affordable houses in our rural and island communities is placing real strain on too many families and is holding back economic growth.'

## Man who wrote to boy appears in Oban Sheriff Court

A MAN has appeared at Oban Sheriff Court accused of sending written communication of a sexual nature to a boy under the age of 16.

Jamie Patel, aged 30, of 109 East Way, Eastfield, Scarborough, appeared from custody last Friday and pled not guilty to sending sexual written communication to the boy between May 14 and 23 this year. A trial diet has been set for July 10, with an intermediate diet on June 26.

An application for bail was granted.

## Lochgilhead windfarm shortlisted for major award

A WIND farm which will generate millions of pounds to benefit a local community has been shortlisted for a major award.

The £17 million AlltDearg Community Wind Farm near Lochgilhead has been nominated in the Community Project category of the Energy Awards organised by Renewable UK.

James Lithgow of Ormsay, who together with the neighbouring Stronachullin Estate owns the site and formed the AlltDearg Wind Farmers partnership to develop the scheme said: 'There has been a huge amount of hard work from everyone to develop this community project without any public sector support so we're delighted it has been shortlisted for these awards.'

## Lifeboat assists stranded yacht

OBAN lifeboat, which had one of its busiest weekends for some time, was called out on Saturday to assist a yacht that had been stranded.

The Moody 376 *Camelin II* had battery failure at around 4.50pm around the Creag Islands.

The yacht was quickly helped by the yacht *Lara*, which got it under tow, and the lifeboat took over on arrival, taking the *Camelin II* in to Dunstaffnage.

## 'Hero' saves youngster being swept out to sea

AN OBAN teenager, who took a half-day off work to enjoy the sunshine, ended up a hero after rescuing a five-year-old boy from being swept out to sea on a Lilo.

In sea conditions described as 'a recipe for disaster', with a strong offshore breeze and out-going tide, the inflatable had drifted 200 metres out to sea from the shore at Ganavan Sands last Friday.

As worried onlookers phoned the coastguard, Fortcath's storeman Danny McMaster, 19, who had clocked off from work early to enjoy the sunshine at Ganavan, swam out to try and save young Oban boy John Scott.

'I couldn't see how anyone else could get out to him quickly enough,' said Danny, 'so I just went for it. I didn't think about what I had done until I was halfway out. From the beach

he looked a lot closer but was probably drifting out as I was swimming towards him.'

As Danny reached John, Ganavan resident Alistair Hally, 54, who lives in one of the newly-built houses at Ganavan Sands, set out in his tender to retrieve them. A keen sailor, Alistair described the conditions as 'a recipe for disaster' and remarked on Danny's bravery.

Danny added: 'When I got to John my arms felt tired, so I was glad to see the boat. I just started talking to him about who he was and where he went to school to keep his mind off the cold. I had started to pull him back in but we were making slow progress.'

John's mother, Kelly MacCracken, 30, called Danny 'a hero' but the term doesn't sit comfortably with the teenager.

'There are lots of other people who could do what I did. I'm just glad I took a half-day off work.'

Oban coastguard station officer Iain MacKinnon said: 'If you use these inflatables they must be tied to the shore, so the child can be pulled back in at any point. It is often the case that when someone does swim out to help it is the rescuer who ends up in difficulty.'



'Hero' Danny McMaster

## Drill trailer stolen from near Taynuilt

POLICE have begun hunting thieves who took around £15,000 worth of drilling equipment and a trailer from Muckairn House, Taynuilt.

The Ifor Williams twin-axle tipping trailer, registration SX06 EOG, contained a drill hammer, drill bits and water pipes, among other pieces of equipment used for drilling and digging wells.

It was stolen sometime between Thursday and Friday last week when thieves broke through a padlocked gate.

Oban Police chief inspector Brian Auld said: 'We are keen to hear from anyone who may have information regarding this theft. Did those responsible approach anyone at that time looking for scrap metal or did anyone see any suspicious vehicles going into remote locations?'

Oban Police can be contacted on 01631 510 500.

## Dialysis machine bid for hospital moves forward

THE DRIVE to get a dialysis machine into Lorn and Islands Hospital took a major step forward after campaigners last week met with health secretary Nicola Sturgeon.

At the meeting in Holyrood, organised by Argyll and Bute MSP Michael Russell and Oban North and Lorn councillor Louise Glen Lee, Taynuilt residents Cathy Reid and Florence Anderson spoke about the high demand for dialysis services in the area.

Cathy had already persuaded Mr Russell and councillor Glen Lee to take up her case.

Councillor Glen Lee said: 'Nicola Sturgeon said she was supportive of a dialysis machine and although she cannot force NHS Highland to put one in Oban, she suggested Oban would be a good candidate to get a 'satellite' unit.'

'The need for a machine in Lorn and Islands Hospital is a pressing one, to meet the needs of many dialysis patients.'

'I can't see a way forward without getting a satellite unit into the hospital.'

## Impatient patient stole medicine from Oban hospital

AN IMPATIENT patient at Oban's Lorn and Islands Hospital stole medical equipment after waiting for three hours to be treated.

Claire Morrison, aged 22, of 7E Miller Road, Oban, pled guilty at Oban Sheriff Court on Monday to stealing a quantity of injection suspension fluid, two needles, an airway and a fibre-glass cast tape from the hospital the previous day.

The court heard Morrison had gone to hospital with her boyfriend after he was assaulted but was seen on CCTV leaving with the items.

Prosecutor fiscal Eoin McGinty described the theft as 'bizarre', as the items had no value. Sheriff Richard McFarlane fined Morrison £130.



St Columba's pupils Eve Beaton, Callum Shaw and Kieron Hopkin will be cooking for the Queen later this month. 16.122ca01

## Banquet fit for the Queen

FIGS with Argyll ham and Isle of Mull blue cheese, lavender shortbread with cream and blueberries; just some of the delights on the menu for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee thanks to an Oban primary school.

The recipes were created by the pupils at St Columba's in response to a challenge from the Duchess of Cornwall to create a modern menu for the Queen.

More than 200 schools sent in entries and the four winners were chosen by Mark Flanagan, the royal chef.

He looked both at the recipes the children created and the amount of research they had

done into local produce and its royal connections.

St Columba's primary seven pupils were the only Scottish school to win and are going to Buckingham Palace to help prepare and serve the food on the June 15.

Head teacher Sarah-Jane MacSween said that to be the only school in Scotland to win the competition was an 'impressive achievement'.

'I'm incredibly proud of all the children as this is a very prestigious competition to win,' she told *The Oban Times*.

'It's very special for the children to be involved in the

Jubilee celebrations and hopefully in many years to come they will look back and remember it as an exciting and worthwhile experience.'

The Duchess of Cornwall came up with the idea to ask schoolchildren to create a modern equivalent of coronation chicken, a dish invented almost 60 years ago for the Queen's Coronation banquet.

The challenge was to create dishes based on food produced in their part of the country so St Columba's used locally caught seafood as well as other ingredients from Argyll.

Commenting on the quality

of the entries, Alexia Robinson, organiser of the competition, said: 'We are hugely impressed by the very high standard of the menus that schools have created for Her Majesty.'

'Professional chefs across the country wanting to offer Diamond Jubilee menus in their pubs, hotels and restaurants could draw inspiration from what the children have come up with.'

'Everyone involved is looking forward to seeing the children's menus prepared for The Queen and it is great that the children are coming to Buckingham Palace to help.'

## Drink driver caught twice in one day

A CONSTRUCTION worker has pled guilty in court after police officers caught him drink driving twice in the same day.

Sunny Kumar, who is working in the area, but lives in Barking, Essex, pled guilty to two complaints of drink driving just hours apart in Oban.

Police noticed Kumar's van being driven slowly on the Corran

Esplanade in the early hours of Sunday morning and charged him after he gave a breathalyser reading of 76 microgrammes in 100 millilitres of breath.

The legal limit is 35 microgrammes.

Returned to van The 25 year old was released in an undertaking to appear at court at 3.50am but returned to his van

and was seen by police driving it in the Corran Halls car park and was arrested.

Defence solicitor Laura Russell said her client was moving his car into a parking bay at the Corran Halls and thought he would be allowed to do so.

Sentence was deferred until June 14 for Kumar to produce his driving licence.



New Disney film *Brave* has placed Oban below the Scottish border

## Brave map re-draws Scottish border line

DISNEY might be releasing a new animated film *Brave* based in Scotland but it seems they don't know much about the country if the above map is anything to go by.

The film company published an advertising video promoting the film on YouTube but bosses appear to have depicted the Scottish/English border as starting near Oban and finishing in Edinburgh.

Fife is also depicted as being separate from the rest of Scotland.

And rather than label England as independent of Scotland, Disney bosses have decided to brand it as the United Kingdom, a term which encompasses both Scotland and England as well as Wales and Northern Ireland.

## Much needed help

The Crerar Hotels Trust has collaborated with Pain Association Scotland to provide a specialist self-management course for people with long term painful conditions. The course was well attended with a 100% course completion rate and with people travelling in from as far away as Lochgilhead.

Phil Sizer, Training Director from Pain Association, said that 'this is the first time that we have been able to run this important course in Oban and we are very grateful to The Crerar Hotels Trust for recognising the need to help people with a health problem that is often marginalised and misunderstood'.

Our course focuses on helping people to improve quality of life despite a painful condition. He added that 'specialist self-

management for chronic pain is hard and expensive for people in Argyll to access, travel alone is difficult for many people with chronic pain, so providing a local resource is vital'.

Participants on the course commented that they 'enjoyed the unique style of interaction which helped them to relax and learn in a way that suited them'. One lady said that the course provided 'much needed help' and that she 'now understands that she can manage her pain and that she has begun to take positive steps to improve the quality of her life in ways that she didn't think possible or relevant before'.

The course also helped people who already attend Pain Association's monthly meetings that are now hosted at the Oban Bay Hotel and Spa.



Phil Sizer (left) Training Director, Pain Association Scotland receiving cheque from Darrell Williams, General Manager Oban Bay Hotel and Spa on behalf of The Crerar Hotels Trust.

For more information on our monthly self-management groups please contact Pain Association Scotland on 0800 783 6059

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FW

**Rotary Club Am Am at Glencruitten**

**GOLF**

GLENCRUITTEN Golf Club held its Senior Open on May 23. The course was in good condition and the weather hot and sunny.

Alan Garret was the winner of the Stableford competition with 36 points. Ken Oxland, Kenny Munro and Michael Mullen had 34 points, with Ken taking second place with BIH and Kenny in third place. Mary Plunkett won the ladies section with 31 points, Rosie Barbour taking second place with 26 points.

On Sunday the Rotary Club of Oban holds its Am Am at Glencruitten. This is the 27th year of the competition and thousands of pounds has been raised for local good causes in this time. Fifty teams will compete for the Bank of Scotland Trophy, which was won last year by Cuan Mor.

**Mixed Open results from Killin**

HANDICAP: 1 Ian and Anne Douglas (Lochwinnoch) 64; 2 Andrew and Annie Leitch (Harburn) 65 BIH 3 Jim and Maureen Burton (Killin) 65 BIH. Scratch 1 Joe And Aileen Kennedy (Harburn) 75; 2 Derek and Catherine Robertson (Auchterarder) 76; 3 Gordon Aitken (Killin) and Caroline Dunbar (Aberfeldy) 78

Best Killin (Bill Mitchell Salver): Jim and Maureen Burton Best Overall (McRobert Thistle Cup); Ian and Anne Douglas (Lochwinnoch)

Nearest Pin: Ladies (14th) - Irene Hill (Taynuilt), Gents (11th) - T Lang (Harburn) Magic Twos: Jim Ronald and Laura Aitken (Killin), Derek Robertson and Catherine Robertson (Auchterarder), Chris Martin (Callander), and Louise Woodburn (Muckhart).

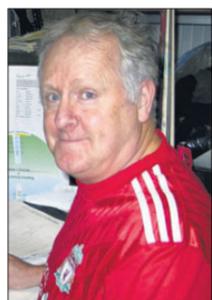
# Chris plays major role for Team GB at the Olympics

**SAILING**  
OBAN based Chris Owen has been chosen to play a major role in Team GB's Olympic sailing campaign.

The well-known sail designer, now fronting his new business SailTrimCoach, is helping oversee the 49er Olympic Campaign in Weymouth where the sailors are already practising hard for the 2012 games in August.

Chris is shore manager for the team working with Olympic coach Paul Brotherton, who coached the Yngling girls to their successful Gold medal in 2008 and is a world class sailor himself. It was a Chris Owen designed spinnaker that was used in this campaign and pointed up as the winning edge in the downwind sections of the racing in Beijing.

Chris is in charge of all the sails that are being used in both the run-up to the Olympics and in organising the best sails for



Chris Owen will make up part of Team GB's sailing team at the Olympics.

the medal races. Last week a new boat arrived for the team and Chris was in Weymouth to oversee the rigging and sails for the boat that will be sailed by Stevie Morrison and Ben Rhodes who have been through a punishing selection process before being chosen for the GBR team.

Chris said: 'Stevie and Ben were disappointed in Beijing in not scooping the gold medal so are hungry for success this time, not least since it's being held in the UK.'

**Performances**  
'It's a very full-on schedule with training and so far things are going well. We are preparing the boat for Sail for Gold racing which starts next week and that's when the performances will really start to show.'

Although playing this pivotal role in the campaign, Chris is still working as SailTrimCoach with customers all over Scotland. He competed with Iain Laidlaw on Jaywalker at Savills Kip Regatta finishing second overall in IRC Class 4 and taking two firsts in the series from winners Fever. He will be competing with Iain at the Brewin Dolphin Scottish Series starting tomorrow (Friday) and isn't forgetting the smaller events when he takes part in Glencoe Regatta's 40th anniversary celebrations on June 15 and 16.

His SailTrimCoach business helps sailors help maximise their boat's performance on the water.



**MacKay Cup comes back to Rockfield after 35 years**

Rockfield Primary School won the MacKay Cup on Saturday, defeating Kingussie 3-2 in an enthralling final at Mossfield Stadium, Oban. The Oban youngsters were 2-0 down at half time, but a superb second half fight back with goals from Euan Logan and two from Lewis Buchanan meant the cup was won by Rockfield for the first time in more than 30 years. Photograph by John MacTavish.

## Riders gear up for Killin trials event

RIDERS from all corners of the UK and Ireland will converge on Killin this weekend for the Bob MacGregor Memorial Trial.

In what is the biggest trial outside of the Lochaber-based Scottish Six Days Trial, the memorial trials event has attracted 150 riders, with up to 80

turned away after reaching the maximum entry.

The two-day trial starts and finishes in Killin, taking in Dochart Falls, Breachlach Falls and Finlarig.

Killin's Bobby Lafferty, a director of the Bob MacGregor Trials Academy, who runs the

memorial trial, said: 'Bob MacGregor was the only Scot to have won the Scottish Six Days Trial and was from Killin.'

He travelled all over the world competing but had a shop here that he opened in 1925.

The shop just closed last Christmas but still had the

**TRIALS BIKING**

MacGregor Stores sign above the door.

This is the seventh year of the memorial trial and Bobby expects Bob's two daughters, who live in Sweden and Belgium, to be on hand to present the prizes.

## Saints end the season with two away fixtures

Thursday Scottish Amateur League Premier Division **Aikenhead Thistle 3 Oban Saints 4**

SAINTS completed their league campaign last week, playing two games. On Thursday they travelled to take on last year's champions Aikenhead Thistle and recorded a hard fought 4-3 win.

The home side opened the scoring in the sixth minute but the visitors drew level three minutes later when Donald Campbell was upended in the box. Donald took the spot kick himself and sent the keeper the wrong way.

The home side went in front again in the 24th minute when Lee Harvey volleyed home a well-taken goal.

Again the lead was short lived as the Oban lads drew level

when Donald Campbell set up Asen Gaydardshiev and the Bulgarian striker cleverly steered the ball home to make the half time score 2-2.

The second half was only two minutes old when the home side took the lead when Lee Harvey outjumped the Saints defence to head the ball home.

Five minutes later it was all square again when Asen got on the end of a Willie Gemmell throw-in to head the ball past the stranded Jag's keeper.

The game was flowing from end to end and Saints have keeper Graham Douglas to thank for a couple of good saves.

The visitors took the lead for the first time in the match in the 66th minute when Marc MacCallum got on the end of a Willie Gemmell corner to force the ball over the line to make the score 4-3.

Both teams created another couple of half chances but there was no further scoring and Saints ran out winners in a hard-fought, but sporting encounter.

Saints won the premier Division in 2009/10 and have finished in second place for the last two seasons.

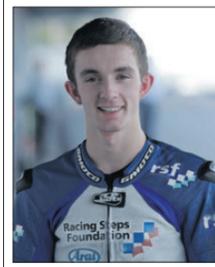
**Saturday Rolls Royce EK 2 Oban Saints 1**

SATURDAY saw the Oban side play their last game of the season when they travelled to take on East Kilbride team Rolls Royce, but unfortunately the local lads couldn't end the season on a winning note going down 2-1 in a rather bad tempered match at Murray Park.

The pitch was very hard and bumpy which made it impossible to get the ball down and play it on the ground.

The home side went ahead in the 13th minute when a cross from the left was allowed to go right across the Saints penalty area to the unmarked Scott MacEwan who slotted the ball home. Saints were claiming for a penalty at one end when Rolls Royce broke clear and with the Saints defence posted missing the ball was squared into the path of Kevin Wilson who made no mistake from close range.

## John McPhee gets wildcard entry for world championships



John McPhee.

CONNEL rider John McPhee has been granted a wildcard to next month's MotoGP World Championship round at Silverstone.

The announcement comes just a week after news the Racing Steps Foundation (RSF)-backed Moto3 rider was to receive a wildcard entry into round five of the championship at Catalunya next weekend.

The 17 year old, who will be joined at Silverstone by teammate Fraser Rogers, rides in the CEV Buckler Moto3 Championship and has racked up a podium finish in each of the opening two rounds.

John welcomed the wildcards saying: 'It's great to get the chance to compete at World Championship level again. I learned a lot last year and this will give me another lesson in what it takes to get to the top. The team has done pretty well so far with the new bike in Spain so it will be good to see how competitive we are when we are up against the World Championship teams and riders.' The Grand Prix takes place at Silverstone on June 17.

**RESULTS from the Lions Day Competition played on Saturday May 26.**

Ladies: 1 Margaret Ingram; 2 Olive Brown; 3 Catherine Ann MacCrone. Juniors: 1 Scott Paterson 51 points(50); 2 Lewis Wilshire 42 points(11); 3 Ross MacCrone 35 points(19). Gents: 1 Ross Laurie 38 points(23); 2 John Wilshire 36 points(22); 3 Graham Davidson 34 points(07). 1st round of Centenary Club Championship: 1 Mike Campbell 82-21-61; 2 Donald Dods MacLean 74-12-62; 3 John Wilshire 85-22-63. The Winner of the ladies open day was Alison Baxter (Swanton)with 38 points.

Scottish Amateur League - Premier Division							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Postal United	17	15	2	0	52	13	47
Oban Saints	18	12	2	4	51	26	38
Thorn Athletic	18	11	4	3	42	31	37
Rolls Royce EK	18	9	3	6	33	28	30
Castlemilk	18	9	2	7	42	37	29
St Joseph's	18	8	2	8	34	37	26
Aikenhead Thistle	18	8	1	9	40	37	25
Inverclyde	17	4	1	12	25	37	13
Kilbowie Union	18	3	1	14	32	60	10
Kings Park Rangers*	18	1	0	17	17	73	0

\*Deducted 3 points for fielding ineligible player

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If you wish to have more attempts, you must enter on separate coupons.

The game starts with a jackpot of £500 and will increase by £50 per week until it is won outright. To win the jackpot, the centre of your cross must be in the exact centre of the ball. If the crosses overlap the entry will be void.

If no correct entry is received, two 'near miss' prizes of £25 will be awarded. When the jackpot is won, no other prizes will be awarded that week.

**Easy to enter**

Cut out your completed coupon and put your entry plus £1 per 20 attempts into a sealed envelope and post it to "Spot the Shinty Ball" Competition, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB by 12noon Tuesday.

You may hand it into The Oban Times Head Office, Lochavullin, Oban by the same time. Otherwise all entries must be posted.

**Competition Rules**

No responsibility will be accepted for entries which are delayed, mislaid or lost, and proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery. The Company's decision is final on all matters relating to the competition and no correspondence will be entered into. The final decision rests with the Company.

In the event of more than one correct entry, the jackpot will be shared equally between all winning entries. Any decision regarding the awarding of a prize is entirely at the discretion of the Company.

The Company reserves the right to declare the competition null and void at any time, subject to its discretion and to make full refund of the price of the coupon to any person who has entered the competition at that time.

Employees of The Oban Times Limited, their immediate relatives and any person otherwise connected with the competition are ineligible to enter.

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Tobermory, Isle of Mull

I Campbell  
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Name .....

Address .....

Tel No. ....

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**Paterson Trophy match on Saturday**

**FOOTBALL**

THE ANNUAL Joe Paterson Memorial Trophy match between an Argyll Select and a Scottish Amateur League Select will take place at Glencruitten Park, Oban, on Saturday.

The Argyll squad will be selected from players from Campbeltown Pupils, Dunoon, Lochgilhead Red Star, Tarbert and host club Oban Saints.

**Top spot for Kenny**

**TENNIS**

KENNY Drummond is in pole position to qualify for September's Superset Finals at Oban Tennis Club after winning his second Superset Monthly Series.

He beat Willie Gemmell 6-4 in the final of the event on May 20 to follow up his victory in April.

Willie got some revenge, though, when he teamed up with Stuart Fraser to beat Kenny and Mohammed Arshad 6-4 in the doubles final.

With 200 ranking points, Kenny is well ahead as the players prepare for the next qualifier at Atlantis Leisure on Sunday June 17.

**Saints youths - results and fixtures**

**YOUTH FOOTBALL**

LAST weekend's results in the Dumbarton Development League.

Saturday: Under 13s 4, Milngavie 1. Liam Higgins (2), Jay Cooper and Lomond MacPherson got the goals for Saints. Sunday: Renton 4, Under 13s 1. Netting for the Saints was Evan MacEwan.

Westerton 6, Under 14s 1. Saints scorers was Ross MacMillan.

Ailander 6, Under 15s 1. Netting for Saints was Stephen McMullen. Goals for Saints: Under 16s 4, Helensburgh 2. Saints scorers were Ryan MacDougall (2), Liam MacEachan and Aidan Campbell. Sunday - Under 16s 1 Clydebank Phoenix 1. On target for Saints was Ryan MacDougall.

This weekend's fixtures: Under 13s v Helensburgh; Under 14s v Goldenhill; Under 15s finished their fixtures; Port Glasgow v Under 16s.

**Tobermory GC**

**GOLF**

RESULTS from the Lions Day Competition played on Saturday May 26.

Ladies: 1 Margaret Ingram; 2 Olive Brown; 3 Catherine Ann MacCrone. Juniors: 1 Scott Paterson 51 points(50); 2 Lewis Wilshire 42 points(11); 3 Ross MacCrone 35 points(19). Gents: 1 Ross Laurie 38 points(23); 2 John Wilshire 36 points(22); 3 Graham Davidson 34 points(07). 1st round of Centenary Club Championship: 1 Mike Campbell 82-21-61; 2 Donald Dods MacLean 74-12-62; 3 John Wilshire 85-22-63. The Winner of the ladies open day was Alison Baxter (Swanton)with 38 points.

**CONEL prizetizing**

**CARPET BOWLS**

CONNEL Carpet Bowling Club's annual dinner and prizetizing was held on May 18 in the Hawthorn Restaurant, Benderloch.

President Roddie MacLeod welcomed everyone and invited vice president Rosemary Miller to present prizes.

Winners: Mr & Mrs A B MacPhee Cup - Peter Henderson; Albrecht Cup - Marion Fisher; MacPherson Doubles Shield - Graham Britton and Anne Campbell; Doubles Shield - Jean Torv and Anne Campbell; The Dugie Boyd Memorial Trophy - Sandy Carr; Cruachan Cup - Ronnie MacIntyre; League Risks Team winners - Mike Perrett (skip), Ronnie MacIntyre, Anne Campbell and Donald Henderson. Reserve: Graham Britton.

## Kilmallie in relegation danger after derby defeat

'It was hammer and tongs the whole way through the match'

**REPORT BY RICHARD HADDOCK**  
rhaddock@obantimes.co.uk

FORT William piled the relegation pressure on neighbours Kilmallie with a 3-1 win in the local derby in Caol on Saturday.

Kilmallie are rooted to the bottom of the Orion Premiership having picked up just three points from their first 10 games, while the win moved Fort up to sixth place, five points clear of the relegation zone.

**Sapped**  
A large crowd turned out at Canal Parks for the game, but the strong sunshine seemed to

have sapped some of the players' energy as the first half was played out mainly in midfield.

Referee Billy Wotherspoon had to stop the game for several minutes after a small dog ran out of the crowd and started chasing the ball. Eventually players and supporters managed to clear the pooch from the field and play was allowed to continue.

There was little for either keeper to do until Fort forward Daniel Stewart struck five minutes before half time to give his side the lead. Bryan Simpson had the chance to double the lead soon after but saw his penalty saved by Kilmallie keeper Kevin Toye.

### SHINTY

Ryan Campbell's made the score 2-0 just after the hour, and while the home side put in plenty of effort they were unable to craft many chances.

**Sealed**  
Kilmallie's Martin Stewart pulled a goal back with four minutes to play, but within 60 seconds Campbell sealed the win with his second of the game.

Fort manager Peter MacIntyre told The Oban Times he felt his team put in the better performance on the day.

He said: 'I think we deserved it. There was quite a strong wind



Fort's Gordy MacKinnon challenges a Kilmallie defender for the ball during Saturday's match. 20\_f22shinty01

and Kilmallie probably had more possession in the first half, but our keeper didn't have much to do. I thought in the second half we were the better team and we created more chances.

'Our finishing was better than it has been in recent weeks, we've not been finishing off the

chances we've been creating. 'It was very, very hot but both teams kept going and it was hammer and tongs the whole way through.'

**Creating**  
Kilmallie chairman Hugh MacIntyre said: 'They threw it away in the first half: we had

plenty of the ball but we didn't create anything. It's been like that all season. Our forwards are playing well but not creating enough.'

'The players faded towards the end of the game. It was hot but it was the same heat for everyone out there. They are not as fit as

they should be.'

Kilmallie have a chance for immediate revenge when the two sides again do battle at Canal Parks in the Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup second round this Saturday. For more preview and team news see the shinty page inside.

## Sail Caledonia classic boats event

### SAILING

LOCHABER Yacht Club plays host to the start of the annual Sail Caledonia event on Saturday, in which a fleet of up to 14 classic sailing boats powered by sail and oars will complete the 60-mile journey from Fort William to Inverness.

The flotilla will follow the Caledonian Canal and the Great Glen's natural lochs - Loch Lochy, Loch Oich, Loch Ness and Loch Dochfour - on their way to the Highland capital.

The crews, who come from as far afield as France and Holland, will compete in races as well as enjoying exploring the Great Glen - and some Scottish style socialising, at cèilidhs.

The club's next big event is the annual regatta from June 18-24, with activities planned for each day, followed by a barbecue outside the clubhouse.

Since the club's 'Three Peaks' race was shortened to 'Two Peaks' May 13 due to poor weather, the regatta will include a 'One Peak' race as part of June 19, in conjunction with Lochaber Athletic Club.

Runners and crew will sail across Loch Linne to Meall Slamain, which the runners will ascend, then re-join the boats to sail back to the clubhouse.

Friday, June 22 is 'try a boat' evening and any one wishing to try out sailing can come along and have a short sail in a club boat - from anything from a Wayfarer dinghy to a 30-foot cruiser.

## Welfare league

### FOOTBALL

BALLA UTD and BA Club lead the way in the Welfare Football League after both teams picked up wins in the last week.

Balla Utd beat Lundavra 2-1 in Kinlochleven on Friday night while BA Club won 5-1 against Lochaber in Fort William as both sides maintained their 100 per cent record after three games.

Earlier in the week BA recorded the biggest win of the season so far, defeating Celtic 13-0 last Tuesday. Celtic then lost 10-0 to Caol Cosmos the following night. Celtic's match on Monday night was called off as opponents Ballachulish could not raise a team, giving Celtic a 4-0 win.

The other game of the week saw Mallaig defeat Ballachulish 9-1 in Kinlochleven.

## Kilchoan's fixtures

### FOOTBALL

SCOTLAND'S most westerly football club have announced their fixtures for this summer.

Ardnarmurchan-based Kilchoan FC's first game will be away to Glasgow Giffnock on Saturday June 9, followed by a home tie against Iona FC on June 30.

The annual grudge match against local rivals Coll FC will be held on July 14, with the islanders playing host for this year's match. A few spaces are still left on the Islander ferry, which will take fans and players across.

The summer season ends with a trip to Bristol to take part in a tournament with teams from all over Europe over the August bank holiday weekend.



The derby match drew large crowds with both sets of supporters packing out Canal Parks. 20\_f22shinty02

## Cricket club continue good run of form

FORT William Cricket Club continued their impressive recent form with a 62 run victory over Elgin at the BA Club on Saturday.

Despite the early loss of usual run-makers Colin Jennings and DJ Duncan, Fort still had plenty to offer, with Charlie Luxton batting magnificently for 90 and unlucky not to make his maiden century.

His club record partnership of 148 with skipper Kevin O'Meara (79) took Fort to 229 for five. Davy Duncan scored a quickfire 36, and Lindsay Gordon smashed a four and a six off his two balls to help Fort reach a best ever total of 252 for six.

Fort found it hard to remove Elgin's opener Matt Hastie (51). At 118 for one, Elgin were still in the hunt, but Derek Spencer

### CRICKET

caught and bowled Hastie his partner soon followed, clean bowled by Lindsay Gordon.

Gordon's (4-34) and Spencer (3-20) helped Fort bowl out Elgin for 190. The Lochaber side's third consecutive league win means they still top the table in a very promising season.

Captain O'Meara picked out Luxton's innings as the highlight of a great day.

The reserve team also managed a win with a hard fought victory over Skye and Lochalsh in Fort Augustus. Fort scored 136 for seven, and bowled out Skye for 84 all out.

This weekend Fort visit Forres on Saturday while the reserve side host Northern Counties at the BA on Sunday.

## Cyclists defy 80-degree heat in the Skye Mor endurance challenge

FOUR ISLE of Skye cyclists defied 80-degree heat to complete the gruelling Skye Mor road cycling endurance challenge on Saturday.

In a field of 72 who completed the course, Keith Ranicar from Dunvegan finished in a rapid 4hrs 46mins 45 secs - the second fastest time overall. Ian Stewart arrived back in Portree in 6.51:30, John 'Jocky' White from Kilmuir in 7:08:10 and Gill Housby of Columba 1400 in Staffin in 7:57:50.

The 95-mile loop round the north of the island, which involved 5,914 feet of ascent, followed the A855 from Portree north to Staffin then round the northern tip of Skye to Uig, back towards Portree on the A87 and right onto the A850 to Dunvegan. The field then turned onto the A863

### CYCLING

for the Sligachan Hotel, left onto the A87 and back to Portree.

Sergeant Andrew Shaw from Portree, who has completed the Skye Mor three times, was in uniform on Saturday to help police the challenge.

He told The Oban Times: 'It was a very well-run event that had a minimal impact of traffic. There were no incidents and it looked as though a good day was had by all.'

The Skye Mor and a shorter challenge on the day, the Skye Beag, were part of the Skye Sportive, one of a series of road cycling challenges held over the summer by Strathpeffer-based Hands On Events.



The field makes its way along the Staffin road in the Skye Mor. Photo: Iain Smith

## 'Happy Hackers' win Rotary Club Am Am

### GOLF

THE ROTARY Club of Lochaber's annual Am-Am golf tournament attracted 164 golfers to Fort William Golf Club on a sunny Sunday.

The competition was won by the 'Happy Hackers' - Neil Feggins, David Martin, Brian Gillespie and John Martin.

The Highlanders - Stewart Duncan, John Cameron, Alan Overend and David MacDonald - finished in second just two shots behind.

The competition saw the best two scores out of the four added together. The prizes were handed out at a ceremony in the clubhouse at the end of a long days play, with a number of competitors complaining of sunburn.

On Saturday the club held the Gleneagles Medal with Peter Stewart winning with a net round of 69.

Martin Duncan took the runners up slot after his net round of 70 left him one shot of the lead.

## Murdo Gordon wins round two of the Skye Cup

### GOLF

ROUND two of the Skye Cup at the Isle of Skye Golf Club saw Murdo Gordon take the win with a round of 69 (net 61).

Alex Munro was runner up after going round the Sconser course in 72 (net 62), with Murdo Beaton third with 77 (net 63). The midweek medal saw Mike

### GOLF

David Fairgrieve shot 71 to take third.

Last week the ladies' LGU extra medal and eclectic competition was held with Kathleen Leitch taking a comfortable eight shot win over Rosemary Macintyre and Ann Lovat.

Am-Am results: 1. Happy Hackers - Neil Feggins, David Martin, Brian Gillespie and John Martin - 112; 2. Highlanders - Stewart Duncan, John Cameron, Alan Overend and David MacDonald - 114; 3. Early Birds - Frank Sweeney, Paul Campbell, Pat Cassidy and Peter Stewart - 122 (BH); 4. Crofter Bar - Dale Monk, Joe Sweeney, Owen Sweeney and John Sweeney - 122.

Ladies: 1. Kraggies - Ann Lovat, Rosemary Macintyre, Kathleen Leitch and Gail Anderson - 131.

Yellow ball: Spear Commandoes - John MacPhee, Angus Morrison, Lachlan Campbell and Neil MacDonald.

Longest drive: Men - Lachlan Campbell; Ladies - Gail Anderson.

Nearest the pin: 3<sup>rd</sup> - Owen Sweeney; 6<sup>th</sup> - Martin Duncan; 12<sup>th</sup> - Owen Sweeney; 16<sup>th</sup> - George Waterstone.

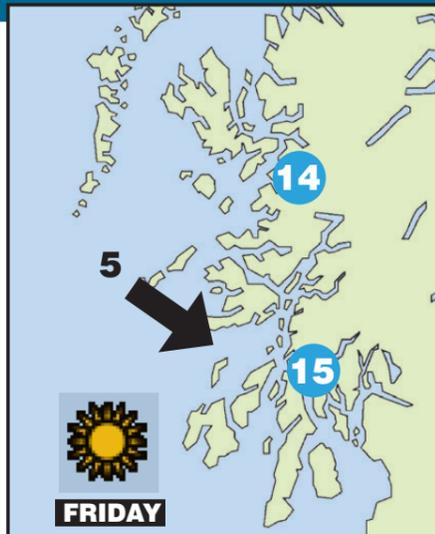
## Weather

**Thursday** Cloudy  
Winds light west, north westerly  
Temperatures 9°C to 15°C

**Friday** Sunny  
Winds light west, north westerly  
Temperatures 9°C to 15°C.

**Weekend** Sunny intervals  
**Outlook** Winds light north easterly  
Temperatures 9°C to 16°C.

**Ferry Crossings/Sea States**  
Oban to Barra/South Uist Moderate  
Oban to Coll/Tiree Moderate  
Kennacraig to Islay Moderate



## Tides

Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday, May 30, 2012** are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath.

All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am	pm
Thur	01.18 3.3 08.06 1.4 14.22 3.2 20.02 1.2	
Fri	02.32 3.5 09.06 1.2 15.17 3.4 21.08 1.0	
Sat	03.31 3.6 09.58 1.0 16.05 3.7 22.08 0.8	
Sun	04.22 3.8 10.47 0.8 16.50 3.9 23.03 0.6	
Mon	05.10 3.9 11.33 0.6 17.35 4.5 23.55 0.5	
Tues	05.56 3.9 12.19 0.5 18.20 4.1 ** ** *	
Wed	00.45 0.5 06.41 3.8 13.05 0.5 19.04 4.0	

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

Ardrishaig	-5.35	Portree	+0.55
Campbeltown	-5.30	Tobermory	+0.16
Crinan	-0.47	Dover	+5.30
Islay Port Ellen	2.00		
Lochboisdale	+0.30		
Mallaig	+0.25		

## The Oban Times weather is brought to you in association with



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