

# The Oban Times

## & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Established 1861 No 7993

Thursday 3 June, 2010

www.obantimes.co.uk

75 pence



### Scottish Series glory for veteran

### First Festival of the Sea goes 'swimmingly'



### Helicopter crashes into Loch Long

A PILOT who crashed his helicopter into Loch Long on Tuesday morning was searching for his motor boat; allegedly stolen some hours earlier.

It is understood the pilot was returning home to the Arrochar area in his Robinson R34 helicopter when he was notified that his motor boat had been stolen from its mooring on Loch Long.

Deciding to take a detour over the loch to see if he could spot it, the pilot got into difficulty and crashed into the water. He was uninjured and did not require hospital treatment.

A spokesman for Strathclyde Police said: 'At 9.10am police received a report that a helicopter had crashed into Loch Loch.'

'It is believed the pilot of the helicopter was the owner of a boat which had been taken earlier in the morning.'

As The Oban Times went to press the helicopter remained fully submerged in the depths of Loch Long.

The police spokesman added: 'At 7am the same morning police received a report that a man was missing from a campsite at Ardgartan, near Arrochar.'

'It is believed he took a motor boat onto the loch at 2am.'

'At 8.30am the boat was spotted by a member of the public drifting in Loch Long. The missing man was found on board and the vessel was towed back to shore.'

A 20-year-old man, understood to come from outwith the area, has been arrested with the alleged theft of a boat.



Dunstaffnage Castle visitors Kyle Lindsay, left, and Adam Gorrie got a history lesson with a difference during the Festival of the Sea's final weekend. Adam's grandparents, Tommy and Margaret McKelvie, live in Oban. 07\_23dun02

### Robert the Bruce invades Festival of the Sea

VISITORS to Dunstaffnage Castle at the weekend were taken back to 1308, when Robert the Bruce invaded the building, thanks to a small group of soldiers.

As part of the Festival of the Sea celebrations, Historic Scotland invited four members from the battle re-enactment company, Battlescar, to

entertain the visitors to the castle and teach them about the famous invasion of the castle, during the Scottish wars of independence. Ian Deveney of Battlescar,

decked in helmet, chain mail and sword, told The Oban Times: 'People are coming here as part of the Festival of the Sea but it is our job today to draw them

in to Dunstaffnage Castle and teach them a bit about the battle.

'We do a lot of educational work, as well as taking part in film extra work.'

### Loch Awe fatal accident inquiry opens at Oban

FOUR fishermen who lost their lives on Loch Awe last March were experienced boatmen and capable swimmers, a fatal accident inquiry has heard.

The opening day of the inquiry, at Oban Sheriff Court on Tuesday, June 1, heard Craig Currie, aged 30, brothers William and Steven Carty, aged 47 and

42, and Thomas Douglas, aged 36, were camping on the lochshore on March 21, last year.

#### Lifejackets

Patrick Donnelly, who had accompanied the men on previous fishing trips to Loch Awe, said he had given his boat to Mr Douglas about six weeks before the incident.

He said: 'I don't know if they were trained, but all were on boats most of their lives.' Asked if they usually wore lifejackets while out on the water, he said 'yes'.

On March 21, the men had taken the boat to the Tight Line pub in Lochawe village, according to landlord Brian Somerville. They stayed about two

hours and had four rounds of drinks, he added.

He said when they left: 'These gentlemen were not heavily influenced by the alcohol they had drunk.'

Also giving evidence was holidaymaker Anthony Payne, staying at the Loch Awe Hotel on the night of the incident. He was woken in the night

by shouting: 'It was like someone was shouting up and down the loch.'

'One minute you could hear it, the next it was fading. It was misty everywhere, you couldn't see a thing.'

The inquiry is set to run until June 30 and could hear from 70 witnesses, including members of the emergency services.

### Action plan over school transport cuts

A DAY of traffic chaos in Oban is forecast if parents go ahead with plans for a drive to school day following a public meeting held yesterday, Wednesday.

The direct action was called for after Argyll and Bute Council's school transport budget was cut by £46,000 and children who were previously entitled to free transport were advised to walk to school.

**EXCLUSIVE**  
REPORT BY  
LOUISE LEE  
lee@obantimes.co.uk

all have something to say about the council's decision to save £46,000.

'We suggested a drive to school day to show just how busy the road will be. It will bring traffic to a standstill and it will show just how dangerous and difficult it will be when the free and convenient transport is cut. 'There is also a severe shortage of parking space within school grounds.'

The group wrote to all local councillors inviting them to attend the meeting but as The Oban Times went to press only councillor Roddie McCuish had confirmed his attendance.

Speaking before the meeting he said: 'I can fully understand parents' concerns. 'Argyll and Bute Council has to prove that there are safe routes to school. From experience of these roads and pathways I doubt that this is the case.'

'I would urge parents to contact the council to carry out a safety audit. And then we can make an informed decision about the way forward.'

*"It will bring traffic to a standstill."*  
**parents' group**

A spokeswoman for the parent's group said: 'We are ready and willing to show people what it will be like if everyone has to drive to the school at the same time.'

'It is all very well saying that children can walk to school, but there are no safe routes in Oban.'

'It will also take more than 20 minutes to deliver children to school and many people will lose out on work because they will not be able to start at 9 am.'

'I believe that the Oban and Lorn Tourist Association, West Coast Motors and many local employers will

### Banned driver who drove on Mull is jailed for eight months and banned for another 10 years

A DRIVER who had been banned from driving six times was caught driving on the Isle of Mull.

Scott Goldwyre, aged 32, of 11 Admiralty Wood, Perth admitted driving on the island while disqualified without insurance on December 10 2007. A police investigation discovered that he had already been banned six times before.

Prosecutor fiscal Craig Harris said that Goldwyre had absconded from Fort William

Sheriff Court in 2008 when he discovered that he was facing a custodial sentence for driving offences.

Defence Agent Sandy Mitchell said that Goldwyre was only planning to drive the car 800 metres.

Sheriff Douglas Small said: 'You have horrendous record of driving offences and a total disregard for orders of the law.'

'I am sentencing you to 245 day in prison and disqualifying you from driving for 10 years.'



The fire-gutted flat at Kerrera Terrace, Dunollie, Oban 16\_23fr001

### Family rescued from Oban blaze

AN OBAN family were saved from fire by a smoke alarm fitted in their flat.

A fierce flat fire, late on Sunday night, resulted in six families being evacuated overnight from homes in the Dunollie area of Oban.

#### High temperatures

Neighbours watched as flames licked out of the window of the house and families were rescued as temperatures within the building rapidly rose to 1000 °C.

Fire experts claim that disaster was only averted due to a single smoke alarm fitted in the house.

Three people were taken to Lorn and the Island's Hospital suffering from smoke inhalation.

Oban Fire and Rescue watch commander Garry MacPherson said:

'Conditions inside the common close stairwell were severe with poor visibility and soaring heat. 'The fire was well developed when we got to it.'

'Firefighters also immediately evacuated four other households within the block.'

'The occupant of the flat had been alerted to the growing fire by hearing a smoke detector. Without a doubt it was this alarm that helped him raise the alarm and get himself and another person out of the premises. If he did not have the alarm the consequences of this fire may have been very different.'

Police confirmed there were no suspicious circumstances and they believed the fire to be an electrical fault.

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### School searches for memories of poet, writer and former teacher

OBAN High School is appealing for people who knew Iain Crichton Smith to get in touch.

The school is currently celebrating the life and work of the writer and former teacher of Oban High School. Pupils and teachers want to hear from people with memories of living and working with Iain.

Did you know him from the local community? Was he an inspiration as a teacher or as a colleague?

A plaque to commemorate 'one of Scotland's finest writers' will be unveiled at the school on June 23.

To contact the school, email keith.cameron@obanhigh.argyll-bute.sch.uk.

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# Highlands to lose 100 NHS jobs according to plan

ONE HUNDRED National Health Service (NHS) posts are to go throughout the Highlands but compulsory redundancies are unlikely, says the NHS Highland Partnership Forum.

**Plan**  
The reduction in staff is planned as part of the NHS Highland's Redesign and

Efficiency Programme. It is expected that about 70 of the posts will be in administration, support and management services with the remainder from nursing staff.

The NHS anticipates achieving these reductions through natural wastage as it has over 500 posts vacant in

any one-year and a natural turnover of between 8-10 per cent.

**Reduction**  
NHS Highland's employee director, Ray Stewart, said: 'The NHS still offers its staff unrivalled security of employment. 'People whose role changes or who are offered

alternative employment are offered training to ensure they have the appropriate skills to do that job.'

NHS Highland Chief Executive, Roger Gibbins, said: 'Despite this planned reduction in our workforce patients will see waiting times fall and the quality of service improve.'

The efficiency programme also outlines plans to tackle the level of absence due to sickness in the NHS and reduce the use of agency and bank staff.

NHS Highland currently employs more than 8,000 people and workforce costs account for two thirds of its annual expenditure.



**Beachd Ailein**  
Ailean Caimbeul

AS AN FHARSAINGEACHD gheibh am mòr-shluagh riaghaltas a thaghas am beagan, ach "chan ionnann iùl do dhithis is slioghe do thriuir". Gun teagamh tha an sean-fhacal sin gu math iomchaidh as na làithean seo is sinn a' faicinn na buaidh agus nan duilgheadasan a th' air sruthadh à bhòthadh innleachdach. Sin a' Ghàidhlig a tha Faclair na Pàrlamaid a' cur air "tactical voting", ach nach bu chòir dhan a h-uile bhòt a bhith innleachdach; mura bi dè am feum a tha gu bhith innte?

Chan eil fios co mheud duine a bhòt dha na Libearalaich Deamocratach gus fiachainn ris na Tòraidhean neo na Làbaraich a chumail a-mach, neo a chur air adhart, ach gun teagamh tha mòran a-nise a' faireachadh gun deach am mealladh. Tha sinn air ar "riochdachadh" le co-bhanntachd nach do thagh sinn, agus fo bhuidh prògram riaghlaidh air nach tug sinn beachd; fhathast co dhiu! Chan eil ach ùine ghoirid aig an Riaghaltas seo taic mòr-shluagh Alba a bhunneig neo theagamh gun nochd beachd ann an taghaidhean Pàrlamaid na h-Alba nach còrd riutha!

Chan eil obair riaghlaidh na dùthcha soirbh aig am sam bith, ach le suidheachadh na h-eaconamaidh an dràsta tha cùisean sònraichte doirbh. Feumar caomhnaidhean a dhèanamh agus tha an riaghaltas a ni sin dol a dh' fhaotainn càinidh! Cluinidh sinn iomadhach facal as na mìosan romhainn mu "fhior ghearraidhean" a bheir buaidh air beatha na dùthcha aig gach ìre. Ach theagamh gum biodh sin na b' fhasa fhulang nan robh an fheadhainn a bha ga mholadh gu follaiseach a' fulang na buaidh mar a tha am mòr-shluagh. Bha uair ann agus 's iad uachdarain agus urrachan mòra a-mhàin a sheasadh air comhairlean is Pàrlamaid, ach gu fàbharach tha an saoghal sin air atharrachadh. Ach le 17 (bha 18 ann!) de na 23 ball ann an Cabinet an Riaghaltas seo le còrr air mìlean sa bhanca, tha e doirbh fhaicinn ciamar a tha iad gu bhith a' tuigsinn ann an da-riubh mar a tha am mòr-shluagh beò. Chan eil a bhith a' gabhail trèin an dràsta 's a rithist, seach siubhal ann an càr, dol a dhearbhadh cus!

Chan è dad a th' agamsa an aghaidh nan daoine aig am bheil an t-airgead mòr sin, ach tha ceist agam mu cho comasach 's a tha e dhan leithid cor an t-sluaigh a thuigsinn, agus far am bheil mòr-chuid den Chabinet as an t-suidheachadh sin tha an trioblaid nas mìosa buileach. Nach e dith tuigse a thug air Mairi Antoinette a ràdh, "Let them eat cake!"

GOVERNMENT is never easy and the current, essentially harsh, decisions on spending guarantee degrees of unpopularity. It might be easier for this Government to mitigate this impact if Ministerial decisions were demonstrably affecting them too, but where more than three quarters of Cabinet members are millionaires it will be difficult to relate truly to the people.

Wasn't it lack of understanding that led Mairi Antoinette to say "Let them eat cake!"

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



John Wilson and Stuart Reid together with Scottish Water representatives Sheila Campbell-Lloyd, Jane McKenzie and David Innis. 08\_121water01

## Seil concerns over waste water and odours are aired

SCOTTISH Water's new regional manager for the north of Scotland has vowed to solve ongoing problems at the Isle of Seil waste water plant.

Sheila Campbell-Lloyd, who joined Scottish Water a few months ago, was speaking at a Waterwatch

Scotland event held in Oban to allow consumers to voice their complaints.

**Concerns**  
Members of Seil Community Council aired concerns about the plant.

Stuart Reid and John Wilson spoke about sewage being pumped into the

Sound of Seil and bad odours in the Clachan area.

Ms Campbell-Lloyd said: 'I recognise that problems have occurred at that site and there are lessons to be learned.'

'I propose that we work together to address the problems on the site

and ensure good lines of communication between Scottish Water and the Seil community.'

Ms Campbell-Lloyd reassured the meeting that she would not sign off the new wastewater plant until all outlying problems had been addressed.

## House cash pledge for Gigha

FEARS on Gigha have been allayed with the news that Argyll and Bute Council has agreed to continue helping with the programme of repairs and improvements to the island's housing stock.

Islanders were very concerned when the council published new guidelines for private sector housing that proposed a maximum grant per house of £15,000.

Kintyre and islands councillor, Robin Currie, stepped in and asked that the proposals were reconsidered, so that the scheme that was started on Gigha at the time of the community buyout could continue until all 41 houses were renovated.

Councillor Currie said he was delighted for the people of Gigha that the council agreed with him and the scheme of improvements on the island will continue at the higher grant levels.

He said: 'I was recently across on Gigha and it was very apparent that the scheme of improvements needs to continue so that the whole housing stock there is fit for use. Gigha is also very fortunate in having first class contractors dedicated to this work. I look forward to the work starting as soon as possible.'

The first Gigha property was improved in 2005 and since then the council has provided a total of £1.354m in grants towards the cost of improving the 23 properties completed to date. This investment by the council has enabled the Gigha Trust to obtain a further £1.66m of public and private finance to maintain the programme of refurbishment to date.

## Whisky Supernova

ARBEG Distillery has launched the second edition of its award-winning Supernova single malt, describing it as 'the peatiest Ardbeg ever'.

The 2009 bottling of Supernova, the fastest selling in the distillery's 195-year history, was voted Best Scotch Whisky in Jim Murray's latest Whisky Bible.

# North Uist community group gets green light from Historic Scotland for church project

A COMMUNITY-LED drive to save an ancient ecclesiastical complex in North Uist from continuing disintegration has received the green light from Historic Scotland.

It's hoped that rescue work will begin on Teampull na Trionaid in Carinish next spring.

The scheduled ancient monument is thought to date back to 1203, with rebuilding and repairs in the fourteenth and sixteenth centuries. It was a seminary and centre of pilgrimage, enjoying the patronage of the Macruaris, the Lords of the Isles, Clanranald and the MacDonalds before falling into disuse in the 1600s.

Centuries of Atlantic weather and neglect have taken their toll, and the buildings are considered on a tipping point of no return unless urgent action is taken.

**Deterioration**  
Residents set up a Teampull na Trionaid Conservation Association to save their iconic church, and last year commissioned a scheme of works from Robin Kent Architecture and Conservation to assess what would be required to preserve what is there and slow down the pace of deterioration as much as possible.

The resulting scheme of works has now won approval by Historic Scotland, enabling the Teampull Na Trionaid Conservation Association to start a major fund-raising drive.

Association chairman Willie MacDonald said £167,000 is required to make the ruin structurally sound, reasonably accessible and safe for visitors.

He said: 'We have already received a great deal of support from the community through private donations, council ward funding, and donations by local



Willie MacDonald and Margaret MacQuarrie of the Teampull Na Trionaid Conservation Association at the site of the ancient church.

businesses.

'Bardon Hebrides has improved existing road access with a hardcore surface, and plan to extend the footpath closer to the Temple.

We're indebted to local crofters Uisdean Robertson and Colin Maclean for accommodating the project on their land, and to Iain MacPhail for clearing the drains around the access road.'

Comhairle nan Eilean Siar has pledged to undertake the upkeep of the ancient cemetery retained within the complex.

Teampull Na Trionaid Conservation Association secretary Margaret MacQuarrie said the cemetery would now be cleared of weeds and reseeded, with no disturbance to the graves.

She asked that anyone who might know who is buried in

the cemetery, mainly from the MacVicar family, to let the association know, as there are no records in existence of the burials there.

Mrs MacQuarrie added that a model of the temple made by Reverend Donald MacQuarrie will be on display in the Caledonian MacBrayne ferry terminal in Lochmaddy throughout the summer.

She said the association plans to contact Clan organisations worldwide for support for the project.

Dr John Raven, Historic Scotland's north-west inspector of ancient monuments said: 'Trionaid is iconic and because of its clan connections well-known worldwide. This scheme should ensure the monument's preservation and enjoyment for future generations.'

## Martens not martians discovered on Mull

ISLANDERS on Mull were amazed to find a female pine marten and her three kits, after police were called to a report of strange nocturnal noises in an attic.

Wildlife crime officer constable Donald MacCuish was surprised to find the non-native species on the island.

He said: 'A couple of years ago there were unconfirmed reports that there were pine marten on the island. But we never had any evidence of them until now. The animals are nocturnal and seldom seen during daylight hours so it is entirely possible that they have been here for sometime living unseen on the island.'

'When a local man said he had discovered pine martens I was a little sceptical, but after viewing them in the nest I am in no doubt that the animals are here. The man did the right thing by reporting the protected species to the police. 'After investigation I found an adult female pine marten

and three kits nesting in a loft space.

'Pine martens are protected by the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. They are not native to Mull and the means by which they arrived onto the island are unknown. It is suspected that she came across as a stowaway on a commercial vehicle or someone has trapped the female on the mainland and released her on the island

'Pine martens have a delayed gestational period, therefore a male pine marten may have never been on the island with the female. Pine martens mate in June or July and it is not until the following year that her pregnancy will begin. By the look of the kits they were born six weeks ago. They will stay with their mother for six months. We will continue to monitor the situation.

'If anyone sees a pine marten they must not approach them or attempt to move them.'

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David Mitchell. 07\_123davy01

## Oban High School depute is promoted to become one of the youngest head teachers in Scotland

AN OBAN teacher will become one of the youngest secondary school head teachers in Scotland this summer when he takes up a new post in Dumfries and Galloway.

David Mitchell, aged 35, has been appointed head teacher at Castle Douglas

High School and will take up the position on August 17, after spending 13 years in Oban.

The popular teacher said: 'I am very excited about this new post and it is a great opportunity for me, although I enjoyed my time at Oban High School and

will be sorry to leave.

'I think I have a great journey ahead of me at Castle Douglas. It's a very good school with an excellent academic record and reputation and I am honoured to have the role of leading the school.'

Mr Mitchell arrived at

Oban High as a technical teacher before becoming principal teacher in his department and principal of guidance. He has been a depute head teacher for the past three-and-a-half years.

Throughout his time in Oban Mr Mitchell has been an advocate for sport

in school and says he will carry this ethos into his new post. He is married to Laura and the couple have three children: Katie, Eilidh and Iain.

Oban High School head teacher Peter Bain said: 'David is a very talented individual who has worked

very hard as a depute head teacher. I am absolutely positive that the knowledge, skills and enthusiasm he employed in Oban High School will have led to many youngsters benefiting greatly from his involvement in their education. I wish him well in his new post.'

### Oban house prices five times earnings

OBAN is one of Scotland's least affordable seaside towns, according to a new survey.

The average house price in the town is almost five times local salaries, according to the Bank of Scotland Seaside Towns Review.

It also found property prices had risen much faster than other seaside towns around Scotland; by 57 per cent since 2004 - up to an average of £131,424 in 2009.

### Two charged with carrying knives

AN 18-year-old Oban man and a 32-year-old Oban woman were charged with carrying knives in a public place.

At a private hearing in Oban Sheriff Court on Monday Fraser McKerracher and Susannah McCuish appeared from custody.

The woman was also charged with threatening two men in Argyll Square, committing a breach of a peace.

The man was further charged with having an offensive weapon in a public place, namely a metal pole.

Police were called to the alleged incident in the early hours of Saturday morning at 12.05 am.

### New Ganavan planning condition

PLANNERS have added a condition to an approved development at Ganavan, Oban.

The developer was required to build affordable flats at Stevenson Street before completing work on two new blocks of flats at Ganavan.

At a recent meeting of Argyll and Bute Council's planning committee, councillors agreed a new condition that the construction of these new affordable flats would have to be underway before anyone can move in to Ganavan.

They also want to see arrangements for the sale of two of the Stevenson Street flats.

### Taynuilt whisky thief is jailed

A MAN who stole an 'expensive' bottle of whisky has been sentenced to 60 days in jail.

Stephen Kelly, aged 46, of 40 Achlonan, Taynuilt, admitted stealing a bottle of malt whisky from McCaigs Warehouse on March 17 and a bottle of vodka from the Co-op, Soroba Road on May 27.

### Admitted offence

Defence Agent Edward Thornton said Kelly had no recollection of taking the alcohol but after viewing CCTV footage admitted that he had stolen the alcohol.

Sheriff Douglas Small said Kelly had been given 'every opportunity by the court' to resolve his drinking problems.

The sheriff continued: 'You have even been excluded from every public house in Oban for two years and still you are a habitual drinker.'

'A custodial sentence is the only option left open to the courts.'

# Failed airline owes council £50,000

## Local businesses out of pocket after collapse of Highland Airways

ARGYLL and Bute Council is one of almost 200 unsecured creditors owed money by the failed airline Highland Airways.

**EXCLUSIVE REPORT** by MARIAN MILLER  
mmiller@obantimes.co.uk

### Island flights

The local authority, which contracted the airline to run Public Service Obligation (PSO) flights between Oban and Coll, Colonsay and Tiree, is owed over £50,000.

But other smaller businesses local to Oban Airport where the flights operated from have also been left out of pocket including The Oyster Inn in Connel, which is owed almost £500 and fuel supplier Total Logistics Concepts Ltd at Oban Airport, North Connel, is owed just more than £5,000.

Highlands and Islands Airports Ltd (HIAL) owed almost £200,000

Argyll and Bute Council said the debt would not have an effect on their finances.

A spokeswoman said: 'Of course we are concerned when any organisation which owes us money is in financial difficulty and potentially unable to pay.'

'However, £50,000 - whilst a significant amount - is only some 0.02 per cent of the council's overall budget and we are confident that we will be able to manage this situation.'

'When Highland Airways problems became known, the council acted quickly and effectively to ensure that the flights could continue with another airline.'

The biggest unsecured creditor is Highlands and Islands Airports Ltd (HIAL) which is owed almost £200,000.

Documents prepared by joint administrators showed that Highland Airways, which also operated flights from

Benbecula, Inverness, and Stornoway as well as from Cardiff to Anglesey, owed more than £3 million when it went into administration in March - £1.1 million to unsecured creditors.

### 108 employees

The documents lodged by PricewaterhouseCoopers with Companies House stated that the company set up in 1991 had 15 owned and leased aircraft and 108 employees.

It had run into difficulties because of 'low aircraft availability due to maintenance and engineering issues and high short-term replacement costs which created cash flow pressure'.

This, combined with flights being grounded because of weather, and the loss of two 'significant' customer contracts, had left the company unable to service its debts.

### Redundancies

The Clydesdale Bank then withdrew its support for the company leading to the appointment of administrators and the majority of staff being made redundant.

A spokesperson for the administrators confirmed buyers were being sought for the company's assets which include an aircraft hangar in Inverness, three planes and aircraft parts.

'We are currently speaking to some interested parties but would be delighted to hear from any others who may be interested,' she said.



Karen Nelson, Sylvia Bossard, Margaret McGregor, chairwoman Friends of Oban Hospice, and Jeannie Campbell. 07\_123bossards01

## Half-marathon runners boost Oban Hospice funds

THANKS to a terrific effort by one determined Oban town centre business owner and her staff, the Friends of Oban Hospice charity is better off this week by £3,000.

Sylvia Bossard of Bossards patisserie and café and her staff have held two Victorian tea afternoons in the popular Gibraltar Street premises, which raised £800.

But not content with that Sylvia decided to also run the recent Edinburgh half marathon and persuaded colleagues Karen Nelson and Jeannie Campbell to run it with her too.

The three spent six months training for the event at the end of last month, with help from Energie Fitness in Oban and Oban Complementary Medicine Centre, and

all three crossed the line together in their best time yet of 2hrs 12mins 45secs.

Sylvia said: 'Oban Hospice is very close to my heart. I really think Oban should have a bedded hospice and if we don't get out and raise the money ourselves we will not get one because we can't rely on the government to build us a hospice.'

'At the moment we have a

day hospice but it is not the same thing as having a full-time bedded hospice for the town.'

Chairwoman of Friends of Oban Hospice Margaret McGregor was delighted to receive the cheque from the Bossards staff.

'It means a great deal; it is a fantastic step on the way,' she said. 'We very much appreciate the effort

that Bossards has put into raising the money.'

She added that it all helped to keep the profile up of the great effort to raise the money for a permanent bedded hospice in the town.

Sylvia, Karen and Jeannie thanked everyone who had attended the Victorian teas, made donations or sponsored the half marathon run.

## Bank Holiday weekend brings spate of road accidents in Argyll

ONE MAN died and several others were seriously injured after a weekend of chaos on Argyll's roads which also witnessed numerous minor accidents.

The A83 road was closed twice over the Bank Holiday weekend following a spate of crashes.

Last Friday night the A83 had to be closed following a four-car pile-up on the west side of the Rest and Be Thankful at Butterbridge.

Seven people were involved in the crash and several required to be cut free from the wreckage of the vehicles by Strathclyde Fire and Rescue teams.

One person was seriously injured and was taken to the Southern General Hospital in Glasgow.

On Sunday night the A83 at the Rest and Be Thankful was

again closed for several hours after a motorcyclist was killed at Ardgartan Visitor Centre near Arrochar.

Police, fire and ambulance crews were scrambled from across Argyll to deal with the crash which left the main route to Mid Argyll and Kintyre closed for more than four hours.

The biker, who has been named as Peter Gair, 51, from Helensburgh, collided with a car at the junction to the visitor centre at around 4.30pm.

A 56-year-old woman, who was a passenger in the car, was flown by helicopter to Glasgow's Southern General Hospital but has since been released.

Police introduced a contraflow system later in the evening while accident investigators worked at the scene.

Another driver was left seriously injured after his car collided with a lorry while travelling towards Oban on the A85 near Tyndrum.

The Edinburgh man suffered multiple body fractures after his blue Vauxhall Corsa collided with an articulated lorry, two miles west of Tyndrum shortly before 3pm last Thursday.

An air ambulance rushed the man to the Southern General Hospital Glasgow where his condition is described as stable.

The lorry driver was not injured in the crash.

A spokesperson for Strathclyde Police said: 'The crash is now being treated as a criminal investigation. One of the motorists has been charged with dangerous driving and a report has been prepared for the procurator fiscal.'

## Mull man hit uncle with metal bar

A FAMILY feud resulted in a Mull man hitting his uncle with a metal bar and being fined £800.

He was also forced to pay his estranged uncle £400 in compensation.

Roderick Macauley, aged 42, of Ardmore, Pier Road, Salen was found guilty, after trial, of assaulting his 67-year-old uncle with the metal bar.

Defence agent Duncan Durbin said that Macauley had never been in trouble with police before and explained that the incident on November 13, 2009 was an 'eruption of violence over a long standing family feud.'

Sheriff Douglas Small said: 'You have narrowly escaped a custodial sentence, but if you appear before me again I will have no hesitation in sending you to jail. I do hope that this is an end to it.'

### Oban Sheriff Court witness warned over false evidence

A SHOCKED Oban courtroom heard a witness admit she had lied about a domestic incident. The woman also said that she asked her 14-year-old daughter to make up a story to tell to police.

Accused Norman Lindsay, aged 48, of 23E Shuna Terrace, Oban, was on trial after pleading not guilty to charges of resisting arrest on April 11, and struggling with police officers, causing a breach of a peace and assault on May 10, all at the above address. But after the witness's revelations Lindsay changed his plea to guilty to struggling with officers on April 11 and resisting arrest and struggling with officers on May 10. Two other charges were dropped.

Sheriff Douglas Small sentenced Lindsay to 108 days in custody.

The witness was warned that she may face prosecution for her false statement to the police.



### Sniffer dogs check ferry terminal

POLICE DOG handler John Fraser and his canine colleague Ailsa returned to Oban last Friday as part of a counter-terrorism and drugs operation.

The pair was in Oban as recently as March when they patrolled the town's North Pier.

On Friday they set to work in the Caledonian MacBrayne ferry terminal before catching a ferry to Mull and checking visiting aircraft at Glenforsa Airfield. Mr Fraser said his colleague Ailsa, a six-year-old Spaniel, is trained to detect explosives and large sums of cash.

The Glasgow Airport-based pair were accompanied by other members of the Strathclyde Police Ports Coverage Unit and PC Niall Barber of Oban Police.

## Wind farms could bring £8bn to Argyll

UP TO £8 billion could be invested in Argyll thanks to new wind farm developments.

Last week, renewable energy companies, Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) and Argyll and Bute Council met at the Scottish Association for Marine Science, Dunstaffnage, to talk about maximising the benefits for the local economy.

HIE organised the summit, which was chaired by Jim Mather MSP, to look at how local companies could become part of the supply chain after an additional 32 megawatts of wind power projects were agreed in

January.

Niall Stuart, chief executive of the industry trade body Scottish Renewables, said: 'All sorts of goods and services will be required, from accommodation and catering, to boat and subsea access and construction, but it's important that local businesses start planning now.'

'It's no exaggeration to say that the growth of renewables is the biggest economic opportunity in Scotland, and has the potential to revolutionise the economy in many parts of the Highlands and Islands.'

And local businesses were keen

to find out about the opportunities, according to Douglas Cowan, HIE's Argyll and the Islands area manager. He added: 'We have a strong marine services sector to showcase to project developers, in areas like boat building, commercial diving, installation, construction and maintenance.'

Councillor Robert Macintyre, Argyll and Bute's spokesperson for Economy, Environment and Rural Affairs said: 'I am delighted that this high profile event is being held in Argyll and Bute.'

'I am sure it will lead to valuable links being forged between the various organisations.'

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OT

MULL LINES

Mull Eagle Diary

SOME exciting discoveries this week with twin eaglets in some nests.

Up at Loch Frisa, our two resident adult white-tailed eagles, 18-year-old female Frisa and 16-year-old male Skye, are perching near last year's nest site and offering excellent views for visitors.

They spend much of their day preening as they go into a post-breeding moult and send clouds of wispy, white down off in the breeze.

Our buzzard chick is thriving on a diet of frogs and slow worms but we still await the hatch of the second egg. More news next week but in the meantime come and see them all for yourself by calling 01680 812 556.



Music festival hits all the right notes

Mull Music Festival was again a success. The Tobermory and Dervaig-based festival had live, heart-stomping Scottish music from 4pm on Friday till 1.30am on Monday morning with bands such as Skerryvore, Gunna Sound and Calum Ian MacCorquodale being joined by Runrig's Malcolm Jones. It was a trouble free weekend with reports that everyone had a great time. Islanders are now in discussion about moving the festival one week to coincide with the first bank holiday in May.

Bingo nights raise charity cash

MCGOACHANS Pub in Tobermory put all their numbers in the house and raised a good amount of cash for Mull charities.

Assistant Manager Chris Oilby Wood has been running bingo nights through the winter months with the help of John Weir, Ann Maclean, Margaret, Iona, Joyce, Michael, Kate and many others who have helped donate and collect prizes.

Thanks to all their hard work more than £1,500 has been raised for charities including the children's Mod, the Scout Hall, Aros Hall and the Fire Brigade.

Tobermory Harbour reaches finals of Place of the Year awards

TOBERMORY Harbour could be crowned Place of the Year after reaching the final of awards celebrating the best places in the UK and Europe.

The Academy of Urbanism, whose members include industry-leading architects, planners, engineers, developers and designers, announced the 15 finalists who will battle it out for the Urbanism Awards.

The annual awards, now in their sixth year, recognise outstanding places whose design, feel and use contribute to a better quality of life for their residents, workers and visitors.

Standing in the way of Tobermory Harbour becoming Great Place of the Year are rival bids from St Andrew's Square in Edinburgh and Princesshay in Exeter.

A panel of expert assessors will visit each finalist location this summer before producing a report that will help the Academy of Urbanism's 300-strong membership of Academicians to vote for their favourites. The winners will be announced at The Academy's annual Urbanism Awards dinner in London on November 19.

John Thompson, chairman of The Academy of Urbanism, said: 'As well as being picturesque and timeless, the success of Tobermory Harbour is its ability to attract public and private investment, planning policy protection and re-use of buildings.'

'However, competition for these Urbanism Awards is tough every year, so I look forward to seeing what the assessors' report says this summer.'

An Tobar hosts Argyll artist

AN ARGYLL artist is holding her first solo exhibition at An Tobar, Tobermory, from June 2 to July 10.

Fiona MacRae, who lives in Taynuilt and on Tiree, will also be running a workshop on June 5 in the same venue.

Her 'Still Lifes' exhibition is a selection of new oil paintings, inspired by the Isle of Tiree.

Fiona, who has been a full-time artist since 2000, has exhibited in Zurich and London before as part of a group but said she was excited about going it alone. She regularly exhibits in Lochgilphead.

# Thousands flock to inaugural Festival of the Sea



The bright weather and activities on offer attracted hundreds of people to the Oban Marina Open Day, part of the Festival of the Sea.



Atlantis Lesiure mascot, ALF the turtle, Yvonne MacLean and daughter Jasmine MacLean-Black give the SAMS open day the big thumbs up.

THE INAUGURAL Festival of the Sea has gone 'swimmingly', according to organisers and visitors, who voted with their feet when attending the events.

The festival, based in Oban and the surrounding area, attracted a total of 1,300 people to its final two events on Sunday and Bank Holiday Monday.

Nearly 600 people enjoyed an open day at Oban Marina on the Isle of Kerrera on Monday, the final event in the Festival of the Sea's 10-day programme, organised by Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS).

Glorious sunshine and perfect conditions kicked off the day and the first crossing of visitors on the complimentary ferry from Oban's North Pier, were greeted to a perfect view of Waverley, the world's last sea-going paddle steamer slipping its dock alongside them as they headed to Kerrera.

As well as local residents and visitors, the event attracted yachts and boat owners taking advantage of the extra dock space just laid by Oban Marina, which is now a 115-berth marina. Several international yacht owners also arrived for the long weekend.

Marina Manager Sue Deacon said she was thrilled with the turnout of visitors to the events.

'The weather really helped and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves,' she said. 'The marina is really busy anyway for this early in the season but with this new event, everyone certainly made the most of the things

*"We are very grateful to all those who took the trouble to come along and help make SAMS first Festival of the Sea such a resounding success."*

we had on offer during the day. We are very grateful to all those who took the trouble to come along and help make SAMS first Festival of the Sea such a resounding success.'

As well as sampling Scott Glen's renowned Isle of Kerrera Oysters and other seafood at the Seafood Grill and Waypoint Bar, visitors were also treated to other great local produce such as the delicious hot roast meat buns from Oban Spitroasts who set up on the grass overlooking the boats.

Continuing the sea and marine theme, Scottish Sea Farms ran three boat trips to their Salmon rings in Charlotte's Bay and Loch Lomond Seaplanes arrived in style to give nine lucky passengers a complimentary spin over the island.

Oban Lifeboat, Mora Edith MacDonald, was berthed in the marina and visitors were allowed on board for a look around the fast all-weather lifeboat which, since she came into service in 1997, has been called up over 1500 times, saving almost 100 lives.

The marina boat shed was cleared to make room for interesting specialist stalls and displays selling everything from fresh organic meat from Ardentrive Farm to smoked fish and other

products from Willie-Fish and beautiful hand-dyed silk scarves from the island.

A ceilidh in the Skippinnish Ceilidh House on Monday night officially brought the event to a close.

One of the best-attended events of the festival, however, was on Saturday when a record-breaking 700 people turned out for the SAMS open day.

In addition, the LORN Food Market had pitched up on the institute's lawn, selling marine produce and crafts.

With displays over three floors at the SAMS institute and on and around the research vessels, SAMS scientists demonstrated how important their research is to building and supporting the Scottish economy, as well as the wonders of the sea.

Dr Anuschka Miller, Director of the Festival of the Sea, said: 'My colleagues at SAMS with the help of our students, friends and local volunteers worked hard to transform a working laboratory into a visitor attraction for a day.'

'We are grateful to the 700 visitors - largely from the local community - for the interest in our work.'

'We also recognise that we could not have delivered this festival and open day without the main festival funders: the Scottish Government and LEADER.'

'We have learnt a lot of lessons from this year's event with regards to times and what is popular and next year we will work more closely with the business community and look to promote tourism more proactively.'



Pals Becky Scott and Jodie Sloss made a delicious ice cream sundae. 07\_t23food02

Left: The children get stuck in when making their crispy fried scallops. 07\_t23food01

*"It is a fantastic day and the children are having a great time. It's great they get to experience real food and see how it's made."*

Axel Miller

## Children top of the class at family cookery day

THE TERM 'Littlechef' took on a whole new meaning at the Waterfront Restaurant when children from in and around Oban were taught how to prepare a three-course meal.

Eight families took part in Sunday's Festival of the Sea cookery day and, after a demonstration from executive chef Alex Needham, prepared hot

smoked salmon timbale, followed by crispy fried Isle of Mull scallops and an ice cream sundae, which they were allowed to decorate as they wished.

Axel Miller, who took part with his two daughters, said: 'It is a fantastic day and the children are having a great time. It's great they get to experience real food and see how it's made.'

All the dishes were made from scratch and restaurant manager Dener Pereira said he was surprised at how well the children had done.

He said: 'Hopefully this will show them that these dishes can be made in the home and it is a reminder that families are welcome in the Waterfront Restaurant.'

'It has proved to be a very

popular event and we had 20 enquiries from families wanting to take part.

'Unfortunately we only had room for eight but we plan to do more events like this during the summer.'

Dener posted updates of the event on Facebook and will announce similar events this summer on the networking site.



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**Oban Town Regatta this weekend**

SAILORS are gearing up for Oban Town Keelboat Regatta that takes place this weekend on Saturday and Sunday June 5 and 6.

The regatta is open to visitors as well as attracting a good entry from Oban Sailing Club (OSC).

The club will organise a race out of Oban Bay on Saturday, weather conditions permitting, with two shorter races scheduled for Sunday to decide an overall winner in both fast and slow handicap classes.

Lunch will be served on Sunday at the clubhouse.

OSC Commodore Toby Sherwin said: 'After the success of the recent clun Open Day we are looking forward to a good turn-out for our keelboat regatta, particularly from visitors from other clubs.'

**Father walks West Highland Way to help daughter's nursery group**

A DOTING father has walked 98 miles in a bid to raise money for the struggling nursery his daughter attends in Oban.

Colin Baxter walked the West Highland Way in just four days raising almost £1,500 in sponsorship for the Soroba Young Families playgroup and pre-school unit.

The nursery is a not for profit, voluntary organisation which relies heavily on charitable donations.

Colin decided to undertake the mammoth task in order to raise as much money as possible to plug the £35,240 hole in the nursery's budget.

Rachael Beuken, acting manager of the nursery, said: 'It is becoming increasingly difficult to find funding for the nursery. Organisations are often willing to sponsor an activity



**Proud father Colin Baxter with daughter Kayla, aged 3, at the Soroba Young Families Centre.**

08\_t23soroba01

**Volunteer 'Oscars' to reward hard work**

THE RED carpet will be rolled out for Argyll and Bute's hard-working volunteers at an award ceremony next week.

Individuals and organisations who have made a huge impact on their local communities will be honoured in the Volunteer of the Year Awards 2010, organised by Argyll Voluntary Action.

The annual Sports Volunteer of the Year Awards, organised by Argyll and Bute Council, will also be announced at the event, to be held in the council chambers, Lochgilphead on June 11.

Prior to unveiling the winners, there will be a series of short information sessions and a buffet lunch.

**Islay whisky from Islay barley**

FOR THE first time since the early part of last century, an Islay single malt made entirely from Islay-grown barley has been released.

Bruichladdich Distillery used Chalice barley, grown less than a mile from the distillery for the bottling, which is part of its Valinch series.

The bottling, which can only be purchased in person from the distillery, was launched on May 23 during the Islay Whisky Festival.

The barley used for the bottling was harvested in September 2004, was grown at Kentraw, overlooking Loch Indaal. The whisky was distilled three months later and matured for six years in refill sherry butts.

Distillery manager Duncan MacGillivray said: 'Richard Macaire, laird of Foreland and Kentraw, was the first to respond to our Islay grown challenge. Sadly he died last month so with this festival bottling we remember him as a shareholder, partner and friend.'

**Glasgow Gaelic showcase concert**

A SHOWCASE concert will mark the 10th anniversary of Sgoil Ghàidhlig Ghlaschu (Glasgow Gaelic School) at Glasgow City Hall's Grand Hall on June 14.

Robin Hood film track singer Kathleen MacInnes and a host of other top artists, including Sìneag MacIntyre and Catriona Watt, will headline the concert.

The concert will also feature short films which trace the 24 year history of Gaelic Medium education, a specially composed tune by some of the school pupils and new poetry especially written by some of the staff of the school.

The concert's music director, Brian McAlpine, who has been working with the children over the last few weeks, said: 'The pupils are among some of the most talented children I have worked with in many years. This is going to be a really special concert.'

**NHS goes green**

NHS HIGHLAND has beaten its target for cutting the amount of energy used at its hospitals.

Between April and December 2009, energy consumption was cut by six per cent, ahead of a target of two per cent. A report to a meeting of the NHS board on Tuesday said energy efficiency had saved an estimated £112,500.

But the health board has even more ambitious plans to go green in the next five years, by investing in biomass heating, cutting waste and examining public transport for staff and patients.

**Major resurfacing programme for Oban roads**

THREE more Oban routes are in line for a comprehensive resurfacing scheme.

Work on Miller Road, Quarry Road and Sinclair Drive is programmed to start on Monday, July 19 and last for three weeks.

It will consist of planning out the existing road surface, patching as required, adjusting or replacing all ironwork and re-laying the carriageway surface.

Access for residents

and businesses will be maintained, although there will be vehicular road closures.

On-street parking will be restricted.

News of the work comes just a couple of weeks after the resurfacing of Albany Street, one of Oban's busiest thoroughfares.

Councillor Duncan MacIntyre, Argyll and Bute's spokesperson for transportation and infrastructure, said the

Albany Street project had set a very high standard to try to match.

'The Albany Street work came in well within the projected time-frame and within the projected budget, and I am delighted that the people of Oban are so pleased with the result.'

'Just a few weeks previously our roads team had carried out superb work in Longsdale Road and Branksome Park, which received nothing but

praise with not one single complaint. I am confident that the same level of detailed preparation before the Miller Road, Quarry Road and Sinclair Drive works - and professionalism during them - will lead to a similarly positive outcome.'

'These roads have been in a poor condition for some time, and I am sure those who regularly use them will welcome the news that they are soon to be resurfaced. 'As with Albany Street, I

would like to assure people that every effort will be made to speed up the works in order to minimise their impact. But there is bound to be some disruption, so I would appeal for co-operation and patience from those affected.'

All residents and businesses in the Miller Road, Quarry Road and Sinclair Drive area will receive a letter nearer the time of the works, giving further details of the arrangements.

**Lorn Lines**

THE PLANT sale by North Connel and District Horticultural Show committee at the Victory Hall in Benderloch raised £688.50.

Most of the plants were sold out in just the first half hour of the sale on May 15 but home baking and teas and coffees were greatly enjoyed thereafter.

The money will be added to £137 made so far from selling anniversary mugs and will go towards the cost of staging the annual show on August 22.

ALZHEIMER Scotland is holding a conference in the Corran Halls tomorrow (Friday).

At the day long event guests will be informed about the major new partnership between NHS Highland, Argyll and Bute Council and Alzheimer Scotland.

CRUACHAN hydro-electric power station on Loch Awe is one of 15 sites that will be taking part in a week-long Scottish Renewables Festival.

The aim is to open up some of Scotland's renewable projects for the public to see between June 5-13.

Another project that will be taking part is the Knyodart Foundation.

Niall Stuart, chief executive of Scottish Renewables, said: 'The Scottish Renewables Festival is a great opportunity to celebrate Scotland's incredible successes in renewables. We produce more than 40 per cent of all renewable electricity in the UK, are home to Europe's biggest wind farm and are leading the world in the development of offshore wind, wave and tidal energy.'

'The week is a chance to visit some of the leading projects around the country, learn more about this fast growing and dynamic sector, and find out how you can help support the growth of clean energy in homes, businesses and communities around Scotland.'

A FUNDRAISING team known as 'The Three Liams' is aiming to raise around £1,000 after completing a sponsored cycle of Mull and Iona.

Liam Griffin from Lerags and his son, Liam junior, met up with Liam Little from Donegal, Ireland, for a 'Bikerimage' to Iona Abbey, before cycling round Mull in aid of the renovation fund for Oban's St Columba's Cathedral.

After attending morning Mass in the cathedral on Friday the cyclists completed their 158-mile journey over the weekend - just in time to make Sunday morning Mass in Oban.

GEORGE Berry has lost almost half a stone in less than two weeks.

Progress had halted for George in the last few months after he underwent an operation in April but having shed three kilos this week he is now firmly back on track. The weight loss comes just a few days after George finished his first Man versus Mountain challenge - the Ben Lora climb.

Andrew Johnston of énergie fitness said: 'George is absolutely delighted with the weight loss and pleased the scales are moving in the right direction again.'

He added: 'Not only is the weight loss evident on the scales but George is now starting to see visible results too.'

George, Andrew and the énergie fitness team will be doing their second hill walk, from Kinlochleven to Fort William, at the end of the month.

**Time change for A83 road closures**

**Road to close one hour later**

DRIVERS travelling on the A83 Inveraray to Lochgilphead road should be aware that it will now close one hour later than previously advised.

As a result of public feedback, Scotland Transerv has decided to shut the road at 9pm, re-opening at 6am.

Road closures began last Sunday, May 30, and will run until Friday June 25. The road will be closed each night from Sunday to Friday morning.

A spokesman from Scotland Transerv, who are carrying out the works on behalf of Transport Scotland, said: 'The views of local communities are always important to us and that is why we will now be starting works an hour later than scheduled.'

'This new timetable, agreed with Argyll and Bute Council, will provide communities and tourists in the area with better access during these essential maintenance works.'

Programmed to run in separate two-week slots, the £675,000 scheme will see improvements to sections of road at Birdfield, Minard, Duncholgan and Dalchenna Point.

'We would like to thank the community for their feedback on this programme and request their continued patience whilst these carriageway works, which will benefit road users with a better road for years to come, are being undertaken,' added the Transerv spokesman.



Mums, midwives and members of the National Childbirth Trust who are delighted to see Oban birthing pool better used. 15\_123baby01

**Oban's water babies revisit birth pool**

THERE was a special reunion at Oban's maternity unit last week, of babies recently born in the birthing pool.

Lead midwife, Jaki Lambert, said: 'It is really to celebrate the fact the pool was bought by the community eleven years ago, and now it's really well used.'

'It's really unusual if somebody is in here for the pool not to be filled. Every

midwife encourages women to use it because it works so well.'

'As soon as they get in, you can see the tension going, the atmosphere changes.'

Lindsay MacLean used the birthing pool nine weeks ago when baby Dexter was born.

She said: 'I didn't plan to deliver in the pool, but once I was in there, there was no shifting me.'

'It relieved the pressure

and it definitely helped with the contractions. I just found it quite peaceful and relaxing. It was a lot better than I imagined and I would definitely recommend it to anyone.'

Another mum who used the pool, Liz Cottier, agreed it had been a really good experience. She has planned to have her second child in Paisley, but as the due date approached last December and the weather worsened,

she opted to stay closer to home.

'I was so glad because it was a five minute drive from home to here,' she said. 'I jumped in and it was brilliant. It just takes the weight off.'

The maternity unit recorded four waterbirths last year and three so far this year, but many more women - up to 75 per cent - use the pool at some point during labour.

**Elderly man avoids 'register' after comments to girl**

AN ELDERLY Oban man avoided being put onto the Sex Offenders Register after admitting making comments of a sexual nature to a teenage girl.

Eric Black, aged 76, of 10 Ulva Road, Oban admitted making comments of a sexual nature and refusing to let a 14-year-old girl leave her seat during a bus journey between Station Square and Ulva Road.

Oban Sheriff Court heard

that Black had been for a regular drinking session with friends when he got onto the bus and sat next to the girl.

Sheriff Douglas Small read a transcript of Blacks words to the teenager.

Defence agent Ross Simpson argued that while the comments brought 'shame on Blacks whole generation', they were not of a significant sexual nature to place the first offender of

the register. He pointed to the social enquiry report that stated that Black had 'no deviant sexual interest in children. His behaviour was out of character and he is deeply ashamed by the incident.'

Sheriff Douglas Small said: 'I've considered fully the narration of the procurator fiscal and the defence agent. I have also considered the social enquiry report. I have come to the view that

this was a stupid offence after you had far too much to drink. It was not of a significant sexual nature. The offence did however cause alarm and distress to the girl.'

'This is the first time you have appeared before the court and the social enquiry believes that you are at very little risk of re-offending.'

Black was fined £450 and ordered to pay compensation of £300.



The Waterfront's children's menu will now feature colourful lobster artwork thanks to these talented Taynuilt girls. 08\_123menu01

**Taynuilt pupils design children's menu cover**

Festival of the Sea competition success leads to cookery workshop for winners

TWO Taynuilt Primary School pupils have won a cookery workshop for themselves and a visit by a top Oban chef for their class.

Alex Needham, director of the Waterfront Restaurant, ran a competition to design new artwork for the restaurant's children's menu, as part of the Festival of the Sea.

Judge Carole Watts of Watts Fishmongers couldn't pick between the two top pictures

- both by Primary 4/5 pupils at Taynuilt Primary School.

Mr Needham, who went to the school last week to present the joint winners with framed copies of their pictures, said the festival was a great chance to help children explore the sea on their doorstep.

He said: 'There certainly seems to be a bit of a buzz about the town.'

'Anything that helps the town is the most important thing.'

**Row at home leads to £300 fine**

AN OBAN man who swore at his daughter and asked her to leave his home was fined £300.

James Hendry, aged 51, of 7 Burnside Court, Miller Road arrived home on May 25 to find his daughter in his home. He had asked her to leave the previous day.

Admitting the charges of breach of the peace and being in possession of a Class C drug, defence agent Stephen MacLeod said that Hendry was angry that his daughter had defied his wishes and a vociferous family argument ensued.

Hendry was fined £150 for the breach of the peace and £50 for being in possession of the drug.

**Tarbert school's art success**

TARBERT Academy has swept the board in this year's inaugural Argyll and Bute Council's Chief Executive's Art Award competition, scooping both the first and second prizes.

Kayleigh Sim won the first prize for her abstract textured landscape, and Kath Duff won second prize for her painting of rope.

The Chief Executive's Art Award is to be given on a biennial basis to secondary school pupils across the Argyll and Bute area who display exceptional artistic talent.

The two pictures chosen will be displayed in the chief executive's office for two years and then in other council buildings.

Presenting the awards to Tarbert Academy head teacher Catriona Hood, Chief Executive Sally Loudon said: 'This is the first time we've held the Chief Executive's Art Award, and I am incredibly impressed at the standard of work which has come from across our schools.'

'I would like to thank Kayleigh and Kath for their amazing pictures and I hope that winning this award will inspire them to use their artistic talents in the future.'

**Marine environment game is teaching tool**

A NEW innovative game to help primary school children learn about the marine environment has been launched.

Schools throughout Argyll and Bute will be adopting the game as a teaching tool in the future.

It has been designed to ensure a flexible approach to teaching with the teacher able to create new questions depending on the topic being taught.

Carole Evans, a teacher from the Isle of Coll, attended the launch in Inveraray. She said:

'We all enjoyed playing the game, it's very easy to adapt depending on what time you have and what subject you want to cover - I think the children will love it.'

Jane Dodd, marine project officer for Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH), said: 'We've had two copies of the board game printed on to four metre square canvas so that it can be played inside or outside and players can walk onto the board.'

Games are available to borrow from SNH by calling 0300 244 9360.

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**TIMES TALKBACK**

Tell us your news via the website.  
WWW.OBANTIMES.CO.UK

Kingfisher conundrum

HAVE you seen a Kingfisher in Argyll since winter?

No spring records have yet been received by county recorder Paul Daw.

Paul said: 'Kingfisher have only had a tenuous hold in Argyll and we fear they may have lost their foothold in the area.'

Please ring Paul if you have seen any on 01546 886260.

The good news is that coming to a garden near you could be the Nuthatch, which is expanding its range into Argyll with sightings recorded from Mull, Cairndow and Tighnabruaich.

This small woodpecker-like bird with slate blue grey upperparts can usually be seen walking down trees looking for insects, although, as its name suggests, nuts and seeds are its speciality.

Recent sightings of exotic vagrants include a pair of Bee Eaters sighted on Mull.

A few pairs usually reach Southern England but weather patterns have meant that they have 'overshot'.

A Gull Billed Tern has been seen on the Isle of Tiree - only the second ever recorded in Argyll. This bird breeds in Eastern and Southern Europe.

An unprecedented movement of Whimbrel - the smaller cousin of the Curlew - passed through on their spring migration to their northern breeding grounds. The largest number ever recorded in Scotland - more than 250 - were sighted near Tayinloan, Kintyre.

Perhaps you will be able to capture one of these unusual visitors on camera to enter the Argyll Bird Club photo competition.

You have until August 31 to get your entries in and full details are available on www.argyllbirdclub.org.

Membership of Argyll Bird Club costs £10 single, £15 per family, £25 corporate and £3 junior membership per annum.

# Delight as Ganavan gains top beach flag



Argyll and Bute councillors Elaine Robertson and Donald Macdonald joined Caroline Askew of the GRAB Trust and Peter McLuckie of Argyll and Bute Council at Ganavan Sands to celebrate the award. 08\_t22beach01

## Oban beauty spot wins award for fifth year running

THE RURAL seaside award flag will be flying high over Ganavan Sands this summer.

Keep Scotland Beautiful (KSB) awarded the beach the rural seaside award for the fifth year in a row last week.

The beach was judged on 15 criteria including the quality of bathing water, facilities available, information provision, litter management, community involvement and health and safety.

Louise Robertson, from the GRAB Trust's beaches and marine litter project, said: 'We work closely with Argyll and Bute Council, local businesses and communities in managing and maintaining these beaches and it is good to see the hard work that everyone put in rewarded.'

'A big thank you to Oban Scouts who recently did a clean up at Ganavan Bay.'

Machrihanish beach also received the rural seaside award for the seventh consecutive year.

The two beaches are among a total of 56 achieving award status this year.

The number of seaside awards in Scotland has more than quadrupled over the past 10 years; in 2000 there were just 13.

John Summers OBE, Chief Executive of KSB, said: 'I'd like to encourage people, particularly in this economic climate, to make use of the fantastic beaches we have around the Scottish coast this summer.'

KSB is an environmental charity which aims to protect, preserve and enhance the environment in Scotland for the benefit of the public.

The charity has been recognising Scotland's best-managed beaches for 18 years through its seaside award programme.



Children from Kilninver School show off copies of their book: A Little Book of Writing. 16\_t23kilniver1

## Kilninver primary pupils publish book

HOPES are high that a book published by Kilninver Primary School will inspire other youngsters to get writing and get published.

The Little Book of Writing is a 90-page spectacular featuring poems, drawings, short stories and a four-act

play for readers. Head teacher Bernie Macmillan said: 'The Little Book of Writing has been a great opportunity for children, not only to learn about writing, but also the fundamentals behind getting a book published.'

'The children from nursery to primary seven have made this project work and it will be something to be treasured by families. I am really proud of our achievements.'

The school is launching the book tonight, Thursday, at Waterstone's Bookstore in Oban.



David Turnbull with show organiser Alan Brander. 07\_t23model01

## Model club show cash boosts kidney charity

A DISPLAY of model planes, trains and automobiles in Oban has raised £635 for Kidney Research.

Oban Diecast Model Club member David Turnbull is cycling from London to Paris in aid of the charity and was delighted to receive the proceeds from the club's ninth annual model show last weekend.

David's wife Eilidh received a kidney donation after being diagnosed with polycystic kidney disease.

Now David is undertaking the cycling

challenge on June 30 as a thank you to the charity and the anonymous kidney donor and has raised nearly £3,000 so far.

David said: 'It was a fantastic gesture by the club.'

'I have had kind donations from individuals and companies but this is the first donation I have had from a club.'

The diecast model event, held in the Regent Hotel, featured nearly 3,000 models and attracted exhibitors from as far as Thurso, Wick and Ayrshire.

## Dunbeg Primary School fun day raises £1,231

SHE IS one of the most popular teachers in Argyll but Dunbeg's Sine MacVicar proved to be just as popular a target for wet sponges at the school's annual fun day.

Used to generate funds for the primary school's parent council, the triathlon and fun day in Dunbeg last Saturday raised £1,231 this year, a total that will help the school pay for trips and equipment.

Ms MacVicar did her bit

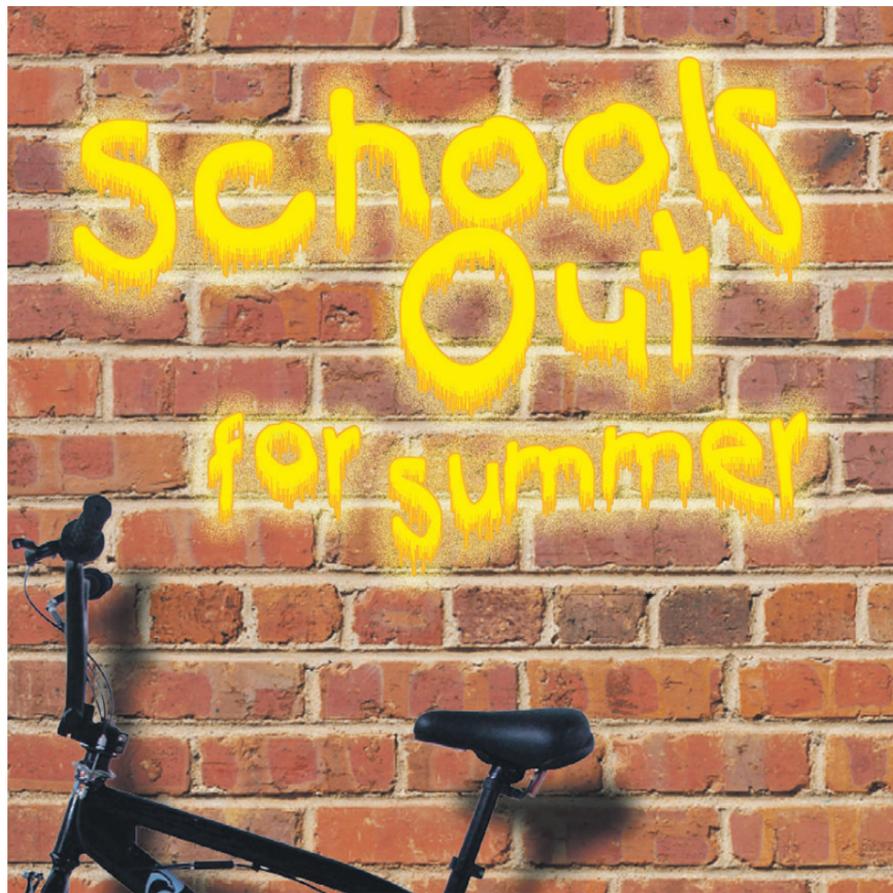
for the fun day fund-raising effort by allowing her pupils to throw wet sponges at her face.

There was also a penalty shoot-out competition, as well as various games and stalls.

Parent council treasurer Deirdre MacFarlane thanked the businesses that donated prizes and the people who turned up to support the event.



Dunbeg Primary School head teacher Sine MacVicar prepares to be soaked by eight-year-old pupil Lauren Morrison. 07\_t23fun01



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IT MIGHT be what children are looking forward to for weeks, but understandably, for some parents, the long weeks of the school holidays seem to stretch out for an eternity.

How on earth will we keep the children occupied and entertained? And with pressure on family budgets, finding exciting options can be a challenge. Fear not - The Oban Times is here to help with our guide to the best day trips, excursions and activities to satisfy the whole family.

With the prospect of volcanic ash, strikes and soaring exchange rates, many find that holidaying closer to home or even at home is better value, much more relaxing and can open up some fantastic adventures on their doorstep.

After all, how often do we have the chance to actually check out those great attractions close to home which we have heard so much about? Or spend quality time together with friends and family, doing something we have never done before, but available in our own backyard.

Scotland's west coast has plenty to offer to visitors from afar and close by alike. In fine weather, there are heaps of gardens and forests to explore, with exotic plants, opportunities for wildlife spotting and plenty of rambling paths - perfect for hide and seek.

Our castles are also a huge thrill for visitors to the area, but many locals haven't explored the dingy dungeons, climbed up the magnificent ramparts or found out all about the horrible history on our doorsteps.

Many attractions have special activities and packs for younger visitors or put on family-friendly events during the summer months.

With two dozen islands dotted along our coastline, getting on a boat for a day-trip or longer break provides a great change of scene.

And for older families, there are plenty of opportunities for adventurous thrills available. Try horse-riding, whatever your level of experience or adventure; take to the water with a guided kayak trip, complete with kit and expert tuition; take a high-speed boat trip or, for real adrenaline junkies, try cannooning, coasteering or diving.

We can't make promises about the west coast's weather, but whatever the summer has in store, you are sure to have a happy holiday right here.



# Crew 'survives' Argyll forest

THE BBC was filming in Argyll this week as part of a new series about Scottish landscapes.

A production crew and renowned presenter Dr Iain Stewart came to Glen Nant Nature Reserve to make a programme about the history of Scotland's forests.

The team filmed a camp out sequence at the reserve in which Patrick McGlinchey, a survival expert who works in Argyll, demonstrated how to live in the wilderness.

Peter MacArthur of the Forestry Commission, who showed the team around Glen Nant Forest, said: 'Patrick showed the presenter how the woodland can provide everything you need to survive, from shelter and food to medicine.'

'He made a fire from friction, built a shelter from the wood, and cooked game and venison (not caught on

the reserve) for dinner.'

One of Scotland's national nature reserves Glen Nant is a small remnant of the extensive native forests, which once covered the Scottish Highlands. The mixed woodlands are dominated by oak and birch but the more fertile, sheltered areas support ash, elm and hazel.

### Thrilled

Peter said: 'I was thrilled that Dr Stewart, who has travelled all over the world, was still blown away by the beauty of Glen Nant.'

Iain Stewart has presented a number of science and nature programmes for BBC 2 including Human Planet - How Earth Made Us and the Earth Series - Earth: The power of the plant and Earth: The climate wars.

The Scottish landscapes series will be broadcast on BBC 2 later this year.



(L-R) Peter MacArthur, Patrick McGlinchey and Dr Iain Stewart huddle around the campfire during filming at Glen Nant Nature Reserve.

## Coastal fun run needs West Highland volunteers

A UNIQUE and fun coastal relay is on its way to Oban and Scottish west coast.

RunBritain is an organisation encouraging people of all abilities to run, walk or jog along a section of their local coastline.

Organisers are currently searching for people to run a section of the Argyll and Highland coastline.

### Relay

Runners hope to pass the relay baton on June 6 at Lochailort to a willing

participant running on to Arisaig.

The second leg of the journey is from Salen to Glenuig on June 7.

Founder of Run Scotland, Stuart Prince, said: 'I realise that these coastal stretches

are quite a distance but people can divide the journey between them or run together in groups for motivation and support.

For more information on how to get involved log on to [www.coastersgb.co.uk](http://www.coastersgb.co.uk).



(L-R) Primary 5 pupils Kieron Pearson, 9, and Sarah Twart, 10, from Park Primary with Graham Pyatt and Rockfield primary 7 pupils Kirsty MacInnes and Scott Black, both aged 11.

## Book society chairman inspires pupils with Ransome classics

PRIMARY school pupils in Oban were thrilled this week to receive books from the Arthur Ransome Foundation.

Graham Pyatt, chairman of The Arthur Ransome Society (TARS) Scotland presented Park, Rockfield and St Columba primary schools with a selection of twelve books from the children's author.

The books, including *Missee Lee*, *Peter Duck* and *Swallowdale*, are about children who spent their holidays

outdoors doing exciting things, without the supervision of adults.

At the presentation, which took place in Park Primary School on Monday, Mr Pyatt said: 'I hope you will enjoy reading these books. I discovered them when I was your age.'

'I used to save up all of my birthday and Christmas money to buy one or more books each year until I owned the lot. I still have them and I still love reading them.'

## Argyll-wide entry for Oban Provincial Mòd

ENTRIES from all over Argyll will be competing at this year's Oban Provincial Mòd on Saturday.

Organisers say entries are slightly down on last year but they anticipate a high-quality programme. Four adult choirs are attending - Còisir Ceann an Tuirc, Còisir Ghàidhlig an Eilein Mhuilich, Oban Gaelic Choir and Còisir Ghàidhlig Thaigh an Uillt.

### Encouragement

Organiser Alex MacLean said: 'There is strong adult participation this year and the junior oral competitions have a great entry and are a great encouragement for the future of the spoken language.'

'We'd love to see members of the public there to support the competitors.'

Oban and Lorn Lions Club  
**OBAN CHARITIES DAY**  
Street Fair and Parade  
Over 30 local charities  
**Saturday June 12**  
Station Square  
1.00pm

**Local Producers Markets**  
**Thursday 3rd June**  
Kintaline Farm, Benderloch  
1 mile along the Tralee road  
10am to 3pm  
**Lots to eat and do**  
Every first / third Thursday  
Interested Producers contact  
01631 720223  
Local Origins Rural Network  
[www.lorn.org.uk](http://www.lorn.org.uk)

## COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

**OBAN PIPE BAND Family Ceilidh/Dance**  
In The Argyllshire Gathering Halls  
**Friday 11th June**  
Music by Michael Gavin & Ross MacPherson Scottish Dance Band  
And The Peat Moss Ceilidh Band Also featuring Mary Catherine MacNeill And Oban Pipe Band  
Tickets Family £20 Adults £7.50 Under 16's £5  
Available from **OBAN MUSIC** or Tel 01631 571066

Scotland's Garden Scheme  
Charity Number SC011337  
**Strachur House Strachur GARDEN OPEN**  
Saturday and Sunday 5th and 6th June  
1.00pm - 5.00pm  
Homemade Teas  
Admission £3.00

Alzheimer's Scotland  
Oban and Lorn Branch  
**Coffee morning**  
All the usual stalls  
Any donations Gladly accepted  
Church Hall  
Glencruitten Rd Oban  
**Sat 5th June**  
10am 12noon

**EILEAN IDEAL** proudly presents  
**RED NOTE ENSEMBLE**  
A special Sunday matinee performance of the poem "A Drunk Man Looks at the Thistle" by Hugh MacDiarmid.  
Eastdale Island Community Hall Sunday 6th June 4p.m.  
Tickets £6/£5 under 16s free

**Art Exhibition & Cheese and Wine Evening**  
at Lynn Court, Oban  
**Tuesday 8th June at 7.30pm**  
All Welcome  
Free Entry

**Oban & District Provincial Mod**  
**Saturday, 5th June**  
Oban High School  
Competitions from 9.15 a.m.

**gig guide**  
your essential guide to live music

Every Thursday >	Karaoke
The Woody	
Every Sunday >	Quiz Night
Markie Duns	
Thursday 3 June >	Iain Thomson Band
Kilchrenan Hall	7.30pm
Thursday 3 June >	Too Far North
Markie Duns	
Friday 4 June >	Iain Thomson Band
Benderloch Victory Hall	8.00pm
Friday 4 June >	Tim o' connor
Markie Duns	
Friday 4 June >	Kevin Fraser
The Woody	
Saturday 5 June >	George Noble
The Woody	
Saturday 5 June >	Tim o' connor
Markie Duns	
Saturday 5 June >	Relentless with Gillian Tennant
Skipinnish Ceilidh House	& DJ Scottyboy
Thursday 10 June >	Sandra Macbeth
Markie Duns	
Friday 11 June >	George Noble
The Woody	
Friday 11 June >	RSAMD Students Tour
Skipinnish Ceilidh House	
Saturday 12 June >	Danny Carroll
The Woody	
Saturday 12 June >	Daimh & Buille
Sunart Centre, Strontian	
Wednesday 7 July >	Spiers & Boden Saltfishforty
Eden Court, Inverness	
Friday 23 July >	Crooked Reel
Skipinnish Ceilidh House	
Monday 2 August >	Skerryvore
Skipinnish Ceilidh House	



The Royal Marines Band Scotland play at Tarbert prior to the Scottish Series prizegiving. 08\_a23navy03

## Royal Marines call the tune at series prizegiving in Tarbert

Visitors to the Scottish Series yachting event were treated to a Beat Retreat from the Royal Marines Band Scotland. The band marched down Tarbert's front street prior to the prize giving ceremony on Sunday.

The Royal Navy were at the festival to monitor events and provide a thrilling day at sea for sea cadets from Campbeltown, Oban and Fort William.

The marines travelled to the event on The HMS Smiter, the Navy's P2000

patrol boat, normally based in Faslane.

Commanding Officer of HMS Smiter, Lieutenant James Baker, said: 'My crew and I are always assured a warm welcome in Tarbert and we enjoy interacting with the sailors.'

LISMORE

Your correspondent is Pauline Dowling: 01631 760293

Sports Day and Raft Race volunteers needed

A MEETING to discuss the Sports and Raft Race will be held today (June 3) at 8pm in the hall to begin organising the many events to be held on July 17.

Lots of people are needed to do a range of jobs before and on the day to continue making this the most popular attraction in Lismore's calendar.

Gaelic weekend

THIRTEEN students from Edinburgh and their teacher Anne Paterson travelled to Lismore to be tutored in Gaelic and to spend the weekend on an island where the Gaelic culture is active.

On the Saturday morning they were tutored by Margaret MacDonald and Paddy MacNicol and in the afternoon given a tour in the community bus driven by Ian MacKinnon with Donald Black as their guide.

A ceilidh dance in the public hall rounded off the day. This was chaired by Duncan Livingstone with songs from singer Sophie King, aged eight, and adults Gregor Lawrie and Duncan Livingstone.

The students' choir also sang with some solos from the visitors.

The band for the evening was the Cast Ewe Ceilidh Band who are always very well received.

Tea, coffee and home-baking was served. The committee of Comann Eachdraidh Lios Mor is grateful to Gaelic teacher Anne Paterson who has been bringing her students to Lismore for several years.

A vote of thanks to everyone who organised and participated in a very successful evening was proposed by John Livingstone.



Barcaldine Primary School pupils visit Homebase

Barcaldine Primary School's P1-4 visited Oban's Homebase store. Homebase manager Andrew Spence kindly donated plants and compost to help the school with its gardening projects.

Charity walk

THE LAST Chance Foundation held a 10 mile charity walk on Lismore on the hottest May day since records began.

The foundation is a registered charity run by Steve and Christina Cass working with veterinary surgeries, rescue kennels and dog wardens and the general public to rescue healthy dogs which have behavioural problems.

The foundation believes that any dog can be rehabilitated using natural methods involving calm assertive leadership with clear rules and kindness.

Clients and friends of the foundation - human and canine - met at Achnacroich and walked along the coast to the Broch then to Castle Coeffin and, after refreshments at the Café, the group went round Salen and back to the Oban ferry.

Lismore was at its sparkling best and everyone

was grateful for the support vehicle which met the walkers at various points providing water and refreshments.

Lismore's Festival of the Sea

LISMORE played its part in Oban's first festival of the sea which for 10 days celebrated the area's marine environment with more than 50 events running in a range of venues.

On Saturday May 22, one of the first festival events was an introductory fun Gaelic lesson by Ionad Chalumu Chille Ile's Gaelic tutor Sine MacKellar.

Following this lesson Islay's Còisir Ghàidhlig Ile conductor Iseabail MacTaggart taught the participants several Islay Gaelic songs, some with choruses, which are often sung at local ceilidhs.

Along with the songs, Iseabail told fascinating snippets of Islay's folklore and history connected with the music.

On the evening of Wednesday May 26, a Gaelic and traditional ceilidh was held in Ionad Chalumu Chille Ile. A feast of music was performed by talented Islay singers and instrumentalists, and many of the singers sang Islay songs, including works of some of the Islay Bards; Duncan Johnston, Duncan and Charles MacNiven of Kilchoman and William Livingstone.

Youngsters and seasoned performers sang or played. This was a real community event showing the breadth and depth of talented musicians in Islay, and the dedication of the many Islay people who give their time freely to teach Islay's traditional music, keeping the island's cultural heritage alive.

Fiddle exam distinction

MAIRI McGillivray has passed her Grade 2 fiddle exam with Distinction at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama in Glasgow.

Mairi would like to thank her fiddle tutor Simon Moran.

Islay Pipe Band

PIPE bands from most areas of the UK and Ireland met on Saturday May 22 at Levensgrove Park, Dumbarton, for their first major competitive outing of the season, the Scottish Pipe Band Championship.

Two Argyll bands played in Grade 3A, the Isle of Islay

ISLAY

Your correspondent is Susan Campbell: 01496 850215

Islay Festival's Gaelic events

TWO EVENTS featuring Gaelic language and song were held during the recent Islay Festival of Music and Malt.

On Saturday May 22, one of the first festival events was an introductory fun Gaelic lesson by Ionad Chalumu Chille Ile's Gaelic tutor Sine MacKellar.

Following this lesson Islay's Còisir Ghàidhlig Ile conductor Iseabail MacTaggart taught the participants several Islay Gaelic songs, some with choruses, which are often sung at local ceilidhs.

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Two Argyll bands played in Grade 3A, the Isle of Islay

which finished 11th, and Sound of Kintyre which was 12th in the section, with both bands scoring above their overall placing in the Piping 2 category.

Islay Pipe Band is led by Pipe Major Nigel Morris and Leading Drummer Sandy Maclean and this year competes in Grade 3A for the first time.

The band gained promotion from Grade 4B in 2007, from Grade 4A in 2008 - being crowned Champion of Champions - and from Grade 3B in 2009. The band travels to all the major competitions and hope to continue its success in the coming season.

Regular weekly band practices are held in Ionad Chalumu Chille Ile - the Islay Columba Centre - just outside Bowmore on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, and tuition for beginners is given between 7-8pm on these nights also. Following on from several enjoyable performances by Islay Pipe Band during the recent Islay Festival of Music and Malt, its next performance will be on Saturday June 12 when the band can be heard

at the Islay Beach Rugby Tournament at the White Hart Beach in Port Ellen.

Woodland family fun

FIONA MacGillivray of Green Bug Productions has teamed up with the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) for a Woodland Wildlife Family Fun afternoon at the RSPB Loch Gruinart Reserve at Aoradh on Friday June 4.

Dog management refresher course

A FOUR week refresher course will be held in Bruichladdich Hall starting on Tuesday June 15.

Everyone who has already completed the 12 week responsible dog ownership course is entitled to take part. Contact Janet on 01496 850596 janet@coullabus.co.uk or Peggy on 01496 840648 aandpmacea@aol.com.

KILLIN

Your correspondent is Judy Forster 01567 820298

Killin Youth Group

KILLIN Youth Group is a new venture open to all pupils of secondary school age within the Killin and Ardeonaig area.

Two trips have been arranged, one to the Abernethy Trust and one to Stirling Bowling Alley.

To help fund these and other trips a car wash day has been arranged.

The youth group plans to meet weekly and have one trip away every month. Details of the trips and events will be posted on Facebook under Killin Youth Group.

Project wanted

A LOCAL business is looking for a volunteering project they can complete in a day in May or June.

They have their own transport and are interested in painting a community hall or tidying up gardens.

If any community group could use 15-20 pairs of hands for an afternoon please get in touch with the Volunteer Centre for more information on 01786 446071.



Ardrishaig RNLI coffee morning raises £533

Mary McTavish and Isobel MacInnes enjoyed a cuppa at the recent Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) coffee morning in Ardrishaig. Organisers raised £533 for the RNLI lifeboat based at Ardrishaig. A group of women made hot drinks and cakes for the guests, ran a home-baking stall and a stall selling a variety of goods including children's toys. 08\_a21RNLI01



Anna Bevis, chairman of Royal British Legion Scotland Easdale Branch, presents a £500 cheque to Sir Clive Fairweather of Combat Stress.

Easdale Legion donation boosts Combat Stress

COLONEL Sir Clive Fairweather of Combat Stress visited Seil and Luing and was delighted to receive a £500 cheque from Anna Bevis, chairman of the Royal British Legion Scotland Easdale Branch.

The money had been raised locally on Seil and Luing. Sir Clive then delivered a talk to a group of Legion members about the work of Combat Stress and Hollybush House in Ayrshire, a treatment centre for ex-service personnel suffering from problems such as post-traumatic stress disorder. There is also an outreach branch for work in the community.

Set up after First World War, the organisation is heavily dependent upon voluntary donations and over the last few years has seen an increase of 66 per cent in referrals.

After his visit to Seil, Sir Clive gave a presentation to the Rotary Club in Oban.



Some of the charity walkers with their mascot at Achnacroich.



Volunteers help the heros on Mull

Mull's Frontiersman Yeomanry Volunteers set up stall in Tobermory last week to raise funds for the Help for Heroes charity. A large amount of money was donated by visitors and locals to the town, particularly for the charity but also to Tobermory War Memorial Fund. Manning the stand were Peter Campbell, agent for the fund, James McWilliam, Pete Smith, Jim Simpson and Ken Walker. The 'B' Squadron of Frontiersman Yeomanry Volunteers (Light Horse), Scottish Command will be collecting throughout the summer.

Ladies produce the goods at Torlundy felt making evening

HANDBAGS, purses and pictures were just some of the items produced by the ladies attending a recent felt making evening at the Rural Education Centre at An Clachan, Torlundy.

With instructions from Tina Webster and a lot of elbow grease some lovely articles were made in two hours.

At last week's meeting Charlie MacKinnon and James Standin of Croft Motors gave many helpful tips on car maintenance and how to change a wheel and their instructive talk resulted in many more confident lady drivers.

Following this session paramedic Alan Knox and his assistants put the

ladies through some first aid training and this was very well received. The ladies successfully completed their CPR training and received certificates. The final meeting of the session will be a summer barbecue party to be held on June 28 to which husbands and partners are invited.

The Piping Scene

Changes to set tunes for 2010

The Piobaireachd Society has announced a change in the requirements for the Clasp and Senior competitions at The Northern Meeting and The Argyllshire Gathering.

As always the set tunes are a recommendation by The Piobaireachd Society which is consistently taken up by the two main solo gatherings.

This time the society has taken the unusual step of reducing the tune requirements from four pairs of tunes to three pairs. This year short tunes have been set, and for the first time they have to be chosen in pairs and the pair of tunes selected by the judges have to be played sequentially.

The reason given for this decision was that it was felt tune requirements were a bit demanding on the competitors and the society did not wish to discourage entries. I believe both the main gatherings have accepted the change to the tune requirements.

Piping at the Highlands and Islands Festival

The Highlands and Islands Music and Dancing Festival took place in Oban on Saturday May 1.

I was invited to adjudicate the senior piping along with Tom Speirs, Ronnie McShannon and John Wilson. The venue was Oban High School and Tom Speirs and I were allocated the Premier/A grade piobaireachd competition which got underway at about

By HUGH MACCALLUM

9.20am. The unenviable draw of playing first fell to Simon MacKerrell who was given *Lament for the Viscount of Dundee* to play. This was an unbalanced presentation, particularly in the first half of his tune. He needs to look again at the *chelahodin* movement which was rather clumsy.

Allan Russell was next with *MacDougalls' Gathering*. The ends of the phrases were not shown enough in the ground, and the melody notes were skimped in the Taorluath variation. Altogether there was not much expression in the performance.

*Beloved Scotland* was the tune chosen for Gavin Walker. He began with a nicely played ground and the Taorluath was also promising apart from a few technical fluffs. A choke in line 1 of the Cruinluath unsettled him and led to a rather scrappy ending to the tune.

Faye Henderson was next with *Lament for Captain MacDougall*. She started off very well with a well played urlar and variation. This is a very poignant melody and she handled it well for a young player. A few wee nipped passing notes and somewhat brisk echoing beats detracted slightly here and there. There followed a nicely played Taorluath variation and a good Cruinluath, although a little hurried towards the end. This completed a good tune overall.

Next up was Fiona Manson playing *Lady Margaret MacDonald's Salute*. The ground was very musically

played. The early variations were a little brisk for my taste and the tripling variation a bit 'tight'. Thereafter it flowed nicely with a few little technical fluffs near the finish.

Chris Armstrong was next with *The End of the Great Bridge*. The ground and thumb variation were well played but there was a rather light hiharin movement. The middle variations were a bit square and the later variations rushed. This gave an overall unsettled effect to the performance.

William Geddes was given the *Battle of Auldearn No 2 Setting* to play. He had a tendency to cut the B prior to the C grip in the ground rather ruthlessly. The middle part of the tune was very well played but the cruinluath variations came apart a bit with unbalanced cadences and a technical hitch.

Andrea Boyd was next playing *Nameless (Hiharin dro o dro)*. The darodo movement in the ground was very light and the drones were a bit unsettled. After a nicely played Taorluath variation, the cruinluath was a bit jerky and was marred by a choke.

Euan MacCrimmon was the final competitor playing *The Stewarts White Banner*. He started well with a nicely played ground. The tune then became rather heavy and ponderous and it wasn't until the Taorluath doubling that the confidence came through again.

This completed the competition in which a number of entered players did not play. It did not take

us long to decide on the following result: 1 Faye Henderson; 2 Fiona Manson; 3 Euan MacCrimmon; 4 William Geddes.

After the lunch break Tom and I were asked to do the B/C light music contest which took the form of a March Strathspey and Reel played straight through once over.

I will not comment on individual performances here, and again a number of players entered did not play, but a clear winner was Craig Muirhead followed by 2 Euan Dewar; 3 Struan Thorpe; 4 Fiona Manson.

I don't think grouping B and C players together was a success. There was some good playing but also there were some players who would be better off in a separately graded C event.

This was obvious from their lack of competence in playing basic movements.

Also, many players played their tunes far too fast and as a result could not cope with the technique required to give a good account.

A number of competition promoters are finding it increasingly difficult to cope with the numbers presenting themselves and it is difficult to strike a balance which is fair to competitors at different levels of competence.

What do you think? Would it be better to have graded competitions for each grade or should heats be run and a final played? If you think you have the answer to this perennial problem send your thoughts to editor@obantimes.co.uk and they will be passed on to the CPA and the promoters for consideration.

**Underpass to re-open on Saturday**

THE VITAL link between Fort William High Street and the town's bus and train stations will re-open on Saturday - just as thousands of visitors arrive for the UCI mountain bike world cup.

Minister for Public Health and Sport Shona Robison MSP will open the new-look underpass, which has undergone a £118,000 revamp as part of a £500,000 town centre regeneration scheme.

More than 250 people attended workshops led by young people's arts organisation Room 13 to produce artwork for the underpass reflecting Lochaber's history, culture, music, sport and landscape.

The route features new lighting, stainless steel cladding, feature banner lighting poles, new soft and hard landscaping, a new colour scheme and CCTV cameras.

Fort William Steering Group chairman Brian Murphy said: 'I think it will be absolutely stunning. There has been a lot of community involvement in this project and I'm sure people will feel it's something Fort William can be proud of.'

**In the swim**

TALENTED Lewis swimmer Kathryn Offer is making rapid progress under a national initiative for young athletes aiming for the 2016 Rio Olympic Games.

Kathryn, from Galson, Ness, is among 40 athletes selected to attend a special training camp in Nottingham in August. Kathryn, aged 18, said all the hard work put into her swimming and training was 'totally worth it'.

**NEWSDESK**  
01631 568000

**MP calls for no overnight closure of A83**

ARGYLL and Bute MSP Alan Reid is calling for the overnight closure of the A83 to stop.

The MP has written to the Scottish Transport Minister Stewart Stevenson telling him that these closures will cause severe disruption to local people, visitors and businesses. He said: 'The overnight closures are unacceptable. The work should be carried out by closing only one lane at a time and controlling the traffic by a traffic light and convoy system. Traffic is being diverted via Oban - adding an hour and a half to the journey time. The Transport Minister must put a stop to these road closures.'



Lochaber Schools Pipe Band march into the Nevis Centre forum before the joint ward forum. 10\_f23demo02

**High-tech Skye company saved**

HIGH-TECH Skye medical equipment company Gaeltec Ltd has been saved after a London-based company stepped in to buy the firm.

Medical and research electronic device manufacturer Digitimer has agreed terms with administrators Grant Thornton, which were brought in to find a buyer following Dunvegan-based Gaeltec's failure to meet

National Insurance liabilities. Digitimer hopes to re-hire most of the 12-strong staff who lost their jobs when Gaeltec ceased trading.

Gaeltec's former managing director Syd Thomson will become general manager in the new enterprise, Gaeltec Services Ltd. Digitimer managing director John Smale said: 'I am particularly excited by this opportunity to

revitalise a small business that is important to us and our customers, as well as making use of the expertise that exists within Gaeltec.'

'We have plans to develop the Gaeltec product range and increase marketing, thereby strengthening the financial position of the company. In return, Digitimer will have access to new skill sets in the design, manufacture and assembly of miniature

medical electrodes, which can be transferred to our own products or into our sub-contract manufacturing business.'

Head of operations at Highlands and Islands Enterprise David Oxley said the move was 'great news' for Gaeltec's former employees and looked forward to working with Digitimer to help the business 'develop and grow'.

**Banavie celebrate netball win**

BANAVIE defeated Caol 4-3 in extra time to win the Fort William primary schools netball tournament at Caol Primary School on Monday.

In the semi-finals, Banavie beat Fort William 6-5, while Caol knocked out Upper Achintore 2-1. Banavie and Upper Achintore were joint winners of the seven-team league, which was organised by active schools co-ordinator Bridget Thomas and PE teacher Carol Cairns.

Ms Thomas said: 'Huge thanks go to all the school staff and parents who have worked so hard training the girls and taking them to matches over the last two terms.'

**Sconser Post Office to operate from hotel two hours a week**

SCONSER Post Office will re-open later this month in new premises in the resident's lounge at the Sconser Lodge Hotel.

The branch will open on June 28 and will open two hours every Monday from 10am to 12pm. Subpostmaster will be Steve Watson, the present postmaster at Portree Post Office.

Since the closure of the post office in Sconser earlier this year, locals have had to travel around 15 miles to get to the nearest post office. Post Office Limited field change advisor Kenny Lamont said: 'Post Office services are extremely important for the community and this service will be vital asset for the local area.'

**Pilley investigation centres on Glen Croe**  
Police appeal for visitors' pictures of popular Argyll forest

POLICE investigating the murder of Suzanne Pilley are now appealing for anyone who was in the forest at Glen Croe near the Rest and Be Thankful on May 5 to come forward.

**Four weeks**  
Officers made a fresh appeal for information on Tuesday, exactly four weeks since the Edinburgh woman disappeared.

Detective Chief Inspector Gary Flannigan in charge of the case continues to urge members of the people in Argyll to come forward with any potentially relevant information.

Members of his team are working in Lochgilphead which became the centre of

national media interest last week. Reporters flocked to the area as the disappearance of Ms Pilley, 38, took a bizarre twist.

The town's high school and hospital were under the spotlight after it was alleged in the national press that Suzanne's ex-lover had paid a visit to the area.

David Gilroy from Edinburgh denies any involvement in Ms Pilley's disappearance.

**Lochgilphead link**  
Officers are focusing their efforts on a large area of Argyll, and are investigating claims Mr Gilroy was there about the time she went missing. Newspaper reports have

suggested Mr Gilroy, who works for the Edinburgh-based firm Infrastructure Managers Limited, was at a school in Lochgilphead on May 5, the day after Ms Pilley went missing.

The company has a contract to manage the maintenance of the campus and hospital.

Lothian and Borders Police are not denying or confirming any of the information.

DCI Flannigan is now keen to speak to anyone walking, cycling or working in Glen Croe, near the A83, between 1-3.30pm, or in the evening between 6- 8.30pm on Wednesday May 5. He said: 'The area around

Glen Croe Forest, like the nearby Rest and Be Thankful, is a spectacular area for scenery and a well known photo-stop.

**Photos**  
'I'm sure people who may have been in the area will have taken photos and perhaps have not had them developed or downloaded yet.'

'We would ask that they do this as a matter of urgency, and review their pictures for a silver family-size card.'

Anyone who thinks they can assist the police in their enquiries should contact Lothian and Borders Police on 0131 311 3131, or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

**Band marches in on forum to protest at tuition cuts**

HIGHLAND Council chiefs were met with a musical demonstration on Monday night ahead of the joint Lochaber wards forum to discuss budget cuts.

Councillors and top officials looked on as Lochaber Schools Pipe Band marched in to the Nevis Centre, showing piping and drumming skills learned through the schools music tuition programme.

The service could be cut back as the council struggles to find around £40 million of savings over the next three years.

Doubt also hangs over the newly opened Lochaber Archive Centre and a new council Invernevis care home in Caol, while sweeping cuts to local youth services and a review of Corran Ferry services are on the table.

Nevis Centre manager John MacLennan allowed the band to march in to the foyer, where they played a short set of tunes to a sprinkling of applause.

Drumming instructor Carolyn McKee, from Fort William, told *The Oban Times*: 'I'm a prime example of the success of the music tuition system. I went through it in school and came out with lots of different skills, not just musical, but leadership, confidence and responsibility as well - things that people don't realise we

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

get from it. They are talking about putting up the charges. That's okay for the ones who can afford it and those in the low-income bracket who will get support, but those in the middle are going to suffer - and that's where most of the music pupils come from.

'Lochaber has always had strong links to music, both traditional and classical, and if we lose that it will be as if a part of our culture has died.'

Around 70 people attended the low-key forum, seated around 11 circular tables in discussion groups.

Director of finance Alan Geddes, budget leader David Alston and council leader Michael Foxley painted a bleak picture for services as financial screws tighten.

Mr Geddes told the hushed audience Highland Council

*Lochaber has always had strong links to music, both traditional and classical, and if we lose that it will be as if a part of our culture has died.*

Drumming instructor  
Carolyn McKee

had already found £23million of savings and has to find another £36million by 2013.

Because budget cuts will be applied more quickly under the new Tory-Lib Dem government, an estimated additional £8-£10million of cuts will be needed, he warned.

The forum was invited to help the council decide how and where to make savings, and suggest ways of doing things better for less.

Strong support emerged for the music tuition service and Invernevis House in the question and answer session, while money saving ideas included streamlining the committee system to involve less travel for members.

Asked by *The Oban Times* to justify the meeting format, Councillor Alston said: 'I think it's a really good way of doing things.'

'Everybody gets a chance to speak and that's not something you can say about a standard public meeting.'

Provost of Lochaber Allan Henderson told *The Oban Times*: 'A good turn out of people with many interests made for a very subdued audience, considering the drastic cuts being discussed and the groundswell of local opposition to the possibility of losing Invernevis, which would leave no council owned care home in Greater Fort William.'

**Education budget consultation to go ahead this month**

THE EDUCATION budget for Argyll and Bute will be discussed at a series of consultation events this month.

Argyll and Bute Council has agreed the details of its informal consultation which will take place in Lochgilphead on June 8, Helensburgh on June 10, Oban on June 16 and Dunoon on June 17.

**Prioritising spend**  
As agreed at the council's executive meeting on May 17, the events will see key stakeholders invited to discuss how the council spends its education budget.

Councillor Isobel Strong

Strong, Argyll and Bute's spokesperson for Education and Lifelong Learning, said: 'The purpose of the sessions is to consult with key interest groups on the provision of education, make them aware of the council's current budget position and get their views on how the authority should prioritise areas of spend within education.'

*There would be no discussion on any particular school.*

councillor  
Isobel Strong

Councillor Strong emphasised that there would be no discussion on any particular school.

**Summarise views**

The meetings will be opened by Councillor Strong and moderated by Keir Bloomer, formerly vice-chair of Learning and Teaching Scotland and a member of the group which wrote 'A Curriculum for Excellence'.

During each event there will be smaller breakout discussion sessions. Mr Bloomer will then head a session to summarise the views which were raised in the smaller groups.



Fort William pupils Kyle Black, Connor MacDonald, William Struthers and Kinlochleven Primary School pupil Jonathon Vennard jump in unison on the bouncy castle. 10\_f23fort01

**Delight as Fort William school fête raises £1,400**

FORT William Primary School raised a total of £1,400 at its school fête last Thursday evening.

The funds will go towards a trip for the whole school to Landmark Forest Adventure Park at Carrbridge at the end of term.

Fête attractions included a bouncy castle, a beat the goalie competition, a baking stall and a raffle with prizes donated by local businesses.

Head teacher Sue Commander said: 'We had a good number of people show up despite a wee bit of rain.'

'We are very appreciative of the parents for their hard work and how much they raised.'

**Residents rally round families left homeless after Achnacarry blaze**

LOCHABER residents have rallied round families left homeless after fire badly damaged converted stables at Achnacarry Estate on May 20.

Newlyweds Bobby and Shona MacAulay lived in the upper flat, which was destroyed along with all their belongings, including Shona's wedding dress.

And the Halford family in the flat below were only able to recover a few of their possessions from the badly water-damaged property.

Four other properties in the block were undamaged, but all residents were temporarily relocated to other estate accommodation pending a decision on whether the damaged section should be demolished.

**Contributions**  
Julie and Steve Halford's two daughters attend Lochaber High School and fellow pupils went round the school asking staff for contributions.

Teacher Graham McNab said they produced 'an amazing

amount' of donations. 'We got computers, televisions, irons, toasters - we ended up with three car loads, a van and a trailer full of stuff,' he told *The Oban Times*.

'I think a lot of people can imagine themselves in a similar position and they just wanted to do a bit to help.'

Mr McNab also helped to organise a bag pack at Morrisons supermarket on Friday, which raised more than £2,000.

Achnacarry housekeeper

Carol-Ann Simpson has also been involved in the fund-raising effort.

She said: 'The whole of Lochaber has been brilliant. We've had people driving to Inverness to buy clothes, as well as donations of clothes and furniture.'

'The amount of money raised so far is amazing.'

Collections are ongoing and the families will be presented with the final amount by the end of this week.

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**Best ski season for 15 years**

LOCHABER'S ski resorts have had their best season in 15 years according to the latest figures.

Glencoe Mountain and Nevis Range helped Scotland's five ski areas pull in 373,782 customers - the best result since winter 1995-96. The previous best over the last 15 years was season 2000-01 with more than 366,000 skier days.

**Banner presented to Pipes and Drums**

CHIEF Constable of Northern Constabulary Ian Latimer presented a pipe banner to the Pipes and Drums of the Highlanders, 4th Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Scotland, during a ceremony at Cameron Barracks on Saturday.

The banner has the Northern Constabulary logo on one side and the regimental arms on the other. Mr Latimer paid tribute to the Highlanders' long and proud history and their strong links to Northern Constabulary.

**Linnhe Golf Society outing**

LINNHE Golf Society is hoping the weather will stay fine tomorrow for its trip to Spey Valley Golf Club, the second of four annual outings.

Nevis Centre manager John MacLennan and assistant manager Willie Duncan will be among the party of 40 making the trip and John is in no doubt who is responsible for recent away-day washouts.

'Every time Willie comes it rains,' he said. 'We don't call him Willie 'Rain Man' Duncan for nothing.'

**Vatersay Boys online live**

THE VATERSAY Boys' gig at the Nevis Centre this Saturday will be shown live online by Sports Media Online.

The local company, which has previously broadcast amateur boxing, shinty and Scotland's Strongest Man online, will show the performance live on www.lochaber.com/whatson, www.neviscentre.co.uk/Whats-On and www.sportsmediaonline.co.uk.

The Vatersay Boys are one of the most popular Scottish folk music bands in the country and will be performing as part of the Mountain Bike World Cup celebrations.

**Subsea training courses in spotlight**

THE UNDERWATER Centre in Fort William is displaying its range of specialist subsea training courses at a careers trade show in Perth today (Thursday).

Staff are exhibiting at an employment fair organised by the Careers Transition Partnership, which provides careers advice to ex-forces personnel. Underwater Centre general manager Steve Ham said: 'Their professional ethic and ability to be flexible makes them perfect candidates for training at the Underwater Centre.'



Scotland's strongest man Chris Innes gives a lift to Zuzia Kruk, Alistair MacRae and Tyra Scully at the Lochside school fête. 10\_f23lochy01

**Lochside delight at school fête total**

THIS year's school fête at Lochside RC Primary School has raised the grand total of nearly £3,600.

Scotland's strongest man Chris Innes gave up his time to support the event, while indoor and outdoor activities for the children, sales stalls, a raffle and an auction all helped to boost funds.

Head teacher Violet Smith said: 'We are delighted at the success of the evening. Once again we have been extremely well supported by parents and the wider community.'

**New director on South Uist board**

A NEW director has been voted on to the board of South Uist community landlord Stòras Uibhist.

Stephen MacAulay, aged 24, from Ardmor, topped the poll and takes his place alongside Angus MacMillan and John MacMillan, who were both re-elected.

Former vice-chairman Father Michael Macdonald lost his seat.

In the May 12 to May 28 election 656 people voted - an 84.5 per cent

turnout of full members. Mr MacAulay received 421 votes with Angus Macmillan receiving 418 votes and John Macmillan 320 votes.

Father Macdonald got 255 votes and other unsuccessful candidates Shona Macdonald and Dr Louise Crockett received 241 and 219 respectively.

Speaking after his win, Mr MacAulay told *The Oban Times* he was 'hesitant' to state his plans until he had formally joined the board of

directors and had time to see at first hand what work has been carried out over the last few years.

He said: 'I was very surprised to finish first in the election. It is overwhelming to see so much support for Stòras Uibhist and myself.'

'I hope my age encourages the local youth to be more involved in the island's future. I hope they take the opportunity to express their views, as I will do my very best to make them heard.'

**Race on to repair damaged bridge**

ACCESS to some of Lochaber's most famous peaks remains partly cut off today (Thursday) after a party of rowdy students damaged a pedestrian footbridge over the Water of Nevis.

It is believed 23 or 24 students, thought to be from Holland, were jumping up and down in unison on the wire bridge at Steall Falls, Glen Nevis, when one of the two footway cables broke free from its stay, pitching the students onto rocks and into the water below.

Three people were treated for various injuries, believed to include a broken shoulder, at the Belford Hospital. The bridge has been taped off since the incident last Wednesday, although walkers have been seen crossing the damaged structure.

The John Muir Trust and Rio Tinto Alcan own land either side of the bridge and

REPORT by STEPHEN NORRIS snorris@obantimes.co.uk

moves are already underway to involve local groups in its speedy repair. The crossing is the main northern entry point to the Ring of Steall mountain route and the Mamores, and accesses Steall Bothy, a mountain rescue post which Lochaber Mountaineering Club leases out to walkers and climbers.

Club secretary Kenny Foggo said low water levels meant the river can be forded but if water levels rise, the 'difficult' alternative route to the bothy via a bridge downstream and rough terrain meant the club could face a reduction in revenue.

He told *The Oban Times*: 'We rent out the bothy to kindred climbing clubs and other people. Somebody

has a booking in two weeks' time and we simply don't know what height the river is going to be then.

'It's a vital access and the main way in to virtually all the Mamores at this end. It's important we have the bridge repaired as quickly as possible.'

Lochaber Mountain Rescue team leader John Stevenson condemned the students' actions.

*"There's no way there should have been 23 of them bouncing up and down on that bridge. It's only designed for one or two people crossing at a time."*

Lochaber Mountain Rescue team leader John Stevenson.

He said: 'It's bloody madness. There's no way there should have been 23 of them bouncing up and down on that bridge. It's only designed for one or two people crossing at a time.'

Head of land management for the John Muir Trust Andrew Campbell said: 'The wire bridge is a Glen Nevis landmark and many walkers enjoy crossing it.'

'The bridge receives a regular maintenance survey every two years and is kept in good repair, but it appears it may have been overloaded, causing the cable to snap.'

'We have closed off the bridge until further notice and will be discussing the way forward with Rio Tinto Alcan and others in the Nevis Partnership, Lochaber Mountain Rescue Team, Lochaber Mountaineering Club and the wider community.'

**Moidart hotshot has London Olympics in his sights after top grand prix performance**



John MacDonald - Olympic and Commonwealth Games in his sights.

MOIDART hotshot John MacDonald has the 2012 London Olympic Games firmly in his sights after posting a top performance at the clay target Olympic Trap British Grand Prix at Southern Counties Leisure in Dorset.

John brought down 121 out of 125 clays to take the gold medal, beating British number one Aaron Heading and number three Carl Exton to consolidate his bid for one of the two places in British team at the Games.

Champion John, the first Scot to win the title since

Sir Jackie Stewart's success in 1960, also scored 118 to come ninth out of 650 competitors in the ISSF Shotgun World Cup at the same venue, putting him in great shape for this week's world cup round in Italy and the European Championships in Kazan from June 25 to July 4. John's scores also surpassed the qualifying mark for eligibility to represent Scotland at October's Commonwealth Games in Delhi. With two events left, John looks a cert to be in the team but must wait for the selectors'

**South Uist man appointed to lead Gaelic research programme**

A SOUTH Uist man has been appointed senior manager for a new £5million Gaelic research project based at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, the Gaelic College on Skye.

Iain Campbell from Milton will take charge of Soillse, a six-year programme to examine the state of Gaelic in families and in communities.

Soillse will also collect hard evidence of the language benefits of Gaelic-medium education at different levels and assess both the effectiveness of public policies on Gaelic and the language plans of public agencies. Mr Campbell currently lives near Kiltarity, Inverness-shire, and for the last eight years has been director of his own consultancy company, Hecla Consulting.

He said: 'Soillse is giving the Gaelic community the opportunity to be fully represented when policies about the state of our language are discussed at the highest levels.'

'I am particularly looking forward to working closely with Gaelic communities

throughout Scotland, with the universities and researchers who will be involved in this project, and with the other public agencies supporting Soillse and the drive to give everyone the opportunity to speak Gaelic.'

The £5.29 million project is half funded by the Scottish Funding Council Bòrd na Gàidhlig and Highlands and Islands Enterprise. The remainder comes from the participating universities of Aberdeen, Glasgow, Edinburgh and UHI, the prospective university of the Highlands and Islands.



Iain Campbell: leading Gaelic project.

**It's a Knockout competition attracts 20 teams**



Sport Lochaber held a gala day on Saturday at the BA Club where they invited locals to take part in their 'It's a Knockout' competition. The event attracted 20 teams including Lochaber High School, the local fire brigade and Lochaber Rugby Club, with Lochaber Squash Club running out winners. The event was followed by a 'Night Fever' disco at the Nevis Centre on Saturday evening. Organiser Jane Blanchard told *The Oban Times*: 'It was a great day. Despite the weather we still managed to get a good crowd. We'll be holding it again next year. We've got room for up to 40 teams so hopefully next year's event can be even bigger.' 10\_f23gala01

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**Skye schoolboy comes up trumps**

A SCHOOLBOY from the Isle of Skye battled it out in Britain's first Top Trumps card game tournament at London on Saturday.

Gavin Finnie from Kyleakin Primary School was one of 72 youngsters who won through from an entry of 3,300 to the British Gas Generation Green-sponsored event at the Science Museum.

Gavin, aged 12, who reached the tournament semi-finals and appeared live on BBC Radio 5 Live as the fastest travelled competitor, went down on the train with his mum Rose-Mary and

stayed in London with his uncle Malcolm Finnie.

Mother and son returned to Inverness on Sunday night, where Gavin's dad Graham picked them up. The school gave Gavin 'a hero's welcome' on Monday morning, teacher Gayle Morrison said. 'Everybody was clapping and cheering me,' Gavin told *The Oban Times*. James Rankin of Winning Moves UK, which owns the Top Trumps brand said: 'Gavin was star. He didn't win but he was great. He added stardust to his whole event.'



Gavin travelled from Skye to London to compete in the tournament.

## Uist volunteers clear historic dig debris from ancient site

Large Iron Age tools discovered during Grenitote clear-up

THE decaying remains of a caravan and hut left behind more than a decade ago by archaeologists excavating an area in Grenitote, North Uist have been cleared away by community volunteers.

### Ancient site

The accommodation was in annual use for more than two decades by archaeologists at the ancient site of Udal, in Grenitote,

North Uist. The dig was led by freelance archaeologist Iain Crawford, with the help of many local people.

### Hazard

However the accommodation, including a hut used for processing finds, was left behind when work on the excavation stopped, and subsequently created an increasing hazard for livestock on Grenitote

common grazings.

Members of Access Archaeology, led by local archaeologists Kate MacDonald and Becky Rennell of Uist Archaeology, decided to do something about the situation, and asked Comhairle Nan Eilean Siar to provide a skip.

Then it was all hands to the pump as volunteers turned up to clear the site

of rusting metal, aluminium and wood.

Local crofters Donald Ewen MacIntosh and Donald William MacIntosh provided a tractor to haul the caravan base into the skip.

The clear-up operation amused volunteers by yielding many 20th century artefacts such as crockery, pots and pans, shovels and

even a hot water bottle.

But for Kate MacDonald the highlight was the discovery of a large Iron Age stone used as a multi-purpose tool for hammering, grinding and polishing.

She said: 'This is the largest one of its kind I've ever seen.'

'It must have been used by someone with massive hands.'



Kate MacDonald with the massive Iron Age tool found at the Udal hut site.

## Tobermory Lifeboat aids yacht

A YACHT which ran into trouble north of the Isle of Mull has been towed to safety by Tobermory's Royal National Lifeboat Institute (RNLI) lifeboat.

The Mull-based rescue boat was launched on Tuesday, June 1 around 9.40am after an urgent request for help from a couple holidaying on board The Widgeon, after their 11m craft lost steering.

## Driver fined

A STROKE victim who drove without due care and attention was fined and had five points placed on his licence at Oban Sheriff Court.

Douglas Shearer, aged 59, of 10 Queens Street, Bozeat, Northampton, admitted driving without due care and attention on June 26 2009 at Corran Esplanade and Dunollie Road.

Shearer claimed he was anxious, as he knew the police were watching him. He said: 'I am very sorry for all the bother I have caused.'

Shearer presented a letter to the court from his doctor stating that the DVLA found him fit to drive.

Shearer was fined £300 and five penalty points were placed on his licence.

## Newspaper stolen

POLICE are investigating the theft of a newspaper valued at 75p. Enquires are ongoing about the alleged theft, on Friday, from an Oban filling station. A police spokesman said: 'There is no level of theft that is acceptable.'

## Sleat community bid for photomathon fundraiser

SLEAT Community Trust (SCT) on the Isle of Skye is looking for people to sign up for its Sleat Photomathon fundraiser on July 2-3.

Anyone with a camera can take part in the 24-hour event from 9pm on July 2 to 9pm on July 3 or the 12-hour event 9am to 9pm on July 3. The novel competition, based at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, will see participants challenged to take one picture in an hour around the Sleat peninsula on themes announced by the marathon director.

Prizes are given to the best series in both the 24-hour and 12-hour competitions. There will also be prizes for the best picture in each topic. Monies raised will go towards SCT's development work in the community.



Lochnell pupils who auditioned for the roles with Sam Potts, who plays Elizabeth, and the matron, played by Hanna Nixon. 07\_23loch01

## School pupils audition to go to jail at Inveraray

BUDDING young thespians from schools across Argyll were given the chance to claim an acting part at Inveraray Jail at in-school auditions.

The Argyll tourist attraction is on the look out for six lucky children to play the part of a child prisoner for one afternoon this summer.

The prison matron and one of the jail's prisoners, Elizabeth, escaped the prison to look for the young star and performed a short

sketch for the children at each school.

Eleven Argyll schools took part in the audition process, including Lochnell and Kilchrenan primaries, and pupils auditioned for two roles - 11-year-old Duncan McColl, who is in prison for stealing an apple from a market stall, and a 10-year-old girl, describing her experiences of being confined to a dark, damp and cold cell.

Pupils at the schools have been rehearsing monologues

for a few weeks and it is expected more than 130 pupils will audition.

Gavin Dick, prison governor for Inveraray Jail, said: 'This will be a really fun way for children to learn more about their local history. Children as young as seven served sentences at Inveraray Jail in the 19th century for being naughty, so pupils will need to be on their best behaviour.'

Winners of the competition will be announced on Monday, June 7.

# Independent review promised on Kintyre helicopter crash

Sixteen years after RAF Chinook accident will the truth come out?

IN THE week marking the anniversary of the 1994 RAF Chinook crash on the Mull of Kintyre comes the promise of an independent review into the accident.

The two pilots were blamed for gross negligence after all 29 people on board died in the crash on June 2 1994 that saw Kintyre emergency teams dealing with the harrowing circumstances of the worst ever RAF helicopter accident in peacetime.

Argyll and Bute's MP and MSP have welcomed the announcement by defence secretary Liam Fox that the Ministry is looking at ways of conducting an independent review into the accident.

He was speaking in response to Sir Menzies Campbell MP who urged a review.

Alan Reid MP welcomed the defence secretary's commitment to the promise made, when in opposition, to review the verdict of gross negligence against the two dead pilots, Flt Lt



The crash scene of June 4 1994

Jonathan Tapper, 30, from Burnham Thorpe, Norfolk, and Flt Lt Richard Cook, 28, from Church Crookham, Hampshire.

'It has always been obvious that mechanical failure could not be ruled out as a cause of the tragedy and so the RAF should never have found the dead pilots guilty. I hope that this review will quash the gross negligence verdict and justice will be done at last,' said Mr Reid.

Jim Mather MSP said that much speculation is known to exist about the safety

of the Chinook fleet and the particular aircraft that crashed.

'In the absence of any clear evidence of culpability, reasonable doubt demands that the verdict be changed in the aircrew's favour.' He added: 'The people of Kintyre and local emergency services were much involved in the aftermath of this tragic accident and I am aware that there is local feeling that until this matter is dealt with compassionately, wounds that should have healed remain.'

## Taynuilt girl bids for Miss Leeds



Emily aims to be Miss Leeds

A FORMER Oban High School pupil has reached the finals of the Miss Leeds beauty competition.

Emily Bramley, 19, will be competing against 25 other girls for the coveted title at an awards ceremony on June 10. Emily, who also attended Ballet West, lived in Taynuilt with her parents Barry and Wendy Bramley, before moving to Leeds 10 months ago to train as a flight attendant.

As part of the Miss Leeds competition Emily is fundraising for a Leeds charity - the Breast Cancer Haven.

To raise money Emily will be doing a sponsored 10,000ft freefall tandem skydive and a 10-kilometre run. Emily said: 'My aim is to raise a minimum of £500 for these events. I would be appreciative if the people of Oban would be willing to make a small donation. They can make a donation to Wendy Bramley at Outside Edge.'

Emily also needs Oban votes for the popularity contest. To vote call 0901 656 1514 and press 09 when prompted or text 09Emily to 84205.

## Oban sheriff gives Appin woman jail warning after drugs supply case

AN APPIN woman who supplied friends and family with Class C drugs was warned that she is facing a jail sentence. She was put on probation and ordered to complete 160 hours of community service at Oban Sheriff Court this week.

### Diazepam

Linda Boa, aged 38, of 18 Kirkton, Appin pled guilty to being in possession of 484 diazepam tablets at 8 St Valerie Place, Oban on May 1, 2009 and concerned in the supply of 488 diazepam tablets on August 28, 2009 at her home address.

Boa accepted that the tablets were hers when questioned by police.

Procurator fiscal Craig Harris said: 'Boa was ordering tablets and having them delivered to her home address. Thereafter she delivered them to friends to recover her costs of purchase.'

Defence agent David Brookens said: 'Boa is addicted to diazepam and is a habitual user. She suffered from insomnia and at first used herbal medication before she was prescribed diazepam. The prescription came to an end and she looked elsewhere for the drug.'

Sheriff Douglas Small said: 'If you continue doing this, or if you appear before me again, I will send you to Cornton Vale.'

## North Uist children plant trees at Carinish to mark Biodiversity Week

NORTH Uist school children celebrated Scottish Biodiversity Week 2010 by planting trees in the woodland at Carinish.

The wet weather didn't cool the enthusiasm of more than 30 children from Carinish and Lochmaddy schools who attended the event.

Led by Comhairle Nan Eilean Siar's Uisdean Robertson and Angusina

MacDonald, the children had a session planting native trees.

**Woodland management** With Rhodri Evans, CnES countryside access manager, they learned about the value of trees in the environment.

Scottish Natural Heritage's Tracey Begg covered the importance of woodland management, and CnES's biodiversity officer Anne MacLellan led the children

on a plant detecting expedition.

She said: 'The children spent half an hour walking through the woodland area looking for plants and trying to identify them. Each group discovered 20 different species of wildflower in a very small area, and recorded what they found. 'Despite the rain, the children really enjoyed the day.'

## Uist digital day

UIST support charity Taga Uibhist (TU) is holding a digital switchover information day on June 18.

The support charity for the elderly, mobility-impaired and vulnerable in the Uists will host the event in Balivanich Hall, Benbecula between 12 and 2pm.

It is designed to provide TU members and project stakeholders with information regarding the forthcoming digital switchover and will also highlight TU's new handyperson service.

**Oban High School news**

## Violin success

MAIRI Beaton, S3 from OHS, Kern Grier and Sanna Honeyman, P7 from Easdale, and Fergus McNally, P4 Easdale, all worked with Hazel Clark on a composition project earlier this year.

The competition, iCompose, run by the National Galleries of Scotland and the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, Drake Music Scotland and Roland. All four of the children got placed and have been invited to a reception to hear their tunes performed at the National Gallery in Edinburgh on June 23.

Sanna and Fergus came first in their age groups and have each won a Roland keyboard and a music workshop for their school. They will also get the chance to go to City Halls in Glasgow for the recording of their compositions by Linn



Violin players Mairi Beaton, Kern Grier, Sanna Honeyman and Fergus McNally, Easdale, with Hazel Clark

Records with members of the Scottish Chamber Orchestra.

Mairi and Kern were highly commended. The competition was open to schools all over Scotland and it's a real achievement for these young composers

## Gaelic Society of London conversation competition

SEVERAL S3 Gaelic learners from Oban High



Harry Stage, who was Highly Commended and Eilidh Masterson who was awarded a Merit certificate, with Gaelic tutor Catriona MacGregor

School recently took part in this competition which entailed the recording of a conversation with their teacher on a topic chosen from a list prepared by the London Gaelic Society.

The recordings were

forwarded to London to be judged by the Gaelic Society.

Congratulations go to Eilidh Masterson who was awarded a Merit certificate and to Harry Stage who was highly commended.

Well done also to all the other S3 pupils who took part.

**RESHAPING CARE FOR OLDER PEOPLE**

**Have your say...**

The Scottish Government, the NHS and Scotland's local councils have embarked on a major programme to reshape care for older people in the future. Our aim is to deliver services that are sustainable, appropriate and fair.

We want people across Scotland to tell us what they think fair care for older people needs to look like. You can have your say by attending a public meeting on:

**Monday 14 June**  
**Victoria Halls, Sinclair Street, Helensburgh G84 8TU.**

All welcome. Interested parties are asked to attend one of two identical sessions, the first running from 2.30pm to 4.30pm, and the second from 5pm to 7pm.

We look forward to seeing you.

For further information, updates and a questionnaire, please see:  
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Health/care/reshaping>

# The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

'People looking out for other people'

AS THE Fatal Accident Inquiry into the tragic deaths of four fishermen on Loch Awe in March last year gets underway this week at Oban Sheriff Court there is little doubt that, while many days of evidence will be intently listened to and the views of numerous experts will be carefully considered, we will never know what actually happened that night. Nor will it bring loved-ones back to their families.

Questions will also remain over whether anymore could have been done in a bid to rescue the victims, given conditions on the water at the time of the incident.

It has, however, galvanised the local community in a bid to ensure that the events of that tragic night never happen again. 'People looking out for other people' may seem a simple ideal but its simplicity may prove its main strength.

## GLASGOW LETTER

### Birth day celebration concert

IT IS 24 years since the first Gaelic Medium Unit opened in Sir John Maxwell Primary School in Pollokshields and ten years since Sgoil Gaidhlig Glaschu opened in Ashley Street.

To mark these milestones there is to be a high profile concert in the City Halls Grand Hall on Monday June 14 at 7.30pm.

In 2006, with a move to Berkeley Street, Sgoil Gaidhlig Glaschu became the first for pupils aged 3-18 years and with a current roll of 511, and a huge primary intake each year, it is proving to be an attractive educational option for many parents who value the place of the language in the culture of Scotland and the huge contribution the Gaels have made to the city.

The concert promises plenty variety. Pupils will perform a new tune composed for the occasion and as well as short films of the history of the 24 years of Gaelic education in the city there will be new poetry written by staff.

In addition, Kathleen MacInnes, who recently recorded one of the signature tracks for the new movie *Robin Hood*, will collaborate with the pupils in a number of songs and then the pupils will join with Cathy Ann MacPhee, who will jet in from Canada, in, most appropriately, her singing of Canan nan Gaidheal. There will also be contributions from double Mod Gold Medallist Sineag MacIntyre, Catriona Watt, a past winner of the BBC Radio Scotland Young Musician of the Year, and Norrie MacIver and Djoze Gajic, both tutors at the school.

Musical director for the evening will be Brian MacAlpine who rates the pupils as some of the most talented he has ever worked with. Tickets are available from the City Halls booking office or online at www.glasgowconcerts.com.

### Tolbooth, Stirling

THE TOLBOOTH will be the venue on Thursday June 10 and Friday June 11 for two evenings of traditional music.

The first of these will be Families, Islands and Whisky, a Highlander's Celebration of Whisky, with Iain MacFarlane from Glenfinnan. He has put together a wonderful show of music, song and stories to celebrate Scotland's 'Water of Life' and he will be accompanied by Ingrid Henderson, Ewan Robertson and the original Highland gentleman, his father,

Charlie MacFarlane. The evening will open with the O'Hallorans, a distinguished musical family from Galway. The next night Jenna Reid, the acclaimed Shetland fiddler, will be on stage with the story of the Shetland Bus, the name given to the boats which transported supplies and reinforcements to Nazi occupied Norway during World War 2. It is a particular celebration of the role played by Commander Jan Baalsrud MBE who was the only survivor of the *Braatsholn*, sunk in March 1943. He swam ashore and eventually, after much hardship including the loss of limbs resulting from frostbite, made it to Sweden. Both concerts start at 8pm. Contact the ticket office or e-mail tolbooth@stirling.gov.uk.

### Park Bar reunion

RENOWNED as the Home of the Gaels, the Park Bar is to hold a reunion in September for all those who were members of the bar staff in the 1980s and '90s.

With those who provided the music also in attendance it promises to be quite a night. If you qualify and wish to attend you will have to get a ticket. Contact Angela 07921 934967 or Marilyn 07899 750622.

### Diary dates

**Thursday June 3:** Live at the Star, St Andrew's in the Square, 8pm, Paul McKenna Band. Glasgow Ilay Association AGM, Partick Burgh Halls, 7pm.  
**Friday June 4:** Glasgow Skye Association, bus run to Ayr, bus departs Partick Bus Station, Merkland Street, at 6.30pm prompt, returning at 1am. East Kilbride Mod.  
**Saturday June 4:** East Kilbride Mod.  
**Monday June 7:** Clann Gaidhlig AGM, Wynd Centre, Paisley, 7.30pm.  
**Thursday June 10:** A Highlander's Celebration of Whisky, Tolbooth, Stirling, 8pm - see above.  
**Friday June 11:** Jenna Reid's Jan Baalsrud and the Shetland Bus, Tolbooth, Stirling, 8pm - see above.

**Pub scene**  
TRAIL West will play in the Ilay Inn on both Saturday and Sunday while the Keelies will be there on Friday evening. In the Park Bar, it will be Deoch 'n Dorus/Martin Pottinger on Friday and on Saturday the Pneumatic Drills. On Sunday it will be The Burns Brothers.  
**Neil Murray. Telephone 0141 954 8105. Email: neilmurray@yahoo.co.uk.**

### YOUR LETTERS

THE EDITOR welcomes letters of approximately 300 words in length for publication on this page. The editor also reserves the right to shorten, to amend or to refuse to print them. Names and postal addresses must be supplied, including on emails, to indicate good faith. A daytime telephone number is also required for verification. Anonymous letters or those supplied without a contact telephone number will not be printed. Please write or fax to: Letters page, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB. Fax: 01631 568001. Email editor@obantimes.co.uk.

## On song at annual BA Kinlochleven factory party - early 1950s

This week's flashback photograph was submitted by Donnie MacKenzie of Barnet, Hertfordshire. It shows the late Captain MacLean, manager of the BA Kinlochleven Factory singing at the annual party in the early 1950s. He is accompanied by two local accordionists Donnie MacKenzie and Benny McGeachy. This was in what was then the Tartan Hotel, Kinlochleven. We would like readers to send in flashback photographs. Please send prints to The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB, or email editor@obantimes.co.uk. Prints or emails must be accompanied by a caption, name, address and telephone number. Anyone wishing their prints returned must supply a stamped addressed envelope.



## Letters to the editor

PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB  
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### Archive closure plan protest

Sir,  
As a working Highland historian based in Lochaber I must protest against the proposed closure of Fort William archive.

Research visits to Edinburgh and elsewhere are sometimes necessary, but in one paper, for the Gaelic Society of Inverness, I made a point of acknowledging the value of local sources such as the libraries of Sabhal Mor Ostaig and the Clan Donald Centre.

I am currently involved with Valerie Cameron Smith of New South Wales in a major work 'Jacobite Trait? Coll MacDonell and the Prince' and have found the Lochaber Archive particularly useful.

It would be a great shame to shut it down.  
**Alasdair Roberts, Morar.**

### Don't neglect our history

Sir,  
With reference to the recent article on the burial ground at Killundine, *The Oban Times* May 10, it's good to see the renovation nearing completion.

This burial ground is called Cill Leuntaig - pronounced Killuntaig - as marked on the Killundine Estate Map, surveyed 1878.

I was born on Killundine and lived many years on Killundine Estate. My father was born just across the river from this burial ground at a house known locally as 'Eilean'.

I hope Morvern Historical Society will take note and give this burial ground its correct name.  
**Alexandra (MacLean) Millar, 25 Torr-na-Faire, Lochaline, Morvern.**

**The Silver Chanter piping competition**  
Sir,  
I write regarding *The Piping Scene* column in your April 15 issue.

As organisers of the Silver Chanter competition, Skye Piping Society thought it appropriate to clarify points raised in the article.  
With new requisites for invitation to the Glenfiddoch Championship, the Silver Chanter is not included and, indeed, was never on the main list, but only ever a reserve. The Silver Chanter continues to receive the full and very generous support of Glenfiddoch Piping and Fiddle which amply shows their belief in this

competition as a major event. Each year, six pipers are invited to the Silver Chanter competition. Three of these places do have 'qualifying' entry. The winners of the Dunvegan Medal, the Col Jock Macdonald Clasp at the Skye Games and the Silver Chanter winner are invited to the next year's event. The other three pipers are invited by the committee.

The Silver Chanter competition was instigated in 1967 to celebrate the Ceol Mor of the great MacCrimmon pipers, to promote piping and encourage pipers to come to the Skye Games. This has, over the years, proven to be very successful, with a high entry in all the piping events.

The 44th Annual MacCrimmon Memorial Piobaireachd Competition, The Silver Chanter, will take place this year on Wednesday August 4. The line-up this year includes Stuart Liddell, Willie MacCallum, Angus MacColl, Dr Angus MacDonald, Roddy MacLeod and Gordon Walker.

With full entry for the Skye Games piping, sponsorship from Glenfiddoch Piping and Fiddle, an enthusiastic and supportive audience every year and the line-up of the above pipers, to say the Silver Chanter is a 'shadow of its former self' would hardly seem correct.

**Emily MacDonald, chairman, Skye Piping Society.**

### McCaig confused on elections

Sir,  
I do apologise for not attending the election count in Lochgilphead.

I've read and re-read the rules and it does not say anywhere that candidates must attend the count.

I could have spent £30 or £40 and a paint drying day in the counting hall or 45 pence on a newspaper the following day.  
McCaig seems to be confused with regard to the purpose of elections. Apparently it's been a good one if tea and buns have been provided for the media and anyone else attending the count. It seems also that we should hold it in a place within walking distance of his home.

Perhaps at the same time we could move the Scottish Parliament to Oban's Gathering Halls for the summer. Think of the boost

for the tourism industry.

A note to the man who mocked me for losing my deposit. The £500 was donated by members of one of the other parties who I don't think were too sure of their own candidates.

All in all I enjoyed the experience. See you all at the next hustings, though not at the count.

**George Doyle, Isle of Seil.**

### Tarbert street drinking

Sir,  
It is no myth that drinking alcohol on the streets of Tarbert is legally permitted 24 hours a day.

While Argyll and Bute Council passed by-laws prohibiting the consumption of alcohol on the streets of Oban, Lochgilphead and Campbeltown, it decided to allow the practice in Tarbert.

Given the terrible toll alcohol consumption/abuse has historically taken on Tarbert and Tarbert people, and which continues to the present day, why is on-street drinking in Tarbert, with the irresponsible signal it sends out to the impressionable young, receiving the blessing of the authorities? Argyll and Bute Council is not noted for issuing reasoned explanations of its decisions. And a challenge to a council decision does not always receive the fair response or 'airings' it deserves.

Nonetheless, I do challenge Argyll and Bute Council to make public the logic which led it to sanction street drinking in Tarbert when it considered it necessary to ban it in other centres of population density. And it would be helpful too if Strathclyde Police put on record its position on drinking on the streets of Tarbert.

**Arthur McFarlane, Friends of Tarbert.**

### Golf thanks

Sir,  
On behalf of the organising committee of the Harris Ross Golf Day, I would like to thank all those who played golf, ROK Engineering for sponsoring the day, Fort William Golf Club and staff for the use of the course and clubhouse and everyone who gave donations for the raffle and auction.

This was a very successful day and once again the local community has excelled with £5,000 being raised.

**Iain Johnston, organising committee.**

## A view from the tower

by McCaig

### Fight for Oban pontoon development

NEXT week, the consultants' amended report on the proposed development of pontoons between Oban's North and Railway piers will be presented to the local authority's project board.

It will be asked to endorse, or otherwise, their recommendations after hearing what the applicants think of what has been put before them.

If this version is as negative and ill-informed as the original one the recommendation will still be to turn down Oban Bay Marine's widely welcomed suggestion that a number of pontoons be placed in the sea adjacent to lower George Street to develop a short-stay marina for visiting yachts.

This firm of consultants - a very large firm normally dealing with multi-million pound proposals - was chosen by council officials on a number of unknown criteria but are to be paid something approaching £100,000.

Indeed, one of many strange matters affecting the handling of the pontoons' proposal is the seemingly very low key input of these over-paid officials.

As this fiasco has proceeded I'm not alone in believing that they are against the development and recommended the appointment of consultants whom they knew would recommend refusal of the development.

The consultants' report appeared in January of this year and was blunt to the point of being dismissive. It would seem that they did not read or study the developer's proposals.

If they did, they would have established that these were short-stay pontoons attached to a floating breakwater, all moored to the seabed and being capable of being towed away off-season.

Floating breakwaters have come a long way in the past 25 years and Oban Bay Marine has employed the recognised Scottish expert on such developments.

Was he asked to speak to his proposals when they were being considered? Certainly not.

Instead, the consultants chose to draw up and cost a fixed, piled, solid permanent breakwater which would push the costs to beyond £3 million, more than £2 million beyond the funds available.

The new report has now done what the developers originally asked and I understand that the cost comes within the sum available. However, I and many others do not accept that our councillors are totally behind the pontoons although they have stated they are.

There is always an apparent hesitancy about their total support.

As one said to me last week: 'Even if the pontoon development was not to go ahead there is a commitment to a marine facility in Oban Bay.'

### Magnificent performance of Thomas Arne's 'Judith'

THE AUDIENCE in St John's Episcopal Cathedral, Oban, last Saturday evening was treated to something very special.

This was due in so many ways to the indefatigable energy of Oban Bach Choir conductor Norman Nicholson who did so much research to put the missing passages of Thomas Arne's oratorio 'Judith' into the score.

So successful has he been in his 25 years of heading towards this, reckoned to be the first performance of 'Judith' in Scotland since it was written by Arne - composer of 'Rule Britannia' - in 1760, that, as he said to me before he picked up his baton: 'It is a very special night for me,' as it was for the choir, soloists, orchestra and an enthusiastic audience.

The tercentenary of Arne's birth was well and truly celebrated. To bring together the musical forces required to do justice to the splendid oratorio was a *tour de force*, given a negligible budget.

The soloists were outstanding: Louise Childs, soprano, who sang Judith; Frances Morrison, soprano; Julie Martin-Carter, alto; Steven Phillips, tenor; and Simon Hannigan, bass, as were Oban Bach Choir and orchestra leader Helen Jordan.

St John's has wonderful acoustics but the pews are a bit hard, especially for a performance lasting almost three hours. Yet, very few of the audience felt the need to depart early, such was the magic of the evening.

I, and I'm sure the entire audience, look forward to Norman Nicholson's next offering. Perhaps it's time for him to revive his 'St Columba' with words by the late Iain Crichton Smith?

### 'A week's a long time in politics'

TO HOLD the dubious honour of having been the shortest-serving Secretary of State for Scotland suggests some dire crime.

But for Fort William-born Danny Alexander it was another who was found out and dutifully resigned to allow Danny to move a long way up the Cabinet table to become Financial Secretary to the Treasury and a top player in the coalition.

Even he must, however, have qualms about being the arbiter of where the billions of pounds of cuts are to be found to wipe out the biggest debt in our peace-time history.

I have total confidence in his ability to try to be as humane as possible while still doing his masters' bidding, even while on paternity leave!

There is always an apparent hesitancy about their total support. As one said to me last week: 'Even if the pontoon development was not to go ahead there is a commitment to a marine facility in Oban Bay.'

**McCaig**

### PRESS POLICY

WEAThe 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 daytime 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.

THIS week Douglas MacNeilage from Tobermory talks to Oban Times reporter Louise Lee about his life on the Isle of Mull.

Douglas was awarded an MBE for services to education and the community. He was the school janitor for nine years prior to his retirement. Before that he worked for Argyll and Bute Council, in

the Mishnish Hotel, the butcher's shop, the Co-op and Tobermory Distillery. Douglas is also known for his commitment to community service through his support of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution - helping to establish the station in Tobermory - and his charity ceilidhs as Oban Hospice.



Douglas MacNeilage.

**What makes the island special for you?**

Mull is a wonderful place to live. I was born and brought up here. It is special because it has so many memories.

Some of the finest places in the world are here on the island; places that cannot be beaten for their outstanding natural beauty. And, of course, we have wildlife such as the Sea Eagles and dolphins that are world class.

We have people from all over the globe who come to Tobermory and never want to go home. Why would they? It is wonderful here.

I have been involved with the Royal National Lifeboat Institution for 20 years [Douglas helped to set up the branch in Tobermory and has volunteered ever since] and the good spirit of the people who volunteer on the boat show how kind people from the island are.

I have researched my family history and my family goes back in time to Torloisk and Ulva Ferry to a place called Inniveay in the 1700s.

I don't speak Gaelic which I feel is a great shame. My father was a fluent speaker. **Were you born in the village/on the island? How long have you lived there?**

I was born in Tobermory at 7 Argyll Terrace during the war. I have lived in Tobermory my whole life.

My father, Dougald, was from Tobermory where he worked as a postman.

During the war Tobermory was a base for the Royal Navy.

My mother Marguerite 'Madge' Hughes moved here when her father was transferred from Portsmouth in 1921. He was a customs officer.

My father sadly passed away in 1952 leaving my mum to bring us up on her own and I owe her a great debt for doing so well by us. I am only sorry that she did not live to see me receive my MBE from the Queen because it would have given her great pleasure.

I went to Tobermory High School when the head master was Mr D N Low. I probably did best at maths in school.

When I was a boy and young man the community on the island was completely different. For one thing everyone really did know everyone. If there were strangers in town we all knew about it. Things are not quite the same now we have many more people living on the island. That is what makes us such an interesting place.

We had great fun as young people because it was so safe here on the island. I can remember we were involved in a lot of activities. We played a lot of football and took part in dances.

On the [Highland] games night there was a concert and dance until five or six in the morning. It was held in Aros hall right here in Tobermory. When the dance finished nobody wanted to go home. I can remember that we would all walk across to the pier and dance through until

Mr Malcolm McCorkindale from Lismore took us for maths. He was a great teacher. We would try to do anything that we could to divert him from the lesson.

But he was wiser than us and he was teaching us all the time. But we did not realise it. But when he talked about satellites into space and golf he managed to explain mathematical theories to us.

My wife came to the island on a holiday and she stayed. She was working in the Mishnish at the time. The Mishnish, a hotel and restaurant in Tobermory, has started a lot of things. I worked in the Mishnish for many years and I enjoy the music festival events in the pub.

**How much has the village/island changed since you were a child/moved there?**

When I was a boy and young man the community on the island was completely different. For one thing everyone really did know everyone. If there were strangers in town we all knew about it. Things are not quite the same now we have many more people living on the island. That is what makes us such an interesting place.

We had great fun as young people because it was so safe here on the island. I can remember we were involved in a lot of activities. We played a lot of football and took part in dances.

On the [Highland] games night there was a concert and dance until five or six in the morning. It was held in Aros hall right here in Tobermory. When the dance finished nobody wanted to go home. I can remember that we would all walk across to the pier and dance through until

the morning. Sometimes it felt like the dance lasted from Friday until Sunday morning. We seemed to have a lot of energy those days.

We did the same at the Regatta Dance - now called West Highland Week. We were always happy to have people come and stay with us here on the island.

Despite us dancing all night and staying up to all hours no one ever fell into the sea. In the winter we attended whist drives.

Hallowe'en was always a big time of year. We would put on our fancy dress and go out guising.

Things are different here as we do not have so many big dances where it feels like everyone on the island gets together. I suppose things began to change when the Oban boat stopped coming into Tobermory.

**Do you have a favourite place or building on the island?**



Tobermory Harbour: looking towards the Mishnish Hotel.

I have a few places on the island that I would consider my favourite.

My favourite place on the island is the west coast: Ulva Ferry, Treshnish are absolutely beautiful. That side of the island is magical.

There is no finer sight in the world than Tobermory Bay. Dervaig Church is a fine place.

I enjoy going there for worship. I also like Ben More and all its aspects.

**What are the challenges facing the village/island or how could it be improved?**

I don't think I know everyone on the island any longer. At the same time there are changes for the better. We have better transport connections between the ferries and so on.



The Mull landscape is amongst the finest in the world.

**"My favourite place on the island is the west coast: Ulva Ferry, Treshnish are absolutely beautiful."**



The pontoons at Ledaig.

**"We have people from all over the globe who come to Tobermory and never want to go home."**

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**8 Years Ago** Those Were The Days  
**The Oban Times**  
Thursday June 6 2002

**Golden Jubilee malt on sale for King's ransom**

A RARE Islay single malt whisky has gone on sale to mark HM the Queen's Golden Jubilee and it will cost a King's ransom to buy a bottle.

It is expected the starting price per bottle could be at least £2,500.

In August 1980 the Queen visited Bowmore Distillery, the first distillery she had ever visited. To mark the occasion Bowmore Distillery filled a special cask on that day and named it the Queen's cask.

Since that time it has slept silently in the famous No 1 Vaults at Bowmore Distillery, proudly displayed in a specially constructed visitor viewing area.

After discussion with Buckingham Palace it was agreed it should be bottled in celebration of the Golden Jubilee.

The cask has produced 647 bottles; each was hand-filled at the distillery, individually numbered and packaged in presentation boxes designed around the official Golden Jubilee colours. Unlike previous limited edition whiskies, this will never go on sale. The Queen will be presented with the entire consignment to use as gifts to visiting foreign dignitaries and official guests at Buckingham Palace.

Collectors need not despair though as a number of bottles will be released to auction houses and selected Royal events to raise money for Golden Jubilee charities.

A bottle will be on permanent display at Bowmore Distillery.

**Dunbeg Primary one of the country's best**

DUNBEG Primary School is to receive a School Curriculum Award for the relationship the school has with its surrounding community.

A party from the school will travel to London tonight to receive the award.

Head teacher Sine MacVicar said the school had submitted an application for an award because of the support the community showed the school.

'There is a lot of support both ways,' she said, 'and we felt it would be appropriate that it should be recognised nationally.'

Various details of the school's activities were detailed from the parent helper programme, school choir outings, health and emergency service input and after school hours activities to the road safety programme, cycling proficiency, woodland scheme and Scottish country dancing lessons at the school.

A team of assessors came to the school on March 14, along with members of the community, the Parent Teacher Association, school board and parents to demonstrate the relationship.

'We are grateful to so many people, our parents, school board, PTA and staff who give their time to the benefit of us all,' said Miss MacVicar.

The school will be sending two adults and two children to the official celebration, along with 251 other schools, on June 11 at the Modern Gallery in London. The schools Curriculum Award is run by trustees and is open to all schools in the country.

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Across

- Movement for the occult? (3,3)
- Deliver (6)
- Covering in the kitchen (7)
- Kingdom (5)
- Old coinage in Europe (5)
- One who was meant for you (2,5)
- The acceptance of reason (11)
- Hard to get (7)
- Fight (5)
- Knotlike (5)
- Avoidance (7)
- Gully (6)
- Represent (6)

Down

- Inform (6)
- Short for desiring something! (5)
- Dumplings (7)
- Mistake (5)
- Released through burning black lumps (4,3)
- Ill will (6)
- Rude (3-8)
- In pieces (7)
- Study (7)
- Rapture (6)
- Male servant (6)
- Veneer (5)
- Needed to be free! (5)

**Last Week's Solution**

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**Demand leads to breeding cattle centre record at Stirling**

CALEDONIAN Marts (Stirling) Ltd sold a record number of 346 breeding cattle and 26 breeding bulls at its annula show and sale at Stirling last Monday.

An unplaced heifer with calf at foot from J McAlister, West Thomaston, Banknock sold at £3,900 to an undisclosed purchaser, the West Thomaston average for a consignment of heifers with calves at foot was a record £2,933.

Bulls sold to a new centre record of 6200 guineas (£6510) for the reserve champion from A MacGregor, Allanfauld Farm, Kilsyth, Glasgow, bought by J Dick, Northton, Cullerlie, Echt.

The overall champion bull came from W L Hyslop & Son, West Logan, Castle Douglas, and sold to W S L Muir, Midhouse, Orkney for 3100 guineas (£3255).

**Sheep trade continues to rise at Dingwall**

DINGWALL and Highland Marts sold 1,236 store, breeding and feeding sheep at Dingwall last Wednesday when store hogg, fat and feeding sheep again sold extremely well.

Ewes and lambs also met a keen demand and were short of requirements.

Lambs averaged £57.86 and sold to £83 for Texels from Aberchaldier Estate, Gorthleck.

Ewes averaged £58.37 and sold to £107 for a Texel from Slaggan Croft, Dingwall.

Feeding sheep averaged £61.05 and sold to £108 for a Suffolk ram from Charleston, North Kessock.

Ewes with lambs at foot averaged £104.53 and sold to £164 for Cheviot ewes with twin lambs at foot from Kenmore, Shialdaig.

**Lack of power fails to slow Fort William cattle trade**

DINGWALL and Highland Marts Ltd sold 342 store cattle, 17 breeding cattle, 37 OTM cattle and 241 sheep at Fort William last Friday when due to an electric power problem the weigh bridge facility was unavailable but all classes of cattle met satisfactory rates with quality kinds keenly sought after.

Bullocks sold to gross for a pair of Charolais crosses from Moy Farm, Fort William while heifers sold to £800 for a Simmental cross from Balmacaan Farm, Drumnadrochit.

Breeding cattle sold to £1,300 gross for a Limousin bull from National Trust for Scotland, Isle of Canna and Over 30 Month cattle sold to £835 for an Aberdeen Angus from Borlum Farm, Fort Augustus.

Store lambs sold to £72 for Suffolks from Traigh Farm, Arisaig while feeding ewes sold to £57 for Blackfaces from Achindaul Farm, Spean Bridge.

Feeding rams and widders sold to £60 for a Blackface ram from 26 Tomonie, Banavie.



Despite power problems which disabled the digital weighbridge, all classes of cattle met a satisfactory trade at Fort William last Friday, with quality kinds keenly sought after.

**Ewes with lamb at foot in demand at Stirling**

UNITED Auctions sold 603 store cattle at Stirling last Wednesday when trade for both bullocks and heifers was back slightly on the week. The firm also sold 174 ewes with lamb at foot which maintain recent high rates and sold to £166.

Bullocks averaged 171.98p (-2.89p) and sold to 218.50p

per kg for a 232kg Limousin cross from Bogend and £890 for a 486kg British Blue cross from Stoopshill.

Heifers averaged 164.04p (-6.96p) and sold to 217.10p per kg for a 228kg Limousin cross from Bowleys and £830 for a 542kg Limousin cross from Castle Farm.

Cast cows averaged

103.96p and sold to 149.80p Blonde cross from South Brownhill and £945 for a Charolais cross from Bangour.

Forward cattle averaged 131.17p and sold to 146p per kg and £835 for an Aberdeen Angus cross from Ledrisbeg.

Texel hogs with Beltex

singles from Netherwood sold to £166 while Mule hogs with Suffolk singles sold to £155 from Gibleston.

Texel ewes with Texel twins from Netherwood sold to £141. Blackface four-crop ewes with Blueface Leicester lambs at foot from Polnoon sold to £95.

**Highland show to boost agri-business**

**Survey reveals Royal Highland Show makes £70m impact**

FARMING and food production will be high on the agenda at this month's Royal Highland Show.

Independent studies have concluded that the economic impact of the show locally, regionally and nationally is around £70 million.

For many, the show is an annual social occasion but that masks its true purpose of presenting a platform and a business opportunity for the farm, rural, food, drink and allied sectors.

Show manager David Dunsmuir: 'We are regarded as the UK's main event for agri-business right through the chain of production. All of the leading manufacturers, distributors, food multiples and trade organisations are present and we can anticipate firm sales of machinery, product launches, agreement on supply contracts, deals for technology and genetics.'

'The key players in an industry worth billions make a point of being at an event which for four days is the focus for the sector.'

This year in a bid to increase the business profile, the show has established a Business Centre within the International Visitors Pavilion. With reception facilities, internet access

and private meeting rooms available, the aim is to make it easier for companies to discuss prospects, agree deals and make sales.

David Dunsmuir: 'We normally have around 2000 visitors from 30 or so countries so the international prospects for trade are there. There are also huge opportunities to do business on the home front and we trust the new centre will play a facilitating role.'

*"With more than 160,000 visitors expected, all trade stands, including food, shopping, lifestyle, equestrian and so on, have a marvellous opportunity to do business."*

Scotland's farmers, crofters and growers produce output worth around £2.5 billion. Downstream the food industry has a target of £10 billion annually and in total the sector, from farm to end processing and retailing, employs over 300,000

people. It's reckoned that 1 in 10 Scottish jobs are dependent on agriculture.

The nature of farming is such that the fortunes of individual commodities can be cyclical, but the point remains - to produce crops and livestock from the 75 per cent of Scotland's land mass which is dedicated to agriculture requires investment in machinery, equipment and technology.

Farm equipment alone is big business. Trade body the Agricultural Engineers Association estimates the value of sales of agricultural equipment in the UK at £1.7 billion.

Although tractor sales - seen as a barometer - were down last year by 12 per cent to 15,000 units, the trade remains optimistic about prospects for business at this year's show.

David Dunsmuir added: 'With more than 160,000 visitors expected, all trade stands, including food, shopping, lifestyle, equestrian and so on, have a marvellous opportunity to do business. We regard ourselves, however, very much as an agri-business event and we are focussing on assisting our agricultural trade area to make the most of the show.'

**SAC plan Outlook meeting for Oban**

OBAN's Corran Halls will be the venue for the first of Scottish Agricultural College's (SAC) Outlook road shows which will take the latest industry analysis and future forecasts direct to farming and rural business audiences.

The programme will be tailored to the interests of the audience in each area. Each programme will last about two hours followed by light refreshments.

The Oban meeting will be in the afternoon on the afternoon of Monday, October 4 while the meetings planned for Dumfries and Dingwall will take place in the evenings of October 28 and November 1 respectively.

Details of guest speakers and final programme will be advised in due course and entry will be free.

**Argyll instructor encouraged by sheep shearing course revival**

FORMER Argyll sheep farmer and sheep shearer Dougie Lambie from Kilchrenan near Taynuilt, who now operates from North Wales, was awarded the sheep shearing personality of the year award last year, and works as an instructor on the British Wool Marketing Board, has discovered that sheep shearing is enjoying a big revival.

At the first of the season's shearing training courses organised by the British Wool Marketing Board, record numbers arrived at Chatsworth Estate in the Peak District to master the skills under the watchful guidance of a team of shearing experts.

Dougie Lambie said: 'It's very encouraging to see so much interest in shearing sheep - among both men and women at a range of skill levels.'

'The course held at Chatsworth attracted one of the biggest turnouts we've



Dougie Lambie and Colin MacGregor are encouraged by the level of interest in sheep shearing courses this year

the renewed interest that's being shown in shearing training.

'Shearing sheep is a skill that can not only provide employment here in the UK but also across the world. There's a demand for UK shearers in many countries which can often provide year-round employment as well as giving young people the opportunity to travel,' he said.

'There has been a great deal of interest in our shearing training courses this year - not only from those who have never sheared sheep before but also from those who want to further improve their skills as shearers,' added Mr MacGregor.

This summer sees the UK host the World Shearing Championships which will be held at the Royal Welsh Show in July - an event that will bring the world's top shearers in contention for the shearing world's top prize - The Golden Shears.

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**Lambs to 227p per kilo at Stirling**  
UNITED Auctions sold 2,531 prime sheep including 1,744 hogs averaging 160.14p (-8.36p), 233 spring lambs averaging 206.9p (+4.1p) and 787 ewes and rams at Stirling last Thursday.

Suffolk lambs from Little Raith sold to £105.50 and Continental lambs to £112. Suffolk lambs from East Coates sold to 227p per kilo.

Texel hogs from Drumcairn sold to £94 and to £88.50 for Suffolks from Peattieshill, while Texels from Kildowan sold to 191p per kilo.

Suffolk ewes from Merryhill sold to £96 with Texels from Craignennach to £99.50. Blackfaces from Knowhead sold to £64.

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**FORT WILLIAM Dingwall and Highland Marts**  
Bullocks: 1 Kinloid, Arisaig, £840; Moy Farm, £820; Borlum Farm, Fort Augustus, £785; Balmacaan, £750; Keppoch Farm, Roy Bridge, and 1 Kinsadel, Morar, £740; Kinloid, Dell of Killiehuntly, Kingussie, Isle of Muck, £700.  
Heifers: Hillside Farm, Kilchoan, £790, National Trust for Scotland, Isle of Canna, £780; Ardtornish Farms, Oban, £770; Isle of Canna, £760; Keppoch Farms, £735; 1 Kinloid, £690, Moy Farm, £645.  
Bulls: Limousin: Easter Frew Farm, Thomhill, £1100; BBX - Easter Aberchaldier, Gorthleck, £810.  
Cows with male calf at foot: Lim - Balmacaan, Drumnadrochit, £880; AAX - Insh Farm, Spean Bridge, £840; ShoX - Dhivach Farm, Lewiston, £820.  
Cows with heifer calf at foot: LimX - Balmacaan, £880; Sho - Tigh Airigh, Blarmacfoldach, £700.  
In-calf cows: AAX - Ardtornish Farms, £780; SimX - Ardtornish Farms, £680.  
OTM prime and feeding cows: Mucomir Farm, Spean Bridge, (LimX), £735; 6 Aird, Ardvassar, (LimX), £715; Ardtornish Farms, (SimX), £665.  
Sheep  
Lambs: Chev - Glen Nevis Estate, Fort William, £64; BF - 5 Treslaig, Fort William, £57; Cross - 9 Bracara, Morar, £52; LlyX - Mamore, Fort William, £45.  
Feeding sheep: Ewes: Cross - Drumbuie, Drumnadrochit, £52; Chev - Mamore, £49; BF - Achanellan Farm Partnership, £44.  
Rams and widders: Chev - Altour Cottage, Spean Bridge, £57; BF - 9 Bracara, £51; Suff - Drumbuie, £50.

**DINGWALL Dingwall and Highland Marts**  
Lambs: Cheviot: 2 Achnabourin, Strathnaver, £81; SuffolkX: 2 Easter Kinkell, Dingwall, £75; TexelX: Allangrange Park, Muir of Ord, £65; Blackface: Pithogarty, Tain, £82; Suffolk: Aberchaldier, Gorthleck, £61; ZwarbleX: East Croachy, Aberarder, £58.  
Ewes: Texel: Mariaian, Evanton, and The Arr, Nairn, £105; CharollaisX: Kilcoy, Killearnan, £100; SuffolkX: Ballachraggan Croft, Cabrich, £90; Cheviot: Slaggan Croft, £90; Beltex: Aberchaldier, £87; Bluefaced Leicester: The Arr, £84; Suffolk: Dunain Mains, Inverness, £84; Mule: Calrossie Mains, Nigg, £82; Cross: Ankerville, Nigg, £82; HalfBred: Kilcoy, £69; Blackface: Dunlichty, Farr, £61.  
Rams: Cheviot: 211 Upper Birichen, Dornoch, £104; Texel: Oldtown of Aigas, Beauly, £75; Blackface: 2 Balbeg, Balnain, £63.  
Ewes with single lamb at foot: Mule: Ruthven Farm, Kirk-michael, £150; Cross: Cuilaneilan, Kinlochewe, £134; Cheviot: Cuilaneilan, £134; Blackface: Ruthven Farm, £110; BeltexX: Aberchaldier, £100.  
Ewes with twin lambs at foot: Cross: Aberchaldier, £156; Mule: 5 Tomich, Beauly, £120; Bluefaced Leicester: 5 Tomich, £106; Blackface: Aird, Ardhleslaig, £102; Herdwick: Old Pots, Auldearn,

### Lamb trade back slightly Dingwall prime sale

DINGWALL and Highland Marts Ltd sold 67 prime cattle and 356 prime sheep at Dingwall last Tuesday when bullocks averaged 159.5p (-3.2p) and sold to 172p per kg for a 615kg Limousin cross from Udale, Poyntzfield, to John M Munro Ltd Dingwall, and £1,123.20 for a 720kg Charolais cross from Shoreton Farms, Culbokie.

Prime heifers averaged 161.6p (+2.4p) and sold to 177p per kg for a 475kg Limousin cross from Easter Hardmuir, Nairn, to Fraser Brothers Butchers, Dingwall, and £1,020.90 for a 615kg Charolais cross from Shoreton Farms.

Old season lambs averaged 162.3p (-28.2p) and sold to 195.1p per kg for 41kg Crosses from Balloan, Conon Bridge, and £91 for 53kg Texels from Fassock, Kiltarlity.



Competitors test their skill and Lochaber's stockjudging competition on Friday

### Stockjudging success at Lochaber Rural Complex

LOCHABER Agricultural Society held their annual livestock judging competition at the Lochaber Rural Complex last Friday evening.

Overall champion was Ronnie Campbell of Bohun-

tine, Roy Bridge. Donald Campbell of Camaghael, Fort William was awarded second place and Cathy McColl of Insch, Aberdeenshire was third.

Ms McColl also won the ladies competition with

seven-year-old Freddie Fulford from Stronaba, Spean Bridge winning the under 16s.

The event raised around £400, which will go towards the running of Lochaber Agricultural Show.

## Union puts forward proposals to improve Less Favoured Areas Support Scheme

### Bid to stop rapid decline in hill livestock numbers

IN A BID to stop the on-going decline in Scottish hill cattle and sheep numbers, the National Farmers Union Scotland (NFUS) has delivered a fresh set of proposals to the Scottish Government suggesting improvements to the delivery of the Less Favoured Areas Support Scheme (LFASS).

**Active livestock units**  
The Union believes its model will better recognise the importance of active livestock farmers across all of Scotland's hills and uplands and secure them an improved payment rate.

In June 2009, cabinet secretary Richard Lochhead announced plans to increase LFASS payment rates in the Fragile and Very Fragile areas of the scheme by 38 percent - 19 percent in 2010 and 19 percent for 2011.

NFU Scotland has been concerned that while the increase in the payment rates to the Fragile and Very Fragile areas delivers much needed additional support, those active hill units in the Standard area of the scheme, found across much of Scotland, merit similar levels of assistance.

The Union's proposed modifications would ensure LFASS payments, from 2011, are targeted at those actively farming in LFA areas, wherever they are in Scotland.

The proposals would also help iron out any anomalies in the scheme brought about by the "re-basing" exercise carried out in 2009, when scheme recipients were required to provide up-to-date livestock numbers to ensure payments were go-

ing to those truly active.

NFU Scotland President, Jim McLaren said: 'LFASS is a fundamentally important scheme to the health and wellbeing of Scotland's hills and uplands and is key to tackling the Scottish industry's mounting concerns over declining cattle and sheep numbers.'

**Massive contribution**  
'We have submitted proposals to the Scottish Government on how we think delivery of that funding can be changed to better recognise the contribution made by those producing stock across the whole LFA area.'

'We believe an increase in LFASS payments for land in the Standard area, alongside those increases already agreed for the Fragile and Very Fragile areas, would make a massive con-

tribution to the real costs of looking after livestock in these parts.'

'We have proposed modifications to ensure LFASS payments, from 2011, will deliver just that. 'The re-basing exercise that asked LFASS producers to update their stock numbers has already been completed. Along with our proposed introduction of variable minimum stocking densities for LFASS 2011, this has the potential to free up funding within the LFASS budget.'

'We think there are opportunities to use that funding to secure significant increases in the payment rates paid to active producers in the LFASS Standard area and deliver a real shot in the arm to livestock production across a huge chunk of Scotland's hills and uplands.'

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Applicants must hold a Level 3 SVQ in Health and Social Care or be willing to undertake full training to achieve this. Previous experience would be advantageous although full training will be provided and funded. Applicants must have a full clean driving licence and own transport. Fuel allowance provided. Salary dependent on qualification held. Minimum 16 hours per week.  
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Ideally, the candidate will be technically skilled, an enthusiastic self starter with excellent team working interpersonal and communication skills. You will have a desire to learn more and want to progress your career in IT Support. The role is to assist and ensure delivery of a user support service for approximately 200 users, also with responsibilities for the support of minor to medium developments or application use on configuration and implementation of systems specific to our company requirements. Other responsibilities will include control of our in-house IT helpdesk, where you will be the first point of contact for all the company users relating to any faults and queries that they may be having, providing all the IT team with administrative support. Essential technical skills required for the position; Microsoft Office Suite, SQL server 2000/2003 with a good understanding of Windows platforms. Desirable technical skills would be; knowledge of wireless technology, Microsoft Access, Microsoft Visio, Citrix and experience of business analysis. This position offers the successful candidate an excellent working environment and an unrivalled future career development opportunity; further study and development package may also be made available. A full, clean driving licence is also essential as travel will be required to other locations within the company. In return, the Company offers a comprehensive pay and benefits package including entry into the Company pension scheme after the qualifying period. For an application form and job description, please contact: HR Department, Lighthouse Caledonia Ltd, Ardkinglas Estate, Cairndow, Argyll, PA26 8BH. Tel. No. 01499 600 435 Email: cairndowhr@lighthousecaledonia.com Closing date for applications: 5pm Thursday 10 June 2010

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Oban Ref: OSF20298T  
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Campbeltown Ref: OSF20976  
Castlehill Primary School, Term Time, Temporary, 15 hours per week  
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Lochgilphhead Police Station, Part Time, 25 hours per week  
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Tha diofar seòrsa taic ri fhaotainn tron Chomhairle airson cosgaisean gluasaid agus dh'fhaodadh gum biodh tagraiche soirbheachail airdh air cuid den sin.  
\* ATH-SHANASACHD  
Ceann-là dùnaidh – Dihaoine 18 Ògmhios 2010

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**Divisional Full-Time Relief Ambulance Technician (x 2)**  
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The Lochaber area is one of the most beautiful areas in which to live and work anywhere in Scotland and is visited by tourists from many countries. Its attractions are famous throughout the world and provide a haven for those wanting to pursue a variety of leisure pursuits in the area. Providing an Ambulance Service in this part of Scotland can be challenging with very busy main roads as well as scenic narrow roads and many rural locations, which make reaching our patients within our laid down timescales difficult and requiring on occasion long journeys to the nearest specialist hospital facility. We are looking for motivated, enthusiastic and community focussed individuals who are capable of working as part of a dedicated team within a caring, flexible, professional workforce and who wish to work in this largely unspoilt part of Scotland. We can offer you a fulfilling career providing a vital service to the public of Lochaber with the opportunity to gain a great deal of experience and a positive feeling of working with, and for, the communities in which you live. You will hold a full UK driving licence, which includes categories C1 and D1. Preferably, you will have gained three passes at Higher grade or equivalent and hold a current First Aid certificate. You must successfully complete all aspects of the entrance tests including a retention and recall test, fitness test, and driving assessment. As a Relief Technician, there may be a requirement to work at other stations within the Division, therefore you must be able to demonstrate a flexible approach to changing work patterns and provide your own transport for travelling to and from these locations. Work outside the normal hours of duty is a regular feature of these positions and you must therefore reside or be able to reside within a 3 mile radius of the location you are applying for. Further information can be obtained by contacting Mr Alan Knox, Acting Area Service Manager, on 01463 667700. Application forms can be obtained by telephoning The Administration Department, The Scottish Ambulance Service, Divisional Headquarters, Thistle House, Beechwood Park North, Inverness IV2 3UL on 01463 667700 or alternatively email scotamb.north-recruitment@nhs.net Please quote reference NW3553.  
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*Dear Oban Times*  
*Thank you for all your efforts and advice with my recent property advert. I had no idea The Oban Times was so widely read, I received enquiries from all over Argyll, from Edinburgh and Glasgow. Two enquiries from the USA and one from Australia, in total there were 42 responses to the advert. The property is now sold, the new owners come from Perthshire.*

*Simply put, the best advertising investment I ever made!*

*James Woolnough*

<b>OPTION 1</b> 14cm x 3 columns 3 images 3 weeks = £325	<b>OPTION 2</b> 10cm x 3 columns 2 images 3 weeks = £265	<b>OPTION 3</b> 7cm x 3 columns 1 image 3 weeks = £205
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All prices include full colour, all photographs and are inclusive for 3 weeks. Prices are exclusive of VAT

All adverts include a free web listing until sold.

TO PLACE YOUR ADVERT OR TO DISCUSS YOUR REQUIREMENTS  
TEL MARGARET ON 01631 568000 OR EMAIL adverts@obantimes.co.uk  
offer exclusive to re-sale property only



An exciting opportunity has arisen to join the team at the Isle of Gigha Heritage Trust. The Isle of Gigha Heritage Trust is responsible for managing the community owned island of Gigha. We now are looking for two members of staff to work with the Gigha community to build upon the excellent work to date and ensure sustainable development into the future.

**ASSISTANT MANAGER – ESTATE MAINTENANCE**  
Salary £22,000 per annum, 35h week worked flexibly. This contract is initially for a two year period.

We will be looking for a friendly person with management experience, excellent communication and organisational skills, and with a keen interest in the areas of land management and fuel poverty.

**TRUST MAINTENANCE PERSON**  
Salary minimum wage/negotiable depending on experience, 35h p/wk, worked flexibly. This contract is initially for a two year period. We are looking for a hard working and reliable individual to help maintain the estate on Gigha.

For an application pack contact admin@gigha.org.uk or download from www.gigha.org.uk/recruitment Tel: 01583 505390

For more information about the island www.gigha.org.uk  
Closing Date for completed applications – 12 noon 24th of June 2010

**PCV drivers - Fort William**



Would you like to work for a highly regarded organisation, whose core values are safety, a progressive attitude and exceeding expectations?

You could enjoy full training, genuine job security, working for a large professional organisation, a friendly supportive team and a competitive package.

We currently have vacancies for drivers. If you enjoy meeting people, are safety conscious, and have a PCV licence, this could be your dream job.

If this is you, please apply by sending your cv to our Fort William Depot on the address below or email your cv to david.beaton@stagecoachbus.com.

David Beaton, Stagecoach in Lochaber, 4 Ardgour Road, Caol, Fort William, PH33 7PQ.

Stagecoach in Lochaber Closing date: 11th June



**Marine Farming Career Opportunities Dedicated Weekend Staff**

Scottish Sea Farms is the UK's leading producer of premium quality Scottish salmon. Our business is extensive; based in Argyll, across the West coast and throughout the Northern Isles. We are trusted to supply Britain's most demanding retailers and need exceptional staff to build our business.

We wish to develop a team of dedicated weekend husbandry staff to compliment our skilled staff in the Oban area. You will enjoy working outdoors, be hardworking and keen to learn new skills. We will require applicants to commit to providing a minimum of 20 weekends per year worked in an agreed schedule (approx one weekend on and one weekend off). In return for your loyalty and hard work you will receive a fixed weekend payment of £125.

As this will be a long-term relationship, Scottish Sea Farms will provide you with formal training, including a 3 day "Assistant Boatman" course, which you must pass within the first 4 months of starting employment. This course will contain modules including basic boat handling, first aid and sea-survival. These skills will equip you to compete for a permanent position, should you wish.

If you would like further information, please contact Claire Scott on 01786 445521 or email claire.scott@scottishseafarms.com.

All applicants must hold a current UK Driving Licence

Closing Date: Friday 18th June 2010



**RECEPTIONIST/ OFFICE ASSISTANT**

Required for busy legal office - duties to include additional secretarial support as required. Bright, personable outlook essential. Good IT skills required.

Please apply by e-mail to johnnybell@macphee.co.uk

Tel: 01631 565251 Fax: 01631 565434 property@macphee.co.uk MacPhee & Partners 8 George Street, Oban PA34 5SB www.macphee.co.uk



**PCV Driver**

We are seeking to recruit a full time PCV driver based at our Ardriahig depot. This position will cover a range of services including local bus, schools, express coach and private hire.

If you hold a PCV licence and are interested in such a position, please apply in writing (enclosing your c.v.) to:

Personnel Department  
West Coast Motors  
Bennhor  
Campbeltown  
Argyll PA28 6DN

or complete our online application form at www.westcoastmotors.co.uk

**Manor House Hotel & Restaurant**

Have a vacancy for an enthusiastic **Chef de Partie** to join our kitchen team. For further information

Tel: 01631 562087 or email: info@manorhouseoban.com

**D Campbell Stonemason**

**Recruitment Opportunities Stonemason Dry Stone Waller**  
Immediate start for both positions  
Self-employed applications only  
Applications are invited to apply via mobile: 07738 537057 or E-mail: davie@dcampbellstonemason.co.uk www.dcampbellstonemason.co.uk

**Oban Times RECRUITMENT**

**Port Ramsay Grazings**

A meeting of the shareholders in the above common grazings will be held at 12 Port Ramsay on Saturday 19 June 2010 at 12.30 pm for the purpose of appointing a new grazings committee.

**Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES**

**Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES**

**Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES**



To find out more about living and working in argyll & bute visit us @ www.argyll-bute.gov.uk



**PLANNING**

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2008 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT**

Applications for planning permission listed below together with the plans and other documents submitted with them may be examined at Lorn House Albany Street Oban PA34 4AR and the location detailed below between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday to Friday and by logging to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk and clicking on Online Planning Applications. Written comments for the following list of applications may be made to Planning and Regulatory Services Lorn House Albany Street Oban PA34 4AR by the 24/06/2010

● Ref No: 10/00261/PP  
Applicant: Mr Mrs A D Kirkham  
Proposal: Proposed erection of a dwellinghouse.  
Site Address: Land South East Of Mo Daichainh Lochdon Isle of Mull Argyll And Bute  
Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Craignure

● Ref No: 10/00617/PP  
Applicant: Mr C Hodge  
Proposal: Erection of 3 dwellinghouses  
Site Address: Land North Of Dalnacabaig Kilmore Argyll and Bute  
Location of Plans: Oban Area Office

● Ref No: 10/00721/PPP  
Applicant: Mrs Elizabeth Martin  
Proposal: Erection of dwelling house  
Site Address: Ardornish Crannag A' Mhinseir Oban Argyll and Bute PA34 4LU  
Location of Plans: Oban Area Office

● Ref No: 10/00761/PP  
Applicant: Mr Andrew Keppie  
Proposal: Erection of dwelling house  
Site Address: Land East Of Fagsadh Taymull Argyll and Bute  
Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Taymull

● Ref No: 10/00776/PP  
Applicant: Ceran Marine  
Proposal: Erection of temporary toilet/shower block for 24 months - amendment to planning permission 09/0810/DET  
Site Address: Foreshore North West of Marine Resource Barcaldine Argyll And Bute  
Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Ledgig

● Ref No: 10/00851/PP  
Applicant: Argyll and Bute Council  
Proposal: Formation of new external door  
Site Address: Municipal Buildings Albany Street Oban Argyll and Bute PA34 4AW  
Location of Plans: Oban Area Office

● Ref No: 10/00867/PP  
Applicant: Mr and Mrs William Wemyss  
Proposal: Foul drainage infrastructure to serve dwellings permitted by 06/00127/OUT  
Site Address: Eridine House East Lochawside Dalmailly Argyll and Bute PA33 1BP  
Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Dalmailly

Argyll and Bute Council maintain a Register of planning applications which can be viewed between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. at Planning and Regulatory Services, Dalriada House, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8ST and Argyll and Bute Council Libraries.

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 (AS AMENDED), RELATED PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997**

Take notice that the applications in the following schedule may be inspected during normal office hours at Lorn House Albany Street Oban PA34 4AR, at the location detailed below and by logging on to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk and clicking on Online Planning Applications. Anyone wishing to make representations should do so in writing to Lorn House Albany Street Oban PA34 4AR within 21 days of the appearance of this notice. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence.

**COAST PROTECTION ACT 1949**

**NEW BREAKWATER AT BALVICAR BOATYARD**

Notice is hereby given that Kompass Rose Marine SVCS, on behalf of Balvicar Boatyard, have applied to the Scottish Ministers of the Scottish Government, under section 34 of the Coast Protection Act 1949, as amended by section 36 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1988, to construct a new breakwater at the following location:

Description	Latitude	Longitude
Breakwater: start	56 17.495N	05 36.249W
Breakwater: end	56 17.499N	05 36.237W

(WGS84)

Plans showing the position of the works may be inspected at Oban Library, 77 Albany Street, Oban, PA34 4AL

Objections relating to safety of navigation in respect of the application should be made in writing to:

Gordon Hastie, The Scottish Government, Ports and Harbours Branch, Area 2G North, Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ within 28 days of the date of this notice quoting reference: 2SPCA/S/117

Balvicar Boatyard, c/o Kompass Rose Marine SVCS Stable Cottage, Lock 6 Cairnbaan, Lochgilphead

**MULL SLAUGHTERHOUSE LIMITED**

Registered No 2050 R(S)

**Notice of Annual General Meeting**

with Special Resolution to change the Constitution  
Date: Wednesday 16th June  
Time: 8.00pm  
Venue: Craignure Village Hall  
Special Resolution: That there shall be a complete amendment of the Rules to become a Co-operative for the Benefit of the Community



The following decrofting Directions have been granted:

**Part Croft**

7 Lower Scotstown, Ardnamurchan & Sunart

Direction dated 28 May 2010 granted to Raymond & Mrs Mavis Elsie Stephenson. Area ext to 0.153 ha

Conditions: 1. The land is used to provide a site for a dwellinghouse. 2. Complete enclosure of the land with a stockproof fence within 4 months of completion of the proposed development. 3. Maintenance of the fence by each successive owner or occupier of the land.

Case Number: 4.86.21178

The granting of this Direction may be appealed to the Scottish Land Court, within 42 days from the date of this advert. Information on how to appeal is available from the Crofters Commission.



Mrs Sheila Cameron has applied to decroft part of the croft at 70 & 71 Camaghael, Kilmallie extending to 0.110 ha being the site of an existing dwellinghouse. Ref: 4.86.23938

If you are a crofter, shareholder or owner of a croft in the township you may submit comments on the proposal in writing or some other permanent form to the Crofters Commission, Great Glen House, Leachkin Road, Inverness IV3 8NW or info@crofterscommission.org.uk, by 21 June 2010 quoting the above case number.

A copy of any valid comments will be served on the applicant.

**An Comunn Gaidhealach Meur Chruachain (Cruachan Branch)**

**A. G. M.**  
TAYNUILT VILLAGE HALL  
Committee Room  
Monday 14 June, 2010 7.30pm  
All Welcome  
To enter please use back door

**Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES**

**SCHEDULE - DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION PLANS**

● Ref No: 10/00368/PP  
Applicant: Mr and Mrs Cowley  
Proposal: Erection of extension to dwellinghouse  
Site Address: 39 Toberonochy Isle of Luing Oban Argyll and Bute PA34 4UE  
Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Cullipool

● Ref No: 10/00855/LIB  
Applicant: Argyll and Bute Council  
Proposal: Internal alterations and formation of new external door  
Site Address: Municipal Buildings Albany Street Oban Argyll and Bute PA34 4AW  
Location of Plans: Oban Area Office

● Ref No: 10/00869/PP  
Applicant: Mr Miha  
Proposal: Alteration to roofline windows.  
Site Address: Sagar Restaurant Main Street/Back Brae Tobermory Isle of Mull Argyll and Bute PA75 6NU  
Location of Plans: Tobermory Area Office

Any letter of representation the council receives about a planning application is considered a public document. Please therefore note that representations will be made available for public inspection and, under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act, will be copied on request. They will also be published on the council's web site.

The author of such a representation is solely responsible for its content and accuracy. Anonymous representations will be "shredded" and those marked confidential will be returned to the sender. Neither will be taken into account when the application is being considered. Details of representations we receive on planning applications can be viewed on the council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/publicaccess

**TREE PRESERVATION ORDER**

**THE ARGYLL AND BUTE, LAND AT PORTSONOCHAN, ARGYLL, TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NO. 10/09**

Take notice that the above Authority in terms of the powers conferred upon them by Section 161 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 has confirmed the above Tree Preservation Order which took effect on 13th January 2010, without modification.

A Certified Copy of the said Tree Preservation Order and map, as confirmed, have been deposited at Argyll and Bute Council's Development Services Office at Lorn House, Albany Street, Oban, Argyll and may be inspected during normal working hours for a period of 28 days from the date of this advertisement.

Charles Reppeck, Head of Governance and Law

**COUNCILLORS SURGERIES**

Councillor Mary Jean Devon (EW 4 Oban South and the Isles) Constituents can contact Councillor Mary Jean Devon on Tel: 01688 301215 or email - mary-jean.devon@argyll-bute.gov.uk

Councillor Gordon Chalmers (E.W. 4 Oban South and the Isles) Constituents can contact Councillor Chalmers on Tel 01688 302689 or email - gordon.chalmers@argyll-bute.gov.uk or gordon.chalmers@btinternet.com

Councillor Donald McIntosh (E.W 4 Oban South and the Isles) Constituents can contact him on Tel: 07788 882200 or by email - donald.mcintosh@argyll-bute.gov.uk

Councillor Donald Macdonald (E.W.S Oban North and Lorn) Constituents can contact him on Tel: 01631 566367 or by email - donald.macdonald@argyll-bute.gov.uk

**DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE (QUEENS PARK PLACE AND STATION ROAD, OBAN) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) ORDER 201**

On Monday 31st May 2010 Argyll and Bute Council, made the above named Order under Section 16A of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, which will make it unlawful for any person to drive or cause or permit to be driven any vehicle, with the exception of emergency services vehicles, through the entire lengths of Queens Park Place and Station Road, Oban in order to permit the holding of Charities Day on or near those roads.

The Order, which shall be effective when indicated by signs, will be in operation between 0600 hours and 1800 hours on Saturday 12th June 2010. Alternative Route: There is no alternative route.

Sandy Macgarratt, Executive Director, Development & Infrastructure Services, Manse Brae, Lochgilphead, Argyll PA31 8RD

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997**

**PLANNING (LISTED BUILDING AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997**

The applications listed below, along with plans and other documents submitted with them, may be examined between the hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays) at the AREA PLANNING AND BUILDING STANDARDS OFFICE, FULTON HOUSE, GORDON SQUARE, FT WILLIAM, PH33 6XY ; online at www.highland.gov.uk and, where given, the alternative location(s). Written comments should be made to the Area Planning and Building Standards Manager at this office within the time period indicated from the date of this notice.

Anyone making a representation about this proposal should note that their letter or email will be disclosed to any individual or body who requests sight of representations in respect of this proposal.

Reference Number	Development Address	Proposal Description	Alternative locations where application may be inspected and time period for comments
1Q/02025/FUL	Land 60m South West Of Lag-No-Loin Ormsaigbeg Kilchoan	Erection of house and 3.2KW wind turbine	Lochaber Area Planning & Building Standards Office (14 days)
1Q/02142/FUL	House Site 90m SE of Achmor Arisaig	Erection of house	Mallaig Service Point (14 days)
1Q/02153/FUL	Plot 2 9 Bohuntin Roy Bridge	New dwelling	Lochaber Area Planning & Building Standards Office (14 days)
1Q/02159/FUL	Land 95 Metres NW of Ardsheallach Acharacle	Erection of house	Acharacle Service Point (14 days)
1Q/02203/PIP	Plot 1 Land 130M SE of St Mays Chapel Glenfinnan	Erection of house	Lochaber Area Planning & Building Standards Office (14 days)
1Q/02204/PIP	Plot 3 Land 85M SE of St Mays Chapel Glenfinnan	Erection of house	Lochaber Area Planning & Building Standards Office (14 days)
1Q/02205/PIP	Plot 2 Land 100M SE of St Mays Chapel Glenfinnan	Erection of house	Lochaber Area Planning & Building Standards Office (14 days)
1Q/02249/PIP	Land 100m East of Mountain View Murlaggan Roy Bridge	Erection of house (renewal of application 06/00491/OUT/LO)	Lochaber Area Planning & Building Standards Office (14 days)
1Q/02250/PIP	Land 35M East of Mountain View Murlaggan Roy Bridge	Erection of house (renewal of application 06/00489/OUT/LO)	Lochaber Area Planning & Building Standards Office (14 days)
1Q/02251/PIP	Land 60m East of Mountain View Murlaggan Roy Bridge	Erection of house (renewal of application 06/00490/OUT/LO)	Lochaber Area Planning & Building Standards Office (14 days)

Area Planning and Building Standards Manager, Ross, Skye & Lochaber: Dafydd Jones, Highland Council, Fulton House, Gordon Square, Fort William, PH33 6XY Tel: (01397) 707015 Fax: (01397) 707022 e-mail: planning.lochaber@highland.gov.uk

**Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES**

**GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENCE**

John MacAlister (Oban) Ltd of 6 South Pier, Oban PA34 4LS is applying to change an existing licence as follows: To keep an extra one goods vehicle and three trailers at the operating centre at Oban Livestock Centre, Oban PA34 4SD. Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Scottish Traffic Area, Hillcrest House, 386 Harehill Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A guide to making representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's Office.

**Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES**

**Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES**

**Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES**

**KEYLINE BUILDERS MERCHANTS LTD**  
**Full Time Pick-up Driver / Relief Driver HGV 2**  
A class 2 HGV licence is essential.  
We offer a competitive salary and excellent benefits package.  
If you think this is for you forward copy of CV by email to iain.hunter@keyline.co.uk or in writing to Keyline Builders Merchants, Soroba Road, Oban, PA34 4GS  
Closing date Monday 14th June.

**Seasonal Visitor Services Advisor, Tyndrum (immediate start - end Oct)**  
Salary from £6.33 per hour  
You're passionate about Scotland. So why not join our team and become the first point of contact for thousands of visitors? As a Seasonal Visitor Services Advisor, you will have the customer service experience to sell our products and services, the confidence to maximise customer spend, coupled with strong organisational, admin and IT skills. Most of all you'll have good local and national knowledge, and excellent communication skills. Weekend working will be required.  
For further information and to apply please visit www.visitscotland.org. Closing date: 10th June 2010  
Live It. Visit Scotland.

**Atlantis**  
**Gymnastic Instructor Required**  
Part time  
Previous experience essential  
Tel Nick on 01631 566800  
Enhanced Disclosure Checks will be carried out on successful applicants.

**Rascals and Lochnell Arms Hotel**  
**Full and part time waiting staff required.**  
Immediate Start.  
Tel: 01631 570347 or 710408

**Local newspapers and their websites are the number one choice for local jobs.**  
Source: Recruitment Choice, The Newspaper Society 2009  
Regional Press closer to home

**Lorry driver fined £200 for not securing load**

A LORRY driver whose load of huge aluminium ingots broke free and smashed into the side of a bus near Fort William has been fined £200.

Thomas Poole, aged 65, of 11 First Avenue, Accrington, Lancashire, admitted driving on the A82 near Coruanan with an unsecured load on January 5.

A buckle on one of the holding straps broke when the lorry went round a corner and one ingot partially slid off and ripped a hole in the side of the bus as it passed, Fort William Sheriff Court heard.

Poole had only used two straps to secure each ingot, which prosecutor Emma Knox said was the bare minimum recommended to hold each ingot in place. Sheriff Paul Reid also placed three points on Poole's licence.

**Author opens new cancer support drop-in service**

BEST selling author Professor Alexander McCall Smith opened a new Macmillan Cancer Support drop-in service at Fort William Library last Wednesday.

Volunteer Heather MacLean, aged 62, of Ardgour, who was diagnosed with cancer 18 months ago, said: 'This service bridges a real gap and will make a big difference to people affected by cancer in this area.'

The service, for anyone with questions or concerns about cancer, is backed by NHS Highland and Highland Council.

**Planning service wins recognition**

A HIGHLAND Council service set up to simplify the planning process for applicants has won national recognition.

The council's pre-application advice service for major developments received an award in the Key Agency Working category at the Homes for Scotland Awards 2010.

The service is operated in partnership with Scottish Natural Heritage, SEPA, Transport Scotland and other agencies. Highland Council was the only Scottish local authority to be shortlisted.



Kinlochleven pupils and volunteers prepare to plant the hanging baskets. 10\_f23baskets01

**Pupils' flower baskets help brighten up Kinlochleven**

KINLOCHLEVEN Primary School and Nursery pupils rolled up their sleeves last Wednesday to plant hanging baskets and planters for display around the village.

Pupils and volunteers worked together in the school grounds to create attractive floral displays under the Kinlochleven Community

Trust initiative to brighten up Kinlochleven for the summer.

Development officer Moira Hartley praised the children's enthusiastic involvement in the project, which will see 76 baskets put up. 'There have been great discussions within the groups, who have showed really good teamwork,' she said. 'All the

children selected their own plants and mixed all the colours together to create lovely displays.'

More than £500 of local sponsorship and financial backing from Highland Council and Action Earth will cover all project costs, Ms Hartley said.

Kinlochleven Primary School head teacher Cherry Allan said: 'This is

the second year of involvement and we look forward to seeing the plants growing and giving a fantastic display of colour.'

Organisers thank local sponsors, volunteers and children for their donations, time and hard work, without which the scheme could not have happened.

**Fort man punched partner on the face**

A CAOL man punched his partner in the face and burst her bottom lip during a violent domestic row.

James Cameron, aged 29, of 7 Fern Court, had denied assaulting Claire Donaghy at the couple's home on March 8.

But at Fort William Sheriff Court, Sheriff Douglas Small preferred Ms Donaghy's version of the incident which ended with her being taken to Belford Hospital and the couple splitting up.

Ms Donaghy, 30, took the

**EXCLUSIVE**  
REPORT by  
Richard Haddock  
fort@obantimes.co.uk

stand to recount how the couple got into a fight on the staircase around 4pm. She wanted to visit a friend and Cameron did not want her to leave.

She pushed Cameron on the side of his head to get past and was punched in the mouth.

Ms Donaghy contacted her

friend Kerry Fjortoft and asked her to come to the house and get her.

Before she left, Cameron asked her not to tell anyone what had happened.

Ms Fjortoft took Ms Donaghy to Belford Hospital where medical staff found her tooth had punctured her bottom lip.

Asked if she thought Mr Cameron could have hit her by accident, she replied: 'I don't think it was an accident.'

'He had an angry look

on his face I'd never seen before.'

Giving evidence, Cameron claimed the argument had taken place in the couple's bedroom and during the altercation Ms Donaghy slapped him in the face.

When he tried to leave, Cameron claimed, she punched him repeatedly on the back of his head and he accidentally hit her in the face when he swung his arm behind him to fend off the blows.

He said: 'I never meant to

hit her. I tried to push her off so I could leave the house.'

'When I saw the blood I got very upset.'

'I tried to help her with the bleeding and I told her I was sorry.'

Prosecutor Alison Wylie asked Cameron why he had asked Ms Donaghy not to tell anyone what happened.

He said: 'It's our business. It should be couples that sort these things out.'

Sheriff Small found Cameron guilty and fined him £500.

**Man tried to overtake row of six cars**

A MAN who crashed his car after trying to overtake a row of six cars has been fined £400 and banned from driving for a year.

David White, aged 31, of 249 Milngavie Road, Bearsden, Glasgow, pled guilty at Fort William Sheriff Court to driving dangerously.

The incident occurred at lunchtime on November 13 on the A82 approximately three miles north of Fort William. White attempted to overtake the slow moving line of cars whilst returning from a family event on

Skye. Before he could move back into his lane, a car approached on the other side of the road causing White to take evasive action. His car spun off the road and rolled over.

White's fiancée was a passenger in the car and was badly injured in the crash, breaking both of her thighbones. She is still receiving treatment but is expected to make a full recovery.

White will have to resit his driving test in a year's time before being allowed to hold a licence again.

**Lengthy ban and fine for drink driver who had Class A drugs in car**

AN ABERDONIAN pulled over by police in Fort William for drink driving was also found to be in possession of £320 worth of cocaine.

Anthony Scott, aged 55, of 8 Towervue Lane, Peterculter, Aberdeen, was fined him £200. Scott was one and a half times the legal drink-drive limit, a reading defence agent Hamish Melrose described as 'a relatively low amount'.

Scott was pulled over by police at 10.30pm on February 15 after they had followed him on the bypass and on Belford Road.

The police found 6.56grammes of cocaine in the glove box of the car. Scott later claimed the Class A drug belonged to his wife.

Sheriff Paul Reid disqualified Scott from driving for three years and fined him £200. Scott was fined a further £200 for possessing cocaine. Scott pled guilty to both offences at Fort William Sheriff Court. Sheriff Reid said he had imposed a lengthy ban because Scott had been caught drink driving again just two weeks after his initial arrest.

**Pool cue attack man ordered to pay victim £2,000 compensation**

A MAN who used a pool cue to attack a man in a Fort William pub has been ordered to pay his victim £2,000 in compensation.

Brian McKie, aged 41, of 18 Whinbank Terrace, Stranraer, pled guilty to assaulting Andrew Mackenzie in the Ben Nevis bar in Fort William on June 5 last year. The beating left Mr Mackenzie with three permanent scars on his face.

The pair were part of the attack. McKie claimed

during the game Mr Mackenzie spat beer in his face.

Defence agent Hamish Melrose told Fort William Sheriff Court McKie felt he was being 'goaded and laughed at' and lost his temper and admitted hitting the victim repeatedly on the head and face with his pool cue.

As well as paying compensation, McKie was ordered to complete 200 hours of community service by Sheriff Paul Reid.

Got a story for **The Oban Times**? Call our reporters on 01397 703003.

**Am Bata sets sail on new boat building project**

AM BATA, the boatbuilding project based at Plockton High School, is on the lookout for new work following the completion of its latest vessel.

At the recent Plockton Small Boat Sailing Club open day, Plockton students launched their replica Letterfearn boat, built entirely from local larch, oak and ash timbers from Forestry Commission Scotland and the Fernaig Community Woodland Trust.

Now head of technical studies at Plockton High School Jamie Kean wants to secure more work for apprentices under Ullapool boatbuilder Mark Stockl.

He said: 'I am hugely encouraged at the response we have had to this course, both from our own pupils and from adults at the night classes.'

'There is a really strong desire in the community to learn and preserve these skills and I am constantly amazed at the degree of ability and the level of enthusiasm of the people involved.'

The team is already looking for a commission for next year so anyone interested in having a boat made or repaired should get in touch with Jamie at the school on J.Kean@plocktonhigh.highland.sch.uk.



Invergarry Primary School pupil Sarah MacLennan at Allt Mhuic with an emperor moth.

**Pupils enjoy trip to butterfly reserve**

AGROUP of 22 pupils from Invergarry primary school got a special preview of Forestry Commission Scotland's Allt Mhuic butterfly reserve on May 21.

The school's visit preceded a special open day at the Loch Arkaig site the same weekend, attended by more than 70 people from across Lochaber.

The reserve is home to the chequered skipper, a butterfly only found in a small area around Lochaber since it became extinct elsewhere in the 1970s.

Butterfly conservation worker Tom Prescott also found that the pearl-bordered fritillary butterfly had returned to Loch Arkaig for the first time in several years.

Allt Mhuic, 9.5 miles from Gairloch along Loch Arkaig, is open to the public.



Vanessa Coldwell at Ardnamurchan Natural History Centre.

**New staff appointment puts eagles in the spotlight**

THE Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) has hired a new member of staff to explain to visitors the importance of Ardnamurchan's golden eagles and sea eagles.

Vanessa Coldwell will be based at Ardnamurchan Natural History Centre and will work closely with new owners John and Andrea Polak. Ms Coldwell said Ardnamurchan is one of the

best places for seeing eagles, with both species regularly flying over the centre's car park.

Mr Polak said: 'As well as being based at the Natural History Centre, Vanessa hopes to be able to conduct some habitat monitoring work at the nearby RSPB nature reserve at Glenborrodale. With her knowledge and passion for the subject, I'm sure Vanessa will be a tremendous asset to the centre.'

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**Lochaber man jailed for assaulting woman**

A LOCHABER man has been jailed for assaulting a woman and trying to rob her in Camanachd Crescent, Fort William.  
Donald Reid, aged 27, of 8 Kentallen Travellers Site, was accused of grabbing the woman around the neck and attempting to steal £10 and her mobile phone on April 10.  
Reid admitted in Fort William Sheriff Court he had assaulted the woman but claimed he had been buying heroin from her and was not attempting to get her money or her phone.  
Sheriff Douglas Small found Mr Reid guilty of assault and an attempt to rob and sentenced him to three months in prison, backdated to April 13.

**Community council back to full strength**

TWO VACANCIES on Ballachulish Community Council have been filled after Caroline Knox and Kevin Smith were proposed and seconded as new members.  
The council, now at full strength, is backing a request from younger members of the community to provide artwork for perspex units in local bus shelters. The council is continuing to push for the hole in the road at MacColl Terrace to be repaired, despite being told at a meeting with Highland Council there was no budget.

**Lochaline hall hosts free range fund-raiser**

A 'BAKE with Compassion' event is being held in Lochaline Village Hall on Saturday June 12 from 2.30 to 4.30pm in aid of Compassion in World Farming.  
Volunteers will serve afternoon teas and sell home baked cakes containing only free range ingredients.  
Co-organiser Douglas Watt said the 'Come for Tea and Save a Hen' event had been organised 'to raise vital funds needed to free caged hens across the UK'.

**New Stagecoach summer timetable**

STAGECOACH in Lochaber launched its new summer timetable for the Lochaber area on Monday.  
The guide contains timetables for all Stagecoach services within Lochaber, as well as information on other local bus, ferry and train services. The new timetable can be downloaded from www.stagecoachbus.com or will be available on buses at the end of this week.



Jamie-Lee Laverty, Caol, who won top local dancer and the highland trophy for beginner eight years and under.

**Dancers step out in style at Fort William May Festival**



Lynne MacLean, Barcaldine, joint winner of the novice 11 years and over national trophy.

HIGHLAND dancers from all over Scotland came to Fort William last weekend to compete in the May Festival, which was held on Saturday morning in Caol Community Centre.  
The festival, which is run by Lochaber Highland Dancing, attracted 75 dancers from as far afield as Dumbarton, Edinburgh and Inverness.  
The top local dancers were Jamie-Lee Laverty from Caol, who won the Highland trophy and shared the national trophy for beginners eight years and under, and Lynne MacLean, aged 12, of Barcaldine, who shared the novice 11 years and over national trophy.  
Mhairi Hennigan from the Sandra Lees School won the national premier adults trophy.  
Organiser May Stewart told *The Oban Times*: 'The standard of dancing was very high. It was a very good competition and a lovely day.'

**Results**

**Local Trophies** - Jamie-Lee Laverty - Nevis School; Natalie Rosie - Sandra Lees School.  
**Highland Trophy** - Beginners 8 years and under - Jamie-Lee Laverty, Nevis School; Beginners 9 years and over - Hannah Mackintosh, Anne Noble School; Novice 8 years and under - Kern Robertson, Fraser School; Novice 11 years and over - Beth Ballantyne, Alison Stoddart School; Intermediate - Rhianna Dow, Sandra Lees School; Premier 10 years - Kirsty Thompson, Sinclair School; runner up - Lauren Peggie, Roblyn School; Premier 12 years - Catriona Dempster, Brenda Gordon School; runner up - Paula Sloss, Sandra Lees School; Premier 13 years - Becky Dempster, Brenda Gordon School; runner up - Jenna MacInnes, Eilidh MacInnes School; Premier 15 years - Cara MacKenzie, Fraser School; runner up - Natalie Rosie, Sandra Lees School; Premier Adults - Mhairi Hennigan, Sandra Lees School; runner up - Cara Taylor, Roblyn School.  
**National Trophy** - Beginners 8 years and under - shared between Jamie-Lee Laverty, Nevis School and Caitlin Graham, Lee Ellen School; Beginners 9 years and over - Hannah Mackintosh, Ann Noble School; Novice 8 years and under - shared between Ashleigh Stirling, Michelle Wilson School and Kern Robertson, Fraser School; Novice 11 years and over - shared between Beth Ballantyne, Alison Stoddart School and Lynne MacLean, Sinclair School; Intermediate - Kirsty Thompson, Sinclair School; Premier 10 years - Rebecca Sproat, Sandra Lees School; Premier 12 years - Paula Sloss, Sandra Lees School; Premier 13 years - Becky Dempster, Brenda Gordon School; Premier 15 years - Cara MacKenzie, Fraser School; Premier Adults - Mhairi Hennigan, Sandra Lees School.

**Mix of music from around the world at Lochaber Schools Wind Band concert**

LOCHABER Schools Wind Band will be holding its summer concert in Lochaber High School main hall on Wednesday June 16.  
The concert will get underway at 7.30pm and will feature music from all over the world including Africa, Russia and blues and gospel from USA.  
There will be a mix of music with both the junior and senior bands playing as well as the Big Band playing some jazz. Admission to the concert is free.

**Lochaber link with charity marathon cycle team**

THE SON of a well-known Lochaber man is among a group of cyclists riding from Land's End to John O'Groats in an attempt to raise more than £10,000 for charity.  
James McLetchie and his pals Chris Caush, Ashley James, James McLetchie, Simon McFarlane and Helen Wilson hope to raise £6,000 for Help the Heroes and £4,000 for Myeloma UK. James McLetchie's father Argyll is originally from Ballachulish and attended Oban High School but moved to Hampshire for work. The 'Ride of a Lifetime' started in Cornwall on Saturday May 29 and reaches John O'Groats on Monday June 7.  
The team plans to spend the night in Fort William on Saturday.

**Police files**

A VARIETY of items used for kayaking were removed from outside a tent on Lochy Caravan Site sometime between 9pm on Monday May 17 and 7am on Tuesday May 18.  
A VARIETY of machines on a building site in Upper Achintore were damaged with spray paint sometime between 4pm on Sunday May 23 and 7.30am on Monday May 24.  
A SECTION of fencing surrounding a compound at Ballachulish Back Pier was damaged sometime overnight between Monday May 24 and Tuesday May 25.  
A tyre on a canoe trailer within the compound was also damaged.  
A BUILDING site at Bohenie in Roy Bridge sustained damage between Saturday May 1 and Saturday May 29. A double glazed window was damaged, a small hole made in a rone, slates on the garage roof were broken and plants broken in the front garden. A JCB on the site also sustained damage to the front glass pane and lower door pane.

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**Roundabout upgrade vital warns leader**

**Demand for improvements to busy Lochybridge junction**

HIGHLAND Council leader Dr Michael Foxley is demanding the A82-A830 mini-roundabout at Lochybridge must be upgraded to make it safer.  
In a letter to Transport Scotland chief executive Bob Middleton, Councillor Foxley says records show the junction is one of the Highlands' busiest and it is 'vital' that lanes, signs and geometry are improved.  
'There may have been only a small number of injury accidents, but there has been an incredible number of near misses,' he said.  
'As a GP and councillor, I am a very regular user of this mini roundabout. Many cars do not signal adequately,



Dr Michael Foxley.

there is insufficient stacking for those travelling north straight ahead to Inverness and those turning left to Caol and Mallaig.  
'I am asking that this mini roundabout be established in

line with what is acceptable on an exceptionally busy junction on a major trunk road.'  
Mr Middleton said there had been eight 'slight injury' accidents from 1999 prior to the mini-roundabout replacing traffic lights in September 2007, and none since then.  
Road markings near the roundabout had recently been refreshed and plans to resurface the northbound approach to the junction were earmarked for later this year, he said.  
A meeting with Highland Council members and officials is planned to discuss the overall programme of works in the area, he said.



**Wigwam takes pride of place in play area**

Ballachulish Primary School P4 pupils helped local artist Brian Dickie build a willow wigwam in the grass play area next to the school as part of their Eco Week programme. Other activities during the week included making bat boxes, a mini-beast hunt, plant hunt and butterfly studies with volunteer ranger Kate Fuller from the National Trust for Scotland Visitor Centre at Glencoe, a sponsored walk and fruit smoothie making.

**Quarry monument to be given new home in Ballachulish**

A SANDSTONE obelisk that sat in Gordon Square, Fort William, for 15 years has been removed and will be given a new home in Ballachulish.  
Ballachulish Community Council plans to put the monument, which pays tribute to quarries in Argyll, at the entrance to the slate quarry.  
Councillor Donald Cameron told *The Oban Times*: 'Ballachulish is the most appropriate place for it.  
'The entrance to the quarry will be a very fitting setting.'  
The community council has applied to Highland Council for planning permission and is awaiting its decision. It hopes the monument will be unveiled within the next few months.  
The monument was removed from Gordon Square to make way for a new statue of a walker with sore feet which will mark the end of the West Highland Way.

**Dinner marks retirement of Children's Panel member after 25 years**

A HARD-WORKING member of 25 years and Highland Children's Panel had sat on more than 1,000 hearings. 'She has been deputy chair of Lochaber for many years and has also been involved in panel training,' she said. 'She has worked tirelessly for the good of the young people and has made a very positive mark on the lives of vulnerable children. Her colleagues all wish her a happy retirement.'  
Martine Young, from Fort William, received a framed certificate from Highland Council, flowers from Highland Children's Panel members and a cheque from local panel members at a celebration dinner in the Moorings Hotel, Banavie.  
Councillor Bren Gormley, himself a former panel member, presented Martine with the flowers.  
Colleague Val MacDonald told *The Oban Times* Martine had been a volunteer panel member for 25 years and had sat on more than 1,000 hearings. 'She has been deputy chair of Lochaber for many years and has also been involved in panel training,' she said. 'She has worked tirelessly for the good of the young people and has made a very positive mark on the lives of vulnerable children. Her colleagues all wish her a happy retirement.'  
Martine, who enjoys walking, history and the arts, hopes to spend more time with her sons and grandchildren now that she no longer needs to be 'on call' for Wednesdays.



Martine Young receives flowers from councillor Bren Gormley on her retirement at the celebration dinner.

**Strontian studio founder's work on show at national exhibition**

THE FOUNDER and proprietor of Resipole Studios near Strontian is showing his work at a national exhibition this week.  
Painter Andrew Sinclair will be among the artists featured at the Prince's Business Youth Trust exhibition from June 3-14, which marks the final chapter in the Imagine Alloa town centre project.

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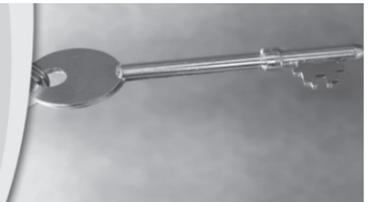
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JACKET Nike, red jacket, fully lined, large, brand new, £25 Telephone 07766 966220.

LEATHER COAT gents three quarter, Milan black leather, never worn, size 44", £49.99 Telephone 07766 966220.

NORTHEAST WOMEN'S TROUSERS Beige size 4 lightweight belt loops drawing roll-up legs. 2 back pockets buttons 1 front pocket zipped 1 front pocket open, £25 Telephone 01631 571032.

ONE PIECE SUIT weather proof, quilted, large, almost new, £25 Telephone 07766 966220.

COMPUTERS AND GAMES

PLAYSTATIONS Silver Playstation 2, Pink Playstation 2, both with 2 controls and piles of games, £40 Telephone 07828 730964.

DOMESTIC APPLIANCES

SLOW COOKER Slow Cooker Morphy Richards (unused), £25 Telephone 01546 606612.

DOMESTIC PETS

BULL MASTIFF STUD WANTED for 3yr old bitch non kc registered, contact Graeme at supplied number must be Argyll area. Telephone 07849 041190.

GWP PUPS pro-worked parents can be seen. KC reg. well reared socialised. will make great deer/bird dogs. g.p.rent Dan imp. ready 1/7, £500 Telephone 05834 31372.

SPRINGER SPANIEL PUPS liver/white, pedigree. Telephone 07849 186235 or 01631 720295 Benderloch.

The Retired Greyhound Trust have beautiful dogs and bitches suitable for adoption. These dogs are fully vaccinated and spayed/neutered. If you feel you could offer one of these ex-racers a home please contact Northern Division on 01470 511705 or 01465 255696. The RGT is a registered charity No 269668. A donation is required. Look forward to hearing from you.

EQUESTRIAN

GELDING 14HH 14 year old. Further details please Telephone 01586 552050.

FURNITURE

BUNK BEDS Bunk Beds with built in ladder, can be used as 2 single beds. Solid pine with white stain, £49.99 Telephone 01631 567487.

CREAM LEATHER SUITE in good condition, £49.99 Telephone 01631 563171.

FOUR POSTER BED pine, new, £100 ono. Adjustable, vgc, £80. Eight aero props £160. Telephone 01586 550053.

LEATHER POUFFE square chocolate on castors, size H 42cm, W 65cm x 65cm, buyer uplifts, £15.00 Telephone 01586 830295.

LIVING ROOM UNITS two mahogany living room units, vgc, size H 2m, W 0.85m, D 0.5m, £40 each or £75 pair. Buyer uplifts. Telephone 01586 830295.

PAIR OF ARMCHAIRS Pair of elegant armchairs, beige dralon cushions, carved wood arms and legs, will recline leg rests variable positions, £80 each or £150 pair. Telephone 01631 563317.

SINGLE DIVAN BED in excellent condition, nearly new. After 6pm, £49.99 Telephone 01360 310873.

THREE PIECE suite, dark blue, good condition, £100 Telephone 01546 602730.

GARDEN

GARDEN HAMMOCK brand new from B&Q never used and still in wrappers. Made from powder coated steel and comes with head cushion, £45 Telephone 07990 720713.

PINK GRANITE CHIPS and quality washed building sand for sale. Tel 01809 501256 or 07884 000894.

MIDGE-IT MIDGE MACHINE vgc, working order, cylinder and bags, £325 ono. Telephone 01631 770698.

NEW ECOMAX COMPOSTER BIN Large Black Plastic ECOMAX Composter Bin, unused and FREE for pickup. Telephone 01546 602087.

TOMATO PLANTS Well established Tomato plants, 80p each. 10% off 10-19 plant, 20% 20+. Free del Brodie/Corrie, £1 elsewhere on Arran. Telephone 01770 302885.

GARDEN MACHINERY

QUALCAST ROLLER MOWER self sharpening and propelled, £40 Telephone 07766 966220.

WESTWOOD T1800 sit on mower, £1500 ono. Telephone 01586 550053.

HOBBIES AND CRAFTS

3FT SAILING YACHT 60s style, £45 Telephone 07766 966220.

HOME ENTERTAINMENT

BUSH 26" TV excellent condition, only needs digi box in October, £40 Telephone 01631 710380.

MATSUI TV 19" 19" cathode ray tube analogue Matsui TV, remote control 2076R and Daewoo DVB DS 700 receiver. Will need tuning! Buyer collect, £35 Telephone 01631 571032.

HOME FURNISHINGS

CARPET beige will fit small room buyer removes, £10 Telephone 01631 720369.

HOME OFFICE

COMPUTER DESK good condition, darkwood, 3 drawer, £25 Telephone 01631 570955.

OFFICE CHAIR black fabric, swivel, tilt and wheels. Only four weeks old, cost £45 will accept £25. Telephone 01546 602027.

KITCHEN AND BATHROOM

SHOWER SCREEN new and boxed, clear glass, all parts included, £25.00 ono. Telephone or text 07833 155212 or 01586 810457 (evenings). Telephone .

LIVESTOCK

YOUNG HENS For Sale Young hens started to lay, also hen with chicks. Telephone 07766 624438.

MAIL ORDER

SCOTTISH FIELD CALENDARS, featuring spectacular photography of some of our most scenic lochs, rivers, beaches and mountains. Always a popular gift for family and friends at home or abroad. Order on-line at www.scottishfield.co.uk/calendar 2010.

MISCELLANEOUS

IRON GATES two light weight open design, closing ten foot entrance, £100 ono. Telephone 01631 571170.

PET ACCESSORIES

LUXURY DOGGY BED Brand new un-used luxury pet bed. Suitable for spoiling your cat or puppy. They'll never want to sleep in your bed again! £10 Telephone 07919 825931.

PUPPY/CAT TRAVEL CASE Lovely lime green plastic pet travel box. Let your cat or puppy travel in style. Clean and in first class condition, £5 Telephone 01631 570333.

PERSONALS

Happy 21st Birthday Natalie

From all the family xxx

PERSONALS

1/6/1960

Happy Birthday to our "Wee Rascal" Mum, Dad & all the family

PERSONALS

'Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ will give thee light' The truth is in Jesus.

YOU ARE KNOWN UNTO GOD! Why not visit www.Bethanyfortwilliam.co.uk

PERSONALS

Sheila Kerr Many thanks to Mr Alakandy and his team at Ross Hall Hospital for their wonderful care.

For lovely cards, flowers, home baking, texts, phone calls and visits. A big thank you to you all.

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PHOTOGRAPHY

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SAKAR TELE-CONVERTER LENS fits any digital camera or video camera with a 46mm or 54mm filter thread. Gives an extra 3X magnification, VGC, High quality, £20.00 Telephone 01631 770698.

PRINTING AND STATIONERY

COLOUR COPYING A4 or A3, single/doublesided, reduce/enlarge, from originals, files on disk or by email A4 copies from 25p. Call Krisp Print. Telephone 01586 554975.

ENVELOPES Wide range of sizes and colours, sold individually or boxed. Contact Krisp Print. Telephone 01586 554975.

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BULLMASTIFF STUD wanted for non kc registered bitch, photos can be seen via email, must be Argyll area please contact Graeme Smith, Isle of Islay. Telephone 07849 041190.

COPPER BRASS lead stainless steel zinc all types of cable household and armoured top prices paid. Telephone 07770 724851/0800 9596482.

SCRAP METAL all types of scrap metal, we uplift cars, call Mr Cook, West Coast Scrap Metals. Telephone 01499 500638 / 07774 621917.

OBAN TIMES PRIVATE CLASSIFIED

**BIRTH**

**WHYTE** - Gerry and Anne (nee Cameron) are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful daughter Alyssa Frances on May 23, 2010 a wee sister for Cameron, granddaughter for Ian and Alyson Cameron and Carol Whyte.

**ENGAGEMENTS**



**WARDHAUGH - MACEACHEN**

Both families are delighted to announce the engagement of Gillian and Stuart on May 1, 2010. Wonderful news.

**DEATH**

**ABRAHAM** - Janet (Jean) died peacefully at Abbeyfield house on Sunday, May 23, 2010. Dearest soul to her family and friends. There will be a celebration of Jean's life in July.

**BLACK** - Douglas Watson died peacefully at home in Treen on Saturday, May 8, 2010. Douglas was a much loved husband of the late Ann Christina (Anncen) nee MacLeod and father of Dorothy.

**CAMPBELL** - Ross. Much loved husband, son, dad and grandpa died peacefully at home after a long illness. Will be sadly missed. Funeral Friday, June 4, at 2pm in Mallaig Community Centre. No flowers please but donations in lieu may be made to Macmillan Cancer Support.

**CAMPBELL** - Peacefully at home at Romalin, Spean Bridge on May 24, 2010, Margaret beloved wife of the late Robert, loving mother of Catherine, Margaret and Linda also much loved grandmother, great-grandmother and great-great grandmother.

**HAMMOND** - Ivor (Oban). Peacefully on May 27, 2010, aged 87 years Ivor, a beloved husband, father, gramps and great gramps. A great family man, sadly missed.

**HORNE** - Peacefully at Lom and Islands Hospital, Oban on Monday May 31, 2010, in his 87th year, Norman, cherished friend of Samantha. Much loved and sadly missed. Funeral will take place at Cardross Crematorium on Monday June 7, at 12.45 pm. No flowers please.

**KING** - Peacefully on May 31, 2010 at home 3 High Street, Lochaline, Frances May beloved wife of George, mother and granny, auntie and sister of Irene. Funeral to be held on Friday June 4, 2010 at 2pm in Kiel Church, Morvern. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired - in aid of the Macmillan Nurses / Morvern Medical Fund

**MACDONALD** - Elizabeth (Bessie). Peacefully at Lindsayfield Lodge Care Home, East Kilbride on Friday, May 28, 2010, Bessie, wife of the late Elsie, mother of Elsie and Janette and grandmother of Audrey, Allison and Barbara. Funeral service will take place at South Lanarkshire Crematorium, Sydes Brae, Blantyre, on Friday, June 4, at 11.45am. No flowers please.

**MACLACHLAN** - On May 30, 2010, peacefully at Glenaray Ward, Mid Argyll Hospital, Lochgilphead, Neil MacLachlan, formerly of Coulaghailto, Kilberry, aged 76 years, beloved husband of the late Mary MacAlister and much loved father of Anne, dear father-in-law of John and a very special Pappy of Kirsten and Emma. Funeral service at Tarbert Parish Church, (today) Thursday, June 3, at 1.00pm, interment thereafter at Carrick Cemetery, to which all family and friends are respectfully invited. Family flowers only please, collection at church if desired, for Glenaray Ward, Mid Argyll Hospital.

**MACVICAR** - Catherine. Peacefully at Balcutha Court Nursing Home, Greenock on May 30, 2010, Catherine MacDonald, beloved wife of the late William MacVicar, dearly loved mother of Margaret, Neil and Kathleen, dear mother-in-law of calum and Jim and much loved grandmother of Wendy, Kirsty, Lesley and Laura. A service will be held at P.B. Wright and Sons Service Room, 131 West Blackhall Street, Greenock on Friday June 4 at 2pm to which all family and friends are invited to attend. A service will then be held in Kilmuir Church, North Uist on Monday June 7 at 1pm followed by an interment at Kilmuir Cemetery. All friends welcome.

**PARKER** - Alexander Laird (Sandy) - Son of Alexis and Agnes, Wellpark. Passed away May 23, 2010 at St Luke's Hospice, Sheffield. Enquiries to Peace Funerals, 0114 253 0505.

**SMILLIE** - Suddenly at Belford Hospital on May 20, 2010, Bill aged 87, beloved husband of Ina and loving father and grandfather. Ina and the family would like to thank the staff at Belford Hospital for the devoted care they gave Bill. They would also like to thank Father McKinnon for his guidance and the lovely mass, and the Normandy Veterans and Mike McFall for their support. Many thanks to all our friends for cards, flowers, kind wishes the donations which we will pass on to the Belford Hospital and the Erskine Veterans Hospital. Bill will be sadly missed by Ina, family and friends.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

**ALLAN** - Rachel and the family of the late John Allan would like to thank all those who helped John (Ian) during the past year. Sincere thanks for all the gifts, cards, visits, telephone calls and words of comfort, for the beautiful floral tributes that filled John's home and at Achnaba, to Rev Dugald Cameron, Rev James Beaton, Rev Bill Gray, to Campbell Cameron, Oban Gaelic Choir and Dr Henderson, organist, to D A Munn Ltd and the Regent Hotel, catering, and to all those who attended from far and near to pay their respects to John. Thank you all with much love.

**ABRAHAM** - The family of the late Jean would like to thank everybody for their help and support especially the Abbeyfield staff and Dr Wilmington for their loving care given at all times.

**BOYD** - Betty and family would like to sincerely thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for their support and kind expressions of sympathy, gifts, flowers, phone calls, cards and visits following the very sad loss of Donald. Special thanks to the Reverend James Carmichael for the lovely personal service. Also to Ann Lyall, Ann MacInnes, Robin MacLean and Robert Naim. Thanks also to Ewan and Teresa for their kindness and personal touch. Also the Inn at Ardgour for the catering arrangements. Finally, special thanks to Dr Tregakis, Mr Sedgwick and

**McQUEEN** - Frances and the family wish to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for cards, flowers and words of comfort following the sad loss of Fraser. A sincere thank you to the Rev. Dugald Cameron for his comforting service, and Hamish Hoey & Son for efficient funeral arrangements. Thank you to Donnie Files for playing at the church and graveside, and to the staff at The Queens Hotel for the catering and all those who attended the church

**CHARITY DONATIONS**

**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  
West of Scotland Fundraising Office  
1st Floor, Erskine House  
North Avenue, Clydebank  
Business Park, Clydebank G81 2DR  
Tel 0808 100 6000  
In memory of Dawn Joyce

**Oban Hospice**  
CARING FOR THE FUTURE  
Donations always gratefully accepted  
Please contact  
David Mudie (Treasurer)  
Oban Hospice Ltd  
The Croft  
Kilmore

**FOR THE BLIND CHILDREN OF SCOTLAND'S ACADEMIC TUITION AT THE ROYAL SCHOOL IN EDINBURGH**  
Please give your financial support by donation, deed of covenant or legacy  
Please send to Appeals Department, Highland Arts Effort, Royal Blind Asylum School, P.O. Box 500, Gillespie Crescent, Edinburgh, EH10 4HZ

**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 Scotland  
Suite 1/1, Unit 4 Blair Court  
Clydebank Business Park  
Clydebank, G81 2LA

**MEMORIALS**

**Stokes Memorials**  
Serving Argyll and the Highlands & Islands for over 35 years  
Established 1973 - Fraser Downie, Master Sculptor  
• New and traditional memorials. • Delivery to all islands.  
• Additional lettering. • Free estimates and advice.  
• Cleaning and renovations. • House signs.  
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all the staff at the Belford Hospital, Local District Nurses, Dr MacAdam and Craig Nevis Medical Practice for their care and attention. Aretiral collection in Donalds memory raised £835.00 for the Belford Hospital.

**MACLEOD** - Our mum Betty, passed away on May 2, 2010 in Raigmore Hospital. Marion, David and Stephen would like to thank family and friends for their support, cards, flowers and bakery. Special thanks to the dedicated staff at Belford and Raigmore Hospitals, Fr Roddy, Mike McFall, McDonald Bros, Caol Community Centre and all who donated money at the church. The sum of £537.21 raised, was donated to Mcmillan Suite, Raigmore Hospital, Cancer General Fund, which helps buy equipment and helps other cancer patients.

**McNAUGHTON** - The family of the late George McNaughton, would like to extend their thanks and gratitude to all relatives, friends, and neighbours for the many phone calls, letters and emails, floral tributes and kind expressions of sympathy received following their recent sad loss. Sincere and grateful thanks to Marie Curie Nurses and District Nurses for their kind care and attention to both George and the family during his illness. Very special thanks also to John and Arlene for their thoughtfulness and support to us all. Grateful thanks to Margaret Sinclair for a most fitting and comforting service; to Donald MacDonald Funeral Directors for efficient and considerate arrangements; to Bill Murdoch and David Hunt for music accompaniment; and to the Tarbert Hotel for excellent purvey arrangements. George and Janet would also like to extend their thanks to all employees for their kindness and support during this difficult time. Finally, thank you to all who paid their respects at Church and Graveside. The collection for Marie Curie raised over £1000.

**McQUEEN** - Frances and the family wish to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for cards, flowers and words of comfort following the sad loss of Fraser. A sincere thank you to the Rev. Dugald Cameron for his comforting service, and Hamish Hoey & Son for efficient funeral arrangements. Thank you to Donnie Files for playing at the church and graveside, and to the staff at The Queens Hotel for the catering and all those who attended the church

**ECCLIASTICAL NOTICES**

**SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH ANGLICAN COMMUNION**  
Sunday 6 June 2010  
Trinity 1  
St John's Cathedral, Oban  
Holy Communion.....08.00  
Sung Eucharist.....10.15  
Sunday School and Creche Loop System  
Large Print Hymn Books  
All Welcome  
Norman MacCallum, Provost.  
(01631) 562323  
St Columba, Gruline, Mull  
Holy Eucharist.....11.00  
St Columba, Bishop's House, Iona  
Holy Eucharist.....08.00  
Evensong.....20.00

**LORN CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP**  
Sunday 6th June 2010  
Oban High School  
10:30am  
All Welcome  
Telephone  
07836 342 622  
www.lorncf.org.uk

**ASSOCIATED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, OBAN**  
Campbell Street Church  
Sunday 6th June 2010  
11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.  
Phone-In 'Worship Link' available  
Rev. Archie McPhail  
MA, MTh  
(01631) 567076  
All welcome

and graveside, generously donating the sum of £572, to be divided between Fibromyalgia Scotland and Mcmillan Nurses.

**MEMORIALS**

**BRYARS** - In loving memory of Craig, died June 3, 2003. Memories are ours to treasure

Mum, Dad, Darin and family  
**CAMPBELL** - In loving memory of a dear auntie, Marie, who died June 8, 1989. Memories of you are fondly kept

Someone too special to ever forget.  
- Catherine, Kenneth, Margaret and families.  
**CURRIE** - Cherished memories of our dear dad, Archie, who passed away June 1, 1998. Remembering you is easy

We do it everyday  
We miss you is the heartache that never goes away.  
- Mairi  
- Allan, Gillian and family  
**DOWNIE** - In loving memory of our dear dad and granpa, George, who died on May 28, 1968 and our dear mam and nana, Aggie, who died on June 7, 2001. These special years cannot return

When we were all together  
But in our hearts held close by love  
You'll walk with us forever.  
- Inserted by Betty, Auriol and families, Fort William, Inverness and Edinburgh.  
**GILLIES** - Treasured memories of Tina a dear wife, who passed away June 1, 2000  
Forever in our thoughts  
Alistair.  
**GILLIES** - In loving memory of our mum and daughter Tina who was taken from us on June 1, 2000.  
If we could have a lifetime wish  
And one dream that could come true  
We would pray to God with all our hearts  
Just to see and speak to you  
A thousand words won't bring you back  
We know because we've tried  
And neither will a million tears  
We know because we've cried.  
You've left behind our broken hearts  
And precious memories too  
But we've never wanted memories  
We only wanted you.  
- John and Charlene.  
I can't have the old days back  
When we were all together  
But secret tears and loving thoughts  
Will be with me forever.  
- Mum  
**HUNTER** - In loving memory of my daughter Linda.  
Our love will continue forever  
Even though we are apart  
The memories live on.  
R.I.P.  
- Love Ma xxx.

**HUNTER** - Auntie Linda, to us you were so special, What more is there to say The pain is still within our hearts  
As we think of you each day  
We love and miss you.  
- Emma, Steven, Danielle and Sarah.  
**LAMONT** - Effie. Precious memories of Effie our beloved mother and granny who passed away on June 2, 2001. Also remembering with love our dear father Archie, who died on January 5, 1987.  
The years pass but our loved ones will never be forgotten.  
- Johann, Archie and family, Glasgow and Innes, Katie and family, Isle of Lewis.  
**MACCORQUODALE** - Treasured memories of our dearly loved mum, Fiona, passed away May 30, 2000. Loved and sadly missed every day.  
- Ewan and Kenneth  
**MACCORQUODALE** - In loving memory of my dear daughter, Fiona, died May 30, 2000, and always remembering dear ones gone before.  
I miss you all and always will.  
Till we meet again.  
- Mum  
**MACCORQUODALE** - In loving memory of my dear sister, sister-in-law and aunty Fiona, taken from us May 30, 2000, aged 34 years.  
Resting where no shadows fall  
In peaceful sleep he awaits us all  
God will link our broken family chain  
When one by one we will all meet again  
Also remembering our loved ones gone before.  
- Iain and Diane xx  
- Gentle Jesus up above  
Please give Aunty Fiona all our love.  
- Iain and Rowan xxx  
**MACINTYRE** - Kenny, died May 30, 1999. Forever in our hearts  
You're spirit shines brightly  
Now and always.  
- Elizabeth, Kenny and Colin and families.  
**McLEAN** - Remembering a much loved dad and granddad Thomas, who died June 2, 1996.  
Loving you is easy  
We do it everyday  
Missing you is the hard part  
That never goes away  
Love always  
Wilma, Teddy and Derek  
**SMITH** - In loving memory of Mure, who died June 6, 2006.  
Always in our hearts  
Love Sandra and family X

**McCORQUODALE** - In loving memory of my dear sister, sister-in-law and aunty Fiona, taken from us May 30, 2000, aged 34 years.  
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**GRADUATIONS**

**Joanne Walzak, daughter of BJ & Liz, Fort William, graduated from The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland (ICAS) on 8 May 2010. Joanne is currently working as an auditor in Aberdeen.**

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Oban Express Primary Football League



Action from Saints Boys versus Lochgilhead. 17. 123foot02

Cobras stay top of the table

Young Thistle on top of junior league

THISTLE remain at the top of the Oban Express Primary League junior section after three good wins on Sunday at the high school pitch.

Six goals

The Jags started their day with a comfortable win over Ben Lora with Jordan MacKay claiming six goals. The table-toppers came from behind against Benderloch to win by the odd goal in three and in the game of the day the young Saints matched them for long periods but an astonishing overhead kick from Oran Bryce sailed over Saints keeper Ryan MacDonald to secure the three points.

Saints got back on track with a win over Benderloch thanks to two goals from Lennon Campbell. Benderloch managed a comfortable win over Galaxy and also against AC Argyll who had goalkeeper Innes Horne to thank for some fantastic saves to keep the score at 2-0. AC's Adam Munro bagged a hat trick in his side's win over K-Oz who continue to improve on a weekly basis. The young primary ones found the net through Ross McArthur in their match against Lochgilhead but couldn't hold on for a share of the points and went down to a late winner.

The Galaxy showed the support their well-worked goal celebration routine after a solo run from Pearce MacBeth. This had the crowd in stitches and eager for more goals from the Galaxy to see what their next celebration will bring. The Pumas went down to Lochgilhead but found their feet against Ben

Lora with Connor Moore and James Beaton amongst the goals.

Senior league

The senior section started with a fine match between Cobras and Spartans with Spartans keeper James MacKenzie in sparkling form to keep the Cobras at bay. The next two games between Appin and Stoddy Boys and Lochnell verses Spartans all finished level but Lochnell's Ross McMillan and Ewan Gibb finally netted in their win over Stoddarts.

After failing to find the net in their opening encounter Cobras went on a goal spree, winning their encounters against Oban Saints, Saints Boys, Appin and Stoddy Boys with Kieran Hendry and Jamie MacPherson amongst the goals. The Lochgilhead Warriors keep on their shirt tails though with a late win over Saints Boys thanks to a Ciaran McPhee strike. The Warriors had a hat-trick hero in Kieran Moore in their match against Oban Saints and another victory against Spartans keeps them in contention.

Tralee had a bad day at the office losing to Saints Boys and also to Stoddarts who had Louis McGuire in fine form and netting twice. Stoddarts also put Appin to the sword scoring three without reply and in the final match of the day Lochnell managed a handsome four goals win over Stoddy Boys with Liam Jackson claiming a hat trick.

Next week its all action for both the seniors and the juniors again at the high school pitch.



Action from Cobras versus Oban Saints. 17. 123foot03



Action from Saints Boys versus Lochgilhead. 17. 123foot01

More action from the Oban Express Primary Football Leagues in The Oban Times next week

Teams go through to Baird Cup semi finals

Hoops still top the league with 100 per cent record

FOOTBALL

LOCHABER Welfare League teams Celtic, Lundavra, Mallaig and Ballachulish are through to the semi-finals the John Baird Cup after winning their first round ties last week.

Ballachulish knocked out Fort William, beating them 4-3 on Wednesday night at Jubilee Park. Mark Wilson scored twice from the penalty spot, with David Grant and Eric Tott getting the other goals for Ballachulish. Fort William's youngsters got goals through Ian McClelland, Steven Lopez and substitute Lewis Corbett but it wasn't enough to prevent the defeat.

On Thursday night Lundavra edged out a stubborn Caol United side 4-3 at The BA Club when John Bamber scored a last minute winner to send Lundavra through to the next round. Stuart Smillie got two goals for Caol with Ally Kennedy scoring the third but it wasn't enough as goals from William Henry, Andrew Brown, Martin MacDonald and Bamber's late winner knocked Caol out.

Contender

Lundavra's third goal from MacDonald was a contender for goal of the season. He took the ball out of the air on the edge of the box and hit a shot which clipped the post on its way into the top corner. Celtic beat Rangers 5-1 at Canal Parks on Friday night

to book a semi-final place against Lundavra.

Brian McKay scored the opener with a shot from 30 yards that flew straight into the top corner. Celtic increased their lead thanks to goals from John Paul McCormick, Sean Ellis, Adam Watson and a Drew Ferguson penalty. Rangers did manage to score a consolation goal but it didn't affect the outcome.

Overcoming

Mallaig will face Ballachulish in the other semi final after overcoming Ardnamurchan at Strontian on Friday, winning by four goals to one. Cameron Muir scored twice, and the other goals came from Ian Dempster and a Simon McDonald penalty.

Ardnamurchan's goal came when a Mallaig defender put the ball into his own net from a corner kick.

Meanwhile, in the league Caol United picked up their first points of the season against newcomers Ardnamurchan on Monday night at Canal Parks.

Jordan Cameron scored both goals in a 2-0 win which moves them off the bottom off the table.

Lundavra became Celtic's latest victims on Tuesday night when the hoops beat them 5-2 at Canal Parks. Celtic have now won their first five games of the season. David McKay scored a brace, as did Michael Ellis.



Danielle Sutton presents the winners trophy to Frank Sweeney of The Early Birds.

Early Birds win Rotary Am-Am

GOLF

THE ROTARY Club of Lochaber held its annual Am-Am competition at Fort William Golf Club on Sunday over £3,000 for local charitable purposes.

A total of 36 teams took part and the raffle alone brought in £800, while particular congratulations are due to Paul Campbell from Spean Bridge for his hole-in-one at the 110-yard third hole.

The golf course was in good condition and scoring was low on a day, which the generosity of

local people was agin to the fore.

RCL secretary Donald Young told the Oban Times: 'There is still money to come in from sponsors. It's been a fantastic response. We have what we call a benevolent fund so if there's somebody needing money, for example, for training or Highland Hospice they can apply to us and we can give them money out of that pot.'

Ken Johnston, Rotary President said: 'This was actually the second big

charity competition at Fort William Golf Club this season and, where support for good causes is concerned, it appears that Fort William golfers have very deep pockets indeed. 'The Rotary Club receive great support from our sponsors and competitors and we appreciate the generosity of the Golf Club committee in allowing us the courtesies of the course and club facilities for the day.'

Main winners: 1<sup>st</sup> The Early Birds (Pat

Cassidy, Peter Stewart, Paul Campbell, Frank Sweeney) 116; 2<sup>nd</sup> Marine Sea farms (Steve Jamieson, Chris Ryan, David McGillivray, Alex MacSorely) 122 (bih); 3<sup>rd</sup> The Bandits (Bill Clark, George Band, Alex Stewart, Sinclair Gunn) 122; Best visiting team - Bamber's Bashers (Neil Robertson, Yan Valentine, Christopher Bamber, David Wilson) 127; Ladies - Kraggies (Ann Lovatt, Rosemary Macintyre, Kathleen Leitch, Gail Anderson).

Lochaber Welfare League as of Monday May 31

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Celtic	5	5	0	0	21	5	15
Ballachulish	6	4	1	1	19	15	13
Lundavra	5	2	1	2	15	17	7
Mallaig	5	2	0	3	13	17	6
Rangers	5	1	2	2	14	13	5
Fort William Under 17s	4	1	1	2	10	11	4
Caol United	6	1	1	4	7	13	4
Ardnamurchan	2	0	0	2	0	3	0

Lochaber boxers in action at Huntly

BOXING

TWO boxers from Nether Lochaber 'Claymores' ABC were in action on Friday night at Insh ABC's second show of the year in Huntly.

Kinlochleven High School pupil Sam Crowe was thrown into a last minute re-match with Andrew Smart from Elgin ABC when his original opponent was ruled out of the fight by the officials due to a weight discrepancy.

Smart started very fast and forced 15 year-old Crowe onto the defensive straight away.

Crowe has a very tight defence, but still struggles when pushed backwards too much as he is carrying a knee injury.

By the end of an exciting first round this started to come into play and the problem just got worse throughout the second as Smart continued his powerful attack and the fight was stopped.

Making his debut on the same bill was Nathan McDade, also from Kinlochleven. This

middleweight contest, against Tomasz Juszczak from Insh ABC, was a thriller from the outset. Juszczak continually rushed forward, but McDade led him on, parried his shots and counter-punched with the style of a much more experienced boxer.

After a couple of well-aimed right hooks in the first round, Juszczak was clearly shaken and was only saved by the bell. McDade continued to dismantle Juszczak's attack and forced the referee to give Juszczak standing counts in both the second and third rounds. McDade came away with a clear points victory, and definitely caught the eye of a few coaches in the crowd.

Nether Lochaber ABC's head coach Martin Glenesk said: 'This fight has been a long time coming but was well worth the wait. McDade is a natural in the ring.'



Dunur Primary School head teacher Marilyn MacDonald presents Ballachulish Primary School team with the trophy.

Ballachulish win at Duror

FOOTBALL

DUROR Primary School held their annual football, barbecue and fun day on Friday 21st May on a glorious evening.

Ballachulish and Appin football teams made it to the final with Ballachulish winning the match and taking the Rab MacDonald Memorial trophy.

A visit from the fire brigade was the highlight of the night with most children grateful

for being hosed down on what was a warm evening.

Special thanks go to the fire engine staff, Mr Mann and his horse and cart and to Glencoe, Ballachulish, Appin and Duror children and parents for supporting the event and helping the school raise over £1,000 for school funds.



Duncan Rodger scoring Fort William's third goal in their game against Kilmallie at An Aird. However, it was Kilmallie who won the local derby 4-3 and progress to the final of the MacTavish Cup. 10. 123shiny01

Lochaber Bowling Club's latest competition concluded with the star trio from the Railway Club, Martin Kennan, (left) Tommy Campbell, (centre) and Alistair MacLean taking home the Alcan Triples Trophy. In an excellent day's bowling with plenty of support around the green, the losing trio who provided stiff opposition were Allan Lawrie, Tina Aberley and Bill Gibbons. Prizes were kindly sponsored by the B.A. Sports and Social Club.

GOLF

RETURNS from Fort William Golf Club for May 29 and 30.

Saturday May 29 - Hall of fame: 1 Stevie Jamieson 71-3=68 (bih); 2 Alan Burgess 87-19=68; 3 Willie McDonald 88-19=69

RETURNS from Fort Augustus Golf Club for Saturday May 29.

Men's medal competition: 1 Finlay Nicolson net score 65; 2 Andrew Gilchrist net score 70 (BIH); 3 Ronnie Mackay net score 70

Got a Story? SEND US THE DETAILS BY VISITING www.obantimes.co.uk 24 hours a day, 365 days a year

SHINTY

Fixtures

Saturday June 5

**Ballimere Cup Quarter Final**  
Kinlochshiel v Beaully  
Innes Wood

**Bullough Cup 1st Round**  
GMA v Tayforth  
Dougie Cameron 12 noon  
**Quarter Final**  
Kyles v Aberdour  
David Mitchell  
Lochside Rvrs v London  
cancelled  
The Scots v Bute  
Jim Innes  
at Ballachulish

**Scottish Hydro Premier Division**  
Fort William v Inveraray  
John MacPhee  
GMA v Glenurquhart  
Charles Young  
Kyles v Kingussie  
Colin MacDonald  
Newtonmore v Lovat  
Graham Cameron  
Oban Camanachd v Bute  
Duncan Kerr

**Marine Harvest North Division 1**  
Lochcarron v Inverness  
John Angus Gillies  
Skye v Lochaber  
Graham Irving  
Strathglass v Kilmallie  
Donald MacRae

**Marine Harvest South Division 1**  
Inveraray v Oban Celtic  
Duncan Kelly  
Kilmory v Glenorchy  
Billy Wotherspoon  
Taynuilt v Ballachulish  
Robert Baxter Jr

**Marine Harvest North Division 2**  
Beaully v Skye  
John Sloggie  
Fort William v Kinlochshiel  
Ron Kennedy 12noon  
Glenarry v Lovat  
Ronnie Campbell  
Glenurquhart v Newtonmore  
Deek Cameron  
Kingussie v Kilmallie  
Graham MacMillan

**Marine Harvest South Division 2**  
Kyles v Aberdour  
David Mitchell 12 noon  
Strachur v Col Glen  
Ted McDonald

**Marine Harvest North Division 3**  
Aberdeen Uni v Lochcarron  
Boleskine v Strathglass  
Daniel MacRae  
Inverness v Ardnamurchan  
Robert Morrison

# Two red cards as Inveraray go through after extra time at Oban Kyles and Inveraray book Celtic Cup Final

INVERARAY and Kyles will compete the final of this season's Glasgow Celtic Society Cup after exciting semi-final ties at Oban and Rothesay.

A large crowd and excellent underfoot conditions at Mossfield Stadium led to an entertaining and at times controversial cup tie in which the home side started brightly but went a goal down against the run of play when Inveraray's Euan McMurdo scored after four minutes from a disputed free-hit.

Oban Camanachd took a further 25 minutes to equalise with a spectacular goal from on-form Ian MacMillan who met a long ball from Lorne Dickie and lobbed it on the half-volley over the advancing keeper.

Inveraray's David Robertson and Oban Camanachd's Andrew Pearson were then involved in an incident which resulted in referee Ted MacDonald red-carding the Inveraray player.

With numerical advantage, Oban Camanachd pressed the visitor's defence but they failed to find a way past rear ranks well marshalled by Scott Robertson and, two minutes off the interval whistle, Oban lost a goal as Grant Grioffen took advantage of sloppy defending to snatch an interval lead.

Newtonmore moved back to the top of the Premier Division following a four-nil away win at Kiltarlity on Saturday.

SHINTY

Glasgow Celtic Society Cup Semi-finals

Oban Camanachd 2  
Inveraray 3  
after extra time

Bute 4 Kyles 8

In an end-to-end second period, Oban's Andrew MacCuish was outstanding at full centre and he found his reward after a clever one-two with Matt Rippon followed by a powerful finish which gave keeper MacPherson no chance.

At the other end, Camanachd keeper Gavin Stobart produced a great save to deny a Gary MacPherson's deflected shot, then, as play quickly changed to the opposite end, Graeme MacPherson made two tremendous saves to thwart Aiden MacIntyre.

With 20 minutes remaining, supporters were stunned when referee MacDonald showed Oban Camanachd's Gareth Evan's a red card and the home side were knocked out of their stride until the 90 minutes were up.

In extra time, great approach allowed Griffen to net his

second of the day and take his side into the final. Oban Camanachd produced some of their best shinty of the season in the latter stages but couldn't find a way back into the cup tie.

At Rothesay, five goals in the opening 20 minutes saw Bute race to a 3-2 lead over Kyles in what turned out to be a 12-goal thriller.

Brian Liddle opened the scoring for Bute after six minutes and added another seven minutes later after Roberto Zavaroni had scored Bute's second. However, Duncan Kerr found the net twice in two minutes for Kyles and the fightback had begun.

Bute's lead was extended on the half-hour with a Robert Walker goal but, three minutes later Roddie MacDonald pulled a goal back then, with three minutes of the first-half remaining, Kerr added another to make the interval score four-all.

Roddie MacDonald put Kyles ahead for the first time, three minutes into the second-half with Fraser MacDonald adding Kyles' sixth six minutes later.

Two goals in the final 10 minutes from Colin MacColl and Tom Whyte completed the scoring to set-up the prospect of a high-scoring final when Kyles meet cup-holders Inveraray in Glasgow.

## Newtonmore back at top of Premier

NEWTONMORE moved back to the top of the Premier Division following a four-nil away win at Kiltarlity on Saturday.

A young Lovat side had the visitors on the back foot in the opening 20 minutes but failed to trouble Michael Ritchie in the Newtonmore goal and Glen Mackintosh gave 'More the lead after

SHINTY

half-an-hour as the visitors gained a firm grip of midfield.

Heavy driving rain made conditions difficult for both teams and it took until seven minutes into the second half for Newtonmore to extend their lead when a cross ball from the right was turned

into his own net by Lovat defender Drew Howie.

Ten minutes later David Cheyne put the result beyond doubt, before the same player netted 'More's fourth with 13 minutes remaining.

The teams meet again in the league this Saturday when Lovat will come to the Eilan looking for revenge.



Inveraray's Chris Crawford and Oban Camanachd's Andrew MacCuish in the thick of the action at Mossfield on Saturday. Picture - John MacTavish

## Ross nets four to take Kingussie through Kilmallie create MacTavish Cup shock

KILMALLIE created a major cup shock at An Aird on Saturday when they won through to meet Kingussie in this season's final of the MacTavish Cup

Kilmallie produced a thrilling 4-3 victory over Fort William - and were leading their fancied Premier division opponents 4-1 early in the second-half.

A good crowd watched full-blooded local derby and game got off to a flying start with both sides scoring in the first five minutes.

Kilmallie's Fraser Massie opened the scoring after four minutes, only for Fort William's Gordon McKinnon to equalise two minutes later. Michael Rodger edged Kilmallie into the lead again in the 26th minute and Liam

SHINTY

MacTavish Cup Semi-finals  
Fort William 3 Kilmallie 4  
Beaully 1 Kingussie 4

MacDonald had the visiting support on their feet 10 minutes from the interval when he added another.

One minute into the second half Liam McDonald did it again to make the score 4-1 and Fort William were facing a mountain to climb. As in their Camanachd Cup tie against Kinlochshiel the previous weekend, Fort rallied over the final half-hour with first Drew Ferguson, then Duncan Rodger, in the final five minutes, scored as Kilmallie determinedly held on to their

narrowing lead. With both teams noticeably tiring, Fort William threw everything at the Kilmallie goal and hit the post in the last minutes of the game. But they were unable to break through and Kilmallie celebrated a rare An Aird victory over their local rivals and booking their place in the final.

At Beaully, David Neilson took less than a minute to put the home side ahead against Kingussie but the lead was to last less than 15 minutes before Ronald Ross netted the equaliser that was to separate the teams at half-time.

Ross cut loose with a hat-trick in the second-half, his fourth goal coming just two minutes from the final whistle.

SHINTY

Results

Wednesday  
**Strathdearn Cup 2nd Round**  
Beaully 1 Lochaber 3  
Caberfeidh 4 Inverness 1  
Ft William w/o Strathglass  
Lochcarron 0 Kinlochshiel 3  
**Bullough Cup 1st Round**  
Inveraray 4 Strachur 1

Saturday  
**MacTavish Cup Semi Final**  
Fort William 3 Kilmallie 4  
Beaully 1 Kingussie 4  
**Glasgow Celtic Society Cup Semi Final**  
Oban Caman 2 Inveraray 3  
after extra time  
Bute 4 Kyles 8  
**Ballimere Cup Quarter Final**  
Lochaber 1 Lochcarron 0  
**Strathdearn Cup 2nd Round**  
Lovat 3 Skye 0  
**Bullough Cup 1st Round**  
Lochside 4 Col Glen 0  
Taynuilt 1 Bute 2  
after extra time  
**Scottish Hydro Premier Division**  
Lovat 0 Newtonmore 4  
**Marine Harvest North Division 1**  
Skye 1 Kinlochshiel 5  
Strathglass 3 Inverness 4  
**Marine Harvest South Division 1**  
Ballachulish 3 Kilmory 2  
Inveraray 0 Glenorchy 6  
**Marine Harvest North Division 2**  
Glenarry 3 Glenurquhart 0  
Kilmallie 5 Beaully 0  
Kingussie 1 Kinlochshiel 1  
Newtonmore 1 Fort William 1  
**Marine Harvest South Division 2**  
Kyles P Aberdour P  
GMA 1 Strachur 2  
**Marine Harvest North Division 3**  
Aberdeen U 5 Lochbroom 1  
Caberfeidh 5 Boleskine 0  
Lochaber 4 Inverness 3  
Strathglass 4 Ardn/chan 1

SHINTY

Bullough Cup success

CUP holders Lochside Rovers moved into the next round of the Bullough Cup following a comfortable 4-0 win over ColGlen at Ganavan.

Goals from David Devine, Craig MacDougall, Drew Walker and Brian MacCallum took Lochside through.

At Taynuilt, the home side lost out in extra time to Bute.

Neil MacMurdie had put Bute ahead early in the first-half but a Mark Bergen goal just after the hour kept the home side in the match.

Stewart Stirling sealed the win for the visitors in added time.

Last Wednesday night, Inveraray book their place in the final stages of the cup competition with a 4-1 win over Strachur.

Spot the

SHINTY BALL

Competition



WIN

£1850

**LAST WEEK'S SHINTY BALL WAS HERE...**



**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.

The game starts with a jackpot of £500 and will increase by £50 per week until it is won outright. To win the jackpot, the centre of your cross must be in the exact centre of the ball. If the crosses overlap the entry will be void. Prizes will be shared between those submitting correct entries.

If no correct entry is received, two 'near miss' prizes of £25 will be awarded. When the jackpot is won, no other prizes will be awarded that week.

**Easy to enter**

Cut out your completed coupon and put your entry plus £1 per 20 attempts into a sealed envelope and post it to reach 'Spot the Shinty Ball' Competition, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB by 12noon Tuesday.

You may hand it into The Oban Times Head Office, Lochavullin, Oban by the same time. Otherwise all entries must be posted.

**Competition Rules**

No responsibility will be accepted for entries which are delayed, mislaid or lost, and proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery.

The Company's decision is final on all matters relating to the competition and no correspondence will be entered into. The final decision rests with the Company.

In the event of more than one correct entry, the jackpot will be shared equally between all winning entries. Any decision regarding the awarding of a prize is entirely at the discretion of the Company.

The Company reserves the right to declare the competition null and void at any time, subject to its discretion and to make full refund of the price of the coupon to any person who has entered the competition at that time.

Employees of The Oban Times Limited, their immediate relatives and any person otherwise connected with the competition are ineligible to enter.



I enclose £1 (note) 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.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Tel No. \_\_\_\_\_

Send to 'Spot the Shinty Ball' Competition, The Oban Times, P.O. Box 1, Oban PA34 4HB

This week's nearest the ball winners, who each receive £25 are:  
C Billimore, Glenshellach Road, Oban and D McAulay, Forest View, Strachur



Back Row L to R: Cameron Scott, Ruaridh Horne, Daniel McCuish. Front Row: Lewis Buchanan, Craig Easton and Martin Rennie.

## Rockfield unbeaten in national finals

ROCKFIELD School from Oban travelled to Edinburgh last week to take part in the national final of the Scottish Schools Fun Fours football competition and returned home unbeaten.

Rockfield are the first team from Argyll and Bute to have reached the national finals. The Oban boys played

### FOOTBALL

seven games, winning four and drawing three

Scores: St Paul's, Glenrothes 2, Rockfield 2; Ashley Road, Aberdeen 0, Rockfield 0; Rockfield 1, St Geraldine's, Lossiemouth 0; Rockfield 1, Oakbank, Perth 1; Rockfield 1, Holy Family, Kirkintilloch 0; St Helen's, Cumbernauld 1, Rockfield 3; Rockfield 2, Castle Douglas 0.

# John wins Scottish Series after 30 years trying

AN 80-year-old skipper has won the 2010 Brewin Dolphin Scottish Series after more than three decades trying.

John Corson, veteran Clyde owner-skipper and his crew of Salamander XX lifted the trophy on Monday evening at the event in Tarbert.

'I am shocked and stunned,' said an emotional John. 'I don't know what to say. We have been so close so many times before that you just never know what is going to happen, or who it is going to go to. So I think most of all I just feel so relieved.'

John's win, along with a crew of whom some have sailed with him for nearly 20 years, comes after many near misses.

### Crashed

In 2005 the team was leading their class with a string of wins when their mast crashed down and their regatta ended prematurely.

Clyde sailmaker John Highcock, who steered Salamander XX, said: 'After last year we had plugged the gaps which we felt we might still have in terms of optimising the boat, the crew work is really exemplary and the result of many long hours on the water over the years.'



Steven Forteith of Oban helming his father's boat Shadowfax at Tarbert's Brewin Dolphin series.

for him so it is a real honour to have contributed.'

Corson and his crew won seven of their eight races in IRC class 3, dropping an eighth place finish as their allowable discard.

Monday's performance was particularly impressive. During the day they were quick enough to be ahead of

the leaders of class 2 which had started five minutes ahead.

### Victories

Anthony O'Leary and his Cork crew of the Ker 39 Antix won IRC class 1 after posting a further two victories on Monday in near perfect conditions.

O'Leary, a long time

supporter of the Scottish Series has won twice before in 2004 and 2006.

IRC Class 2 went right to the final race with the Clyde brothers Richard and Paul Harris triumphing on their Iain Murray designed Sydney 36.

Oban man Steven Forteith

finishing in fifth place on Shadowfax.

Steven and his team got off to a great start, finishing in second place at the end of the first race on Friday. But the Shadowfax ran into trouble on race one on Sunday finishing eleventh and again on Monday coming in 10th position.

## Tides

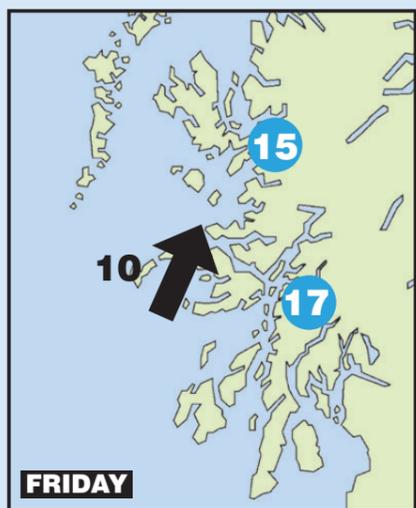
Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday, May 20, 2010** are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am			pm		
Thur	03.51	1.6	09.22	3.0	16.03	1.6
Fri	04.41	1.8	10.10	2.9	16.51	1.7
Sat	05.36	1.8	11.09	2.8	17.44	1.8
Sun	06.35	1.8	12.29	2.8	18.40	1.8
Mon	01.16	3.1	07.35	1.8	13.47	2.9
Tues	02.23	3.2	08.30	1.6	14.43	3.0
Wed	03.16	3.3	09.19	1.4	15.30	3.2

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

Ardrishaig	-5.35	Lochboisdale	+0.30
Campbeltown	-5.30	Mallaig	+0.25
Crinan	-0.47	Portree	+0.55
Islay Port Ellen	2.00	Tobermory	+0.16
		Dover	+5.30

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## the weather

Sponsored by **NANCY BLACK** Ships' Chandler

### Thursday

Sunny. Winds moderate South Easterly. Temperatures 13°C to 19°C

### Friday

Sunny Intervals. Winds moderate South Easterly. Temperatures 11°C to 18°C.

### Weekend Outlook

Sunny Intervals. Winds Moderate South Westerly. Temperatures 8°C to 15°C.

### Ferry Crossings/Sea States

Oban to Barra/South Uist - Moderate  
Oban to Coll/Tiree - As above  
Kennacraig to Islay - As above

Sponsored by **NANCY BLACK** Ships' Chandler 01631-562550

## Gladiators star to visit Argyll and Bute Secondary School Games

OLYMPIAN and Gladiators television star Shirley Webb will visit Oban on June 10 for the Argyll and Bute Secondary School Games.

The hammer thrower, who competed in 2004 Olympic Games, as well as 2002 and 2006 Commonwealth Games, will be familiar to many as Battleaxe in the recent Gladiators series.

### Appearance

An Olympian swimmer, who is yet to be announced, is also in the frame to make an appearance on the day.

The event has been selected as one of five national showcase events celebrating Bank of Scotland National School Sport week.

Around 650 first and second year pupils from across Argyll and Bute will participate in the 14 sports events at several venues



Some of the Oban High School pupils who are taking part in the fifth Argyll and Bute Secondary School Games. 07\_123sp001

across Oban and parents are welcome to come along to spectate on the day.

The opening ceremony will begin at 11.00am at Mossfield Stadium for a day of competition including football, rugby, hockey, basketball, swimming, shinty and many other sports. These will take place at various venues throughout the town before the closing ceremony at 3.10pm.

The games are sponsored by team kit specialist Purple Rock and supported by the Big Lottery Fund, Argyll and Bute Council and the Bank of Scotland National School Sport Week.

Oban High School footballer Stuart Alexander said: 'The games are a good opportunity to test ourselves against pupils from other schools in the area. We are all really looking forward to it.'



## Four trophies for Shukokai

### KARATE

Argyll Shukokai Karate Club took home four trophies from the KSK Scotland junior tournament in Lochgilphead on Sunday. Pictured above are, back row, left to right: Damien Williamson (3rd Kata), Andrew Lawson (instructor), Megan Williamson (3rd Kata). Front row, from left, Finlay Lawson (2nd Kumite, fighting) and Kenni Gray (1st Kumite).

## 'Chess for Kicks' tourney

### CHESS

SCHOOL pupils from all over Argyll took part in the annual 'Chess for Kicks' tournament.

The tournament last Saturday was attended by 35 pupils and arranged in three age groups: primary five and under, primary six and seven, and secondary school pupils. The first two groups played six rounds over the day whilst the secondary pupils played each other over seven rounds.

The tournament was played throughout in a very sporting manner and the competition was fierce.

The eventual winners were Liam Richmond of Rockfield Primary School in the primary five and under category, Damien Williamson of Rockfield in the primary six and seven competition and Finlay Sinclair of Oban High School in the secondary schools competition.

There were book tokens and medals for the winners and runners-up as well as an invitation to play in the national Chess for Kicks final in Cumbernauld this Sunday.



OBAN Saints Boys FC with their new jackets and equipment which was sponsored by Alan Jamieson and Scottish Sea Farms.

## Shaun shifts the Gravel

### RALLYING

FORTHE second consecutive year Shaun Sinclair returned home to Connel with the Stravaiger's Lodge Gravel Sprint Trophy.

The Fort Augustus event offered up changeable conditions during the day, with the fastest single run time of seven runs counting for the overall win.

Sinclair and co-driver Chris Hamill got off to a steady start and after three runs were lying in second place with a time of 1min 56secs for the 1.9mile lap.

The showers of rain cleared just long enough at lunchtime to leave the forest road much drier than it had been in the morning runs. Sinclair took full advantage and on the

fifth lap put an equal fastest time of 1.54secs on the board.

With the rain coming on again for the sixth and seventh runs, it was the fifth lap that proved the crucial one as the weather would be against anyone going quicker.

At the award presentation Sinclair paid tribute to the team at Highland Car Club for organising such a great event, and to the event sponsor Stravaigers Lodge, Fort Augustus for its continued support of the rally. He also praised the effort of the service crew headed by Fred MacLean.

## Scottish Cup holders will bring first team squad to Keyline Cup tournament

### FOOTBALL

PETER Houston, newly appointed manager of Scottish Cup holders Dundee United has indicated that they will again bring their first team squad to take part in the Keyline Cup Tournament, to be held in Oban on Saturday July 10.

Peter said: 'The format of the well-run competition is excellent as we play five half hour games, which is ideal for match fitness. It gives us a chance to assess the first team squad, give them all a good run out in competitive action before the start of the Scottish season and also for our campaign in the Europa Cup.'

## Oban Am-Am

### GOLF

THE OBAN Am-Am takes place at Glencruitten Golf Club this Sunday.

A total of 50 teams will compete in the event, with last year's winning team, McCamley and Laird returning to defend the Bank of Scotland-sponsored trophy.

The event is well supported by sponsorship from local businesses and is expected to raise approximately £6,000 from sponsorship and team entries.

## Taynuilt golf

### GOLF

TAYNUILT Golf Club had a unique result in the Argyll and Bute Spring Meeting at Machrihanish at the weekend when it took the first three places in the handicap competition.

Alan Wilson finished first, followed by clubmates David Howie and Robbie MacLarty. Another club member, Mark Henriksen, finished sixth.

## Saints Ladies

### FOOTBALL

OBAN Saints Ladies travelled to take on East Kilbride Thistle last Sunday.

Unfortunately they lost 4-0 but coach Chris Picken was pleased with the performance. The girls have no game this weekend.

## Oban Bowling Club

### BOWLING

THE Scottish Championships are underway and Oban Ladies Champion Helen MacLean has won her way through to the district finals.

She will play this in three weeks time at Helensburgh.

Robert Dairon has had his first game at Ardrishaig and beat Lochgilphead. He now goes forward to the area finals. Young Andrew Forbes who is only 14 has done very well in Junior under 25's. He has played two games and won them both. His next game is at Lochgilphead against Tarbert.

The fours team who are representing the West of Scotland have also done well. They have played two games and won them both.

## Paterson Trophy

### FOOTBALL

THE annual match between an Argyll Select and a Scottish League Select for the Joe Paterson Trophy will take place at Kintyre Park, Campbeltown on Saturday.

Saints have four players in the squad - Marc MacCallum, Willie Gemmill, Keith Millar and Donald Campbell.