

The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

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Coastguard changes spark strike action

SCOTLAND'S busiest coast-guard station is set to close in a matter of months but preparations to handle calls from the Oban area are yet to be made. Proposals by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) will see the area that Clyde currently runs split between Belfast and Stornoway. But Calum Murray, PCS Union representative with Clyde Coastguard told *The Oban Times*: 'They are planning to split the area with the boundary going through one of the most dangerous parts of water in Scotland - the Corryvreckan.' Under the closure proposals, areas north of the Corryvreckan will be controlled by Stornoway while south will be handed to Belfast. The union has organised industrial action to protest against the closure which they say will threaten lives at sea. The station will likely be left in the hands of managers and HR staff in a series of one hour strikes in June. Staff at Clyde Coastguard will walk out between the hours of 3am to 4am and 10am to 11am from June 8 to 14, excluding Sunday June 10. And while a two-day hand-over trial is planned for Belfast from 10am until 4pm on June 7 and 8, no such action is in sight for Stornoway. Mr Murray added: 'It is not technically possible for Stornoway to take over our area. They will have to rewire our aerials up to Stornoway in order for that to work.'

The Oban Times also understands there is a reluctance from staff to move base resulting in very little local knowledge of the Clyde area at these stations. Stuart Atkinson, a Clyde Coastguard watch manager with 24 years experience believes even the short-term move to Belfast is potentially dangerous. 'Local knowledge is key,' he said. 'For example, there are 40 variants of Tarbert or Tarbet in Scotland. How would someone in Belfast know which one is which?' Fred Cayhill of MCA said: 'I can confirm that we have been working closely with our technical infrastructure advisers to ensure that any future changes to our network structure will continue to provide the service that is required.'

5,000-year old houses found near Oban

Six Bronze Age round houses discovered at Dunstaffnage

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL find that is the first of its kind in Scotland has been discovered on a dig at a site near Oban. Dr Clare Ellis, of Argyll Archaeology has been working at the site of a housing development at Dunstaffnage and told *The Oban Times* she was 'really excited' by what has been uncovered.

'There are six round houses on the site. They are from the Bronze Age and about 4,000 to 5,000 years old,' said Dr Ellis.

Ring ditches
But it is the features called ring ditches inside these houses that are perhaps the most significant and have certainly drawn the most attention.

Dr Ellis added: 'The general consensus with ring ditches is that they are outside the house and created by animals wearing

"It's a really good site and I'm really excited about the finds."

Dr Clare Ellis, Argyll Archaeology

down the ground. 'But these are in the interior and there is no way they could be produced by animals. It looks like some kind of cellaring. This has never been seen before and it is really exciting.'

Cellars
Dr Ellis also found pieces of wood in the low cellars, indicating that these early refrigerators would have had a wooden floor.

There are also channels coming out of some, which would

have been wood-lined and could be a type of drain or air vent, allowing air into the base of the fire which would be in the central hearth.

Other discoveries on the site include several burial pots which would have been highly decorated as the cremated remains of people were placed inside before they were buried in the ground.

'I have also found a burnt mound which is huge piles of heat shattered rock and charcoal. It is in two halves with a sort of tank in the middle made of stone,' said Dr Ellis.

'The tank would have been lined with animal skin and filled with water then rocks would have been heated and thrown in.

'This has been referred to as a sort of sauna but it is more likely to be an easy way of heating up water that would have then been used to cook big lumps of meat or fish.'

Dr Ellis is an experienced archaeologist having already found a ring ditch and two roundhouses on a dig in the Glenshellach area of Oban.

Explaining that there has been a lot of local interest in the Dunstaffnage site Dr Ellis said they were planning to have an open day but had not set a definite date yet.

'It is a really good site and I'm really excited about the finds,' she added.

Claymore stolen from Maclean stronghold

A HISTORICAL sword belonging to the Macleans of Duart on the Isle of Mull has been stolen - just two weeks before the largest gathering the clan has ever seen takes place at the island castle.

Police have confirmed that a one-metre long black Claymore sword was noticed missing during a security check of the castle.

It is reported to have been stolen between June 3 and 4. The sword had been removed from the banquet room where it had been kept on a shelf.

The theft has come at a very unfortunate time for the family with more than 1,000 Macleans

from around the world expected to descend on Duart Castle for the clan gathering on June 23.

The claymore is the property of 28th clan chief, Sir Lachlan Maclean, who said: 'I have absolutely no comment to make. It is a private matter.'

The term claymore traditionally refers to the 'great two-handed' swords which were used in battle from around 1400 to 1700.

Oban Police confirmed that enquiries were ongoing and the castle had been very busy with visitors of many nationalities.

Details on the exact age and value of the missing claymore were yet to be gathered.

Isle of Islay gets ready for beach rugby invasion

CROWDS of rugby players and fans will flock to the Isle of Islay this Saturday for one of the island's most hotly-anticipated events.

The Islay Beach Rugby Tournament hosts a maximum of 32 teams, 22 men's and 10



Innes MacQueen plays a stirring lament as Luings jubilee beacon burns.

Beacons mark jubilee on west coast

JUBILEE beacons lit up the night skies throughout the west coast of Scotland as fires burned from Ben Cruachan to Duonoon.

Organisers ranged from individuals to community councils, rescue groups and even Round Table members.

Flames were seen in Oban, on Mull, out towards Coll, Tiree,

Jura and Islay while Luing put on a musical lament by a sole piper as their beacon burned.

Beacons were also lit in Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Bute with some results more spectacular than others.

The bonfire events were organised by Jane MacLeod of Lochgilphead who said it had

been a 'huge task' coordinating everything.

There were designated timings for the beacons being lit and local authorities, which included community councils, lit their beacons at 10.12pm.

Many groups cheered as they saw the chain continue down the county.

Police issue warning as thieves target boats

POLICE have urged Argyll boat owners to be extra vigilant this summer after two thefts were reported in the past week in the area.

The *Happy Hooker* was moored on Loch Asspol, near Bunessan, on Mull but the boat, which measures between 12 and 14 feet in length, was stolen between May 30 and June 3.

Meanwhile, police are also seeking witnesses to the theft of a three-metre grey dinghy, *Seago*, which was taken from near to the Creagan Inn, Appin, between May 27 and 28. The dinghy is described as having a navy bumper, white rope and handles and a transom at the stern.

Anyone with any information can contact Oban Police on 01631 510 500.

Cinema group call for volunteers

THE OBAN Phoenix Cinema Committee says it is in the final stages of its refurbishment but needs more help from members of the community to finish the job. The group is recruiting volunteers of all ages to help at its community volunteer day on Sunday at the cinema.

Tasks that require to be done that day include: heavy lifting, sanding, painting and general cleaning.

Kintyre's big cat 'seen' again

THE SEARCH is on again after another possible sighting of what is believed to be North Kintyre's infamous big cat.

A black, 'catlike' creature was spotted on a road between Ardrishaig and Tarbert.

An Ardrishaig resident, who asked not to be named, claimed to have spotted the 'labrador-sized' animal as he drove down the B8024 near the north junction with the A83 around 9pm last Friday.

He said: 'It definitely was not a deer and by the way its tail was twitching I'm pretty sure it was not a dog.'

There have been numerous 'sightings' of what is believed to be a big cat in recent years.



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Fundraising underway to take young cooks to London



Councillors Louise Glen-Lee and Roddy McCuish sample the children's royal menu. 16_123Queen01

LAVENDER shortbread, mackerel pate and smoked salmon probably isn't the food you would expect to find in most primary schools.

But the children at Oban's St Columbas are practising for a very special occasion - cooking for the Queen.

The youngsters are heading down to Buckingham Palace next week but need to raise £3,000 to cover the cost of trip to London. Teacher Sarah Jane MacSween said: 'People have been really generous so far but we still have a bit to go before we reach our target and any donations would be gratefully received.'

The school also hopes to produce a book detailing their journey through the competition and the recipes the pupils created. It should be available in Oban library when published. The school is the only one in

Scotland to have been invited to the palace but the pupils are looking forward to meeting youngsters from the other three schools.

Ms MacSween added: 'There has been a lot of parental and community involvement which we are really grateful for and we hope we can help raise the profile of produce from Oban and Scotland.'

Council leader Roddy McCuish was invited to sample the pupils' culinary creations last week.

He said: 'We are all very proud of the children and it just goes to show that with encouragement and support they can do anything. They will see things on this trip that members of the public don't often get to see and they'll remember it forever.'

The pupils will be fundraising in St Columba's Cathedral this weekend.

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'All aboard' for Tiree Music Festival

RUMOURS that ferries to the Isle of Tiree are fully booked on the dates of the upcoming music festival in July are false, according to ferry operator Caledonian MacBrayne (CalMac).

The Oban Times understands that many people have been put off travelling to the island extravaganza after hearing there was no room available on the scheduled sailings.

But a CalMac spokesman said: 'Anyone planning to travel to Tiree for the music festival should not be put off if there is no space available for their car on the ferry - they can travel without vehicles as foot passengers.'

'The MV Clansman has space for well over 600 foot passengers and we would have to be exceptionally busy before space in the public seating areas became an issue.'

Tiree Music Festival takes place on Saturday July 21 and Sunday July 22, with the island's annual agricultural show on Friday July 20.

Consultation on community hydro scheme for Mull

COMMENTS are being sought by the Forestry Commission on proposals to develop a community hydro scheme on Mull.

Mull and Iona Community Trust (MICT) has applied to the National Forest Land Scheme to develop the renewables project near Garmony.

MICT is looking to lease approximately 0.165 hectares of land centred on 'Allt Achadh na Moine' in Salen Forest on the east coast of the Isle of Mull.

A consultation period is required by the National Forest Land Scheme and public comments on any aspect of the proposal are welcome.

Details of the application can be viewed online at www.forestry.gov.uk/nfls and all comments must be submitted by Friday June 29.

Former dentist runs through pain barrier for charity

URSULA Parry, a former dentist, has completed a gruelling triathlon to raise money for charity. She ran through a pain barrier to complete the race.



Ursula Parry with her medal at the finish line.

A RETIRED Oban dentist completed Glasgow's Women's 10k to raise £600 for charity - despite undergoing an emergency appendix operation just weeks before.

In pouring rain and high winds, Inner Wheel Club of Oban member Ursula Parry completed the race in one hour, eight minutes in aid of Ranald McDonald House at Yorkhill Hospital.

This charity provides free accommodation to families who wish to be near their sick children, and is the charity of choice of Oban Inner Wheel's president Shona Neil.

Ursula had a training setback when she had an emergency appendix operation six weeks before the event and once out of hospital had to restart her training.

Tobermory drink driver banned for four years

A TOBERMORY man was disqualified from driving for four years after he pled guilty to being behind the wheel while almost three times the legal limit.

Ralph Franklin, 59, was observed by officers as being 'clearly unstable on his feet' before getting into his car and starting his engine in Tobermory on April 29, Oban Sheriff Court heard last week.

Franklin, of 28 Struan Crescent, Tobermory, began to drive off but police officers intercepted him and when breathalysed he was found to have 94mcg of alcohol in 100ml of breath, the legal limit is 35mcg.

Defence agent Duncan Durbin said: 'When my client was stopped by police he was adjusting his car to allow other vehicles more room to get out,' said Mr Durbin.

Sheriff Small fined Franklin £400 in addition to his ban.

Island-based community charity shop opens third outlet in Tobermory

THE ISLE of Mull's own charity shop is opening in a third location - in Aros Hall in the heart of Tobermory.

Island Castaways, currently operating in Craignure and Bunness, was offered the premises after the Aros Hall committee contacted Hazel Cowe, manager of Mull Environmentally Sensitive Solutions (MESS).

MESS runs the castaways shops and opening in Tobermory will have an added benefit for the community - the hall toilets will be available for the public while the shop is open.

MESS is a key part of Mull and Iona Community Trust (MICT). It helps to fulfil the trust's environmental objectives by providing an outlet for islanders on Mull and Iona to reuse and recycle second-hand items. Surpluses generated by MESS are distributed back into the community on a regular basis, helping many small groups and individuals with funding.

If you would like to volunteer to work in the shop or would like an application form for a grant, please contact Hazel on 01680 812902.



Petty officer air crewman Mike Henson, right, helps Oban Mountain Rescue Team deputy leader Ian Campbell with fuel for the Cruachan beacon. 15_123cruachan02

Helicopter fuels peak beacon

Jubilee fire for Stob Dearg

THE ROYAL Navy's search and rescue crew from Prestwick has assisted Oban Mountain Rescue Team (OMRT) in Diamond Jubilee beacon preparations in the Cruachan mountains.

As part of the HMS Gannet crew's daily training routine the crew transferred timber last Friday up to the summit of Stob Dearg, the Taynuilt peak.

The Sea King Mark 5 helicopter touched down at Brolas croft to begin the lifting procedure.

Help from the UK's busiest search and rescue helicopter was sought by OMRT deputy leader Ian Campbell as part of the beacon network in celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee on Monday.

Nationwide, a chain of ceremonial flaming beacons lit the evening skies.

'We will be conducting a navigational exercise and this tasking will also allow us to practise confined area landings, as well as winch training,' explained Petty Officer Mike Henson.

'Flying and manoeuvring with a heavy load on board is a good test for the pilots as a weighty cargo can make a great deal of difference to the aircraft's performance and handling. Occasionally we are able to combine our training requirements with activities like this, and this is just one such fortunate instance - we're happy to help if it is appropriate.'

Ian, who is standing down as deputy OMRT's deputy leader, said: 'As always, the crew was very professional and efficient and happy to work with us.'



The wood for the beacon is bagged and loaded into the waiting helicopter. 15_123cruachan01

Scottish Wildlife Trust enjoys final day at Achnacloich

AN APPEAL for a new venue has gone on following the last Scottish Wildlife Trust (SWT) open day to be held in Achnacloich Woodland Gardens.

The annual fundraising day has been held at the same venue for the past 27 years but SWT is now seeking a new site following the decision to close the gardens after the death of owner Jane Nelson last year.

The trust's area chairman, Maurice Wilkins, told The Oban Times: 'The SWT is very grateful to the family for the use of the house and grounds all these years. It is something that is going to be very hard to replace.'

Inspired choice

'Mrs Nelson was a great supporter of our work and allowed us access to her kitchen to prepare lunches as well as having the attraction of the garden.'

He added: 'This really is a beautiful garden - it was an inspired choice by whoever decided on it and the head gardener Charlie Milne has always been very helpful.'

'We are struggling to find anywhere similar to hold our open day as we need somewhere that we can park a lot of cars and will have facilities for lunches.'

The open day on Saturday saw merchandise from the SWT, plant stalls, home baking and lunches on offer.

Anyone who may be able to help the organisation's appeal with new venue should contact Maurice Wilkins on maurice@arduaine.plus.com. The SWT is dedicated to the protection of Scotland's wildlife and natural environment.



The plant stall was a big hit at the SWT open day at Achnacloich. 16_123wildlife02

Survey aims to shape future library service

LIBRARY users in Argyll and Bute are being asked to help shape the future of the service through a survey launched on Friday June 1.

Survey questions are designed to provide information on the quality of library facilities and services and measuring patterns of library use. Louise Glen-Lee, spokeswoman for community, culture, customer and communications, said: 'I would encourage as many people as possible to complete the survey as it will shape the future of this service. Your opinions are very important. The survey should only take a few minutes to complete and can be filled in anonymously.'

Copies of the survey are available online and in local libraries, including mobile units.



Lunches were enjoyed by everyone. 16_123wildlife01

Mull Lines



Mr MacNeillage receives his award from HRH The Duke of Gloucester.

THE HIGHEST honour a volunteer with the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) can receive has been bestowed upon a Tobermory crew member.

Douglas 'Dougie' MacNeillage MBE has received the charity's gold badge in recognition of his distinguished service to Tobermory RNLI over more than two decades.

Mr MacNeillage was presented with the award by HRH The Duke of Gloucester at the RNLI's annual awards ceremony at the Barbican in London on May 17.

He was instrumental in the re-opening of Tobermory Lifeboat Station in 1990. The station had been closed since 1947, and together with other members of the community, Mr MacNeillage worked tirelessly to re-establish an RNLI presence in the town.

He co-ordinated the fundraising effort, raising £61,000 which allowed the purchase of a new building to house the station.

As current chairman and treasurer of Tobermory RNLI, he works as hard as ever, raising funds to keep the station and lifeboat running and to enable its volunteer crew to save lives at sea.

Eilidh Wilshire, Tobermory's souvenir secretary who oversees the station's successful lifeboat shop, was also awarded a bronze badge in recognition of her contribution to raising funds for the charity.

Lifeboat operations manager Ian Stevens said: 'All of us at Tobermory are immensely proud of this very well-deserved honour for Dougie who is a true stalwart of the station and epitomises the true volunteer spirit of the RNLI.'

'We're also delighted that Eilidh's hard work in overseeing the success of the lifeboat shop has been recognised.'

'Without the unstinting efforts of volunteers like Dougie and Eilidh, who work so tirelessly behind the scenes, our crew would not be able to launch to save lives at sea.'

Mr MacNeillage previously received an MBE in the 2009 New Year's honours list in recognition of his services to the community.

AN IONA hostel has been voted the most eco-friendly in Scotland - and runner up in the whole of the United Kingdom.

Iona Hostel, run by crofter John MacLean, has won the award for best eco-hostel from the Green Tourism Business Scheme.

Mr MacLean said: 'I'm regularly told that a few days in the hostel reminds guests that it is the simple things, like community, time for reflection and simplicity itself that bring the deepest pleasures.'

'There is no television or radio in the hostel and technology is kept out of the communal spaces. It seems that the judges liked the whole ethos and lifestyle the hostel offers.'

The hostel, which lies above the famous white beaches of the north end of the island, follows a simple and sustainable tradition, encouraging guests to walk the mile and a half from the pier and to help around the croft.

Top Argyll hotel wins gold 'green' award

A UNIQUE hotel, set on a private island, has received a gold award from the Green Tourism Business Scheme.

The Isle of Eriska Hotel achieved an 86 per cent accreditation rating after an assessor visited the hotel in April.

The five-star resort was praised for its strong management which ensured all staff and guests were aware of the green commitment.

Owner Beppo Buchanan-Smith said: 'We are delighted to have received a gold award from the Green Tourism Business Scheme. It shows that we are hitting the green goals we set out to achieve. I'm delighted with the accreditation rating but that doesn't mean we can stop there. We will strive year on year to improve upon that rating as sustainable tourism is something we feel very strongly about.'

Other areas highlighted for their green values include the use of a wood pellet boiler, food waste composting and a dedication to conservation and provision of wildlife habitat on the island.

Mull councillor Mary-Jean Devon, right, has taken up the role of spokeswoman for children and families with Argyll and Bute Council. She is also deputy spokesperson for planning and regulatory services.



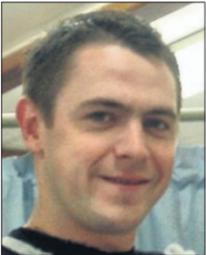
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Killin sailor missing in Dubai



Timothy Andrew MacColl, originally from Killin, has been missing in Dubai for more than a week.

A KILLIN man has been missing in Dubai for more than a week after leaving his ship, HMS Westminster, which was docked in the country.

Timothy Andrew MacColl, known as Timmy, is a married father of two and leading seaman with the Royal Navy.

The 27-year-old was last seen by a shipmate getting into a taxi alone after leaving the Rock Bottom Bar in the Deira area at about 2am on May 27.

Mr MacColl now lives in Hampshire where his wife, Rachael, is expecting his third child - but he is originally from Killin in Perthshire.

She said: 'He was really excited as we were going to Skype call the next day. He was moaning at me not to be late because I can sometimes take a while to get the computer up and running.'

'He confirmed it with me at 2pm he would Skype from the Seaman's Mission in Dubai and that call never came.'

She added: 'I wouldn't say he's disappeared. He's missing, my husband wants to be found. I'm not sure what's happened to him but I know wherever he is he wants to be found.'

Mr MacColl's ship has since left the country and the Royal Navy has confirmed a member of HMS Westminster's crew is missing in Dubai.

His wife said crew members from the ship walked the route he had taken and spoke to members of the public to gather information.

She also confirmed there had been no sightings of her husband and that checks with hospitals, prisons, police stations and mortuaries had so far found no record of him.

His family said they were 'completely at a loss and going crazy with worry' adding: 'We are appealing to the people of Dubai and reaching out to the large expat community to help us find Timmy and raise awareness in that area.'

A spokesman for the Royal Navy said the service was working with local authorities and British Foreign Office staff to try to find the missing sailor, and providing support to his family.

More than 50,000 Facebook users have joined a group to raise awareness of Leading Seaman MacColl.

Increased number of road accidents signals the beginning of 'silly' summer season

AN INCREASE in road crashes in Oban and Lorn has marked the beginning of the summer

season, but none so far have resulted in serious injury. On Monday, two motorcyclists

luckily avoided injury after a 50-year-old rider from Germany crashed into the back of another

motorcyclist in Lochawe. Last Saturday, a 77-year-old woman was charged after collision in

Albany Street, Oban, while on May 27 a car crashed off the A816 at Kilmore and the

following day two crashes occurred within an hour at Black Mount and at Taynuilt.

Villagers dig deep to maintain war memorials

Taynuilt project at heart of village

CONFUSION over the maintenance of Argyll and Bute's war memorials has forced two Lorn villages to take matters into their own hands and pay out of their own pockets.

Glenorchy and Innishail Community Council says it had to stump up £860 in 2010 to have Lochawe village's war memorial pointed after Argyll and Bute Council claimed it was not its responsibility.

But last month, workers from the local authority power-washed the memorial before re-pointing around the stone.

Meanwhile, in Taynuilt, Brigadier John MacFarlane has spearheaded a community effort to add the names of those who fell in WWII to the village's war memorial and to complete re-pointing work - over a period of eight years.

The council told *The Oban Times* it was responsible for maintaining 'most' war memorials across Argyll and Bute and confirmed the Lochawe memorial was on its programme for maintenance.

But Glenorchy and Innishail Community Council is now asking if the council will continue to maintain the memorial - and if it can get its money back.

A community representative told *The Oban Times*: 'When we were looking for money to do this work there wasn't a brass farthing to be found and the council told us it was nothing to do with them.'

'However, let us be positive, as it seems Argyll and Bute Council is now responsible for the memorial maintenance.'

'I just wonder when we'll get our £860 back?' In Taynuilt, Brigadier John MacFarlane, a former director of education services in the British Army, has overseen the re-pointing of the village's war memorial by Stokes Memorials of Dunoon.

His project dates back to 2004 when, at the request of the late Donald 'Gorm' MacGregor, he collected donations and held a fundraising concert to raise money to update the war memorial with the names of WWII victims and complete the re-pointing.

'The project has been a com-



Brigadier John MacFarlane has been at the forefront of a community effort to update and maintain the village war memorial. 15_123memorial01

Lochawe War Memorial comes back under protective wing of Argyll and Bute Council

community effort, with everyone pulling together to make sure it happened,' he said.

A council spokeswoman said: 'It would seem there has been an unfortunate set of circumstances where work was done on the

[Lochawe] war memorial by a well-meaning group without the council being aware of it.'

'We are sorry and would be happy to hear from the community council about any concerns they have.'



The Lochawe war memorial, which has caused disagreement between the community and the council. 16_123war01

Dental studio to defy regulators

'I'm no cowboy' claims dental technician with 40 years experience

THE OWNER of a cosmetic dental studio in Oban says he will remain open and claims no wrong-doing despite being struck off by the industry's regulatory body.

John McIntosh, who works from Argyll and Bute Cosmetic Dentures in Combie Street, failed to attend a five-day hearing in London into charges of misconduct as a dental technician. He subsequently had his registration to the General Dental Council (GDC) suspended on May 3 this year, meaning he can no longer work as a technician in the UK.

However, Mr McIntosh, who says he has been victimised by the GDC, claims the organisation is undemocratic because of a large number of dentists on a body that also represents technicians and dental nurses.

He said: 'I completely object to being labelled by the GDC as a cowboy who was working beyond his competence, because I have been doing a good job for my patients for a long time.'

'When new regulations came in I applied to go on a course for clinical technicians but was not allowed. If the GDC had let me do that, there wouldn't have even been a hearing. I was struck off because I didn't bow down to GDC rules. I can understand why people would be concerned about losing my registration but I am certainly no danger to the public.'

Mr McIntosh believes he is right to carry on in his role as a 'denture designer' as he no longer performs invasive surgery.

Mr McIntosh has shown *The Oban Times* numerous testimonials about his work.

Former patient Sylvia Light, from Kilmichael Glassary, said: 'I have been wearing dentures for 51 years and his are the most comfortable I've ever had. I was evangelistic about my praise of him, so I am shocked at the GDC's decision.'

However, Mr McIntosh, who says he has been victimised by the GDC, claims the organisation is undemocratic because of a large number of dentists on a body that also represents technicians and dental nurses.

He said: 'I completely object to being labelled by the GDC as a cowboy who was working beyond his competence, because I have been doing a good job for my patients for a long time.'

'When new regulations came in I applied to go on a course for clinical technicians but was not allowed. If the GDC had let me do that, there wouldn't have even been a hearing. I was struck off because I didn't bow down to GDC rules.'

I can understand why people would be concerned about losing my registration but I am certainly no danger to the public.'

Mr McIntosh believes he is right to carry on in his role as a 'denture designer' as he no longer performs invasive surgery.

Mr McIntosh has shown *The Oban Times* numerous testimonials about his work.

Former patient Sylvia Light, from Kilmichael Glassary, said: 'I have been wearing dentures for 51 years and his are the most comfortable I've ever had. I was evangelistic about my praise of him, so I am shocked at the GDC's decision.'

BBC Springwatch returns to Mull

MULL'S wildlife has been showcased yet again as part of a popular nature television programme.

Springwatch, a BBC Two series, has returned to our screens and in the final week, starting on Monday June 11, it will air several films from Mull.

The shows will feature basking sharks, wild goats, short-eared owls, seals, red deer, otter and white-tailed eagles.

The eight strong crew with presenter Iolo Williams spent a week on the island which the series first visited for a live outside broadcast in 2005.

Springwatch is on BBC Two Monday to Thursday at 8pm.

Lifeboat leaves jubilee ducks to assist yacht on rock

OBAN lifeboat was called away from its community commitments on Saturday after a yacht ran aground on rocks south of Oban.

The lifeboat was to be helping out at the town's jubilee duck race on Saturday morning but just after 10.30am it was called to assist the yacht *Promette*, which had run aground on the ferry rocks, by the Kerrera ferry, with four people on board.

By the time Oban lifeboat was on scene the yacht was being pulled from the rocks by the Kerrera ferry.

Two of volunteer lifeboat crew went onboard the yacht and discovered that one of the crew had been injured during the grounding and would require to be taken to hospital. The casualty was taken onto the lifeboat and subsequently taken to hospital in Oban. Another lifeboat crew member remained onboard the yacht and assisted its crew in taking it to Oban Marina.

Following this incident Oban lifeboat returned to Oban Bay to make its scheduled appearance at the Oban Duck Race in aid of the RNLI.

Second bothy opens on Jura

WALKERS and outdoor enthusiasts now have access to a second bothy on Jura.

The Mountain Bothies Association has taken over the care of the Cruib building on Jura, part of Ruaintallain Estate and owned by the Bury family.

The bothy is the 79th in Scotland to be taken into the care of the charity and overlooks the eastern end of Loch Tarbert. The other bothy is at Glegarrisdale, on Ardlussa Estate.

Kerrera charity walk challenge

UP TO 100 people will be pulling on their walking boots and heading to Kerrera soon for the annual charity challenge.

The six-mile event, in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support, will be held on June 17 and organisers hope to raise thousands after the success of last year's walk.

Committee member Jim Heward said: 'We are hoping dozens of people will take on the Kerrera experience walking challenge.'

'It is a really easy way to raise money for Macmillan while having fun and getting some exercise.'

'I really want more people to sign up to take on this challenge.'

Sponsorship forms are available at The Music Shop, Gordon's Chemists or Webster's Photo Shop.



Engine fault grounds coastguard helicopter

A COASTGUARD helicopter has been grounded at Oban Airport for almost two weeks after it suffered an engine problem.

The twin-engine Sikorsky S92 was helping in a search on Friday May 25 for a missing kayaker but a warning light alerted the pilot to the fault in one of the engines. The helicopter was landed at Oban Airport using one engine only and aircraft owners CHC sourced a replacement engine from Scrabster.

The coastguard has a reserve helicopter at its Stornoway base, which is being used in the meantime.

Lerags holiday lodges go on market

THE 17 holiday lodges and accompanying house at Lagnakeil, Lerags, is up for sale for £1.25m.

Colliers International Parks and Leisure Team is overseeing the sale of Lagnakeil Highland Lodges, which has been under the ownership of Colin and Jo Mossman have for more than 15 years.

The couple bought the park off market in 1997 after holidaying there and they plan to continue living in the area.

The lodge business is well established, having been continuously refurbished during the current ownership, and has a sleeping capacity of 78, which is almost full between May and October.

Richard Moss, director at Colliers International, said: 'This is an ideal opportunity for a purchaser to take on a well-presented, profitable business with permission to further develop providing the ability to add value.'

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OT

Teenager to pay compensation after bottle assault

AN APPRENTICE bricklayer was ordered to pay a total of £1,200 when he appeared at Oban Sheriff Court last week. Gavin Lafferty, 18, had previously pled guilty to an assault on Soroba Road in November 2010 but sentence had been deferred for him to be of good behaviour. Lafferty, of 11B Angus Avenue, Oban, was ordered to pay £500 compensation to his victim after smashing a bottle over his head. Sheriff Small also fined him £700 and said: 'I'm surprised you were given the opportunity of a deferred sentence for a charge this serious.'

Guest speaker for Argyll volunteer awards ceremony

WHAT does an inner London borough have in common with Argyll and Bute's towns and villages? To find out, Argyll Voluntary Action (AVA) has invited Sam Hopley, Chief Executive Officer of Holy Cross Community Trust, to be the keynote speaker at its annual Volunteer of the Year Awards at Kilmory, Lochgilphead, on Friday June 8. Attendees will hear stories of volunteering in the face of adversity and the achievements of remarkable people and organisations. AVA will also be welcoming Mike McKenzie MSP, Derek Leslie, director of operations at Argyll and Bute Community Health Partnership, and Sally Loudon, Argyll and Bute Council's chief executive, to attend and present awards to the finest organisations and volunteers in the region.

North Connel man challenged police to fight

A NORTH Connel man who challenged police officers to a 'go' was fined £400 by Oban Sheriff Court last week. Scott McGregor, 25, of 41 Lorn View, North Connel, also pled guilty to shouting, swearing and struggling with police officers on February 11 in Breadalbane Street, Oban.

Barcaldine marine supply company nets £1 million of fish farm business

A BARCALDINE-based marine company has secured nearly £1 million of orders from a leading Scottish fish farming company. Fusion Marine has taken an order for 14 Triton 400 farm pens for the Scottish Salmon Company's (SSC) newest site at Sgeir Dughall, Loch Torrion, Scotland. Worth approximately £600,000, the order brings to nearly £1 million the total value of contracts with SSC in recent months, as the company expands on the west coast. Developed to meet the demanding conditions found in open sea fish farm sites, the Triton 400 pens provide the highest possible levels of stock containment, as well as a safe and stable working platform for the fish farm operatives. Fusion Marine is also supporting the build of SSC's new harvesting station on Harris with the supply and construction of an innovative fish transfer pontoon. Fusion Marine director Iain Forbes said: 'We are delighted to have won this order from the Scottish Salmon Company. 'Over the years we have developed an incredibly strong work-



Andy Crabb and Mary MacAllister prepare for their mammoth task. 16_123needle01

Bid for world's biggest blanket

A BLANKET big enough to wrap round Inveraray Castle like a scarf? That's what Alzheimer Scotland are aiming for in its world record breaking attempt. The group is taking on the painstaking task of stitching together 71,000 knitted squares into the world's biggest blanket with the help of volunteers from around the world. The current record is held by a group of ladies in South Africa who knitted a 557 square metre blanket. Oban's dementia advisor Andy Crabb said: 'We are trying to build 71,000 squares - that's one for every person in Scotland with dementia - into the world's biggest blanket. We have received more than 100 small blankets and thousands of squares which all have to be stitched together so we're inviting people to come along and help on Monday June 11. They can just drop into the centre at any time - even for 15 minutes - and stitch a few bits together.' The 'stitchathon' is on from 10am to 6pm in the resource centre in High Street. Anyone can drop in to stitch the squares or blankets together but if you can't make it there are bags of squares available to be picked up and sewn at home. Mary MacAllister, dementia link worker said: 'We have had donations from all over Scotland and even America and the people from Lynside have really made an effort. They have made a lot of blankets. 'There are about 3,000 loose squares that need to be stitched as well as the blankets. It is a big job but it can be done - if we get enough people to help.' The blanket will be unveiled - alongside matching giant knitting needles - at a fun day at Inveraray Castle on June 23.

Oban man jailed for 10 months after fight

AN OBAN man has been jailed for 10 months after admitting an assault in the town's Argyll Square on April 15. Robert Lopez, 22, was on a community payback order at the time of the offence, following an assault on a police officer. Lopez, of 7A Longsdale Crescent, Oban, appeared at the town's sheriff court last week to learn his fate. The court heard that Lopez had challenged his victim to leave a town centre public house where the pair were drinking and head outside for a 'square go'. Police captured the incident on CCTV and witnessed Lopez repeatedly punching his victim on the head. When officers arrived at the scene, they found Lopez covered in blood but with no apparent injuries. Lopez's defence agent told the court both parties had agreed to go outside for the 'square go' and his client had retaliated when he felt a blow to the back of the head. Sheriff Small sentenced Lopez to four months in prison for the assault plus six months in prison for the previous charges. The sentences will run consecutively and be backdated to April 16 when Lopez was taken into custody.

Easdale restaurant scoops national food and drink award

AN EASDALE restaurant has scooped an impressive gourmet gong at the 2012 Scotland Food and Drink Excellence Awards. The Puffer Bar and Restaurant, located on the car-free Easdale Island near Oban, won the Food and Drink Tourism Award because judges were spellbound by its beautiful location and locally sourced produce. Owner Keren Cafferty believes exceptional customer service and a unique customer experience - as well as a strong team - are the most important part of the business. Rural affairs secretary Richard Lochhead said: 'The Excellence Awards celebrate our main culinary successes and truly showcase Scotland as a land of food and drink. 'I'd like to congratulate this year's winners and hope they continue to go from strength to strength.' Meanwhile, organisers of the Highlands and Islands Food and Drink Awards are urging Argyll producers to enter the competition. Karen from The Puffer said: 'We found it really beneficial because it made us look more closely at all aspects of our business. It helped us identify areas of the business that needed more attention, regardless of how we progressed in the awards.' Entries for the 2012 awards are now open.

Princess Royal to open Isle of Coll centre and bunkhouse

Four-day celebration marks event

THE NEW community centre and bunkhouse - An Cridhe - on the Isle of Coll is to be officially opened in July by HRH The Princess Royal. A four-day celebration is taking place to mark the successful completion of the centre. The Princess Royal will be on the island to open the facilities on Wednesday July 11. On the Thursday, Friday and Saturday there will be photographic and art exhibitions, stalls from various groups and businesses as well as workshops. Internationally renowned musicians Aly Bain and Phil Cunningham are performing on Thursday night and there will be other evening entertainment throughout the four-day celebration. Emma Grant, project manager, said: 'The ethos behind the event is to promote a feeling of ownership of the building throughout the community. 'Some activities will have a local feel with the community as the organisers. Others are intended for the locals to enjoy as participants with performers and musicians coming from the mainland.'

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- NC Travel and Tourism - from October 2012
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Lochaber to welcome arrival of Olympic Torch during run north

A 'TORCH Triathlon' for Lochaber children is to form part of the celebrations to welcome the Olympic Torch on its journey through the Highlands on Saturday.

The fabled flame will make its only stop between Glasgow and Inverness at Lochaber Leisure Centre in Fort William, where it is due to arrive at 2.52pm.

The torch will be on display for 11 minutes before it heads up the A82 to be run through Spean Bridge, Fort Augustus, Invermoriston and Drumadrochit.

High Life Highland and No Fuss Events are organising the fun event for children aged between four and 16.

It will comprise a swim, cycle and run over a course suitable for all abilities and have five age groups, with distances for each discipline rise according to age.

Leisure centre manager Gary Davidson said the triathlon would be non-competitive in the main, with each child receiving a Torch Triathlon t-shirt and a souvenir medal.

Fastest
However, individual times will be given and trophies will be awarded to the fastest boy and girl in each age category.

Mr Davidson told *The Oban Times* registration would take place between 10am and 11.45am, with the triathlon beginning at 12pm and finishing in time for

the torch's arrival. Participants will start at 20-second intervals. He added: 'We hope as many children will take part as possible.'

'With everyone's help and encouragement, hopefully we can make this a day all the participants and spectators will always remember.'

Savage Skills, billed as 'the UK's most accomplished freestyle mountain bike stunt team' will also be performing throughout the day.

Full details and entry forms are available online at www.nofussevents.co.uk. Once completed, they should be returned to Lochaber Leisure Centre.



Park Primary School's Shannara Smith, Eilidh Black, Rachel MacGregor and Scott Simcox are all excited about the London Olympics. 16, 123part01

Park plays the game

WITH expectation mounting for the London 2012 games, pupils at Park Primary School in Oban are getting into the Olympic spirit.

The primary seven class performed a special Olympic-themed play in front of a packed audience of friends and family.

Following the story of one athlete, the 50-minute play explored the history behind the ancient

sporting event through the ages up to the modern day.

Teacher Catriona Clarke said: 'We began rehearsals in March and all of the children have been absolutely fantastic at learning their lines and all the different songs.'

'All of them are excited about the games starting and this enthusiasm has been passed on to the other pupils at the school.'

Jura aims to fill prominent island posts

Doctor and minister needed to halt erosion of community

RESIDENTS on the Isle of Jura are taking the initiative to try and fill two prominent posts within the community.

The island, which has a stable population of 200, currently has no GP or minister, prompting fears the community structure is being 'eroded'.

A job advert in the British Medical Journal has failed to find a suitable doctor for the island, meaning the costly option of locums is all that is available to NHS Highland.

And Jura Parish Church of Scotland has limited options after being 'advised' by the Presbytery of Argyll to join with the Port Ellen and Bowmore Parish on the neighbouring Isle of Islay, because of a shortage of Church of Scotland ministers.

In a bid to help the health service find a replacement doctor, Jura Community Council will seek the thoughts of islanders at an open day at the village hall in

Craighouse on June 27 between 2pm - 7pm.

Community council secretary Donald Ewen Darroch said: 'The modern doctor doesn't want to provide 24/7 cover; that might have put people off coming here.'

'NHS Highland is trying hard to get someone but I think we will have to try a different approach to advertising the post.'

'Both the GP and the minister are central to the community, so to have neither would be a backwards step.'

Crucial
'It isn't all doom and gloom because there are a lot of business opportunities in the wings but a resident GP is crucial to encouraging people to live here.'

Willie Cochrane, who runs the island's distillery explained a doctor based on Jura was essential.

He said: 'The difficulty with

locums is the lack of continuity. The doctors that come here are great but I go to the surgery regularly and have to explain my condition every time.'

Meanwhile, church-goers on the island are likely to accept presbytery proposals to link up with the Islay parish.

Jura Parish Church session clerk Lorraine Wotherspoon said: 'Small churches are being asked to link together but, as an island, it is a lot more difficult for us.'

'The situation has caused a lot of consternation but we would rather share a minister than have no minister at all.'

'It just seems our status as an independent island is being eroded.'

'If that's the way of the future then I think we have to make it work, but there are people who have been here longer than me who really regret what is happening.'

Pupils light up relay with new song

THE TORCH relay will get a warm welcome when it arrives in Argyll and Bute this Saturday.

And among the four torchbearers will be Argyll and Bute teenager Myles Clark, 18.

The torch will arrive in Luss at 9.50am before being carried

to Tarbet at 10.20am, where it will be greeted by children from Arrochar Primary School.

Performance
The crowds will be treated to the first public performance of 'The Flame', a song written and produced by Argyll's Wild

Biscuit as part of the Creative Scotland Summer of Song initiative.

This will be performed by a collective choir including Lochgilphead High School Choir, Tarbet Academy Choir and Coisir Og Dhail Riata.

Mull festival visitor had cannabis

A MAN who was caught by police driving with no licence or insurance near Tobermory was also charged with possession of cannabis.

Gordon Potter, of 36 Bankhead Crescent, Falkirk, had been on Mull for the music festival on April 30.

Potter, 39, believed he had a driving licence as it

had been restored by the courts but it was not valid as he failed to resit a required extended driving test.

Sheriff Small admonished Potter for the motoring offences, instructing him not to drive until he had sat the appropriate test and also fined him £100 for having cannabis.

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OT



The Ocean Countess dwarfs the Corran Ferry as she sails through the narrows on Monday morning. 10_123narrows01

Spectacular arrival of Ocean Countess

THE BIGGEST cruise ship to visit Fort William in decades made a spectacular sight as she steamed through the Corran Narrows on Loch Linnhe at 6.50am on Monday on its way to the Lochaber capital. Spectators, including *The Oban Times*, gathered on both sides of the loch to await arrival of the *Ocean*

Countess – and were not disappointed as the huge vessel glided gracefully through into upper Loch Linnhe. The liner, its passengers and crew totalling around 1,000 people, negotiated the narrow channel without any difficulty as ship's Master Dimitris Ntaoutis guided the 17,500-ton ship through without the aid of a pilot.

Only nine days earlier, Fort William traders and civic leaders were left disappointed after the Master aboard holiday operators Cruise Maritime Voyages' bigger sister ship, the *Marco Polo*, judged the narrows too risky and diverted to Ullapool instead. See full story page 11.

Fort FC saved from the brink

FORT William FC has been saved from the brink after local man Derek MacGillivray agreed to become the club's new chairman at an emergency general meeting (EGM) last Wednesday night.

REPORT by RICHARD HADDOCK and STEPHEN NORRIS

The Claggan Park side had faced expulsion from the Highland League after chairman and secretary John Wattman stepped down without a replacement at the recent AGM, meaning a new committee could not be formed.

Highland League rules state member clubs must have a committee in place before the league AGM, which was held last week.

For new club secretary Margaret Byron, her return to Lochaber after decades in England has given her a chance to continue her involvement with amateur football.

Originally from Mallaig, Margaret – Ralph to her maiden name – ran the affairs of Prescot Cables in Knowsley, Merseyside, for years.

Roles there included player

on the support of an awful lot of people, initially at least. Meanwhile, Lochaber Street League chairwoman Rosemary MacPhee has written to the club to offer support.

Fort FC takes an active role in the street league, which gives more than 140 youngsters the chance to play football throughout the summer.

Mrs MacPhee said: 'We see the club as the next and very obvious step up for our youngsters and it would be catastrophic for that outlet to disappear.'

'We know from the statistics made available by Northern Constabulary that there is a direct correlation between these activities and reduction of minor crimes within the community. In the wider interests of the community we therefore consider it highly important that not only the club continues but goes from strength to strength.'

Fort now has two months to prepare for its first game of the 2012/13 season – a home game against Lossiemouth on August 4.

Knock out crowd for boxing club's first home show



RING girl Katherine Halewood from Dalmally presented Tyntrum boxer Callum Clement with his fight of the night trophy from Nether Lochaber 'Claymores' Amateur Boxing Club's first home show.

Capacity crowd

The event in Kinlochleven High School on Saturday night drew a capacity crowd as local boxers took on opponents from across Scotland.

And Nathan McDade from Kinlochleven cheered the packed venue when he won his bout to earn his club a win on the night.

NEWSDESK
01631 568000

Countdown to Fèis Oir na Cruinne

ANTICIPATION is mounting in Lochmaddy, North Uist, for this weekend's Fèis Oir na Cruinne. And local people are being urged to make the most of the celebration of Gaelic culture and music.

According to festival director Niall Johnson, the event could lead to a revival of Gaelic music and song on the island – or could never happen again if it falls flat.

Mr Johnson, who runs Uist Outdoor Centre, told *The Oban Times*: 'Thirty years ago there was nothing like that here. Uist was close to a musical desert. I was inspired to create a platform for local talent through Fèis Oir na Cruinne when I went to

my daughter's fèis concert in Paible School and saw that every child there could play a musical instrument. In my day, no-one in Paible School could.'

He added: 'We hope to make this an annual event, but it depends on enough people coming forward from the community to take part. It's vital that people make an effort, otherwise it won't happen again.'

The event gets underway tomorrow (Friday) at 5pm with a parade by Sgoil Lionacleit Pipe Band and an official opening at Taigh Chearsabhagh.

Sessions featuring Colin MacLeod of Lewis and Iain Angus MacLeod of Harris will precede a fundraising dance in

Lochmaddy Hall. On Saturday, a novel event – a Highland dance parade from the pier to the village hall with Uist Pipe Band – starts at 1pm.

A ceilidh dance class with Neil and Morag MacPherson and conversational Gaelic with Archie Campbell follow in the hall.

Lochmaddy and Tigh Dearg hotels will host music sessions throughout the afternoon. Lewis's Face the West will headline the event in Lochmaddy Hall from 7pm at a family ceilidh. Lochmaddy playing field has been set aside for tents. Toilet and cooking facilities are available to campers in Lochmaddy Hall.



Looking to a bright future: Fort William FC committee members Ronnie MacLean, Calum MacLean, chairman Derek MacGillivray and Margaret Byron at Claggan Park. 20_123fcr01



An armada of vessels descended on Tarbert harbour over the weekend for one of the most prestigious sailing regattas on the Scottish calendar. 06_a23dolphin09

Tarbert claims local hero after international fleet race in Scottish Series



The victorious crew of the Glenfidich Fever lift the Scottish Series Trophy. Tarbert's Ruairidh Scott is on the far right.

TARBERT celebrated a local hero at the conclusion of the Brewin Dolphin Scottish Series on Monday.

Master tactician Ruairidh Scott helped his crewmates complete a flawless weekend aboard the *Fever Glenfidich* as they won all seven races in the IRC Class Three to lift the overall Scottish Series Trophy.

Ruairidh joins an elite club in becoming one of a select few to win the trophy three times in the skipper, helm or tactician role, having won as skipper helm in 2003 aboard the *King Quick* and as tactician on the *Jump Juice* in 2007.

The crew did not have it all their own way, engaging in some close tussles with last year's Scottish Series winner *Jackaroo*, and a narrow finish in the third race, winning by only 48 seconds.

The rest of the crew consisted of owner-driver Grant Gordon, Mike Forster, Charlie Cumbley, Ben Fields, Scott Aikman, Angus Stevenson and Stewart Miller.

Ruairidh said: 'I am so fortunate to go sailing and racing in places around the world but it is really special to come back here and race, and winning here is even better. 'This regatta has been as good as I can remember.'

Almost 100 crews took part in this year's regatta at Tarbert, with competitors coming from all across Europe including France and the Netherlands.

In the other events, it was the vessel *Playing FTSE* that took the honours in the IRC Class One, while *Salamander 2* won the IRC Class Two.

In the CYCA cruiser-racer class, the Tarbert Shield was won by the *Tartan Pimpernel*, while the Irish vessel *Sharkbait* won the SB20 one design sportsboat class.



Vessels tussle for position as the Scottish Series gets underway at Tarbert. 06_a23dolphin01

Down Your Way

Tobermory

AN ENTIRE clan of Macleans will descend on Tobermory for their centenary clan week beginning on June 18. On Friday June 22, there will be a Tobermory Day when clan members will take tours of the village, visit the distillery and An Tobar.

TOBERMORY will be busy this weekend - with three of Mull's large events taking place in less than 24 hours.

Saturday night sees the Tobermory Moonwalk with between 70 and 80 people expected to take part in the five-mile hike to raise money for Cancer Research UK.

The shops in Tobermory will also be getting in the spirit with colourful window displays of pink and blue - the colours of Cancer Research UK.

Keen cyclists will then descend on Tobermory on Sunday as the Mull Cyclosportive kicks off. It starts at 8am in Ledaig car park with up to 200 riders keen to take on the island's roads. As much of the money raised from entry fees as possible will go to good causes, including local charities and Help for Heroes. All competitors will also be given a complimentary meal in Macgeochans at the finish to refuel after a hard day's cycling.

By the time they return, the car park will be full of ladies taking part in a mass two-hour Zumbathon.

The event is being held in conjunction with the Moonwalk with all money raised also going towards Cancer Research UK.

One of the organisers, Andrea MacPhail, said: 'It should be quite a spectacle - Zumba ladies and men in shorts!'

A SHOW fit for all the family comes to Mull Theatre at Druimfin, near Tobermory, tonight, Thursday June 7.

Plutôt la Vie, By The Seat of Your Pants, sees three men and a chair take to the stage at 7pm in a hilarious, strongly visual comedy suitable for those over seven years old.



Elvis in Tobermory.

ONE OF Tobermory's most famous residents is to be honoured through a statue in the village.

Elvis the otter visited Tobermory for years, delighting tourists and locals with his slicked-back hair and love of performing for crowds.

He spent time playing around fishing gear in the harbour, emulating an escape artist, amazing onlookers as he easily wriggled free from ropes and nets.

Sadly Elvis was found dead under an upturned boat in 2010. A memorial has been in the pipeline for a while but a final push is now taking place with a bronze statue by Laurence Broderick the clear favourite.

Nic Davies has set up the Tobermory Otter Fund for the purchase of the statue to commemorate the life of Elvis and to help conserve otters in future.

He said: 'We're raising funds to buy and install an otter sculpture on the edge of the bay. An attraction for visitors, the sculpture will also incorporate a collection box in the plinth, funds from which will support otter conservation work on Mull and Skye for years to come.'

For more information or to contribute to the fund visit tobermoryotterfund.org.

Poster winners help keep bikes safe

WEST Lochaber schoolchildren have won the main prizes in a Northern Constabulary competition to design posters on keeping bicycles secure.

Rachel Ford and Kate Bradley of Acharacle Primary School and Corra Davis of Mallaig came top of 700 entries.

Runners up were Innes Ferguson of Kilchoan, Freja Ward of St Bride's and Michael Doherty of Acharacle.

All will receive a prize donated

by Nevis Cycles and a framed copy of their posters, which be on display at a police stall at the UCI Mountain Bike World Cup this weekend.

Local police cadets Siobhan Cooper and Ryan Doherty will provide security information and cycle security marking at the stall. The duo sited more than 1,000 children at 27 different schools around Lochaber to promote ways of cutting cycle theft. Judge PC Ian Fraser of Fort

William police said the response to the poster competition had been 'fantastic'. He said: 'I would like to thank all of the schools, pupils and teachers for taking the time and energy to take such a full part in it. Picking the winners and runners up in each category was pretty hard as there were a lot of good entries. Only after picking the winners and runners up did we see which schools they had come from. Having accompanied the police

cadets to one of the first schools for the bike marking, I can see the message of cycle security is in the minds of the pupils as a result of the poster competition and that's fantastic.'

He added: 'I am also looking forward to watching the public reaction to the winners and runners up posters which are going to be displayed at the World Mountain event this coming weekend at Aonach Mor.'



Oban High School pupils with the electric car they have designed and constructed. 16_123car01

Pupils add spark to electric car challenge

OBAN High School pupils are accelerating towards the finals of a national engineering competition that challenges youngsters to design, construct and race an electric car.

Forty Scottish primary and secondary schools are actively working on their cars for the Greenpower Challenge at the racetrack of Grampian Transport Museum in Aberdeenshire on Friday 15 June.

Fifteen pupils ranging in age from 12 to 14 from Oban have been creating a car.

Moses Wekwete, teacher of design and technology at Oban High School, said: 'Work on the

car is progressing well and we hope to get it on the road soon.'

'It has taken three years to raise the funds, form the team and build the car.'

'The pupils are very excited and we recently had a momentous day with our first test run on battery power after months of slow progress.'

Body work

'The focus is now on the body work and some final tune-ups.'

Frances Chapman, organiser, said: 'The event's core aim is to promote engineering and technology as subject and career choice but pupils gain so much more than that - as

well as developing their team building skills, the project involves everything from project management and environmental know-how, to fundraising, sponsorship and marketing - not to mention lots of fun!'

Confidence

Mr Wekwete added: 'The project has enabled our pupils to develop an interest in electronics and engineering and the confidence to use their skills in a practical task.'

Winners of the secondary competition will go on to represent Scotland at the national event at Goodwood, Chichester, in October 2012.

Sheriff tells Oban racist remarks man 'you should be ashamed'

AN OBAN man who was told he 'should be ashamed of himself' has been ordered to carry out 75 hours of unpaid work.

Malcolm Ellis, 41, of Flat 1, Craigard Road, previously pled guilty to acting in a racially aggravated manner by shouting, swearing and uttering racist remarks in a public house in Oban on January 1.

At the earlier hearing, Sheriff Paul Crozier said: 'This sort of behaviour is absolutely appalling in 21st century Scotland. It cannot be tolerated. You should be ashamed of yourself.'

Last week Oban Sheriff Court heard that Ellis' tirade towards a member of the bar staff lasted for around 10 minutes.

Shoplifting sentence delayed

AN OBAN woman who previously pled guilty to shoplifting from one of the town's supermarkets has had her sentencing delayed.

Susannah McCuish, 34, of 5 Combie Court, Oban, admitted stealing goods from a supermarket on Soroba Road on March 21. McCuish was on probation at the time of the offence for fraudulently claiming child benefit and was due to have an alternative sentence imposed for that crime and the theft last week but it was delayed following a dispute over how much of the benefits had been repaid.

Defence agent Laura Russell asked for time to verify the figure and sentencing will now take place on June 26.

Lorn Lines

ONGOING developments in Argyll and Bute's mental health services will be discussed at a public event on June 14 in the Corran Halls.

John Dregghorn, NHS Highland project director for mental health modernisation in Argyll and Bute, said: 'We want to ensure staff, service users and the general public are well informed on the latest developments within the project.'

'During May and June there will be a series of public drop in events across Argyll and Bute where there will be displays and staff available to answer questions.'

The local event for Oban will take place on Thursday June 14 in the Corran Halls from 3pm to 7pm.

There will be a short presentation at 4pm and 6pm followed by a question and answer session.



Library assistant Liam Martin was delighted to receive the books. 16_123books01

OBAN Library has taken receipt of a new set of books - thanks to an author who sent them all the way from Canada.

Ruth Hay has written a series of books that all feature Oban in some way and has donated a set to the local library for interested readers.

The Prime Time series was gratefully received by the library and is now available for loan. Any queries about the books can be sent to the author. Contact details are held by the library.



Colin and Eilidh delighted the audience. 16_123cooking01

A COOKERY demonstration in aid of Friends of Oban Hospice was held in the Olive Garden last week.

More than 70 people packed in to watch Olive Garden owner Colin Felgate and Eilidh Smith of the Seafood Temple prepare some culinary delights.

The event, which raised more than £700, was organised after Colin offered to host it and provide wine and canapés.

Margaret Maclean, chairwoman of Friends of Oban Hospice said: 'The night has gone really well. It's wonderful to have something different and we want to thank Colin and Eilidh for their generosity.'

Eilidh, on realising how 'afraid' people were of shellfish, took along live and cooked crustaceans to demonstrate how to prepare and serve them.

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Internet prices - and immediate delivery - are just two of the attractions on offer at brand new Lochaber furniture retailer Blackbridge Furnishings. The long-established Inverness-based family firm opens its spacious new showroom at Ardgour Road, Caol, on Monday 11th June*, supplying quality solid oak, ash, birch and pine furniture.

Blackbridge Furnishings offers a wide selection of high quality furniture, from bedroom cabinets

including wardrobes and chests of drawers, to dining room furniture sofas and beds. Prices are extremely competitive and the furniture is all made from high quality materials. The Caol store's opening will be welcomed by the many Lochaber shoppers who have already cottoned on to the great deals available from Blackbridge Furnishings and make regular trips to the company's Inverness store. And, while furniture purchased at some stores can take up to 16 weeks to

be delivered, almost everything bought at Blackbridge is available for immediate collection or delivery. Blackbridge Furnishings owner James Fraser, whose father founded the company, has 20 years experience in the business as well as a trusted relationship with the customers. He said: "Because we import direct, the customer gets far more for their money than elsewhere, our solid oak ranges are really exceptional value and just fly out the door."

Iain Kenney, who will manage the 10,000 square foot Caol outlet - which is situated in the former Nevisprint premises - said: "I'm very much looking forward to the opening of our Caol shop, bringing Blackbridge Furnishings' quality service direct to the people of Lochaber. "We already have a good customer base in the area, with many folk travelling regularly to our store in Inverness so it's great to be able to offer the same service to them, right on their own doorstep!"

Iain, who will be assisted by three locally-recruited staff members, added: "We aim to make shopping for beautiful furniture at affordable prices as easy as possible, whether customers come into the store or visit our website. We always give them a warm welcome. "We also offer a very reasonably priced delivery service throughout the Lochaber area and, as we will be keeping as much stock as possible on the premises, customers won't have to wait to receive their new goods."



AS THE London crowds were drenched while watching the Jubilee flotilla come down the Thames last weekend, the usually wetter west Highlands basked in sunshine. This period of warm and bright weather out west has put us in the mood for summer 2012, when we'll celebrate the Jubilee, the Olympics or just the fact the sun has got his hat on for once!

And with this summer feeling in full flow, why not indulge yourself with a day out, or a pampering at some of the west Highlands' cafes, beauticians and hotels - right on your doorstep. We all want to look our best in this summer weather and The Oban Times has an incredible selection of beauticians and therapies for you: Leebelle Beauty and Beauty at Atlantis

Leisure offer a range of affordable treatments, while Argyll Electrolysis Clinic offers a professional service with more than 19 years of experience. But for the more daring among you, who really want a change of image, why not visit New Look in Oban for piercings or tattoos! It is just as important to feel as good on the inside as it is

to look good on the outside, so to add that spring in your step, make an appointment with sports therapist Daniel Cassells and his revolutionary TAMARS, a therapy that has eased back and neck pain for thousands of people. Or maybe you would just like to treat your friends or loved ones to a day out at one of the west Highlands' select group of industry-leading

hotels and cafes. Visit the new owners at the Creagan Inn, who are quickly building a reputation for quality, or end your day trip to the beautiful Isle of Lismore with a trip to the celebrated Isle of Lismore Cafe. And you don't have to go far to find one of the finest west Highland welcomes at the Loch Leven Hotel, where the food is hard to beat too.

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Down Your Way

Inveraray

MORE than 100 people from across Scotland descended on Inveraray Castle recently to celebrate the career and life of colourful character Jim McCulloch.

The Duke and Duchess of Argyll hosted a special reception for Jim, who last month retired as manager of Argyll Caravan Park after 26 years.

The evening paid great tribute to the man who turned around the fortunes of the park, previously known as Battlefield Caravan Park.

Arriving in Inveraray in April 1986 with his wife Lynda and four children, Tracy, John, Robert and Laura, Jim transformed the caravan park, attracting more than 200 Scottish families to buy holiday homes on the banks of Loch Fyne.

Credited with winning umpteen awards for the park, which sits within the Duke of Argyll's estate, Jim saw the park gain five stars from the Scottish Tourism Board.

Commenting on the effort, hard work and love Jim put into Argyll Caravan Park, the Duke of Argyll said: 'I would like to say my personal thanks to you and Lynda on behalf of my family and myself.'

'You have made a huge contribution in your time as manager of the park and you have made it what it is today. I am very grateful for what you have done.'

Argyll Caravan Park is just one of many parks that Jim, originally from Ayrshire, has transformed over the last 50 years. Living in Dumfries as a child, Jim worked as a ploughman at Auchinlarie Farm, which later became a caravan park, and marked his introduction to the tourism trade.

Already missing the day-to-day life of the park, Jim said: 'I truly wish the very best for all the holiday homeowners, many of whom have become personal friends.'

He added: 'It is important they continue to enjoy their holiday home and all of the attractions Inveraray has to offer.'

Looking forward to his retirement, Jim said he was looking forward to visiting Shetland and old friends he has not seen for years.



Jim, a fan of a model maker in Longholm in the Borders, was presented with a model of a horse drawing a 'McCulloch's Ales' carriage.

INVERARAY Primary School celebrated its 50th anniversary during the Queen's Diamond Jubilee last weekend.

The school, at the heart of the Royal Burgh, held a special birthday party, opening its doors to Royal Burgh residents for the celebration.

Reflecting on the school's 50-year history, pupils from the school invited former pupils and staff back to the school to join in the celebrations.



Six-year-old Hannah Young from Brechollie, near Inveraray, enjoyed a great day out at Auchinrain Ancient Township. The youngster saw wool spun, butter churned and old-fashioned puddings made over a peat fire as she learnt how people lived on the farmland 100 years ago. Hannah and her family took part in an interactive day of events at Auchinrain as part of the national Festival of Museums.

PEOPLE living near Inveraray Castle enjoyed a free day out at the popular visitor attraction this month as the castle held its annual locals' day.

The castle, which attracts thousands of visitors to Mid Argyll every year, opened to people living in Strachur, Minard and Dalmlally free of charge for a day.

Extending the parameter of the locals' day to include many Loch Awe residents, the locals' day gave people free access to the castle and its renowned gardens.

A BEACON was lit at the top of Dun na Cuaiche on Monday to commemorate the Queen's 60-year reign over the UK.

The Inveraray beacon was one of thousands lit across the world on June 4 in recognition of the Diamond Jubilee and Queen Elizabeth II as head of the Commonwealth.

It was hoped 2,012 beacons would be lit across the UK, Channel Islands, Isle of Man, the Commonwealth and other countries around the world to mark the historic occasion.



Barcaldine pupils celebrate their cycling success.

Barcaldine bikers celebrate success

FOR THE second year running, Barcaldine Primary School has been rewarded for encouraging its pupils to cycle.

The national Big Pedal Competition, led by charity Sustans and sponsored by the Bike Hub, saw schools across the country competing to see how many journeys to school they could make by bike over a three-week period. Barcaldine Primary has been rewarded for being the fastest in the small school category in Scotland.

ARISAIG

THE ANNUAL Road to the Isles Show returns to Camusdarach, Arisaig, this Saturday with the usual large crowds expected to attend.

As well as the livestock classes for cattle and sheep, there will be baking, handicrafts and floral decoration judging throughout the show.

Local pipers will perform in the afternoon, followed by an equestrian stunt performance by Perthshire group 'Riders of the Storm'. Local pooches will be judged in the popular dog show, while Invergarry man Mike MacNally will put on a sheep dog demonstration. Also on show will be sheep shearing demonstrations, a display of woodturning and a demonstration of chainsaw carving. The show gets underway at 10.30am and will run until late afternoon.



Kyle Leven, P6, Amy Kame, P5, Kirsty Buick and Sula Maiche, both P6, get stuck in to the gardening.

Arisaig primary pupils plant garden

ARISAIG Primary School pupils have been busy planting a new garden outside the school for their Eco-schools project.

The garden includes potatoes, strawberries, herbs and Scottish bluebells specially brought in from Eigg.

The island variety is renowned for not being crossbred with imported Spanish bluebells, as has happened at many locations on the mainland.

Arisaig nursery children also planted a vegetable patch and parents and friends of the school helped build a willow dome in the garden.

The hope is the garden will attract more bugs and frogs so the young ones can see them at close quarters.

Pupils also visited a forest school at Larachmhor Gardens in March and will go again later this year.

LISMORE

ON SATURDAY May 26, visitors to Lismore's Festival of the Sea were met at the 10am ferry in glorious sunshine and taken to Port Ramsay where retired Captain Duncan Black and historian Dr Robert Hay talked about the life and work of the many seafarers who plied the Lismore lime trade in smacks.

Port Ramsay is rich in remains of this lucrative trade, the most notable being the rudder post of *The Lady Margaret*, one of the two last smacks that traded out of Port Ramsay.

Unfortunately the tide did not permit the viewing of this or the cursed gravestone a disgruntled mariner dropped over the side because the purchaser did not pay.

But the mooring ring can still be seen in the cliff and nearby the quarry and kilns which fired the limestone were of great interest as was the boat building saw pit near the road.

The group was then driven to Ionad Naomh Molaug - the Heritage Centre - to see the museum and the new audio visual presentation on the maritime and lime burning history of the island.

After lunch, Dr Hay led the group on a walk to the lime quarries of Salen where he spoke about the settlement and invited the visitors to explore this beautiful tranquil place, once such a busy industrial hub.

KING Creosote and Jon Hopkins recently performed in Lismore hall as part of their islands' tour.

They were very well received with people coming from off the island to catch them.

LAGGAN

FIFTY five runners braved the searing sunshine to take part in the 11th annual Laggan 10k race.

With conditions in stark contrast to the wind and hail which greeted the event last year, three Lochaber Athletic Club members travelled north to take part. Roddy McAuley finished in 58m 23s, John O'Neill 60m 4s and Julie Watt 61m 12s. Barry Sturrock of Central Athletic Club was the fastest runner on the day, completing the undulating course in 58m 33s.

FORT AUGUSTUS

KILCHOAN Primary School will host a fun day for the arrival of the Olympic torch on Saturday.

ACHARACLE



Guides get adventurous

1st Fort Augustus Guides and senior section attended a day of activities recently at Fairburn Activities Centre just outside Muir of Ord. Girls travelled from all over to attend the Adventure 2012 weekend and took part in various activities including wov balls, archery, zip wire, raft building, ropes course to name a few. And the wet and windy weather did little to dampen their spirits!

The torch procession is expected to arrive in Fort Augustus in the afternoon and will make a stop-off at the school.

As well as a bouncy castle, archery and stalls, children and adults will be able to 'walk on water' - by getting into an inflatable ball and walking on the Caledonian Canal.

Head teacher Wendy Scollay told *The Oban Times*: 'It will be aimed at the kids but the whole community is welcome, as well as visitors.'

GLENGARRY

FINAL preparations are being made for Glen Garry's biggest day of the year, the Glengarry Highland Games, in four weeks' time.

The event, on Saturday July 7, can trace its history back to the 18th century, although the modern games were established in 1972 - making this the 40th year.

The traditional family Highland gathering will feature heavy, track and field events and a hill race.

Children's races, a dog show - proceeds of which go to Munlochly animal aid - Highland dancing, tug o' war, a children's mini games and Lochaber Pipe Band are also on the programme.

Attractions include a climbing wall, trade stalls and children's entertainment. The games Queen will be picked on the day.

Glengarry shinty team will be providing hot and cold filled rolls and other refreshments and there will be shinty matches following the games, which get underway at the shinty field at 1pm.

STRACHUR

A STRACHUR establishment has been named Scottish Inn of the Year at The Scottish Hotel Awards.

The Creggans Inn was formerly owned by Sir Fitzroy McLean, ex-foreign diplomat and SAS Agent.

Speaking about the award, owner Archie MacLellan said: 'It's a real honour to be recognised for what we do here at Creggans.'

'There are many fine inns across the country and to be named the best is an incredibly proud moment for all the team.'

Archie and Gill MacLellan also won a Gold Medal for Hospitality at the awards.

The prestigious Hotel Awards are now in their ninth year and each award is independently researched. Nominations in each category are voted on by consumers and as such each award is highly prized by hoteliers across the country.

RUM

EFFORTS to find tenants for the last of three new crofts created on Rum look like being successful.

Isle of Rum Community Trust, which has taken over ownership of properties and land in and around the main settlement at Kinloch from Scottish Natural Heritage, says 'a number of enquiries' have been received.

The bare land croft extends to 5.36ha on semi-improved sloping ground overgrown with rushes and will require a significant amount of work to improve it to anything beyond rough grazing.

However, the croft enjoys an open, south facing aspect with fine views across to the peaks of Hallival and Askival, up Kinloch Glen and out to Loch Scesort.

For more information, visit www.isleofrum.com/news.php.

ARROCHAR

ARGYLL Cabins at Ardgartan, Arrochar, has been named as one of Britain's most environmentally friendly businesses.

The holiday park is to be honoured with a Goldstar in recognition of reaching the top of its class in the Green Tourism Business Scheme Awards.

The award has only been presented to eight businesses working within the tourism industry, representing the top 0.3 per cent of 'green' companies and organisations.

Founded by the internationally renowned Green Tourism Business Scheme, the awards honour those businesses and organisations that have done the most to promote sustainability within the industry by implementing cost-saving practices that help the environment and improve customer services.

The winners, which include three from England and five from Scotland, were chosen from more than 2,300 'green' tourism companies assessed for their innovation, cost savings and green ambassadorship during 2011-2012.

ACHARACLE



Acharacle spring clean

Acharacle Primary School staff, pupils, pupils and parents took part in a village clean up recently. Donnie MacGillivray of Shiel Buses also came along to lend a hand, while Highland Council provided litter pickers and black bin bags for the day, which was part of Acharacle's Eco schools initiative. The day was organised by pupils on the eco committee, who have already won their first Eco schools green flag.

SPEAN BRIDGE

SPEAN Bridge Primary School enjoyed a special lunch to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee last week.

The children were invited to come to school dressed according to a 'royal' or 'diamond' theme and take part in a royal banquet prepared by school cook Catherine MacLeod and Rhona Cameron.

Everyone embraced the day with a great number of children dressed in costumes.

ARMADALE

CLAN Donald Skye at Armadale is hosting the Donald MacDonald Quach Competition next Friday.

The prestigious piping competition, which is sponsored by Glenfiddich Single Malt Scotch Whisky, is now in its 26th year.

BROADFORD

BROADFORD Primary School needs another Gaelic teacher to ensure children learn the language in all-Gaelic environment, according to the local MSP.

Dave Thompson says some children in the Gaelic medium unit are being taught alongside English medium pupils - far from the ideal of being immersed in Gaelic in the classroom to speed learning.

The previous council administration scrapped higher teacher/pupil ratios for Gaelic in autumn last year.

The MSP has written to Drew Hendry, leader of Highland Council, asking him to support raising Broadford's Gaelic staff complement from two to three.

Mr Thompson said: 'Parents with children in the Gaelic medium unit in Broadford have voiced their serious concerns to me.'

'The children in primaries one to four, who are all in the same classroom, are hearing English frequently so they are not immersed in Gaelic. A third teacher would limit the amount of English heard in the classroom.'

KILCHOAN

KILCHOAN Kayak Club's summer paddles in the waters off Ardnarnachan have restarted.

Members - and anyone else wishing to take part - meet on the jetty outside Kilchoan Stores at 6pm on Wednesday nights.

Canna Criomagan

THE CORNCRAKES are calling on Canna again, signalling summer is here.

Apparently these rare birds - they're a Schedule 1 species, hence the excitement over their arrival - are shy and skulking creatures. Try telling that to the ones who have returned to Canna from their winter sojourn to Africa. One of the males has been strutting his stuff in the graveyard, dashing backwards and forwards in full view of admiring visitors.



A corncrake among the bluebells on Canna. Photograph by Olivia Uney.

STILL

STILL on the subject of birdlife, the island's new resident bird ringer and Canna House gardener Graham Uney was with the Highland Ringing Group on Sunday May 27 when they discovered that Manx Shearwaters are once again nesting at the old Nunnery colony.

This is great news, as the birds haven't been found there since the rat eradication programme.

YACHTS



Yachts will find a secure mooring in Canna Bay. Photograph by Olivia Uney.

THERE have been various cruise ships calling in at the island, including the Caledonian Sky and Island Sky, and a fair number of yacht owners have been taking advantage of the calm seas and good weather.

They'll also be able to take advantage of Canna's new moorings soon - the island has won lottery funding to create a number of secure mooring sites in the bay and Stewart Connor and Murdo Jack were out taking GPS readings for the proposed locations last week. It's hoped that the moorings will be available before the end of the year.

THE GILLE Brighde restaurant has announced new opening times for summer - dinner is available seven days a week from June to August, with a special set menu on Sunday. The lobsters have started coming into the shallower waters and therefore the creels, so lobster is back on the menu, along with rabbit burgers, homemade ice cream and other goodies.

Around the Rurals

Kilbrandon

PRESIDENT Linda Brown welcomed members to the annual general meeting of Kilbrandon SWRI, held recently in Seil Island Hall.

After reading and approving the minutes of the previous AGM and the income and expenditure reports for 2011-2012, Linda reported on another successful year in which members had learnt many things, built on friendships old and new and shared many funny moments.

Members had enjoyed talks on diverse topics as the work of Oban Mountain Rescue team, the University of the Third Age, the Children's Panel and the running of a Highland Estate. They had learned how to produce floral table decorations, and had sampled the delicious produce prepared by Kate Critchley of Paradise Kitchen.

In December they enjoyed the warmth, fellowship and good food of a Christmas meal prepared by the committee.

The summer outings have become a very enjoyable part of Kilbrandon SWRI's calendar; a particularly memorable trip to a rather muddy yet still very beautiful Angus's Garden took place in June 2011.

Members look forward to this year's trip which will be to Kilmartin House Museum, made even more interesting by the presentation given by Dr Sharon Webb, curator and director of the museum, who completes the programme of speakers for the year.

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Belladrum Festival
 3rd & 4th August 2012

tartan heart belladrum festival

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

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

To enter, simply send us token two printed here along with token one printed last week, answer the question below, complete the entry form and post it to The Oban Times, Belladrum Comp, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB. Entries must be received by Monday, June 18, 2012.

QUESTION: Which Liverpool band will play at this year's Belladrum Festival?
 a) The Wombats b) The Beatles c) The Zutons

Answer.....
 Name.....
 Address.....
 Telephone..... Email.....

TOKEN 2

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Newsdesks
 01631 568000
 01397 703003

Benbecula car vandalised

A VEHICLE was vandalised outside Churchill flats, Griminish, Isle of Benbecula, sometime overnight on Saturday.

The Vauxhall car was scratched and had tyres punctured.

Anyone with information is requested to contact Benbecula Police station on 01870602374 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111.

Children learn how to keep safe

MORE than 200 primary seven pupils from Lochaber attended a special event on community safety and crime prevention in the Nevis Centre last Wednesday.

Safe Highlanders and Islanders saw the children learn lifesaving skills, first aid, fire safety, water safety, road safety, construction site safety and electricity safety.

Pupils also found out how dangerous giving away personal information online can be. Older pupils gave a talk on bullying, which was well received.

Rio Tinto Alcan, Lochaber councillors' discretionary budget and Northern Constabulary funded the event.

Community safety officer PC Ian Fraser thanked all those involved for making the day a success.

Morar Community Council

MORAR Community Council will hold its June meeting at Lady Lovat Primary School on Monday at 7.30pm.

Matters brought up at the May meeting under any other business include:

- Shrubs at the roadside near the junction at Kinigarry needing cut - secretary to contact Transerv.

- Questions raised on why the large gate at the entrance to Bourblach road is padlocked, making access to beach difficult if walking with push-chair or wheelchair from underpass - secretary to check.

- Bin at River Morar is missing - TECs to be contacted for a replacement.

- Village clean up - it was suggested members think of some things which need addressing and bring ideas to next meeting to allow some of the work to be carried out during the summer months.

Fort William FC rollover jackpot

A ROLLOVER jackpot of £700 is up for grabs this week in Fort William FC's weekly lotto draw. Numbers last week were 2-8-13.

Newsdesk

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703003

Chris bags GB boxing title without landing a punch

Lochaber celebrates another major sporting success

LOCHABER is celebrating another sporting success in the week the Olympic torch arrives after one of its talented young fighters was crowned junior British champion.

And Lochaber Phoenix Boxing Club's Chris Bradley won his title at Ravenscraig Sports Centre on Saturday afternoon without having to land a blow.

The 15-year-old from Fort William had already changed into his Scotland strip ready for the biggest fight of his life.

But then Chris received news his opponent had pulled out - handing him the coveted title without having to step into the ring for the Great Britain championship final.

Chris, who has been competing for four years and had trained

By STEPHEN NORRIS
snorris@obantimes.co.uk

like a demon for his big day, heavily defeated his scheduled opponent last month and was confident he could win again.

Club official Steve Docherty, who was officiating at the event, said the honour of becoming Great Britain champion was in no way diminished by Chris's opponent deciding to withdraw.

Success
Mr Docherty said: 'Chris simply became a victim of his own success.'

'He has boxed all over Britain and Ireland in the last year and has shown an incredible dedication to his sport.'

'This is a fantastic end

to the season for him.' Lochaber Phoenix also had 14-year-old James Aitchison at the finals, who won a bronze medal against Welsh champion Jason Sillet.

Club coach Niall Clark said that although James lost narrowly, to be rated third best in Britain was a fantastic achievement.

He added: 'The boxers at the club have made great strides this season once again and we will go into next season confidently believing that we can win more titles at novice and open levels with both our junior and senior boxers.'

'For Chris to win a GB championship and James a bronze medal is no more than they deserve and will hopefully inspire others to follow suit.'



Pride of Lochaber: Chris Bradley is the newly crowned British junior champion. 20_123box01

Olympic torch relay rolls into Lochaber

THE OLYMPIC torch convoy will roll into Lochaber along the A82 from Tyndrum on Saturday.

The convoy - numbering around 170 vehicles in total - is split into three, with two sections running 45 minutes and 10 minutes ahead of the torch group to 'activate' the crowd.

The torch is scheduled to arrive in Glencoe at 12.41pm to be run through to Tigh-Phuir before being carried across Ballachulish Bridge at 12.56pm.

In Fort William, the torch will be run from the Yacht Club at 1.30pm to the Nevis Centre at 1.30pm.

Provost of Lochaber Allan Henderson will welcome the torchbearer at Lochaber Leisure Centre at 2.50pm, where a children's community event, the Torch Triathlon, will be held.

Watch
Finally, the torch will arrive in Spean Bridge at 3.15pm, where spectators can watch its passage as far as the Anach Mor Hotel.

Provost Henderson said: 'We are delighted that the area is on the Olympic torch relay route as it is a unique opportunity to showcase the area.'

'Given the UCI Mountain Bike World Cup is also taking place here at the weekend, Fort William is truly on the map as a host for sporting events.'

Highland Council says it is 'highly likely' the convoy will cause considerable delays on the A82.

It is advisable for those travelling to either the UCI event or RockNess from the Central Belt to either be at Dumbarton by 9am or take the A9.

Banavie girl Lorna Linfield, aged 12, will run the torch through Fort William.

Contrasting May weather in Plockton

PLOCKTON's weather provided some real contrasts in May - with temperatures ranging from below freezing to over 80 degrees.

Hottest day was 28°C, which was the highest temperature at Plockton for many years.

The coldest night was -0.6°C.

Three inches of rain fell during the month, compared with 9.5 inches in 2011.

17,500-ton liner set to return to Fort



Provost of Lochaber Allan Henderson presents ship's Master Dimitris Ntaoutis with a commemorative plaque to mark the arrival of the Ocean Countess in Fort William on Monday. 20_123ship01

CRUISE ship the Ocean Countess is set to return to Fort William next spring after a successful port call on Monday.

The 17,500-ton vessel dropped anchor off the Lochaber capital at 7.30am after steaming through the Corran Narrows 40 minutes before.

A flotilla of shuttle boats ferried over 600 passengers - many from Liverpool - to enjoy a day in the town or coach tours of historic Lochaber.

And Fort William High Street was noticeably busier - with fast food outlets in particular jam-packed. The welcome tourism boost went some way to erasing local disappointment after the Cruise Maritime Voyages' (CMV) liner's sister ship, the 22,000-ton Marco Polo, scrapped its scheduled May 26 call at Fort William over navigation fears through Corran.

And now that one big liner has showed how easy it can be to sail up Loch Linnhe, hopes are high many more will follow.

On board the Ocean Countess on Monday, CMV passenger services manager Bob McGowan told The Oban Times more visits are planned.

He said: 'We are scheduled to come back in April 2013 from Bristol. Fort William is beautiful on a day like today. And Scottish hospitality is wonderful - you feel people here always go the extra mile for the passengers.'

Passengers to rank town in port survey

THE OCEAN Countess is set to return to Fort William - if passengers give Lochaber the thumbs up.

On the bridge, ship's Master Dimitris Ntaoutis, 51, said passengers would rank the town alongside other ports in a survey.

He said: 'If they like it, I think the company will arrange for more calls in the future.'



Local riders take their place in world cup line up

TWO LOCHABER riders will be hoping to give local fans something to cheer about when they line up in the UCI Mountain Bike World Cup at Aonach Mor this weekend.

Joe Barnes, left, from Fort William and Fergus Lamb from Corpach will take their place in the 300-strong field on Saturday hoping to make the cut for Sunday's final, when 80 riders will charge down the hill before thousands of fans.

Joe told The Oban Times he has been doing

special 'Enduro' training to build up his stamina and for the latter stages of the race.

'It's a different style of racing - a cross between downhill and country,' he said.

Race

'My fitness is effectively there. It's a very physical track so on the bottom half of the course I should be able to race down to the finish. I have been on the downhill track this week practising so it should go well for this weekend.'

'With myself and Fergus racing it should be good for local fans and hopefully they will get right behind us like they did last year.'

Each year, around 18,000 fervent fans pack the Nevis Range arena and trackside up the mountain.

Mike Jardine, of World Cup organisers Rare Management, said: 'The excitement is really building because this year's event is set to be the best yet.'

Papua guests welcomed

THE ISLES of Eigg and Skye welcomed visitors from the other side of the world recently - a 12 strong delegation of officials from the Indonesian province of Papua.

The group was taken to Eigg and Camuscross in Sleat to look at how local communities can take more control over economic and social development.

Sleat people recently bought a local forest for community use - but on Papua rampant

illegal logging has impoverished native people. Villagers are also being pressured to sell their land to palm oil companies.

Alex Rumaseb, head of Papua's provincial planning office, led the delegation.

Working together
Mr Rumaseb said: 'We like the idea of "soil, soul and society" working together.'

'We want this to inform our 100 year plan for a healthy, happy Papua province.'

Mental Health Modernisation in Argyll & Bute

Argyll & Bute Community Health Partnership is holding a number of public information drop in events in May/June to ensure that members of the public are kept up to date with the latest developments in the modernisation of Mental Health services across Argyll & Bute.

The local event for Oban will take place on:
Thursday 14th May 2012
Corran Hall Theatre Suite 3pm - 7pm

There will be a short presentation at 4pm and 6pm followed by a question and answer session.

For further information please contact:
Caroline Champion
caroline.champion@nhs.net 01546 605680

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Dansairean An Eilein Sgitheanaich (Skye Highland dancers) entertained the crowds in Somerled Square. Picture: Iain Smith



PORTREE

PORTREE celebrations to mark Queen Elizabeth's Diamond Jubilee were blessed with fine weather as hundreds turned out to enjoy the festivities last weekend.

Isle of Skye Pipe Band played in a massed pipe band alongside Portree High School, Lochalsh Junior, Uist and Lochaber pipe bands in Somerled Square on the Friday evening.

Local chemist Mrs Margaret Campbell, the daughter of one of the Isle of Skye Pipe Band's founder members, Ewan MacKenzie, took the salute.

Dansairean An Eilein Sgitheanaich gave a Highland dancing display, as did the International School of Scottish Drum Majors.

The pipe bands, dancers, the drum major display team and local groups gave further performances at the community centre on Saturday.

The massed bands led a parade through the streets to the square at 2pm where the Lord Lieutenant, Mrs Janet Brown, took the salute.

DUNVEGAN

Pictured left are Dunvegan Primary School English and Gaelic P1/2/3 pupils before their parents and the nurseries arrived for a Jubilee tea party last Thursday.

The children spent the last week organising the party, making and sending out invitations, baking, making sandwiches and painting flags.

The pupils also designed their own bunting and decided what games and activities they would have on the day.

Class teacher Liz MacFarlane told The Oban Times: 'A fantastic afternoon was had by all. A big thank you goes to all the children who made this event such a success.'



Lachan MacLachlan, Jamie Leggett, Fergus Ritchie, Laurence Avery, Lauren MacKenzie, Asheley Ord, Bryony and Molly the Dog climbed Cnoc-Dhonnhuill to see the lighting of the beacon.

LUING

THE ISLE of Luing celebrated the jubilee in style with royal memorabilia on display and a beacon being lit to commemorate the Queen's 60 years on the throne.

A ceilidh, hosted by the committee, was held in Cullipool village hall on Saturday and Kay

Benn was MC for the night. The celebrations continued on Monday with a beacon being

lit high on Cnoc-Dhonnhuill at 10.12pm, which was the allocated slot for community councils.

Innes MacQueen, Luing's local piper, played stirring lamentations as the sun set over Beinn Mhor on the Isle of Mull, the Isles of the Sea, and the Firth of Lorn.

As the next flame in the Beacon

chain was lit on Ben Cruachan's peak high above Taynuilt and Loch Awe a cheer by the Luing crowd went up.

A welcome cup of tea waited in the village hall, where some of the islanders had watched, and listened to the party on the highest point of the island.



Donald Ewen Darroch hoists the Union Jack on Jura.



Islanders on Jura lit one of the jubilee beacons.

CD review

Gillie MacKenzie - Griais

First solo album from Gillie, whose music is notably influenced by the traditions and culture of the people of Lewis and from the Lothians. Some traditional and some self penned Scottish Gaelic songs, with a wee bit of English. Gillie was awarded the Mod God Medal for solo singing at the National Mod in Govan in 1990, which led to invitations to sing at various concerts and on television and radio programmes and to teach at Fèisean. Griais is the Gaelic name for the village, Gress, where Gillie grew up, surrounded by lots of songs, stories and beautiful landscapes.

The Albanach Guitar Duo - Weave

Debut album from the duo, creating imaginative instrumental arrangements of traditional melodies from different regions of the Celtic world. The current Albanach Duo, formed in 2010, are Russell Ballantine and Paul Devery, both experienced performers, having played in many bands, quartets and trios. They use nylon and steel string guitars and the dobro for slide playing. The title of the CD represents the instruments weaving with each other to create a new musical soundscape of these well known Scottish tunes.

Sandy Brechin - Out Of His Box

The ever inventive Sandy Brechin shows his contemporary style of accordion playing to the full. Sandy has toured and recorded extensively with Burach, Seely-hoo, The Sandy Brechin Band and his ceilidh band The Sensational Jimi Shandrix Experience. The original album was received with great acclaim and was voted one of the best folk albums of 1996 by BBC Radio Scotland's Travelling Folk programme.

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Skye piper Angus Nicolson starred at Ceol's Craic in Glasgow

Ceol Mòr Ostaig takes Glasgow by storm

SABHAL Mòr Ostaig, (SMO) the Gaelic college on Skye, and Ceol's Craic, the social hub for contemporary Gaelic culture in Glasgow, teamed up to stage a Gaelic talent special in the city's Centre for Contemporary Arts on May 26.

Good crowds attended the first Ceol Mòr Ostaig, a concert featuring performances from staff and students.

Renowned Lewis Gaelic singers Christine Primrose, a teacher at SMO, and the college's musician in residence Margaret Stewart delivered masterful performances in their own unique style.

Students taking performed

a mix of individual and group turns, with Tìre-born accordionist Eilidh MacFadyen and Invernessian Gaelic singer Ellen MacDonald arguably the highlights.

SMO writer in residence Peter Mackay read poems in Gaelic and English, while the Angus Nicolson Trio, featuring the talented young Skye piper, Murdo Cameron on guitar and Andrew MacPherson on percussion and whistles, delivered a beautifully tight compilation of tunes.

MC for the night was Artair Donald, drama artist in residence at SMO.

Ahead of the concert, participants enjoyed workshops in

Gaelic song, drama, television skills and a Gaelic taster class.

There was also a wealth of information on hand and presentations about what the college has to offer, and the work of the college's television course students was screened in the cinema at CCA.

Alasdair MacKay, the college's short courses manager, said: 'We had been kindly invited to provide a night of entertainment and were also had the opportunity to let the public interact with students and staff from the College through a series of workshops and presentations leading up to the concert about the college, the Gaelic language

and its culture.

'We all enjoyed our time meeting those who attended and performing in Glasgow and Sabhal Mòr Ostaig is hoping to do more events like these soon.'

Deirdre Murray, programme co-ordinator for Ceol's Craic, said: 'We were delighted that Sabhal Mòr Ostaig were able to join us for our last programmed event before the summer - and what an event it was.'

'We have had great feedback from everyone that attended the gig and we hope to continue to build on the relationship with Sabhal Mòr Ostaig in the future.'

Rollerskaters aim for UK championships



Jane Blanchard of Lochaber Sports Association, who presented the prizes, and club chairperson Freda Alexander with the rollerskaters after Sunday's competition

LOCHABER Artistic Roller-skating Club is aiming to compete in the UK championships in Durham next year.

The ambitious move follows the club's competition in the Nevis Centre on Sunday, which produced a series of outstanding performances and convinced coaches that Lochaber skaters were ready for the UK event.

Chairperson, founder and coach Freda Alexander told The Oban Times: 'There is a lot of talent in Lochaber. The skaters really take it very seriously and training then is a pleasure.'

'The standard is marvellous - we had to skate-off because it was so close. Hopefully we will go down the Tyne Tees club in Durham next year.'

Special Awards:

- Top Skater - Ami Robertson; Achievement Award - Toni Price; Service Award - Ashley McKerracher; Carol Laird Memorial Trophy - Lauren Cameron; Liz Connel OSP Award - Cara Lees; Elementary Dance - Frances Oliver; Achievement Award - Marian Thorlow; Results: Freestyle, Elementary - 1, Lauren Cameron; 2, Rachel Fraser; 3, Marion Thurlow; Junior - 1, Ami Robertson; 2, Cara Lees; 3, Caitlin Young; Senior - 1, Hazel Currie; 2, Kayleigh MacMillan; OSP - 1, Hazel Currie; 2, Cara Lees; 3, Ami Robertson; Elementary 3 Grades - 1, Frances Oliver; 2, Kirsten Smith; Junior ADV 1 Grades - 1, Scarlett McNeill; 2, Thea Fraser; 3, Alice Gray; Junior ADV 2 Grades - 1, Ami Robertson; 2, Caitlin Young; 3, Cara Lees; Senior ADV Grades - 1, Ami Doherty; 2, Hazel Currie; 3, Megan Fraser; Minor Grades - 1, Fraser Disher; 2, Charlize Barron; 3, Natasha MacKinnon; Elementary 1 A Grades - 1, Ty-Leigh Kitson; 2, Nicole MacDonald; 3, Anna Gray; 1 B Grades - 1, Lauren Cameron; 2, Bethan Watson; 3, Cara Venn McNeil; 2 Grades - 1, Lauren Cameron; 2, Rachel Fraser; 3, Kayleigh McIlmains; RD Glide Waltz - 1, Ami Doherty; 2, Hazel Currie; 3, Ami Robertson; RD Olympic Foxtrot - 1, Ami Doherty; 2, Kayleigh MacMillan; 3, Hazel Currie.

Hairy Maclary is coming to town

HAIRY Maclary is coming to the Corran Halls, Oban later this month when NonsenseRoom Productions brings the storybook characters to life.

'Out of the gate and off for a walk, went Hairy Maclary from Donaldson's Dairy.' Anyone with young children will recognise these immortal words instantly as the opening lines of the book 'Hairy Maclary from Donaldson's Dairy' by Lynley Dodd.

Many of the popular characters from the books like Hercules Morse, as big as a Horse - Bottomley Potts,

covered in spots - Schnitzel von Krumm, with the very low tum and Scarface Claw - the toughest tomcat in town will take to the stage for an early evening on fun and frolics.

With music, singing and several of your favourite Hairy Maclary stories, this show is a must for the whole family. Booking details for the show on Wednesday, June 27 are available from the Corran Halls booking office and, with tickets likely to be in demand, early booking is essential to avoid disappointment.

'Afternoon at the Opera' comes to Oban



Sunday was a musical affair in Oban's St John's Cathedral as pianist Andrew Dunlop, Connel organised an 'afternoon at the Opera'. Works from Mozart, Wagner, Verdi and Rachmaninoff were seemingly effortlessly brought to life by the performers. Andrew Dunlop, Jessica Gillingwater, Tanya Small, Lucilla Graham and Louis Hurst delighted the audience in the cathedral during the 20-item programme. The concert was in aid of the inaugural Lorne Live Chamber Festival scheduled to be held in August and September. The festival hopes to share and promote classical chamber music throughout the area while also introducing the classics to a younger audience. 16. 123opera01

'Pink' bikers arrive in town for ride in support of cancer care

Men and women take to the road to raise more than £50,000 for Macmillan Cancer Support

OBAN turned pink at the weekend as a convoy of 75 motorbikes descended on the town during the annual Breast Way Round ride.

From men in pink bras to women with pink hair, the town's car parks were quite a spectacle for Saturday morning shoppers.

The group, from throughout Scotland and farther afield, were nearing half way on their mammoth 450 mile trek over four days in aid of Macmillan Cancer

Support. One of the colourful bikers, Kate Anderson said: 'There are about 80 people taking part this year including 15 men who have come to support us but the condition is they have to wear decorated bras over their leathers although some really go for it.'

A memory tree, in honour of loved ones lost to cancer was also unveiled along the route in Aviemore.

Kate added: 'We have lost three of the women who have taken part over the last four years and some of the women taking part are currently undergoing treatment for cancer, that in itself is an inspiration.'

As well as raising money for charity - around £50,000 this year and almost £185,000 over the previous four - the group also hopes to encourage more women to take up biking, they cater for

all abilities with even learners joining in.

'It is a great event and it grows every year,' said Kate, 'the inspiration from these women and friendships that can be made - it is just like one big family.'

The group finished their trek in Glasgow's George Square last year, but after the city council took £1,200 for the service it was decided to end at Loch Lomond's shores this year.



The Breast Way Around bikers set off from Oban. 16. 123bikers01

Four out of five adults use their local paper to find out what's on. Source: Consumers' Choice V. The Newspaper Society. Regional Press closer to home.



Pictured at Lochnell Primary School's willow den, which was opened during the school's jubilee party, are nursery pupils Lewis MacCuish and Elizabeth Needham, with primary five pupil Amelia Mactagart, who was given the honour of declaring the den open after she won Lochnell's Got Talent. 15_123lochnell02

A LONG WEEKEND of jubilee celebrations took place throughout the west coast with everything from duck races to dances held in honour of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Oban's jubilee swing kicked off the party in style on Friday night as almost 100 performers put on a show to remember in the Argyllshire Gathering Halls. The event was organised by the winter festival committee who even made their own bunting for the occasion.

Louis Barrow, committee member said: 'It is an event for the whole community, nobody else was having a jubilee party so we thought we should.'

The following day saw a colourful duck race in Oban, hosted by the RNLI, it raised £1146.10 although a call out to a grounded yacht saw them race to the rescue.

A cry for boats to gather in Oban Bay on Saturday evening was put out by local businessman Graham MacQueen and the lifeboat took centre stage covered in bunting. Kilmelford Village Hall was the venue for one of the region's jubilee lunches on Sunday as young and old gathered to share in a spot of home baking, musical entertainment and even a competition for the best crown.

Organiser, Olga Salmond said: 'The day has gone really well, there have been about 100 people here and some I don't even recognise.'

Meanwhile across the road the fire station opened their doors to allow children to explore while Blaze the Bear appeared to be the main attraction.

A fun day at Taynuilt sports field saw bogey races, crazy

shinty and even a barbeque that got a bit too hot to handle.

A mini shinty tournament was also taking place with senior and under 14s teams from Taynuilt, Glenorchy and Oban Celtic taking part while the Taynuilt Swing Band kept the crowd entertained.

Dolna MacDonald, one of the organisers, told *The Oban Times*: 'The day has been good and the weather has helped a lot.'

'The fun day is in aid of Taynuilt Shinty Club and Taynuilt Playgroup and we would like to make it an annual event.'

Back in Oban a special lunch was taking place for those aged 86 and over, the same age as the Queen.

The Royal Family made a special guest appearance, complete with one of the Queen's famous Corgis.

The lunch was attended by organisations from throughout the town as well as those who remembered the Queen's coronation well.

Teresa Russell, 63, attended the street party in Coronation Street and told *The Oban Times* that people had packed into her family's house at number 19 to try and watch the event on their television. Teresa who was almost five at the time said: 'I remember it as if it was yesterday, I dressed up for the day, I was a bride and a little boy in the street was my groom.'

Proudly displaying the parchment that she received for attending the party in 1953 Teresa explained that she had been invited to attend the Queen's garden party to be held at Holyroodhouse in July.



'The Royal Family' from Mary's Meals at lunch in Oban. 16_123obanlunch01



Connel held a fancy dress parade on Tuesday. 16_123connel01



The Sequence ladies choir performed at Friday night's Jubilee Swing. Picture Kevin McGlynn



The RNLI's duck race in Oban was a colourful affair. Picture Kevin McGlynn



The Oban beacon was lit in front of a floodlit McCaig's Tower. Picture Kevin McGlynn



The residents of Kilchrean and surrounding area enjoyed a Jubilee strawberry tea on Monday morning.



Left -Taynuilt fun day organisers Charlotte Reffin and Dolna MacDonald show off their jubilee cakes. 16_123taynuilt01

Right - Teresa Russell with her parchment for attending a street party during the Queen's Coronation. 16_123obanlunch04

Video of this available online OBANTIMES.CO.UK



Right - Six-year-old Rebecca MacIntyre gets to grips with Blaze the Bear during the festivities at Kilmelford 16_123kilmelford03

Kate Cameron from Glenlonan enjoys the party at Kilmore on Tuesday afternoon. Picture Kevin McGlynn



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Annual Charities Day Carnival & Street Fair
Station Square, Oban
1pm - 4pm
Saturday June 9
Carnival Parade leaves from Corran Halls for Station Square at 1.15pm

STILL LIFE; TALES FROM THE WEST BANK
Benderloch Hall 7.30pm
Tuesday 12 June 2012
An evening of story, song and image
A glimpse of life under occupation
Supported by Oban Concern for Palestine
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Art Exhibition @ Dunollie, The 1745 House
A Short Island Saga
By Lucy Johnstone
Sat 9th - Sun 24th June
Contact: 01631 570 550

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Sun 10 at 8:30pm
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Thu 7 at 5:00pm, Fri 8 at 8:30pm, Sat 9 at 5:00pm
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Kids and crofts come together in Skye and Lochalsh

CROFTING environment fun days in Skye and Lochalsh are being used to educate children in their rich crofting heritage and encourage them to become involved in the culture of crofting.

More than 230 primary school children from 11 schools across Skye and Lochalsh took part in an event held at Broadford Primary School at the end of May designed to celebrate this unique culture and environment.

The two-day event began with a welcome from Highland councillor, Audrey Sinclair who was also present as an activity provider as a beekeeper. The pupils participated in workshops under the four themes of: Crofting Culture; Food from the Croft; Croft Wildlife; and Crofting Craft and Skills.

Anne Martin and Mairi Sine

Campbell provided highly entertaining workshops on crofting culture as they sang songs and told stories in Gaelic and English. Pupils learned about food production on the croft with Audrey Sinclair, who ran a workshop on bees and honey and the delights of the dairy were discovered with Kathy Biss from West Highland Dairy, Achmore.

Meanwhile, Rag Tag 'n' Textile were on hand to teach the children to weave and Judith Bullivant of Skye and Lochalsh Environment Forum ran a work shop on dry-stane dyking. Shelagh Parlant and Sarah Stephenson from the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) held a workshop about birds on the croft focussing on comrakes, Scotland's only globally endangered bird which flies all the way from Africa to breed on island crofts. Croft

Biodiversity was the subject of another wildlife workshop as the Highland Council and National Trust for Scotland Rangers helped pupils discover everything from moths to newts.

From making butter, to designing a wildlife friendly croft, and from finding dragonfly larvae to building a wall, the event was an action-packed, hands-on learning opportunity for local children.

Gordon Wyness, head teacher of Broadford Primary School, said: "The Crofting Environment Fun Days were well organised and a considerable challenge considering the number of children involved."

"I was impressed by the number of local providers involved and the range of activities on offer. It gave excellent opportunities to all of our upper primary children

to engage with the curriculum for excellence in a very practical hands-on way. It complemented what we are doing in the school in terms of Eco-schools and Environmental Education in general."

"Ideally it should be an annual event and we would be more than happy to provide the venue in future years."

The organisers of the two day event were: Karen Macrae from Crofting Connections; Jenny Grant and John Phillips Countryside Rangers with The Highland Council's Planning and Development Service; National Trust for Scotland Rangers Gavin Skipper and Rule Anderson; and Judith Bullivant, Skye and Lochalsh Environment Forum Outreach Officer.

Jenny Grant for the team of organisers said: "We are

delighted that the events have been so popular. We've worked hard to put it together but it was a success because of all the people that have become involved in the project in some way. The most important thing for us was that the children had fun while learning about the special nature of crofts and we think they did."

The event would not have been possible without funding from Skye and Lochalsh Renewables Co-operative Limited and sponsorship from Crofting Connections, and the National Trust for Scotland at Balmacara Estate.

The organisers would also like to thank Broadford Primary School who were fantastic hosts and provided the perfect venue for the event; the skilled workshop providers who gave up their time to share their knowledge of their particular area of crofting;

the Forestry Commission, who not only gave the use of their Marquee for the event but also two staff members, Callum and Neil to put it up; and finally Catriona Bullivant, who was a fantastic help in both setting up and running the event.

The next stage of the project is for each school, accompanied by a ranger, to visit a real working croft.

The organisers are urging anyone who runs a croft and who would be willing to show their local school around their croft to please get in touch with: Jenny Grant or John Phillips - Highland Council Countryside Rangers (jenny.grant@highland.gov.uk or john.phillips@highland.gov.uk tel: 01471 820527/6); or Rule Anderson - National Trust for Scotland Ranger (Randerson@nts.org.uk tel: 08444 932231)

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Increase in sheep stealing leads to fears over stock tag security

INCIDENTS of suspected sheep rustling in various parts of Scotland due to current high market values could also trigger demand for stolen sheep identification tags.

That is the warning for industry leaders as crofters and farmers are advised to keep their replacement tags under lock and key.

Farmers are being reminded that they should keep spare and replacement sheep tags secure as these crucial identifiers could help criminals hide their tracks if they are handling stolen livestock.

After a significant number of sheep and lambs went missing - presumed stolen - in a single incident in the past few weeks, the National Farmers Union Scotland (NFUS) has highlighted the fact that in order to get value out of the animals they would need to be retagged. This could mean that tags are being stolen from other farms for this purpose.

In addition to being watchful for their stock and sheep tags, anyone trading livestock should be alert for batches of sheep and lambs from unusual sources and perhaps with a mixture of tag numbers or tag types, as they could be stolen.



NFUS works closely with police forces across Scotland to inform its members of individual incidents and emerging crime trends in their area; to advise them on how they can protect livestock and equipment and to seek help in trying to catch thieves and vandals.

NFU Scotland's President, Nigel Miller said: "Via our Farmwatch scheme, Lothian and Borders Police recently alerted NFUS and our local members to the thefts from fields. The police are rightly reminding farmers to check their stock regularly and remain vigilant for suspicious vehicles or people. In addition, I have drawn the police's attention to the potential role that stolen tags could play in helping criminals sell this stock on in a bid

to help them hide their tracks. Taking tags from a separate farm from the stolen livestock would demonstrate a high level of organisation and farmers should therefore make sure that any spare tags are stored securely as well."

Figures show that the cost of sheep rustling increased by 170 per cent between 2010 and 2011.

In the UK, it is thought that 67,000 sheep were stolen at a cost of £6 million last year. NFU mutual saw a 166 per cent rise in insurance claims of stolen livestock in Scotland.

Rural Affairs spokesman Tim Price says high meat prices and improved security on farm vehicles appear to be leading a resurgence in livestock rustling.

Tim Price, rural affairs spokesman, NFU Mutual said: "In the last year we have seen a worrying increase in thefts in all livestock rearing parts of the UK. There is a close correlation between the price of commodities and the level of theft."

"In recent years it has seen thefts of metal rocket when scrap prices have been high; thefts of diesel from farm, increases in line with oil prices, and now the same thing appears to be happening with livestock."

Ardnamurchan Limousins sell at Dingwall sale

DINGWALL and Highland Marts Ltd sold 127 store cattle and 43 Over 30 Month cattle at Dingwall last Wednesday when a very mixed show of cattle on offer, sold at similar rates to previous weeks.

Bullocks averaged 212.8p and sold to 241.8p per kg for a pen of 244kg Limousin crosses from Balraillan, Duncanston, and to 241.6p for 280kg Limousins from Ardnamurchan estate, and £1,160 for a pair of 668kg Aberdeen Angus crosses from Torachilly Farm, Contin.

Heifers averaged 194.1p and sold to 236.8p per kg for a 285kg Limousin cross from Ardnamurchan Estate, and £860 for a 435kg Limousin cross from Culkein, Stoer.

OTM prime cows averaged 149.8p and sold to 156.1p per kilo and £1350 for a 865kg Charolais from Fiddlefield, Muir of Ord.

OTM feeding cows averaged 125.5p and sold to 140.2p per kilo for a 635kg Simmental cross from Kinchyle Farm, Scanport, and £910 for a 655kg Charolais from Brenachie, Kildary.

OTM clean bullocks and heifers averaged 164.4p and sold to 188.3p per kilo and £1,205 for a 640kg Simmental cross heifer from Drummond Farm, Evanton.

OTM bulls averaged 116.7p and sold to 123.2p per kilo and £1170 for an Aberdeen Angus from Mid Fearn, Ardgay.

Rural university plan as colleges talk merger

SCOTLAND'S independent agricultural colleges of the Scottish Agricultural College (SAC), Barony College, Elmwood College and Oatridge College are to merge to create a Rural University College (SRUC) - a first in Europe.

It is hoped that the first university college in Scotland will be in operation by 2014.

Andy Robb, chairman of the merger partnership board said: "SRUC will bring together the features of four very successful colleges in their own right."

"It will be the first fully integrated tertiary education, research and consultancy institution for the rural and

land-based sectors in Europe. "We are very excited about the fact that, for the first time in Scotland, learners and stakeholders will have comprehensive and integrated expertise available for the full range of skills, training, education, research and business support."

The college partners have appointed SAC's chief executive and principal, Professor Bob Webb, to head the new combined body. A shadow board, with representatives from all of the colleges, is now being established to drive progress and action ahead of August 1, when the new SRUC board will assume responsibility.

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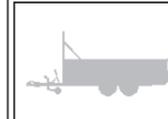
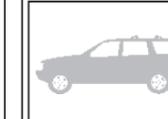
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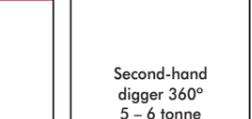
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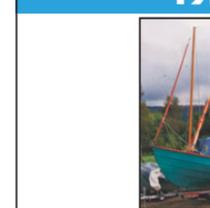
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An enthusiastic, multi-skilled Senior Reporter is required to join Wyvex Media as part of our award winning newspaper group with offices in Campbeltown, Lochgilphead, Arran and Oban.

The successful candidate will have good leadership qualities, excellent communication skills, a great deal of energy and at least two years experience. A full driving licence is essential.

This is an exciting opportunity with excellent salary and benefits package.



To apply, please send a covering letter of application with CV to Oban Times Ltd, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB. Email: ali@wyvexmedia.co.uk

Scottish Natural Heritage is the leading public body responsible for advising Ministers on matters relating to the natural heritage. The natural environment is a key asset that underpins Scotland's wealth, health and quality of life. Our job is to conserve this resource, to promote its sustainable management and to encourage people to access and enjoy it responsibly.

Seasonal Ghillie (2 posts)
37 hours a week including weekends and working out with normal office hours, Temporary until 21st December 2012
Starting salary: £13,996 per annum
Location: Isle of Rum
(Ref: 044-385 & 044-386)

You will be responsible to the Reserve Officer on Rum for delivery of SNH functions as described during the red deer cull. The post will require working in a small team and may require working outside conditioned hours including some weekend work.

Shared accommodation will be provided for the duration of the post within Kinloch village at a cost of £80 a month.

You must have experience of working with ponies, and experience of deer management, extraction and larding techniques. You must also have experience of, or familiarity with, the Health & Safety at Work Act. You will have a driving licence or other means of transport available to you as you are required to drive as part of this role. Finally, a reasonable level of physical fitness is required to be able to work in upland areas and in adverse weather.

We're as supportive, committed and proud of our people as we are of the natural world around us. Find out more, and apply, online. Alternatively, call 01463 725182.
Closing date: Friday 15 June 2012.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

The applications listed below, along with plans and other documents submitted with them, may be examined between the hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays) at the AREA PLANNING AND BUILDING STANDARDS OFFICE, FULTON HOUSE, GORDON SQUARE, FORT WILLIAM, PH33 6XY; online at www.highland.gov.uk and, where given, the alternative location(s).

Written comments should be made to the EPC at the contact details below within the time period indicated from the date of this notice. Anyone making a representation about this proposal should note that their letter or email will be disclosed to any individual or body who requests sight of representations in respect of this proposal.

Reference Number	Development Address	Proposal Description	Time period for comments
12/01956/FUL	Liddesdale Hydro Scheme Laudale Estate Ardgour	Installation of hydroelectric scheme	(14 days)
12/01959/FUL	Allt Na H-Airigh Hydroscheme Laudale Estate Ardgour	Installation of hydroelectric scheme	(14 days)
12/01960/FUL	Cloiche/Creiche Hydro Scheme Laudale Estate Ardgour	Installation of 900kW hydroscheme	(14 days)
12/01982/FUL	Site 45m East Of 13 Upper Inverroy Roy Bridge	Erection of house and garage	(14 days)
12/02023/LBC	Kilmallo House Coppach Fort William	External alterations to door and window openings and internal alterations to refurbish and alter existing self contained accommodation	Regulation 5 - affecting the character of a listed building (21 days)
12/02024/FUL	8 Torlundy Road Cool Fort William	Installation of domestic 8.5kw air source heat pump	(14 days)
12/02049/FUL	The Crafter 7 High Street Fort William	Erection of external staircase and first floor external seating area	(14 days)
12/02089/FUL	Birchwood Camoghaol Fort William	Change of use of existing house and self contained unit to children's residential care home	(14 days)
12/02093/FUL	Land 70m NE of Nursery Cottage Stronfian	Construction of dystone wall at start of Phiemies Walk	(14 days)

PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW ADDRESS
 ePlanning Centre, The Highland Council, Glenurquhart Road, INVERNESS IV3 5NX
 Email: eplanning@highland.gov.uk

THE MOORINGS HOTEL

DUTY MANAGER

The Moorings Hotel is seeking an experienced person to join our management team. The ideal candidate will have a proven track record in hospitality, an outgoing personality and a strong awareness of quality standards.

Applicants should -

- Be able to motivate and manage staff
- Have Food and Beverage experience
- Have a good knowledge of required standards in Cooksafe and Scottish Licensing laws.
- Be computer literate, with a good command of the English language.

A good salary is offered dependent on experience.

Applications with CV to:- David Macdonald, Hotel Manager, Moorings Hotel, Banavie, Fort William, PH33 7LY

Oban Times RECRUITMENT

Oban Times RECRUITMENT

Oban Times RECRUITMENT

MACLEOD

MACLEOD CONSTRUCTION LTD

REQUIRE

CONTRACT SUPERVISOR

FOR ARGYLL AND THE ISLANDS
 WRITTEN APPLICATIONS / C.V. TO
 MacLeod Construction Ltd
 Kilmory Industrial Estate, Lochgilphead
 PA31 8RR.
 e-mail - lil@mkmacleod.co.uk

OBAN CARAVAN AND CAMPING PARK

Cleaners required to clean accommodation for holiday lets.
 Saturday
 9am - 4pm
 Tel: 01631 562425 / 07919940234

R E Campbell (Joinery) Ltd

Driver/Yard Man and General Labourer with construction experience

Contact 01397 712561
 For further information

Arlene's Coffee Shop

Require Seasonal staff - full or part time
 To work in our busy coffee shop Craignure, Isle of Mull.
 Applicant should be hard working and friendly.
 Please apply in writing to arlenerobbie@msn.com

To find out more about living and working in argyll & bute visit us @ www.argyll-bute.gov.uk



PLANNING

These applications listed below together with other related documents may be inspected between 09:00 - 17:00hrs Monday to Friday at Municipal Buildings Albany Street Oban PA34 4AW, at the alternative locations detailed below or by logging on to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk. Written comments for the following list of applications should be made to the above address within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 (AS AMENDED), RELATED PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

Ref	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
12/01172/LIB	Erection of 3 illuminated poster box signs, 6 illuminated lightstrips and frosted film applied to 2 windows	Bank of Scotland Station Road Oban Argyll and Bute PA34 4LL	Oban Area Office

These applications listed below together with other related documents may be inspected between 09:00 - 17:00hrs Monday to Friday at 67 Chalmers Street Ardrishaig PA30 8DX, at the alternative locations detailed below or by logging on to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk. Written comments for the following list of applications should be made to the above address within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence.

Argyll and Bute council encourages planning applications to be made on-line through The Scottish Government website: <https://eplanning.scotland.gov.uk>

The Council maintain a Register of planning applications which can be viewed during normal office hours at Planning and Regulatory Services, Whitegates Offices, Whitegates Road, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8SY.

A weekly list of applications can be viewed at the above address and at all Council Libraries.

Any letter of representation the Council receives is considered a public document and will be published on our website. Anonymous or marked confidential correspondence will not be considered.

Oban Times RECRUITMENT

LEITHS

Leiths (Scotland) Ltd is a family-owned construction and construction materials group that has expanded in recent years to become one of the largest independent companies operating in this sector throughout Scotland. Today, the company employs in excess of 500 people with a turnover approaching £50 million.

We currently have the following vacancies:

QUARRY PLANT OPERATIVE (DORNIE QUARRY, FORT WILLIAM)
HGV DRIVER / GENERAL QUARRY OPERATIVE (TORRIN QUARRY, SKYE)

For further details of these roles and to download an application form please visit our website www.leiths-group.co.uk or alternatively contact Nichola Greig on (01224) 293210 or via email recruitment@leiths-group.co.uk

The closing date for all applications is Friday 15 June 2012

Leiths (Scotland) Ltd are an equal opportunities employer

JEWSON

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With over 500 branches across the country, Jewson is the UK's leading supplier of timber and building products to the trade and general public.

We are currently looking for an Assistant Branch Manager at our Campbeltown branch.

In this role you will be supporting the Branch Manager to maximise profitability and helping to achieve set targets. You should be able to build great customer relationships and lead an effective team. Part of your role will include developing and managing the rest of the team and promoting the services and products we offer. You will also be involved in ensuring the branch operates in a professional manner.

To apply, please visit www.sgbdcareers.co.uk.

harmony Recruitment & Development

In-Work Support Officer - Oban

£16,015 per annum plus benefits.

As an In-Work Support Officer you will be required to contact clients offering support whilst also checking and tracking their progress. You will be required to maintain regular contact with the client via the phone ensuring that all KPI's are met. You will also receive some inbound calls from clients who have recently commenced employment and require in-work support.

We are interested in speaking to enthusiastic applicants with the following qualities:

- Natural flair for communication
- Customer Service experience.
- Positive attitude
- Excellent problem solving skills
- Ability to work in a fast and target driven environment

Candidates who have experience of working in a Call Centre where targets must be met and exceeded would be an advantage.

Hours of Work: 37.5 hours, Monday - Friday, with every 3rd Saturday 9am - 2pm as scheduled. 2 evenings per week up to 8pm with time off in lieu
 Basic Disclosure required

To apply please send your CV to philipar@harmonyrecruitment.co.uk
 Or call Harmony Recruitment and ask for Pip Radcliffe - Tel: 01786 431498

CROFTING COMMISSION COIMISEAN NA CROITEARACHD DECROFTING APPLICATION

Applicant, Croft, Extent/Purpose, Case number
 Mr I MacKinnon
 5 Cornaigmore, Tiree
 0.0157 ha - Existing house site
 4.86.38850

Comments can be made to the Crofting Commission by any member of the crofting community within the locality of the land, within 14 days of the date of this newspaper.

Crofting Commission, Great Glen House, Leachkin Road, Inverness IV3 8NW or info@crofting.scotland.gov.uk

MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010 INSTALLATION OF PONTOONS, KERRERA AND GALLANACH

Notice is hereby given that Isle of Kerrera Development Trust has applied to the Scottish Ministers of the Scottish Government, under Part 4 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, in respect of pontoon installation at:

Description Location	Latitude Co-ordinates	Longitude Co-ordinates
Kerrera and Gallanach	56 24.03' N	05 30.98' W
	56 24.02' N	05 30.95' W
	56 24.03' N	05 30.98' W
	56 24.02' N	05 30.95' W
	56 23.87' N	05 30.49' W
	56 23.85' N	05 30.47' W
	56 23.87' N	05 30.50' W
	56 23.85' N	05 30.48' W

(WGS84)

Plans showing the position of the works may be inspected at [OBAN LIBRARY ALBANY STREET OBAN].

Objections relating to the safety of navigation or environmental issues in respect of the application should be made in writing to:

Licensing Operations Team, Marine Scotland, Marine Laboratory, 375 Victoria Road, Aberdeen, AB11 9DB within 28 days of the date of this notice or by email: MS.Marinelicensing@scotland.gsi.gov.uk quoting reference: **FKB/A1350**

ISLE OF KERRERA DEVELOPMENT TRUST
 The School House, Kerrera, PA34 4SX

DECROFTING DIRECTIONS ISSUED

Name, Croft, Extent/Reason, Conditions, Case number
 Dr W & Mrs E MacDonald
 22 Anahieit, Ardnarmurchan & Sunart
 0.046 ha - Amenity ground
 4.86.37572
 Conditions: 3 & 4

Dr & Mrs I McKee
 51 Ormsaigbeg, Ardnarmurchan & Sunart
 0.003 ha - Amenity ground
 4.86.38284
 Conditions: 3 & 4

Conditions

(3) Complete enclosure of the land with a stock proof fence within 4 months of the date of the direction
 (4) That fence shall be maintained in good order and repair by each successive owner or occupier of the land.

Any person with an interest in the application may appeal against a decision to the Scottish Land Court within 42 days of the date of this advert.

Ormsaigbeg Common Grazings

Meeting to elect a new grazings committee on Monday 18th June at 7pm, in Kilchoan Community Centre.

CROFTERS COMMISSION COIMISEAN NA CROITEARACHD APPLICATION TO CREATE A NEW CROFT

Mr Colin Hodge of Achalic Farm, Lerags is applying to create a new croft. 5.01.37988

Comments can be made to the Crofting Commission by any member of the crofting community within the locality of the land, within 28 days of the date of this newspaper.

Crofting Commission, Great Glen House, Leachkin Road, Inverness IV3 8NW info@crofting.scotland.gov.uk

Please specify your interest in the application and your reasons for objecting. A copy of any representations made will be forwarded to the applicant.

Lochaber Fisheries Trust Ltd

SC:024490

Will hold their A.G.M on Thursday 28th June, 2012 Torlundy Training Centre, Torlundy, at 10.15am.

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BABY EQUIPMENT

HIGH CHAIR Mothercare, excellent condition, cost £45, £20 Telephone 01631 564886.

INFANT CAR SEAT Britax forward facing (9 mths to 4 yrs). Very good condition. Cost £115, £45 Telephone 01631 564886.

WOODEN COT, £15 Telephone 01631 562214.

BICYCLES

MOUNTAIN BIKE Avenger Freespirit, 18gears, 20inch wheels, Oban, buyer collects, in good condition, £400no Telephone 07749 521916.

BUILDING / DIY

LADDER two piece, wooden, with metal rungs, good condition. Always stored indoors. 2 x 16 foot giving approx 30 foot when fully extended, £49 Telephone 07801 352184.

CAR ACCESSORIES

COVER MGF Tonneau, black, in new condition, £49 Telephone 07801 352184.

CATERING EQUIPMENT

COMMERCIAL KITCHEN TO CLEAR Stainless Steel: 4 tables, 3 sinks, 4 cupboards, oven, large hood, big fridge, + other equipment. In good order, will split, £2500 Telephone 01852 300276.

DOMESTIC PETS

COCKER SPANIEL PUPPIES (gorgeous pups) they are all blue roan/black spots. 2 dogs, 2 bitches left. Ready on June 21st, reserve now. Family/croft reared, £300 Telephone 01967 402226.

LABRADOR PUPS 2 black dogs and one yellow dog, KC Reg, by FTCH Leadburn Viceroy, bitch can be seen, £400 Telephone 0141 9423380(J Blair, Bearsden).

LAKELAND TERRIER PUPPIES males only, wire haired. Ready to go, wormed. Telephone 07968 137800.

WEST HIGHLAND TERRIER PUPS fully pedigreed, ready in two weeks, can deliver, £375 Telephone 01586 810223.

FURNITURE

BED SETTEE in reasonable condition, £9 Telephone 01631 564848 Office Hours.

CHEST OF DRAWERS small oak with mirror (circa 1950s), £40 Telephone 01852 200227.

COMPUTER TABLE Ikea beech with glass front and room for printer. Cost £120, £45 Telephone 01631 564886.

DESK/BENCH useful desk/bench for a shed, £2 Telephone 01631 564848 Office Hours.

DISPLAY UNIT three foot wide display unit with glass doors and three wide drawers below, £16 Telephone 01631 564848 Office Hours.

ELECTRIC RISING SINGLE BED in excellent condition, £35 Telephone 01631 564848 Office Hours.

LOUNGE SUITE brown patterned lounge suite of 3 seater settee and 2 chairs and footstool. Very comfortable, £14 Telephone 01631 564848 Office Hours.

PINE FRAMED SINGLE BED spotless mattress, £24 Telephone 01631 564848 Office Hours.

SHELF UNIT small low pine shelf unit, £6 Telephone 01631 564848 Office Hours.

TELEVISION TABLE wide glass television table for a flat screen TV, £12 Telephone 01631 564848 Office Hours.

GARDEN

WEED WIZARD butane gas path weed burner, only used once, £25 Telephone 01631 562768.

HEATING, FIRES AND FIREPLACES

DIMPLEX STORAGE HEATERS XL 18N and XL 24N, £20 the pair Telephone 07849 871196.

JOTUL NO. 1 WOODSTOVE up to 7 kilowatt. Classic woodburner in good condition, top or rear flue, door can slide away underneath to become open fire, can email pics, £425 Telephone 01397 722374.

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PEARLISED PAPER & CARD White, Blue and Pink colours available in A3/A4/A5 sizes, from 13p per sheet. Contact Krisp Print. Telephone 01586 554975.

HOME ENTERTAINMENT

TELEVISION small Panasonic (not flat screen) and Magic Eye (links 2nd TV to digibox to save buying another one), £30 Telephone 01852 200227.

HOME FURNISHINGS

LAMP attractive wooden standard (circa 1950s), £40 Telephone 01852 200227.

HOME OFFICE

DESK teak colour, h71cms, w132cms, d76cms, buyer collects, £450no Telephone 01866 822071.

DESK Modern black kneehole desk with lockable cupboard, £15 Telephone 01631 564848 Office Hours.

KITCHEN AND BATHROOM

ACRYLIC BATH PANELS white acrylic 1-1700x510,

1-700x510. Brand new unused B&Q list price £34.98 sell for, £20 Telephone 01631 562711.

LIVESTOCK

WEANERS FOR SALE outside bred Tamworth/Duroc ready now. Telephone 01838 300337 or 07887 886333.

WORKING COLLIE SHEEPDOG 4 years old, can be seen working or trial arranged, Telephone 01967 402045.

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LOST in Gruline/Calgary area of Mull between May 27 and June 3 antique gold fob watch in engraved case together with 22 inch gold chain. Finder please telephone John Bartholomew on 01688 400420 or hand in to local Police Station. Reward £75.

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CHILD'S LIFE JACKET Crew saver, up to 20 kg, approx age 3-6 yrs, multi coloured, £15 Telephone 01546 600103.

CHILDS WET SUIT Osprey full length age 4-6yrs, £12 Telephone 01546 600103.

PHOTOGRAPHY

MEMORY CARDS XD camera 1x16MB, 1x128MB and 1x256MB, £10 Telephone 01852 200227.

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LAMINATING Keep your important documents safe from dust, dirt, tears and creases. A4-£2, A3-£3. Contact Krisp Print. Telephone 01586 554975.

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style or occasion, come supplied with envelopes. 50 invites & envelopes for £28.00. From Krisp Print. Telephone 01586 554975.

TRAILERS

CAR TRAILER Beavertail trailer with fold down loading ramp, 10ft x 6ft, 3 axle, galv floor, suit garden contractor, £500 Telephone 07775 665503.

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BEST PRICES FOR Copper, Brass, Lead Batteries. All types of Cable. Collection throughout Argyll & Islands. Telephone 07770 724851 or 0800 9596483. SCRAP METAL all types of scrap metal, we uplift scrap cars, call Mr Cook, West Coast Scrap Metals. Telephone 01499 500638 or 07787 991636.

PERSONALS

Mr Angus MacIntosh, 7 Croft Avenue, Oban, wishes to thank all those who sent gifts and cards and telephoned on the occasion of his recent 80th birthday.

Special thanks to Agnes, Peggy and Neil for arranging celebrations at the Eagle Lodge, Bishopbriggs, and Cuan Mhor, Restaurant, Oban.

Deo Gratias

Happy 21st
9.6.91
Jacqueline Shona MacAlister



Love from Dad, Mum, Sharon and Pamela

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If you don't sell in the first week, we will insert your paid for advert FREE in the next available issue

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.

If no correct entry is received, two 'near miss' prizes of £25 will be awarded. When the jackpot is won, no other prizes will be awarded that week.

Easy to enter

Cut out your completed coupon and put your entry plus £1 per 20 attempts into a sealed envelope and post it to "Spot the Shinty Ball" Competition, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB by 12noon Tuesday. You may hand it into The Oban Times Head Office, Lochavullin, Oban by the same time. Otherwise all entries must be posted.

Competition Rules

No responsibility will be accepted for entries which are delayed, mislaid or lost, and proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery.

The Company's decision is final on all matters relating to the competition and no correspondence will be entered into. The final decision rests with the Company.

In the event of more than one correct entry, the jackpot will be shared equally between all winning entries. Any decision regarding the awarding of a prize is entirely at the discretion of the Company.

The Company reserves the right to declare the competition null and void at any time, subject to its discretion and to make full refund of the price of the coupon to any person who has entered the competition at that time.

Employees of The Oban Times Limited, their immediate relatives and any person otherwise connected with the competition are ineligible to enter.

WIN £1100

LAST WEEK'S SHINTY BALL WAS HERE...

This week's nearest the ball winners, who each receive £25 are:

Fiona Logan Lunga Road, Oban
J McNulty Tayvallich, Argyll

Spot the SHINTY BALL Competition

I enclose £1 for 20 crosses (tick box) The maximum number of attempts on this coupon is 20, but you may enter on separate coupons as many times as you wish. No photocopies allowed. You agree to abide by the rules. How to enter: Mark your crosses using a ballpoint pen. Twenty crosses may be put on this coupon for £1. Send to 'Spot the Shinty Ball' Competition, The Oban Times, P.O. Box 1, Oban PA34 4HB

Name

Address

..... Tel No.

Please tape your £1 coin here

CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE FOR ADVERTISEMENTS

YOUR attention is drawn to the following terms and conditions which relate to the placing of advertisements in all publications owned by Wyvex Media Limited.

Parties to this agreement are the Publisher, Wyvex Media Limited Limited on the one part and the Advertiser on the other part. The Publisher publishes newspapers, magazines, books and provides advertising space thereon or provides for the delivery of advertising materials to the public within these publications.

1. Advertising copy shall be legal, decent, honest and truthful and comply with the British Code of Advertising Practice and all other codes.
2. The Publisher does not guarantee the insertion of any particular advertisement.
3. The Publisher reserves the right to cancel or alter the advertisement by giving reasonable notice.
4. An order for an advertisement shall be deemed to be made on acceptance of the advertiser's order by the Publisher whether placed by telephone, mail, fax or in person.
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Long-serving Oban Times staff retire

Former employees had combined service of 49 years

TWO EMPLOYEES of Wyvex Media, the group that owns The Oban Times, have retired after a combined 49 years' service.

Christine MacBryde, who was the group's personnel officer, and photographer Roy Summers retired at the end of May.

Christine moved to Oban in 1973 from Greenock and initially worked at Royal Bank of Scotland.

She joined The Oban Times as cashier in 1985 and became personnel officer in 1993, a position she held until her retirement.

The 66 year old said: 'The Oban Times has been an excellent company to work for and all my colleagues have added to the enjoyment of working there. It was a very interesting job and it would be safe to say that no two days were ever the same.'

'I am proud of being the personnel officer and being there for the staff.'

Christine and her colleagues marked her retirement with a meal at Kerrera's Waypoint Bar and Grill and her leaving gifts included jewellery by Sheila Fleet.

She added: 'I am looking forward to spending some leisure time with friends and family and taking better care of my new garden!'

Photographer Roy Summers became a well known face throughout the West Highlands during a six-year spell with The Oban Times, before which he had his own photography business.

From 1996 he worked on Wyvex Media's special publications and primarily on Scottish Field magazine.



Right: The Oban Times personnel officer Christine MacBryde pictured on her last day.

Thought for the week

The Peace of Jerusalem

EARLIER this year I had the privilege of visiting the Holy Land on a pilgrimage holiday.

We stayed in Jerusalem near to the old city walls and enjoyed visiting various sites associated with the ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ.

It was a meaningful experience to be in the land of Jesus and see the places where he walked, taught and healed those in need, where he suffered and died to take away the sin of the world.

It means that you can read the Gospel stories with a new insight and identify with many of the places mentioned in the Scriptures.

Jesus spent much time in Jerusalem.

He visited the temple with his parents as a young boy and returned there to teach during the course of his ministry.

He wept over the city because he knew he would be rejected and condemned to death within its walls.

As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it

and said: 'If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace - but now it is hidden from your eyes'.

(Luke 19:41) While we felt quite safe walking within the old city of Jerusalem we were always aware of an underlying tension that seemed to threaten the fragile peace that exists.

The Psalmist says: 'Pray for the peace of Jerusalem.' (Psalm 122:6) Jesus told his disciples before he suffered and died, 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you.'

We all long for peace in our own troubled hearts and for peace in a troubled world.

Only Jesus can give to us a lasting peace that the world cannot give or take away.

We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Turn from sin and come to Christ and experience this wonderful peace for yourself.

Rev. George G. Cringles, Minister of Coll and Connel

Bed and Breakfast wins certificate of excellence

A MULL Bed and Breakfast has been awarded the 2012 Certificate of Excellence by online review site TripAdvisor.

Cuidhe Leathain B&B in Tobermory has joined the 10 per cent of businesses on the site to have the award.

Owners Alan and Jeannette Hodson said they were delighted with the award: 'We value our guests and we very much value their comments on TripAdvisor.'

'This award coincided with Visit Scotland upgrading us to four stars and they have also confirmed we retain our Visit

Scotland gold star status. It also coincided with my birthday, so the best present ever.'

A TripAdvisor spokesman added: 'Only the best in the business are awarded a Certificate of Excellence and we recognise your 5 rating as an exceptional achievement.'

To qualify for the Certificate of Excellence, businesses must maintain an overall rating of four or higher, out of a possible five, as reviewed by travellers on TripAdvisor. Additional criteria include the volume of reviews received in 12 months.

DEATHS

ARMSTRONG - Robert of Lochgoilhead and Ayr aged 83, dearly loved father, granddad, brother and uncle. Sorely missed.

FRASER - John (AKA Jock), passed away peacefully in Abbeyfield Residential Home, Ballachulish, on May 30. Loving husband of Morag, father to Margaret, John James, Kay and Hamish, grandfather to Glenn and Amanda.

FRASER - Peacefully at home with his family around him on June 4 2012. John Alexander. Beloved husband of Cathie, loving father of Iain and Louise and the late Ann, much loved grampa of Hamish and Michael, father-in-law of Christopher, Hannah and Pauline, dear brother-in-law and uncle and friend to many. Funeral service will take place at Duncansburgh/MacIntosh Church at 2pm Friday June 8. Interment at New Kilmalie Cemetery.

KEATE - Susan Angela (née Vian), suddenly in Malta aged 80. A friend of Harry since 1941 and a devoted wife since 1954, much beloved by David, Venetia, Iona and Angus and eight grandchildren. Funeral at St John's Cathedral, Oban at 1pm on Monday, June 11 and afterwards at Kilmilly Cemetery. No flowers please.

MACLAREN - Peacefully at Lynn of Lorne Care Home, Benderloch on May 28, 2012. Isabella (Belle) MacLaren (née Cameron) aged 90, formerly of 3 Elisabeth Place, Ballachulish. Beloved wife of the late Alastair MacLaren and a much loved aunt and great aunt, who will be sorely missed. At her own request a quiet family cremation was held at Carrross on Tuesday June 5, 2012, with interment at Duror.

MACLEOD - Iain, Appin. Very suddenly at home on Tuesday, May 28, 2012, aged 59, beloved husband of Linda and dad of Iain Fergie, much loved brother, brother-in-law and uncle. Funeral details to be confirmed. Family flowers only please.

MORRISON - Peacefully after a long illness bravely borne, on May 29, 2012, aged 59, Hugh (Proprietor of Hughie's Burger Van). Sadly missed by all family and friends. Funeral took place Wednesday June 6.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

DOUGLAS - The family of the late Helen Douglas would like to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for all their kind words, letters, telephone calls and flowers they received following their very sad loss, also to the Rev Carolann Erskine for a beautiful service, Dr Devlin for her caring ministrations, the Macmillan and district nurses, especially Clair for their constant care and support of Helen. Also Jason from Strang & McLagan for his personal and professional care. She will be very sadly missed.

MACKAY - The family of the late Rosemarie MacKay wish to express their sincere thanks to all relatives, friends and neighbours for all their thoughts, prayers and kindness following our sad loss, and for the overwhelming presence at St John's Cathedral. And to the medical profession, and Macmillan Nurses, especially Hilary Brown, to whom we all extend great gratitude for her support and strength, also Dr Jesperson. Grateful thanks to Canon Allan Maclean and Rev Iain Walters for such a moving funeral service, and to Hamish Hoey & Sons for their compassion and guidance. Thanks also to Julie MacFadyen for her beautiful rendition of Mo Chaoin Chailin. The sum of £1200.86 was raised to be shared between Macmillan Nurses and Breathe Easy(Oban).

MEMORIALS

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.

FERGUSON - In loving memory of a dear husband, dad and granpa Angus, died June 11, 1993. Loved and remembered every day.

- Catherine and family.

GILLIES - In loving memory of Tina, much loved daughter, wife and mum.

It broke our hearts to lose you But you didn't go alone For part of us went with you The day God called you home.

- Love Mum, Alistair, John and Charlene.

KEMP - Johanna Kemp (Joey), died May 31, 2009. Treasured memories of a loving mum and gran. Forever in our thoughts - Love from Morag, Hugh and Lisa xxx

MACINTYRE - In loving memory of our mum, Annette, died June 6, 1991. In our thoughts everyday.

xx

- Donna, Andrew, Iain and family

POWER - Fond memories of Heckie, died June 6, 1988.

- From family in Fort William.

ECCLESIASTICAL NOTICES

ASSOCIATED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, OBAN
Campbell Street Church
Sunday 10 June 2012
11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.
Phone-In 'Worship Link' available
Rev. Archie McPhail MA, MTh
(01631) 567076
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SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH ANGLICAN COMMUNION
Sunday 10 June 2012
Trinity 1
St Columba's, Oban
Holy Communion..... 08.00
Sung Eucharist..... 10.15
Sunday School and Creche
Loop System
Large Print Hymn Books
All Welcome
St Columba, Gruinle, Mull
Holy Communion..... 11.00
St Columba,
Bishop's House, Iona
Holy Eucharist..... 08.00
Evensong..... 20.15
Holy Eucharist
Wed 13 June 14.30

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Oban's McKelvie Road - where everybody knows your name

WHILE many throughout Argyll were celebrating the jubilee at the weekend a group of neighbours in Oban took the opportunity to get to know each other instead.

Not long ago in a quiet corner of McKelvie Road, resident Maria Bootsma saw a small boy fall off his bike.

Help
Going to help she realised that she did not know who his parents were - or where they lived - and having stayed in the area for over a year decided to do something about it.

'The kids all play together, and that is what today is about,' Maria told *The Oban Times* on Sunday.

Standing among neighbours with a party atmosphere in the air and the children clearly enjoying themselves she added: 'It is so nice to meet the parents of these children and to know whose child is whose.'

Atmosphere
'The neighbours have all helped and there has been a really good atmosphere. I have met people I have never even seen before.'

With barbecues on the go, games and even a bouncy castle for the children it's safe to say that the residents in a corner of McKelvie Road now know each other's names.



The youngsters take full advantage of having a bouncy castle on their street. 16_123mckelvie01

Ladies step out for breast cancer charity



Team Atlantis Leisure warm up for their Moonwalk. 15_122moonwalk01

Team Atlantis in marathon effort

A TEAM of women representing Atlantis Leisure will be stepping out in aid of breast cancer charities when they take part in this year's Moonwalk in Edinburgh.

Overnight

The 14-strong group has a goal to raise at least £100 per member ahead of the annual overnight walk in Inverleith Park on June 9.

The Moonwalk raises awareness and money for breast cancer support groups and sees thousands of walkers, dressed in their bras, descend on the capital to walk the marathon distance overnight.

The Atlantis Leisure team recently limbered up with a 22-mile walk from the Sealife Centre to Appin and back.



L-R: Martin Henricksen, Niamh Macaulay, Thomas Bland, Cailean Wilkinson and Daniel Silaowski have all made their cadet promise. 16_123cadets01

Squadron's new members

THE OBAN squadron of the Air Training Corps officially gained five new members last week.

The 13-year-olds had been attending for a few months but only recently made their cadet promise to become full members of 2521 squadron.

The new air cadets, who can stay with the squadron until they are 20, will now continue their training.

www.obantimes.co.uk/digital

Relax and enjoy Your local news from wherever you are.

Camanchd Cup KO for two premier league teams

Glenurquhart and Bute exit national cup at the hands of Lochaber and Skye

LOCHABER Camanchd's 4-0 demolition of premier side Bute at Spean Bridge on Saturday provided evidence Michael Delaney's men have become a team to be feared - by any team taking the field against them, no matter its quality.

More importantly, Lochaber's impressive win, which takes them through to the Scottish Hydro Camanchd Cup quarter-finals, sets them up perfectly for next weekend's Co-operative MacTavish Cup final against Newtonmore at Bught Park.

Against Bute, Lochaber grabbed the initiative from the start and Ben Delaney opened the scoring on 15 minutes.

Stuart Callison, who is turning into a real talent, then made the rest of the game his own by grabbing a hat-trick, scoring either side of half-time and late on.

Delaney told The Oban Times: 'That's got to be up there among the best performances of the season. I know Bute were not at full strength, but that's nothing to do with us.'

'I was very pleased with the way the boys played and the way they went about them. Stuart Callison is a real big part of the squad. He's maturing into a terrific player. He has always had the skill, but he's filled out and is benefiting from playing alongside like-minded players.'

KILMALLIE return to league duty for a must win match against fellow Orion Group Premiership strugglers Bute at Canal Parks on Saturday.

The Blues turned in a scintillating second half performance to dump local rivals Fort William out of the Scottish Hydro Camanchd Cup last weekend - and will need to repeat that form to pocket two vital points.

With only eight games left Kilmallie are running out of matches to close the gap on the teams above them, but still have it within their gift to plot their escape from the drop zone.

Club chairman Hugh MacIntyre was delighted the team is in

at Inveraray the previous week - and coach Johnston Gill is looking for the same commitment from his players against The Fort.

The An Aird men go into the match in less than ideal form after being knocked out of the Camanchd Cup by Kilmallie, but Gill is under no illusions of the scale of the task in hand.

He told The Oban Times: 'Fort William will be smarting from that defeat and we will have to be ready for the backlash.'

'But our young boys have done really, really well this season and competition for places is very strong. A lot of the older players will have to start looking

SHINTY

when Alan Palmer fired home.

The impressive Jordie Murchison shot Skye ahead a minute before the break and the home side closed out a tense second half to win 2-1.

Delighted Skye coach Willie MacRae told The Oban Times the absence of key players such as Gibs MacDonald, Iain Nicolson and Iain Morrison had not proved too great a handicap, such is competition for places in the first team.

He told The Oban Times: 'The boys played superbly well and showed we have strength in depth when it matters - which is a big change from the past few years.'

'Stevie Morrison, Shockie MacLennan and Alan MacLeod were immense in defence, as was John MacLeod in goal. I also thought Chris Rose had a stunning game at full centre up against Eddie Tembo.'



Kilmallie forward Grant MacKenzie and Fort defender Neil Robertson fought out a tough duel throughout the cup tie.

KYLES ATHLETIC'S assault on the Scottish Hydro Camanchd Cup title came unstuck against a plucky Glasgow Mid Argyll team last Saturday.

Although the home side are a division below their Tighna-bruach opponents, they used home advantage well by thwarting Kyles' normally devastating attack to get a 1-1 draw.

Robbie MacLeod gave Kyles the lead early on but GMA's Andy Mathie scored on 82 minutes to earn a replay in Argyll.

LOVAT will go top of the Orion Group Premiership if they can conjure up a win against long term leaders Newtonmore at Balglate Park on Saturday.

The Kiltarilty men have been the season's real dark horses, and continued their impressive run of form by thumping Kilmory 6-0 in the Scottish Hydro Camanchd Cup last weekend to go through to the quarter-final.

Lovat were 4-0 up at the break with goals from Greg Matheson, Lorne Mackay, Martin Bell and Owen Ferguson before Matheson and Bell completed the rout.

Newtonmore will present a much sterner test but the prize of taking over at the top of the Premiership is a tantalising one for Allan MacRae's men.

NEWTONMORE warmed up for their top of the table clash against Lovat at Balglate Park on Saturday with a 7-0 demolition of Beaulieu in the Scottish Hydro Camanchd Cup last weekend to earn a quarter-final place.

'More were held to 0-0 at half-time by resilient Beaulieu, but second half doubles from Glen MacIntosh and Chris Sellar, added to strikes from Aekie MacRae, John MacKenzie and Evan Menzies gave Norman MacArthur's men a comprehensive win.

KINGUSSIE take on Glenurquhart in the Artemis Macaulay Cup at Blairbeg Park after battling to a 1-1 draw at Kinlochshiel in the Scottish Hydro Camanchd Cup last Saturday.

Ronald Ross looked to have set Kings on their way with an early strike but 'Shiel's John MacRae levelled matters.

Stevie Borthwick must now lift his men for their second cup game in as many weeks for the clash with Glenurquhart.

GLENURQUHART will be smarting after being dumped out of the Camanchd Cup by North



Finlay MacRae marshalled Ronald Ross superbly after the Kings forward grabbed an early goal. Photo: Lorraine MacDiarmid.

Change of personnel at Oban Camanchd

WHOLESALE changes have been made at Oban Camanchd following a turbulent two weeks, which saw its management team step down and player Matt Rippon suspended by the club.

Resigned

The club's new president, Tony Howlett, confirmed co-managers Diarmid MacMillan and Andrew Pearson had resigned at an emergency meeting last Wednesday, when it was decided to ban Rippon for the remainder of the season.

The player's conduct during

and after the Balliemore Cup defeat to Lochaber is subject of a forthcoming disciplinary hearing.

However, following a players' meeting last Thursday, Tony insists team discipline is now a priority and that was in evidence in last week's potentially heated derby with Glenorchy, which the Oban side won 3-0 thanks to goals from Andrew 'Papa' MacCuish (2) and Aiden MacIntyre.

'In my eyes we dominated the 90 minutes and never looked like losing the game but, just

as importantly, our discipline was exceptional and the referee handled the game really well,' said Tony.

'We met with the players last Thursday and talked about the number of red cards we had been given in recent weeks and I was really happy with their response.'

In charge

Former manager Peter MacCuish and referee Gussie Campbell will now take charge of the first team, at least until the club's AGM in December.

Division One challengers Skye 2-1 last Saturday.

BUTE match up against fellow strugglers Kilmallie in the Orion Group Premiership this weekend, knowing defeat will heap the pressure on the islanders to escape relegation.

However, manager Barry Martin insists his side will pick up points in the second half of the season, as they play a series of home games.

He said: 'After this trip to Kilmallie we play home games and at The Meadows we are a match for anyone.'

'I think every game is important and it would be nice to take something from this weekend but I take confidence from the forthcoming home games.'

Bute were humbled by lower league opposition in the Camanchd Cup last weekend after Lochaber hit them for four without reply.

Oban Celtic's David Hamilton said: 'We needed to take something from that game and we did that, despite being a few players short.'

'Kenny Witherspoon had to come into centre in the second half and he played out of his skin, shutting down the midfield. Young goalkeeper Jack Hill also did well when he came on.'

'It is not always the case that the players who come in and do well retain their place but the boys who stepped in on Saturday have a good shout of playing.'

Celtic have no game on Saturday.

LOCHCARRON return to league duty on Saturday when they welcome Beaulieu to Battery Park. A win would take the Wester Ross men level on points with Inverness in North Division One.

OBAN CELTIC made this sea-



Glenorchy's Scott McKillop tries to close in on Andrew 'Papa' MacCuish who scored two goals in Oban Camanchd's 3-0 win.

son's relegation scrap in South Division One a lot more interesting with victory over league rivals Taynuilt last weekend.

Goals from Lee Askew, David Hill (2) and new signing Gavin Stobbart ensured a narrow, but crucial, victory.

Oban Celtic's David Hamilton said: 'We needed to take something from that game and we did that, despite being a few players short.'

'Kenny Witherspoon had to come into centre in the second half and he played out of his skin, shutting down the midfield. Young goalkeeper Jack Hill also did well when he came on.'

'It is not always the case that the players who come in and do well retain their place but the boys who stepped in on Saturday have a good shout of playing.'

Celtic have no game on Saturday.

against Strachur this weekend, the Taynuilt players are facing the most important few weeks of their season.

Davy said: 'I told the boys how important the Celtic game was because a victory would have made us near enough safe in the league.'

'Now we are playing Strachur at home this weekend in what is a must-win situation.'

'This weekend is a cup final come early and some of the boys will need to use it to prove to me they are worth a jersey for the final.'

Michael MacQueen, who will be missing this weekend, opened the scoring for Taynuilt last Saturday and Stuart Scott ensured Taynuilt took the lead at 2-1 but the away team were 4-2 by the time Michael MacQueen scored their third.

Willie Neilson will return to action this weekend.

LOCHSIDE ROVERS will take on The Scots in their rescheduled Bullough Cup tie.

The free-scoring Lochside lost for the first time this season against Kyles two weekends ago but bounced back with a 4-0 win over Inveraray last Saturday, after regaining a full strength squad.

Lochside are still on course to win South Division Two and have blooded a handful of promising youngsters, not least 17-year-old Shaun Morgan, who has scored twice in two games.

Artemis Macaulay Sixes at Mossfield on Saturday

THE ANNUAL primary school six-a-side competition, the Artemis Macaulay Sixes, will take place at Mossfield this Saturday.

The national tournament is organised by the Macaulay Association and is likely to attract upwards of 40 teams from around the country.

The tournament will commence at 10.30am.



Results

Saturday 2 June 2012

Scottish Hydro Camanchd Cup 2nd Round

Glasgow Mid Argyll 1 - 1 Kyles
Athletic Inveraray 4 - 0 Strathglass
Kilmallie 3 - 1 Fort William
Kinlochshiel 1 - 1 Kingussie
Lochaber 4 - 0 Bute
Lovat 6 - 0 Kilmory
Newtonmore 7 - 0 Beaulieu
Skye 2 - 1 Glenurquhart

Marine Harvest North Division 1

Inverness 1 - 4 Caberfeidh

Marine Harvest South Division 1

Aberdour 0 - 4 Strachur
Oban Camanchd 3 - 0 Glenorchy
Oban Celtic 4 - 3 Taynuilt

Marine Harvest North Division 2

Fort William 4 - 0 Glenorchy
Kingussie 2 - 1 Lovat
Kinlochshiel 1 - 0 Aberdeen Uni
Lochaber 1 - 2 Glenurquhart
Newtonmore 4 - 1 Skye

Marine Harvest South Division 2

Ballaichulish P - P Bute
Travel Problems
Glasgow Mid Argyll 4 - 0 Col Glen
Kyles Athletic P - P Aberdour
Aberdour unable to field a team points to Kyles Athletic
Inveraray 0 - 4 Lochside Rovers
Ardnamurchan P - P Taynuilt
Taynuilt unable to field a team points to Ardnamurchan

Marine Harvest North Division 3

Inverness 2 - 5 Boleskine
Lewis 0 - 5 Kilmallie
Lochcarron 1 - 4 Beaulieu
Strathglass 2 - 4 Strathspey

Womens Camanchd Association Results Sunday 27th May 2012

Marine Harvest Challenge Cup
Skye 7 - 5 Dunadd

Marine Harvest National Division 1

Tir Conaill Harps 0 - 11 Glenorchy
Badenoch & Strathspey 8 - 1 Aberdour

Camanchd Association Youth Results

U17 MacQuiston Cup Semi Final
Aberdour 0 - 4 Oban Celtic
Glasgow MA 0 v 11 Oban Camanchd

Under 14 MacMaster Cup
Caberfeidh 3 - 2 Kinlochshiel

U17 MacTavish Cup Semi Final
Lochaber 2 - 3 Skye
Glenurquhart 0 - 4 Kinlochshiel

Marine Harvest Under 17 London Shield
Kilmallie 2 - 8 Kingussie
Beaulieu 6 - 0 Strathglass

Under 14 MacMaster Cup
Beaulieu 8 - 1 Caberfeidh
Kilmallie 4 - 1 Oban Celtic
Kingussie 2 - 9 Newtonmore

Fixtures

Saturday 9 June 2012

Artemis Macaulay Cup Quarter Finals

Glasgow Mid Argyll v Inveraray
Deek Cameron - 12 noon throw up
Fort William v Kinlochshiel
Graham Irving - 3pm throw up
Glenurquhart v Kingussie
Graham Cameron - 3pm throw up

Bullough Cup 1st Round
Lochside Rovers v The Scots
Ronnie Campbell

Orion Group Premiership
Kilmallie v Bute
Robert Baxter
Lovat v Newtonmore
Duncan Kelly

Marine Harvest North Division 1
Lochcarron v Beaulieu
Evan MacRae

Marine Harvest South Division 1
Aberdour v Oban Camanchd
David Mitchell - 3pm throw up
Glenorchy v Kilmory
Neil Ferguson
Taynuilt v Strachur
Lachie Wood

Marine Harvest North Division 2
Fort William v Lovat
Callum Duff - 12 noon throw up
Glenurquhart v Newtonmore
John Angus Gillies - 12 noon throw up

Kingussie v Glenorchy
Greene MacMillan
Kinlochshiel v Lochaber
John Matheson

Marine Harvest South Division 2
Aberdour v Inveraray
Ewan MacDonald - 12 noon throw up
Ballaichulish v Taynuilt
Jim Innes
Glasgow Mid Argyll v Ardnamurchan
Duncan Freshwater - 12 noon throw up

Marine Harvest North Division 3
Beaulieu v Inverness
John Sloggie
Lewis v Caberfeidh
John MacLeod
Strathglass v Boleskine
Kevin Cheeseman

(All throw ups 2.30 unless stated)

Womens Camanchd Association Fixtures Sunday 3rd June

Marine Harvest North Division 2
Glenorchy v Lovat
Lochaber v Skye
Strathglass v Ardnamurchan

Youth Fixtures Sunday 3rd June

Marine Harvest Under 17 London Shield
Kilmallie v Glasgow Mid Argyll

Tuesday 5th June
Marine Harvest Under 17
London Shield
Lovat v Lochaber
Glenurquhart v Caberfeidh
Kinlochshiel v Strathglass
Beaulieu v Skye
Oban Camanchd v Newtonmore
Kingussie v Oban Celtic

Friday 8th June
Marine Harvest Under 14 North Leagues
Kingussie v Beaulieu
Kilmallie v Ardnamurchan
Skye v Kinlochshiel
Lovat v Strathglass
Caberfeidh v Glenurquhart

Marine Harvest Under 14 South League
Oban Celtic v Oban Camanchd

FORT WILLIAM are back on cup duty on Saturday, this time in the Artemis Macaulay Cup quarter-final against Kinlochshiel at Black Parks.

With any chances of the league title long gone the competition is Fort's last chance of silverware this season, but negotiating a way past the powerful Lochalsh side will be easier said than done.

Form going into the game suggests 'Shiel may carry a slight edge after their fighting 1-1 draw with Kingussie in the Camanchd Cup last weekend, while Fort slipped to a disappointing 3-1 defeat at Kilmallie.

But Peter MacIntyre's squad will be bolstered by the return of key players missing against Kilmallie, with Gary Innes, Gordie MacKinnon, Bryan Simpson and Duncan Rodger all likely to figure in the line-up.

Arran MacPhee, however, will be sidelined for several weeks after sustaining a broken wrist.

MacIntyre told The Oban Times: 'The Macaulay is very open this year. Inveraray will probably come through from the south, but in the north anybody could go through.'

'On our day we are capable matching anybody. We will get the boys up for this weekend and have a right good crack at it.'

the Camanchd quarter-final, but the small matter of Premiership survival is now the priority.

He told The Oban Times: 'We will be hoping to get the points in the league this time - we have to start climbing the table.'

'If the forwards keep on doing what they did last Saturday we should be okay. Martin Stewart will be back from suspension as well and he will be in the pool. We have no injuries as far as I know - everybody is fit.'

'Bute are at the bottom along with us and we must get two points here. We are at home, so we should take it. We only drew 1-1 down there, so we've got to get a bit of revenge against them this time.'

KINLOCHSHIEL will attempt to book their place in the Artemis Macaulay Cup semi-final by beating Fort William on their own turf on Saturday.

'Shiel showed real resilience to hold Kingussie to a 1-1 draw in the Camanchd Cup last weekend after getting hammered 7-1

over their shouldersto see what's coming up behind them. Gordy MacDonald is getting back to fitness as well.'

Against Kings, John MacRae equalised for 'Shiel eight minutes before the break after Ronald Ross grabbed the opener early on.

The switch of Finlay MacRae into defence tightened up things at the back, while Duncan 'Ach' MacRae was again outstanding at full centre.

SKYE CAMANCHD have no game this weekend and can rest easy in the knowledge they are Scottish Hydro Camanchd Cup quarter-finalists.

After falling to Glasgow Mid Argyll the previous week few observers gave the Skyemen a prayer against Glenurquhart, but they defied all predictions and produced a performance of skill and tenacity to carve out a brilliant victory.

Neal Reade opened the scoring for the Glen on 32 minutes, but seconds later Skye were level



Oban Celtic's new signing Gavin Stobbart forces the ball over the line despite valiant efforts from Taynuilt's Andrew Servant and George Reid. Photo: John MacDiarmid

League Tables

The Orion Group Premiership							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newtonmore	9	6	2	1	34	14	14
Kyles Athletic	10	6	2	2	25	18	14
Lovat	9	5	3	1	24	15	13
Kinlochshiel	11	5	2	4	29	27	12
Kingussie	9	4	2	3	20	20	10
Fort William	9	3	2	4	15	16	8
Inveraray	8	4	0	4	13	16	8
Glenurquhart	8	3	1	4	14	21	7
Bute	9	0	3	6	5	16	3
Kilmallie	10	1	1	8	12	28	3

Marine Harvest North Division 1							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Caberfeidh	8	5	1	2	28	15	11
Skye	6	5	1	0	16	11	10
Lochaber	5	4	1	0	23	5	9
Beaulieu	7	3	1	3	14	18	7
Inverness	8	2	2	4	17	16	6
Lochcarron	8	1	2	5	10	25	4
Strathglass	8	1	1	6	13	31	3

Marine Harvest South Division 1							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Oban Camanchd	6	6	0	0	24	2	12
Glasgow MA	7	5	0	2	17	9	10
Glenorchy	7	5	0	2	13	7	10
Kilmory	8	3	2	3	20	16	8
Strachur	10	3	2	5	14	15	8
Taynuilt	8	1	3	4	11	21	5
Oban Celtic	8	2	1	5	10	23	5
Aberdour	8	2	0	6	8	24	4

Marine Harvest North Division 2							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newtonmore	10	9	0	1	49	10	18
Kinlochshiel	11	5	3	3	19	24	13
Glenurquhart	9	5	1	3	21	17	11
Skye	9	4	2	3	21	14	10
Aberdeen Uni	10	4	2	4	19	19	10
Fort William	8	4	0	4	13	11	8
Glenorchy	9	4	0	5	13	17	8
Kingussie	10	2	3	5	18	26	7
Lochaber	10	2	2	6	22	41	6
Lovat	10	2	1	7	14	30	5

Marine Harvest South Division 2							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Lochside Rovers	13	12	0	1	70	23	24
Kyles Athletic	10	7	0	3	37	19	14
Ballaichulish	9	7	0	2	21	12	14
Tayforth	11	7	0	4	29	21	14
Inveraray	12	4	3	5	37	30	11
Col Glen	10	4	2	4	21	27	10
Bute	9	4	1	4	27	16	9
Ardnamurchan	12	3	1	8	32	33	7
Glasgow MA	13	3	0	10	14	68	6
Aberdour	11	0	1	10	10	49	1

Marine Harvest North Division 3							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Beaulieu	9	9	0	0	50	6	18
Boleskine	10	7	1	2	44	20	15
Lochroom	10	7	1	2	25	12	15
Kilmallie	10	6	1	3	38	22	13
Lochcarron	10	4	1	5	24	26	9
Caberfeidh	8	4	0	4	21	21	8
Strathspey	12	3	2	7	26	42	8
Strathglass	10	3					

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New 10k race added to Atlantis Series

ATHLETICS

A NEW 10k race was added to the Atlantis Race Series last Tuesday as runners took in a scenic route around Loch Creran.

Overall winner and first in the senior male category was Gregor MacGregor in a time of 36:49.

First female senior - second overall - was Nicola Meekin in a time of 39:49. Winner of the female veteran category was Jackie Hoey in 51:52.

First in the male veteran category was Cameron McKellar - fourth overall - in 42:42, while Alastair Hall was male super veteran winner and fifth overall in 43:05.

Another notable performance came from Gordon Binnie, who completed the event just three days after taking part in the Isle of Jura challenge - which involved approximately seven hours of running in extreme conditions.

The next event in the Atlantis Race Series is the Gallanach 5k which takes place on June 26.

Falkirk bowlers win in Oban

BOWLS

ON SATURDAY June 2, Oban welcomed a visiting team of 28 players from Adrienne Bowling club in Falkirk.

Among a lot of hilarity on the green, some good bowls were played but Oban lost 100 shots to Falkirk's 120. The game was followed by a lovely meal and everyone made a lot of new friends.

The four senior men are doing well in the rounds for the Scottish competition. They have now reached the district finals so all club members wish them well in their next tie on Thursday. Sunday afternoon's competition was for the George Barnett Shield. The midges were out in force but they did not deter the winning team of Gus MacGillivray, Norrie Etherson and Mae Hardy.

Tennis open day

TENNIS

FREE tennis coaching and fun games will be available at Atlantis Leisure this Sunday.

All ages and abilities are welcome from noon to find out more and to try the game, with coaching provided by development officer Mike Cohen.

Rotary Club Am Am raises over £6,000

Lonan Properties lift silverware

THE ROTARY Club of Oban held its annual Am-Am tournament on Sunday at Glencruitten Golf Club, Oban.

This was the 27th Am-Am to be held at Glencruitten Golf Club, with the course in superb condition, and more than £6,000 was raised for local charities.

First prize and the Bank of Scotland Trophy went to Lonan Properties with a score of 121 points - John Plunkett, Rab Blair, Kenny Devine and David Devine. In second place,

winning the Allan McDougall Trophy, were Coasters with a score of 120 points - Nonnie MacInnes, Neil Innes, Lorn Dickie and Ian Auld. Third place (BIH) winning the Angus Simpson Trophy went to D & A Munn with 115 points - Ian MacInnes, Robert Galbraith, John MacCallum and Willie MacDougall. Fourth place went to Munro's Garage with a score of 115 (BIH) - Calum Munro, Paul Walton, Richard Berghant and Stephen Ross. Laird & Mac-

BOWLS

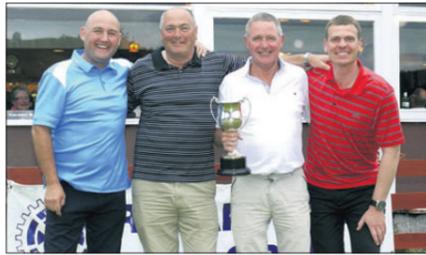
Callum were fifth - David Laird, Peter Laird, Keith MacCallum and Hughie MacIvor.

Winners of the Orange Ball competition were Oban Memorials - Dougie MacLean, Alistair MacLean, Ian McCuish and John MacGregor.

Since the tournament started 26 years ago, more than £125,000 has been raised for local charities.

The first round of the Club Championship took place at Glencruitten on Saturday. Leading scores were: Philip Murphy 62; David McCuish 64; Graham McColl 65; David Devine 65 and Kevin Mackie 66. The next round is to be played on June 30. Played on the same day was the first round of the George Smith Trophy, with David Devine, 5; Scott MacMillan, 8; and Ian Harris, 12, having net scores of 60.

This Saturday is the Glencruitten Centenary Gents Open and it is hoped for a good turnout for this competition.



Winners of the Rotary Club of Oban Am Am: Rab Blair, Kenny Devine, John Plunkett and David Devine.



No quarter asked or given as Argyll Select's Marc MacCallum and Willie Gemmill go for the ball with Scottish captain Lee Harvey during last Saturday's Joe Paterson Memorial Trophy match.

Photo: Kevin McGlynn

Argyll lose out to Scottish League

THE annual Joe Paterson Memorial Trophy match between an Argyll Select and the Scottish Amateur League team took place at Glencruitten Park, Oban, last Saturday.

The Argyll boys put up a brave display against their more illustrious opponents before losing out 3-1 to a side full of premier division players.

Campbeltown's Gary Grumoli gave Argyll the lead with a well taken goal after ten minutes, but Ally Brown equalised just before the interval.

Argyll had a good claim for a penalty turned down midway through the second half which, if

FOOTBALL

given, might have changed the outcome of the match, but as the game moved into the latter stages the more experienced Scottish side took over and two late goals from Jim Smith and Gordon Meredith gave them a 3-1 victory.

After the match both teams and officials retired to the Royal Hotel for a reception where the trophy and medals were handed out to the winners and runners-up by outgoing Scottish Amateur League President Jim Souter.

Campbell trophy goes down the A816

FIFTEEN teams competed for this season's Ewen Campbell Memorial Cup, with the trophy going back down the A816 to Lochgilphead.

The tournament on May 20 was Oban Bowling Club's first open competition of the season and sponsored by S E C Joiners and Builders.

The competition is held in memory of Mr Campbell who bowled for Oban for many years.

After many hard fought games

a semi final was held between Donald MacLean's team from Oban against Nigel Potts' team from Colmtraive, and Neil MacDougall's team from Oban against George Young's team from Lochgilphead.

After a tense final that went to an extra end, the team of Donald MacLean, Robert Dairon and Jimmy MacGregor lost out to George Young and father and son Ian and Allan Guy.

In other recent competitions, a team of senior fours from Oban,

BOWLS

Hugh Maccorquodale, Sandy Carr, Donnie Douglas and Gordon Cruickshanks, had an excellent win in the first round of the Scottish competition against Campbeltown.

Oban Ladies were recently on their home ground for another round of the West Argyll League. Tarbert could only field two teams of ladies and both were beaten by Oban.

No reward for McPhee's bravery

A DO-OR-DIE manoeuvre in sight of the finish line cost John McPhee a place among the points in the Catalunya Grand Prix at the weekend.

The Connell teenager, in his first Moto3 wildcard entry, was 16th before making his move for 14th place but paid the penalty when he temporarily lost the front end within sight of the chequered flag. The Racing

Steps Foundation backed KRP rider crossed the line in 19th place, which meant he was the highest-placed British rider.

John, who started from 15th on the grid, shot into 10th after the lights went out but dropped down into the middle order at the start of the second lap when brake fade caused him to run wide at turn one. But on the approach to the final corner John saw the

MOTORCYCLING

opportunity to dive inside the pair ahead of him but the move proved costly.

'It was a bit of a disaster really,' he said. 'But I had to take the chance.'

John now has a two-week wait to fight for his first Moto3 GP points at the British Grand Prix at Silverstone.

Mull driver's patchwork car makes the grade

JUNIOR rally driver Craig Rutherford stormed to a class win and 22nd place overall on Sunday's Jim Clark Reivers Rally - just 48 hours after wrecking his car during pre-event practice.

Craig's service crew worked flat-out to get the 21-year-old's

car back in shape after an accident during Friday testing.

As it sat on the starting line in Duns, Craig's rapidly repaired Honda Civic Type R had a front bumper sourced from Aberdeen driver Colin Smith's car, a wing from Lancashire preparation

RALLY

firm EuroRallye and a bonnet from a nearby scrapyard.

'I can't thank my crew enough for getting the car back together,' said Craig. 'We had two very late nights but we made it.'

Waysiders visit Oban

OBAN Lorne welcomed Waysiders Drumpellier RFC's mid section on their end of season tour to Oban.

The event was organised by Argyll and Bute Rugby Development Officer Allan Wright, Oban Lorne youth convenor Murray Hamilton and Jake Wilson from Waysiders.

Referee Willie Malone got the afternoon going with the S1/2 fixture between the clubs that ended with a comfortable win for the away team.

The Oban side, mainly put together with the S1 'School of Rugby' players, impressed at

RUGBY

times against their more experienced counterparts with Harvey Ferguson, Alex Roberts and Ben MacFarlane-Barrow being the standouts in the team.

After this it was the turn of the U16 sides to take to the pitch. Both teams served up a very even match and entertaining game that ended four tries to two for the visitors.

Chrissy Budge and Lewis MacFarlane impressed with a try each while Captain Fergus Bradbury led the team from the front with some eye-catching runs.

Sinclair brothers in action at Duns

CONNEL'S Sinclair brothers have been in competitive action in the second and third rounds of the Nett Quad Championship.

The rounds took place at Duns in the Borders on May 26 and 27, when Scott Sinclair and his younger brother Lorne, who is in his first year of racing, had very different fortunes.

Thirty-two bikes had entered the championship class, including the current Irish champion along with several of his countrymen who had travelled showing how serious they regard this North East Trike Trophy Championship.

Scott raced to 10th in the first

race finding the pace very hard and not showing the same form he had in pre season races, which included a championship second place in the British supercross.

He finished Saturday in a reasonable ninth place and Sunday was much of the same until the last race when Luke Bryan ran into Scott's bike, jamming them up, and leaving him last.

However, he raced hard to pass Luke and get back to tenth. Having had two heavy crashes in Gormonstown, Ireland, and at the British championship, in Mepal Cambridge, it has been an unlucky time for the talented racer.

QUAD RACING

Younger brother Lorne showed his competitors he had improved from his first two meetings, winning his first race on Saturday, followed by two second places, which was enough for the overall win on the day, surprising everyone.

Sunday had the same entry of 18 quads, nine of which were in Lorne's class. He was to improve again, winning all three races, one of which followed a stall on the start line. The three wins gave Lorne the overall win and congratulations from fellow competitors and supporters.



Oban Hockey Club is going from strength to strength, having just been constituted. An inter-club match was held at Oban High School on May 26 to mark the occasion. The club, which has ambitions to join a league next year, meets for training at the high school every Thursday from 6pm - 7pm. 15_122hockey01

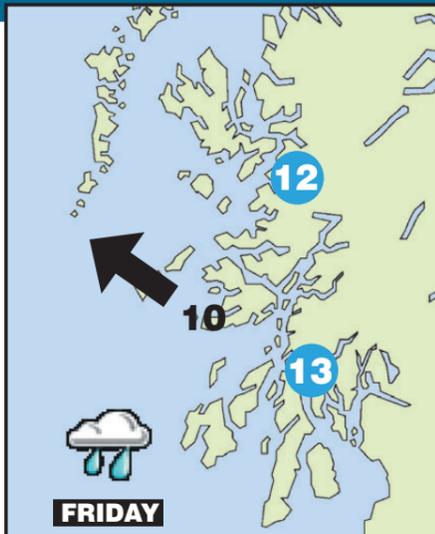
Weather

Thursday light rain showers
Winds light easterly
Temperatures 10°C to 14°C

Friday Light rain
Winds light east, south easterly
Temperatures 8°C to 13°C.

Weekend Light rain
Outlook Winds west, south westerly
Temperatures 9°C to 16°C.

Ferry Crossings/Sea States
Oban to Barra/South Uist Moderate
Oban to Coll/Tiree Moderate
Kennacraig to Islay Moderate



Tides

Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday, June 7, 2012** are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath.

All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am	pm
Thur	01.35 0.6 07.25 3.7 13.51 0.6 19.49 3.9	
Fri	02.23 0.7 08.09 3.5 14.37 0.7 20.35 3.7	
Sat	03.12 1.0 08.53 3.3 15.24 0.9 21.22 3.5	
Sun	04.01 1.2 09.40 3.1 16.14 1.2 22.13 3.3	
Mon	04.53 1.4 10.33 2.9 17.06 1.4 23.12 3.1	
Tues	05.49 1.6 11.44 2.8 18.04 1.5 *** **	
Wed	00.28 3.0 06.50 1.7 13.06 2.8 19.10 1.7	

Ardrishaig	-5.35	Portree	+0.55
Campbeltown	-5.30	Tobermory	+0.16
Crinan	-0.47	Dover	+5.30
Islay Port Ellen	2.00		
Lochboisdale	+0.30		
Mallaig	+0.25		

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The Ocean Countess dwarfs the Corran Ferry as she sails through the narrows on Monday morning. 10_f23narrows01

Spectacular arrival of Ocean Countess

THE BIGGEST cruise ship to visit Fort William in decades made a spectacular sight as she steamed through the Corran Narrows on Loch Linnhe at 6.50am on Monday on its way to the Lochaber capital. Spectators, including *The Oban Times*, gathered on both sides of the loch to await arrival of the *Ocean*

Countess – and were not disappointed as the huge vessel glided gracefully through into upper Loch Linnhe. The liner, its passengers and crew totalling around 1,000 people, negotiated the narrow channel without any difficulty as ship's Master Dimitris Ntaoutis guided the 17,500-ton ship through without the aid of a pilot.

Only nine days earlier, Fort William traders and civic leaders were left disappointed after the Master aboard holiday operators Cruise Maritime Voyages' bigger sister ship, the *Marco Polo*, judged the narrows too risky and diverted to Ullapool instead. See full story page 3.

Fort FC saved from the brink

FORT William FC has been saved from the brink after local man Derek MacGillivray agreed to become the club's new chairman at an emergency general meeting (EGM) last Wednesday night.

REPORT by RICHARD HADDOCK and STEPHEN NORRIS

registration, administration and fixture management - skills and experience likely to prove a major asset to the Lochaber club.

The Claggan Park side had faced expulsion from the Highland League after chairman and secretary John Wattman stepped down without a replacement at the recent AGM, meaning a new committee could not be formed.

Ms Byron, a carer for her mother who lives in Caol, told *The Oban Times* at the park last Thursday: 'I can't do without my league football. I only turned up last night because it was sad the club might fold.'

Highland League rules state member clubs must have a committee in place before the league AGM, which was held last week.

Ronnie MacLean was also named as a key member of the new committee, which was formally established following the EGM.

For new club secretary Margaret Byron, her return to Lochaber after decades in England has given her a chance to continue her involvement with amateur football.

Mr MacLean told the 20 people present he was keen to do as much as he could to support the club, but admitted he did not have much experience.

Originally from Mallaig, Margaret – Ralph to her maiden name – ran the affairs of Prescott Cables in Knowsley, Merseyside, for years.

He said: 'If that is the will of the meeting, then I am prepared to give it a go. But at this point I will be very, very dependent

on the support of an awful lot of people, initially at least.'

Meanwhile, Lochaber Street League chairwoman Rosemary MacPhee has written to the club to offer support.

Fort FC takes an active role in the street league, which gives more than 140 youngsters the chance to play football throughout the summer.

Ms MacPhee said: 'We see the club as the next and very obvious step up for our youngsters and it would be catastrophic for that outlet to disappear.'

'We know from the statistics made available by Northern Constabulary that there is a direct correlation between these activities and reduction of minor crimes within the community. In the wider interests of the community we therefore consider it highly important that not only the club continues but goes from strength to strength.'

Fort now has two months to prepare for its first game of the 2012/13 season - a home game against Lossiemouth on August 4.

Knock out crowd for boxing club's first home show



RING girl Katherine Halewood from Dalnally presented Tyntrum boxer Callum Clement with his fight of the night trophy from Nether Lochaber 'Claymores' Amateur Boxing Club's first home show.

Capacity crowd
The event in Kinlochleven High School on Saturday night drew a capacity crowd as local boxers took on opponents from across Scotland.

And Nathan McDade from Kinlochleven cheered the packed venue when he won his bout to earn his club a win on the night.

See full report on back page.

Countdown to Fèis Oir na Cruinne

ANTICIPATION is mounting in Lochmaddy, North Uist, for this weekend's Fèis Oir na Cruinne. And local people are being urged to make the most of the celebration of Gaelic culture and music.

According to festival director Niall Johnson, the event could lead to a revival of Gaelic music and song on the island – or could never happen again if it falls flat.

Mr Johnson, who runs Uist Outdoor Centre, told *The Oban Times*: 'Thirty years ago there was nothing like that here. Uist was close to a musical desert. I was inspired to create a platform for local talent through Fèis Oir na Cruinne when I went to

my daughter's fèis concert in Paible School and saw that every child there could play a musical instrument. In my day, no-one in Paible School could.'

He added: 'We hope to make this an annual event, but it depends on enough people coming forward from the community to take part. It's vital that people make an effort, otherwise it won't happen again.'

The event gets underway tomorrow (Friday) at 5pm with a parade by Sgoil Lionacleit Pipe Band and an official opening at Taigh Chearsabhagh.

Sessions featuring Colin MacLeod of Lewis and Iain Angus MacLeod of Harris will precede a fundraising dance in

Lochmaddy Hall. On Saturday, a novel event - a Highland dance parade from the pier to the village hall with Uist Pipe Band - starts at 1pm.

A ceilidh dance class with Neil and Morag MacPherson and conversational Gaelic with Archie Campbell follow in the hall.

Lochmaddy and Tigh Dearg hotels will host music sessions throughout the afternoon.

Lewis's Face the West will headline the event in Lochmaddy Hall from 7pm at a family ceilidh. Lochmaddy playing field has been set aside for tents. Toilet and cooking facilities are available to campers in Lochmaddy Hall.



Looking to a bright future: Fort William FC committee members Ronnie MacLean, Calum MacLean, chairman Derek MacGillivray and Margaret Byron at Claggan Park. 20_f23for01

Ibiza Sun

Winner Nail Technician of the Year - Scottish Hair and Beauty Awards 2012

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Fire chiefs demand crisis talks with train operators after wildfires cinder moorland

FIRE chiefs are demanding crisis talks with Network Rail and steam train operators after wildfires cindered moorland along the Fort William to Mallaig line this week.

A huge blaze blackened more than 100 acres near Morar on Monday and a second fire broke out at Corpach at 3pm on Tuesday. Up to 30 retained firefighters from Fort William, Acharacle, Mallaig and Spean Bridge were deployed to tackle the fires.

Highlands and Islands and Fire and Rescue Service (HIFRS) say they broke out after embers from West Coast Railways' (WCR) Jacobite steam train ignited tinder dry vegetation.

Smoke drifted across Morar playing fields, where the first Morar Gala Day in more than 30 years was taking place. Tea ladies carried sandwiches and cakes to firefighters as they fought the blaze on Monday afternoon. The steam train is

a major tourist attraction and brings in valuable revenue to Fort William, Glenfinnan and Mallaig every summer.

But according to HIFRS Lochaber group manager Pat McElhinney, the risks to personnel, environmental damage and costs to the public purse are no longer sustainable.

Mr McElhinney also fears the service could be unable to respond if a serious road accident happened while most of his personnel were on hillsides beating out the flames.

He told *The Oban Times*: 'We are not able to turn out to real emergencies through having to be called out to something that could be avoided.'

'There was no public in the area and therefore no possibility of the fires being started by any other cause, other than the train.'

Mr McElhinney also said efforts to fight the blaze at Morar were hampered by Network Rail's

(NR) refusal to grant an immediate 'stop' on the line - effectively preventing fighters from crossing the track as trains were still running.

He said: 'I don't want any of my crews killed trying to put out a fire caused by the train that started it.'

The Oban Times understands NR must pay WCR huge compensation for every minute the service is disrupted.

And in a bizarre twist, steam train staff asked for help from firefighters during Monday's Morar blaze. Mr McElhinney said: 'The steam train broke down and one of the guys came to borrow equipment, saying they could not get water into the train because of a leak. Considering it's the train that's caused all these firefighters to be on hill, I said no.'

Neither Network Rail nor WCR had provided a comment as *The Oban Times* went to press.

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Rock Ness fans urged to take care and stay safe

REVELLERS heading to Rockness this weekend are being urged to stay safe during the Highland's biggest music festival.

Seven agencies - Northern Constabulary, NHS Highland, Highland Council, Highlands and Islands Fire and Rescue Service, British Red Cross, Scottish Ambulance Service and the Highland Alcohol and Drugs Partnership (HADP) - gathered at the Loch Ness site to advise fans on how to ensure their enjoyment isn't wrecked by illness or a stay in hospital. Festival-goers, they say, should have all the medication they

By STEPHEN NORRIS
 snorris@obantimes.co.uk
 require, carry a water container, sun lotion and contraceptives, and avoid bingeing on alcohol and taking illicit drugs.

Karen Carson of NHS Highland said it was crucial fans take sexual health seriously. She said: 'If you are simply on the pull or determined not to get tied down - don't forget to take condoms or dams with you. The message is really simple - if you're planning a Highland fling at Rockness keep it covered, keep it safe.'

She added: 'Make sure the

only positive you take home from Rockness is the memory of a blinding weekend and not the result of an STI or pregnancy test.'

HADP co-ordinator Deborah Stewart said fans should remember to drink plenty of water, eat well and avoid taking unnecessary risks with alcohol and drugs.

She said: 'It's easy to get carried away by the atmosphere. However, if you overindulge in alcohol you could end up in the field hospital and miss the event altogether which is not only disappointing but costly.'

'It's important to eat before you

start drinking and while you're drinking and to pace yourself by drinking soft drink spacers, particularly water, to keep you hydrated.'

Pointing out that over-indulging in illicit drugs could prove fatal, she added: 'If you can't say no, you should at least let a close and reliable friend know what you've taken so that, if you need medical help, we have a clear picture of what's going on.'

'And, bear in mind that you have no idea what you're buying or exposing yourself to when you decide to take drugs.'

'Some drugs can be mixed with a variety of cheap hazardous sub-

stances which could cause your body untold harm. If you or your friends have taken something and start to feel unwell please seek medical help immediately. Stay with friends and make sure you keep yourselves safe.'

Crime and medical incidents at Rockness has fallen in recent years - but police warn there is no room for complacency.

And event commander Superintendent Stevie MacKay warned of a 'proactive operation' against drugs.

He said: 'As with previous years we will be taking a robust and pro-active stance against drugs at the festival.'

'We will also be looking to stem the supply of drugs prior to the event also to ensure festival goers are as safe as possible. The message is clear from previous years in that if you bring drugs you're very likely to get caught. Not only will you miss the whole weekend, you'll face criminal charges - so don't risk it.'

He added: 'We would ask that you keep valuables on your person at all times and avoid leaving them unattended in cars or tents. Whilst we have previously had relatively low levels of crime at the event, these measures limit the opportunity for this type of opportunist crime to take place.'

Police hunt pair seen acting suspiciously near new school

POLICE are looking to trace two men seen acting suspiciously near the site of a new primary school on South Uist on the same night tools worth more than £1,000 were stolen.

Western Isles police said the men, who were driving a small light blue or silver hatchback car, were spotted near the new Daliburgh Primary School at about 3am on Saturday May 20.

Police Constable Adrian Kay of Benbecula Police said: 'The car was being driven without its lights on and stopped on the main road, close to the site. The two men left the car for a short time, before returning and driving away quickly.'

'We urge anyone who thinks they may have seen this car or anything unusual that night, to contact us.'

Anyone with information is asked to contact Balivanich Police Station on 01870 602374, or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 where no personal details are taken, information is not traced and you will not go to court.

'Celebration of volunteering'

VOLUNTARY Action Lochaber will hold a 'celebration of volunteering' at its An Drochaid base in Fort William tomorrow to mark Volunteers Week.

The event at 11am will comprise a short ceremony to present Lochaber volunteers with certificates for their achievements, stalls and a buffet lunch.

Help needed with hanging baskets

KINLOCHLEVEN Community Trust (KCT) is looking for local firms and individuals to sponsor its initiative to place hanging baskets round the village this summer.

The sponsorship scheme, which has proved successful in pulling in substantial funds in previous years, aims to make Kinlochleven a more attractive place to live, work and visit.

KCT's Jayne Wilkinson said: 'We are extending the number of baskets displayed each year and now display 88 baskets in total.'

'If you feel that you are able to sponsor a basket or make a small donation we would very much appreciate any financial assistance.'

'The cost to provide professional baskets, primary school/nursery baskets and water services costs approximately £4,000 per year. The cost of sponsorship per basket is £25.'

For more information contact moira@kinlochleven.co.uk or phone 01855 831779.

Festival hits the high notes for Gladys

A LOCHABER local radio Gaelic broadcaster enjoyed the eighth Isle of Skye Accordion and Fiddle Club Festival in Portree even more than usual - thanks to the event falling on her birthday.

Gladys Johnston and husband Jimmy attended the May 24-26 festival after the couple's daughter Fiona gave her mum the perfect gift - three nights accommodation at the Royal Hotel, the main venue.

And the Saturday night was made even more special when the Craig McFadyen Trio played 'The Reunion Reel' for Gladys as she sat in the audience.

The tune, composed by Acharacle's Fergie MacDonald in his Clanranald Hotel, evoked the moment Gladys and her long-lost sister, whom she had never met, got together.

Oban Times Spean Bridge correspondent Gladys said the festival, which featured top acts from all over Scotland, was 'absolutely great'.

She said: 'There was a great turnout and everything went smoothly. There were people there from away up in the north right down to the Borders.'

Well-known Scottish dance music enthusiast Edmund MacKenzie of Plockton opened the

annual event on the Thursday evening. Highlight was The Lomond Ceilidh Band of Ewan Stark of Falkland on fiddle, Alan Small of Auchtermuchty on accordion, Calum Wallace of Scone on drums and the talented Addie Harper of Wick on accordion and guitar.

Visiting musicians played throughout Friday before The Matthew MacLennan Trio put on a great performance in the evening. Matthew on accordion and Nicky McMichan on drums - both now based in Glasgow - and fiddler Shona MacPherson of Oban played to a packed house to bring the day to a rousing close.

The Royal was packed again on Saturday for more informal sessions before two more guest bands took to the stage in the afternoon. The Craig McFadyen Trio, with Craig from Oban leading on accordion, Matthew MacLennan on second accordion and Nicky McMichan on drums produced an outstanding performance which left the audience calling for more.

The Nicola Morrison Trio - Stornoway girls Nicola on accordion and Violet Morrison on piano - and Inverness lass Heather Donaldson on drums, then took to the stage to serve up a fine medley of pipe marches, jigs and Gaelic waltzes.

The traditional final festival dance in Skye Gathering Hall saw the packed floor of dancers enjoy the fabulous music of The James Coutts Scottish Dance Band, while back in the Royal a full house enjoyed Derek Hamilton of Galston, Ian Cameron of Ballinlurg, Jimmy MacDonald of Tighnabruich and Richard Hughes of Tobermory to name but a few.

So ended the hugely successful event, which brought a welcome boost to the island economy. The festival committee is to be congratulated for organising another great weekend of music and craic and planning, we are told, has already started for 2013!



Gladys enjoyed a musical birthday treat in Portree with husband Jimmy. 20_f23gladys01



The Craig McFadyen Trio in full swing at the festival in the Royal Hotel.

Three patients have bug

THREE patients at Raigmore Hospital in Inverness have tested positive for the potentially dangerous pseudomonas bug.

NHS Highland says the clinical condition of the patients was not affected and they have all been discharged. The infection was linked back to the Intensive

Care Unit (ICU), which was temporarily closed over the weekend for deep cleaning. Pseudomonas is highly resistant to antibiotics and is more likely to infect people who are hospitalised and have underlying health problems, particularly the very young and the elderly.

Clarification

FOLLOWING our recent court report, *The Oban Times* would like to clarify that Daniel Farrington, of Kilmallie Road, Caol, did not kick a man on the head during an assault on Fort William High Street on March 12 to which he pled guilty.



Rum's newest residents, the Goddard family: mum Nic, dad Ady and children Scarlett and Davies.

Family settles into new Isle of Rum home

THE ISLE of Rum Community Trust's newest crofting family has arrived and is settling in well in their new island home.

Originally from Sussex, the Goddards spent the past year wandering the country, wondering where their lives would take them next.

The family, mum Nic, dad Ady and children Scarlett and Davies, arrived on Rum in the autumn of 2011 - and were immediately smitten.

Nic said: 'We are very excited to be part of the latest chapter in Rum's journey from "The Forbidden Isle" to "The Jewel of the Small Isles".'

'This is an amazing place to raise our children, make our home and create a living for ourselves. Within a very short time we already feel part of the community and very much at home.'

The family had a vision for a low impact, self sufficient,

sustainable lifestyle - and the chance to become Rum's latest crofters was too good to turn down. Their arrival as permanent residents in April swelled the island's small population by 11 per cent. The Goddards have quickly made friends and become familiar with the rhythm of island life.

Rum's population is experiencing something of a surge this year, with another two new residents beginning renovations

on the Tattie House, the only privately owned property on the island.

The successful applicant for the mechanic/technician vacancy is moving to the island with his wife this month.

However, further expansion of the population is constrained by the lack of available housing - a problem which Isle of Rum Community Trust and Highlands Small Communities Housing Trust are working to overcome.

Caol girls net long-awaited league title

CAOL Primary School senior pupils are celebrating after winning the Lochaber Primary Schools Netball League for the first time in 10 years.

The team beat off competition from other schools in the greater Fort William area to take first spot after a tough season.

Goal attack Freya MacDonald told *The Oban Times* the team was 'ecstatic' with the win. She said: 'I think we played well and we played fair.'



Team captain Carly Smith proudly shows off the Grace Logan Cup with her teammates. 20_f23netball01

Event celebrates Lochaber's wildlife and scenery

THE OBAN Times was taken on a boat trip down Loch Linnhe and Loch Leven on Friday to mark the opening of the first Wild Lochaber Festival (Feis Lochabair Fhìadhaich).

The festival, supported by Scottish Natural Heritage and Outdoor Capital of the UK, is running all this week and comes to an end tomorrow (Friday).

The event was created to celebrate the wildlife and scenery on offer in Lochaber, with guided walks, wildlife safaris and boat trips all included in the varied programme for members of the public to enjoy.

The Oban Times was accompanied by festival representatives David Findlay and Jim Blair

of Lochaber Geopark and Jon Mercer of Glenloy Wildlife on the speedboat *Plarmigan*.

The waters of the lochs lay still as the boat powered through while the sun shone down. Among the animals spotted were seals and cormorants, while two golden eagles made a fleeting appearance over the hills near Kinlochleven.

Mr Blair also explained the history of the mountains in Lochaber, including the volcanic past of Ben Nevis.

He said: 'What the general public don't see is a volcano, but what a geologist sees is where the glaciers carved the peaks and valleys, and that's what makes it so special.'



Jon Mercer, Jim Blair and David Findlay described the spectacular sights Lochaber has to offer. 20_f23boat01

Benbecula car vandalised

A VEHICLE was vandalised outside Churchill flats, Griminish, Isle of Benbecula, sometime overnight on Saturday.

The Vauxhall car was scratched and had tyres punctured.

Anyone with information is requested to contact Benbecula Police station on 01870602374 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111.

Children learn how to keep safe

MORE than 200 primary seven pupils from Lochaber attended a special event on community safety and crime prevention in the Nevis Centre last Wednesday.

Safe Highlanders and Islanders saw the children learn lifesaving skills, first aid, fire safety, water safety, road safety, construction site safety and electricity safety.

Pupils also found out how dangerous giving away personal information online can be. Older pupils gave a talk on bullying, which was well received.

Rio Tinto Alcan, Lochaber councillors' discretionary budget and Northern Constabulary funded the event.

Community safety officer PC Ian Fraser thanked all those involved for making the day a success.

Morar Community Council

MORAR Community Council will hold its June meeting at Lady Lovat Primary School on Monday at 7.30pm.

Matters brought up at the May meeting under any other business include:

- Shrubs at the roadside near the junction at Kinigarry needing cut - secretary to contact Transerv.

- Questions raised on why the large gate at the entrance to Bourblach road is padlocked, making access to beach difficult if walking with push-chair or wheelchair from underpass - secretary to check.

- Bin at River Morar is missing - TECs to be contacted for a replacement.

- Village clean up - it was suggested members think of some things which need addressing and bring ideas to next meeting to allow some of the work to be carried out during the summer months.

Fort William FC rollover jackpot

A ROLLOVER jackpot of £700 is up for grabs this week in Fort William FC's weekly lotto draw. Numbers last week were 2-8-13.

Newsdesk
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Chris bags GB boxing title without landing a punch

Lochaber celebrates another major sporting success

LOCHABER is celebrating another sporting success in the week the Olympic torch arrives after one of its talented young fighters was crowned junior British champion.

And Lochaber Phoenix Boxing Club's Chris Bradley won his title at Ravenscraig Sports Centre on Saturday afternoon without having to land a blow.

The 15-year-old from Fort William had already changed into his Scotland strip ready for the biggest fight of his life.

But then Chris received news his opponent had pulled out - handing him the coveted title without having to step into the ring for the Great Britain championship final.

Chris, who has been competing for four years and had trained

By STEPHEN NORRIS
snorris@obantimes.co.uk

like a demon for his big day, heavily defeated his scheduled opponent last month and was confident he could win again.

Club official Steve Docherty, who was officiating at the event, said the honour of becoming Great Britain champion was in no way diminished by Chris's opponent deciding to withdraw.

Success
Mr Docherty said: 'Chris simply became a victim of his own success.'

'He has boxed all over Britain and Ireland in the last year and has shown an incredible dedication to his sport.'

'This is a fantastic end

to the season for him.' Lochaber Phoenix also had 14-year-old James Aitchison at the finals, who won a bronze medal against Welsh champion Jason Sillet.

Club coach Niall Clark said that although James lost narrowly, to be rated third best in Britain was a fantastic achievement.

He added: 'The boxers at the club have made great strides this season once again and we will go into next season confidently believing that we can win more titles at novice and open levels with both our junior and senior boxers.'

'For Chris to win a GB championship and James a bronze medal is no more than they deserve and will hopefully inspire others to follow suit.'



Pride of Lochaber: Chris Bradley is the newly crowned British junior champion. 20_123box01

Olympic torch relay rolls into Lochaber

THE OLYMPIC torch convoy will roll into Lochaber along the A82 from Tyndrum on Saturday.

The convoy - numbering around 170 vehicles in total - is split into three, with two sections running 45 minutes and 10 minutes ahead of the torch group to 'activate' the crowd.

The torch is scheduled to arrive in Glencoe at 12.41pm to be run through to Tigh-Phuir before being carried across Ballachulish Bridge at 12.56pm.

In Fort William, the torch will be run from the Yacht Club at 1.30pm to the Nevis Centre at 1.30pm.

Provost of Lochaber Allan Henderson will welcome the torchbearer at Lochaber Leisure Centre at 2.50pm, where a children's community event, the Torch Triathlon, will be held.

Watch
Finally, the torch will arrive in Spean Bridge at 3.15pm, where spectators can watch its passage as far to the Aonach Mor Hotel.

Provost Henderson said: 'We are delighted that the area is on the Olympic torch relay route as it is a unique opportunity to showcase the area.'

'Given the UCI Mountain Bike World Cup is also taking place here at the weekend, Fort William is truly on the map as a host for sporting events.'

Highland Council says it is 'highly likely' the convoy will cause considerable delays on the A82.

It is advisable for those travelling to either the UCI event or RockNess from the Central Belt to either be at Dumbarton by 9am or take the A9.

Banavie girl Lorna Linfield, aged 12, will run the torch through Fort William.

Contrasting May weather in Plockton

PLOCKTON's weather provided some real contrasts in May - with temperatures ranging from below freezing to over 80 degrees.

Hottest day was 28°C, which was the highest temperature at Plockton for many years.

The coldest night was -0.6°C. Three inches of rain fell during the month, compared with 9.5 inches in 2011.

17,500-ton liner set to return to Fort



Provost of Lochaber Allan Henderson presents ship's Master Dimitris Ntaoutis with a commemorative plaque to mark the arrival of the Ocean Countess in Fort William on Monday. 20_123ship01

CRUISE ship the Ocean Countess is set to return to Fort William next spring after a successful port call on Monday.

The 17,500-ton vessel dropped anchor off the Lochaber capital at 7.30am after steaming through the Corran Narrows 40 minutes before.

A flotilla of shuttle boats ferried over 600 passengers - many from Liverpool - to enjoy a day in the town or coach tours of historic Lochaber.

And Fort William High Street was noticeably busier - with fast food outlets in particular jam-packed. The welcome tourism boost went some way to erasing local disappointment after the Cruise Maritime Voyages'

(CMV) liner's sister ship, the 22,000-ton Marco Polo, scrapped its scheduled May 26 call at Fort William over navigation fears through Corran.

And now that one big liner has showed how easy it can be to sail up Loch Linnhe, hopes are high many more will follow.

On board the Ocean Countess on Monday, CMV passenger services manager Bob McGowan told The Oban Times more visits are planned.

He said: 'We are scheduled to come back in April 2013 from Bristol. Fort William is beautiful on a day like today. And Scottish hospitality is wonderful - you feel people here always go the extra mile for the passengers.'

Passengers to rank town in port survey

THE OCEAN Countess is set to return to Fort William - if passengers give Lochaber the thumbs up.

On the bridge, ship's Master Dimitris Ntaoutis, 51, said passengers would rank the town alongside other ports in a survey.

He said: 'If they like it, I think the company will arrange for more calls in the future.'

Will the Olympic Torch Relay be coming to you?

Read on to find out more.

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Local riders take their place in world cup line up

TWO LOCHABER riders will be hoping to give local fans something to cheer about when they line up in the UCI Mountain Bike World Cup at Aonach Mor this weekend.

Joe Barnes, left, from Fort William and Fergus Lamb from Corpach will take their place in the 300-strong field on Saturday hoping to make the cut for Sunday's final, when 80 riders will charge down the hill before thousands of fans.

Joe told The Oban Times he has been doing

special 'Enduro' training to build up his stamina and for the latter stages of the race.

'It's a different style of racing - a cross between downhill and country,' he said.

Race

'My fitness is effectively there. It's a very physical track so on the bottom half of the course I should be able to race down to the finish. I have been on the downhill track this week practising so it should go well for this weekend.'

'With myself and Fergus racing it should be good for local fans and hopefully they will get right behind us like they did last year.'

Each year, around 18,000 fervent fans pack the Nevis Range arena and trackside up the mountain.

Mike Jardine, of World Cup organisers Rare Management, said: 'The excitement is really building because this year's event is set to be the best yet.'

Papua guests welcomed

THE ISLES of Eigg and Skye welcomed visitors from the other side of the world recently - a 12 strong delegation of officials from the Indonesian province of Papua.

The group was taken to Eigg and Camuscross in Sleat to look at how local communities can take more control over economic and social development.

Sleat people recently bought a local forest for community use - but on Papua rampant

illegal logging has impoverished native people. Villagers are also being pressured to sell their land to palm oil companies.

Alex Rumaseb, head of Papua's provincial planning office, led the delegation.

Working together
Mr Rumaseb said: 'We like the idea of 'soil, soul and society' working together.'

'We want this to inform our 100 year plan for a healthy, happy Papua province.'

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So if you want to tow a Trailer, Horse Box, Caravan, Towavan etc, with your car, van or 4x4 you will need to sit a B+E trailer test. You will even need to sit the test if you already have a license entitling you to drive an HGV cat C, PCV or Tractor, as you will not have the E entitlement on your license.

Why bother with a B+E Test?

If you do not sit the test and get caught towing a trailer then you run the risk of receiving a maximum of 9 penalty points and up to a £1000 fine. In some cases this may result in you receiving a driving ban, which could make you end up losing your job. Your boss or transport manager would also be liable for a hefty fine. Unfortunately pleading ignorance is no longer an excuse.

To find out more about a B+E trailer training course contact
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Wind band summer concert

THE EVER-popular Lochaber High School (LHS) Wind Band's summer concert will be held in LHS's main hall next Monday at 7.30pm.

The night promises an exciting and entertaining programme, with music from John Williams and Michael Jackson and, we are told, a few surprises.

Admission is free and everyone is invited to go along and support Lochaber's fine young musicians.

Skye firm gets visitors connected

A PORTREE company specialising in bringing wi-fi internet connections to remote places has opened a service point at John o' Groats.

Highland Wi-Fi is providing visitors with access to wireless internet at speeds of up to 7.5mb. The addition of Scotland's most northerly village to its list takes the number of Highland Wi-Fi network locations across the north to 32.

The go-ahead firm will have hosted more than 100,000 user sessions on its wi-fi network by the end of this year.

Chance for local companies to win council contracts

LOCAL firms are to be given the chance to bid for more work from Highland Council under new tender arrangements.

The council's contractors' framework agreement, under which firms are selected to carry out day-to-day repairs, general maintenance work and minor projects, is being increased to £50,000 from £25,000.

The new framework, which comes into effect on September 3, will cover a three-year programme and will be re-opened and re-advertised at six-monthly intervals to allow new contractors to apply.

Pupils on song at Lochaber Mod

SCHOOL pupils from across Lochaber will be performing at the annual Lochaber Provincial Mod, which gets underway at Fort William RC Primary tonight (Thursday).

The first classes will be held in the school tonight, with the majority of competitions taking place throughout the day on Friday. The winners from the two-day event will perform at a special concert in the school on Friday evening.

More than 100 children entered the Gaelic music, song and poetry competition last year.

Pupils' Olympic spirit shines bright at games

By STEPHEN NORRIS
snorris@obantimes.co.uk

GLENCOE Primary School playing field was a sea of colour last Wednesday night for the South Lochaber primary schools' mini-Olympics.

Hundreds cheered as Kinlochleven piper Brian Heriot led the parade of children's teams representing 10 countries round the field at the opening ceremony.

With homemade flags and banners flying, pupils from St Bride's, Ballachulish, Duror, Glencoe and Kinlochleven primaries provided a real sense of occasion as they marched round the arena beside scenic Loch Leven.

The Olympic teams - Italy, Greece, Australia, USA, Canada, Mozambique, Nevis and St Kitts, Azerbaijan, Sweden and South Africa - included children from each school.

Ballachulish head teacher Sam Clark was co-ordinator in chief and got the games underway by welcoming everyone to what turned out to be a highly successful and fun-filled evening.

Events included a 'marathon' round the field, flat races, hurdles, throwing the beanbag, long jump and, to finish off, relay races.

Mic in hand, Mr Clark compered the event in his own inimitable style - but had to be at his cajoling best to encourage reluctant ladies to line up for the mothers' 100-yard sprint. The preceding fathers' race had no shortage of starters keen to prove their youth was not entirely behind them.

South Lochaber High Life



The Swedish team, with Rhiona MacLauchlan of Ballachulish PS and Tom Irbhinn of Kinlochleven Primary carrying the flag, led the grand parade round the field to open the event. 20_1230ly05



It was a mad dash for the line in the P6-7 sprint. 20_1230ly03



Charlie Henshall of Glencoe Primary School streaks away to win the P1 sprint for Canada. 20_1230ly04



Jamie MacDonald from Ballachulish Primary and Marcus Spence of Kinlochleven Primary lead the Italian team round at the opening ceremony. 20_1230ly06



Roz Newman, second right, on her way to winning the mother's race from Rona Yard, Jenny Ward and Kirsty Thomas. 20_1230ly02



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FW

Coastguard changes spark strike action

SCOTLAND'S busiest coastguard station is set to close in a matter of months but preparations to handle calls from the Oban area are yet to be made.

Proposals by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) will see the area that Clyde currently runs split between Belfast and Stornoway. But Calum Murray, PCS Union representative with Clyde Coastguard told *The Oban Times*: 'They are planning to split the area with the boundary going through one of the most dangerous parts of water in Scotland - the Corryvreckan.'

Under the closure proposals, areas north of the Corryvreckan will be controlled by Stornoway while south will be handed to Belfast. The union has organised industrial action to protest against the closure which they say will threaten lives at sea.

The station will likely be left in the hands of managers and HR staff in a series of one hour strikes in June.

Staff at Clyde Coastguard will walk out between the hours of 3am to 4am and 10am to 11am from June 8 to 14, excluding Sunday June 10.

And while a two-day hand-over trial is planned for Belfast from 10am until 4pm on June 7 and 8, no such action is in sight for Stornoway.

Mr Murray added: 'It is not technically possible for Stornoway to take over our area. They will have to rewire our aerials up to Stornoway in order for that to work.'

The Oban Times also understands there is a reluctance from staff to move base resulting in very little local knowledge of the Clyde area at these stations.

Stuart Atkinson, a Clyde Coastguard watch manager with 24 years experience believes even the short-term move to Belfast is potentially dangerous. 'Local knowledge is key,' he said. 'For example; there are 40 variants of Tarbert or Tarbet in Scotland. How would someone in Belfast know which one is which?'

Fred Cayhill of MCA said: 'I can confirm that we have been working closely with our technical infrastructure advisers to ensure that any future changes to our network structure will continue to provide the service that is required.'

5,000-year old houses found near Oban

Six Bronze Age round houses discovered at Dunstaffnage

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL find that is the first of its kind in Scotland has been discovered on a dig at a site near Oban.

Dr Clare Ellis, of Argyll Archaeology has been working at the site of a housing development at Dunstaffnage and told *The Oban Times* she was 'really excited' by what has been uncovered.

'There are six round houses on the site. They are from the Bronze Age and about 4,000 to 5,000 years old,' said Dr Ellis.

Ring ditches
But it is the features called ring ditches inside these houses that are perhaps the most significant and have certainly drawn the most attention.

Dr Ellis added: 'The general consensus with ring ditches is that they are outside the house and created by animals wearing

"It's a really good site and I'm really excited about the finds."

Dr Clare Ellis, Argyll Archaeology

down the ground. 'But these are in the interior and there is no way they could be produced by animals. It looks like some kind of cellarage. This has never been seen before and it is really exciting.'

Cellars
Dr Ellis also found pieces of wood in the low cellars, indicating that these early refrigerators would have had a wooden floor.

There are also channels coming out of some, which would

have been wood-lined and could be a type of drain or air vent, allowing air into the base of the fire which would be in the central hearth.

Other discoveries on the site include several burial pots which would have been highly decorated as the cremated remains of people were placed inside before they were buried in the ground.

'I have also found a burnt mound which is huge piles of heat shattered rock and charcoal. It is in two halves with a sort of tank in the middle made of stone,' said Dr Ellis.

'The tank would have been lined with animal skin and filled with water then rocks would have been heated and thrown in.'

'This has been referred to as a sort of sauna but it is more likely to be an easy way of heating up water that would have then been used to cook big lumps of meat or fish.'

Dr Ellis is an experienced archaeologist having already found a ring ditch and two roundhouses on a dig in the Glenshellach area of Oban.

Explaining that there has been a lot of local interest in the Dunstaffnage site Dr Ellis said they were planning to have an open day but had not set a definite date yet.

'It is a really good site and I'm really excited about the finds,' she added.

Claymore stolen from Maclean stronghold

A HISTORICAL sword belonging to the Macleans of Duart on the Isle of Mull has been stolen - just two weeks before the largest gathering the clan has ever seen takes place at the island castle.

Police have confirmed that a one-metre long black Claymore sword was noticed missing during a security check of the castle.

It is reported to have been stolen between June 3 and 4. The sword had been removed from the banquet room where it had been kept on a shelf.

The theft has come at a very unfortunate time for the family with more than 1,000 Macleans

from around the world expected to descend on Duart Castle for the clan gathering on June 23.

The claymore is the property of 28th clan chief, Sir Lachlan Maclean, who said: 'I have absolutely no comment to make. It is a private matter.'

The term claymore traditionally refers to the 'great two-handed' swords which were used in battle from around 1400 to 1700.

Oban Police confirmed that enquiries were ongoing and the castle had been very busy with visitors of many nationalities.

Details on the exact age and value of the missing claymore were yet to be gathered.

Isle of Islay gets ready for beach rugby invasion

CROWDS of rugby players and fans will flock to the Isle of Islay this Saturday for one of the island's most hotly-anticipated events.

The Islay Beach Rugby Tournament hosts a maximum of 32 teams, 22 men's and 10



Innes MacQueen plays a stirring lament as Luings' jubilee beacon burns.

Beacons mark jubilee on west coast

JUBILEE beacons lit up the night skies throughout the west coast of Scotland as fires burned from Ben Cruachan to Dunoon. Organisers ranged from individuals to community councils, rescue groups and even Round Table members.

Flames were seen in Oban, on Mull, out towards Coll, Tiree,

Jura and Islay while Luings put on a musical lament by a sole piper as their beacon burned.

Beacons were also lit in Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Bute with some results more spectacular than others.

The bonfire events were organised by Jane MacLeod of Lochgilphead who said it had

been a 'huge task' coordinating everything.

There were designated timings for the beacons being lit and local authorities, which included community councils, lit their beacons at 10.12pm.

Many groups cheered as they saw the chain continue down the county.

Isle of Islay gets ready for beach rugby invasion

ladies teams, with a strong representation from the island complementing far travelled teams from around the country.

The five-a-side tournament, organised by Islay Rugby Club, is played on Port Ellen's White Hart Beach and has historically

guaranteed sunshine.

The event comes just a week after the island's Feis Ile, which saw thousands of whisky and music lovers descend on Islay and Jura's famous distilleries.

As one islander summed it up: 'It is very busy here.'

'It is events like these that help us extend the tourist season and May and June have become very busy months over the past few years.'

'People like coming here because of the friendly atmosphere.'

Police issue warning as thieves target boats

POLICE have urged Argyll boat owners to be extra vigilant this summer after two thefts were reported in the past week in the area.

The Happy Hooker was moored on Loch Assapol, near Buessan, on Mull but the boat, which measures between 12 and 14 feet in length, was stolen between May 30 and June 3.

Meanwhile, police are also seeking witnesses to the theft of a three-metre grey dinghy, *Seago*, which was taken from near to the Creagan Inn, Appin, between May 27 and 28. The dinghy is described as having a navy bumper, white rope and handles and a transom at the stern.

Anyone with any information can contact Oban Police on 01631 510 500.

Cinema group call for volunteers

THE OBAN Phoenix Cinema Committee says it is in the final stages of its refurbishment but needs more help from members of the community to finish the job. The group is recruiting volunteers of all ages to help at its community volunteer day on Sunday at the cinema.

Tasks that require to be done that day include: heavy lifting, sanding, painting and general cleaning.

Kintyre's big cat 'seen' again

THE SEARCH is on again after another possible sighting of what is believed to be North Kintyre's infamous big cat.

A black, 'catlike' creature was spotted on a road between Ardrishaig and Tarbert.

An Ardrishaig resident, who asked not to be named, claimed to have spotted the 'labrador-sized' animal as he drove down the B8024 near the north junction with the A83 around 9pm last Friday.

He said: 'It definitely was not a deer and by the way its tail was twitching I'm pretty sure it was not a dog.'

There have been numerous 'sightings' of what is believed to be a big cat in recent years.

NEWSDESK
01397 703003



An armada of vessels descended on Tarbert harbour over the weekend for one of the most prestigious sailing regattas on the Scottish calendar. 06_a23dolphin09

Tarbert claims local hero after international fleet race in Scottish Series

TARBERT celebrated a local hero at the conclusion of the Brewin Dolphin Scottish Series on Monday.

Master tactician Ruairidh Scott helped his crewmates complete a flawless weekend aboard the *Fever Glenfidich* as they won all seven races in the IRC Class Three to lift the overall Scottish Series Trophy.

Ruairidh joins an elite club in becoming one of a select few to win the trophy three times in the skipper, helm or tactician role, having won as skipper helm in 2003 aboard the *King Quick* and as tactician on the *Jump Juice* in 2007.

The crew did not have it all their own way, engaging in some close tussles with last years Scottish Series winner *Jackaroo*, and a narrow finish in the third race, winning by only 48 seconds.

The rest of the crew consisted of owner-driver Grant Gordon, Mike Forster, Charlie Cumbley, Ben Fields, Scott Aikman, Angus Stevenson and Stewart Miller.

Ruairidh said: 'I am so fortunate to go sailing and racing in places around the world but it is really special to come back here and race, and winning here is even better.'

'This regatta has been as good as I can remember.' Almost 100 crews took part in this year's regatta at Tarbert, with competitors coming from all across Europe including France and the Netherlands.

In the other events, it was the vessel *Playing FTSE* that took the honours in the IRC Class One, while *Salamander 2* won the IRC Class Two.

In the CYCA cruiser-racer class, the Tarbert Shield was won by the *Tartan Pimpernel*, while the Irish vessel *Sharkbait* won the SB20 one design sportsboat class.



The victorious crew of the *Glenfidich Fever* lift the Scottish Series Trophy. Tarbert's Ruairidh Scott is on the far right.



Vessels tussle for position as the Scottish Series gets underway at Tarbert. 06_a23dolphin01

Killin sailor missing in Dubai



Timothy Andrew MacColl, originally from Killin, has been missing in Dubai for more than a week.

A KILLIN man has been missing in Dubai for more than a week after leaving his ship, HMS Westminster, which was docked in the country.

Timothy Andrew MacColl, known as Timmy, is a married father of two and leading seaman with the Royal Navy.

The 27-year-old was last seen by a shipmate getting into a taxi alone after leaving the Rock Bottom Bar in the Deira area at about 2am on May 27.

Mr MacColl now lives in Hampshire where his wife, Rachael, is expecting his third child - but he is originally from Killin in Perthshire.

She said: 'He was really excited as we were going to Skype call the next day. He was moaning at me not to be late because I can sometimes take a while to get the computer up and running.'

'He confirmed it with me at 2pm he would Skype from the Seaman's Mission in Dubai and that call never came.'

She added: 'I wouldn't say he's disappeared. He's missing, my husband wants to be found. I'm not sure what's happened to him but I know wherever he is he wants to be found.'

Mr MacColl's ship has since left the country and the Royal Navy has confirmed a member of HMS Westminster's crew is missing in Dubai.

His wife said crew members from the ship walked the route he had taken and spoke to members of the public to gather information.

She also confirmed there had been no sightings of her husband and that checks with hospitals, prisons, police stations and mortuaries had so far found no record of him.

His family said they were 'completely at a loss and going crazy with worry' adding: 'We are appealing to the people of Dubai and reaching out to the large expat community to help us find Timmy and raise awareness in that area.'

A spokesman for the Royal Navy said the service was working with local authorities and British Foreign Office staff to try to find the missing sailor, and providing support to his family.

More than 50,000 Facebook users have joined a group to raise awareness of Leading Seaman MacColl.

Increased number of road accidents signals the beginning of 'silly' summer season

AN INCREASE in road crashes in Oban and Lorn has marked the beginning of the summer season, but none so far have resulted in serious injury.

On Monday, two motorcyclists luckily avoided injury after a 50-year-old rider from Germany crashed into the back of another

motorcyclist in Lochawe. Last Saturday, a 77-year-old woman was charged after collision in

Albany Street, Oban, while following day two crashes occurred within an hour at Black Mount and at Taynuilt.

Albany Street, Oban, while following day two crashes occurred within an hour at Black Mount and at Taynuilt.

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Villagers dig deep to maintain war memorials

Taynuilt project at heart of village

CONFUSION over the maintenance of Argyll and Bute's war memorials has forced two Lorn villages to take matters into their own hands and pay out of their own pockets.

Glenorchy and Innishail Community Council says it had to stump up £860 in 2010 to have Lochawe village's war memorial pointed after Argyll and Bute Council claimed it was not its responsibility.

But last month, workers from the local authority power-washed the memorial before re-pointing around the stone.

Meanwhile, in Taynuilt, Brigadier John MacFarlane has spearheaded a community effort to add the names of those who fell in WWII to the village's war memorial and to complete re-pointing work - over a period of eight years.

The council told *The Oban Times* it was responsible for maintaining 'most' war memorials across Argyll and Bute and confirmed the Lochawe memorial was on its programme for maintenance.

But Glenorchy and Innishail Community Council is now asking if the council will continue to maintain the memorial - and if it can get its money back.

A community representative told *The Oban Times*: 'When we were looking for money to do this work there wasn't a brass farthing to be found and the council told us it was nothing to do with them.'

'However, let us be positive, as it seems Argyll and Bute Council is now responsible for the memorial maintenance.'

'I just wonder when we'll get our £860 back?' In Taynuilt, Brigadier John MacFarlane, a former director of education services in the British Army, has overseen the re-pointing of the village's war memorial by Stokes Memorials of Dunoon.

His project dates back to 2004 when, at the request of the late Donald 'Gorm' MacGregor, he collected donations and held a fundraising concert to raise money to update the war memorial with the names of WWII victims and complete the re-pointing.

'The project has been a community effort, with everyone pulling together to make sure it happened,' he said.



Brigadier John MacFarlane has been at the forefront of a community effort to update and maintain the village war memorial. 15_123memorial01

Lochawe War Memorial comes back under protective wing of Argyll and Bute Council

community effort, with everyone pulling together to make sure it happened,' he said.

A council spokeswoman said: 'It would seem there has been an unfortunate set of circumstances where work was done on the

[Lochawe] war memorial by a well-meaning group without the council being aware of it.

'We are sorry and would be happy to hear from the community council about any concerns they have.'



The Lochawe war memorial, which has caused disagreement between the community and the council. 16_123war01

Dental studio to defy regulators

'I'm no cowboy' claims dental technician with 40 years experience

THE OWNER of a cosmetic dental studio in Oban says he will remain open and claims no wrong-doing despite being struck off by the industry's regulatory body.

John McIntosh, who works from Argyll and Bute Cosmetic Dentures in Combie Street, failed to attend a five-day hearing in London into charges of misconduct as a dental technician. He subsequently had his registration to the General Dental Council (GDC) suspended on May 3 this year, meaning he can no longer work as a technician in the UK.

However, Glasgow-based Mr McIntosh, who has more than 40 years experience as a dental technician, claims he has done nothing wrong and disputes that he has been working above his remit.

The charges against Mr McIntosh date back to 2008 when he took impressions of a patient's jaw and replaced a lower denture - something the GDC says he is not qualified to do.

The GDC report concluded: 'In the light of its serious findings, the Committee considers that an immediate order is necessary to protect patients and is otherwise in the public interest. The only appropriate and proportionate order is an order for immediate suspension of Mr McIntosh's registration.'

However, Mr McIntosh, who says he has been victimised by the GDC, claims the organisation is undemocratic because of a large number of dentists on a body that also represents technicians and dental nurses.

He said: 'I completely object to being labelled by the GDC as a cowboy who was working beyond his competence, because I have been doing a good job for my patients for a long time.'

'When new regulations came in I applied to go on a course for clinical technicians but was not allowed. If the GDC had let me do that, there wouldn't have even been a hearing. I was struck off because I didn't bow down to GDC rules.'

'I can understand why people would be concerned about losing my registration but I am certainly no danger to the public.'

Mr McIntosh believes he is right to carry on in his role as a 'denture designer' as he no longer performs invasive surgery.

Mr McIntosh has shown *The Oban Times* numerous testimonials about his work.

Former patient Sylvia Light, from Kilmichael Glassary, said: 'I have been wearing dentures for 51 years and his are the most comfortable I've ever had. I was evangelistic about my praise of him, so I am shocked at the GDC's decision.'

Auctioneer featured on TV at Tires sales

UNITED Auctions' director and auctioneer Donald Morrison will be featured as one of three auctioneers in next week's BBC Alba airing of *Trusadh*.

The film crew follows the Uist-born auctioneer, who now lives at Kilmore, near Oban, to the hustle and bustle of the busy seasonal cattle sales on the island of Tiree.

The programme will air on Monday at 9pm.

BBC Springwatch returns to Mull

MULL'S wildlife has been showcased yet again as part of a popular nature television programme.

Springwatch, a BBC Two series, has returned to our screens and in the final week, starting on Monday June 11, it will air several films from Mull.

The shows will feature basking sharks, wild goats, short-eared owls, seals, red deer, otter and white-tailed eagles.

The eight strong crew with presenter Iolo Williams spent a week on the island which the series first visited for a live outside broadcast in 2005.

Springwatch is on BBC Two Monday to Thursday at 8pm.

Lifeboat leaves jubilee ducks to assist yacht on rock

OBAN lifeboat was called away from its community commitments on Saturday after a yacht ran aground on rocks south of Oban.

The lifeboat was to be helping out at the town's jubilee duck race on Saturday morning but just after 10.30am it was called to assist the yacht *Promette*, which had run aground on the ferry rocks, by the Kerrera ferry, with four people on board.

By the time Oban lifeboat was on scene the yacht was being pulled from the rocks by the Kerrera ferry.

Two of volunteer lifeboat crew went onboard the yacht and discovered that one of the crew had been injured during the grounding and would require to be taken to hospital. The casualty was taken onto the lifeboat and subsequently taken to hospital in Oban. Another lifeboat crew member remained onboard the yacht and assisted its crew in taking it to Oban Marina.

Following this incident Oban lifeboat returned to Oban Bay to make its scheduled appearance at the Oban Duck Race in aid of the RNLI.

Second bothy opens on Jura

WALKERS and outdoor enthusiasts now have access to a second bothy on Jura.

The Mountain Bothies Association has taken over the care of the Cruib building on Jura, part of Ruaintallain Estate and owned by the Bury family.

The bothy is the 79th in Scotland to be taken into the care of the charity and overlooks the eastern end of Loch Tarbert. The other bothy is at Glangarrisdale, on Ardlussa Estate.

Kerrera charity walk challenge

UP TO 100 people will be pulling on their walking boots and heading to Kerrera soon for the annual charity challenge.

The six-mile event, in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support, will be held on June 17 and organisers hope to raise thousands after the success of last year's walk.

Committee member Jim Heward said: 'We are hoping dozens of people will take on the Kerrera experience walking challenge.'

'It is a really easy way to raise money for Macmillan while having fun and getting some exercise.'

'I really want more people to sign up to take on this challenge.'

Sponsorship forms are available at The Music Shop, Gordon's Chemists or Webster's Photo Shop.



Engine fault grounds coastguard helicopter

A COASTGUARD helicopter has been grounded at Oban Airport for almost two weeks after it suffered an engine problem.

The twin-engine Sikorsky S92 was helping in a search on Friday May 25 for a missing kayaker but a warning light alerted the pilot to the fault in one of the engines. The helicopter was landed at Oban Airport using one engine only and aircraft owners CHC sourced a replacement engine from Scrabster.

The coastguard has a reserve helicopter at its Stornoway base, which is being used in the meantime.

Lerags holiday lodges go on market

THE 17 holiday lodges and accompanying house at Lagnakeil, Lerags, is up for sale for £1.25m.

Colliers International Parks and Leisure Team is overseeing the sale of Lagnakeil Highland Lodges, which has been under the ownership of Colin and Jo Mossman have for more than 15 years.

The couple bought the park off market in 1997 after holidaying there and they plan to continue living in the area.

The lodge business is well established, having been continuously refurbished during the current ownership, and has a sleeping capacity of 78, which is almost full between May and October.

Richard Moss, director at Colliers International, said: 'This is an ideal opportunity for a purchaser to take on a well-presented, profitable business with permission to further develop providing the ability to add value.'

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Mental Health Modernisation in Argyll & Bute

Argyll & Bute Council NHS Highland

PUBLIC EVENTS

Argyll & Bute Community Health Partnership is holding a number of public information drop in events in May/June to ensure that members of the public are kept up to date with the latest developments in the modernisation of Mental Health services across Argyll & Bute.

The local event for Oban will take place on: Thursday 14th May 2012 Corran Hall Theatre Suite 3pm - 7pm

There will be a short presentation at 4pm and 6pm followed by a question and answer session.

For further information please contact: Caroline Champion caroline.champion@nhs.net 01546 605680

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Revenge for Kilmallie in Camanachd Cup thriller

'Being five players short is no excuse but on the day it was just too many'

REPORT BY
STEPHEN NORRIS
snorris@obantimes.co.uk

Kilmallie 3, Fort William 1
KILMALLIE at last found the self-belief missing for most of this season to dump Fort William out of the Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup and book their place in the quarter-final. And the victory at Canal Parks was all the sweeter for the Blues after going down to a damaging 3-0 drubbing to their derby rivals at the same venue just seven days previously. Kilmallie were their usual nervy selves in the first half and another defeat looked on the cards when Daniel Stewart crashed home a 25-yarder to give Fort the lead on 15 minutes. It was a goal the visitors thoroughly deserved after grabbing the initiative from the first whistle - despite being without

key players Gary Innes, Gordie MacKinnon, Duncan Rodger, Bryan Simpson and 16 year-old Arran MacPhee, who broke his wrist the Saturday before. Kilmallie, however, gradually gained a foothold in the midfield but were still struggling for their trademark fluency until John Stewart took a hand in proceedings and whacked a great low drive past Paul McKay in the Fort goal to make it 1-1. **Transformed** McCann beat away a looping Ryan Stewart shot from out wide just before the break and the sides went in level - but Kilmallie were a side transformed in the second period after a pep talk from the coaching team. Roared on by the partisan crowd, Kilmallie visibly grew in confidence and suddenly were playing the kind of shinty for which they are noted. After being subdued in the

SHINTY

first half, Michael Rodger in particular began to weave his magic up front - and it was the diminutive forward who gave his side the lead on 51 minutes with a brilliant shot that gave McKay no chance. With Alan MacDonald at wing back outstanding in defence and Ross Lavin and Mark MacPherson dominant in midfield, Rodger, Stewart and Grant MacKenzie began to cause Fort's makeshift team no end of problems. Liam MacDonald also came on to a fine game and effectively ended the tie on 66 minutes with a beautifully struck 30-yard drive that arched into the top right hand corner. Kevin Toye made a fine stop to deny Alex Duncan, but Kilmallie were in charge and McKay



Whack! John Stewart rifles home a great shot past Stevie Stewart to equalise for Kilmallie. 20_123shinty01

had to be at his best to save from Rodger, who by now was taunting the Fort defence with keepy-up on his caman to the delight of the home supporters. A full strength Fort team can never be counted out, but the depleted visitors never looked like finding a way back into

the game and Kilmallie ran out comfortable winners. For Kilmallie co-coach Lachie Innes, victory was sweet. He told The Oban Times pitch-side: 'We are all delighted - I think the boys deserved it. They worked really hard and were a bit nervous in the first half, but

in the second they played really well. 'It would be off to single out anybody, but Liam Cameron made a difference at the back, as did Alan MacDonald. It always a bonus to beat Fort William.' Disappointed Fort coach Peter MacIntyre said: 'I thought the

first half was pretty even, but Kilmallie were the better team in the second half. We just did not get to grips with their centre line and our defence was under a lot of pressure. He added: "Being five key players short is no excuse, but on the day it was just too many."

Pam leads Tony by seven points

10-PIN BOWLING

AFTER week 7 of the singles 10-pin bowling leagues the scratch division is led by Pam Weller with 86 points with Tony Whitlocke in second on 79 points. Rossamy Wareing is in third place with 66 points. The handicap competition is led by Pam Weller with 64 points followed by Tim Attack and Tony Whitlocke sharing second place on 61 points. The top scratch game of week 6 was 200 from Pam Weller. The top three-game scratch series was 476 also from Pam Weller. The top three-game handicap series came from Tommy McKnight with 602. In week 7 the best scratch games were 201 and 188 by Tony Whitlocke. Tim Attack chipped in with a 173. The best three-game series came from Tony Whitlocke with 536 scratch, 659 handicap. In the race for the Nevis Radio trophy for the highest total scratch pinfall Pam Weller leads with 3042 pins followed by Tony Whitlocke in second with 2893 and John Weller in third with 2551.

Fort William GC

GOLF

FORT WILLIAM Golf Club held its June medal on Saturday in fine conditions. Results: Section 1 - 1, Steven Jamieson net 68 (72 - 4) (BIH); 2, Toby Richardson net 68 (80 - 12); 3, Kenny Gilliespie net 69 (79 - 10). Section 2 - 1, John Cameron net 70 (90 - 20); 2, Neil Young net 71 (86 - 15); 3, Jason Wallace net 75 (96 - 21). The ladies held their Captain's Prize on Sunday. Winner was Kay Jerram, net 72 (94 - 22); second was Gail Anderson, net 77 (94 - 17); third was Iona Cameron, net 78 (92 - 14).



Lochaber High School retained the MacPherson Cup for the 12th successive year with a 1-0 win over Kingussie High School in the final in Fort William last Tuesday. First year pupil Findlay MacDonald scored the only goal in the last minute of the game. The triumph was the 17th time in total Lochaber High has won the Schools Camanachd competition.

Lochaber hold interschool primary sports day

A RECORD number of youngsters from across Lochaber came to Fort William to compete in the Lochaber Interschool Primary School Sports last week. Over 200 pupils from 20 schools took part from as far afield as Mallaig, Invergarry and Duror. The competition started with a swimming gala in Lochaber Leisure Centre with some hard fought races. Arisaig took the trophy in the small schools category, while Lochyside RC won the middle sized school event and Inverlochry the large school prize. St Bride's were given a shield for most improved school. After lunch everyone moved to Claggan Park for the hill race and athletics. This time Invergarry were the victors in the small school category, Lochyside RC in the middle sized schools and Caol Primary won the shield for large schools. Active school co-ordinator Bridget Thomas thanked everyone who helped out on the day. She said: 'Thankfully the breeze picked up to keep the midgets at bay, and several close finishes kept the timekeepers on their toes.'

Results - Swimming
25m Back stroke - Girls: 1, Aimee MacKay, St Mary's; 2, Vaia Kennedy, Lochaline; 3, Danielle Ferguson, Inverlochry. Boys: 1, Stewart Adams, Upper Achintore; 2, Wallace Dempster, Lady Lovat; 3, Ian Gillies, St Mary's.

25m breast stroke - Girls: 1, Mia Reid, Inverlochry; 2, Freya MacDonald, Caol; 3, Jasmine Webb, Spean Bridge. Boys - 1, Jack Gillies, Arisaig; 2, Alistair MacRae, Lochyside; 3, Liam Livingstone, Inverlochry.
25m front crawl - Girls: 1, Dora Shepherd, Glencoe; 2, Heather Millar, Spean Bridge; 3, Corran Wineberg, Lochyside. Boys: 1, Martin MacKinnon, Lochyside; 2, Cameron Morris, Strontian; 3, Gregor Innes, Mallaig.
Relay - 1, Lochyside; 2, Caol; 3, Upper Achintore. Small Schools - 1, Arisaig; 2, Lady Lovat, Glencoe, Lochaline. Medium Schools - 1, Lochyside; 2, Spean Bridge; 3, Mallaig. Large Schools - 1, Inverlochry; 2, Caol, St Mary's.

Athletics
100metres - Girls: 1 Alana Smith, Caol; 2, Mairi Duncan, Acharaele; 3, Danielle Ferguson, Inverlochry. Boys: 1, Martin MacKinnon, Lochyside; 2, Kier Gibson, St Mary's; 3, Cameron Ross, Banavie. 200m - Girls: 1, Regan Porter, Roy Bridge; 2, Briony McIrose, Lochyside; 3, Eilidh Ross, Acharaele. Boys: 1, Ryan Henderson, Lochyside; 2, Greg Hendrie, Inverlochry; 3, Matthew Baker, Arisaig. Hurdles - Girls: 1, Dora Shepherd, Glencoe; 2, Robyn Blackhall, Caol; 3, Stephanie McKenna, Inverlochry. Boys: 1, Eric Ross, St Mary's; 2, Daniel MacKillop, Upper Achintore; 3, Fergus Fraser, Invergarry. Hill race - Girls: 1, Robyn Blackhall, Caol; 2, Abbie Blackhall, Caol; 3, Rebecca Johnstone, Invergarry. Boys: 1, Duncan Stevenson, Inverlochry; 2, Lachie Shaw, St Mary's; 3, Ryan Henderson, Lochyside. Relay

SPORTS

400m - 1, Caol; 2, Lochyside; 3, Upper Achintore. Long jump - Girls: 1, Naomi MacKinnon, Mallaig; 2, Dora Shepherd, Glencoe; 3, Charlotte Cunningham, Lady Lovat. Boys: 1, Ben Johnstone, Invergarry; 2, Stuart Disher, Inverlochry; 3, Alistair MacRae, Lochyside. Shot putt - Girls: 1, Catlin Edmond, Spean Bridge; 2, Abbie Malcolm, Duror; 3, Alicia Poole, Mallaig. Boys: 1, Sean Wallace, Banavie; 2, Martin MacKinnon, Lochyside; 3, Ruiriadh Cant, Upper Achintore. Small Schools - 1, Invergarry; 2, Glencoe; 3, Roy Bridge, Medium Schools - 1, Lochyside; 2, Spean Bridge; 3, Mallaig. Large Schools - 1, Caol; 2, Inverlochry; 3, Upper Achintore.



The 'Happy Hackers' - John Martin, Brian Gillespie, David Martin (John's dad) and Neil Figgins won the Rotary Club of Lochaber's annual Am-Am charity golf tournament at Fort William Golf Club.

Isle of Skye GC

GOLF

THE ISLE of Skye Golf Club held its Skye Championship Round One (2 Category Strokeplay) over Saturday and Sunday. Results: Category One - 1 Murdo Gordon 68 (bih); 2 Alasdair Grant 68; 3 Alan MacLaine 71. Category Two - 1 Mike Mace 79 (better last 6); 2 Al Campbell 79; 3 David Anslow 81. Pairs Stableford 30th May - 1 John Fenwick and Gilles Nicolson 78 points; 2 Donald Bethune and Martin Bird 76 points; 3 John Marshall and John Allan MacLeod 71 points.

Claymores host first boxing show

NETHER Lochaber 'Claymores' Amateur Boxing Club hosted its first-ever boxing show in Kinlochleven High school on Saturday night. Boxers from all over Scotland descended on the village to compete in the sell out show and Claymores boxers fought lads from as far away as Peterhead ABC to Northwest ABC in Kilmarnock. Young Marcus Spence of Kinlochleven opened the show against Brandon Innes of Peterhead ABC before the Claymores' Callum Clement of Tyndrum took on Tony Bartle

of Forsyths ABC in Hamilton. Clement lost by a majority decision, but both lads gave their all and were rewarded with the fight of the night trophies. Kinlochleven's Nathan McDade battled Northwest ABC boxer David McPike in a very even contest which had the crowd on their feet - and at the final bell the home crowd went wild when the judges favoured McDade, who won the Claymores 'boxer of the year' belt, donated by Elizabeth Glenesk, head coach Martin's mother. Another new supporter is Paul Wilson of Snowpatrol fame,

BOXING

who came along to watch the show - and was so impressed he has promised the club their own competition ring. Mr Glenesk said: 'I would like to thank everyone who helped this event take place. It seemed to me that the whole village had some role to play in making the show the massive success it was.' Special thanks goes to the Kinlochleven Community Trust, Kinlochleven High School head master John McGilp and the Leven Centre Board.'

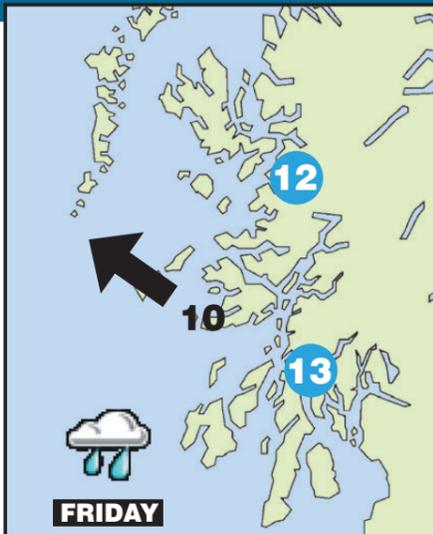
Weather

Thursday light rain showers
Winds light easterly
Temperatures 10°C to 14°C

Friday Light rain
Winds light east, south easterly
Temperatures 8°C to 13°C.

Weekend Light rain
Outlook Winds west, south westerly
Temperatures 9°C to 16°C.

Ferry Crossings/Sea States
Oban to Barra/South Uist Moderate
Oban to Coll/Tiree Moderate
Kennacraig to Islay Moderate



Tides

Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday, June 7, 2012** are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath.

All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am	06	07.25	3.7	13.51	0.6	19.49	3.9
Thur	01.35	0.6	07.25	3.7	13.51	0.6	19.49	3.9
Fri	02.23	0.7	08.09	3.5	14.37	0.7	20.35	3.7
Sat	03.12	1.0	08.53	3.3	15.24	0.9	21.22	3.5
Sun	04.01	1.2	09.40	3.1	16.14	1.2	22.13	3.3
Mon	04.53	1.4	10.33	2.9	17.06	1.4	23.12	3.1
Tues	05.49	1.6	11.44	2.8	18.04	1.5	***	**
Wed	06.28	3.0	06.50	1.7	13.06	2.8	19.10	1.7

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

Ardrisaig	-5.35	Portree	+0.55
Campbeltown	-5.30	Tobermory	+0.16
Crinan	-0.47	Dover	+5.30
Islay Port Ellen	2.00		
Lochboisdale	+0.30		
Mallaig	+0.25		

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