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MacIntyre wins by-election

IT WAS third time lucky for a Tesco night-shift worker in the Oban South and Isles by-election.

Neil MacIntyre is the first Labour councillor in Argyll and Bute for 14 years. He stood twice as an independent candidate. An active member of Oban Community Council, Mr MacIntyre came second in the majority vote winning 62 votes less than the Scottish National Party (SNP) candidate Iain MacLean on 980 votes.

But the proportional representational system was applied.

Councillor MacIntyre said: 'My first duty lies with my constituents in Oban South and the Isles and I will be a hardworking, approachable councillor who will diligently stand up for their interests at Kilmory.' Election first preference results were: Neil MacIntyre, Scottish Labour, 918; Iain Stewart MacLean, SNP, 980; David Pollard, Scottish Liberal Democrats, 635; John MacGregor, Independent, 616; Andrew Vennard, Scottish Conservative, 345. Neil was elected at stage five.

There were 3,494 valid votes cast in the by-election with a turnout of 43.55 per cent. Thirty-one votes were rejected.

Last chance Tiree tickets on sale

SCOTLAND'S best small music festival, Tiree Music Festival, is releasing 100 last chance tickets as organisers announce an additional stage sponsored by ferry operator CalMac Ferries Ltd.

Live Lounge, a new acoustic stage for the 2014 festival, will host performances from Scotland's most established songwriters including Dougie MacLean and Roddy Dougie.

Tickets will be available from Friday, May 30 at 9am from tireemusicfestival.co.uk.

Alleged assault of 14-year-old

A 29-year-old woman and a 32-year-old man have been charged in connection with the alleged assault of a 14-year-old girl in Oban.

The two accused have been charged with assault, breach of the peace and possession of a knife. The incident relating to the charges happened on Sunday evening.



Young couple, Shannon Feaks, aged 19, from Pennyfuir Farm and Rory Craig, 23, from Taynuilt were presented the keys to their first house together by Murray Sim, chairman of West Highland Housing Association. 15_122house01

New home delight for first tenants

WITH only the carpets to fit and the curtains to hang it is almost time for the first 50 new houses at Dunbeg to be occupied.

Young couple Shannon Feaks, aged 19, from Pennyfuir Farm and Rory Craig, 23, from Taynuilt are one of the first to move in and took the keys to their first house together.

All the properties on the square will be occupied over the next few weeks.

The houses were built by West Highland Housing Association (WHHA) under contract by Tobermory Sandpit Limited (TSL) and project managed by Taynuilt's Gregor Cameron Consultants.

Murray Sim, chairman of WHHA, said: 'We are delighted to see this fantastic development coming on site providing 50 desperately needed properties

for the area. As a rent to buy development this provides an opportunity for new buyers to get on to the housing ladder as they are able to rent their home for the first five years and then purchase outright.

'This development has only been made possible through the partnership working of the Scottish Government, Link Housing Association and Argyll and Bute Council and I would also like to extend my thanks to our contractor TSL which has delivered the project.'

The next phase of the development will be towards the end of the year with a proposed 25 houses making their way through the planning system. It is hoped that 800 houses will be built on the site over the next 20 years.

Opinion split over Oban town centre Costa Coffee plan

A DECISION, made in private, by Oban Community Council will see it object to a coffee shop development in Oban's Station Square for fear other national companies will come to the town.

In contrast, early indications from Argyll and Bute Council planners show it is likely to give a positive recommendation to the planning committee for the same application.

Plans are well progressed for a Costa Coffee franchise in the former Whisky Shop. The company has even advertised for a store manager paid at £20,000 per annum.

Council road officers were set to object to the Costa application, but the multi-national changed its planning application to accommodate concerns about

the use of the pavement.

A second detailed application to Argyll and Bute Council has now been submitted taking into account a request for a reduced pavement seating area and a noise assessment survey to be a condition of planning.

On Tuesday evening, Oban Community Council heard plans for the outlet would cause small independent businesses in the town to close. But campaigners against the proposed change of use were told the area was zoned to enable this type of development. When challenged by community council members on her motives, campaigner Fay MacGillivray, of the MacGillivray Trust, denied that the block above the shop was full of holiday homes. She said: 'My mother lives in the property

directly above this shop unit, and I don't want my mum to lose sleep because of an extractor fan.'

Donna MacCulloch of Roxy's in Argyll Square, Oban, said: 'If we had known there was an opportunity for a cafe on Station Square then we would have considered it ourselves.'

In a letter to the council, she said: 'I had premises at Boswell House and it closed for lack of customers and also Argyll Square has suffered since the Tourist Information Office moved.'

The debate was brought to an end by Councillor Iain Angus MacDonald who said the discussion should be heard 'in committee'.

At that point in the agenda members of the public and

elected members were asked to leave the room.

It was later revealed by email that the community council had decided to object to the plans.

A draft statement from the community council said noise and outside seating made plans unacceptable.

It also said: 'If this application is granted then it is likely that other chains will use the precedent to change the use of the other units.'

An Argyll and Bute Council spokeswoman said: 'Due to the July recess, it is likely that this application will go to the planning and protective services and licensing committee meeting in August, although the agenda for that meeting is yet to be finalised and won't be confirmed until a later date.'

NHS Highland finally admits defeat over dental hospital deal

Argyll Square practice negotiations end in disappointment

AFTER months of failed negotiations NHS Highland is back to square one in its efforts to get dentists into its state-of-the-art new dental suite at Lorn and Islands Hospital.

With deadline after deadline pushed back from last year into this year, Argyll and Bute Community Health Partnership (CHP) has finally admitted defeat in its efforts to negotiate a lease with Argyll Square Dental Practice to move into the Oban hospital.

Now the CHP has decided to advertise the lease for a dental practice on the open market.

'Argyll and Bute CHP has made a significant investment in the Oban Dental Access Centre in order to deliver local NHS

dental services in a state of the art facility which provides suitable access for all patients,' said Elizabeth Reilly, assistant dental director for the CHP.

'I am therefore really disappointed that we have been unable to come to an agreement with the Argyll Square Dental Practice to take over the lease.'

'I can only apologise for the delay and share the public's frustration that the facility is not operating at its full capacity.'

'The CHP has decided that it is in the best interests of the people of Oban and surrounding communities to look at other options and we are in the process of advertising the lease in the British Dental Journal.'

'This will allow suitably

qualified dental practitioners an opportunity to express an interest in taking over the lease and we will interview suitable candidates as soon as we can after the closing date.'

She added: 'I am hopeful that this course of action will lead to a permanent solution and will allow us to provide a full range of dental services from the facility.'

Only last month, NHS Highland had indicated that it hoped a lease for the suite would be signed with the Argyll Square practice within a matter of weeks.

Among the reasons for the Argyll Square practice's move to the hospital was its lack of access for people with disabilities

and difficulties in meeting decontamination guidelines.

The new suite at the hospital is currently used by a specialist consultant dealing with referrals, who also sees patients with disabilities and extra needs.

It is understood one of the stumbling blocks in the lease negotiations was a reduction in the number of dentists practising at Argyll Square.

No-one from the Argyll Square practice was available for comment as *The Oban Times* went to press.



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Properties of the week

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Pensioner jailed for 16 months after admitting wilful fire raising at sheltered housing complex

A PENSIONER who pushed paper through the letter boxes of two empty, second-floor flats in a sheltered housing complex in Oban and set fire to them has been jailed for 16 months.

Seventy-six-year-old Gordon McQuarrie, who lived at 24 Lynn Court on the same floor, confessed to police investigating the two fires on successive days that he had been the culprit.

'I am sorry for what I have done. 'I don't know what is happening to me,' he told police.

McQuarrie, appearing from custody, pled guilty on Tuesday at Oban Sheriff Court to wilful fire raising at flat 29 Lynn Court on January 7 2014 and also at flat 26 on January 8 2014.

The court heard that there had been 43 residents in the Lynn Court flats run by Beild Housing Association for people of 60 years and more.

On both occasions fire officers found a quantity

of smouldering paper behind the front doors of the flats, said Procurator Fiscal Eoin McGinty, with minor damage to the doors, carpet and underlay.

A partial page from a Daily Record of December 19 2013 was found among the pile of debris from one fire, which was later matched to a newspaper found in McQuarrie's kitchen.

McQuarrie made a full admission, the court heard, telling police he didn't think he would have lit the fires if there had been anyone living in the flats.

'I could have killed a lot of people,' he told police.

Mr McGinty said the officers felt McQuarrie was 'genuinely confused as to why he had lit the fires'.

Defence agent Duncan Durbin said McQuarrie's objective in lighting the fires seemed to have been 'to secure rehousing'.

But McQuarrie had not previously expressed a desire to anyone at the sheltered housing or his landlord that he wished to be rehomed, said Mr Durbin.

'It is truly bizarre,' said Mr Durbin. 'There was no animosity but a peculiar mindset that developed to lead to this action.'

Two psychiatric reports had said while McQuarrie was sane to plea, he was showing early signs of dementia and someone 'slightly detached from reality'.

Sheriff Douglas Small said: 'Because of the gravity of this offence, a custodial sentence is my only option.'

He backdated McQuarrie's sentence to January 9 when he was taken into custody and, in order to ensure the safety of the public, he placed McQuarrie on licence for an extended period of eight months on his release.

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West coast Euro election results

THE WEST coast vote in the European elections held last Thursday almost reflected the political landscape across the rest of Scotland, with a few notable exceptions.

The area saw the Scottish National Party (SNP) increase its vote across the regions of Argyll and Bute, Highland and Comhairle nan Eilean Siar (Western Isles).

The SNP held on to its percentage vote, taking 28 per cent of the ballot.

The shock result of the evening was the strong increase in the support for the UK Independence Party (UKIP) and other anti-European groups such as Britain First and NO2EU.

UKIP managed to double its vote in all three council areas and improved its poor performance in the 2009 election. The party, by some way, increased its percentage share of the votes cast.

Position for second place across the area was where the voting preferences were seen. The second biggest ballot in Highland was for the Liberal Democrats, the Conservative Party in Argyll and Bute and in the Western Isles it was Labour.

The vote in all regions for the Labour Party increased in volume and they did particularly well in Argyll and Bute and Highland.

The vote for Liberal Democrats remained strong with much smaller losses than the rest of the UK, although its 2,360 vote loss

in Highland almost transferred to the Conservatives and the SNP.

The Liberal Democrat vote reflects the voting pattern of other authorities on the fringes of the UK - such as Orkney, Shetland and Gibraltar who all strongly voted for the Liberal Democrats.

The Conservatives vote was also increased with a strong performance in Highland.

There are pockets of support throughout the region for parties such as the Green Party. It performed well, increasing its vote.

The British National Party's vote was cut in half.

Argyll and Bute Council chief executive and local returning officer Sally Loudon said: 'It is encouraging that many more people made their voices heard in this year's election.'

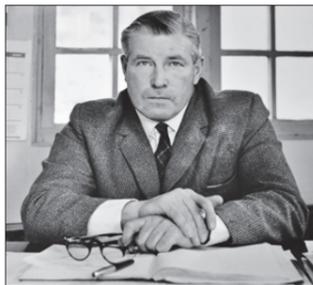
'The council's election team has worked hard to ensure that the election process ran smoothly for everyone and the increase in the number of people voting is to be welcomed.'

There was a higher number of votes cast across the region - in the Western Isles it was almost a seven per cent rise - six per cent in Highland and five per cent in Argyll and Bute.

The result saw the SNP's Ian Huddleston and Alyn Smith elected as MEPs, along with Labour's David Martin and Catherine Stihler, Ian Duncan of the Conservatives and David Coburn of UKIP.



Above: George Rennie, aged 100, seated with wife Nancy, centre back, and daughters Morvern, back left, and Morig, right. 15_122rennie1



Right: George as a chief engineer at the Loch Awe Project. 15_122rennie2

Centenarian George still in driving seat

Civil engineer celebrates 100 years surrounded by family

A CENTENARIAN is still in the driving seat after developing the hydro electric scheme at Cruachan and many of the country's roads and bridges.

George Rennie was renowned for his work, remaining highly regarded for his dedication to Argyll throughout his career.

He was one of a team of engineers who developed the only major road network to have been undertaken in the area.

George is one of only a handful of UK residents in their 101st year who are still driving, having recently had his licence renewed after an eye test.

He said: 'After 84 years of driving, I'm getting plenty of practice.'

The Dumbarton-born former civil engineer was looking hale and hearty in his Connel home at the weekend as he enjoyed his 100th-year celebrations surrounded by his family.

George has lived in Oban since 1935 and was active in a number of organisations including fishing clubs, country dancing and sailing.

Mr Rennie, who lives in Ferryfield Drive, with wife Nancy, was pleased that it was his own postman, John MacCallum, who delivered his birthday greetings from The Queen.

George came to the area in 1935 to be part of the team developing the roads system under the last major investment in Scottish roads, called the Crofter's Counties Development Scheme. At the time, George said: 'The roads were little more than single track in many places. An example of what they were like can still be seen on the back road to Stronmilchan.'

The designs for bridges such as Claddich, over the Awe at Dalnally and the Nant Bridge all came from his drawing board.

Some of the roads George designed, he said, have never been touched since.

As a young engineer, George said the project was the best training for his career because you could see the fruits of the engineering labours in months rather than years.

He told *The Oban Times* the roads have never been as good as they were then. 'Before the war there was huge investment in the roads in Argyll. There has never really been the same investment since.'

'They've never brought them back up to that standard.'

During the second world war, George left the relative safety of Argyll and was posted to India and Burma, where he served his country. After the war he was encouraged by the Ministry of Transport to take a high profile job in Baza. But he wasn't tempted by the offer and set out to become one of Scotland's forefront experts in civil engineering in hydro schemes.

George worked on schemes such as Shin in Highland, Breadalbane near Callander and then as chief engineer on the Loch Awe project, part of which is the Cruachan Dam scheme, before moving onto an oil powered scheme at Inverkip, Inverclyde.

He said: 'While everyone thinks that it was Scottish Hydro that built the Loch Awe Project it was actually James Williamson and Partners, a Glasgow company.'

'We were the company that developed the scheme and delivered it.' At the time, *The Oban Times* sister journal *Scottish Field* had a feature article on George's work.

Meeting his wife Nancy at the popular country dancing scene in Oban, they were married in 1970. They shared their life with two daughters Morvern and Morig.

As to the key to long life, George says 'cigarettes and whisky and wild, wild women', but his family all agreed it was perhaps the whisky and less of the other two, although he was known to be a pipe smoker at one time.

Oban hosts island project meeting

A EUROPEAN project to look at sustainability for islands in 13 different countries is holding a meeting in Oban, tomorrow.

The European project think tank on islands will discuss solutions for long-term innovative ways of delivering better energy planning.

Terry Hegarty, project officer for the Scottish Islands Federation's (SFI) project, said: 'We are looking at developing innovative ways of delivering better energy planning for the islands by involving the islanders themselves.'

'The EU can deliver, but we need to let them know what it is that we want delivered.'

The SFI SMILEGOV project is an EU cohesion policy which encourages regions from

different member states to work together and learn from each other through joint programmes and a greater awareness of island issues.

SIF chairman Sandy Brunton from Bunnessan, Isle of Mull, said: 'European island co-operation has been brilliant in the past with the Interreg 3C programme which saw exchanges between Scotland's islands and six other countries.'

'Projects really help to put the smaller islands on the map. We hope it will be possible to continue with new cooperation programmes for island in the future.'

The meeting is being held in the Corran Halls on Friday May 30 and will include partners from Scottish islands.



Iain Anderson receives his award from the Duke of Kent.

War graves commission honours man behind Ben More air crash memorial

THE MAN who oversaw the installation of a memorial to six airmen killed in a wartime plane crash on a mountain near Crianlarich has been given a special award.

Iain Anderson, regional supervisor for the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) in Scotland, was responsible for airlifting an inscribed granite block onto Ben More last year.

The stone - one of the remotest memorials in Scotland - commemorates the airmen who died when their Avro Anson plane crashed into the mountain in April 1941. Mr Anderson was presented with a special President's Commendation from The Duke of Kent for his work.

CWGC director general Alan Pateman-Jones said: 'We are very grateful for all the hard work Iain has done.'

'His work and planning, together with his dedication and considerable tenacity, have ensured that the burial site is now marked and protected for the future.'

Iain said: 'It is an honour to accept this award and I am very grateful for the recognition that not only myself, but my entire team in Scotland receive for doing such an important job.'

'It was quite a challenge to get the new memorial at Ben More in place, but it was also a very rewarding project.'

'I've been in close contact with the relatives throughout and it is hugely gratifying to see how pleased they have been with our efforts to commemorate their loved ones.'

The airmen were on a night-time cross country navigation exercise out of RAF Kinloss when their twin-engine aircraft hit Ben More. The remote location meant it was almost a month before the crew were found. They were buried close to the crash site. Those who died were: Pilot Officer William Drew, from Barrow in Furness in Cumbria; Sergeant Jack Emery,

of Trowbridge in Wiltshire; Flight Sergeant Thomas Kenny, from Barnsley in Yorkshire; Sergeant Charles Mitchell, of Aberdeen; Flying Officer James Steyn, from Johannesburg; and Sergeant Harold Tompsett, of Croydon in Surrey.

For some time the burial site was marked by a cairn with a steel cross and pieces of wreckage from the crashed aircraft.

To install the memorial, Iain was guided to the site by David 'Heavy' Whalley, a former RAF Kinloss Mountain Rescue Team leader. He eventually arranged delivery of the granite marker by RAF helicopter.

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Plane hits Tiree fence after landing

AN EMERGENCY was sparked at an island airport on Saturday when a plane crashed into a fence after landing.

The Cessna 182 light aircraft touched down at Tiree at 11.14am after flying from Perth. But the plane veered off the runway and hit a boundary fence.

The airport's firemen dealt with the incident and there were no injuries to the two occupants of the plane.

Coastguards sent to the scene were not needed.

An airport spokesman said the incident was over quickly. A report will be sent to the Civil Aviation Authority.

Royal Bank of Scotland van number plate a gift

THE REGISTRATION on a new banking van has been raising eyebrows.

The Royal Bank of Scotland's latest purchase returned to Oban with a new RBSP plate.

A spokeswoman for the Royal Bank of Scotland said the public did not need to worry as its money was not being spent on the private reg. It was 'a gift' received in the early 2000s from F1 Williams Motorsport boss Frank Williams.

She said: 'The bank used to sponsor motor racing and he would have given it to us as a gift when that arrangement came to an end.'

Tobermory lifeboat helps rescue three men from stricken trawler

A LIFESAVING rescue in the middle of the night helped three men to safety.

Tobermory RNLI lifeboat went to the assistance of a fishing vessel aground on rocks off Ardnamurchan Point at 3.30am on Saturday morning.

The 20-metre trawler had sustained serious damage after striking rocks on the southern coastline of Ardnamurchan and was taking on a substantial amount of water.

Two lifeboat volunteer crew were put aboard the fishing boat and a salvage pump was transferred to deal with the ingress of water.

Given the risk of the vessel sinking, non essential crew from the fishing boat were evacuated and taken aboard the lifeboat.

A second pump was brought out from Tobermory by a lifeboat crew member and a third pump by a member of the Tobermory Coastguard team and a member of the lifeboat crew.

The three pumps working together managed to stop the vessel taking on water and a line was secured from the lifeboat to the stern of the fishing vessel which was then towed to Tobermory.

Tobermory Coxswain Andrew McHaffie said: 'The fishing vessel had sustained serious damage to its bow and there was a very real risk that it might sink.'

However, the quick thinking of the crew on board and the rapid response of the lifeboat brought the situation under control and the fishing vessel was recovered safely to Tobermory.

'I would like to thank the local Coastguard and fish farm for their assistance with the extra pump.'



The stricken yacht off Ardnamurchan Point. Photograph courtesy of RNLI Tobermory.

Fort teenager heads to Malaysia

A FORT William teenager is preparing to embark on a year-long volunteer trip to Malaysia but still has £2,100 to raise.

Margaret MacIver, 17, has signed up with the Project Trust as an assistant English teacher in the south Asian country and is working towards her target of raising £5,600 before she leaves in August. The sixth-year Lochaber High School pupil has raised £3,500 so far and has planned a fundraising ceilidh in the Ben Nevis Hotel.

The dance this Saturday, May 31, starts at 7pm and will feature a performance from Lochaber High School Ceilidh Band. Tickets are available from the Ben Nevis Hotel beforehand or on the night.

Waverley steams back to Oban

THE WORLD-famous sea-going paddler steamer the *Waverley* will be appearing from May 31 to June 3 in Oban for its summer cruises from the town.

Andy O'Brian, *Waverley's* captain, said: 'We are delighted to be returning to Oban this year. You can't escape from the spectacular scenery when you cruise aboard *Waverley* in the Western Isles - it surrounds you whatever cruise you choose.'

Sailing from Oban's North Pier, the *Waverley* will cruise from the Isles of Skye to Iona; cruise Loch Nevis to Inverie, steam past the Four Lochs of Shuna, Melfort, Craignish and Crinan to the Corryvreckan Whirlpool and sail round the world famous Mull of Kintyre.

For the first time, award-winning Scottish dance band *Trail West* will play on board for an evening cruise to Loch Linnhe with bars and restaurant open all evening.

Community to get say on who should get keys to new Glenshellach homes

PEOPLE on the waiting list for social housing in Oban, tenants and professionals are being asked for their views on how homes should be allocated.

Argyll Community Housing Association (ACHA) has 40 new homes in Glenshellach due for completion by November this year and wants to consult the community on who should be given them.

'This is an opportunity for the local community to have its say in how best to address the huge demand issue faced within this area,' said Alastair MacGregor, ACHA's chief executive officer.

'There are a number of options available for discussion, including the proposal of allocating a higher percentage of existing tenants, effectively increasing the number of properties available for let.'

'Another option to discuss is whether tenants affected by bedroom tax should be prioritised, freeing up larger sized properties and addressing hardship faced by our tenants. A consultation with the general public is invaluable in serving our community's needs.'

To this end ACHA is holding a drop-in session at its office at Menzies House, Glenshellach Business Park on June 9 between 10am and 8pm. It will include opportunities to see the various stages of the new build development on picture boards. The development is for 12 one-bedroom flats, 12 two-bedroom flats and 16 two-bedroom houses, to be named Catalina Avenue. Oban councillor Roddy McCuish said: 'I will certainly be attending this session to record my views, which are that I am 100 per cent supportive of any initiative that can increase the movement of housing stock and the number of families that can be housed. I would also encourage everyone to attend to have their views heard.'

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Lorn Lines

TWO Lochawe boys raised cash for Macmillan Cancer Care recently after their mother was diagnosed with cancer last year. Ieuan Jenkins, aged 9, and Iestwyn, 7, climbed Ben Lora in Benderloch in one hour and 25 minutes to raise more than £400 for the charity.



Jenkins brothers Ieuan, aged 9, and Iestwyn, 7, from Lochawe climbed Ben Lora to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Care. They were joined by their mum and dad at the end of the walk.

TWO OBAN High School S2-3 pupils found themselves in the company of Olympians when they took part in a Be Your Personal Best event in Glasgow. Heather Fothergill and Keira MacIntyre joined 150 other pupils from across Scotland for the event organised by Winning Scotland Foundation where they got to meet Sir Chris Hoy and Katherine Grainger CBE alongside other top level athletes.

THE LORN and Mid Argyll branch of the Scottish Wildlife Trust (SWT) held a fundraising open day at Ardmaddy Castle to mark the charity's 50th anniversary year. The event last Saturday was held with kind permission of owners Charles and Minette Struthers. The weather was wonderful, the garden was beautiful and visitors were greeted by a larger than life beaver, brought to life by a group of students from Oban High School, who took it in turn to wear the suit and mingle with the visitors.



Cutting the SWT birthday cake.

Organisers thanked everyone who helped to make the day a success.

LAST week's story about a fire fighter receiving a long service award should have read John Campbell, not MacLean as published.

Pupils' master class in all things 'green'

DUNBEG Primary School can now give a master class in being 'green'. The school has every authority to lecture, as it has achieved its fifth Green Flag for excellence in raising environmental issues and action around the school building and grounds. The school has had the accolade since 2003, making it one of the longest running awards in the country. Pupils' advice was simple: 'Stop polluting, walk more, cycle instead of driving, take a quick shower and stop throwing away rubbish.'



Dunbeg pupils show off their new green flag. 15_22dunbeg1

Oban traffic gridlock as light fault wreaks havoc

TRAFFIC has been brought to a standstill in Oban every day over the last fortnight because of a fault in the traffic signals outside Oban High School. Some drivers say they have been held up for more than 40 minutes trying to make their way from the Bealach An Righ to the busy junction on Soroba Road. Argyll and Bute Council, which maintains the road, could not give a date for the end to the chaos saying it would be 'quite soon'. Reports have been made to

The Oban Times of people missing ferries, buses being late for school and people missing appointments. Last week delays were said to be down to road works, but when contractors had finished it was hoped the chaos would be over. But if the traffic on Wednesday was anything to go by, there is no end to the disruption in sight for disgruntled motorists. Sergeant Cammy Low at Oban Police Station, told Oban Community Council on Monday that it might have been easier if the lights were switched off

altogether. 'This time of year,' he said, 'it is beginning to get very busy in the town. The traffic lights at the high school managed on a number of occasions to bring the town to a standstill. The police office had a high volume of calls with car drivers stuck in traffic.' Angry drivers were posting on social media that there was 'no point' in travelling to Oban because of the slow pace of traffic through the town. Oban Community Council heard a number of complaints

including community councillor Jessie MacDonald, who said that it was time that the problem was sorted out once and for all. An Argyll and Bute Council spokeswoman said: 'During road works being carried out by a utility company in the area, a traffic sensor was damaged, affecting the light priority settings. In the meantime, we have done what we can to resolve this by setting fixed priority timings on the lights. A replacement sensor is on order and we expect to have

this in place very soon. Any associated costs will be passed on to the company which has instructed the road works.' Councillor Roddy McCuish said: 'If the council has to dig up the road - then it will cause even more chaos to traffic in the town.' Previous plans for funding a development road around the town were put on the back burner in July 2012. The road, it was believed, would end congestion through the town and give people an alternative route to travel.

Residents praised for backing charity appeal for old glasses

AN APPEAL to people in Oban for old and unwanted specs has led to a huge collection being passed on through Specsavers in the town to developing countries. More than 650 pairs have been handed in since the start of the year, all of which have been given to eyecare charity Vision

Aid Overseas (VAO). 'The support we've had from people has been overwhelming and I can't thank our customers enough for their efforts,' said Ken Macdonald, store director at Specsavers in Oban and stalwart supporter of the charity. 'Local charity shops have also been

great at dropping by with any glasses that come into them through donations. 'Sadly, many people overseas do not have access to the most basic of eyecare so receiving a pair of prescription glasses can make a remarkable difference to their lives.'

Specsavers and Vision Aid Overseas have a joint commitment to provide eyecare for everyone living in Zambia. As part of its ongoing fundraising for the charity, Specsavers has to date channelled more than £300,000 into the Zambian partnership.

Original sports council member opens new Taynuilt pavilion



Guests at the official opening of the Taynuilt sports pavilion look on as Cathy Reid does the honours. Photo: Kevin McGlynn.

A MEMBER of the original Taynuilt Sports Council, formed 40 years ago, cut the ribbon to officially open the village's sports pavilion. Cathy Reid is a founding member of the first Taynuilt Sports Council, formed in 1974, and was given the honour of declaring the sports hub open last Friday. Those who have contributed to the construction of the new pavilion were invited to a 'meet and greet' at the venue, which has been used since the beginning of the year. Among the organisations represented were SportsScotland, LEADER, Argyll and Bute Council, Taynuilt Community Council, Taynuilt Sports Council and M and K MacLeod, the main contractor. Fraser Inglis, Taynuilt Sports

Council chairman, said: 'The official opening gave Taynuilt Sports Council the opportunity to thank the many people who have contributed so much to the building of the new pavilion. 'Community facilities are what make a community, they allow people to pursue shared interests and give a community an identity. 'Taynuilt is very fortunate that for many years people have volunteered to give of their time and skills and in doing so have created a vibrant community. 'That is why we were delighted one of these people, Mrs Cathy Reid, carried out the duty of opening the new pavilion. 'It has been very rewarding to have been involved in the new pavilion and hopefully the tradition of volunteering in Taynuilt will continue to grow.'

Progress on safety outside Oban Primary Campus

PARENTS who have raised safety concerns outside an Oban school may be closer to finding a solution. The Oban Times reported last month on the number of accidents and near accidents around Oban Primary Campus. Councillor Roddy McCuish told Oban Community Council that a possible solution had been found for traffic control. He said he had been in discussion with the new head teacher, and staff and officers were looking for a way to make sure children and parents felt safe at the school. A report was being made to Argyll and Bute Council's Oban, Lorn and the Isles area committee on June 9 and it was hoped people would be at the meeting in the Corran Halls to discuss the issue further.

Oban North and Lorn by-election date announced

A BY-election for one seat in the Oban North and Lorn ward will be held on Thursday, July 17 by Argyll and Bute Council. The seat became vacant when Louise Glen-Lee resigned for 'personal reasons' earlier in the year. The ward covers an area from Lismore and Appin in the north, to Arduaine and Luing in the south, to Bridge of Orchy in the east, Dunbeg, Dunollie and other parts of Oban. The current ward councillors are Elaine Robertson, Iain Angus MacDonald and Duncan MacIntyre.

Rugby ladies show their strength

OBAN Lorne Ladies rugby team will be making their strength felt tomorrow night (Friday) as they are recorded for BBC Scotland radio. The media crew are coming to town to do a piece about women competing as heavy weight contenders in Highland games. 'The women will 'have a go' at several of the traditional games' heavy events, supervised by up-and-coming competitor Craig Nicholson and Highland games stalwart Duncan MacIntyre of Ardrern. Extra trains five days a week WE WOULD like to point out that, despite information supplied for last week's story 'Oban welcomes first new extra train service', the Glasgow 5.20am train arriving Oban 8.35am and Oban 5.21am train arriving Glasgow 8.37am, does not run on Saturdays, only Monday to Fridays. It is, therefore, a doubling of train services Oban-Glasgow five days a week.

Advertisement for 'GRIT THE MARTYN BENNETT STORY' featuring Pachamama, Comar, and Tramway. Includes show dates (FRI 20, SAT 21, SUN 22 JUNE) and venue (DRUIMFIN TOBERMORY).

Appeal for fair parking in town PARKING must be 'fair and reasonable' to suit the needs of Oban as a 'tourist' town, says Oban Community Council. At a meeting on Monday evening, the community heard concerns that a previously relaxed attitude to parking in some areas of the town may be lost as a new regime is implemented by Argyll and Bute Council.

Survey into impact of waterfront plan A CONSULTANT has been commissioned by Argyll and Bute Council to look at the social impact of the town's waterfront regeneration. Peter Brett Associates (PBA) will carry out various surveys to assess the impact of the proposed regeneration under CHORD funding.

Advertisement for FLOORSHOP featuring a new selection of beds in stock, offcuts at unbelievable prices, and contact information: Telephone: 01631 563316.

Advertisement for The Denture Designers @ Argyll and Bute Cosmetic Dentures, featuring a smiling couple and text: 'We will make you smile', '40 years experience in hand crafting cosmetic dentures', 'We are not dentists.', 'Most importantly we listen to what the client wants'.



Employees and guests gather to see Lord Lieutenant for Argyll and Bute present the Queen's Award for Enterprise to Loch Fyne Oysters' sales director Simon Briggs.

Delight as Loch Fyne Oysters awarded prestigious Queen's Award for Enterprise

AN EXCEPTIONAL company in Argyll has been officially handed the Queen's Award for Enterprise.

Loch Fyne Oysters is only one of two companies in Argyll and Bute to receive the prestigious award and it was handed over this month at ceremony by HM The Queen's representative for the area the Lord Lieutenant Patrick Stewart.

Sales director Simon Briggs, who accepted the award -

announced in April - on behalf of the 130 employees at the oyster growing and selling business, said: 'I am absolutely delighted that such a prestigious award has been achieved by a Scottish food-based business.'

Executive chairman Campbell Shirlaw added: 'We are committed to continue to export and return benefit to both our company and the communities in which we operate, both here in Argyll and also more recently

the Hebrides where we are now working with local producers.'

Over the past three years the company, which also sells a range of seafood, meat and game, has recorded exceptional overseas growth in exports to Europe, the Middle East, Asia and Africa.

In the process it has established and improved its range of products through partner distributors as well as contributing to Scotland's

reputation in the global food and drink market.

The company is focusing on continued growth and development and providing outstanding, innovative produce for its UK and international customers.

It was also announced last month that Bute Fabrics, a fabric design and manufacturing company based on the island of the same name, received the Queen's Award for Enterprise

for international trade in recognition of increased year-on-year export figures and its responsible conduct in managing the company's impact on society and the environment.

Managing Director James MacAdam Sprint said at the time: 'Our focus in developing the strategic markets of the USA, Scandinavia and the Benelux countries has resulted in securing the future of all of the mill's staff.'

Prom plan divides town opinion

A PLAN to reduce the dual carriageway in Fort William to two lanes to make room for a promenade along Loch Linnhe appears to have divided opinion in the town.

The suggestion was widely supported at a recent regeneration workshop but shop owner Drew Purdon was vehemently opposed to narrowing the A82 at a Fort William Community Council meeting last week.

He said: 'When you look at the traffic here in the summer I think it's a ridiculous thing to suggest. Traffic waiting to get on to Lundavra Road and traffic waiting to get into town will lose the benefit of the filter lane, think about the back up of cars on Achintore Road.'

Mr Purdon suggested building out into the loch rather than using the road - but Highland Councillor Brian Murphy said this would be much more expensive.

Councillor Murphy said: 'If Fort William wants to reclaim its waterfront we need something to work with not just two metres of pavement.'

EXCLUSIVE REPORT by EMMA CRICHTON crichton@obantimes.co.uk

'A traffic model will be able to tell us what the effect will be. I don't think it will really impact on traffic flow. Whether people like it or not the promenade has a large amount of support and I don't think we should dismiss it.'

Community Council chairman Neil Clark said he wouldn't be opposed to the idea outright but would want to examine the impact to traffic before permanent work began.

Trial

He said: 'I'm willing to give it a try but I definitely think we need to trial the single carriageway before we start digging up tarmac. Also, if we're trying to convince people that we need improvements and then reduce the carriageway, I'm not sure what kind of message that gives.'

Mr Purdon said they shouldn't be asking to reduce the A82

after campaign group the A82 Partnership had spent years demanding improvements.

He told Councillor Murphy 'I think it's an absolute nonsense for the chairman of the A82 Partnership to come out and support this. It's an absolute cracker'. Councillor Murphy replied: 'I'll ignore that.'

Community council member Alec Farquhar said: 'I don't think doing away with a couple of lanes is going to have a major effect on the way the traffic flows because it's such a short stretch and we already have build up coming from other parts of the town.'

Afterwards, Stewart MacLean, a member of the A82 Partnership, said: 'My personal view as a local businessman who has been fighting for improvements on the A82 for more years than I want to remember is the thought of reducing the carriageway to single lane fills me with horror.'

'I hope it will be stopped in its tracks by Transport Scotland. The only way to achieve the prom is to fill in the water's edge.'

Highlands and islands economy performing well

THE ECONOMY of the Highlands and islands performed well in April, according to Tom Mackay of Mackay Consultants which produces a monthly report for the area.

As an indicator of unemployment, as monthly figures are not available, the number of people who were claiming unemployment benefits fell by 179 on the previous month and is 2,024 lower than a year ago while the regional figure is one per cent lower than the Scottish average of 3.2 per cent.

Mr Mackay said: 'We estimate that the latest monthly economic output in the Highlands and Islands was approximately £550 million.'

'The current annual growth rate is +2.1 per cent, which is a little higher than our +1.9 per cent estimate for Scotland as a whole. The main reason for that difference is the boom in the oil and gas industry in Shetland,' he said, although overall, North Sea gas and oil production fell at the end of last year.

'We expect the improvement to continue in the near future - our latest forecasts of economic growth in the Highlands and Islands are +2.4 per cent in 2014 and +2.5 per cent in 2015.'

Among the good news for the wider Highlands and islands was Scottish Salmon recruiting more staff; a £3 million investment in Aviemore, creating 20 jobs; 20 call centre jobs in Inverness; Maclean's Bakery expanding, creating 12 jobs and KSA Technology in Wick winning a contract with NASA in the US. Two Argyll and Bute firms, Loch Fyne Oysters and Bute Fabrics winning Queen's Awards for Enterprise were also highlighted.

Large turnout expected at wind farm public hearing

THE TURNOUT at the public hearing to decide the fate of the proposed Ardhonnell Wind Farm near Dalavich was expected to be so large a bigger venue was chosen.

Argyll and Bute Council said that yesterday's (Wednesday) public hearing had to be held in Ardrishaig Public Hall because 'there wasn't a hall big enough near the site for the possible turnout'.

The public hearing was due to consider RWE Innogy UK Ltd's planning application to build 15 turbines measuring 111 metres to blade tip, approximately 6.5km north-

west of Inveraray and 1.5km east of Loch Awe.

The turbines would be erected on land directly opposite Dalavich village; it is owned by Sir Jamie McGrigor, MSP for the Highlands and Islands.

Dozens of people filed into Kilmory's council chamber last month when the planning committee first considered the proposal, which planning officers have recommended for refusal.

Considering the 92 letters of objection and 52 letters of support for the application, the planning committee voted in favour of the public hearing.

Pink bikers back for annual fund raiser

THE PINK bikers are back - yes, it's that time of the year again when the West Highlands play host to a hoard of motorcyclists, male and female, all sporting some kind of pink attire.

The Breast Way Round Scotland sponsored motorcycle event, which started in 2008, has so far raised more than £250,000 for Macmillan Cancer Care.

The bikers, who come from all over the UK, are setting off tomorrow (Friday) from Kilmarnock Football ground, via Gourrock and Inveraray, to Oban, their first overnight stop.

On Saturday May 31 they leave Oban and travel to Fort William and on to Aviemore, via Spean Bridge, before returning to Fort William.

They will return to the Central Belt on Sunday, June 1 via Glencoe and Loch Lomond, finishing at Balloch.

Paul Barker, vice chairman of the Breast Way Round events and fund-raising organisation, said: 'Breast Way Round started in 2008 and I've been lucky enough to have been involved since the start of the event.'

'It's a great event that promotes empowerment of lady bikers and also raises significant funds for Macmillan Cancer Care.'

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TREEE

FOLLOWING a short campaign by local Tree residents it is now confirmed by Argyll and Bute Council elections for a new community council on Tree will go ahead on June 26. This will be an election that is out of the normal community council election cycle, but has been agreed to by Argyll and Bute Council as a special case due to the pressing need for the community to have a statutory voice.

FORT AUGUSTUS

FEIS Gleann Albainn - The Great Glen Feis - will be held at Kilchuim Academy in Fort Augustus from July 21-25. The main feis for eight to 18 year-olds will run from 10.30pm to 3.30pm daily, while the feis bag (wee feis) for five to seven year-olds will run from 10.30pm to 12.30pm, also daily. Classes are available in accordion, keyboard, Celtic art, chanter, drama, fiddle, group work, guitar, whistle and shinty. For more information contact Tracey MacCallum on 01809 501468.

SLEAT

SLEAT Community Trust welcomed representatives from the Ross of Mull and Iona Development organisation for a two-day fact-finding visit recently. The five visitors to Skye were taken to presentations on Tormore Forest, the trust's 1,000-acre community-owned woodland near Ardvassar. Topics included the governance and finances involved in developing the forest commercially and recreationally for the benefit of local people. All involved felt the long journey was extremely worthwhile. The group is currently working their way through a National Forest Land Scheme application to purchase a forest on Mull.

THE HIGHLY acclaimed students of the National Centre for Excellence in Traditional Music at Plockton High School will present a concert in Talla Mhor at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, the Gaelic College on Sleat on Wednesday June 11 at 7.30pm. Ticket information for the concert of traditional and contemporary music is available from SEALL, the Sleat events promotions group.

IONA

MORE than 100 people packed out Iona village hall on Sunday May 18 to discuss Scotland's Future in an event organised between Yes Mull and islanders. Football practise was brought forward so that the team could make it, and thanks go to Davy Kirkpatrick who ran a boat from Fionnphort to bring Muillears over for the night. The audience filled out anonymous forms saying where they were on a 0-10 continuum between No and Yes. Out of 91



Skye pupils enjoy week-long Edinburgh trip

Two P7 pupils from Elgol Primary School joined 84 other P7 pupils from Skye schools on a week-long trip to Edinburgh. It was an action-packed week, with children visiting Dynamic Earth, Butterfly and Insect World, Glasgow Science Centre and Edinburgh Zoo. Evening activities included swimming, a visit to the cinema, ten pin bowling and shopping. Above, one of the groups of children enjoy their visit to Edinburgh Zoo.

who filled in a slip, the result was: YES 10(44) 9(2) 8(1) 7(15) 6(4) 5(20) 4(1) 3(2) 2(0) 1(0) 0(2) NO. Organisers said: 'The process is in no way scientific and psychologically flawed. For one thing it was a clear Yes event, which was bound to bring Yes voters, as a helpful and confirmed No voter pointed out after. What was impressive about the event was the turnout, which was huge given the population of the island. Some complained that all of the speakers (and many of the audience) were not from the island. Others thought this was a key strength. 'Either way it's probably a sign of the importance of the event that anyone that was on the island wanted to come along. 'We did also have feedback that by bringing in outside speakers we depersonalised it for locals allowing them to speak more freely'.

LUING

THE ANNUAL Elders and Betersers Meal took place in Toberonochy Hall on Friday May 17. The event is hosted by the Luing Social Committee, a group of mothers and fathers, with children under 16 years old, who organise the party events for the island throughout the year. Friday was the turn of the over 70s to have a wonderfully cooked three-course meal, enjoy a glass or two of wine and chat with friends old and new. The evening was made complete by the entertainment provided by folk from the island. Graeme Stone read some of his poetry, Hazel Cruickshanks sang, Duncan Fothergill played the trumpet, and Magda Klimko played the violin. Then Magda Klimko, Correy Fell, Kyle Sutherland, Fergus Ritchie, Kurtis Ord, Duncan Fothergill and Tomek Klimko sang and played their various instruments, including ukulele, guitar, and washboard. The children have learned their musical skills at Luing

Primary School, under the tuition of Mr Robertson who visits the school every week. The diners were delighted by the evening's entertainment. They are great supporters of the children's musical development within the school and really appreciated the fact that the children were willing to come out on a Friday night and entertain them. The evening was brought to a close with Innes MacQueen on the bagpipes.

STRATHFILLAN

STRATHFILLAN Community Council has been awarded £1,000 from the ScotRail Foundation, towards improvements to Lower Station Yard. Using this and a £400 donation from RJ Macleod, it has ordered three recycled plastic picnic benches for the area. It also has plans to erect proper parking signs and a further round-tree style bench. A Community Pride grant application is being submitted to assist with the costs of these items. A volunteer day will be held in the near future to install the bases for the new picnic benches.

THE FIRST grass cut of the year has taken place, and further grass cuts will continue through the summer, using money donated by Crianlarich businesses. The banking below Strathfillan Terrace was also cut. Cutting of individual gardens remains the responsibility of tenants.

STRATHFILLAN Community Development Trust (SCDT) has been working hard to secure funding for improvement of the Tyndrum kickabout area. A number of generous donations have been received, including from Rural Stirling Housing Association, the Green Welly Stop and from fundraising events organised by the Tyndrum Inn. The community council is delighted SCDT has now arranged for the necessary work to take place.



The O'Rourke family from Arisaig enjoyed their day at the first Glenuig Seashore Festival.

DESPITE the weather, around 150 people of all ages came to Glenuig community Hall on Sunday, May 18 to enjoy the first Glenuig Seashore Festival. As part of the Highland Seashore Project funding was available courtesy of Highland Council, Crown Estate, Scottish Natural Heritage and the National Lottery to put on a festival celebrating our seashores through arts and culture. The community at Glenuig, along with Wild Lochaber and the Highland Council Countryside Rangers got together to produce a fun-filled and thoroughly enjoyable day. The event, on the second day of the Wild Lochaber Festival, marked a great start to a week of wildlife activities. Author and storyteller Jess Smith entranced the children - and many adults - with her stories in a magical story room. Local artists Helen Michie and Alison Durbin helped them to create fantastic mini rock pools, seashore inspired tiles and willow fish. They made badges and masks,

GLENUIG

with the countryside rangers, Michelle and Eilidh-Ann who also provided a scavenger hunt to test the observational skills of adults and children. Toasting marshmallows over a firebox proved to be very popular, too, even with grownups. In the afternoon they took advantage of a good low tide to investigate the life hiding under the rocks and seaweed, and in the pools. Lots of crabs, fish and even an eel was found. For the day the Moidart History House, which is in the grounds of the hall, was open and Jean Bowker introduced people to the rich cultural history of the area. Further entertainment was provided by local young band Bradford who played traditional music with a sea theme. They created a wonderful atmosphere in the hall which was enjoyed by everyone, especially those relaxing with friends while the children got creative or explored the seashore.

GLENELG

GLENELG will welcome dozens of hardy hikers for the Lochalsh Dirty 30 challenge next month. The main event on June 14 comprises a tough 30-mile circular ramble, starting and finishing at Glenelg Village Hall. The scenic clockwise route follows a trail along Kyle Rhea, Loch Alsh and Loch Duich to Shiel Bridge, then through the hills down to Glenelg Bay and back to the village. A shorter 12-mile walk - 'The Dirty Dozen' - offers an alternative walk for less ambitious - or foolhardy - hikers.

LISMORE

THE RECORDING Memories project on Lismore officially comes to an end on June 1. If anyone is interested in contributing any stories to the project, they should contact Helen Crossan on 01631 720009 or helen@lismoregaelicheritagecentre.org. If anyone is willing to learn how to use the recording equipment they should also contact the above email address.

MORVERN

ONE OF Scotland's 'Coronation meadows' is in full bloom in Morvern - offering a rare opportunity to view a type of habitat under threat across the UK. The Samhairidh meadow - pronounced Savary, translated from the Gaelic as 'sorrel pasture' - is situated at Lochaline South Forest. The Coronation meadows are the result of an initiative of HRH The Prince of Wales, to mark the anniversary of The Queen's coronation by selecting a flagship wildflower meadow in every county in Britain. The flower-rich grasslands, largely lost from the landscape due to agricultural improvement, are home to stunning arrays of wild flowers - orchids, meadowsweet, buttercups and ox-eye daisies. The meadows are preserved using traditional agricultural methods such as hay cutting and/or low input grazing regimes using traditional breeds of livestock. Jeff Waddell, open habitats ecologist with Forestry Commission Scotland, said: 'Summer is the best time for people to visit this wonderful meadow and experience one of our most beautiful and threatened habitats - a real treat for the senses. 'The fact that this meadow has been cited as a Coronation meadow is a great testament to all the hard work done by our local conservation team in managing the site and helping it to thrive. As part of the ongoing project, seed will be gathered from Samhairidh for use in restoring or recreating new meadows in the area.

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Morvern Lines

IT IS often said that a nation is judged on how it treats its weakest members - the elderly and infirm. Nowhere is this more important than in small, rural communities where there is little or no public transport - and here in Morvern there is mounting concern about the inadequacy of the hospital transport system. Appointments are made through the local surgery for patients to attend clinics in Fort William and Inverness. For those who are unable to drive or have no vehicle, cars are arranged through the voluntary sector but are often cancelled at the last hour, or fail to turn up. The result is all round frustration, missed appointments which have often taken months to come through and, more importantly, additional worry for patients. The present system is broken and needs fixing. NHS Highland should get its house in order and put patient transport back on the local surgeries to arrange and implement.

A NEW road has appeared in the Morvern landscape. It begins at Ullin in the White Glen, and rises eastwards through a Sitka spruce plantation towards the 'Fiddler's Burn' below Leac a Phris. The purpose of this private track is to facilitate the construction of a new run-of-river hydro electric scheme, timber extraction and to provide easier access for deer stalking on that part of Ardtornish Estate. The rock used for the road is white granite won from a quarry on the right as the track enters the forest. A hundred years or so ago the nearby property of Altonachalish belonged to the Macleans of Kingairloch who also owned the Island of Carna many miles away. In 1887 it was bought by James Duncan of the famous Benmore Gardens near Dunoon. He sold it to Thomas Valentine Smith, a London distiller and wool merchant, who added it to his 40,000-acre Ardtornish Estate in 1900.

MENTION the word 'mine' in Morvern today and the silica sand mine near the mouth of Loch Aline immediately springs to mind. There was a time, however, when there were five others in the peninsula. These were: two coal mines, one at Kinlochaline and the other near Inniemore on the Sound of Mull; a copper mine beyond Loch Teanait, and two lead mines, one at Lurig in the Black Glen between Corraspinn and Achagavel and another at the head of Glensanda. The only one which was worked with any commercial success - and even that was doubtful - was the Lurig lead mine. Galena and zinc-blende were mined and smelted in the 18th and 19th centuries until 1803 when about six tons of lead were taken out over the course of six years. All the lead from Lurig was carried in panniers by ponies to a quay at Liddesdale on Loch Sunart-side belonging to the Strontian Mining Company from where it left by boat. These mines were generally unsuccessful because of flooding and the lack of suitable pumps. According to local tradition seven English miners were suffocated when the roof of one of the tunnels at Lurig collapsed. They were all buried in a grave marked by a large cairn which can still be seen by the side of the track on the south side of the stream. In addition to these mines there was a considerable number of quarries, especially round Loch Aline. Some produced sandstone for blocks and others churned out lime which was burnt in kilns for the fertilizer and building industry. Stone from the quarry under the walled garden at the head of Loch Aline was taken away by boat from the massive stone pier at Ferry Cottages and used in the construction of the Lismore light-house and elsewhere in Scotland. That used in facing the nearby concrete Ardtornish Towers was brought across the River Rannoch by light railway before being hoisted by massive cranes to the plateau above.



Glensanda Quarry in Morvern: famed for the quality of its granite.

IT WOULD be no exaggeration to say that Glensanda, lying at the heart of the Morvern Peninsula, is the most famous coastal quarry in Europe. Since the first ship, the 'Hellasponit Monarch', sailed from her berth on August 5, 1989 bound for Texas with 54,000 tonnes of aggregate aboard, this quarry has shipped out more than 150 million tonnes of the finest crushed granite in the world. The secret of its success lies in its close proximity to deep water, a sheltered harbour where vessels can be loaded at a rate of 5,000 tonnes per hour, almost unlimited reserves of stone and the vision and drive of Foster Yeoman Ltd and its founders, John and Angela Yeoman. The Yeomans were an old West Hartlepool shipping company and quarrying family from the Mendips. They believed strongly that in removing a mountain they owed a duty to Scotland and that the venture should be a good employer and sensitive to the needs of the community - two attributes which have withstood the passage of time and a change of ownership. Iain Thornber iain.thornber@btinternet.com.

Mallaig centre buys dirk for war display

TO MARK the centenary of the start of World War I, Mallaig Heritage Centre has been researching the people commemorated on the war memorials in Glenfinnan, Arisaig, Morar and Egg to create an online war memorial. While heritage centre staff were researching one soldier, Lieutenant John Hay Caldwell, they discovered his officer's dress dirk was being offered for sale on the internet by an American collector. The dirk has just been bought by the centre, with funding from the National Fund for Acquisitions administered by National Museums of Scotland and from the Gower Trust. It will form the centrepiece of Mallaig Heritage Centre's World War I display. The Caldwell family lived at Morar Lodge for many years and the Morar War Memorial was designed by Lt Caldwell's brother-in-law, Kenneth Bird, who was better known as 'Fougasse' - the cartoonist for 'Punch' magazine.



Lieutenant John Hay Caldwell's dress dirk: going on display at Mallaig Heritage Centre.

Rockfield school sports day

ROCKFIELD Primary School in Oban held its sports day under warm skies last week when 347 pupils descended on the town's Mossfield Park. While the P1-P5 classes took part in sporting events for fun the senior classes, P6-7 took part in running, throwing and jumping events to amass points which then went towards the overall championship trophy winners. The winning clan, with the most points, was Dunollie, while the champion P7 pupils were Holly Robertson and Lewis Campbell and P6s Zoe Brown and Connor Moore. Results Medal Winners P6: P6 Girls' Compass Run: Winner (Gold Medal): Beth Campbell; Runner up (Silver Medal): Caitlin Curran; P6 Boys' Compass Run: Winner (Gold Medal): Connor Moore; Runner up (Silver Medal): Michael MacNeil; P6 Girls' Standing Long Jump: Winner (Gold Medal): Zoe Brown; Runner up (Silver Medal): Emma Brown; P6 Boys' Standing Long Jump: Winner (Gold Medal): Connor Moore; Runner up (Silver Medal): Declan Simmonds; P6 Girls' Javelin Throw: Winner (Gold Medal): Toni-marie MacCorquodale; P6 Boys' Javelin Throw: Winner (Gold Medal): Luis Simmonds; Runner up (Silver Medal): Michael MacNeil; Medal Winners P6: P6 Girls' 100m Sprint: Winner (Gold Medal): Zoe Brown; Runner up (Silver Medal): Evie Turner; P6 Boys' 100m Sprint: Winner (Gold Medal): Connor Moore; Runner up (Silver Medal): Lewis Budge; P6 Girls' 200m Sprint: Winner (Gold Medal): Evie Turner; Runner up (Silver Medal): Zoe Brown; P6 Boys' 200m Sprint: Winner (Gold Medal): Connor Moore; Runner up (Silver Medal): Declan Simmonds; 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Big-hearted fundraisers on an annual two-mile sponsored walk along the Caledonian Canal. Picture: Iain Ferguson - TheWrite Image

Fundraisers step out on annual Heather's Walk

AROUND 200 people turned out for the annual two-mile sponsored 'Heather's Walk' in Corpach on Sunday. The event, organised by Margaret Simpson and Sarah Walker in memory of their friend Heather Robertson, raised £6,000 for Highland Hospice, bringing the total since the first walk seven years ago to over £63,000. The field started from Corpach Basin and headed along the Caledonian Canal, with the late Ms Robertson's nephew

Daniel Cummings taking on the route in a bee costume - Highland Hospice's mascot. Ms Walker said: 'It went really well as usual and it was great to see all of the support from everyone. The walk started as

one off and it just snowballed so we've decided to set ourselves a target of raising £100,000 for the hospice.' An auction and raffle was held in Tradewinds bar on Sunday evening to boost funds.

Saltire clad hall deemed 'too Scottish' for polling station

Politicians brand switch 'ludicrous'

THE DECISION to move a Lochaber polling station because the hall looked 'too Scottish' has been ridiculed by politicians, with one deeming it 'ludicrous'. Caol and Mallaig SNP councillor Bill Clark said he was stunned when he went to Kilmallie Community Centre in Corpach to vote in the European Parliamentary election last Thursday and found the polling station had been moved to a side room because a complaint was made about the main hall, which is decorated with Saltires and tartan.

By EMMA CRICHTON ecrichton@obantimes.co.uk stood in the Caol and Mallaig ward by-election as an independent candidate, said he was shocked when he went to vote but he's not sure whether he believes it would have been a member of Better Together. He added: 'I couldn't believe it when I saw it had been moved into a tiny cramped room. There just wasn't the same privacy as usual. I'm not sure who I think it was. It could have been anyone but whoever it was should have been told to chase themselves, no way should they have moved the polling. A lot of people are really angry about this.'

John MacDonald, a member of the Kilmallie Hall Committee, said: 'If you come into that hall 365 days a year it's decorated the same way. The girls that do Scottish Country Dancing put the Saltires and tartan up and there's nothing wrong with that. I was chairman of the committee when they went up in the hall and someone said to me, 'Oh, so you're a nationalist' and I said, 'No, I'm just Scottish'. There's no political agenda.'

Highland Council's elections manager John Bruce confirmed this was the reason for the move but it is not known whether it was a member of the public or a politician who made the complaint. Councillor Clark said: 'I couldn't believe my ears when I was told that was why it had been moved. The hall has been decorated that way for years and it's also been used as a polling station for years so I don't understand why it's suddenly a problem now. It's Scotland's flag, not the SNP's flag or any other party's. I just find it ludicrous.'

Election manager Mr Bruce said: 'I understand that they moved the polling station into a smaller hall because the main hall looked too Scottish. A complaint was received about the Saltires in the hall and we tried to react as quickly as possible.'

Angry voters also took to social media to complain about the move. Mary Mackay said: 'More fool them for giving in. They should have stayed put,' and Stuart Clark added: 'Ah, the Scottish cringe at its worst. Can you imagine the people of any other European country complaining that their national flag was on show? Unbelievable. All Scots, regardless of political allegiance, should take pride in seeing the Saltire.'



'Too Scottish': The polling station in Kilmallie Community Centre had to be moved to a side room after complaints about Saltires in the main hall. Picture: Iain Ferguson - TheWrite Image

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From left: Skye Spiers, Cara Venn-MacNeil and Sophie Nairn practised generating energy to power racing toys. Picture: Iain Ferguson - TheWrite Image

Spean Bridge pupils power ahead at science workshop

BUDDING scientists of Spean Bridge and Roy Bridge put their skills to the test when they practised generating energy. The P4 and P5 pupils learned how to create and store

electricity then used it to charge toy 'hexbugs' to race. The workshop was part of the Generation Science tour by the Edinburgh International Science Festival.

Skye men set sail on 100-mile row

EIGHT Skye men will set off tomorrow morning (Friday) to row 100 miles from St Kilda to Skye for charity. The amateurs have been training while they wait for fair enough weather for the daring trip on their 120-year-old larch skiff and will head to St Kilda in a support boat tonight to start the journey at first light in the morning. The challenge is in aid of Royal National Lifeboat Institution and Skye and Lochalsh

Young Carers and team leader Donnie Nicolson said the group was 'raring to go'. He added: 'We did a 72-mile practise recently and since then we've just been keeping an eye on the forecast and waiting for a good weekend to go ahead. The guys are all really keen. It's been frustrating waiting around to go but it looks like mother nature has given us the weather we need and we're looking forward to getting going.'

The trip involves 22 people including the back-up team. Support vessels sailing to St Kilda will be Broadford-registered fishing boat Dunan Star II and Portree cabin cruiser the Aimee-Louise. Eight men will take turns at the four oars throughout the non-stop journey which is expected to take two days. Portree girls Rosie McDaid and Cathryn Baillie, together with Gill Houlsby from Carbost, will share the coxswain's duties.

Arts group hosts war commemoration talks

AN INTERNATIONAL researcher is to visit the Outer Hebrides to give a series of talks in commemoration of the First World War. Dr Dominiek Dendooven, based at the In Flanders Fields museum in Belgium, will speak at venues in Barra, Benbecula, North Uist, Lewis and Harris to tell of the devastating impact the war had on island communities

as part of the Call of the Gael project by The Gaelic Arts Agency. Dr Dendooven said: 'I'm delighted to have the opportunity to travel to the islands to participate in Call of the Gael. Much of my research focuses on ensuring that personal stories about the Great War can be discovered and retold so that the names of those who fought

and fell during the conflict are personalised and that their own unique journey and sacrifices are remembered.' Events are free to attend but organisers expect high demand and ask that attendees arrive in plenty of time to be accommodated. Dates of talks and more information can be found at www.gaelic-arts.com.

First tenant moves in at science park

THE FIRST tenant of the European Marine Science Park at Dunstaffnage is now in residence.

Xanthella Ltd has recently moved into Malin House, the first building completed on the European Marine Science Park near Oban taking a lease of almost 1500 sq ft of office and lab accommodation.

The European Marine Science Park (EMSP) is owned and managed by economic and community development agency Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE). Argyll-based Xanthella Ltd is a small, fast-growing business, established and run by Dr Douglas McKenzie, a well known marine science entrepreneur. Dr McKenzie previously established the UK's first specialist marine biotech company Integrin Advanced Biosystems Ltd in 1999.



Dr Douglas McKenzie, left, founder of Xanthella Ltd and Lachie Beaton, Senior Development Manager for HIE. Photo: Cameron Harris/HIE

Xanthella develops photobioreactors (PBR) for use in scalable form for growing microalgae for research and industrial production of high value products such as cosmetics, nutraceuticals and medicines. Dr McKenzie said: 'Malin House is an

excellent base from which we can grow Xanthella. The building's light and airy atmosphere makes it a great place to work and the low carbon footprint really fits our company's ethos. 'We are looking forward to welcoming guests, collaborators and customers to our new facility and to closer working with scientists at the Scottish Association of Marine Science.'

Douglas Cowan, HIE's area manager for Argyll and the islands, said: 'HIE is delighted to welcome Xanthella Ltd to EMSP at Dunstaffnage. As a local high-growth company, Xanthella is joining a thriving entrepreneurial community of marine scientists in Argyll.'

'The company's move into Malin House confirms our efforts to grow life sciences and support the unique marine science cluster of activity in our region.'

Concern over leaning lamp posts

LEANING lamp posts near McCaig Road in Oban are 'alarming' to passersby.

But one councillor said it might be easier to straighten them themselves than get them fixed by anyone else.

Oban Community Council heard Kate Winton, a wheelchair user, say that it was 'alarming' to be near the lamp posts as they looked as though it might fall over at any time.

Councillor McCuish said he was aware of many more than just one leaning lamp post and he had raised the matter with council officers. His investigations didn't shine any light on the matter, however, as he found out they didn't belong to the council. He said: 'They are in the ownership of a housing association and it might be quicker to straighten them ourselves.'

Duncan Martin, vice-chairman of Oban Community Council, said he would write a letter to sort the matter out with the correct authority.



Malcolm Clark. Picture: Iain Ferguson - TheWrite Image

Oban singing shinty player shares Gaelic song with millions

A SINGING shinty player from Oban shared a Gaelic song with an audience of millions on BBC Radio 1 after auditioning to win tickets for the station's One Big Weekend festival.

Malcolm Clark, lead vocalist with ceilidh band Ceol an Aire, was bidding to win tickets to the weekend event and the opportunity to introduce Calvin Harris in front of a crowd of 10 of thousands at Glasgow Green.

Malcolm, a fluent Gaelic speaker, sang the well-known Gaelic tune Tioram air Tir to a stunned Radio 1 DJ Nick Grimshaw.

Having got to the shortlist of four finalists, the 19 year old narrowly missed out on the prize but his shinty team-mates have not let him forget his short-lived fame.

'I had an injury on my head from playing shinty the week before, so Nick Grimshaw was calling me Harry Potter. He kept referring to shinty as 'Highland hockey' and said I looked like 'a real hard nut'.

'The boys at camanachd heard it all on the radio, so they have been giving me a real slugging.' Malcolm's audition was at the BBC studios at Pacific Quay and he was accompanied by his father, roofing contractor Malcolm Kerr, who tried his hand at news reading.

RET roll out for west coast routes

A DELAYED roll out of Road Equivalent Tariff (RET) ferry fares could mean another year of woes for islanders. But plans to introduce the reduced fares scheme to Arran are to get the go-ahead this October.

It won't be until the winter timetable of 2015/16 that it reaches 14 other destinations including Mull, Iona, Harris, Eriskay, Barra, Raasay, Skye, the Small Isles, Lismore, Portavadie and Tarbert. Michael Russell, MSP Argyll and

Bute, said: 'I am very pleased that the Government has now confirmed it will fully implement the manifesto commitment made in 2011 and roll out RET to all the island routes before the 2016 Scottish election. 'Mull and Bute in particular will benefit greatly from this decision and I look forward to helping the communities take full advantage of it.'

Argyll and Bute MP Alan Reid said: 'I welcome the fact that all islands served

by CalMac are to get RET eventually.

'However, I don't understand why islands like Bute, Mull, Iona and Lismore have to wait another year.

'These islands are being treated unfairly by the Scottish Government and are only to get RET seven years after it was first introduced in the Western Isles. There is no reason why RET should not be extended to all islands this year at the same time it is extended to Arran.'

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The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Small and unique or cosmopolitan?

THERE IS a general feeling that towns all over the UK are becoming clones of each other. The suggestion is that one high street looks much the same as any other.

Oban has bucked that trend for a long time and has been lauded from here to Kilmory about its small independent and unique shops. Retailing to a large tourist market.

For many the opening of Wetherspoons in Oban (believed to be the fourth biggest grossing restaurant in the chain) signalled a change for the town.

And to a certain extent it has changed things. Other national and multi national operations have cottoned onto the idea that there are big bucks to be made on the west coast.

Anyone who has visited Wetherspoons, Homebase, New Look or even Tesco will have seen that plenty of local people are employed in the shops. So locals do benefit from employment.

The difference for owners is the difference between profits from business staying in the town or seeing that profit being taken away from the area.

This week the community council gave a strong message that national outlets are not wanted in the town. It could be suggested that this gives a signal for future development.

Can we on one hand say we want to be modern and cosmopolitan, while on the other reject offers of larger stores coming into the town?

GLASGOW LETTER

Concert at Cottiers

WITH the European elections taking place the same day, it was perhaps appropriate that Donald Black and his friends should hold a concert in aid of Scottish National Party funds in Cottiers Theatre.

It was an evening of Scottish music with all participants coming from the Highlands and islands.

The concert got underway with excellent piping selections from Ali Levack, currently a student at the Royal Conservatoire and a former pupil of the traditional music school at Plockton.

Often at functions like this some members of the audience chat to their friends when pipers are playing - one of my pet hates - but on this occasion the quality of performance was such that everyone listened.

As usual, Donald Black was in great form and no matter how often one attends his concerts you can only marvel at the magical sounds he can produce from his array of 'mouthies'.

For this concert, his band varied with Shona MacPherson, Ross Wilson, Martainn Skene and Donnie MacKenzie all playing at some stage and all illustrating the wealth of musical talent currently on the scene.

Gleusda, the Gaelic Folk group from Stirling, also performed while Arthur Cormack travelled from Skye to sing some of his old favourites.

Away from Gaelic, Dol Eoin MacKinnon from Scalpaire sang some of his own compositions and Martin Pottinger also sang.

Glasgow Skye Association

AS HAS been the custom in recent years, the Glasgow Skye Association will follow its annual general meeting on Wednesday June 4 with a social evening on Friday June 6 in the Redhurst Hotel, Eastwoodmans Road, Giffnock.

Those wishing to attend this function should contact Karen Campbell by Monday June 2 on 01786 832278 or email skjcampbell@hotmail.com.

Glasgow shinty summer camp

SOME years ago it was recognised that if senior shinty was to be successful in the city, youngsters from the area would have to be introduced to the game from an early age.

And the success of the Milngavie and Bearsden Club, in particular, has resulted in many of its boys now playing

for Glasgow Mid Argyll.

In addition, the sport is being encouraged in the schools where Gaelic is taught and it is encouraging to see Glasgow Gaels are doing well at primary age tournaments.

There will be further opportunity for under 12s to develop their skills during the summer at Milngavie and Bearsden Sports Club, Auchenhowie, on July 8, 9 and 10 from 10am to 3.30pm each day. All age 12 or under are eligible and the cost is £48.

Each participant will receive a camp tee-shirt and National Shinty Development Officer Ronald Ross will be coaching on the last day. To apply, or for further information, contact Katie Drain on 07920 163287 or email katie@ssf.org.uk.

Diary dates

Thursday May 29: Phil Cunningham and Aly Bain, St Andrew's in the Square, 7.45pm. Glasgow Uist and Barra Association AGM, Lourdes Secondary School, 7.30pm. Comunn an Taobh-an-Iar AGM, Ellangowan Social Club, Milngavie, 7.30pm.

Friday May 30: Junior Royal Conservatoire Scottish Music Festival, 7pm. Partick Folk Festival, St Peter's Church Hall, Hyndland Street, Partick, with Mick West and new Gaelic group *Blas*. Helensburgh and District Highlander's Association AGM, Commodore Hotel, 8pm.

Saturday May 31: Ceol's Craic, CCA, Sauchiehall Street, 7.30pm - an evening of New Collaborations. British Pipe Band Championships, Meadow Park, Bathgate.

Tuesday June 3: Live at the Star, Admiral Bar, 72a Waterloo Street, 8pm - Vin Garbutt, John Doyle - see above. Martynn Bennett Play, Tramway, runs until Saturday June 7 at 7.30pm with additional performances at 2pm on June 5 and 7.

Wednesday June 4: Glasgow Skye Association AGM, Partick Burgh Halls, 7.30pm.

Friday June 6: Glasgow Skye Association Social Evening. - see above.

Pub scene

MUSIC in the Islay Inn this weekend will be provided by *Parting Glass* on Friday and *Old School* on Saturday while in the Park Bar it will be Nicky McMichan on Friday, Scott Harvey on Saturday and Nicky McMichan on Sunday.

On Wednesday June 4, Ewan Henderson of *Manran* and the *Battlefield Band* and Iain Smith of *Trail West* will be playing in the Lismore Bar on Dumbarton Road from 9pm.

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

YOUR LETTERS

THE EDITOR welcomes letters of approximately 300 words in length for publication on this page.

The editor also reserves the right to shorten, to amend or to refuse to print them. Names and postal addresses must be supplied, including an email, to indicate good faith. A daytime telephone number is also required for verification.

Anonymous letters or those supplied without a contact telephone number will not be printed.

Please write or fax to: Letters page, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB. Fax: 01631 568001. Email editor@obantimes.co.uk.

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WE AT The Oban Times do our utmost to make sure that all our reports are fair, accurate and balanced, but we accept that, on occasion, mistakes can occur in the hectic process of producing the biggest local newspaper in the West Highlands.

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

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

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



Award for Oban's Mossfield Post Office - September 1994

This week's flashback photograph comes from the files of *The Oban Times*. It features Donald Kerr, sub postmaster of Oban's Mossfield Post Office, accepting a highly commended award which the branch won in Scotland's Best Post Office competition. Irene Boyd, second right, presented the certificate on behalf of Post Office Counters Limited. As well as a certificate, the Post Office was presented with a £250 cheque by communications manager Marguerite Armstrong, third left. Helen MacDougall, second left, received a £100 cheque for submitting the winning nomination. Also pictured are Marie McColl, right, and Maimie Nicolson, staff at the Post Office. Prints or emails must be accompanied by a caption, name, address and telephone number. Anyone wishing prints returned must supply a stamped addressed envelope.

Letters to the editor

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Oban Airport 'pantomime'

Sir,
I think for posterity it was good you highlighted a light jet aircraft landing at Oban Airport - *The Oban Times* May 15 - as it is becoming an increasingly rare activity.

Over the last seven years the numbers of all types of aircraft using the airport has declined by nearly 60 per cent and this situation is after a spend in excess of £20m on the project.

The hopelessly inept and clueless management is now reduced to offering free landings to encourage pilots to visit.

This freebie is all the more absurd considering that in excess of £70k is taken every year from Oban town car parking receipts to fund the airport.

The projected revenue for the airport was to be £350k per annum but it has never exceeded £40k.

Notwithstanding this dire situation, the efforts of the management have been almost exclusively directed at convincing the public the facility is a success and everything is well.

If Argyll and Bute Council is to be taken seriously in its claim that it is short of funds for such priorities as social services, education and roads, it will urgently need to find a larger paying audience for the pantomime that is Oban Airport.

L. Paul Keegan, Managing Director, TotalLogistics Concepts Aviation Support, Oban Airport, North Connel.

Beware of so called 'Good Samaritans'

Sir,
Having inadvertently left my bus pass in a Tesco trolley, in my haste to catch a bus, once home I

immediately returned to Tesco but found the bus pass hadn't been handed in.

However, once home again, I received a phone call in the evening from a woman living in Kilmory who claimed to have found it.

She said she would be coming to Oban the very next day and would return it to me so I gave her directions to my address.

I have neither seen nor heard from this 'honest' woman since.

As a result of this I was unable to afford to visit my family in Glasgow for the Easter weekend, having already bought a leg of lamb for the visit. I had also bought three Easter Eggs for my grand-daughters.

Add to this, three weeks' subsequent bus fares prior to my obtaining a replacement pass.

Bus pass owners, beware of so called 'Good Samaritans'!

Name and address supplied.

No mediocre mochas please

Sir,
I know some Argyll and Bute council members and planners may want Oban to be like the tourist magnets of East Kilbride or Motherwell but is a new Costa coffee house the answer?

I worked in top marketing roles and was a senior lecturer at Nottingham Business School until my recent move to Oban.

Travelling around the UK, I was amazed at the millions wasted by bland boring towns trying to find a gimmick to differentiate them.

Oban needs no gimmicks as it is the genuine article. Seattle, another rainy west coast town, started the modern coffee shop trend with the excellent Seattle Coffee House, sadly being taken over by Starbucks.

A few of Oban's independent coffee shops may need to improve but there is already plenty good coffee plus fresh-

made cakes, bacon butties and brilliant blethering. Yes, the vacant Station Square site needs to be filled. There are several opportunities for outlets where being able to see and touch the product is important to many customers.

The council though must not just ensure an initial low cost rental during their start-up but must also provide IT help to store owners to evaluate products or buy them online.

This 'bricks and clicks' approach to retailing is very successful but hard without good support. So no mediocre mochas please, but good money-making stores offering dependability and flexibility.

Mike Foster, Crannaig a Mhinister, Oban.

Young people key to future

Sir,
Land Reform proposals as they stand have one serious flaw - dealing with our young indigenous folks' needs.

Indigenous boys and girls and anyone aged over 16 need to be provided with, if they so wish, a free plot of land that gives them a solid forward looking attachment with the community. But this must only be used for themselves, for maybe building a house, not for re-sale.

These young people are the future of our cultural/social tradition bearers and thus need as much help and protection, if not more, than animals or birds that are being constantly portrayed as being almost extinct.

This would also be a nice gesture to repay the sacrifice made by an alarming high number of young boys from the isles who died on foreign battle fields in world wars.

I've learned recently schemes are proposed to help our forces involved in the Afghanistan warfare of recent years. I believe

some may be repatriated in other locations in UK, but the debt is yet to be repaid locally.

So where do our young men from the two wars fit into our charitable schemes? We do not really need agencies to take us by the hand or give us paltry little grants to keep us from arguing or disrupting their wicked plans but we do need this proposal to be constituted even though it may well be 50 years late.

No more propaganda, no more promises, no more wasted money, no more waiting for the debt to be repaid. Act now, for the sake of our children and grandchildren. This would be far more effective than the millions being spent on Gaelic.

Aonghas Eoghain Mhoir, Uibhist a Deas.

Barnardo's Big Toddle 2014

Sir,
On behalf of Barnardo's Scotland, I'd like to thank toddlers from Creation Station, Oban, Clyde Cottage Nursery, Dunoon, Dalintober Primary Pre Five Unit in Campbeltown and Taynuilt Nursery who took part in Big Toddle events in 2013.

Together they raised £1,769 to help fund our vital work with under-5s and their families.

Nurseries, playgroups and parents all got involved in organising events helping little ones to dress up as fairytale and nursery rhyme characters. I'm sure those taking part had great fun.

Children love dressing up and if they thought our 2013 'characters' theme was fun, I am sure our theme for 2014 - outer space - will be a great success.

Anyone interested in taking part in the next Big Toddle should visit www.bigtoddle.co.uk or call 0800 008 7005. Thank you for your continued support.

Martin Crewe - Director of Barnardo's Scotland.

ISLAY LETTER

Island tours

CAROL and Neil Scott, former mine hosts at Bowmore's Harbour Inn and Restaurant, have launched their 'Discover Islay' venture which provides bespoke tours which cover the island's most scenic routes, historical sights, the whisky industry and the area's rich cultural heritage.

A specially-equipped vehicle will be used to provide off-piste exploration of the island and those using the service will also have the opportunity to meet with local people and enjoy personalised whisky tasting sessions.

The former owners of the award-winning Bowmore hostelry know the island well and have a long established family connection with the Rhinn peninsula.

More details on www.discoverislay.com

Mòd Ìle

MÒD ÌLE 2014 takes place in Islay High School on Saturday June 7, beginning at 9am.

There are encouragingly increased entries at this year's Mòd and these include a new storytelling competition.

Competition in the junior choral section will be keen with visiting choirs from Oban and Tarbert taking part, along with members of Còisir Òg Dhail Riata.

The prizewinners' concert will take

place in the high school assembly hall on the same evening at 7.30pm. Mòd arrangements are carried out by members of the local branch of An Comunn Gàidhealach, led by Mòd secretary Alison Gray.

Church changes

THE REV Dr Iain MacNee has completed his four-week stint as locum minister of the linked charges of Kilarrow, Kildalton and Oa, and Jura.

He and his wife Anthea, a Reader with the Church of Scotland, carried out worship at the three vacant churches in the linked charges and undertook pastoral duties.

They plan to return to provide pulpit supply at the island churches in August.

Returning to take up the locum reins on Sunday June 1 is the Rev Pat Lang, no stranger to these parts and a former minister of the High Kirk in Dunoon.

Glasgow Islay annual meeting

THE GLASGOW Islay Association holds its annual general meeting in Partick Burgh Hall on Thursday June 5 at 7pm.

Current directors are anxious to attract new and younger faces to the management committee who will bring energy and fresh ideas to the proceedings. This is

an opportunity to take part in the future activities of the 152-year-old association which was founded in 1862 by Mulindry-born Glasgow printer Archibald Sinclair, who became its first president.

Death of former GP

THE DEATH occurred on May 20 in his home at Kinross of Dr Alistair Macdonald, one of the island's longest serving GPs.

He was 90 years of age and had been in indifferent health in recent months.

He took over the medical practice previously owned by the late Dr Campbell MacIntyre in the 1950s and served the medical needs of patients in the Kilarrow and Kilmeny parishes for close on four decades before retiring in 1989.

His wife Margaret, also a GP, predeceased him six years ago.

Dr Alistair, who had strong Highland and island connections, leaves a daughter Anne, and sons Iain and Russell, both doctors.

Coffee morning

THE ROUND Church's next coffee morning takes place in Bowmore Buffet Hall on Saturday May 31 at 10.30am.

Admission is £3 and all proceeds go to the church's fabric fund.

Hugh Smith, 4 Flora Street, Bowmore, Islay PA43 7JX. Telephone: 01496 810658.

Beachd Ailein

Ailean Caimbeul

A RÈIR AITHRIS a leugh mi ann am pàipear-naidheachd bho chionn latha neo dhà, 's dòcha gum bu chòir dhomh a bhith a' sgrìobhadh seo le plion toileachais air m' aodann!

Oir tha e coltach gum bheil rannsachadh a rinn na ceannachan-seilbh-thaighean Rightmove air co-dhùnadh gur e Inbhir Nis an t-àite as sona feadh Alba airson còmhnaidh ann, leis an Eaglais Bhric agus Cathair Chaldaigh san dàrna agus san treas àite. Mar a dh'èirich dha mòran den seòrsa rannsachadh seo, saoilidh mi nach robh fios aig mòran gun robh a leithid ga dèanamh, agus tha amharas agam cuideachd gum bi iomadach neach an seo a bhios den bheachd nach eil an co-dhùnadh fìor, dhan taobh-san co-dhùit.

Tha e coltach gun deach leth-cheud mìle neach a cheasnachadh, ann an ceud sgìre eadar-dhealaichte feadh Bhreatainn agus gun deach 12 slat-tomhais a thoirt dhaibh gus ire an cuid sonais a mheasadh. Mar a bhiodh dùil 's dòcha le buidheann a tha an sàs ann an gnìomhachas taigheadais air cùl chùisean, bha na ceistean uile air an cuimseachadh air dachaighean agus na coimhearsnachdan anns an robh daoine a' fuireach.

Chaidh faighneachd mu ire dreach, agus farsaingeachd thaighean; luach an t-seilbh; cor, sonas, agus moit dhaoine; agus sàbhailteachd, nàbaidheachd, is cur-seachadan. Gu h-iongantach, ann am beachd chuid thàinig baile Inbhir Nis san dàrna h-àite ann am Breatainn le Harrogate ann an Sgìre York sa chad àite. Cha d' rinn bailtean mòra Alba idir cho math le leithid Ghlaschu aig àireamh 53 agus Dùn Eideann aig 78!

Gun teagamh 's e cho faisg 's a tha Inbhir Nis air muir, monaidhean agus beanntan maiseach pàirt den adhbhar a dh'fhàg gun d' rinn e cho math san sgrùdadh seo. Ach nuair a bhruidhinn pàipear ionadail a' bhaile ri cuid de shluagh Inbhir Nis bha beachdan a' nochdadh air mar a dh'fhaodadh cùisean a leasachadh fìu 's barrachd, a' dearbhadh, mar a bha riagh, nach eil daoine gu bhith riaraichte ge b' e dè cho math d'èith 's a dh'fhaodas iad a bhith. Mar is dual, tha luchd-politigs a' leum rim faileas agus ro dhèanach cliù a ghabhail airson gach math anns an àite, ach dh'farradh iad uile ceistean duilich a roinn le dùbhlanaich phoilitigeach!

Feadh Alba tha duilgheadasan ann làraich iomchaidh a chomharrachadh air an tadhail taistelaich, agus tha baile Inbhir Nis mar àiteachan eile far am bi feadhainn gan stèidheachadh fhèin air raointean-cluiche, pàircan-chàraichean is eile, is cion làraich stèidhichte ga fhàgail doirbh dèiligeadh ri campachadh mi-laghal.

WHILE happy that I live in what is the second 'happiest place in Britain', I can understand many Invernessians may not recognise that description relative to their own situations.

Estate agents conducting the survey which delivered this plaudit for Inverness probably didn't speak with travellers who cannot find legal temporary camping sites in the Highland Capital.

On the other hand, travellers leaving littered illegal sites make political solutions harder for those who would like to help.

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

SCOTS

Heritage Magazine

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GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

CROSSWORD

<p>Across</p> <p>1 Clip (4)</p> <p>3 Buy (8)</p> <p>9 Warmly polite (7)</p> <p>10 Monetary unit of Thailand (5)</p> <p>11 Audacity (5)</p> <p>12 In good order (6)</p> <p>14 During (6)</p> <p>16 Study (4,2)</p> <p>19 Each (6)</p> <p>21 Search for water (5)</p> <p>24 Ring used in a throwing game (5)</p> <p>25 A gift of gratitude (7)</p> <p>26 Suspended temporarily (8)</p> <p>27 Notion (4)</p>	<p>Down</p> <p>1 Cutter used for trees (8)</p> <p>2 Bid (5)</p> <p>4 To set free (6)</p> <p>5 Group of intriguers (5)</p> <p>6 Sporty person (7)</p> <p>7 Opposite to west (4)</p> <p>8 One who manages sisters (6)</p> <p>13 Mayfly (8)</p> <p>15 Better (7)</p> <p>17 Decree (6)</p> <p>18 Busy (6)</p> <p>20 Accessory (5)</p> <p>22 Twisted (5)</p> <p>23 Shade of water? (4)</p>
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LAST week's SOLUTION

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Raasay's starring role at Royal charity event

THE ISLE of Raasay took pride of place at a social event in London for donors and supporters of a rural development charity set up by Prince Charles.

Local development officer on the island, Lloyd Gudgeon, was asked to speak at The Prince's Countryside Fund's annual reception in Clarence House, the heir to the throne's official residence.

The charity was set up by Prince Charles in 2010 to support rural communities and businesses and last year the fund assisted the community of Raasay to buy the only shop on the island, which was closing down. The shop has since passed into community ownership and is now operating successfully at a small profit. In his speech Mr Gudgeon emphasised the importance of trusting communities to know what they need and backing them. He said: 'Isolated communities require access to goods and services, just like everyone else but communities also need physical objects and shared spaces that are the hubs around which community life revolves. Usually such hubs are buildings - the primary school, the church, the pub and the shop. When these start to close down, the community is already dying.'

Mr Gudgeon thanked the fund for its support which, along with backing from HIE and the Lottery, has ensured that the shop stayed open and continued to serve the people of Raasay and visitors to the island.

Man re-offends day after bail is granted

A MAN appeared in court from custody on Tuesday after he committed breach of the peace the day after he was granted bail awaiting sentence for a previous offence.

Martin Lawrie of 22 Glenpane Street, Caol, admitted shouting, swearing and trying to start fights at Fort William High Street on April 29 and struggling violently with two police officers when they intervened.

The 24-year-old had been remanded in custody until he appeared in Fort William Sheriff Court on Tuesday.

Defence solicitor Hamish Melrose said: 'This was the first time he had been in custody in his life and it was clear to me he was not enjoying it. He realises where problems are and wants to resolve them.'

Sheriff Richard Davidson placed a restriction of liberty order on Lawrie which prevents him from leaving his home on Friday and Saturday nights and an 18 month supervision order. He also ordered him to pay compensation of £100 each to the policemen involved.

He added: 'I will not hesitate to send him to prison if I hear about any of these kinds of incidents again.'



Claggan resident Maureen Dempsey says the communal garden at her home has been left to fall into disrepair by Highland Council.

Residents hit out over garden neglect

RESIDENTS of Highland Council flats in Fort William said they are at their wits end over the 'complete mess' of their communal garden.

One tenant, Maureen Dempsey, said a Highland Council employee visited the Carn Dearg Road flats in January and promised the overgrown weeds, blocked drains and broken washing lines would be attended to - but nothing has been done.

Ms Dempsey, a Fort William Community Council member who has lived in Claggan for 28 years, said: 'I can't believe it's been left to get worse in all the time since I complained. I don't feel like we're asking for much, we don't want fancy landscaping or anything we just want it tidied up.'

'It's a complete mess, the poles for the washing lines are either broken, missing or rusted. There's weeds and moss growing out from everywhere and the drains are all blocked. I poured water down the drain after cleaning my bin and it all just scooped back up at me because it's completely blocked.'

Three of the six flats in the block are owned by Highland Council and Mrs Dempsey said all of the tenants are furious that the mess hasn't been dealt with. She added: 'Everyone has been complaining to me because I'm involved with the community council but I just don't know what to do anymore. We all pay our rent and council tax every month and we were told months ago it would be sorted - I feel like we're being completely ignored.'

A Highland Council spokeswoman said: 'The seasonal common areas maintenance programme has recently commenced and this area will be attended to in the very near future to apply moss treatment and subsequently clean up.'

'Damage to the rotary dryers will be inspected at the same time and we will endeavour to achieve the best possible outcome within the resources available to us.'

Guests gather in Portree as round-Skye runner Ally 'K' presents £31,545 to Cancer Research



Ally 'K' MacPherson presents the cheque to Cancer Research UK representative Richard Cowie.

THE PORTREE athlete who ran 125 miles round Skye in under 35 hours last month has presented a cheque to his chosen charity, Cancer Research UK.

Alistair 'K' MacPherson caught the imagination of the entire island with his incredible feat of human endurance.

He set himself a target of raising £8,000 - but when donations were totted up the enormous sum of £31,545 was realised.

The official celebration for the cheque handover in the Royal Hotel in Portree was attended by almost 100 guests.

Guest speakers Pauline Walker, Fiona Rennie, Donnie Nicolson and Thomas Wilson entertained the crowd before a premiere of the official event documentary of Ally's epic run was shown.

The evening closed with a ceilidh featuring the Cast Ewe Ceilidh Band and a further £13,000 was raised for Cancer Research UK on the night.

Ally 'K' said: 'I would like to personally thank everybody who has donated to such an important cause.'

'These funds can really make a difference.'

'The events of my challenge will live long in the memory - particularly the reception I received in Portree Square at the end. It really was a once in a lifetime experience.'

Fort William only BID in the pipeline

DISCUSSIONS are underway for a potential Fort William Business Improvement District (BID) after last year's attempt at a Lochaber-wide initiative was rejected by three quarters of voters.

EXCLUSIVE REPORT by EMMA CRICHTON
ecrichton@obantimes.co.uk

I think Highland Council will be wary about it because they spent around £30,000 on the last BID and they got their fingers burnt so we have to be sure before we take any official steps.'

Living Lochaber, the organisation behind the last controversial proposal, suggested businesses in the area paid a compulsory levy to fund additional projects and services but the plan faced vehement opposition from businesses in west and south Lochaber because they feared Fort William would benefit most.

Now a whisky shop owner has revealed that a small group of businessmen have been working to create a new Fort William exclusive BID. As discussions are in early stages, Drew Purdon made it clear nothing was set in stone.

He said: 'As far as I'm aware a group of businessmen have engaged the possibility of a BID for the town and its environment. Meetings are ongoing at the

moment but there is a lot of work to get through before a proposal is ready.

'When we have the BID proposal complete we shall be visiting everyone who will become involved, nobody will be missed.'

Fort William High Street shops and restaurants will be a main focus of the new initiative, unlike the Lochaber BID which excluded these businesses.

The group has yet to speak to BID Scotland or Highland Council and Mr Purdon stressed if there was widespread opposition to the plan it would not go ahead to a full vote.

He added: 'If the proposals are rejected by the majority it will not go ahead. We won't even approach the council until we know we have wide support and

Frazer Coupland, chairman of the now defunct Living Lochaber, said: 'I'll be very interested to see how this turns out. I'm not sure if I would personally want to involve myself again but there has been valuable experience gained from the Lochaber BID that would help any future BID in the area. A huge amount of work went into compiling databases and collecting information which could be made available to a new group.'

Fort William Community Council chairman Neil Clark said: 'I think a Fort William only BID makes a lot of sense, it's probably what should have happened last time round. It would be good to see all of the local businesses come together and I would be very enthusiastic about it.'

Work underway on new island community-owned bunkhouse

CONSTRUCTION is well underway of a new community-owned bunkhouse on a Scottish island mostly designated as a National Nature Reserve.

The Isle of Rum Community Trust (IRCT) is developing the 20-bed bunkhouse to attract more visitors to the island and secure a new income for the community.

The £874,000 bunkhouse will be owned and managed by IRCT and the project will create two new jobs while also increasing turnover by almost £100,000 in three years. Construction costs are being supported by £219,436 from Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) while IRCT are investing almost £30,000.

IRCT has received £58,412 over two years from the Big Lottery's Growing for running

costs.

Allan Henderson, chairman of IRCT said: 'We are really excited to see the bunkhouse construction moving so quickly.'

'It will mean a tremendous amount to the community on Rum, bringing in a new badly needed income stream and providing two new jobs.'

'I have great admiration for the effort of this small community working hard to replace the gap left by the closure of the [Kinloch Castle] accommodation.'

The building should be completed by the autumn and is designed to be self-sufficient, with water efficiency measures and solar panels to provide hot water built in.

Jacqueline McDonnell of HIE, said: 'We are delighted to be supporting IRCT with

the bunkhouse project and it is extremely exciting to see the building already taking shape.'

Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch MSP Dave Thompson welcomed the news. He said: 'The bunkhouse has been a long time in gestation so I am delighted it is now going ahead and will be completed before the winter.'

'This will bring more life and vibrancy to the biggest and one of the most beautiful of the Small Isles.'

Rum became well known across the UK after its red deer stags featured on the BBC1 programme Autumnwatch.

IRCT was formed in April 2007. Following a community vote in 2009, IRCT assumed control of land and assets around the village of Kinloch from island managers SNH.

Carer wasn't entitled to receive £3,500 worth of benefits

A FORT William carer has admitted receiving more than £3,500 in benefits she was not entitled to.

Ellen Edwards of 99 Glenkingie Street, Caol, continued to receive Carer's Allowance for looking after her mother because she did not tell the Department For Work and Pensions (DWP) she was earning more than the limit of £100 per week working for Chest, Heart and Stroke Scotland, Fort William Sheriff Court heard on Tuesday.

Defence solicitor Clare Russell said the 34-year-old was not consistently earning over the limit between April 30, 2012 and January 3, 2013 and it had 'slipped her mind' to notify the authorities.

Prosecutor Fiscal Eilidh Robertson added: 'Miss Edwards said she realised she should have told the DWP that she was earning over the threshold and she felt terrible about it.'

Sheriff Richard Davidson deferred sentencing until June 24 for a social work report.

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Lifesaving volunteer in running for top award

A PORTREE man has been shortlisted for a national award for his work with a life-saving charity.

Ross Cowie, founder of Lucky2BHere, will appear on the second series of STV show 'RBS - Finding Scotland's Real Heroes' which pays tribute to the hard work people put into helping their communities.

Mr Cowie founded Lucky2BHere in 2007 and the charity now provides defibrillators and training in their use all over Scotland.

He said: 'I experienced a cardiac arrest and if there hadn't been an ambulance driving by I wouldn't be here today so I decided to fundraise to buy a defibrillator for Skye Camanachd Shinty Club and it all just went from there.'

'I think it's fantastic that the charity is being recognised, in particular the dozens of people who give their time, commitment and hard work to saving people's lives. I do what I can but I couldn't do it without the whole team who help with Lucky2BHere.'

Crew from STV will be filming the charity's work in Portree in July and the show will be aired in autumn. At the end of the programme viewers will be invited to vote for the nominees they believe most deserve to win a Scotland's Real Heroes Award and winners will be recognised at a ceremony later in the year.

Elizabeth Partyka, of STV, said: 'The response to this year's call for Real Heroes has been overwhelming. There are so many people working quietly in communities and it is fantastic that we are able to recognise them with this new series of RBS - Finding Scotland's Real Heroes. There are some truly inspiring stories and this autumn it will be over to the STV viewers to vote for the nominees they believe most deserve to win an award.'

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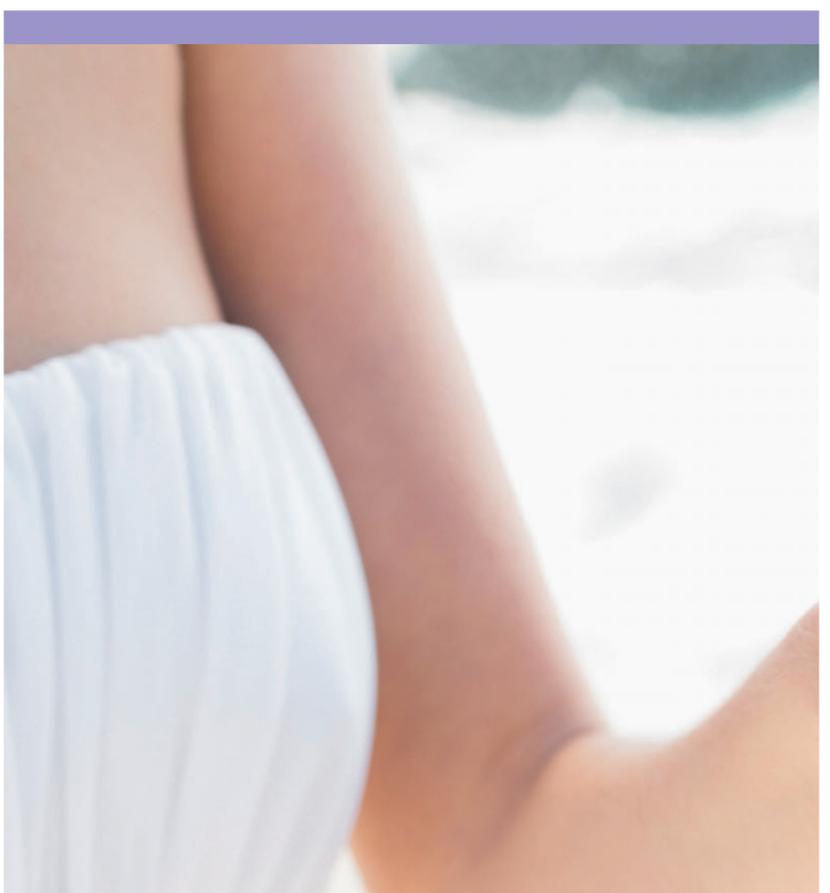
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Summer Weddings

Weddings are one of the biggest parties you will ever have to organise.

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Use The Oban Times plan to get your wedding on the 'hot' list of parties to attend this season.

The Story

You have become engaged to the love of your life and it is now time to learn a huge lesson - compromise.

Try not to become a Bridezilla and involve your new partner to be in the planning of the biggest day of your life. He will pretend he is not interested in cake, or colours, or even what your bridesmaids are wearing, but you could at least try to help him to get involved.

Alternatively decide that you are better off without all that man baggage and call in the experts. Allow him to make some decisions of course, like the budget and sourcing some rings...apart from that let some of our advertisers take the strain.

Brides have enough to worry about keeping all the family together, wondering about sitting Aunt Ina next to Auntie Emily and whether on earth it is a good idea to have children or not on the big day, and how on earth will you get your granny to buy fashionable shoes?

So here is a seven point plan to get you started

1. BUDGET - set a realistic budget for the event and for all the other things that you want. At this stage you will realise weddings can be expensive and you will likely need to make some compromises on the way down the isle. Whatever you do, don't get into thinking that you need

everything to be one way or not at all. Marriage is about love - that's something money can't buy but everyone wants to see at a wedding.

2. PLAN - keep a to do list and plan well ahead for what you want. There are people who are there to help you. But you should still keep a to do list in order that you are aware of everything that needs to be done.

3. DIVISION OF TASKS - think about the skills of everyone who is involved in the wedding party and ask them if they would like to be involved in sorting out the wedding with you. And remember, his family might even want to get involved as well. it is a great way to bring people together before the big day and to make friends with each other.

4. MAKE A DATE - but speak to your celebrant first, whether it is the minister or

the humanist, or the registrar you must not book anything until you know the person that you want to lead your wedding service is available.

5. KEEP THE DATE - you want all your friends around you. So make sure you give them the date of the wedding and then if at all possible they will keep it free for you.

6. BOOK YOUR VENUE - make sure you get exactly what you want and within your budget. And make a list from the beginning of what you want and when you want it. Make sure you discuss this with your venue and keep records of everything so you can be sure that you know what you are getting.

7. ENJOY YOURSELF - planning a wedding is one of the most beautiful and stressful times of your life. Remember to smile and enjoy the whole process.



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Three Peaks - Scotland's toughest adventure?

SKIPPER Ian Woodman of the cruiser Sundance, from Connel, tells *The Oban Times* about his experience of the Scottish Islands Peak Race.

A difficult and arduous annual adventure of sailing and running event on the west coast, the 'three peaks' is, some say, the toughest race in Scotland.

The race takes place over three or four days in May, and starts in Oban with a short hill run. Sailors then head to Salen on Mull and run over Ben More. They then head back down the Sound of Mull and the Sound of Jura to Craighouse before running the Paps of Jura, then sail to Arran and run on Goat Fell and then sail into Troon. Multihulls, racers and cruisers all take

part. This year, 44 boats entered the race.

The sailing course of 160 nautical miles includes the strong tides and overfalls of the Corryvreckan and the Mull of Kintyre, whilst the runners cover 60 miles and 11,500 ft of ascent.

It is not a race for the faint hearted, with almost 30 boats pulling out of the event during the course, it is a hard slog to the finish line.

Each team consists of five people, usually two runners and three sailors; there is also an all-rounder class for sailors who can run, a services class and a class for young people.

Ian Woodman takes up the story: 'The race started at midday from the Oban sailing club in glorious

sunshine with the runners doing a circular four-mile hill run.

'A crew member then rowed the runners out to their waiting yacht and then the fleet headed out under sail through Oban Bay headed for Salen in the Sound of Mull.

'It was quite a sight with all 44 boats battling for position in the tight area of Oban Bay with the large motor yacht Harmony anchored in the middle as one of several obstacles.

'CalMac was this year's sponsor and the ferries actually gave the yachts a wide berth for which we were most grateful.

'After a fast sail to Salen our runners had a great run on Ben More taking over a few teams and we set off back down the Sound of Mull around 11.30pm.

'Shortly after setting out, the wind died away. This is when a unique aspect of this race comes into play.

'The team is allowed to propel the boat by any means using the energy of

the crew when there is no wind so we deployed our long rowing sweeps and proceeded to row for six hours through the night, half of which merely kept us in the same position against the tide.

'We overtook a few boats and the wind got up again in the early morning and we headed down towards Jura.

'There are strong tides at the entrance to the Sound of Jura and the next goal was to get there in time before the tidal gate shut.

'We were on course for this but then the wind dropped again and we were forced to revert to the oars.

'Then the southerly wind really got up and we started beating down towards Jura in quite rough seas with some exciting sailing.

'Unfortunately the

continued rough seas took their toll on the runners and serious seasickness took hold - a condition not to be taken lightly especially if you are headed for a 20-mile run up a mountain in the dark.

'We turned and headed north to give the runners some respite and realising that we wouldn't be able to finish the race and with heavy hearts we took the decision at 4pm to retire to fight another year.

'Although we were all disappointed some valuable lessons were learned for next year's race.

'Out of 42 boats only 19 made it to Troon so much kudos to them.'

Ian thanked organisers for another very well managed event.

This year's overall winners, with a total time of 43:25:05, were team Old Timers on Clockwork (skipper Peter Foulds, runners David Ward and Richard Mellon, and crew David Kain and Ewan Dewar). Sailing class and

race results as follows:
 Class 2 (Fast yacht) winner: Clockwork

Class 3 (Cruiser/racer) winner: Wildwood

Class 4 (All rounder) winner: Seanachaidh

Class 5 (Youth) winner: Pippa

Interservice winner: British Soldier

King of the Bens: Manny Gorman and Brian Bonnyman

Molls of Kintyre: Claire Gordon and Morag McLelland

Mixed Pairs: Donald Mackenzie and Julia Connor

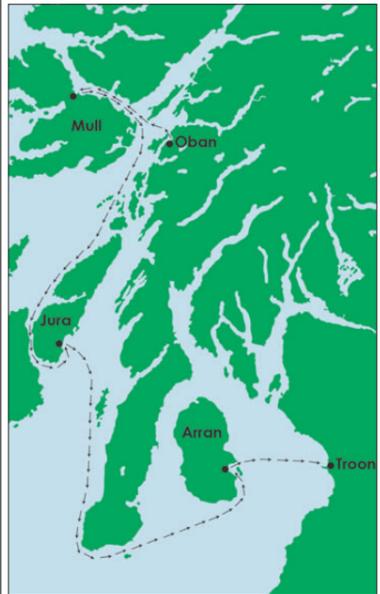
Although the race office officially closes on Monday, teams can continue and record their own finish time. The last team to cross the line was Old Dogs

on Firebird which crossed the finish line at 12.20am on Wednesday - a heroic effort.

As well as the sponsors CalMac, the following all helped to make the race another success this year - Oban Sailing Club, Oban Marina, Dunstaffnage Marina, Crinan Canal, RNLI, Belfast Coastguard, Oban and Arran Mountain Rescue Teams, Jura Hotel, Jura Community Hall, Jura Passenger Ferry, Arran Banner, Arran Yacht Club, Bargany B&B, Troon Yacht Haven and of course the marshalls and all the competitors.

Information about the race and full results can be found at:

www.scottishisland-speaksrace.com



A map showing the sailing route for the three peaks.



Sailing boats set off from Oban Bay at the start of the gruelling Scottish Islands Peak Race. Photo by Toben Lewis

what's on

THE OBAN TIMES
 FREE EVENT LISTING

THURSDAY MAY 29

Ramblers Association guided walk, Beinn an Dothaigh and Beinn Dorain, Bridge of Ordy
 Ballet West Dance Degree showcase, Corran Halls, Oban, 7.30pm

FRIDAY MAY 30

Butterflies and more evening talk, Appin Village Hall, 7pm
 Bats of Loch Crean trap setting, Glasdrum Nature Reserve, 9.45pm
 Art exhibition with cheese and wine, Lorn Resource Centre, Oban, 7.30pm
 Yes Scotland, Public Meeting, Taynuilt Village Hall, 7.30pm
 Janey Godley comedy tour, Oban Library, Albany Street, 7.30pm
 Aly Bain and Phil Cunningham, Corran Halls, Oban, 8.00pm

SATURDAY MAY 31

Butterflies and more of Loch Crean, Forestry Commission's Elleric car park, 9.30am
 Garden Party, Happy House Pre School, Oban, 11am
 Ramblers Association guided walk, Sgurr an Eilean Ghuibhais, Mallaig
 The Singing Kettle Fantastic Funfair, Corran Halls, Oban, 2pm
 Paddle Steamer Waverley - Cruise to the Isle of Skye or Inverie
 Ceilidh. Neil Kennedy & friends, with Seil Sound. Seil Hall, Ellenbeich, BYOB, 19.30pm

SUNDAY JUNE 1

Craft Fayre, Every Sunday, Creagan Inn, Appin, 12-5pm
 International Get Together, St Columba's Hall, 4pm
 Paddle Steamer Waverley - 4 Lochs & A Whirlpool & Evening Showboat with Trail West

MONDAY JUNE 2

Paddle Steamer Waverley - Isle of Iona
 Planet Ocean, Oban Phoenix Cinema, 5.30pm

TUESDAY JUNE 3

Paddle Steamer Waverley - Mull of Kintyre via Corryvreckan
 Oban USA monthly meeting, Corran Halls, Oban, 10.30am
 Furan Gaelic Pub Quiz, Studio Theatre Bar, Corran Halls, 7.30pm

THURSDAY JUNE 5

Ramblers Association guided walk, Altnafeadh to Kinlochleven, Glen Coe

Email details of your event to
whatson@obantimes.co.uk

Screen Machine Scotland's Mobile Cinema

Tobermory Thu 29 - Sat 31 May
 Lochgilphead Mon 2 - Wed 4 June
 Tarbert Loch Fyne Thu 5 June

Muppets Most Wanted (U) 113 mins
 Trans-continental caper full of silly jokes and bonkers routines.
 "Fun all the way." The Observer
 29/05 at 5.30pm, 30/05 at 5.30pm, 31/05 at 2pm, 02/06 at 5.30pm, 04/06 at 5.30pm, 05/06 at 5.30pm

The Love Punch (12A) 94 mins
 Divorced couple turn diamond thieves and head to the South of France when their pension pot is plundered.
 "An accomplished cast do their considerable best. Likeable fun." The Guardian
 29/05 at 8.30pm, 03/06 at 8.30pm, 05/06 at 8.30pm

Grand Budapest Hotel (15) 100 mins
 Glorious fun, adventure and intrigue with Ralph Fiennes, Tilda Swinton, Bill Murray and Jude Law.
 "Full of rapier-sharp wit." The Guardian
 30/05 at 8.30pm, 02/06 at 8.30pm

Blackbird (15) 90 mins
 Powerful drama set in a west coast Scottish village, featuring Norman Maclean.
 "Love struck audiences have taken film to heart." Daily Record
 "Blackbird sings in praise of Scotland's cultural history." The Guardian
 31/05 at 8.30pm, 04/06 at 8.30pm

The Amazing Spider-Man 2 (12A) 142 mins
 Only Spidey can protect New Yorkers from a gang of formidable villains.
 "The coolest superhero ever." The Telegraph
 31/05 at 5.30pm, 03/06 at 5.30pm

Book in advance at: www.screenmachine.co.uk or phone
 0871 902 5750. Tickets also at the cinema 30 mins before screenings. Cash, no cards. £7.00 Adults. Concessions £5.50. 3D +£1.50



Oban Times' Singing Kettle competition winners announced

TWO lucky families who entered *The Oban Times'* Singing Kettle competition have won family tickets to see the entertainers' 'Fantastic Funfair' show at the Corran Halls in the town on Saturday May 31.

Brenda Fallon, North

Connel and Lenka Jansova, Connel, both won tickets plus a DVD and a fun pack.

Their names were pulled out of the hat of correct entries made to the question 'What is the name of the Singing Kettle dog?'. The answer, of course, is Bonzo.

Quest for information about Highland suffragettes

STORIES from family members might allow the hidden history of the suffrage movement to be told.

The Workers' Educational Association (WEA) is currently investigating the campaign for women's suffrage in the Highlands as part of a project funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, and participants on the project are researching archives and other sources of information.

Susan Kurse from the WEA said: "While there has been a lot of work concerning suffrage elsewhere in

Scotland, there is very little known about activities here.

"However, from looking at old newspapers we know that there was huge interest, with rallies throughout the Highlands attended by hundreds of men and women."

Information, family stories or photographs of any of the people involved, for or against would be helpful to the project.

Anyone who can help can contact Susan Kruse project tutor, at highlandsuffrage@gmail.com or leave a message at the WEA office 01463 710577.

Famous Grouse chosen as official Commonwealth Games whisky

A WHISKY blend has been chosen as the official drink of the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games.

The organising committee said The Famous Grouse was Scotland's top selling

whisky for more than 30 years.

The announcement coincides with the month-long celebrations of Scottish malts, Homecoming Scotland's Whisky Month.

Volunteer stewards required for Queen's Baton Relay

AN APPEAL has gone out for volunteers to act as stewards when the Queen's Baton Relay for the Commonwealth Games comes to Argyll and Bute on July 13.

The baton will travel more than 170 miles from Appin to Benderloch, Dunbeg, Oban, Kilmartin, Lochgilphead, Furnace, Inveraray, Strachur and Dunoon during the day.

Argyll and Bute Council is looking for stewards at

each location, who will give information and assistance to the public and working in partnership and under the guidance of Police Scotland officers to ensure crowd safety.

Volunteers must be 16 years or more and have a 'can-do' attitude. Training and briefings will be provided.

To apply visit <http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/qbr-stewarding>.

GRIT: The Martyn Bennett Story

ONE OF the year's most exciting, visually spectacular theatre productions comes to Mull next month with GRIT: The Martyn Bennett Story.

The new production comes from Olivier Award-winning director Cora Bissett and is written by one of Scotland's brightest writing talents Kieran Hurley.

Martyn Bennett, who lived his last few years on Mull was one of Scotland's most innovative, pioneering and influential musicians.

He stormed the underground music scene in the 90s with his unique blend of songs from the Gaelic tradition spliced with cut-

ting-edge dance music.

His life is the inspiration for GRIT: The Martyn Bennett Story, which forms part of the Glasgow 2014 Cultural Programme.

Director Cora Bissett said: "Martyn was a phenomenal creative force, making music which was way ahead of its time and I am really excited to present his story to a whole new generation who may not be aware of the work he produced in the short life he had."

"Martyn's bravery, determination and unflinching creativity are celebrated in this show which we hope will inspire and move people.

"Both in the context of the Commonwealth Games and our referendum year, I feel Martyn is also a potent icon of a Scot who had the deepest respect and love for his heritage and was passionate about finding ways in which his culture could meet, and connect with others."

"To tell his story now is to tell a tale of ambitious dreams and possibilities."

The production which opens at Glasgow's Tramway this week, comes to Mull on June 20 for three nights at Druinfin in Tobermory.

For details of all events - and special ticket deals - see www.comar.co.uk, or call 01688 302211.



GRIT: The Martyn Bennett Story comes to Mull on June 20 for three nights at Druinfin in Tobermory.

Lifeboat crew travels to Islay for annual fundraiser

ISLAY was the venue this year for a remarkable lifeboat crew's annual fundraiser.

The members of Applecross lifeboat have for the past 12 years pulled a mock lifeboat, named

A'chomraich, around various parts of the Highlands and islands to raise funds for a number of charities clocking up more than 600 miles in the process.

This year the 10 men pushed the lifeboat, in

groups of four, around Islay for three days last week, covering 50 miles in the process.

Alfie Edwards, lifeboat operations manager, said: "We received £1,000 from Scottish Sea Farms which

looked after the expenses for the trip and helped us get the event off to a flying start.

"With our expenses covered we were able to concentrate on raising money for the charities."

In the last 12 years, the crew has raised £187,386.72 for various charities and this year those gaining will be Portree and Islay lifeboats, Highland Hospice and Children's Hospice Association Scotland (CHAS).



Applecross Boatpull Team in Islay raising funds for charity.



Winner of Friends of Oban Community Playpark's racing bed car competition was Andrew Russell, aged 9, of Soroba he was joined by sisters Morgan, 7, and Islay, 6.

Andrew wins racing car bed

A WEE boy has big ambitions for his new bed. Andrew Russell, aged 9, is speeding his way to the top after winning a racing bed in a competition to raise cash for Friends of Oban Community Playpark.

The youngster from Soroba said: 'I'm just about to move house and I am getting a room of my own.'

Andrew was encouraged by his grandma to fill in the competition coupon from The Oban Times. He said: 'I filled it in and I returned it to Atlantis. I couldn't believe it when I won.'

Lorne Highland Games programme packed with events

A PROGRAMME packed with things to do for all the family, that's the message from this year's Lorne Highland Games organising committee.

From running, jumping, throwing, dancing to baking, making and creating - this year the games have something for everyone.

There are also a number of special guests including this year's chieftain, rugby legend and radio presenter, John Beattie, weatherman Sean Batty and a TV crew from Germany.

Oban foraging restaurant comes to an end

A FORAGING chef has left Oban for pastures new in the borders.

Gary Goldie known for his work in bringing the country into his kitchen plated up his final dishes for the Queens Hotel on the Esplanade on Saturday evening. Gary is still going

to be living in the area with his family, but is taking up a new venture near Jedburgh in the Scottish Borders.

Oban Phoenix takes part in environmental film festival

THE BRIGHT orange of Oban's cinema will be turning green, then blue for one night only.

As part of the UK's only environmental film festival the Phoenix will welcome two of the country's leading authorities on the deep blue sea.

Eleanor MacKinnon, the cinema's community development manager, said: 'Oban Phoenix cinema is proud to be involved for the first time.'

'We are showing a remarkably beautiful 90-minute documentary that serves not only as a prime example of Earth's beauty,

but as an illustration of the dangers that threaten our ocean and our entire planet.

The film Planet Ocean was filmed by award winning photographers and directors Yann Arthus-Bertrand and Michael Pitiot.

Lochaber Yacht Club is 60

SIXTY years ago, in 1954, Lochaber Yacht Club came into being. It had a very unusual origin for a sailing club. In those days there were already some keen small boat sailors to be seen out on the loch but they had never formed a club.

It was at that time that British Aluminium (BA) found it was badly in need of new business - no longer was there a big demand for aluminium for building fighter planes and bombers - so it decided to promote its use in ships and it set about this by building from welded aluminium a fine big yacht called Morag Mhor.



and the smells and effluent from the pulping process were not pleasant so the club planned to move to a site at Ashburn.

In spite of these various setbacks the club has flourished over the years. Training courses were started in 1983 and dozens of beginners both young and old have become skilled sailors as a result.



Above: members of the Lochaber Yacht Club today. Right: The Morag Mhor.



A dinghy is launched down the slipway at Annat Mill in 1963.

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50 years

OBAN'S CHANDLERY

Congratulations to LYC on your 60th Anniversary and wishing you all the best for the years to come

RIO 2	Thurs 29th	18.00 2D (screen 2)
The Other Woman	Thurs 29th	18.30
X-Men: Days of Future Past	Thurs 29th	15.30 3D, 21.00 2D
	Fri 30th	15.30 2D, 21.00 2D
	Sun 1st	15.00 2D, 18.00 3D
	Tues 3rd	15.30 3D, 21.00 2D
	Thurs 5th	15.30 2D, 21.00 3D
Postman Pat	Fri 30th	18.00 (screen 2)
	Sun 1st	13.00
	Tues 3rd	16.00 (screen 2)
	Thurs 5th	16.00 (screen 2)
Godzilla	Fri 30th	18.30 3D
	Sun 1st	21.00 2D
	Tues 3rd	18.30 3D
	Thurs 5th	18.30 3D
Bad Neighbours	Fri 30th	20.00 (screen 2)
	Sun 1st	19.00 (screen 2)
	Tues 3rd	19.00 (screen 2)
	Thurs 5th	19.00 (screen 2)
Planet Ocean	Mon 2nd	18.00

RIO 2 (U)
In RIO 2 we find Blu, Jewel and their three kids living the perfect domesticated life in that magical city. When Jewel decides the kids need to learn to live like real birds, she insists the family venture into the Amazon. As Blu tries to fit in with his new neighbours, he worries he may lose Jewel and the kids to the call of the wild.

The Other Woman (12A)
After discovering her boyfriend is married, Carly Whitten tries to get her ruined life back on track. But when she accidentally meets the wife he's been cheating on, she realizes they have much in common, and her sworn enemy becomes her greatest friend. When yet another affair is discovered, all three women team up to plot mutual revenge on their cheating, lying, three-timing SOB.

X-Men: Days of Future Past (12A)
The ultimate X-Men ensemble fights a war for the survival of the species across two time periods in X-Men: Days of Future Past. The characters from the original X-Men film trilogy join forces with their younger selves from X-Men: First Class in an epic battle that must change the past - to save our future.

Postman Pat (U)
Based on the fantastic television series 'Postman Pat', Postman Pat: The Movie finds a veteran postman (Pat) finding his beliefs challenged after he enters a TV talent show competition (based on 'Britain's Got Talent'). With evil plots, Robotic Postmen, harsh critics and singing live in front of the Nation, will Pat be able to save the day, and more importantly: Will he win over Simon Cowell in time for his postal round? Postman Pat: The Movie is voiced by actors including Jim Broadbent (Cloud Atlas), David Tennant (Doctor Who) and Rupert Grint (Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire).

Godzilla (12A)
The world's most revered monster is reborn as the epic action adventure 'Godzilla' is unleashed. Starring Aaron Taylor-Johnson (Kick Ass), Elizabeth Olsen (Dibroy) 'Godzilla' is a powerful story of human courage and reconciliation in the face of titanic forces of nature, when the awe-inspiring Godzilla rises to restore balance as humanity stands defenceless. This reality is a monster movie not to be missed!

Planet Ocean (U)
Award winning photographers and directors Yann Arthus-Bertrand and Michael Pitiot present a remarkably beautiful 90-minute documentary that serves not only as a prime example of Earth's beauty, but as an illustration of the dangers that threaten our ocean and our entire planet. Planet Ocean's goal is very clear: to change the way people look at the oceans and encourage them to imagine conservation as a globally-shared responsibility. This collaborative film aims to explain some of the planet's greatest natural mysteries and highlights how essential it is that mankind learns to live in harmony with our oceans. Planet Ocean serves as a reminder of the bond between humans and nature, and the duty that exists to protect and respect our planet.

OBAN TIMES READER OFFER

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June Edition

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Street Fair & Parade
Organised by Oban & Lorn Lions Club
Saturday 7th June
Station Square, Oban 12 noon onwards
Parade leaves Corran Halls at 1pm
Anyone taking part in the parade please be at Corran Halls by 12.45pm
For more information telephone Oban 562762

OBAN U3A
Tuesday 3 June at 10.30am
Studio Theatre and cafe area, Corran Halls, Oban
A warm welcome to members new and old for our monthly coffee and chat.
The Corran Halls benefits from having no stairs to climb and a hearing loop, enabling more members to participate

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FRIDAY 13th JUNE & SATURDAY 14th JUNE
CORRAN HALLS 7.30pm
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Farpais-cheist Taigh-seinnse
Gaelic Pub Quiz
Studio Theatre Bar, Corran Halls, Oban
Tuesday 3rd June at 7.30pm
£2 per person - Max 5 people per team
There will be a Gaelic speaker for each team

GARDEN PARTY
Happy House
Christian Pre School, Oban
Saturday, May 31
11am-2pm
At Happy House
Table Top Sale in Church Hall

To advertise in our community noticeboard call 01631 568000

new car index

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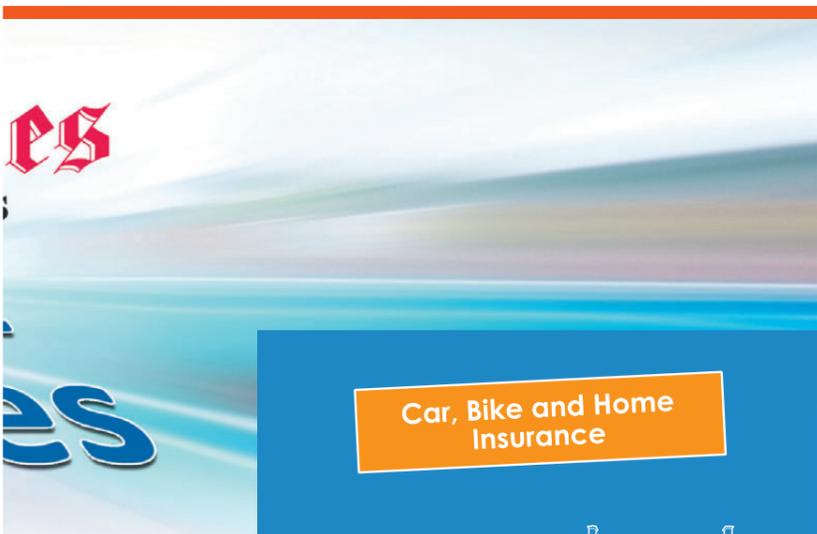
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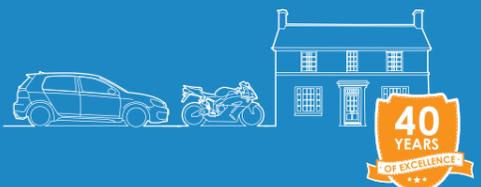
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Trees cause over £25 million damage to new homes

Over £25million of damage has been caused to new homes by trees over the last six years, according to figures released by NHBC.

The UK's leading warranty provider and standard setting body for new build homes is so concerned by the scale of the claims that it has today issued guidance to home owners advising them of the best practice when planting trees close to their homes.

The figures show that over £25million of claims were made by owners of new homes for damage to their property caused by trees between 2008 and 2013. Last year alone, NHBC paid out nearly £4million in claims following structural damage caused by trees.

As summer approaches, an NHBC guide offers practical advice to anyone thinking about planting new trees and shrubs or cutting back existing ones. Tips for homeowners include how to

calculate a suitable planting distance away from houses and where to go to check if the tree is protected.

Richard Tamayo, NHBC's Commercial Director, says: 'New greenery can create a more attractive garden as well as provide privacy and can help in reducing noise from a busy road. But roots and branches can also cause expensive damage to homes as our figures show.'

'When an established tree is removed or a new one is added, it can affect the moisture content of the surrounding soil. In clay soils, this can cause swelling of the ground or shrinkage. This movement can potentially result in damage to the house foundations due to subsidence or heave, particularly where the foundations have not been designed with trees in mind.'

'If the tree was added or removed before the house was sold by the builder, NHBC's Buildmark warranty



may provide protection. However, if the tree was removed or planted by the homeowner subsequently NHBC cannot provide cover and the household insurance may also not cover the damage.

'This is an ideal time of year to start planting trees and shrubs ahead of those lazy summer days in the garden. But anyone thinking about planting new trees or shrubs should spare a thought for their home and their neighbours by getting an expert opinion before planting.'

WANTED

Mature couple with well behaved family pet moving to the area to start new job require furnished accommodation to rent in Oban or within a 5 - 7 mile radius of the town.

Please contact 07814 599238

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Please contact call Laura Carmichael on 01631 565000 or email laura.carmichael@f4l.com.

REQUIRED

Bell Ingram 01631 566 122 bellingham.co.uk

Bell Ingram urgently need 2/3 bedroom properties in and around the Oban and North Argyll area for let. We have tenants waiting. Contact Jackie Moore on 01631 566122 jackie.moore@bellingham.co.uk

TO LET

COTTAGE FOR RENT

Situated in Morar close to the beach, this furnished 2-bedroom cottage is in excellent order and available for long term rental. £550 per calendar month. References will be requested. Contact tougallneil@aol.co.uk for further details / photographs / viewings.

AUCTION

AUCTION

The following are among 27 Lots to be offered for Sale by Auction in Glasgow on Tuesday 10th June 2014.

TOBERMORY - Five room flat requiring refurbishment on sea front overlooking harbour. EPC-G

ISLE of SEIL (Eilenabeich) - Vacant site extending to 0.78 acre.

SVA Property Auctions, 13 Great King Street, Edinburgh, EH3 6DW. Tel: (0131) 624 6660 E-mail: info@sva-auctions.co.uk www.sva-auctions.co.uk



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Build Your Own Business Website - Oban, 24 June
A full day workshop that will introduce you to the basic essentials of website design, how to make it findable attractive and usable. Basic PC skills required.

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- Financial Services
- IT

For further information on any of our services, or to arrange a no obligation chat contact either of our two specialists Barry Law or Andrew Cowling.

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public notices

www.highland.gov.uk
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997
PLANNING (LISTED BUILDING AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997
Reference Number Development Address Proposal Description
14/01149/FUL Bluebell Wood, Glenachulish, Ballachulish Erection of self catering accommodation

CROFTING COMMISSION
COIMISEAN NA CROITEARACHD
RECTIFICATION OF FIRST REGISTRATION OF COMMON GRAZINGS
The Crofting Commission have submitted a rectification since the registration of the following Common Grazings on the Crofting Register held by the Registers of Scotland.

Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence
Grafton Merchants GB Ltd trading as Grafton Merchants GB Ltd of Gemini One, 5520 John Smith Drive, Oxford Business Park, Cowley, Oxford, OX4 2LL is applying to change an existing licence as follows
To keep an extra 3 goods vehicles and 0 trailers at the operating centre at Lynn Road, Oban, PA34 4PH.

Scottish Power Renewables (UK) Ltd
ELECTRICITY ACT 1989 (SECTION 36)
THE ELECTRICITY WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT)(SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2000
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997
MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010
THE MARINE WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS 2007

PROPOSED ASSIGNMENT OF A CROFT
Eva Schonveld is applying to the Crofting Commission for consent to assign the tenancy of the croft at Croft 17, Howlin, Cleadale Crofting Township, Isle of Eigg to Angela Celia Bull of Croft 17, Howlin, Isle of Eigg, PH42 4RL.

Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence
Lachie Maclean trading as Argyll Haulage of Connel and Barcaldine etc operators licence number OM1007342 is applying to change an existing licence as follows: Change from Sole Trader to Partnership with son Donnie Maclean from Connel from Connel to use MRC Centre, Barcaldine as an operating centre for 3 goods vehicles and 2 trailers and Greenacre for two goods vehicles.

Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES
Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES
Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES

MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010
SUBSEA PIPELINE, MULL TO IONA
Notice is hereby given that Scottish Water has applied to the Scottish Ministers of the Scottish Government, under Part 4 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, in respect of a Subsea Pipeline from Mull to Iona:

Argyll Bute Council
PLANNING
These applications listed below together with other related documents may be inspected at Municipal Buildings Albany Street Oban PA34 4AW, Monday to Friday 9am to 12:30pm and 1:30pm to 5pm. On Wednesdays, the Customer Service Points will open at 10am. At the alternative locations detailed below or by logging on to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk.

CROFTING COMMISSION
COIMISEAN NA CROITEARACHD
DECROFTING DIRECTION ISSUED
Name, Croft, Extent/Reason, Conditions, Case number
D J Fairlie
4 Kintallen, North Knapdale 0.039 ha - Croft house site and garden ground 4.85.47684
Conditions: 1a, 2

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
FOR ARGYLL ANIMAL AID REGISTERED CHARITY SCO13211
TO BE HELD AT 7.30PM
ON WEDNESDAY 18TH JUNE 2014
AT THE HIGH SCHOOL, SOROBA ROAD, OBAN
PLEASE BRING YOUR CURRENT MEMBERSHIP CARD

CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982
TAXI FARE REVIEW
Notice is hereby given that Argyll and Bute Council in terms of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 have fixed the maximum fares for taxis operating within the jurisdiction of Argyll and Bute Council. These maximum fares will become effective from 9th June 2014.

FIRST REGISTRATION OF A CROFT
Mr Ian Jordan has registered his croft 2 Kilvaree, Archattan & Muckairn on the Crofting Register held by the Registers of Scotland.

Notice is hereby given that Scottish Power Renewables (UK) Ltd, (Business Address: Cathcart Business Park, Spean Street, Glasgow, G44 4GB, and Company Registration Number: NI028425) has applied to the Scottish Ministers for consent to construct and operate an offshore demonstration tidal energy array within the Sound of Islay (central grid reference 143683E 667551N). The installed capacity of the proposed generating station would be 10 MW, comprising of 10 turbines. This application is to amend the consent awarded to Scottish Power Renewables (UK) Ltd by the Scottish Ministers in March 2011.

Soiling Charge - £100 maximum (with permission to display warning signs indicating that there may be an additional charge for any potential loss of earnings suffered as a consequence)
Waiting Time - 35 pence per minute commencement of journey, charged on a pro rata basis per second
Taxi called by means of telephone - 30 pence additional charge
Large Mini-bus type vehicle (carrying 5 or more passengers together at their own request)-

PUBLIC NOTICES
Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES

Taynuilt Sports Council
AGM
on Thursday 12th June, at 7.30 in the new sports pavilion. All welcome.

NOTICE OF ELECTION
One Councillor is to be elected for the Oban North Et Lorn Ward of Argyll and Bute Council.
Name of Ward Number of Councillors to be elected
Oban North Et Lorn 1
Nomination forms can be obtained from The Election Office, Council Offices, Kilmory, Lochgilphead, Argyll PA31 8RT between the hours of 10.00 am and 4.00 pm Monday to Friday after the date of this notice, but not later than 4.00 pm on Monday 16 June 2014.

THE ARGYLL AND BUTE, LAND AT CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, TYNRIBBIE, APPIN, ARGYLL
TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NO. 01/14
The above Authority under Section 160 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 has made a Tree Preservation Order which takes effect on 23rd May 2014 and hereby gives notice that:-

Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland
Fifth Reviews of Electoral Arrangements
Public consultation on proposed councillor numbers
We have published our proposals for councillor numbers for each of Scotland's 32 councils, for public consultation until 21 August 2014. Our proposals can be inspected on our website www.lgbc-scotland.gov.uk or at any of our display points throughout Scotland (usually local council offices or libraries).

Referendum Debate
30th May, 7.30pm
The Hall, Taynuilt
Mary Ann Kennedy
Arthur Cormack
Michael Russell
Graeme Pagan

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Young Person's Worker (Argyll and Bute) (Part time)
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 £20,797 - £26,860 pro rata

This post is a key position within Who Cares? Scotland and will work directly with children and young people with experience of care, carrying out an advocacy role by listening to what they say in order to support them and speak out on behalf of them. The post holder will place young people at the heart of everything they do to help them live a positive life now and to reach their full potential in the future.

The right candidate will be educated to HNC/SVQ 3 level or equivalent, with experience of working directly with children and young people, both individually and in groups. A commitment to children's rights and working in partnership with young people is essential for this post, as is the ability to work flexibly and form positive and effective relationships.

For further information on the post please visit our website www.whocarescotland.org/vacancies

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If you like the sound of growing your sales career, email your CV to chris_haran@nfumutual.co.uk or call 01631 567 036 for more information. Closing date: 6th June 2014.

Please note you'll be employed by an Agent of NFU Mutual and not by NFU Mutual directly.

SENIOR REPORTER
 Fort William

Based in our Fort William office we are inviting applications for a senior reporter.

As the position will be based in Fort William, knowledge of the area would be an advantage. Financial assistance for accommodation where relevant may be available for the first three months.

We offer a good, competitive salary
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The successful candidate must possess

- First class customer service skills
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- The successful candidate will also be highly driven, energetic, and disciplined with a critical eye for retail.

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Send your CV(s) to:
 The Managers, Bridge of Orchy Hotel, Bridge of Orchy, Argyll, PA36 4AD
managers@bridgeoforchy.co.uk www.bridgeoforchy.co.uk

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Cooke AQUACULTURE SCOTLAND

Formerly Meridian Salmon Farms (Smolts), Cooke Aquaculture Scotland Ltd is a leading company in the Scottish Salmon Industry producing exceptionally high quality products for a demanding market.

We are seeking an exceptional candidate for the role of Farm Manager at our freshwater production facility at Furnace, Argyll. A highly motivated individual, you will have a minimum of ten years' experience in freshwater production management and a working knowledge of recirculation systems. In addition to being an excellent communicator, you should have strong leadership skills and strategic planning ability.

If you would like to discuss this position further or make application, please contact:
violet.mcdougall@cookeaquaculture.com
 Closing date is Friday 6th June.

ACHA
 argyll community housing association

Housing and Neighbourhood Services Assistant
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 35 hours per week

Fixed Term to 31st March 2015

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If you cannot access the website please contact the recruitment team:
Tel 01546 605917 or email recruitment@acha.co.uk
Closing Date: 12 noon on Friday 6th June 2014
Interviews for this post will be held during June 2014.

Part Time Sales/Marketing

A position has become available at Fit4Less Gym for a part time sales/marketing person. 20 hours per week. Basic rate pay + commission and bonuses. Sales/marketing experience preferable but not essential as full training will be provided. Candidates must be enthusiastic and enjoy working as part of a team. Immediate start. Please send CV's to laura.carmichael@F4l.com.

FULL TIME GENERAL LABOURER/ FORESTRY WORKER

A vacancy has arisen to assist in our Forestry and Maintenance Departments and the Game Department during stalking and shooting seasons.

The successful applicant must have a chainsaw certificate and full driving licence (to include pulling trailers) and it would be preferable if certificates for ATV, spraying and brush cutting were also held. Experience in operating a tractor and other machinery essential.

For further information please contact Willy Inglis at Islay Estates Company on 01496 810221 or willy@islayestates.com

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How did you travel?

Staff are required for travel surveys in Fort William from 14th to 17th June. Staff must be active and methodical. Various shifts available. Payment £7.75/hr. See www.mhtc.co.uk to apply.

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Please apply with full CV and covering letter to Alison Arden, Wyvex Media Ltd, Crannog Lane, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB or email: ali@wyvexmedia.co.uk

The Oban Times **Campbeltown** **Argyllshire** **THE ARRAN BANNER**

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 F. G. Paterson, Practice Manager,
 JC + IM Duncan, Campbeltown Dental Centre, Ralston Road, Campbeltown.

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For a full job description contact jane@dunollie.org or ring the office on Tel: 01631570550

Closing date 8th June 2014
 Dunollie Projects Ltd, North Wing, Dunollie House, Oban, PA34 5TT

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We are looking for a highly organised individual with excellent communication skills to join the team at BID4Oban LTD.

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For more information and details on how to apply please contact Shona at the BID4OBAN office, 15 Lochside Street, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HP Tel 01631 569915

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Farming

Countdown to Royal Highland Show 2014

'Exceptional' event planned

WITH entries now closed for a number of competitions at this year's Royal Highland Show, organisers say nearly 7,000 animals will be making their way to Edinburgh from all over the country.

Starting on June 19 and running over four days, the Royal Highland Show, a supporter of the Homecoming Scotland 2014 celebrations, is preparing for an 'exceptional' show with entry numbers up across dairy cattle, sheep, dairy goats and horse sections.

The Highland Hall will cater for almost 1,000 beef and dairy cattle and just shy of 1,900 sheep will fill the five marquee sections located in the north of the showground.

Sheep entry numbers are up by 100 to reach an eight-year high, with two breeds of particular note being Beltex with 231 entries, up by 21 and Hebridean with 77 entries up by 38.

According to Chief Steward of sheep James Cullens, the numbers reflect trends in the industry.

He said: 'The Beltex is a breed that's been around for a while now, but in recent times it has become more suited to the British landscape, hence its popularity.'

'In terms of the Hebridean, it's a slightly niche breed, but no doubt about it, it's starting to tick boxes and is becoming well known. The fact that the breeders tend to be really enthusiastic helps the breed immensely.'

Reinforcing the Royal Highland Show's positioning as Scotland's largest equestrian event, horse entries have again increased on last year across both the heavy and light horse sections, up by 102 entries to 1,713, with the Mounted and Moorland Ridden classes dominating with 212

entries. The Coloured Horse section has seen a significant jump - up by 33 to 178.

In cattle, Limousins that will dominate the cattle hall at 123 entries, up by 21 on 2013.

Scottish breed entries in the cattle section have also seen a rise, with both Belted Galloway and Highland entries up to 28 and 95 respectively, giving their judges, Douglas Crighton and Angus MacColl, a wealth of quality stock from which to choose winners.

The Aberdeen Angus section, which this year has 88 entries, will be judged by Albert de Cogan from County Cork.

Mr de Cogan's senior bull just scooped the top honours in Aberdeen-Angus rings at the Balmoral Show.

Stephen Hutt, chief executive of RHASS, said: 'The numbers speak for themselves and reflect the widely held view that the Highland is the place to exhibit, and hopefully, win.'

'And winning is no mean feat, with the very best calibre of livestock on show. The equine numbers are also up with the cream of UK in hand and ridden horses and ponies coming to compete. The Royal Highland Show 2014 is shaping up to be an outstanding year.'

Entries:
Beef Cattle 955 (967):
Shorthorn 105 (111), Angus 88 (101), Galloway 16 (24), Belted Galloway 28 (27), Highland 95 (84), Hereford 33 (48), Charolais 87 (73), Simmental 87 (73), Limousin 123 (102), Blonde 35 (43), British Blue 60 (84), Salers 22 (32), Commercial 76 (62), Beef Breeder 83 (80), Young Handlers 17 (26)

Dairy Cattle 120 (117):
Ayrshire/ Red and White 26/8(22/11), Holstein 47(47), Jersey 18(14), Shorthorn 21 (23)

Sheep 1862 (1762): Blackface 94(98), Nce 93(88), Nce Hill 55(52), Border Leicester 44(45), Suffolk 90(76), Cheviot 38(30), Bluefaced Leicester 111(107), Jacob 59(59), Texels 189(206), Ryeland 53(56), Charollais 69(78), Shetland 111(112), Rouge 22(31), Berrichon 24(25), Scotch Mule 73(63), Beltex 231 (210), Lley 36(51), Hebridean 77(38), Bleu Du Maine 29(39), Hampshire Down 52(42), Swaledale 55(44), Commercial 80(69), Zwartbles 85(70), North of England Mule 48(35), Young Handlers 44(38)

Dairy goats 107(121): Adults 107(121), Kids 47(47), Milking 33(31), Pygmy 8(7), Goat Young Handlers 13

Heavy horses 355 (341): Clydesdale Male 35(39), Clydesdale Female 94(72), Highlands Male 56(55), Highlands Female 95(104), Shetlands 75(71)

Light horses 1713 (1611): Hunters in Hand 60(57) Hunters under saddle 133(139) Highland Ponies under saddle 75(69) M&M Lead Rein & 1st ridden 74(45) M&M under saddle 212(210) In hand riding ponies 28(30) Hunter Pony Breeding 23(17) Eriskay Cancelled

M&M In Hand (2012 excl connemaras) 43 (46), Welsh A 85 (88), Welsh B 40 (39), Welsh C 25 (35), Welsh D 49 (46), Arabs etc under saddle 42 (34), Arabs etc in hand 73 (74), Ridden Ponies 39 (29), Lead Rein & 1st Ridden 17 (18), Working Hunter Ponies 121 (98), Open Show Ponies 45 (53), Riding Horses 36 (53), Coloureds 178 (145), Side Saddle 23 (20) Donkeys 20 (18), Ridden Clydesdales 18 (18), Sport Horse 55 (52), M&M Workers 114 (95), Connemara in Hand 34 (33), Show Hunter Pony LR & 1st Pony 23 (19), Retraining of Racehorses 28 (17).



Entries are up in this year's Royal Highland Show, notably in the Beltex sheep class, which was a winner for Alasdair Maclean of Heylipoil Farm, Tiree, in last year's show.

Market report

FORT William, Dingwall and Highland Marts Limited (May 23) sold 173 store cattle, 31 OTM cattle, 10 adult head of breeding cattle, and 374 sheep.

Bullocks (91) averaged 233.5p and sold to 280p per kilo for a pen of 350kg Charollais crosses from Moy Farm, Banavie, and £1100 gross for a British Blue cross from Balmagaster, Spean Bridge.

Heifers (82) averaged 216.2p and sold to 281.7p per kilo for a pair of 355kg Shorthorn crosses from Burnbank, Isle of Canna, and £1120 gross for a pair of 445kg Simmental crosses from Moy Farm.

OTM cows (30) averaged 98.2p and sold to 122.1p per kilo for a 565kg Luing from Isle of Muck Farms, and £810 gross for a 665kg Blonde D'Aquitaine from Borlum Farm, Fort Augustus.

OTM bulls (one) sold to 98p per kilo and £970 gross for a 990kg Charollais from Ardtornish Farms, Oban.

Breeding cattle (10) sold to £1,250 gross for a Shorthorn cross with male calf at foot from Fersit, Roy Bridge.

Store lambs (95) sold to £84 gross for Blackfaces from Hillside Farm, Kilchoan.

Ewes with lambs at foot (72) sold to £135 gross twice for Cross ewes with twin Suffolk cross

lambs and Cheviot ewes with twin Suffolk cross lambs, both from Balmagaster, Spean Bridge.

Feeding ewes (191) sold to £65 gross for Cheviots from Isle of Muck Farms. Feeding rams & widders (16) sold to £75 gross twice for Cheviot widders from Ardnamurchan Estates, and Cheviot rams from Strone Farm, Banavie. A strong ringside of buyers from England to Orkney, resulted in a firm trade.

Other leading prices per head & per kilo:
Bullocks up to 200kg - Insh Farm, Spean Bridge, £440, 244.4p; 201-250kg - Insh Farm, £650, 260p; 251-300kg - Keil Farm, Ardgour, £770, 9 Braecara, Morar, 276.9p; 301-350kg - Moy Farm, £980, Balmagaster, 265.7p; 351-400kg - Moy Farm, £980, 254.6p; 401-500kg - Balmagaster, £940, 231.6p.

Heifers up to 200kg - Strone Farm, £500, Culmill, Kiltarlity, 259.5p; 201-250kg - Burnbank, £640, 256p; 251-300kg - Moy Farm, £800, 280.7p; 301-350kg - Isle of Muck, £860, 264.6p; 351-400kg - Burnbank, £1000, 264.9p; 401-500kg - Moy Farm, £940, 251.7p.

Other leading prices per head:
Cows with male calf at foot: LimX - Insh Farm, £1220.
Cows with heifer calf at foot:

ShoX - Fersit, £1100; LimX - Fersit, £950.

In calf cows: ShoX - 6 Braecara, £880. Breeding bull: Sim - Keppoch Farm, £1550; Lim - Knock Farm, Isle of Mull, £1400.

OTM prime & feeding cows: Borlum Farm, (BAX), £750; Ardtornish Farms, (SimX), £730; Isle of Muck Farms, (Lu), £690.

Other leading prices per kilo
OTM prime & feeding cows: Borlum Farm, (BAX), 121.8p; Ardtornish Farms, (SimX), 121.7p; Isle of Canna, (ShoX), 111.3p.

Other leading prices per head
Lambs: BF - 5 Treslaig, Fort William, £77, Hillside Farm, Kilchoan, £71; Cross - Arisaig Farms, £76, 5 Treslaig, £72.

Ewes with lambs at foot: SuffX ewe - Meall Mo Chridhe, Kilchoan, £122; Cross ewe - Meall Mo Chridhe, £120, Chev ewe - Achateny, Acharraclie, £120.

Feeding sheep: Ewes: Cross - Mamore, Fort William, £64; Chev - 13 Peinchorran, Portree, £63, Altdarroch, Kinlochellie, £60, Isle of Muck Farms, and Strone Farm, £59; BF - Achindaul, Spean Bridge, £61, Keppoch Farms, £58, Arisaig Farms, £54. Rams & widders: BF ram - 5 Treslaig, £70; Chev ram - 6 Easter Mandally, Invergarry, £64; BF wdr - 4 Glebehill, Kilchoan, £61, 9 Braecara, £55.

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Yamaha acoustic guitar in good condition. Built in tuner, new strings, comes with padded gig bag. In Oban.

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Share your celebrations with **The Oban Times** & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES in our Announcements Section

Share your celebrations with our announcements adverts - starting next week!

5x2 colour ads with artwork, a photo and your own personal message.

Let everyone know about an engagement, birthday, anniversary or new arrival in your family!

Call us now to book your space!

ONLY £25 + VAT

Michael and Sophie got engaged on 1st January

Both families are delighted to announce the recent engagement of Michael and Sophie. Congratulations from all family and friends.

Annie Birthday: 25th January

Look who's all grown up! Happy 21st birthday! Have a brilliant day. Lots of love from all the family xxx

Pauline Born: 9th January 2014

Bob and Lesley are delighted to announce the safe arrival of baby Pauline, a little sister for Susie and Gillian.

call us today on 01631 568000

BIRTHS

FERGUSON - John and Saffron are delighted to announce the arrival of Cora Lucy on March 25, 2014. A little sister for Donald, Torin and grand-daughter for Barbara and Malcolm, Glasgow and Beith and Ann and the late Donnie, Kilmore, Oban.

DEATHS

BRECHIN - Peacefully after a short illness, with her family by her side, at the Mid Argyll Hospital, on May 22, 2014, Margaret Brechin, nee Paterson, in her 88th year, of Upper Largin Farm, Kilmartin, beloved wife of Gordon, much loved mother of Marion, Robert and Gordon and cherished grandmother of Sara, Cameron and Sinclair. A much respected mother-in-law of Shona and a dear sister, aunt and cousin to all the family. Funeral service was held in Kilmartin Parish Church, on Wednesday, May 28, 2014, followed by interment at Achnabreac Cemetery. Sadly missed.

CRAWFORD - Peacefully at home, after a long illness borne bravely, on May 26, 2014, Don Crawford, aged 91 years, of Myrtlecrest, Kilduskland Road, Ardriahig, beloved husband of Catherine, much loved dad of Archie, Donald and Karen and adored papa of Holly, John, Kelly and Ryan. A much respected father-in-law of Julie and Johnny and a good neighbour and dear friend to many. Funeral service will be held in Ardriahig Parish Church, on Friday, May 30 at 12.00 noon, thereafter to Achnabreac Cemetery. Flowers or donations, if desired, to Ardriahig Parish Church. All friends are respectfully invited to attend.

DUNCAN - Duncan MacNab Duncan retired firefighter from Bridgend, Islay passed away on May 21, 2014. Together again with his beloved wife Anne, who died last month. They are both missed more than words can say by Peter, Bonnie and Jennie; David, Michelle, Emilie and Daniel. Funeral service to be held at Glasgow (Maryhill) Crematorium at 1.30pm on Tuesday June 3 to which all family and friends are respectfully invited. "Thig crìoch air an t-saoghal, ach mairidh gaol is ceòl."

GALBRAITH - It is with great sadness that we announce the sudden passing of James Galbraith aged 85 at Lorn & Islands Hospital, Oban. Husband of the late Joan Galbraith and partner of Joey Duncan. Father of Christine, Valerie, Colin and the late James, father-in-law of David, Rhona and Sue, papa to Gordon, Brian, Andy, Nicola, Christopher, Heidi, Callum and Jenna and great grampa to Harvey James. A dear brother, uncle and friend to many. Funeral to be held at Oban Parish Church on Thursday May 29 at 1.30 pm. Dearly loved and sadly missed.

MACLEOD - Peacefully, on May 24, 2014 at the Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban, aged 85 years, Duncan, 10 Shuna Terrace, Oban, loving and much loved husband of Doreen, dearly loved and loving dad to Gillian and Hilary and Papa to Duncan, Iain and Luca. He will be very sorely missed. Funeral will take place on Friday, May 30, 2014 at Oban Parish Church at 10.00 a.m. A private cremation will follow. Family flowers only. Donations if desired, will be taken for Cancer Research UK and Argyll Animal Aid.

MACDONALD - Suddenly on Monday May 12 at Glasgow Royal Infirmary, John (Johnnie) MacDonald, a much loved son to Johan and the late Calum MacDonald and much loved brother and brother-in-law, nephew and cousin to the family.

MUNRO - As a result of a tragic accident on the May 17, 2014, Iain Munro of the Isle of Gometra, aged 61 years. Loving husband, father and grandfather. Dear son, brother and uncle. Greatly missed by all. Funeral service was held at Salen Parish Church, Isle of Mull on Tuesday May 27, 2014, and interment on the Isle of Gometra.

NICOLL - Peacefully, at the Kintyre Care Home, Campbeltown, on Friday, May 23, 2014, John Nicoll, in his 89th year, retired Chief Inspector of the SPCA and SSPCA, beloved husband of the late Christina (Christie) Bateman, dearly beloved father of Evelyn and Yvonne, father-in-law of Danny and Phil, much loved granddad of Elaine, Jennifer and Grace and loving great-granddad of Ross, Gareth, Cameron and Amelie. A service will take place in Falkirk Crematorium, on Friday, May 30, 2014 at 1.30pm, to which all friends are respectfully invited.

STEWART - Peacefully at the Lynn of Lorne Care Home, Benderloch, on May 22, 2014, in her 83rd year, Isobel, daughter of the late Duncan and Kate MacFarlane, sister of Flora and the late Cathy, dearest wife of the late James Stewart and beloved mother of Gordon and the late Norma. Funeral will take place at Oban Parish Church on Monday June 2, at 1.30 pm. Thereafter to Pennyfarth Cemetery. Retiring collection/donations if desired for Alzheimer's Scotland.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

BANFIELD - Helen, Helena, James and family of the late Peter, wish to say thank you to Dr Wilmington and members of the Ballachulish Medical Centre, local medical staff, ambulance crews, Scott of John McLellan for his attentive funeral arrangements, Leslie Simpson for her Humanist Service and two special friends Mavis and Keith and other friends and relatives for cards. Donations in excess of £400 will be divided between Macmillan Nurses and National Police Memorial Trust.

GOURLAY - Cameron, Marion, Sandra, Isabel and Norma and all their families wish to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for their support, messages and cards following the very sad loss of our mum, Sadie. We would like to thank Port Appin Surgery, Oban Hospital, Eader Glinn Residential Home, all carers involved throughout mum's long and drawn out illness. To Rev Dugald Cameron for a lovely service in Appin Parish Church and at the graveside. To Catriona MacKenzie, organist, for her music. Thanks to Duncan Gunn for the professional and efficient arrangements. Heartfelt thanks to the ladies of the Appin Community for their fantastic presentation of refreshments and buffet to an exceptional standard. Thanks to Thursday Club for including mum at all times which she thoroughly enjoyed. Thanks also to the Royal Bank of Scotland travelling bank and their staff for all the friendly and thoughtful service over a long number of years. A special thanks to Jane and Campbell MacLean, Alison Gourlay and Alastair Fraser for their valuable and attentive assistance given to our mum during her long illness which she appreciated very very much.

HUTCHISON - The family of the late Marion Hutchison would like to thank everyone for the very many kind words of sympathy, encouragement and support following her recent sudden passing. The amount of cards and personal messages has been overwhelming and of great comfort to all the family. Sincere thanks to Rev David Caruthers for such a beautiful and poignant service, to Donald MacDonald Funeral Directors for their highly professional and helpful services, and to all who were able to attend the funeral. Thanks also to The Stag Hotel for refreshments and catering and to The Flower Shop for the beautiful floral tributes. Many thanks to Owen Duff and Malky MacDonald of the ambulance service for their very swift reaction and professionalism. Dr Sloane for attendance and to PC Tom Campbell for all his assistance and comforting words. A special thanks for the work by the staff of Glenary Ward, Mid Argyll Hospital during her stay earlier in the year and to all the care team who assisted on her return home. Finally, a special thanks to all her friends and neighbours who have been so kind and attentive over the years, and in particular the residents of High Bank Park who have been immense. A collection was held at the funeral service and donated to Lochgilphead Parish Church Funds.

KYNOCH - Ann, Laura, Julie & Sarah would like to extend sincere gratitude to everyone who has supported them since the loss of Graeme as well as during his brief period of illness. In particular Erik Jespersen, Ruth Maclean and Hillary Brown and her team for their faultless care and attention, Hamish Hoey & Sons for their exceptional service, Rev Christine Fulcher for a beautiful service, visitors who ensured we had enough supplies of shortbread, baking and company and to all family and friends who travelled from near and so far to pay their last respects and contribute in person at the funeral. The collection raised in excess of £800 for Spina Bifida and Macmillan Cancer Care - a fantastic testament to Graeme.

MACDONALD - Johan and family, Killin would like to thank all relations, friends and neighbours for all cards, flowers and support given after the sad loss of Johnnie. Special thanks to ICU unit Glasgow Royal for their care and support. Andy and Ross Anderson for funeral arrangements help and support. Rev John Lincoln for his uplifting service. Kevin Cameron for the organ and fiddle music and friends and relatives who travelled from near and far.

MEMORIALS
OBAN MEMORIALS
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Master Sculptors
Glenalma, Soroba Road, Oban
Design and prices on request
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DONE IN ANY CEMETERY
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MEMORIALS

BRYARS - Craig 9/11/78 - 3/6/03 Missed and remembered every day.
- Mam, Dad, Darin and family.
CAMPBELL - Remembering our treasured mum Joey Miller, who passed away May 29, 1987.
Memories most precious - Love Avril and John.
CURRIE - In loving memory of our dad Archie who passed away June 1, 1998.
No tears no words can ever say
How much we love and miss you everyday.
- Mairi.
- Allan, Gillian and family.

GILLIES
In loving memory of our mum and daughter Tina, who was taken from us June 1, 2000. Our hearts still ache in sadness and secret tears still flow
For what it was to lose you nobody will ever know.
- Mum, John and Charlene.
KING - Frances, who died May 31, 2010.
- 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, Helen and James and the rest of the family.
MACCALLUM - In loving memory of Jane (Jean) who passed away on May 21, 2013. We mention your name and speak of you often
God bless you dear mother
You are not forgotten.
All our love.
- Neil, Kate, Laura, Cameron and Helen

MACCORQUODALE - Precious memories of our mum Fiona, taken from us May 30, 2000.
No one knows how much we miss you
No one knows the bitter pain we have
Suffered since we lost you, life has
Never been the same. In our hearts
Your memory lingers, sweetly tender,
Fond and true. There is not a day
Mum that we do not think of you
Love forever and always.
- Ewan and Kenny xxx
My Darling Fiona,
Softly the leaves of memory fall
Gently I gather and treasure them all
Unseen, unheard, you are always near
So missed, so loved, so very dear
Loved always.
- Mum xx

MACCORQUODALE - Treasured memories of our sister, sister-in-law and aunt, Fiona taken from us suddenly May 30, 2000, aged 34 years.
No farewell words were spoken
No time to say goodbye
You were gone before we knew it
And only God can tell us why
It broke our hearts to lose you
But you didn't go alone
For part of us went with you
The day God called you home
Forever in our hearts.
- Iain, Diane, Iain and Rowan xxx

MACINTYRE - Fondly remembering Angus, died May 26, 1986 and Kenny, May 30, 1999.
There are now many in the extended family who never knew you, but we try to tell them of the fortitude, the love and sheer fun you both brought to us all.
- Angus, Lorn, Eric and the family.
MACINTYRE - Loving memories of Kenny who died May 30, 1999.
Fifteen years on and you continue to sustain and inspire us and future generations.
We remember your humour, passion and ability to lift others.
Always in our hearts and thoughts.
- Elizabeth, Kenny, Colin and families.

MACKAY - Remembering with love and pride my darling wife, Rosemarie (Rosie), died May 30, 2012.
"Mo Chaoin Chailin"
- Jackie.
MACKAY - In loving memory of our mum and granny, Rosie MacKay died May 30, 2012.
God saw you getting tired
And a cure was not to be.
So he put his arms around you
And whispered "Come to Me"
A golden heart stopped beating
Hard working hands now rest.
God broke our Hearts to prove to us
He only takes the best.
- Jacqueline, Angela, Scott and Families.
MACKEY - Rosie A lovely sister-in-law who died May 30, 2012.
Still miss you.
- Love Iona.
MACKEY - Rosie
Silent thoughts of times together
Hold memories that will last forever
- From Caroline, Robert, Carol, Claire and families.
MACLEAN - In loving memory of our dear father, grandfather and great-grandfather, John Keith MacLean (Jonaks), who died on May 27, 1996, late of Achnachullan Croft, Easdale. A cattle-man deep in his heart
Of our land he was a part
Those strong ties will never part.
In loving memory of our dear father.
- Love from Ronald and Iain.
McGUNIGAL - In loving memory of our beloved son Sandy McGunigal, who died May 23, 2010.
Remembering you is easy
We do it everyday
It's the heartache of losing you that never goes away.
Love always.
- Mam, dad, sisters, nieces and nephews.
MCKERRELL - In loving memory of a dear brother and brother-in-law Donald, who passed away May 29, 2013.
Forever in our minds.
- Sarah and Jim, Kilbarchan.
O'NEILL - In loving memory of George a dear husband, dad, grampa and great grampa, who died May 31, 2013.
In our hearts you are always there
Loved and remembered every day.
- Chrissie, Martin, Maureen and Brian.
REID - Remembering our mum, mother-in-law and granny Vera who left us on May 21, 2013 and also our father, father-in-law and papa Willie who died on May 7, 2011.
Always in our thoughts
Forever in our hearts.
- Willie, Lorna, Tracey and family x

CHARITY DONATIONS

Oban Hospice
CARING FOR THE FUTURE
Donations always gratefully accepted
Please contact
Jack Tollan
Birch Hill
Achnacreebeag
North Connel, PA37 1RE

WE ARE MACMILLAN. CANCER SUPPORT
Working towards a time when every person in Scotland has equal and ready access to the best information, treatment and care for cancer
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North Avenue, Clydebank
Business Park, Clydebank G81 2DR
Tel 0808 100 6000
In memory of Dawn Joyce

CANCER RESEARCH UK
Fighting Cancer on all fronts...
CRC Scotland spends more on research than any other organisation
Commitment of over £15 million each year
Cancer Research UK
Angel Building
407 St John Street
London EC1V 4AD

MARIE CURIE CANCER CARE
Oban & Lorn Fundraising Branch
Donations always gratefully accepted
Please contact
Mrs Lillian Kernode
Tynwald, Glenburn,
Soroba Road, Oban
01631 571009

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No time to say goodbye
You were gone before we knew it
And only God can tell us why
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But you didn't go alone
For part of us went with you
The day God called you home
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- Iain, Diane, Iain and Rowan xxx

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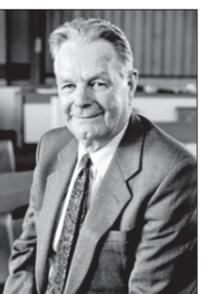
CHURCH NOTICES

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH ANGLICAN COMMUNION
Sunday 8 June 2014
Pentecost
St John's Cathedral, Oban
Holy Communion..... 08:00
Sung Eucharist..... 10:15
Children's Corner
Loop System
Large Print Hymn Books
All Welcome
Nicki McNelly, Provost.
(01631) 562323
St James, Ardbrecknish, Cladich
Holy Eucharist..... 11:00
St Columba, Gruline, Mull
Holy Communion..... 11:00
St Columba, Bishop's House, Iona
Holy Eucharist..... 08:00
Evensong 20:15
Holy Eucharist.....
..... Wed 4 June 14:30

Obituary

Neil McKechnie MBE (November 19, 1919 - May 10, 2014)

NEIL McKechnie, who has died aged 94, made his mark on communities across Scotland before settling in the Highlands in 1969 on becoming head teacher of Dingwall Primary School.
In retirement he continued to channel prodigious amounts of energy into numerous organisations until he was well into his eighties.
The youngest of a family of six, Neil McKechnie (Niall Dhombhuill Eoghainn, as he was known locally) was born at Kenway, Tiree. He was educated at Cornaigmore before going to Oban High School and Glasgow University.



His studies in Glasgow were interrupted when he volunteered for war service in 1941. He trained at Dregghon Barracks, Edinburgh, in Cornwall and in Wales before going on active service to Cairo, Tobruk and Sicily. He survived the ferocious Battle of Monte Cassino in central Italy in 1944, which led to the capture of Rome by the Allied forces.
After the war he began teacher training at Jordanhill College and qualified to teach Maths, Science and Gaelic. His first post was at Port Ellen on Islay, where he resurrected the island's Provincial Mod. He moved a few miles along the road to Bowmore in 1949 to teach Maths.
Mainland posts would take him to Crookston Castle, Glasgow, and Tomintoul, then in remotest Banffshire but nowadays in Moray. But the call of the islands was strong and he went to Bunessan, Mull, as head teacher in 1956. Here he was an elder, session clerk and treasurer of his local church.
In 1959, by then married with two young girls, he moved to the Borders to become head of Newcastle Secondary School. After leaving land from the Forestry Commission he began courses in forestry, including the planting and felling of trees and renovation of cottages within the grounds.
A three-year stint followed at Melrose Grammar School before moving, in 1965, to Whithorn, where he was a member of the Town Council and Senior Bailie. His last teaching post was at Dingwall, from which he retired in 1984.
That marked the start of a new and exceedingly busy life. No

sooner had he retired than he was elected to Ross and Cromarty District Council, where he was chairman of the Leisure Services Committee. In 1986 his local authority workload effectively doubled when he was elected to Highland Regional Council, where he was for six years vice-chairman of the Education Committee. This dual role continued until he stood down ten years later.
Val MacIver, a past chair of the education committee, said: 'Neil had a deep understanding of education in rural areas and how to deliver the service. I was very fortunate to have the benefit of his knowledge and experience. He was superb in everything he did and he also had that rare ability to take people with him.'
Other bodies which benefited from his wisdom and experience included Ross and Cromarty Enterprise (part of Highlands and Islands Enterprise), on which he served for seven years; the National Trust for Scotland Council; Ross and Cromarty

Heritage Society (chairman); Ross-shire Council of Voluntary Service (president) and The Puffin Pool, a charity which raised large sums of money to establish a hydrotherapy pool in Dingwall in the 1990s.
He was also instrumental in setting up Feis Rois, which has led to a massive upsurge in music, song and Gaelic culture among the area's young people. From around 50 youngsters at the inaugural event in Ullapool in 1986, Feis Rois attendance is now in the hundreds, and still growing. As well as being president of An Comunn Gaidhealach, he was on the first Gaelic Television Committee in the 1990s. He was appointed MBE for service to the community in Ross and Cromarty.

For many years Neil McKechnie was an elder and session clerk at Castle Street Church, Dingwall, where his funeral service was held. The service included a powerful singing of the hymn, "Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah", which had made a great impression on the young McKechnie when it was sung by thousands of soldiers at the Colosseum in Rome after the Battle of Monte Cassino, when they were addressed by General Sir Harold Alexander.
Neil McKechnie married, in 1951, Ann McNiven, a teaching colleague from Islay. They had two daughters, Fiona and Helen. Ann died, aged 80, in 2006 after 55 years of marriage. In due course Neil married the former Jessie MacKinnon, who hails from Skye. She survives him, as do Fiona and Helen, five grandchildren and a step-daughter.

Niall MacEacharna, Ceannuidhe a' Chomuinn Gaidhealach (1981-1985)

'S e duine air leth gasta, coibhneil a bh'ann an Niall MacEacharna a chaochail air 10mh Ceitean aig aois 94.
'S ann a Thiriodh a bha Niall 's bha meas mor aig a h-uile duine b'athine dha air an deagh eileanach seo a choisinn cliu mar Gaidheal ainmeil a bha na mhaighstir-sgoile comasach (mu dheireadh na cheannair air bun-sgoil Inbhir Pheofharain), comhairliche soirbheachail a bha na iar-cheannuidhe air comataidh foghlaim aig Comhairle na Gaidhealtachd 's bha sas ann a leasachadh na Gaidhlig aig aire; 's bha na cheannuidhe adhartach 's dicheallach air a' Chomuinn Gaidhealach.
Bidh Gaidheil 's luchd-eòlais air fad ag innroindinn deagh charaid do mhoran, fìor Earragaidhealach 's duine anabarrach laghad.
Tha ar co-fhaireachdainn a' dol dha bhean, Seasaidh, an da nighean aice a' na teaghlach gu leir.
Domnachaidh Fearghasdan/Duncan Ferguson

Six cheques in six weeks for school

ST COLUMBA'S Primary School in Oban has been celebrating a welcome run of funding cheques arriving at the school.
Within six weeks six cheques totalling £3,900 have been received - three of them arriving on the same day - to help fund extra-curricular activities.
The school and parent council has been busy applying to organisations like Oban Lorn Lions Club, Argyll Beats Cardiovascular Disease (ABCD) and the Big Lotto for support.
This term the P1-3s have been going to Atlantis Leisure in the town for funky fun fit and swimming lessons, while the P4-7s have been to Stramash to take part in outdoor activities, including canoeing.
There is also the annual trip to Ardentinn Outdoor Education Centre in Dunoon where the P7s



St Columba's pupils celebrate funds donated to help them enjoy extra-curricular activities.

enjoy a week's stay. A spokesperson for the school said: 'The school is very thankful to all the organisations for the support they show.'

Historical wills of Scottish Soldiers go online to mark commemorations

THE WILLS of 31,000 Scottish soldiers are being made available online by the National Records of Scotland as part of commemorations of the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of the First World War.
The poignant documents include the last wishes of 26,000 ordinary Scottish soldiers who died in the Great War.
The records are drawn from all the Scottish infantry and cavalry regiments, as well as the Royal Artillery, Royal Army Medical Corps, Royal Army Service Corps, the Machine Gun Corps and other units, and a few who served in the Royal Flying Corps and the RAF.
Almost all the wills were written by soldiers below officer rank, but some wills for commissioned officers are also included.
In addition to the wills from the Great War,

there are almost 5,000 from Scots soldiers serving in all theatres during the Second World War, several hundred from the Boer War and Korean War, and wills from other conflicts between 1857 and 1964.
Tim Ellis, Registrar General and Keeper of the Records of Scotland, said: 'We are privileged to be marking the centenary of the start of the First World War by making these remarkable records available.
'They give us a unique insight into the service of Scottish soldiers during the First and Second World Wars, but also in other conflicts before and since.'
The Soldiers' Wills are available at www.ScotlandPeople.gov.uk at the ScotlandPeople Centre in Edinburgh and at local family history centres in Glasgow, Kilmarnock, Hawick and Inverness.

The Oban Times
& West Highland Times
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New kit for Oban Hockey Club

OBAN Hockey Club was pleased to receive its new kit last week.

For the first time in its three-year existence, the club now has a matching kit for both their ladies and men's adult teams.

The 30 shirts were kindly sponsored by Maurice Lockhart and Son (for the ladies kit) and Anderson Banks (for the men's).

Gordon Seaton from Anderson Banks and Mark Lockhart from Maurice Lockhart and Son attended the start of the annual Oban Hockey 7s tournament, at Mossfield on May 17, to present

the kit officially to Oban Hockey Club. The kit will have plenty of chances to be shown off in the next season: both teams will be entering the cup, and there will be a series of friendlies to replicate the enjoyable 2013/14 season.

The club thanks its supporters and hopes everyone is looking forward to seeing Oban Hockey Club wearing its new kit with pride in the near future.

HOCKEY



Official presentation of Oban Hockey Club team shirts, left to right, Gordon Seaton, Anderson Banks; Mark Scott, mens captain, Tara Pollock, Oban Hockey Club chairman; Charmaine Love, ladies captain, and Mark Lockhart, Maurice Lockhart and Son.

Mull Sevens a big success



Piper Jim Baron of Tobermory leads out the two finalists at this year's Mull Sevens Rugby Tournament, the hosts and Hamilton. Although the island side lost 24-17, their strong showing concluded a successful sevens season, which included a win in Oban. Mull men and Mull women won Best West Highland Team prizes. Stirling County won the women's tournament. Lismore Ladies, Edinburgh and Livingston were named the most sociable teams. A successful tag festival finals day involving primary school teams from Mull, Iona and Coll preceded the main tournament.

Oban Athletic in Thomson final

FOOTBALL

OBAN Athletic take part in the Thomson Trophy final at Broadwood Stadium, Cumbernauld on Saturday June 14 kicking off at 6pm.

The Oban side will play the winners of the Niaroo v Antonine semi final. The final was due to be played this Saturday but has been postponed till June 14.

Medal success at West District Championships

YOUNG athletes from Argyll excelled at the West District Championships, at the Ayrshire Athletics Arena in Kilmarnock last weekend, returning with four gold medals, two silver medals and one bronze.

On Friday night, 13-year-old Molly Reade from Tobermory was second in the Under 15s high jump clearing 1.45metres which was below her best but conditions were not favourable with a cold wind.

On Saturday, Ben Coates from Kilmore won gold in the under 17s 100metres hurdles in a time of 14.75seconds. In the early part of the race Ben was impeded by a runner in

the adjacent lane but came through strongly for a new personal best. Ben, competing for Mid Argyll Athletic Club, was unlucky to get disqualified for a false start in his 100metres heat. Emma Thompson from Oban won a silver medal in the Under 17's javelin throwing 25.58metres and was fourth in the triple jump with a new personal best of 10.38metres. Emma's younger sister Grace won gold in the under 13s discus throw reaching out to 21.84metres. Both Emma and Grace are members of Victoria Park AC in Glasgow's west end.

ATHLETICS

events with another four medals. Archie Spencer dominated in the under 13s shot putt throwing 8.67metres to win gold and finish well clear of the field. Archie also reached the final of the 100metres. In the same age group Shaun Doy won the pole vault clearing 1.88metres and was second to Archie in the shot putt with 7.07metres.

Donald Ferguson won bronze in the Under 15s javelin throwing a new personal best of 35.49metres and only 90cms behind the winner.

Golf News



Tobermory

MENS' Section: Results of the Centenary 1st Round - 1 William MacCrone 67-05-62; 2 Graham Davidson 68-06-62; 3 Donald Brown snr. 73-09-64.

Lions Day Competition: Men - 1 Mike Campbell 41 points; 2 Ewan MacCrone 35 points; 3 Graham Davidson 34 points. Ladies - 1 Kathy McAdam 34 points; 2 Catherine Ann MacCrone 23 points; 3 Olive Brown 18 points. Juniors - 1 William MacCrone 39 points; 2 Lewis Brown 37 points; 3 Scott Paterson 35 points.

Islay

LETTERS Prize played Sunday 25 May - 1 R MacIntyre 74 - 5 = 69; 2 A Gillespie 86 - 16 = 70; 3 D Johnston 77 - 7 = 70 Css 71.

Glencruitten

GRAHAM MacColl won the Isis Trophy at Glencruitten on Saturday with a score of 62 + 60 + 122, with Donald McLennan winning the Captain of Dunstaffnage Trophy with a score of 67 + 62 = 129.

On Sunday in the first round of the Ladies Championship the leading scores were: Scratch: 1 Jean Ainsley 83; 2 Mary Plunkett 95; 3 Christine Cameron 96

Handicap: 1 Jean Ainsley 83 - 12 = 71; 2 Mary Plunkett 95 - 24 = 71; 3 Christine Cameron 96 - 23 = 73.

This Saturday is the first round of the men's Handicap Championship and a Stableford on Tuesday.

Sportsdesk
01631
568000

Points shared at Ardrishaig

OBAN'S mixed team of ladies and gents travelled to Ardrishaig last Saturday for a West Argyll League fixture against Ardrishaig, where the points were shared.

Six teams of triples played on a lovely sunny afternoon and after some very closely contested games the result was six points each.

Six triples

The following day six triples competed for the George Barnett

BOWLS

Trophy on the Oban Green.

The winners were John McLaren, skip, Gilbert Mullen, second and lead Margaret MacLean, who did not lose a game all afternoon.

George Barnett Trophy winners, from left: John McLaren, Margaret MacLean and Gilbert Mullen.



Caol win inter-school netball tournament

KEEN netballers from Caol Primary School were thrilled to lift the trophy for the Fort William inter-school tournament recently after winning every game.

A closely-fought final against Inverloch saw Caol score the only goal to win the title.

Teams from Banavie, Fort William RC, Lochyside and Upper Achintore also took part and organisers were impressed with the high standard of play.

In the first semi final, Caol

beat Lochyside 2-0 and the second semi-final saw that score line mirrored with Inverloch beating Banavie 2-0.

A trophy was also awarded to Lochyside for winning a league running between the schools throughout the year. Caol came second, with Inverloch in third place.

Organisers thanked Lochaber High School for hosting the competition and Carol O'Neill and Claire Lumley-Holmes of

NETBALL

Fort William Falcons Netball Club, together with Rebecca Stafford of Active Schools, who refereed on the day.

Supported

Gratitude was also expressed to Lochaber High School pupils and coaches, teachers and parents who supported the teams throughout the year.

Shaun wins Fot Augustus Gravel Sprint

SHAUN Sinclair of Connel set the fastest time of the day on May 17 over the two-mile sprint at the Straevaiger's Lodge Fort Augustus Gravel Sprint in Inchnacardoch Forest.

Driving Brian Watson's Evo8, he pushed his fastest time of 1min 45.4secs out of the borrowed car on the fifth run, having inquired earlier in the day what last year's winner Quition Milne's time was - also 1.45.

Meanwhile, Brian Watson was lying in fourth place with Jimmy Allan, Connel, sitting in second with a time of 1.53.

Watson was getting into the 1.54 bracket and knew what a 1.45 run would take - and it was his car Sinclair was in - and with very little fuel left on board on the fifth run he overhauled Jimmy Allen and Paddy Munro, Kyle of Lochalsh, to take second spot with 1.51.8.

Jimmy was pleased with third in his Evo6, despite a puncture in the fourth run and collapsed rear wing but had been in second spot after the second run until Watson leapfrogged past him.

The full results were: 1 Shaun Sinclair (Mitsubishi EVO 8) 1.45.4; 2 Brian

RALLYING

Watson (Mitsubishi EVO 8) 1.51.8; 3 James Allan (Mitsubishi EVO 6) 1.53.0; 4 Paddy Munro (Ford Escort) 1.54.0; 5 Colin Baxter (Peugeot 205) 2.00.1; 6 Sandy MacKenzie (Opel Manta) 2.00.4; 7 John O'Kane (Ford Escort) 2.01.4; 8 Colin Patterson (Peugeot 106) 2.01.9; 9 Kenny Findlayson (Talbot Sunbeam) 2.02.6; 10 Ian Gray (Subaru Impreza) 2.04.8; 11 Hector MacInnes (Subaru Impreza) 2.05.2; 12 Sandy Arbuthnott (MG Metro 6R4) 2.06; 13 Gary Clark (Peugeot 106) 2.07.8; 14 Billy Falconer (J) (Peugeot 205 GTI) 2.08.2; 15 Grant MacRae (J) (Peugeot 205 Rallye) 2.13.7; 16 Martin Fraser (Opel Manta) 2.14.2; 17 Angela MacDonald (J) (Peugeot 205 GTI) 2.51.2.



Shaun Sinclair in action.

Oban Saints youths results and fixtures

YOUTH FOOTBALL

LAST weekend's results: Drumchapel United 0, Under 13s 9; Under 14s 2, Dumbarton United 1. Saints scorers were Daniel MacCush and Martin Rennie; Under 15s v Milngavie BC postponed; Under 17s 1, Milngavie BC 6, Saints' marksman was Stewart Twort.

This weekend's fixtures: Under 13s v Ardencaple; Drumchapel United v Under 14s; Under 15s v Goldenhill; Milngavie BC v Under 17s.



Members of Oban Rotary club tidying up around Glencruitten Golf Club in preparation for Sunday's Am Am. Forty four teams are expected to play in the tournament which raises funds for local good causes.



Jim Torrance, founder of Cowal Boys Football Club in Dunoon, paid a visit to Oban recently to meet up with some of the ex-players from Oban who played with Cowal back in the 1970s. Back Row, left to right: Iain Jackson, Matthew MacMaster and Marek Madej. Middle Row - Iain Richmond, Mark Welsh, David MacLeod, Jim Torrance, Dougie Campbell, Eric Smith and Peter MacCallum. Front row - John MacPhee, Ronnie Welsh, Davy Laird, Alan MacDougall and Neil MacIntyre.

Magnus in Scotland squad for Junior World Championships

FORMER Oban Lorne forward Magnus Bradbury has flown out to New Zealand with the Scotland Under-20 squad for the IRB Junior World Championship in New Zealand.

The Scots, who arrived in Auckland on Monday, have been drawn in a 'group of death' with the hosts and South Africa, as well as a very capable Samoa team.

Magnus, who has five international caps to his name, is one of the younger squad members at 18 but will hope to feature in the matches at his preferred number eight position.

The Edinburgh Elite Development Programme (EDP) athlete, who currently plays with Borroughmuir, is one of 28 players selected for the squad.

Head coach Sean Lineen, a

former Scotland international, was quick to stress the improvements, both on and off the field, shown by the entire squad since the first selection camp back in October.

He said: 'The core of the



Magnus Bradbury.

group is really young guys who hadn't experienced that level of analysis, of training, day in day out, and they found that quite difficult for their bodies.

'The difference in conditioning - from the guys who are playing at EDP level to the guys who are playing second team club rugby - was huge.

'We've got a tough group [in New Zealand] but it's a hugely exciting opportunity - to play New Zealand in their backyard.'

Scotland's opening pool game is against South Africa on June 2 at 3.35pm local time, followed by Samoa on June 6 at 3.35pm and New Zealand on June 10 at 7.35pm.

Further play-off fixtures on June 15 and 20 are dependent on results.



Oban Saints 2003s after winning the Helensburgh Toyota Football Festival last weekend. Head coach Gary MacIvor praised the boys who won all their games and didn't lose a goal in the competition.

SPOT THE SHINTY BALL

WIN £1050

COMpetition

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO

We have removed the shinty ball from the photograph opposite. Now look carefully at the position of the players and use your skill and judgement to place a cross at the exact point where you think the centre of the ball was. You may have a maximum of 20 attempts on this coupon at a cost of £1.

If you wish to have more attempts, you must enter on separate coupons.

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 Wyles Media, their immediate relatives and any person otherwise connected with the competition are ineligible to enter.

This week's nearest the ball winners, who each receive £25 are:

R MacLaren, Main Street, Callander

J Cairney, Main Street, Cumbernauld

LAST WEEK'S SHINTY BALL WAS HERE...

Name

Address

..... Tel No.

Please tape your £1 coin here

I enclose £1 for 20 crosses (tick box) The maximum number of attempts on this coupon is 20, but you may enter on separate coupons as many times as you wish. No photocopies allowed. You agree to abide by the rules. How to enter: Mark your crosses using a ballpoint pen. Twenty crosses may be put on this coupon for £1. Send to 'Spot the Shinty Ball' Competition, The Oban Times, P.O. Box 1, Oban PA34 4HB



Fixtures

Saturday May 31

Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup

2nd Round
Bute v Skye
David Mitchell
Kyles Athletic v Newtonmore
Billy Wotherspoon
Beaulieu v Kinlochshiel
Evan MacRae
Lochaber v Glenurquhart
Daniel MacRae
Kilmallie v Ballachulish
David Stafford
Fort William v Caberfeidh
Colin MacDonald

Aberdeen Considine

Sutherland Cup 2nd Round
THE SCOTS v Beaulieu
Alan Harrison - 3pm
(at Musselburgh)

Strathdearn Cup 1st Round

Lewis v Strathspye
Andy MacLean
Lochbroom v Strathglass
Robert Morrison
Glenurquhart v Lochaber
Ron Kennedy
Skye v Inverness
Martin MacLean
Caberfeidh v Kinlochshiel
Calum Girvan
Lovat v Fort William
Archie Ritchie

Bullough Cup 1st Round

Inveraray v Glasgow MA
Iain Kennedy - 12 pm
Oban Celtic v Kyles Athletic
John MacGregor
Ballachulish v
English Shinty Association
John Wood
Tayforth v Aberdeen
Evan MacDonald - 12pm
Glenorchy v Col Glen
Neil MacDonald - 12pm

Orion Group Premiership

Inveraray v Lovat
Deek Cameron - 3pm

Marine Harvest National Division

Glenorchy v Oban Caman
Graham Cameron - 3pm

Marine Harvest North Division 1

Strathglass v Inverness
John Angus Gillies

Marine Harvest South Division 1

Kilmory v Aberdeen
Innes Wood
Taynuilt v Lochside Rovers
Ronnie Campbell
Strachur v Oban Celtic
Lachie Wood

Marine Harvest North Division 2

Aberdeen Uni v Glenangry
John Matheson
Boleskine v Lochcarron
Rab MacAskill
(All throw ups 2.30 unless stated)

Results

Friday 23 May

Marine Harvest North Division 1
Beaulieu 4 - 0 Lovat

Saturday 24 May

RBC MacTavish Cup Semi Final
Lovat 4 - 0 Kinlochshiel

South of Scotland Plate Semi Final
Strachur 4 - 3 Ballachulish

Orion Group Premiership
Glenurquhart 2 - 0 Lochaber
Inveraray 2 - 0 Kingussie
Kyles Ath 0 - 1 Newtonmore

Marine Harvest National Division
Glasgow MA 2 - 3 Beaulieu
Glenorchy 2 - 2 Fort William
Kilmallie 10 - 0 Bute

Marine Harvest North Division 1
Glenurquhart 1 - 1 New'more
Kingussie 4 - 3 Strathglass
Inverness 1 - 4 Skye

Marine Harvest South Division 1
Lochside Rovers 5 - 2 Aberdeen
Taynuilt 3 - 5 Kyles Athletic
Neil MacDonald
Oban Celtic 1 - 2 Kilmory

Marine Harvest North Division 2
Kinlochshiel 6 - 1 Boleskine
Glenangry 3 - 2 Aberdeen Uni
Lochaber 2 - 4 Fort William
Skye 4 - 2 Lochcarron

Marine Harvest South Division 2
Ballachulish 1 - 3 Col Glen
Bute P - P Tayforth
Glenorchy 4 - 1 Aberdeen
Inveraray 7 - 1 Glasgow MA

Marine Harvest North Division 3
Caberfeidh 8 - 6 1 1 34 11 13
Lochbroom 7 3 2 2 11 12 8
Strathspye 9 4 1 4 21 26 8
Lewis 8 3 1 4 16 20 7
Kilmallie 6 3 1 2 20 13 6
Inverness 8 1 0 7 8 28 2

Marine Harvest South Division 3
Caberfeidh 5 - 1 Lochbroom
Kilmallie 4 - 3 Strathspye
Lewis 2 - 1 Inverness

Kyles entertain Newtonmore in Camanachd Cup tie of the round

Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup

THE TIE of the round in the Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup is a match up between last year's finalists.

KYLES ATHLETIC crucially have home advantage for their second match against Newtonmore in consecutive weekends.

The Tighnabruich men hosted the dress rehearsal for the cup match but lost 1-0 in the league tie.

However, the Argyll side's sights are annually fixed on the Camanachd Cup and will not give up their place in the next round without a fight.

NEWTONMORE will travel back to Tighnabruich on Saturday to take on Kyles Athletic for the second week in a row.

'More secured a tight 1-0 victory in the Orion Group fixture last weekend but coach PJ Mackintosh thinks it will be difficult to do the same this weekend in the Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup.

He said: 'It was a hard game. They're a good side especially on their own pitch. We were down seven players but that makes it all the more pleasing that we can still win when we're so short.'

'I don't think we're going to get any of the injured players back for this weekend so we're still not in a great place. It's a different game and a different competition and I'm sure Kyles will be doing everything they can to try to beat us.'

LOCHABER'S disappointing streak continued at the weekend with a 2-0 defeat by Glenurquhart in the Orion Group Premiership.

This Saturday they will take on Glen again this time at home in the Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup. It will be everything to play for if Lochaber are to have more success in the Scottish Cup than in the Orion Group Premiership so far.

GLENURQUHART are enjoying the aftermath of another win at the weekend with a 2-0 victory against Lochaber in the Orion Group Premiership.

This Saturday they face Lochaber again, this time travelling to Spean Bridge for the Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup and coach Billy MacLean is hoping for a similar result.

He said: 'It was good to get another win. That's three in a row now so we're really happy with that. We got a goal early on from James MacPherson and I'd still say we could have played better but we're really happy with the win.'

'It's always tough going at Spean and we'll be short of a couple of boys so it won't be easy but this is the big cup for everyone, the one all the teams want.'

Glen will have Mike Brady back from suspension on Saturday but will be without Lewis MacLennan who was suspended

in the last game.

SKYE CAMANACHD will be favourites for their Camanachd Cup island clash against Bute, despite having to make the long journey south.

While the Skye men lead North Division One with a 100 per cent record, Bute - albeit in a higher division - having struggled for form.

Skye had a good away win last week when they scored four past Inverness in a 4-1 victory.

Scorers for Skye were Kenny Campbell, Danny Morrison and Kenny MacLeod. A Michael Price own goal had initially levelled the tie after Skye went a goal down.

Skye's second team have a home draw as they take on Inverness in the Strathdearn Cup this weekend.

BUTE still smarting from a 10-0 defeat at the hands of Kilmallie will be hoping to get back on track this weekend when they take on fellow islanders Skye Camanachd in the second round of the Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup. Bute have home advantage in this tie.

FORT WILLIAM co-managers Victor Smith and Adi Robertson have been doing their homework on this weekend's Camanachd Cup opponents Caberfeidh.

The Fort have not yet played the Stags in the National Division this season but both team managers have been to see the Strathpeffer team in action.

Smith said: 'We have watched Caberfeidh a couple of times and we are up to speed on how they play. We are expecting a keenly fought game.'

'But that won't change how we play. We are sticking to our own game because we are the home team.'

Smith admitted much of this week's training has been devoted to shooting practice after Fort William failed to land the killer blow at Glenorchy last weekend when 2-0 up, eventually drawing 2-2 when Glenorchy's John Sartain hit a late equaliser.

Smith said: 'At 2-0 the game is never finished. We needed that third goal and it looked like it was coming but we missed that cutting edge in front of goal.'

KINLOCHSHIEL will hope to put their inconsistent league performances behind them as they take on Beaulieu in the Scottish Hydro Caamanachd Cup.

But despite competing in a lower league, their opponents have been performing well in the new National Division and have home advantage for the tie.

And while Beaulieu struck a morale boosting victory over GMA in Glasgow last weekend, 'Shiel suffered a disappointing 4-0 defeat at the hands of Lovat in the MacTavish Cup.

The gap between top and bottom in the National Division was cruelly exposed by KILMALLIE last Saturday as they hammered Bute 10-0 at Canal Parks.

Craig MacIsaac netted a hat

SHINTY

trick and Martin Munro and Mark Graham each scored a brace. Further goals came from Martin Stewart, Bryan MacKay and Liam MacDonald.

Kilmallie sit third in the Marine Harvest National Division but have games in hand over Beaulieu and Oban Camanachd and, thanks mainly to last week's result, have the best goal difference in the league.

Kilmallie's sharp shooters will be hoping to add to their season's tally this Saturday when they take on South Division One team Ballachulish in the Camanachd Cup.

Having lost home advantage with the abandoned tie at the Jubilee **BALLACHULISH** made the trip to Strachur for the South of Scotland Plate semi-final and started where they left off with a goal in the first minute through top scorer Lorne Brown. Rhys Campbell levelled for Strachur in the 20th minute and Grant MacKenzie put Balla ahead four minutes later. Rhys Campbell and Preston Shuttleworth scored for the home team to give them a 3-2 lead at half time.

Grant MacKenzie limped off for the visitors and must be a doubt for next weekend's Camanachd Cup tie against his old team Kilmallie. Strachur went further ahead early in the second half through Angus Campbell and the game remained even. Lorne Brown got his second for Ballachulish five minutes from the end but they could not get a leveller and Strachur won 4-3 to move into the final against Aberdeen.

Ballachulish's young second team faced a strong Colglen side at the Jubilee Park and held them close for long spells with Cameron Sutherland in goals continuing to impress. Colglen's goals came from Willie MacVic (2) and Steven MacKellar and the home side replied through Patrick MacLean.

Ballachulish second team having an interesting Scotland/England tie against the English Shinty Association in the Jubilee Park in the defence of the Bullough Cup.

Orion Group Premiership

KINGUSSIE have no fixture this Saturday as one of the players, Fraser Munro, is getting married.

The planned Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup game against Lovat has been postponed until next week, giving the team time to get back on form after an unusual loss against Inveraray last weekend.

Coach Russell Jones said: 'We didn't play very well at the weekend, we've had a good run recently but we were pretty flat on Saturday for some reason.'

'We have a free Saturday because Fraser's getting married but then next week we're playing Lovat and Newtonmore the week after so it's going to be a tough couple of weeks for us.'

INVERARAY manager Garry MacPherson was full of praise for veteran Ruairidh Graham, who scored a brace to help the Royal Burgh see off the Kingussie at the Winterton on Saturday.

The 40-year-old Graham, who had already played 90 minutes for the second team, came on for Lewis McNichol up front after 35 minutes, as MacPherson altered his tactics to breach the Kings' defence.

MacPherson said: 'Ruairidh is still one of the fastest players in the team and I thought that his pace could unlock their defence.'

'He has always kept himself fit but he also seems to be more composed with age and I think he's playing the best shinty of his career just now.'

'I had to take him off with five minutes to go but he came off



Inveraray goalkeeper Graeme MacPherson makes a crucial save during the Orion Group Premiership match against Kingussie at the Winterton last Saturday. The Royal Burgh side came out on top 2-0. Photo: Stephen Lawson

to a great ovation from a good crowd.'

The Aray are at home again this weekend when they host last season's Orion Group Premiership runners up Lovat. Full back Allan MacDonald will miss the match through suspension.

LOVAT have the chance to go level with Newtonmore at the summit of the Orion Group Premiership this weekend as they travel to play a resurgent Inveraray.

A win would see Lovat join Newtonmore on 14 points, with both having played eight games.

Buoyed by a 4-0 MacTavish Cup victory last weekend, with goals from Greg Matheson (2), Lorne MacKay and Graeme MacMillan, Lovat will be confident of victory but the Royal Burgh have been strong at the Winterton this season.

National Division

GLENORCHY go into this weekend's grudge match against Oban Camanachd high in confidence after an impressive draw with Fort William last week.

Coach John Smith said he would always back his team to get a result at home but added expectations were high after last week's result.

Asked whether the Fort William result was a surprise, Smith replied: 'I would never write off our team because we are capable of beating anyone on our day - I just wish our day would come around more often!'

Fort William had gone 2-0 ahead at the Mart Park but late goals from Grant MacPherson and a spectacular strike from John Sartain at the death snatched a draw for the home side.

Findlay Ross had gone close before Sartain's equaliser but Glenorchy goalkeeper Andrew Smith was the busier of the two throughout.

OBAN CAMANACHD manager Gussie Campbell has warned his team to be on guard when they travel to play a buoyant Glenorchy this weekend.

The Dalmally men fought out a 2-2 draw against Fort William last week and usually put up a good fight against their Oban rivals.

Campbell said: 'This will be a tough tie because they will be on a high after their result against Fort William. That said, we need to win this game.'

'We beat them 5-1 in Oban three weeks ago but I am

expecting a different game out there. I think the team that shows the most desire will win on the day.'

Campbell said new signing Gary McKerracher had been settling in well and would likely start on Saturday. David Lafferty and Garry Lord are also likely to come back into the squad.

South Division One

OBAN CELTIC go into this weekend's away trip to Strachur without manager Jocky Martin, who resigned as of last week.

Oban Celtic said the manager had resigned for 'personal reasons' and that president David Hamilton would lead the team in the interim.

Hamilton said he expected a tough game at Strachur but that his players would be keen to put the disappointment of last week behind them.

Last Saturday the green and whites suffered another sending off as they went down 2-1 at home to Kilmory.

The Mid Argyll side led 2-0 before Neil Carmichael was dismissed by referee Robert Baxter.

Celtic did, however, pull a goal back through Kenny Wotherspoon late on but the clock ran out as the Oban side searched for an equaliser.

STRACHUR have secured a place in the final of the South of Scotland Plate after defeating Ballachulish 4-3 at the weekend.

Despite losing a goal in the first minute, Strachur settled into the game to put three goals past their opponents in the first half through Rhys Campbell(2) and Preston Shuttleworth.

Angus Campbell scored the fourth to open the scoring in the second half.

John Montgomery said he was pleased with the performance from the Cowal lads as a number of players were missing due to injury.

John could be relying on more youngsters tomorrow (Saturday) as the Cowal side will be short of players as a result of injury and work commitments when they welcome Oban Celtic to Strachur Park.

The final of the South of Scotland Plate will be played on July 5 when Strachur will take on Aberdeen.

KILMORY returned to their

winning form last week as they defeated Oban Celtic in the latest fixture of the South Division One league.

Playing away to the young side, the Mid Argyll men made their intentions known immediately, scoring within the first 15 minutes through Scott Bradley.

Meanwhile Innes Meikle, a Red Star midfielder, swapped the Ropework for the shinty pitch on Saturday and scored on his debut for Kilmory, doubling the side's tally on 68 minutes.

A scrappy game, both sides had a man sent off - Alex Cunningham for Kilmory and Celtic's Neil Carmichael.

Celtic could only manage a consolation goal in the end, with Kenny Wotherspoon scoring on the 89th minute.

The win sees Kilmory sitting fourth in the league table, the highest position the team has enjoyed at this stage of their league campaign for several years.

Tomorrow Kilmory return to league duty as they welcome the on-form Aberdeen to MacRae Park.

TAYNUILT manager Davy Thomson described last week's eight-goal thriller at Taynuilt Sportsfield as one of the most entertaining matches he has seen in the village.

The Lorn side lost 5-3 to Kyles Athletic but the high performance levels of both sides made for a great spectacle for the spectators.

Thomson said: 'It was a cracking game. All the supporters were commenting on that.'

'We have been struggling to hit the target in recent weeks but everything clicked on Saturday



Adam McMaster from Inverness gets to the ball before Skye's Jordan Murchison during the North Division One match held at the Bught Park. Photo: Donald Cameron



Kilmallie's Ryan Stewart and Bute's Andrew Stirling tussle for the ball during last Saturday's match. Photo: Iain Ferguson - The Write Image

The Orion Group Premiership							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newtonmore	8	7	0	1	23	7	14
Lovat	7	6	0	1	19	6	12
Kingussie	9	5	1	3	20	16	11
Glenurquhart	7	4	1	2	13	7	9
Inveraray	8	2	1	5	11	18	5
Kinlochshiel	7	2	0	5	11	17	4
Kyles Athletic	7	1	2	4	7	15	4
Lochaber	7	0	1	6	7	25	1

Marine Harvest National Division							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Beaulieu	8	4	1	3	19	14	9
Oban Camanachd	5	4	0	1	11	5	8
Kilmallie	4	3	0	1	17	4	6
Caberfeidh	4	2	1	1	13	6	5
Fort William	3	2	1	0	9	4	5
Glasgow MA	6	2	0	4	13	15	4
Glenorchy	6	1	0	4	7	21	3
Bute	4	0	0	4	2	22	-2

Marine Harvest North Division 1							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Skye	5	4	0	0	16	1	10
Newtonmore	7	3	1	3	19	9	7
Strathglass	5	3	1	1	18	9	7
Kingussie	7	3	1	3	18	20	7
Beaulieu	7	3	1	3	13	19	7
Glenurquhart	6	2	2	2	13	13	6
Inverness	6	1	2	3	15	20	4
Lovat	7	1	0	6	7	28	2

Marine Harvest South Division 1							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Kyles Athletic	7	4	2	1	26	10	10
Ballachulish	3	2	1	0	14	3	5
Aberdour	4	2	1	1	13	7	5
Kilmory	5	2	1	2	7	7	5
Strachur	4	1	2	1	7	9	4
Lochside Rovers	6	1	2	3	11	21	4
Taynuilt	3	1	0	2	5	9	2
Oban Celtic	4	0	1	3	2	19	1

Marine Harvest North Division 2							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Glenangry	7	5	1	1	14	9	11
Fort William	6	5	0	1	22	12	10
Boleskine	8	4	0	4	20	26	8
Lochcarron							

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No baby blues as Donnie helps dump 'Clyde

Saints still on track for league and cup double

INVERCLYDE were the visitors for this important league match at Glencruitten.

'Clyde needed points to help their relegation battle and Saints needed the three points in their push to win the Premier Division league title so a good game was in prospect for the large crowd of spectators.

A win for Saints would put them five points clear of Haldane United who have two games left, so the Bonhill side need to win

their last two games at home to Thorn Athletic and away to Saints in the last game of the season to deny the Oban club the league championship.

The game against Inverclyde kicked off 45 minutes later than scheduled as the visitors got caught up in roadwork delays at Puplit Rock on Loch Lomond and didn't arrive in Oban till after 2pm.

Broken leg
Saints were without Allan MacKay, Mattie Rippon who were on holiday, Craig MacEwan was suspended and, of course, Dene Cassells is out with a broken leg so Colin Carswell, Colin Tindall and Daniel Cameron came into the squad alongside youngster Gregor Cook.

The opening period of the game was fairly evenly balanced with neither team creating much in the way of threatening their opponents goal and the first real opportunity came in the 28th minute when 'Clyde keeper Mike Ptolmey did well to push a Davie McArthur pile driver round the post for a corner. A minute later Marc MacCallum came close when he headed a Lewis Cameron corner over the bar.

The visitors then created a couple of reasonable chances with the impressive Jamie Docherty

FOOTBALL

firing just past the post and then Saints keeper Daniel Cassells made a fine save with his legs to deny Gordon Smith who had been ploughing a lone furrow up front for the visitors.

The home side created a couple of reasonable chances with the ball being played across the Inverclyde six yard box but on both occasions Saints had no-one on hand to tap the ball home

The home midfield were playing some nice one-touch football but Davie McArthur and Lewis Cameron were getting little change out of the 'Clyde back four, well marshalled by skipper David McGarrigle.

Referee Kevin McIntyre, from Wishaw, who had a good game, blew for half-time with the



Jamie Graham blocks this effort from Inverclyde front man Gordon Smith during last Saturday's game at Glencruitten.

Photos: Kevin McGlynn.

scoresheet blank, which was just about right.

The second half started with the home side on the attack and they should have opened the scoring when Lewis Cameron raced past his marker on the right flank before sending over an inch-perfect cross to the back post for Davie McArthur

who had the easiest of chances to put the ball in the net. But he knocked the ball past the post from two yards when it looked easier to score.

Inverclyde claimed for a penalty when one of their players and Saints keeper Daniel Cassells collided in the box but the referee waved away the claims, which was the right decision.

Intercepted
The home side got the goal they were looking for in the 65th minute when Jamie Graham intercepted the ball in midfield and sent a great pass through the middle of the 'Clyde defence for new dad Donnie Campbell to race forward and slot the ball past the keeper.

Donnie's partner Zoe had presented him with a second son, Lewis, on Thursday afternoon

and everyone at the club offers their congratulations.

Inverclyde knew they had to get back into the game and were trying to push forward, but the Saints defence and midfield were working hard to deny them any space.

With the match in added time, Saints killed the game off when Colin Carswell played Paul Kerr through and Paul's shot was deflected over the keeper by one of his own players and into the net to make the final score 2-0.

Better team
Club secretary David Buchanan, in charge of the team on the day in the absence of manager Iain Jackson, said: 'It was a good game, played in the right spirit. We played some excellent football at times and the boys worked hard for each other and

that's all you can ask. Credit to Inverclyde, they made us battle all the way for the three points but we were the better team and on chances created we deserved the win.'

Saints were due to play Inverclyde again last night at McKenna Park, Govan, in the final of the Jimmy Marshall Cup, then the Oban side round off their season with what could be a vital league decider against Haldane United at Glencruitten next Saturday.

However, if Haldane fail to beat Thorn Athletic on Wednesday night and Saints win the Jimmy Marshall Cup the Oban side would win two trophies on the same night.

Saints never do things the easy way and this is a lot to ask for, but you live in hope.

New SPL team will take part in D&K Lafferty Cup Tournament

FOOTBALL

HAMILTON Accies, newly promoted to the Scottish Premier League after their penalty shoot-out win over Hibs at Easter Road last Sunday, have confirmed they will be taking their first team squad to take part in the D & K Lafferty Cup Tournament to be held in Oban on Saturday July 12.

Other SPL teams taking part are Dundee United and St Johnstone, along with Scottish Championship side Alloa Athletic.

Nominations for Camanachd Association president-elect

SHINTY

ARCHIE Robertson finishes his term as president of the Camanachd Association at the AGM in Fort William on Friday November 28 2014.

In accordance with Byelaw 10, nominations are now invited for the position of president-elect, to take up office as early as possible in the months prior to the 2014 AGM.

This period will provide the president-elect with the opportunity to shadow the current President and learn about the role prior to him/her being presented to the 2014 AGM for election as the new President for a three-year term (2014 - 2017).

Returns from Taynuilt Golf Club

GOLF

LADIES Club Championship (scratch) played 13 May: 1 Mairead Sim 89; 2 Carol MacLarty 93; 3 Fiona McGlynn 96

Medal played May 13 - 1 Carol MacLarty 73 (20); 2 Mairead Sim 75 (14); 3 Jill Stewart 78 (22).

Muckairn Trophy (Stableford) played 20 May - 1 Anne S MacCallum 35 pts (20); Fiona McGlynn 28 pts (17); 3 Carol Church 28 pts (20).

Gents: Club Championship second round (handicap) plus Belhaven played 25 May - 1 Richard Bergant 61 (13); 2 Duncan Campbell 61 (11); 3 Mark Henriksen 62 (07).

Handicap Championship after 2 rounds - 1 Andrew Diggory 124 (59 65); 2 Mark Henriksen 124 (62 62); 3 Duncan Campbell 131 (61 70).

Scottish Amateur Football League results and fixtures

FOOTBALL

LAST Saturday's results: Premier Division - Oban Saints 2, Inverclyde 0; Premier Division Two - Lochgilphead Red Star 5, Goldenhill 4; Division 1A - Tarbert 5, Eaglesham 'B' 4; Sunday - Tarbert v Rossvale, postponed.

Saturday's fixtures: Premier Division - Oban Saints v Haldane United; Division 1A - Millbeg Villa v Tarbert.



Donnie Campbell shows his emotions after scoring Saints opening goal against Inverclyde.

Scottish Amateur Football League - Premier Division									
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
1 Oban Saints	17	12	5	0	51	18	41		
2 Haldane United	16	11	3	2	48	26	36		
3 St Joseph's FP	17	10	4	3	52	31	34		
4 Finnart	17	9	3	5	45	34	30		
5 Busby	18	7	3	8	37	46	24		
6 Thorn Athletic	16	6	3	7	27	24	21		
7 Castlemilk	18	4	7	7	40	50	21		
8 Inverclyde	18	4	4	10	33	44	16		
9 Alba Thistle	17	5	0	12	28	49	15		
10 Kilbowie Union	18	1	2	15	30	69	5		

Good turnout at Dalmally Golf Club's Senior Ladies and Gents Open

DESPITE the inclement weather leading up to the Open, the course held up well and the actual day was warm and sunny.

There was an excellent entry of 70 and 63 played on the day. The visitors came from courses as far away as Machrihanish, Dunaverty, Hilton Park, Inellan, Holland Bush, Comrie, Dumbarton as well as the local courses, Isle of Seil, Lochgilphead, Glencruitten, Taynuilt and a particularly strong contingent from Killin.

The support from these clubs is much appreciated.

The winner of the ladies section was Josephine Monaghan from Dumbarton for the second consecutive year with Dick

GOLF

Lewis from Killin lifting the gents prize.

Ladies: 1 Josephine Monaghan, Dumbarton, 2 Lily MacKay, Dalmally, 3 Wilma Frew, Glencruitten; Gents: 1 Dick Lewis, Killin, 2 Iain MacKinnon, Machrihanish, 3 Robert Dunn, Machrihanish; Category B: Ladies: Eileen Hill, Taynuilt, Gents: Tony Bernard, Killin; Nearest the pin: Ladies: June Sutherland, Dalmally; Gents: John Blackstock, Isle of Seil; Best Inward 9: Ladies: Gina Coleman, Dumbarton; Gents: Colin Simmonds, Killin; Birdies: John Struthers x 2, Hilton Park; Andrew Swann, Lochgilphead, Dick Lewis, Killin, Colin Simmons, Killin, Roy Mason, Killin, Dianne Colewell, Glencruitten, David Nathan, Isle of Seil.



Prizewinners from the Ladies and Gents Senior Open at Dalmally.

Records fall at Kintyre 10k and half marathon

MATTHEW Turner led the way on a day of records at Sunday's Mull of Kintyre 10k and half marathon races.

Matthew, 25, from Tangy, just outside Campbeltown, who is one of Scotland's most promising track runners, was a class apart from his rivals.

In his fifth win in six years - he was abroad last year - he clocked 33mins 36secs - more than two minutes ahead of second place Andy Campbell (35.49), a former Campbeltown man now running for Bellahouston Harriers.

Fisherman Daniel Sheldrick, 30, from Tayinloan, finished fourth (36.10) ahead of fifth and sixth placers, Stuart McGeachy (36.40) and James Murdoch (36.57), both from Campbeltown Running Club (CRC).

Tommy Morran (38.10) made it three in the first ten for the town running club.

Shona McManus, from Glasgow, clocked 38.59 to set a new

ATHLETICS

women's 10k record on a day which saw a record 900 entries for the two races.

First local lady was Fiona Martin (42.34), followed by Carly Ferguson (44.38) and Jennifer Martin (45.00). CRC's Maryann Wylie was first female junior in 48.06, Johnny McCormick first over 50 male in 43.52.

In the women's half marathon, there was yet another record - set by Lindsey Currie, of Dumbarton, with a time of 1hr 31min 43secs, watched by her proud brother, Campbeltown lawyer Christian Kane and his family.

CRC's Jackie Fulton was first over 60 lady in the half in 2.2.14 and Thomas Cameron was first local male in 1.29.50.

Best 'race' of the day was the charge to the finish on the 42 minute mark by CRC trio, Darren Renton, Ryan Sharp and Alisdair O'May.

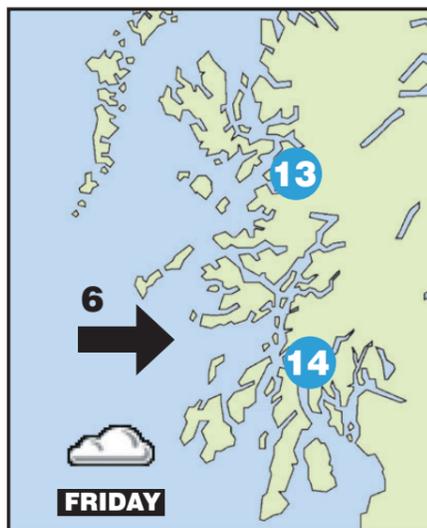
Weather

Thursday Cloudy with light rain
Winds light east south easterly
Temperatures 11°C to 15°C

Friday Cloudy
Winds light westerly
Temperatures 10°C to 14°C.

Weekend Outlook Cloudy on Saturday
Sunshine and showers on Sunday
Winds light west south westerly
Temperatures 9°C to 11°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 29, 2014** are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath.

All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am	pm
Thur	00.01 0.9 05.51 3.8 12.06 0.9 18.00 3.8	
Fri	00.42 1.0 06.27 3.8 12.44 0.9 18.35 3.9	
Sat	01.20 1.1 07.02 3.7 13.22 1.0 19.10 3.8	
Sun	01.58 1.2 07.38 3.6 14.00 1.1 19.46 3.7	
Mon	02.36 1.4 08.15 3.4 14.40 1.2 20.23 3.6	
Tues	03.16 1.6 08.55 3.3 15.21 1.4 21.02 3.4	
Wed	04.01 1.8 09.38 3.1 16.05 1.6 21.45 3.3	

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

Ardrishaig	-5.35	Mallaig	+0.25
Campbeltown	-5.30	Portree	+0.55
Crinan	-0.47	Tobermory	+0.16
Islay Port Ellen	2.00	Dover	+5.30
Lochboisdale	+0.30		

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Big-hearted fundraisers on an annual two-mile sponsored walk along the Caledonian Canal. Picture: Iain Ferguson - TheWriteImage

Fundraisers step out on annual Heather's Walk

AROUND 200 people turned out for the annual two-mile sponsored 'Heather's Walk' in Corpach on Sunday. The event, organised by Margaret Simpson and Sarah Walker in memory of their friend Heather Robertson, raised

£6,000 for Highland Hospice, bringing the total since the first walk seven years ago to over £63,000. The field started from Corpach Basin and headed along the Caledonian Canal, with the late Ms Robertson's nephew

Daniel Cummings taking on the route in a bee costume - Highland Hospice's mascot. Ms Walker said: 'It went really well as usual and it was great to see all of the support from everyone. The walk started as

one off and it just snowballed so we've decided to set ourselves a target of raising £100,000 for the hospice.' An auction and raffle was held in Tradewinds bar on Sunday evening to boost funds.

Saltire clad hall deemed 'too Scottish' for polling station

Politicians brand switch 'ludicrous'

THE DECISION to move a Lochaber polling station because the hall looked 'too Scottish' has been ridiculed by politicians, with one deeming it 'ludicrous'.

Caol and Mallaig SNP councillor Bill Clark said he was stunned when he went to Kilmallie Community Centre in Corpach to vote in the European Parliamentary election last Thursday and found the polling station had been moved to a side room because a complaint was made about the main hall, which is decorated with Saltires and tartan.

Highland Council's elections manager John Bruce confirmed this was the reason for the move but it is not known whether it was a member of the public or a politician who made the complaint.

Councillor Clark said: 'I couldn't believe my ears when I was told that was why it had been moved. The hall has been decorated that way for years and it's also been used as a polling station for years so I don't understand why it's suddenly a problem now. It's Scotland's flag, not the SNP's flag or any other party's, I just find it ludicrous.'

'I'd be interested to know who complained because surely this isn't a prelude to the independence referendum - are people going to be made to take down every saltire in the country?'

Councillor Clark also said he thought it may have been anti-independence campaigners who asked for polling station to be moved.

Sandy Watson, who recently

By EMMA CRICHTON
ecrichton@obantimes.co.uk

stood in the Caol and Mallaig ward by-election as an independent candidate, said he was shocked when he went to vote but he's not sure whether he believes it would have been a member of Better Together.

He added: 'I couldn't believe it when I saw it had been moved into a tiny cramped room. There just wasn't the same privacy as usual. I'm not sure who I think it was. It could have been anyone but whoever it was should have been told to chase themselves, no way should they have moved the polling. A lot of people are really angry about this.'

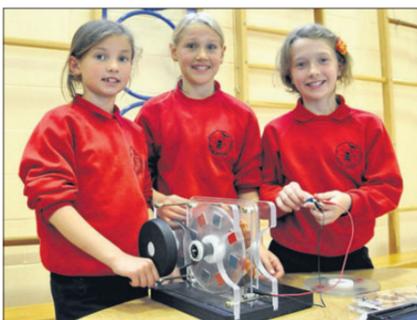
Election manager Mr Bruce said: 'I understand that they moved the polling station into a smaller hall because the main hall looked too Scottish. A complaint was received about the Saltires in the hall and we tried to react as quickly as possible.'

John MacDonald, a member of the Kilmallie Hall Committee, said: 'If you come into that hall 365 days a year it's decorated the same way. The girls that do Scottish Country Dancing put the Saltires and tartan up and there's nothing wrong with that. I was chairman of the committee when they went up in the hall and someone said to me, 'Oh, so you're a nationalist' and I said, 'No, I'm just Scottish'. There's no political agenda.'

Angry voters also took to social media to complain about the move. Mary Mackay said: 'More fool them for giving in. They should have stayed put,' and Stuart Clark added: 'Ah, the Scottish cringe at its worst. Can you imagine the people of any other European country complaining that their national flag was on show? Unbelievable. All Scots, regardless of political allegiance, should take pride in seeing the Saltire.'



'Too Scottish': The polling station in Kilmallie Community Centre had to be moved to a side room after complaints about Saltires in the main hall.



From left: Skye Spiers, Cara Venn-MacNeil and Sophie Nairn practised generating energy to power racing toys. 20_1225pean01

Spean Bridge pupils power ahead at science workshop

BUDDING scientists of Spean Bridge and Roy Bridge put their skills to the test when they practised generating energy.

The P4 and P5 pupils learned how to create and store

electricity then used it to charge toy 'hexbugs' to race.

The workshop was part of the Generation Science tour by the Edinburgh International Science Festival.

Skye men set sail on 100-mile row

EIGHT Skye men will set off tomorrow morning (Friday) to row 100 miles from St Kilda to Skye for charity.

The amateurs have been training while they wait for fair enough weather for the daring trip on their 120-year-old larch skiff and will head to St Kilda in a support boat tonight to start the journey at first light in the morning. The challenge is in aid of Royal National Lifeboat Institution and Skye and Lochalsh

Young Carers and team leader Donnie Nicolson said the group was 'raring to go'.

He added: 'We did a 72-mile practise recently and since then we've just been keeping an eye on the forecast and waiting for a good weekend to go ahead. The guys are all really keen. It's been frustrating waiting around to go but it looks like mother nature has given us the weather we need and we're looking forward to getting going.'

The trip involves 22 people including the back-up team. Support vessels sailing to St Kilda will be Broadford-registered fishing boat Duman Star II and Portree cabin cruiser the Aimee-Louise. Eight men will take turns at the four oars throughout the non-stop journey which is expected to take two days. Portree girls Rosie McDaid and Cathryn Baillie, together with Gill Houlsby from Carbost, will share the coxswain's duties.

Arts group hosts war commemoration talks

AN INTERNATIONAL researcher is to visit the Outer Hebrides to give a series of talks in commemoration of the First World War.

Dr Dominick Dendooven, based at the In Flanders Fields museum in Belgium, will speak at venues in Barra, Benbecula, North Uist, Lewis and Harris to tell of the devastating impact the war had on island communities

as part of the Call of the Gael project by The Gaelic Arts Agency.

Dr Dendooven said: 'I'm delighted to have the opportunity to travel to the islands to participate in Call of the Gael.'

'Much of my research focuses on ensuring that personal stories about the Great War can be discovered and retold so that the names of those who fought

and fell during the conflict are personalised and that their own unique journey and sacrifices are remembered.'

Events are free to attend but organisers expect high demand and ask that attendees arrive in plenty of time to be accommodated.

Dates of talks and more information can be found at www.gaelic-arts.com.

War-time grenade found on Skye beach

AN OLD war-time grenade was found at the weekend in a secluded bay on a west-Skye beach.

The unexploded device was discovered by walkers at Horse Shoe Bay at Talisker on Saturday. Coastguard and police officials set up a cordon on the beach and stood guard until experts from the Explosive Ordnance Disposal Unit arrived to detonate it at 2.30pm on Monday. A police spokesman said: 'A member of the public reported the grenade to Portree police at around 4.30pm on Saturday. There was coastguard involvement and officials were watching to make sure nobody was in the particular area while the EOD made its way to the scene. It has now been detonated and removed.'

Talisker Bay is not believed to have been used for any form of military exercise and sits next to farmland.

Teenage girls' disgust at man's naked appearance

A GROUP of teenage girls were 'disgusted' at a man who admitted appearing naked in public and committing indecent acts, Fort William Sheriff Court heard on Tuesday.

Finlay MacIver of 10 Inverloch Court, Fort William, had drunk two bottles of wine on April 21 when he was in charge of his car and appeared naked in front of three girls of 13 and 14 years of age as well as other members of the public at Glen Nevis Road, procurator fiscal Eilidh Robertson told the court.

She said: 'Their attention was

attracted by someone shouting 'that man has no clothes on', as they turned round they saw that the accused had exited his vehicle parked in the layby and was fully naked. The young ladies described themselves as being disgusted by what he was doing and decided to phone the police.'

Ms Robertson added that during a police statement 42-year-old MacIver said he couldn't remember the incident. Defending solicitor Stephen Kennedy said at the time Robertson was drinking up to three bottles of wine a day but was now receiving help for an alcohol

problem. He added: 'I can't give information about the reason or motivation for the incident because his position is and has always been that he remembers virtually nothing about the incident.'

Sheriff Richard Davidson deferred sentencing for eight weeks for a social work report.

He said: 'Lots of people drink much more than is good for them but don't act like this. Sexual exposure to teenage girls was rightly described by them as disgusting but it can also cause psychological problems for them in the future.'



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Raasay's starring role at Royal charity event

THE ISLE of Raasay took pride of place at a social event in London for donors and supporters of a rural development charity set up by Prince Charles.

Local development officer on the island, Lloyd Gudgeon, was asked to speak at The Prince's Countryside Fund's annual reception in Clarence House, the heir to the throne's official residence.

The charity was set up by Prince Charles in 2010 to support rural communities and businesses and last year the fund assisted the community of Raasay to buy the only shop on the island, which was closing down. The shop has since passed into community ownership and is now operating successfully at a small profit. In his speech Mr Gudgeon emphasised the importance of trusting communities to know what they need and backing them. He said: 'Isolated communities require access to goods and services, just like everyone else but communities also need physical objects and shared spaces that are the hubs around which community life revolves. Usually such hubs are buildings - the primary school, the church, the pub and the shop. When these start to close down, the community is already dying.'

Mr Gudgeon thanked the fund for its support which, along with backing from HIE and the Lottery, has ensured that the shop stayed open and continued to serve the people of Raasay and visitors to the island.

Man re-offends day after bail is granted

A MAN appeared in court from custody on Tuesday after he committed breach of the peace the day after he was granted bail awaiting sentence for a previous offence.

Martin Lawrie of 22 Glenpane Street, Caol, admitted shouting, swearing and trying to start fights at Fort William High Street on April 29 and struggling violently with two police officers when they intervened.

The 24-year-old had been remanded in custody until he appeared in Fort William Sheriff Court on Tuesday.

Defence solicitor Hamish Melrose said: 'This was the first time he had been in custody in his life and it was clear to me he was not enjoying it. He realises where problems are and wants to resolve them.'

Sheriff Richard Davidson placed a restriction of liberty order on Lawrie which prevents him from leaving his home on Friday and Saturday nights and an 18 month supervision order. He also ordered him to pay compensation of £100 each to the policemen involved.

He added: 'I will not hesitate to send him to prison if I hear about any of these kinds of incidents again.'



Claggan resident Maureen Dempsey says the communal garden at her home has been left to fall into disrepair by Highland Council.

Residents hit out over garden neglect

RESIDENTS of Highland Council flats in Fort William said they are at their wits end over the 'complete mess' of their communal garden.

One tenant, Maureen Dempsey, said a Highland Council employee visited the Carn Dearg Road flats in January and promised the overgrown weeds, blocked drains and broken washing lines would be attended to - but nothing has been done.

Ms Dempsey, a Fort William Community Council member who has lived in Claggan for 28 years, said: 'I can't believe it's been left to get worse in all the time since I complained. I don't feel like we're asking for much, we don't want fancy landscaping or anything we just want it tidied up.'

'It's a complete mess, the poles for the washing lines are either broken, missing or rusted. There's weeds and moss growing out from everywhere and the drains are all blocked. I poured water down the drain after cleaning my bin and it all just scooped back up at me because it's completely blocked.'

Three of the six flats in the block are owned by Highland Council and Mrs Dempsey said all of the tenants are furious that the mess hasn't been dealt with. She added: 'Everyone has been complaining to me because I'm involved with the community council but I just don't know what to do anymore. We all pay our rent and council tax every month and we were told months ago it would be sorted - I feel like we're being completely ignored.'

A Highland Council spokeswoman said: 'The seasonal common areas maintenance programme has recently commenced and this area will be attended to in the very near future to apply moss treatment and subsequently clean up.'

'Damage to the rotary dryers will be inspected at the same time and we will endeavour to achieve the best possible outcome within the resources available to us.'

Guests gather in Portree as round-Skye runner Ally 'K' presents £31,545 to Cancer Research



Ally 'K' MacPherson presents the cheque to Cancer Research UK representative Richard Cowie.

THE PORTREE athlete who ran 125 miles round Skye in under 35 hours last month has presented a cheque to his chosen charity, Cancer Research UK.

Alistair 'K' MacPherson caught the imagination of the entire island with his incredible feat of human endurance.

He set himself a target of raising £8,000 - but when donations were totted up the enormous sum of £31,545 was realised.

The official celebration for the cheque handover in the Royal Hotel in Portree was attended by almost 100 guests.

Guest speakers Pauline Walker, Fiona Rennie, Donnie Nicolson and Thomas Wilson entertained the crowd before a premiere of the official event documentary of Ally's epic run was shown.

The evening closed with a ceilidh featuring the Cast Ewe Ceilidh Band and a further £13,000 was raised for Cancer Research UK on the night.

Ally 'K' said: 'I would like to personally thank everybody who has donated to such an important cause.'

'These funds can really make a difference.'

'The events of my challenge will live long in the memory - particularly the reception I received in Portree Square at the end. It really was a once in a lifetime experience.'

Fort William only BID in the pipeline

DISCUSSIONS are underway for a potential Fort William Business Improvement District (BID) after last year's attempt at a Lochaber-wide initiative was rejected by three quarters of voters.

Living Lochaber, the organisation behind the last controversial proposal, suggested businesses in the area paid a compulsory levy to fund additional projects and services but the plan faced vehement opposition from businesses in west and south Lochaber because they feared Fort William would benefit most.

Now a whisky shop owner has revealed that a small group of businessmen have been working to create a new Fort William exclusive BID. As discussions are in early stages, Drew Purdon made it clear nothing was set in stone.

He said: 'As far as I'm aware a group of businessmen have engaged the possibility of a BID for the town and its environment. Meetings are ongoing at the

EXCLUSIVE REPORT by EMMA CRICHTON
ecrichton@obantimes.co.uk

moment but there is a lot of work to get through before a proposal is ready.

'When we have the BID proposal complete we shall be visiting everyone who will become involved, nobody will be missed.'

Fort William High Street shops and restaurants will be a main focus of the new initiative, unlike the Lochaber BID which excluded these businesses.

The group has yet to speak to BID Scotland or Highland Council and Mr Purdon stressed if there was widespread opposition to the plan it would not go ahead to a full vote.

He added: 'If the proposals are rejected by the majority it will not go ahead. We won't even approach the council until we know we have wide support and

I think Highland Council will be wary about it because they spent around £30,000 on the last BID and they got their fingers burnt so we have to be sure before we take any official steps.'

Frazer Coupland, chairman of the now defunct Living Lochaber, said: 'I'll be very interested to see how this turns out. I'm not sure if I would personally want to involve myself again but there has been valuable experience gained from the Lochaber BID that would help any future BID in the area. A huge amount of work went into compiling databases and collecting information which could be made available to a new group.'

Fort William Community Council chairman Neil Clark said: 'I think a Fort William only BID makes a lot of sense, it's probably what should have happened last time round. It would be good to see all of the local businesses come together and I would be very enthusiastic about it.'

Work underway on new island community-owned bunkhouse

CONSTRUCTION is well underway of a new community-owned bunkhouse on a Scottish island mostly designated as a National Nature Reserve.

The Isle of Rum Community Trust (IRCT) is developing the 20-bed bunkhouse to attract more visitors to the island and secure a new income for the community.

The £874,000 bunkhouse will be owned and managed by IRCT and the project will create two new jobs while also increasing turnover by almost £100,000 in three years. Construction costs are being supported by £219,436 from Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) while IRCT are investing almost £30,000.

IRCT has received £58,412 over two years from the Big Lottery's Growing for running

costs.

Allan Henderson, chairman of IRCT said: 'We are really excited to see the bunkhouse construction moving so quickly.'

'It will mean a tremendous amount to the community on Rum, bringing in a new badly needed income stream and providing two new jobs.'

'I have great admiration for the effort of this small community working hard to replace the gap left by the closure of the [Kinloch Castle] accommodation.'

The building should be completed by the autumn and is designed to be self-sufficient, with water efficiency measures and solar panels to provide hot water built in.

Jacqueline McDonnell of HIE, said: 'We are delighted to be supporting IRCT with

the bunkhouse project and it is extremely exciting to see the building already taking shape.'

Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch MSP Dave Thompson welcomed the news. He said: 'The bunkhouse has been a long time in gestation so I am delighted it is now going ahead and will be completed before the winter.'

'This will bring more life and vibrancy to the biggest and one of the most beautiful of the Small Isles.'

Rum became well known across the UK after its red deer stags featured on the BBC1 programme Autumnwatch.

IRCT was formed in April 2007. Following a community vote in 2009, IRCT assumed control of land and assets around the village of Kinloch from island managers SNH.

Carer wasn't entitled to receive £3,500 worth of benefits

A FORT William carer has admitted receiving more than £3,500 in benefits she was not entitled to.

Ellen Edwards of 99 Glenkingie Street, Caol, continued to receive Carer's Allowance for looking after her mother because she did not tell the Department For Work and Pensions (DWP) she was earning more than the limit of £100 per week working for Chest, Heart and Stroke Scotland, Fort William Sheriff Court heard on Tuesday.

Defence solicitor Clare Russell said the 34-year-old was not consistently earning over the limit between April 30, 2012 and January 3, 2013 and it had 'slipped her mind' to notify the authorities.

Prosecutor Fiscal Eilidh Robertson added: 'Miss Edwards said she realised she should have told the DWP that she was earning over the threshold and she felt terrible about it.'

Sheriff Richard Davidson deferred sentencing until June 24 for a social work report.

Lifesaving volunteer in running for top award

A PORTREE man has been shortlisted for a national award for his work with a life-saving charity.

Ross Cowie, founder of Lucky2BHere, will appear on the second series of STV show 'RBS - Finding Scotland's Real Heroes' which pays tribute to the hard work people put into helping their communities.

Mr Cowie founded Lucky2BHere in 2007 and the charity now provides defibrillators and training in their use all over Scotland.

He said: 'I experienced a cardiac arrest and if there hadn't been an ambulance driving by I wouldn't be here today so I decided to fundraise to buy a defibrillator for Skye Camanachd Shinty Club and it all just went from there.'

'I think it's fantastic that the charity is being recognised, in particular the dozens of people who give their time, commitment and hard work to saving people's lives. I do what

I can but I couldn't do it without the whole team who help with Lucky2BHere.'

Crew from STV will be filming the charity's work in Portree in July and the show will be aired in autumn. At the end of the programme viewers will be invited to vote for the nominees they believe most deserve to win a Scotland's Real Heroes Award and winners will be recognised at a ceremony later in the year.

Elizabeth Partyka, of STV, said: 'The response to this year's call for Real Heroes has been overwhelming. There are so many people working quietly in communities and it is fantastic that we are able to recognise them with this new series of RBS - Finding Scotland's Real Heroes. There are some truly inspiring stories and this autumn it will be over to the STV viewers to vote for the nominees they believe most deserve to win an award.'

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MacIntyre wins by-election

IT WAS third time lucky for a Tesco night-shift worker in the Oban South and Isles by-election.

Neil MacIntyre is the first Labour councillor in Argyll and Bute for 14 years. He stood twice as an independent candidate. An active member of Oban Community Council, Mr MacIntyre came second in the majority vote winning 62 votes less than the Scottish National Party (SNP) candidate Iain MacLean on 980 votes.

But the proportional representational system was applied.

Councillor MacIntyre said: 'My first duty lies with my constituents in Oban South and the Isles and I will be a hardworking, approachable councillor who will diligently stand up for their interests at Kilmory.' Election first preference results were: Neil MacIntyre, Scottish Labour, 918; Iain Stewart MacLean, SNP, 980; David Pollard, Scottish Liberal Democrats, 635; John MacGregor, Independent, 616; Andrew Vennard, Scottish Conservative, 345. Neil was elected at stage five.

There were 3,494 valid votes cast in the by-election with a turnout of 43.55 per cent. Thirty-one votes were rejected.

Last chance Tiree tickets on sale

SCOTLAND'S best small music festival, Tiree Music Festival, is releasing 100 last chance tickets as organisers announce an additional stage sponsored by ferry operator CalMac Ferries Ltd.

Live Lounge, a new acoustic stage for the 2014 festival, will host performances from Scotland's most established songwriters including Dougie MacLean and Roddy Woomble.

Tickets will be available from Friday, May 30 at 9am from tireemusicfestival.co.uk.

Alleged assault of 14-year-old

A 29-year-old woman and a 32-year-old man have been charged in connection with the alleged assault of a 14-year-old girl in Oban.

The two accused have been charged with assault, breach of the peace and possession of a knife. The incident relating to the charges happened on Sunday evening.



Young couple, Shannon Feaks, aged 19, from Pennyfuir Farm and Rory Craig, 23, from Taynuilt were presented the keys to their first house together by Murray Sim, chairman of West Highland Housing Association. 15_122house01

New home delight for first tenants

WITH only the carpets to fit and the curtains to hang it is almost time for the first 50 new houses at Dunbeg to be occupied.

Young couple Shannon Feaks, aged 19, from Pennyfuir Farm and Rory Craig, 23, from Taynuilt are one of the first to move in and took the keys to their first house together.

All the properties on the square will be occupied over the next few weeks.

The houses were built by West Highland Housing Association (WHHA) under contract by Tobermory Sandpit Limited (TSL) and project managed by Taynuilt's Gregor Cameron Consultants.

Murray Sim, chairman of WHHA, said: 'We are delighted to see this fantastic development coming on site providing 50 desperately needed properties

for the area. As a rent to buy development this provides an opportunity for new buyers to get on to the housing ladder as they are able to rent their home for the first five years and then purchase outright.

'This development has only been made possible through the partnership working of the Scottish Government, Link Housing Association and Argyll and Bute Council and I would also like to extend my thanks to our contractor TSL which has delivered the project.'

The next phase of the development will be towards the end of the year with a proposed 25 houses making their way through the planning system. It is hoped that 800 houses will be built on the site over the next 20 years.

Opinion split over Oban town centre Costa Coffee plan

A DECISION, made in private, by Oban Community Council will see it object to a coffee shop development in Oban's Station Square for fear other national companies will come to the town.

In contrast, early indications from Argyll and Bute Council planners show it is likely to give a positive recommendation to the planning committee for the same application.

Plans are well progressed for a Costa Coffee franchise in the former Whisky Shop. The company has even advertised for a store manager paid at £20,000 per annum.

Council road officers were set to object to the Costa application, but the multi-national changed its planning application to accommodate concerns about

the use of the pavement.

A second detailed application to Argyll and Bute Council has now been submitted taking into account a request for a reduced pavement seating area and a noise assessment survey to be a condition of planning.

On Tuesday evening, Oban Community Council heard plans for the outlet would cause small independent businesses in the town to close. But campaigners against the proposed change of use were told the area was zoned to enable this type of development. When challenged by community council members on her motives, campaigner Fay MacGillivray, of the MacGillivray Trust, denied that the block above the shop was full of holiday homes. She said: 'My mother lives in the property

directly above this shop unit, and I don't want my mum to lose sleep because of an extractor fan.'

Donna MacCulloch of Roxy's in Argyll Square, Oban, said: 'If we had known there was an opportunity for a cafe on Station Square then we would have considered it ourselves.'

In a letter to the council, she said: 'I had premises at Boswell House and it closed for lack of customers and also Argyll Square has suffered since the Tourist Information Office moved.'

The debate was brought to an end by Councillor Iain Angus MacDonald who said the discussion should be heard 'in committee'.

At that point in the agenda members of the public and

elected members were asked to leave the room.

It was later revealed by email that the community council had decided to object to the plans.

A draft statement from the community council said noise and outside seating made plans unacceptable.

It also said: 'If this application is granted then it is likely that other chains will use the precedent to change the use of the other units.'

An Argyll and Bute Council spokeswoman said: 'Due to the July recess, it is likely that this application will go to the planning and protective services and licensing committee meeting in August, although the agenda for that meeting is yet to be finalised and won't be confirmed until a later date.'

NHS Highland finally admits defeat over dental hospital deal

Argyll Square practice negotiations end in disappointment

AFTER months of failed negotiations NHS Highland is back to square one in its efforts to get dentists into its state-of-the-art new dental suite at Lorn and Islands Hospital.

With deadline after deadline pushed back from last year into this year, Argyll and Bute Community Health Partnership (CHP) has finally admitted defeat in its efforts to negotiate a lease with Argyll Square Dental Practice to move into the Oban hospital.

Now the CHP has decided to advertise the lease for a dental practice on the open market.

'Argyll and Bute CHP has made a significant investment in the Oban Dental Access Centre in order to deliver local NHS

dental services in a state of the art facility which provides suitable access for all patients,' said Elizabeth Reilly, assistant dental director for the CHP.

'I am therefore really disappointed that we have been unable to come to an agreement with the Argyll Square Dental Practice to take over the lease.'

'I can only apologise for the delay and share the public's frustration that the facility is not operating at its full capacity.'

'The CHP has decided that it is in the best interests of the people of Oban and surrounding communities to look at other options and we are in the process of advertising the lease in the British Dental Journal.'

'This will allow suitably

qualified dental practitioners an opportunity to express an interest in taking over the lease and we will interview suitable candidates as soon as we can after the closing date.'

She added: 'I am hopeful that this course of action will lead to a permanent solution and will allow us to provide a full range of dental services from the facility.'

Only last month, NHS Highland had indicated that it hoped a lease for the suite would be signed with the Argyll Square practice within a matter of weeks.

Among the reasons for the Argyll Square practice's move to the hospital was its lack of access for people with disabilities and difficulties in meeting decontamination guidelines.

It is understood one of the stumbling blocks in the lease negotiations was a reduction in the number of dentists practising at Argyll Square.

No-one from the Argyll Square practice was available for comment as *The Oban Times* went to press.

NEWSDESK
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First tenant moves in at science park

THE FIRST tenant of the European Marine Science Park at Dunstaffnage is now in residence.

Xanthella Ltd has recently moved into Malin House, the first building completed on the European Marine Science Park near Oban taking a lease of almost 1500 sq ft of office and lab accommodation.

The European Marine Science Park (EMSP) is owned and managed by economic and community development agency Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE). Argyll-based Xanthella Ltd is a small, fast-growing business, established and run by Dr Douglas McKenzie, a well known marine science entrepreneur. Dr McKenzie previously established the UK's first specialist marine biotech company Integrin Advanced Biosystems Ltd in 1999.



Dr Douglas McKenzie, left, founder of Xanthella Ltd and Lachie Beaton, Senior Development Manager for HIE. Photo: Cameron Harris/HIE

Xanthella develops photobioreactors (PBR) for use in scalable form for growing microalgae for research and industrial production of high value products such as cosmetics, nutraceuticals and medicines.

Dr McKenzie said: 'Malin House is an

excellent base from which we can grow Xanthella. The building's light and airy atmosphere makes it a great place to work and the low carbon footprint really fits our company's ethos.

'We are looking forward to welcoming guests, collaborators and customers to our new facility and to closer working with scientists at the Scottish Association of Marine Science.'

Douglas Cowan, HIE's area manager for Argyll and the islands, said: 'HIE is delighted to welcome Xanthella Ltd to EMSP at Dunstaffnage. As a local high-growth company, Xanthella is joining a thriving entrepreneurial community of marine scientists in Argyll.'

'The company's move into Malin House confirms our efforts to grow life sciences and support the unique marine science cluster of activity in our region.'

Concern over leaning lamp posts

LEANING lamp posts near McCaig Road in Oban are 'alarming' to passersby.

But one councillor said it might be easier to straighten them themselves than get them fixed by anyone else.

Oban Community Council heard Kate Winton, a wheelchair user, say that it was 'alarming' to be near the lamp posts as they looked as though they might fall over at any time.

Councillor McCuish said he was aware of many more than just one leaning lamp post and he had raised the matter with council officers. His investigations didn't shine any light on the matter, however, as he found out they didn't belong to the council. He said: 'They are in the ownership of a housing association and it might be quicker to straighten them ourselves.'

Duncan Martin, vice-chairman of Oban Community Council, said he would write a letter to sort the matter out with the correct authority.



Malcolm Clark. t22malcolm01

Malcolm's father, Malcolm Kerr, tries out the Reporting Scotland newsdesk after his son's audition at Pacific Quay.

Oban singing shinty player shares Gaelic song with millions

A SINGING shinty player from Oban shared a Gaelic song with an audience of millions on BBC Radio 1 after auditioning to win tickets for the station's One Big Weekend festival.

Malcolm Clark, lead vocalist with ceilidh band Ceol an Aire, was bidding to win tickets to the weekend event and the opportunity to introduce Calvin Harris in front of a crowd of 10 of thousands at Glasgow Green.

Malcolm, a fluent Gaelic speaker, sang the well-known Gaelic tune Tioram air Tir to a stunned Radio 1 DJ Nick Grimshaw.

Having got to the shortlist of four finalists, the 19 year old narrowly missed out on the prize but his shinty team-mates have not let him forget his short-lived fame.

'I had an injury on my head from playing shinty the week before, so Nick Grimshaw was calling me Harry Potter. He kept referring to shinty as 'Highland hockey' and said I looked like 'a real hard nut'.'

'The boys at camanachd heard it all on the radio, so they have been giving me a real slugging.'

Malcolm's audition was at the BBC studios at Pacific Quay and he was accompanied by his father, roofing contractor Malcolm Kerr, who tried his hand at news reading.

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RET roll out for west coast routes

A DELAYED roll out of Road Equivalent Tariff (RET) ferry fares could mean another year of woes for islanders. But plans to introduce the reduced fares scheme to Arran are to get the go-ahead this October.

It won't be until the winter timetable of 2015/16 that it reaches 14 other destinations including Mull, Iona, Harris, Eriskay, Barra, Raasay, Skye, the Small Isles, Lismore, Portavadie and Tarbert.

Michael Russell, MSP Argyll and

Bute, said: 'I am very pleased that the Government has now confirmed it will fully implement the manifesto commitment made in 2011 and roll out RET to all the island routes before the 2016 Scottish election.'

'Mull and Bute in particular will benefit greatly from this decision and I look forward to helping the communities take full advantage of it.'

Argyll and Bute MP Alan Reid said: 'I welcome the fact that all islands served

by CalMac are to get RET eventually.'

'However, I don't understand why islands like Bute, Mull, Iona and Lismore have to wait another year.'

'These islands are being treated unfairly by the Scottish Government and are only to get RET seven years after it was first introduced in the Western Isles. There is no reason why RET should not be extended to all islands this year at the same time it is extended to Arran.'

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Lorn Lines

TWO Lochawe boys raised cash for Macmillan Cancer Care recently after their mother was diagnosed with cancer last year. Ieuan Jenkins, aged 9, and Iestwyn, 7, climbed Ben Lora in Benderloch in one hour and 25 minutes to raise more than £400 for the charity.



Jenkins brothers Ieuan, aged 9, and Iestwyn, 7, from Lochawe climbed Ben Lora to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Care. They were joined by their mum and dad at the end of the walk.

TWO OBAN High School S2-3 pupils found themselves in the company of Olympians when they took part in a Be Your Personal Best event in Glasgow. Heather Fothergill and Keira MacIntyre joined 150 other pupils from across Scotland for the event organised by Winning Scotland Foundation where they got to meet Sir Chris Hoy and Katherine Grainger CBE alongside other top level athletes.

THE LORN and Mid Argyll branch of the Scottish Wildlife Trust (SWT) held a fundraising open day at Ardmaddy Castle to mark the charity's 50th anniversary year. The event last Saturday was held with kind permission of owners Charles and Minette Struthers.



Cutting the SWT birthday cake. Organisers thanked everyone who helped to make the day a success.

LAST week's story about a fire fighter receiving a long service award should have read John Campbell, not MacLean as published.

Pupils' master class in all things 'green'

DUNBEG Primary School can now give a master class in being 'green'. The school has every authority to lecture, as it has achieved its fifth Green Flag for excellence in raising environmental issues and action around the school building and grounds.



Dunbeg pupils show off their new green flag.

Oban traffic gridlock as light fault wreaks havoc

TRAFFIC has been brought to a standstill in Oban every day over the last fortnight because of a fault in the traffic signals outside Oban High School. Some drivers say they have been held up for more than 40 minutes trying to make their way from the Bealach An Righ to the busy junction on Soroba Road.

The Oban Times of people missing ferries, buses being late for school and people missing appointments. Last week delays were said to be down to road works, but when contractors had finished it was hoped the chaos would be over.

'This time of year,' he said, 'it is beginning to get very busy in the town.' The traffic lights at the high school managed on a number of occasions to bring the town to a standstill. 'The police office had a high volume of calls with car drivers stuck in traffic.'

including community councillor Jessie MacDonald, who said that it was time that the problem was sorted out once and for all. An Argyll and Bute Council spokeswoman said: 'During road works being carried out by a utility company in the area, a traffic sensor was damaged, affecting the light priority settings.'

this in place very soon. Any associated costs will be passed on to the company which has instructed the road works.' Councillor Roddy McCuish said: 'If the council has to dig up the road - then it will cause even more chaos to traffic in the town.'

Residents praised for backing charity appeal for old glasses

AN APPEAL to people in Oban for old and unwanted specs has led to a huge collection being passed on through Specsavers in the town to developing countries. More than 650 pairs have been handed in since the start of the year, all of which have been given to eyecare charity Vision Aid Overseas (VAO).

'The support we've had from people has been overwhelming and I can't thank our customers enough for their efforts,' said Ken Macdonald, store director at Specsavers in Oban and stalwart supporter of the charity. 'Local charity shops have also been

great at dropping by with any glasses that come into them through donations. 'Sadly, many people overseas do not have access to the most basic of eyecare so receiving a pair of prescription glasses can make a remarkable difference to their lives.'

Specsavers and Vision Aid Overseas have a joint commitment to provide eyecare for everyone living in Zambia. As part of its ongoing fundraising for the charity, Specsavers has to date channelled more than £300,000 into the Zambian partnership.

Original sports council member opens new Taynuilt pavilion



Guests at the official opening of the Taynuilt sports pavilion look on as Cathy Reid does the honours. Photo: Kevin McGlynn.

A MEMBER of the original Taynuilt Sports Council, formed 40 years ago, cut the ribbon to officially open the village's sports pavilion. Cathy Reid is a founding member of the first Taynuilt Sports Council, formed in 1974, and was given the honour of declaring the sports hub open last Friday.

Council chairman, said: 'The official opening gave Taynuilt Sports Council the opportunity to thank the many people who have contributed so much to the building of the new pavilion. 'Community facilities are what make a community, they allow people to pursue shared interests and give a community an identity. 'Taynuilt is very fortunate that for many years people have volunteered to give of their time and skills and in doing so have created a vibrant community. 'That is why we were delighted one of these people, Mrs Cathy Reid, carried out the duty of opening the new pavilion. 'It has been very rewarding to have been involved in the new pavilion and hopefully the tradition of volunteering in Taynuilt will continue to grow.'

Progress on safety outside Oban Primary Campus

PARENTS who have raised safety concerns outside an Oban school may be closer to finding a solution. The Oban Times reported last month on the number of accidents and near accidents around Oban Primary Campus. Councillor Roddy McCuish told Oban Community Council that a possible solution had been found for traffic control. He said he had been in discussion with the new head teacher, and staff and officers were looking for a way to make sure children and parents felt safe at the school. A report was being made to Argyll and Bute Council's Oban, Lorn and the Isles area committee on June 9 and it was hoped people would be at the meeting in the Corran Halls to discuss the issue further.

Oban North and Lorn by-election date announced

A BY-election for one seat in the Oban North and Lorn ward will be held on Thursday, July 17 by Argyll and Bute Council. The seat became vacant when Louise Glen-Lee resigned for 'personal reasons' earlier in the year. The ward covers an area from Lismore and Appin in the north, to Arduaine and Luing in the south, to Bridge of Orchy in the east, Dunbeg, Dunollie and other parts of Oban. The current ward councillors are Elaine Robertson, Iain Angus MacDonald and Duncan MacIntyre.

Rugby ladies show their strength

OBAN Lorne Ladies rugby team will be making their strength felt tomorrow night (Friday) as they are recorded for BBC Scotland radio. The media crew are coming to town to do a piece about women competing as heavy weight contenders in Highland games. 'The women will 'have a go' at several of the traditional games' heavy events, supervised by up-and-coming competitor Craig Nicholson and Highland games stalwart Duncan MacIntyre of Ardrern. Extra trains five days a week WE WOULD like to point out that, despite information supplied for last week's story 'Oban welcomes first new extra train service', the Glasgow 5.20am train arriving Oban 8.35am and Oban 5.21am train arriving Glasgow 8.37am, does not run on Saturdays, only Monday to Fridays. It is, therefore, a doubling of train services Oban-Glasgow five days a week.

Scottish Field JUNE ISSUE OUT NOW. KINTYRE & ARRAN. Willie McIlvanney - The Godfather of tartan noir. Is public art a waste of time? The Burrell family feud. The future of field sports - 10 page focus. Scottish architect to the Czars. 10 of the best unsolved Scottish mysteries. WIN A holiday for two on Orkney & Shetland.

Appeal for fair parking in town. PARKING must be 'fair and reasonable' to suit the needs of Oban as a 'tourist' town, says Oban Community Council. Survey into impact of waterfront plan. A CONSULTANT has been commissioned by Argyll and Bute Council to look at the social impact of the town's waterfront regeneration.

OBAN STOVE CENTRE. Sales stock now available. COMPLETE IN HOUSE FITTING SERVICE HETAS. Old Crofters Yard, Soroba Rd, Oban, Argyll, PA344HU. Tel: 01631564790 Fax: 01631562919 info@obanstovecentre.co.uk

Free Course community contacts. Join us on Our Course for New Volunteers on Choice, Dignity & Respect and Self-Directed Support. Open to people from across Argyll interested in joining our team as Support & Information Volunteers. 25th June-6th August 2014 (5 sessions) - Inveraray. Lunch provided on full days. Tea, coffee and cake will be shared on all occasions. Expenses e.g. for travel will be agreed in advance. Lift shares may be available. Contact Becs to find out more. becsbarker@carrgomm.org 07766 925388 www.carrgomm.org/communitycontacts

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Welfare League players join forces for an Old Firm football fundraiser

LOCHABER Welfare League footballers came together on Sunday for a light-hearted 'old firm' fundraising match which saw Rangers secure a 6-3 victory and £700 raised. The little ones also managed a kick-about

at Canal Parks thanks to Lisa MacGillivray of Caol Primary School arranging a mini tournament before the match. The icing on the cake for players and organisers was Marine Harvest announcing

a £500 sponsorship for the Welfare League. Ronald Wegner, league treasurer and match secretary, said: 'It was a great day, the support from everyone in the community was unbelievable. We're going to donate some

of the money to Lisa's kids team so they can buy new goals. 'I'd like to thank Damian MacDonald for organising the event, he did a great job and also a big thanks to local businesses who don-

ated raffle prizes and everyone who came out on the day to support us.' Our photo shows Lochaber Welfare League players donned out in blue and green for the Auld Firm football fundraiser. Photo: The Write Image

Martin beats Darren in week four final

DARTS

IN WEEK four of the Tradewinds Singles League Martin Cameron beat Darren Sutherland in the final. Cameron also scored a 180 and Sutherland scored a 170. Beaten semi-finalists were Duncan Carmichael and Curly Cameron.

League Standings	Pts
1 James Whyte	30
2 Duncan Rogers	19
3 Duncan Carmichael	17
4 Curly Cameron	15
5 Darren Sutherland	11
6= Alex MacInnes	9
6= Paul Shearer	9
6= John Woods	9
6= Graham Irving	9
10 Bobby Watson	6
11 Kenny Fraser	3
12 David Fairgrieve	1

May Medal at Skye Golf Club

GOLF

ISLE OF Skye Golf Club May Medal returns: Saturday 24 and Sunday 25 May. 1 Alasdair Grant 65 (9) nett 56; 2 Dave MacVicar 79 (17) 62; 3 Mike Mace 77 (14) 63; 4 Sandy Ross 70 (4) 66 (bih); 5 Kyle Pirie 83 (17) 66.



Neil Feggans, left, received a trophy on behalf of his golf team Happy Hackers from Ian Johnston of tournament sponsors Marine Harvest.

Happy hackers win Am-Am

A GROUP of Fort William golfers was delighted to win an annual charity tournament on Sunday. Happy Hackers, captained by Neil Feggans, came first in the Rotary Club of Lochaber's Am-Am competition with a score of

115. Loony Toons took second place with 117 and Drinkalot and Driver came third with 123 (bih). Hel's Belles were the best ladies scoring 142 with The Kraggies taking second place with 144 and Spean Posh Cows'

GOLF

score of 146 secured them third place. More than 100 golfers turned out to the event and organisers thanked Fort William Golf Club committee for use of the course.

Returns from Fort William Golf Club

GOLF

FORT WILLIAM Golf Club returns: Friday May 23, seniors' front nine stableford - 1 Alan Ritchie 20pts (14); 2 Keith Sangster 19pts (7); 3 Ronald MacDonald 16pts (06); 4 Gerry Conaghan 12pts (09); 5 Kevin Hickman 11pts (13). Saturday 24 May, Captain's Prize - 1 William McCann 82 (13) 69; 2 David MacPherson 78 (8) 70; 3 Neil Henderson 80 (9) 71.

Spean Bridge shinty stalwart Molly Toal dies

SHINTY

THE FUNERAL took place in Roy Bridge last Saturday of the late Molly Toal of Spean Bridge. The service took place in St Margaret's RC Church, Roy Bridge, at 12 noon, thereafter to Cille Choirill Cemetery. **Sympathy** The sympathy of the whole shinty community is extended to Anne, Gordon and the other members of the Toal family. Molly was well known in shinty circles and was often on

hand to present the trophy at Lochaber Camanachd's Joseph Toal Sixes, a competition set up in memory of her late son Joseph whose loss at such a young age in the early 1980s, she so keenly felt. She, too, will be sadly missed by everyone who knew her and benefited from her wit, wisdom and kindness.

Inverlochy Primary School win Tyler Murphy Tournament

INVERLOCHY Primary School pupils were delighted to take home the trophy from a local shinty tournament. The Tyler Murphy Tournament in Kinlochleven saw five junior teams compete for first place with Lochaber and Inverlochy

clashing in an exciting final. Lochaber took an early lead through Darren Whyte after some neat link-up play, but Inverlochy were back on level terms within a minute with an excellent strike from Craig MacDonald and half time arrived

SCHOOL SHINTY

with the score at 1-1. The match was not to end with chances at both ends, but with only one minute of normal time left Paul Paterson hit an excellent throw in for Inverlochy into the path of Craig MacDonald who rounded his player and finished a great move with a goal worthy of winning any final. Player of the tournament was awarded to Max Campbell of Lochaber before Paul Paterson lifted the trophy for Inverlochy. Junior shinty players from Ardnamurchan and Ballachulish also took part in the event.



Inverlochy shinty team was delighted to bring home the Tyler Murphy trophy. Back, from left: Struan Stevens, Craig MacDonald and Evan Atkinson. Front from left: Ryan Fender, Johnny Forster and Ellis Blackmore.



Fort William Football Club founder member Colin Neilson, right, presented Andy Martin with the Player of the Year award before the Fort's final game of the season at Claggan Park last Friday evening. Young Player of the Year James MacKay received his trophy from Colin's wife Grace. 20_21football01



A good turn out of bowlers came to see Tony Abberley make the first throw of the jack to start of the new season at Lochaber Bowling Club. Tony and his wife Tina have been stalwarts at the club for many years and fellow members were delighted to welcome them back following their recent retirement from the sport.

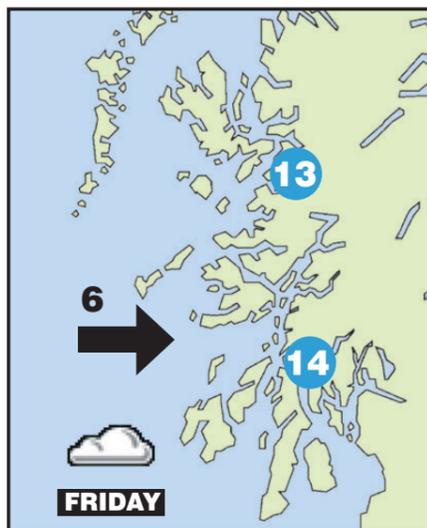
Weather

Thursday Cloudy with light rain
Winds light east south easterly
Temperatures 11°C to 15°C

Friday Cloudy
Winds light westerly
Temperatures 10°C to 14°C.

Weekend Outlook Cloudy on Saturday
Sunshine and showers on Sunday
Winds light west south westerly
Temperatures 9°C to 11°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 29, 2014** are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath.

All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am	pm
Thur	00.01 0.9 05.51 3.8 12.06 0.9 18.00 3.8	
Fri	00.42 1.0 06.27 3.8 12.44 0.9 18.35 3.9	
Sat	01.20 1.1 07.02 3.7 13.22 1.0 19.10 3.8	
Sun	01.58 1.2 07.38 3.6 14.00 1.1 19.46 3.7	
Mon	02.36 1.4 08.15 3.4 14.40 1.2 20.23 3.6	
Tues	03.16 1.6 08.55 3.3 15.21 1.4 21.02 3.4	
Wed	04.01 1.8 09.38 3.1 16.05 1.6 21.45 3.3	

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

Ardrihaig	-5.35	Mallaig	+0.25
Campbeltown	-5.30	Portree	+0.55
Crinan	-0.47	Tobermory	+0.16
Islay Port Ellen	2.00	Dover	+5.30
Lochboisdale	+0.30		

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