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& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

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Charles Kennedy: 1959 - 2015 When will we see his like again?

EMMA CRICHTON
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TRIBUTES have been flooding in from all corners of the world following the shock death of popular Lochaber politician Charles Kennedy, who was found dead in his Fort William home on Monday (June 1), aged 55.

The people of the West Highlands, Scotland and the UK were stunned by the tragic news of the death of the former Ross, Skye and Lochaber MP, who also served as Liberal Democrat leader from 1999 until 2006.

His family said they were devastated at the loss of 'a fine man and loving father'.

No cause of death had been given as the *Oban Times* went to press, but police said there were no suspicious circumstances.

Paramedics rushed to his home at Lochside on Monday evening and alerted the police.

The death was announced via a statement from Mr Kennedy's family on Tuesday morning. He leaves behind a 10-year-old son, Donald.

The statement read: 'It is with great sadness, and an enormous sense of shock, that we announce the death of Charles Kennedy. Charles died at home in Fort William yesterday. We are obviously devastated at the loss. Charles was a fine man, a talented politician and a loving father to his young son.'

Fort William solicitor Duncan MacPhee had been a friend of Mr Kennedy's for more than 20 years. He said it was his 'raw humanity' he will miss most.

He said: 'I consider myself extremely privileged to call Charles my friend. I totally agree with all of the kind words that have already been said about him and they all ring true.'

'He was a man who put his family first and dedicated his life to public service. Charles was a dear friend to everyone in Lochaber and a true Highlander.'

Mr Kennedy was one of the



CHIEF AMONG MEN:
Charles at Glenfinnan

first pupils of Lochside RC primary school and also attended Lochaber high school.

Jim Sutherland, current head-teacher of Lochaber high, said: 'Staff and pupils are shocked and saddened by the news of Charles Kennedy's death. Charles was our best known former pupil who maintained strong links with the school, supporting events and visiting regularly to lead political discussions with modern studies pupils.'

'Charles attended Lochaber high school in the 1970s where he won national debating competitions under the tutelage of legendary principal

He was a man who put his family first and dedicated his life to public service. Charles was a dear friend to everyone in Lochaber and a true Highlander

Duncan MacPhee
Fort William solicitor
and friend

English Bob Dick, gaining skills which he further honed at Glasgow university and which made him such a popular figure both locally and nationally.

'He spoke regularly at our Burns supper, most recently delivering the 'Toast to the Lassies'. 'Today we have lost a powerful force for Lochaber and a great ambassador for our school. We extend our sympathies to his family and very many friends.'

His political career began in 1983 when, at 23 years old, he was elected the Social Democratic party member for Ross, Cromarty and Skye, becoming the youngest MP at the time. He then took over Liberal Democrat leadership from Paddy Ashdown in 1999 and continued until 2006, leading his party to its best election result in 2005, on the

back of his opposition to the Iraq war.

Celia Munro, widow of MSP John Farquhar Munro, said the death of Mr Kennedy has been like 'losing one of her own'.

The 76-year-old from Glenshiel, near Kyle of Lochalsh, went door knocking with Charles during his first election campaign. She said: 'Putting the radio on and hearing that news was heart-breaking. It was like losing one of my own bairns.'

'He was one of the most gentle people, but at the same time when he spoke, people really listened. That's when you know someone is special, when you notice that everyone stops to listen.'

Mr Kennedy lost his Ross, Skye and Lochaber seat to the SNP's Ian Blackford in May after more than 30 years as a Highland MP.

His successor paid this tribute: 'Charles Kennedy had so much more to give to Scotland and its people. My prayers and those of my family are being offered for him and his family at this, the worst of times.'

'Charles was a great democrat and was magnanimous in defeat as well as victory. I would like to say I have lost a friend.'

Dave Thompson, MSP for Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch, joined Ian Blackford in his praise: 'Charles Kennedy was a wonderful man who displayed great integrity and great courage.'

Alan Reid, former Lib Dem MP for Argyll and Bute, spoke of his sense of personal loss: 'I have lost a good friend.'

'He had the ability to connect with people and brought a positive style of politics to Westminster.'

'Whether it was on behalf of his constituents or as party leader, Charles was always able to make a clear compelling case without resorting to attacks on political opponents.'

'He was a great help to me, offering a lot of valuable advice and assistance. We worked together on many campaigns.'



DIGNITY IN DEFEAT: Charles Kennedy at last month's general election count
Photograph courtesy of Sandy McCook

'On his many campaign visits to Argyll and Bute, members of the public were literally queuing up to congratulate him and shake his hand.'

Michael Russell, MSP for Argyll and Bute, admired Charles Kennedy's intellectual prowess: 'Although Charles and I were political opponents from the first day we met - which was just before he was elected in 1983 as I was active in the Inverness constituency for the SNP in that election - I always enjoyed his company and talking with, as well as debating with him.'

'He was witty, engaging, clever and funny and we shared a sense of humour as well as a passion for higher education. We often met at university events where

his advocacy for students was strong and he will be missed by lots of us as a person as well as a politician.'

Jamie McGrigor, MSP for the Highlands and Islands, highlighted Charles Kennedy's battling qualities: 'One cannot think of politics in the Highlands without thinking of Charles Kennedy who through his extraordinary talents and affability with his constituents - for whom he fought many successful battles - reached the highest pinnacle that his party had achieved for many generations.'

'The Highlands and Lochaber have lost a great champion.'

'His loss will be deeply mourned by many and my thoughts are with his family and friends.'

TRIBUTES



He was without doubt one of the towering political talents of his generation

Nicola Sturgeon
First Minister



Charles had brains, talent, wit and bags of humanity

David Cameron
Prime Minister



Charles was one of the most gifted and personable leaders of our time

Gordon Brown
Former Prime Minister



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Friends consider legal challenge

A JUDICIAL challenge over planning consent for a fish farm on Loch Etive was dismissed by the Court of Session in Edinburgh last week.

Action group Friends of Loch Etive (FoLE) asked the court to consider whether it was 'illegal and unreasonable' for a sixth such fish farm to be built on the loch.

Councillor David Kinniburgh, of Argyll and Bute's planning committee, said: 'In dismissing the Friends of Loch Etive's petition, the court shows quite clearly that the planning permission granted to Dawnfresh was entirely right.'

Keith Macmillan, trustee of FoLE, said: 'We are extremely disappointed and we will be examining closely whether or not there are grounds for an appeal.'

Gaelic culture at its very best

CHOIRS from all over the West Highlands are tuning in and tuning up as the biggest Oban provincial mod gets under way tomorrow, Friday, celebrating Gaelic life and culture.

It all starts with the junior competitions on Friday June 5 with senior and instrumental competitions beginning the following day.

There are more than 400 entrants to a wide range of disciplines in more than more 40 different competitions.

The message from organisers is 'ceud mile failte' and everyone is welcome to attend the competitions and take part in supporting the annual Gaelic event.

There will also be Gaelic testing to set any gold or silver medal challengers on the right path to success.

People of Nepal thank townsfolk

CHARITIES Day in Oban's Station Square will see a unique stall to say 'thank you' from the people of Nepal to Oban.

Oban Lions, which runs the fundraising event, has been given photographs and messages of thanks from the Asian country after more than £1,300 was raised in four hours at a recent fundraising day organised by the club.

Lions club chairman Jim Edge said: 'What we really want to do is to say 'thank you' to everyone who helped to make a huge difference to the people of Nepal.'

'We also want to encourage more people to join our group.'

Charities' Day runs from 10am on Saturday morning.

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TIMESLINE
Concern over take-away alcohol plan

AN ALCOHOL delivery service was criticised by Oban community council as opening up 'a can of worms'.

Planning permission has been sought by an Indian restaurant opening up in the former Spinnaker cafe to include alcohol deliveries with takeaway meals.

At a meeting of the community council, concerns were raised that under-age drinkers would be able to order alcohol over the phone.

Senior Oban councillor Roddy McCuish told the community council it was permissible for restaurants to provide alcohol with food deliveries, provided it was within 'the licensing hours of the restaurant'.

He continued: 'It has to be signed - but how you monitor it is very difficult. The person who delivers it has to be over 18.'

The community council plans to write to the licensing board to raise concerns about the delivery service.

Community group wants forest land

A COMMUNITY group has applied for ownership of forest land.

Morvern community development company (MDC) hopes to buy an area of Lochaline to build affordable housing.

The 0.72 hectare site is adjacent to Dailrainich in the centre of Lochaline and MDC will be working with the Highland Small Communities Trust to meet national requirements for affordable housing.

Anyone wishing to express their views can do so via malcolm.wield@forestry.gsi.gov.uk or by post to Malcolm Wield, Forestry Commission Scotland, Highland Conservancy, 'Woodlands', Fodderty Way, Dingwall, Ross-shire, IV15 9XB.

'Good job' on anti dog fouling front

COMMUNITY volunteers were praised for doing a 'good job' in raising awareness of dog fouling issues in Oban.

Kenny MacLennan and Julie MacKenzie were thanked by Oban community council for the work they had put into designing a poster and holding meeting with council staff members.

Marri Malloy, chairwoman of Oban community council, said: 'We are delighted with the way you have gone about the dog fouling campaign.'

Extra cash helps tenants pay rent

ALMOST £800,000 has been given to tenants in Argyll and Bute in the last year to help with housing costs.

Discretionary housing payments are paid by the Scottish government to people receiving housing benefit who require additional help to meet rental costs.

Parking fees simply a case of economics

But campaign group fights on for free spaces at Ganavan

LOUISE GLEN
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A CAMPAIGN for free car parking at Ganavan Sands may put jobs at risk, councillor Roddy McCuish told Oban community council last week.

Speaking ahead of a council meeting on June 9 where the matter will be discussed in public, councillor McCuish said scrapping parking fees would lead to 'tough decisions'.

Councillor McCuish said: 'It is simple economics. One of our council workers came to me and said retaining the parking charges in Ganavan could go some way to keeping him in his part-time job.'



FIGHTING FOR GANAVAN:
Sarah Swain-Nisbet

It was confirmed that parking fees in Ganavan raises approximately £3,000 a year for Argyll and Bute council.

Roddy McCuish continued: 'It is an emotive subject. Where does the money come from, if not from things such as parking?'

'We are looking at absolutely horrific budget figures over the next couple of years.'

A meeting to discuss the matter chaired by Sarah Swain-Nisbet, held last Thursday in Oban's Salvation Army hall, heard both sides of the argument.

After the meeting Sarah, who is against the charges, said: 'We are adamant they should not be levied at all as they put off residents and visitors.'

'The imperative is to get people

out there, not turn them away, especially with Ganavan, which was gifted to the community, being the closest beach to Oban.'

She continued: 'The collective feeling of the meeting is that something must be done. It is an imperative that the beach is improved.'

'Initiatives like that can only enhance the Oban experience, making it more attractive for visitors and tourists, not to mention making the area more attractive for business investment.'

'There are plans to hold another meeting with councillors in June. This will be advertised in the *Oban Times* and hopefully more people can add their voices to the salvation of Ganavan.'



BARGAINS: Oban Oxfam staff with some of the items currently for sale at the shop on George Street 16_123oxfam01



IN THE BEGINNING: The Oban Times of June 21 1985 reported on the store opening on June 15. 16_123oxfam01

Oxfam shop celebrates milestone

STEVEN RAE
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ONE OF Oban's longest-established charity shops is celebrating 30 years of trading in the town.

The Oxfam store on George Street will celebrate the milestone on June 15, having opened in 1985. Store manager Claire Macphee said: 'In the 30 years since the store opened, we've raised more than £2million. On behalf of the staff here, I'd like to say a big "thank you" to the people of Oban for their generosity over the years.'

The staff gathered at the store last week and spoke of some of the unusual items they'd had donated over the years, including two fake Rolex watches, half a Christmas pudding, a toilet plunger and a child's potty.

Some of the better donations included a book which had a pound note stuck to every right hand page, and a book titled 'How to Manage your Money', which had £85 in cash inside.

Two of the volunteers, Sheena Rodgers and Gordon MacIntyre, have been volunteering at the shop since it opened in 1985.

Church remains empty while visitors have to queue 'on street' for advice

OBAN's tourism bosses have no plans to return to larger premises in the town despite visitors having to queue on the street.

Four years ago, a 'structural problem' with VisitScotland's tourist information centre in a former church on Argyll Square brought about a move to the North Pier.

But the town's hotel owners and traders are now complain-

ing about the lack of facilities in the smaller information centre town.

Hotel manager Fiona Campbell from Oban, said: 'While the current office is modern with friendly staff, it is far too small and I have seen a queue of visitors waiting to get into it. But not all visitors will do that.'

'It will, in turn, have a negative effect on businesses, particularly those who adver-

tise within the centre.' Tommy Anderson, who lives on George Street, is concerned about the decaying state of the former church building.

He said: 'Come on VisitScotland, stop adding to the town's derelict buildings. Now that the former Rockfield school building has been bought over by the community, surely VisitScotland, has a responsibility to repair and re-open

the church building. In April 2014, Visit Scotland said it was looking to move back into the church, with partners - what happened to that idea?'

Visit Scotland regional director David Adams McGilp said: 'We have no plans to relocate our Visit Scotland information centre into the church in Oban.'

'As yet, no decisions have been taken on a future use for the building.'

MULL lines

Double decker hits island roads to enlighten pupils

PUPILS at primary schools on Mull were able to experience a series of interactive Scottish wildlife lessons thanks to a specially designed double-decker education bus currently touring Scotland.

Last week the 'Wild about Scotland' bus visited schools on the island as part of a wider campaign being brought to all of Scotland's 32 local councils over the next 12 months.

The programme has been developed by the Royal Zoological Society for Scotland (RZSS) and has been made possible through a partnership between Clydesdale Bank and the RZSS to support the charity in its conservation goals across Scotland.

Pupils from Salen, Ulva Ferry, Dervaig and Lochdonhead primary schools got to get their hands dirty in a variety of interactive and fun lessons which focused on Scottish native species, their habitats and environments. Lessons were delivered by a dedicated education team from RZSS.

Chris West, chief executive officer of the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland, said: 'Conservation through education is one of the founding principles behind the society and remains one of our key goals to this day.'

'We believe connecting young people on Mull to the natural world is vital and the 'Wild about Scotland' outreach programme will further add to the curriculum-based learning delivered each year by the society. Importantly, now more than ever, preserving and learning about the huge variety of wildlife living in Scotland, and how children may help make a difference in the conservation of that wildlife, is of huge worth.'



ALL ABOARD: the 'Wild about Scotland' bus is visiting schools on the island as part of a wider campaign



Youngsters a class act on trip to Paris and Ypres

PUPILS from third year at Tobermory high school spent a few days in Paris and Ypres.

In Paris they took a boat trip on the Seine and visited Notre Dame and the Musée d'Orsay.

Despite a few misgivings about lifts and heights, they all reached the top of the Eiffel Tower.

The group, pictured above, then moved onto Ypres visiting the trenches and the cemeteries at Tynecoat and Langemark where they carried out their own acts of remembrance.

At the Last Post ceremony at the Menin Gate, three of the class laid a wreath on behalf of the school and three school pipers played to accompany the wreath laying. Taking part in this ceremony is a huge honour and all of S3 represented themselves, the school and the local community well.



ON SONG: the Hollow Mountain String Band brought 'foot stompin' Americana' to the Mishnish on Saturday

Tobermory bay rocks to the sound of Americana

TOBERMORY bay rocked to the sounds of Americana classics as the Hollow Mountain String Band played at the Mishnish on Saturday to the usual great local crowd.

The band had the patrons stomping their feet and singing along into the early hours of Sunday morning with its up tempo blend of old time, honky-tonk, bluegrass and blues. There were also some traditional and contemporary Scottish songs and tunes thrown in.

On the way back to the mainland on Sunday, the band entertained ferry passengers with an impromptu concert.



PRAISED: leading Highland firefighter Robert Scott, right, receives a certificate and statue from senior officer Scott Hay to mark his retirement after 25 years' service.

Retiring in a blaze of glory

THE EFFORTS of a leading firefighter in the area have been praised as he prepares for retirement.

Since joining Scottish Fire and Rescue Service from the Royal Marines, group manager Robert 'Scotty' Scott has served for almost 26 years in the Western Isles, Skye and Lochalsh and Inverness among other areas but will step down on Tuesday June 9.

Mr Scott was presented with a retirement certificate and a bronze statue of a firefighter by Highland senior officer Scott Hay during a ceremony in Inverness last week.

Mr Hay said: 'To have committed more

than 25 years of his life to the fire service is a great achievement and I would like to thank Robert for his work during that time. Particularly, recently Robert has been part of my senior management team in Highland and has made a tremendous contribution towards the creation of the local fire and rescue plan for the area.'

'He has provided me with a great level of support over the years and commanded a great deal of respect from the staff he managed. His experience and knowledge will be a great loss to the service. Robert is a credit to himself, his colleagues, the community and the service as a whole and I wish him a long and happy retirement.'

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Six thousand people want more of the same for Oban

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THE DOOR is now open for 'mega' events to take place in Oban after the hugely successful Skerryvore Decade festival that took place over last week in Mossfield stadium.

With more than 6,000 people revelling in the town, the authorities had nothing but praise for the partygoers and the organisers of the event.

Cafes, restaurants, pubs, hotels and B&Bs all reported a great weekend's trade from the 'mini' festival to celebrate 10 years of Celtic trad fusion super band Skerryvore.

Full of praise, sergeant Alan Moore of Oban police station said: 'It was a new thing to bring 6,000 people to the town for a music event. There were months of planning that went into the event.'

'Of course there were some minor misdemeanours, but overall with thousands of extra people here all looking to have a great time - we are pleased with the way the event has been managed.'

Sergeant Moore explained that the Lorn Events Team had worked together on the project for some time.

This included Police Scotland,

A fantastic venue, a fantastic audience, fantastic acts and even fantastic weather

Argyll and Bute council and the event planners.

Business community company BID4Oban helped to fund the event from an early stage - giving the event the town backing required to let the gig planning go ahead.

BID4Oban chairman Graeme Bass said: 'On what would have otherwise been a fairly quiet weekend, we had 6,000 people from near and far visiting, spending and celebrating in Oban.'

'This is a great example of what an active and committed BID



CROWD PLEASING: having a great time at the Skerryvore event last week. It may be time for many more events to come to the town

can do to bring added value for the town and its business community.

'The BID4Oban staff in general and Neil Mackay in particular worked tirelessly to make this event a success. And what a success it was.'

'A fantastic venue, a fantastic audience, fantastic acts - and even fantastic weather for most

of the day. Oban has proved that we have the infrastructure in place to support events of this nature and the whole town has had a lift from sharing in the celebration of Skerryvore's success.'

'Our thanks go to Daniel and the band for choosing Oban for their tenth anniversary party. It certainly showed exactly why people love Oban.'

Skerryvore front man and organiser Daniel told the *Oban Times*: 'It was just amazing. Seeing it all come together was brilliant. Oban embraced us right from the start. The town proved itself to be a brilliant host for the weekend.'

'I think that we have proved is that Oban is ideal for a major concert. Anyone who saw the event would know that not even half of Mossfield's pitch was used.'

'While we may have organised the first music event at Mossfield, I am sure it won't be the last. Elton John and Tom Jones like to play to about 6,000 people at gigs now - can you imagine those guys at Mossfield. That would be craic.'

Community campaigners call for review over town's hospital dental unit 'fiasco'

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A DEMAND for a full review of the Oban dental hospital 'fiasco' was made at an NHS Highland public health partnership meeting held in the town.

Former economist and Tainuill resident Tom Dolan is calling for an investigation into why a million pounds was spent on the Lorn and the Islands hospital dental facility, which has lain empty for years.

It was agreed between all partners at the meeting held on Mon-

day night that the continuing search for dentists for the dental unit was becoming a sick 'joke'.

Representatives at the meeting included senior NHS Highland staff, senior Argyll and Bute council officers, community councillors and representatives from various groups and bodies.

Mr Dolan, a representative of the local health partnership, said: 'I have letters going back to at least to 2006 where I have been told that dentists are about to sign a contract.'

'Time and again, I've been told that NHS Highland are pursuing

the matter with vigour, and that various people are being interviewed, or contracts are about to be signed.'

'There has been a colossal amount of money put into the hospital's dental unit. A million pounds or more and yet it is still lying empty without any tenants.'

'The situation needs to be reviewed independently to assess how much money this whole project has cost.'

'I would suggest an organisation such as the King's Fund, which has specialised health economists, should be looking

very closely at this situation'

NHS Highland locality manager Caroline Henderson said that the health board was 'actively' speaking to someone about taking over the dental unit. However, she agreed with Mr Dolan, saying: 'I cannot deny that you are absolutely right.'

'I can pass the request for an independent audit of the dental unit in Oban to NHS Highland's board and I will impress on them that this request has come from the public partnership forum.'

Duncan Martin, who was chairing the meeting, said: 'The whole

project has been a huge embarrassment to everyone involved.'

'It is a fiasco. It wasn't the health board that funded the project, of course, it was the Scottish government and it too has been made to look very silly in this whole matter.'

'The strange thing is that in the time this dental hospital has been built and lain empty, the Scottish government's policy on dentists has changed.'

'The policy now is that people should be out getting their treatment in the community and not in a hospital building.'

Councillor Elaine Robertson said she thought the project had been in existence since 2005. She said the Scottish government invested in the project because the dental surgery at Argyll Square did not meet guidelines about disabled access at the time.

She continued: 'It is a dreadful shame that tenants have never materialised because everyone in the town wanted this work done at the time.'

'It is a disaster that it is not being used when so many people can not get the NHS dental care that they would like in this area.'

Bank holiday 'surge' hits car ferry

FERRY company Caledonian MacBrayne (CalMac), has said that a 'bank holiday surge' of passengers led to delays.

More than 30 ferries ran late before and after the bank holiday weekend on the Oban to Craignure route.

Passengers were asked to reroute via Lochaline Fishnish to reach the island.

While hundreds of passengers were delayed, help up or had sailings cancelled - the ferry

operator dismissed claims that there was simply not enough time to load and unload passengers during the busy bank holiday season.

Three workers, who did not want to be named, approached the *Oban Times*, saying that they were sick of 'getting it in the neck'.

They said it was clear there was simply nothing that could be done to speed matters up when loading and unloading

traffic in the 15 minutes allocated to do the job.

One said: 'For as long as I can remember, there has been a problem with getting vehicles on and off the ferry.'

'Yet the timings to turn around the ship are the same in the summer as they are in the winter.'

Another said: 'People are absolutely justified in complaining because it feels like no one listens to staff.'

When asked to comment about this, a CalMac spokesman said: 'I suspect it was a case of bank holiday surge.'

He continued: 'Last week, the ferry 'The Isle of Mull' had a technical issue with its stern ramp that restricted service over two days.'

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Police Scotland VAT funding gap

A TEN million pound 'gap' in Police Scotland's budget could be 'fixed' by removing VAT from the force's finance commitment, Argyll and Bute councillors were told.

Speaking at last Thursday's scrutiny committee, Chief Superintendent Helen Swann said the Chief Constable of Scotland had asked the UK government to consider why Scotland is the only force in the UK to pay VAT at a cost of £25.5 million per year.

Ms Swann continued: '£10 million of savings still needs to be made. That could be cleared by our VAT bill. The number of police officers will be maintained.'

£26 million cuts to council's budget

BUDGET cuts were top of the agenda at a meeting held on Monday at Argyll and Bute council. A 'service choice' workshop presented councillors with the plans for taking £26 million out of the council's annual spending round.

A council spokesman said that every department within the council had put forward plans for making up to 20 per cent savings within each service.

This information was presented to all councillors on Monday but will remain confidential until later in the year when the local authority will hold a consultation on budget cuts.

Future of island living on agenda

PLANS for more power for Scotland's islands are at the heart of a consultation that will be published later this summer, the First Minister said on Monday.

Nicola Sturgeon told the Convention of the Highlands and Islands (COHI) that views would help draft a future Islands Bill to provide more power, equality and protection for the islands to allow them to build a more prosperous and fairer future for their communities.

Ms Sturgeon was speaking to council leaders during a meeting of COHI in Kirkwall, Orkney.

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TALK UP: Brendan O'Hara

New boy O'Hara writes himself into record books with speeches

THE MP for Argyll and Bute, Brendan O'Hara, has written himself into the parliamentary history with an impressive double.

Mr O'Hara made his maiden speech at Westminster last Wednesday, the first formal day of the new parliamentary session, which immediately followed on from The Queen's Speech which marked the official opening of parliament.

But he was on his feet again the following day in his role as SNP front bench defence spokesperson, making a heavyweight contribution to the SNP adjournment debate on the safety of the Trident Weapons System at the Faslane naval base in Argyll.

According to House of Commons records, this is the first time that a new MP has made formal speeches on each of the first two days of a session.

Mr O'Hara said: 'I have just spent the busiest week of my life and amidst all the work in preparing for these two speeches, it never crossed my mind that what I was doing was unusual, not to say unique. I am really pleased to have been able to speak up twice for the area.'

Almost £2million to be spent on A87 roadworks

WORK worth over £1.7 million will be carried out on the road connecting Skye to Lochaber over the next six months.

Improvements on the Invergarry to Uig A87 will include repairing surfaces, erecting safety fencing and carrying out verge works.

Work is now under way and will continue throughout June and July at various locations on the trunk road.

Eddie Ross, north west representative for BEAR Scotland, the group behind the work, said: 'Following the review of the whole of the north west trunk road network after the winter, we considered it essential that a major programme be brought forward on the A87 both on the mainland and on Skye.'

'These works will greatly improve the condition of the road surface along the A87, but also making it more resilient to weather conditions in future years. Whilst no major delays are expected during the works, we would ask that motorists adhere to the temporary speed limits which will be in place for their own safety as well as that of our workforce.'

A full timetable of works is available from <http://www.transportscotland.gov.uk/>.

Attracting movies a positive picture

FILM location officers at Argyll and Bute council have had 300 enquiries about making movies in the area.

Fergus Murray, the council's head of development, told councillors this week about the economic benefits of bringing film crews to Argyll.

OLD DOG SCORES A FIRST AND TEACHES THE PEOPLE OF GREAT GLEN A THING OR TWO ABOUT 'TRICKS'

One woman and her dog take top trial title at Spean Bridge

LOUISE GLEN
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AN 'OLD' dog taught the people of the Great Glen a thing or two about 'tricks' when he won the annual sheep dog trial last weekend.

Roy, the nine-year-old working dog of Jessie Main of Tayinloan, had waited for almost 12 hours on a cold, wet Saturday at Achindual Farm, by Spean Bridge, to show off his talents.

But when the sheep dog finally appeared on the field it was to an almost faultless performance with the pack of three black-faced sheep and of course handler Jessie Main.

Jessie was 'chuffed to bits' to win. She said: 'It was one of the longest trials I've been to as there were 68 dogs running before us in the competition.'

It is quite unusual for an older dog - Roy is nine - or a woman to win sheep dog trial competitions. Jessie and Roy were outsiders from the start.

Jessie explained the best had been saved until last: 'The first sheep dog trial had taken place at 7.30am so it had been a long day for everyone.'

But it was a case of 'one woman and her dog,' as Jessie explained: 'I have looked back on all the names on the cup and I can't find another woman's name on it.'

The competition saw blackface sheep run in packs of three hogs with the last sheep to be singled out.

Jessie continued: 'It was fantastic to win in a highly competitive field. There were five Scottish international competitors who were on the prize list, and me.'

'They have all represented Scotland at some point or another so I felt quite chuffed to be in the competition.'

'Roy and I have been running in the competition for a good few years - but we have never won. Last year, I narrowly missed

It was fantastic to win it in a highly competitive field'

Jessie Main
(with Roy and the cup)

out in being part of the Scottish team with Roy by only a few points.

'He is now coming on for nine-years-old, so I wonder how many new things I can teach him.'

'Asked if anyone can teach an old dog new tricks, Jessie said: 'You can show an old dog new tricks and he will do them if he wants to do them, but not if he is unhappy to put up with the hardship.'

The judge of the competition was Hugh Munro from Inverness.

Great Glen Sheep Dog Trials organiser Mike MacNally said: 'It was a very good competition. Any day where all of the top eight people have scores in the 90s shows just how tough the competition was.'

'There were both local and open competitions. Jessie and Roy won the open competition.'

'The committee would like to thank the Berardelli family at the Great Glen Cattle Ranch who allow us to use the ground for the competition. We are extremely grateful to him.'

'It makes all the difference to be allowed to run the sheep for a few days before the event. I think all the competitors agreed that the sheep were very good to work with this year.'



DOGGED DETERMINATION: Roy and his owner Jessie Main with the cup

TIMESLINE

An open invitation to visit the farms

HILL farming research farms, Kirkton and Auchtertyre, will be opening their gates and welcoming the general public this Sunday for an action-packed free day of scientific discovery and farming facts.

As part of the countrywide Open Farm Sunday, visitors will be welcomed from 11am-4pm to meet the staff and the animal residents, and to take a closer look at farming and the scientific work which goes on at the farms.

There will be demonstrations ranging from the traditional working sheepdogs and sheep shearing through to 21st century drones (unmanned aerial vehicles) and learning how modern technology is being used to make farmers lives easier.

The farms are located two miles north of Criarlairch.

People walking or cycling can enter via the West Highland Way, and motorists are advised to use the Auchtertyre/Wigwams entrance to access parking facilities.

Find out more about the day on the facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/events/702187689891983/>

Council worker is 'greatly missed'

A COUNCIL development worker who left her post giving only 'one week's notice' is 'greatly missed' by Oban community council.

A meeting last week heard of the group's disappointment that pro-active development manager Linda Houston had left her job.

Marri Malloy, chairwoman, said: 'The community council is disappointed about her leaving. She will be greatly missed. Her commitment was second to none and she kept us up to date.'

The group was told a number of other officers had been brought in to manage development projects in Oban, including the North Pier and street scene enhancements.

Decrease in fire casualties

THE RISK of being caught in a house fire is declining but the possibility of being injured in a road crash is on the increase.

In a report to the scrutiny committee of Argyll and Bute council, James Hymas, Argyll senior officer, said the overall performance of the fire service was a positive one.

In his report, Mr Hymas said: 'It is pleasing to report that the overall trend is one of a reducing fire risk profile.'

He said accidental house

fires were at a three-year low with no recorded fire fatalities.

But there was a rise in the number of casualties from non-fire emergencies over the last three years.

The average number of casualties is 69 a year, whereas last year to April 2015 there were 95. There were also 79 casualties from road traffic collisions (RTC).

Mr Hymas concluded his report to the committee of councillors and senior

professionals by saying: 'The heart of our campaign for safer communities is our free 'Fire Home Safety Visits' initiative.

'These are carried out by our staff to reduce the number of fires and casualties within the home.'

'We will continue to target those homes which are deemed to be at the highest risk and we believe that partnership working is the key to the improved safety of our community.'

Positive plan for turbine

A COURT battle has seen Argyll and Bute council and Gallanach Green Generation (GGG) discuss the best way forward for wind turbine development on Coll.

Planning consent was granted for the erection of a 77-metre tall wind turbine at Gallanach Farm, Coll, following a public hearing in October 2012.

The developer has since been working with Argyll and Bute council to carry out various conditions that

needed to be addressed prior to the development work commencing at the site.

Council officers were made aware of alleged unauthorised works that had been ongoing over the bank holiday weekend at the beginning of May.

They visited the site at the earliest possible opportunity and took the necessary steps - serving of an interdict - to ensure the work was halted.

This interdict has now been lifted by the sheriff following

a hearing in Oban yesterday but has served its purpose - giving the developer and the council the opportunity to begin negotiations on a positive way forward.

Planning permission for this project has been granted, and, as such, the council will now be looking to work with GGG to ensure the development goes ahead in an appropriate fashion, which supports the developer's ambitions while protecting the interests of the wider community.

Emotional plea for return of pet rabbit



DEVASTATED: Daniela Timcakova and her daughter Klaudia are appealing for their rabbit to be returned

A YOUNG girl and her mother have made an emotional plea for the return of their rabbit after it was stolen from their garden.

The beloved pet 'Cen' went missing last Monday and Daniela Timcakova, said it must have been stolen as the cage door was closed when she discovered the one-year-old black rabbit was missing from their home in Plantation, Fort William.

She said her five-year-old daughter, Klaudia, is 'devastated' about the loss of the lionhead rabbit and is

appealing for its safe return.

Ms Timcakova said: 'We went out to feed him and our other rabbits on Monday and he was gone but the cage door was closed so she couldn't have escaped. Someone must have come in to my garden, taken him out of the cage and closed the hatch again. Klaudia is devastated as we have had him since he was born.'

'We will give a reward for his safe return.'

Ms Timcakova asked that anyone who knew about the rabbit should contact her on 07552 227737.



MISSING: Klaudia's pet rabbit Cen



Islanders skiff along on fine Eilean Gamhna row

SETTING SAIL: Islanders from Luig and Seil enjoyed a four-mile row to Eilean Gamhna in their community skiffs. Fiona Cruickshanks from Luig said: 'We had a great row, picnic and chat then a walk to litter-pick'



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Roadworks on A82 will help remove threat of boulders to busy trunk road

MAJOR work has begun to repair damage to the trunk road connecting Lochaber to Inverness following a rock fall earlier this year.

The A82 between Invermoriston and Drumadrochit was closed for four days in March after the landslip as concerns were raised about the stability of other boulders above the road.

A temporary solution was put in place but on Monday (June 1) Forestry Commission Scotland began a six-week operation to permanently stabilise the stretch. A traffic management scheme is now in operation.

Alex MacLeod, manager of the project, said: 'At the time we put in place some anchored rock fall netting to secure other unstable boulders on that section of hillside as an emergency measure. We now need to make these emergency works more permanent before the bad weather arrives.'

We will put in place an anchored concrete beam but given the steepness of the slope.

'We'll have to build this in situ with the use of a helicopter to move all the plant and materials.'

'Traffic management will be in place for this and other elements of the works, however we anticipate that it will have much less of an impact on local traffic than our other felling operations, though we apologise for any inconvenience that it might cause.'

Work is expected to be complete by mid-July.

West coast split on controversial Bill

A MOVE to introduce assisted suicide legislation in the Scottish parliament has been rejected by 82 votes to 36.

MSPs were given a free vote last Thursday as hundreds of protestors gathered outside Holyrood.

The west coast MSPs who voted for the bill included John Finnie (Highlands and Islands) and Mike MacKenzie (Highlands and Islands).

Those who opposed the Bill were Alasdair Allan (Na h-Eileanan an Iar), Jamie McGrigor (Highlands and Islands), Michael Russell (Argyll and Bute) and Dave Thompson (Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch).

Wealth increases but debt at £173M

THE overall wealth of Argyll and Bute council has increased by £8 million, the local authority's most senior finance officer told a meeting last Thursday.

Peter Cupples, finance manager, confirmed the figure but said borrowing had increased.

He revealed the overall debt of the local authority was £173 million, which was acquired over a 29.18 year period.

Lovebirds set to stay together as sanctuary seeks mainland haven

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LOVEBIRDS will stay together as an island parrot sanctuary sets its sights on a mainland perch.

One hundreds birds will be rehoused in a purpose-built mainland sanctuary with the closure of the popular Kerrera island parrot retreat.

But lovesick birds, known as bonded flocks, will be kept together while the new centre is being built.

Kerrera parrot sanctuary has been established for more than six years on the island with founder member Yvonne MacMillan known locally as the 'parrot whisperer'.

A spokeswoman for the trustees of the sanctuary said: 'Whilst the heart may want the sanctuary to remain on the island, the head must realise it has reached a point where this is no longer in the best interests of the birds.'

'Parrots that come to the sanctuary have a home with us for the remainder of their natural life. We do not rehome birds.'

'With regards to the current running of the island parrot sanctuary and to quash any rumours which are currently circulating regarding the activities of the sanctuary, I can say the sanctuary is not closing, bonded flocks are not being separated and our birds are not being re-homed.'

'Parrot welfare is paramount to our operations as a charity, and it is for this reason that we have come to the decision that the sanctuary must, in the future, relocate to mainland Scotland.'

'As it stands, staying at our current location is neither a safe, stable environment for the parrots nor a financially viable option.'



'The sanctuary's island location has many demographic challenges, especially with regards to emergency access.'

'The location incurs significant transport difficulties with associated high delivery costs. The current aviaries are also on the whole not fit for purpose.'

'The sanctuary's current location also makes it very difficult to provide contingency plans for times when there are no staff or volunteers: we currently rely on short-term volunteers and this lack of continuity is not suitable for the overall wellbeing of our birds.'

'Until funding has been procured for building of a purpose-built sanctuary on the mainland, the flocks will be relocated to safe aviaries.'

'Our planned move will also allow the board of directors to put their energy into funding and developing a far more suitable facility for the sanctuary's flocks of parrots to continue to live out their days.'

Oban-based councillor Roddy McCuish said: 'I think it is a great pity the sanctuary is closing on



BONDING: two parrots at the Kerrera sanctuary and (above) Yvonne MacMillan with one of the birds

the island, but I fully understand the reasons. It is a great credit to the people who gave up their time to run the visitor attraction.'

'I can well recall the campaign of local people who campaigned to raise the money and support the sanctuary's place on the island last year.'

Rhonda Morris, a supporter of the sanctuary who lives in Glasgow, said: 'This is amazing news really as it opens up so many opportunities for the parrots

as well as the people who look after them. The parrots at the sanctuary are dear to me and I want them to have the best and Kerrera can no longer offer that. I support this decision completely with all my heart.'

Julie Porter, who lives on the island, said: 'That makes perfect sense to me. I was a member and director of the sanctuary and saw first-hand what they're saying and I totally agree.'

'I'm so glad to hear that the

sanctuary isn't closing and that bonded birds will stay together.'

'It makes perfect sense to move the sanctuary to a more suitable place on the mainland where it's accessible not only to volunteers but also the directors and avian vets who may need to see a sick parrot.'

'We all know how parrots hide their illnesses and usually by the time we humans realise, then time is of the essence to get them the medical care they need.'

Plea for Holyrood to save threatened jobs

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THE SCOTTISH government has been asked to help save under-threat jobs at the Scottish Association of Marine Science (SAMS) in Dunbeg.

Four weeks ago, the association revealed 10 per cent of its workforce was to be laid off after the budget was slashed for the internationally-renowned centre.

But now the union and the local MSP have called on Holyrood to intervene in the dispute.

A spokesman for the University and College Union (UCU), which represents the under-fire SAMS staff, said: 'MSP Michael Russell has backed a call from our union for the Scottish government to step in and save vital jobs in the marine research centre near Oban.'

'Job losses would have a devastating impact on the local economy in Argyll, and would damage the education and research opportunities at the institution.'

UCU and Argyll and Bute MSP Michael Russell have both



PARLIAMENT PLEA: union members and MSP Michael Russell want Holyrood's help to save jobs

made urgent representations to the Scottish government and the Scottish Funding Council calling on them to provide some extra cash to save jobs, and ensure the institution is on a sustainable

footing. UCU Scotland official, Mary Senior, said: 'SAMS is the only marine laboratory on the west coast of Scotland and its dedicated staff provide essential and unique teaching and re-

search. As an academic partner in the University of the Highlands and Islands, SAMS was pivotal in the university's recent inclusion in the recent Research Excellence Framework.'

'Losing high quality jobs in the fragile remote rural economy would be devastating for Argyll and really damaging to the education and research prospects at SAMS.'

'UCU is urging the government to intervene and provide the funding that will save jobs at SAMS.'

Professor Axel Miller, acting director at SAMS, said: 'We have yet to complete discussions with staff affected by redundancy. It is likely that the equivalent of 13 posts will be lost. This will include staff members who have volunteered to go, are retiring or taking up an offer of part-time working.'

'We have aimed to avoid making compulsory redundancies, and have been working hard to achieve this.'

'Part of this process was opening dialogue with the Scottish government, which is currently considering our situation, and we should, of course, welcome any financial assistance available as we plan for the long-term future of SAMS.'

Enterprising islands group wins The Queen's approval

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AN ISLAND group has received the royal seal of approval for its work in the community.

Islay and Jura community enterprises has been honoured

with The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service, the highest accolade a voluntary group can receive in the UK.

The group runs the Mactaggart community leisure centre on Islay, which provides a wide range of sporting, leisure, educational

and social activities for the people of Islay and Jura.

'The islands group is no stranger to national recognition as it has won national awards in the past for business development, people development, energy and architecture.'

Islay and Jura Community Enterprises was one of 187 charities, social enterprises and voluntary groups to have received the prestigious award this year.

The awards were created in 2002 to celebrate The Queen's Golden Jubilee and winners are announced each year on June 2 - the anniversary of the Queen's Coronation.

The Lord Lieutenant of Argyll and Bute, Patrick Stewart, will present the award to Islay and Jura Community Enterprises later this summer.

Patrick Stewart said he was delighted that the hard work over many years by the group's dedicated committee and staff had been recognised at a national level.

He praised the group's efforts in raising funds to build the Mactaggart centre and the 'imaginative and efficient' way in which the popular island facility has been managed.

He said: 'I look forward very much to presenting this most richly deserved award.'



ROYAL FLUSH: chairman Donald Jackson and chief executive Gary Scott of the enterprise at Buckingham Palace earlier this year

Advertorial
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TIMESLINE

Holiday pay bill reaches £138M

A CHANGE in terms and conditions to holiday pay cost Argyll and Bute council a staggering £138 million last year.

The law was challenged in court last year for part-time employees who worked extra hours but where these additional hours were not included in the calculations for holiday pay.

The Supreme Court in London agreed that an annual, or average salary, should be the starting point when paying holiday pay. Pay was backdated for a number of years.

Cleland Sneddon, Argyll and Bute council executive director said: 'We got hit with holiday case law - it cost my department £138 million.'

What's in a name for hybrid ferries

THE short list of names for Scotland's third hybrid ferry has been announced by Calsonic Maritime Assets Ltd (CMAL).

The names are *Catriona*, *Ardiamond* and *Skipness* - and all the names are said to reflect Scottish culture or literature.

The sea-going roll-on, roll-off vehicle and passenger diesel electric hybrid vessel is currently being built in Port Glasgow at Ferguson Marine Engineering Ltd's shipyard. It is due to be launched in December.

The naming competition opened June 1, to vote in the competition, ferry followers should go online to www.cmassets.co.uk before midnight on July 3.

Using leniency on broken windows

TWO windows broken in Oban town centre over last weekend, 'were not criminal acts', a spokesman for Police Scotland said.

Grahams bicycle shop on Soroba Road and Nancy Blacks window on the corner of Argyll Square were both damaged in two separate incidents.

Police believe people leaned against the panes of glass accidentally causing the damage to the shopfronts.

They said they were not taking any further action against those involved.

An electrical fault sets off car blaze

A FIRE in Tesco car park in Oban saw a private motor car burst into flames, shortly after 6pm on Tuesday evening.

A Scotland Fire and Rescue engine from Oban rushed to the busy car park to douse the burning vehicle.

It is thought that the fire was caused by an electrical fault in the car.

A Police Scotland spokesman said there were no suspicious circumstances surrounding the fire and that no one was injured.

Mull

RESIDENTS on Mull may still have to face the challenge of water shortages despite a multi-million project to solve the issue.

A lack of water on the island was due to be resolved by Scottish Water but the company admits tankers are still on standby if there is a problem and it can not guarantee they will not be used to ship water to the island.

Alan Rogers, who owns a second home on the island, is concerned that extra ferries on the Oban to Craignure route from October 2015 will only bring more woes as the resources on the island are already stretched.

Mr Rogers, 65, said: 'For at least the last 10 years we have had problems with a lack of water on the island. There has been water shipped over in the summer for as long as I can remember.

'Years ago, the then transport minister said all these problems would be ironed out before the new service began. Well they haven't.'

A Scottish Water spokeswoman said: 'Just last year, Scottish Water started work on a major £5.7 million project to improve water services on Mull. Much of this work has been completed and the island has seen massive improvements to the water infrastructure.

'We have improved the security of supply which is particularly important during the summer when demand increases as a result of the number of tourists and visitors to the area.

'Our priority is to ensure we keep our customers in supply of clear, fresh drinking water and maintain our normal high level of service. While this significant work will greatly reduce the need to tanker water to the island, this will always form part of Scottish Water's standard operational procedures.

'We have suppliers in Inverness, Aberdeen and Glasgow that operate our tanker fleet.

'These tankers are permanently available should the operational need arise.

'We do not have tankers booked in advance to go to Mull, however, should the need arise, we have tankers available to enable us to do this.'

Campbeltown

SOUTH Kintyre Development Trust (SKDT) has been awarded £10,000 in grant money to regenerate Campbeltown town centre.

The five-figure sum, known as a town centre regeneration feasibility grant, was awarded by the Scottish government, which wants to see communities play an active role in regenerating their town centres.

SKDT plans to explore how it can work with other Kintyre organisations to kick-start regeneration by reviewing existing success stories, exploring what the community thinks about Campbeltown and how it could be improved, as well as involving the local community in the actual regeneration.

Zena Coffield, SKDT trust manager, said: 'Campbeltown is a beautiful location with a rich cultural heritage, and a friendly place where people look out for each other.

'We would like to see a thriving town centre which is clean, safe, accessible and has a diverse retail mix. This funding will help us to build a strategy to preserve our town centre for future generations.'

Campbeltown is one of just five towns in Scotland to receive this funding and SKDT has until March 31 next year to complete the study.

Lochgilthead/Islay

OUTREACH workers from Lochgilthead's MS centre are now providing support on Islay thanks to years of fundraising from the community there.

The centre specialises in holistic and advanced therapies for those who suffer from multiple sclerosis and other forms of degenerative illnesses.

Residents of Islay fundraise each year for the centre and donated a staggering £5,000 in April following a dance they hosted at Tarbert bowling club.

Centre manager Karen Currie said: 'We now have our outreach worker going to the island monthly to support people affected by MS and other long-term conditions.

'Special thanks to fundraisers Kate MacAffer and Margaret McLean and their helpers for organising the night, to everyone who donated raffle prizes and to everyone who came along.'

Stornoway

COMHAIRLE nan Eilean Siar has appointed Bernard Chisholm to the post of director of education and children's services.

Mr Chisholm is currently head of children's services with the council, having previously worked with a number of local authorities nationally.

A former educational psychologist, Mr Chisholm has held a few different positions with Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, including head of primary education and inclusion, and head of education and resources.



AWARD WINNER: Kenny MacNab at Tarbert harbour

Mission honours Tarbert skipper

A TARBERT skipper took a break from the sea to collect the Fisherman's Mission volunteer fundraiser of the year award in London.

The presentation marked Kenny MacNab's achievement of raising more than £12,000 for mission funds by walking the Wall of China in September 2014.

The award ceremony on April 21 was held in the impressive surroundings of Trinity House, overlooking the Tower of London, as part of

the organisation's annual general meeting. The agenda was a short but interesting resume of the mission's activities, both financial and charitable, within fishing communities hard hit by last year's storms.

Along with Kenny, several other awards for volunteer support and fundraising were handed over to a diverse range of recipients from chefs and restaurant teams to seafood processors and friends of the mission in coastal communities.

Following the ceremony, Lerwick mission superintendent Aubrey Jamieson gave a thought-provoking presentation outlining how essential and wide-ranging the work of the mission is in a seafaring island nation.

The award ceremony came almost a year after Kenny began his China quest as a memorial to his brother James and to show his appreciation of how supportive local mission superintendent Matt Ramsay had been during a difficult time.



SUPPORT: Hazel Peat of SgurrEnergy has been working with Ballachulish primary pupils to raise awareness about reducing climate change

Ballachulish

BALLACHULISH primary school pupils have been educating people in the village about different ways to prevent climate change.

The children have been working on a project called Scotland lights up Malawi, which provides solar lights to communities in the African country to prevent the use of dangerous and expensive gas lamps.

As part of this, the youngsters designed leaflets about cutting down on carbon dioxide emissions and reducing climate change, which will secure a better future for Malawi and many other countries.

Hazel Peat, of renewable energy specialists SgurrEnergy, has been working with Ballachulish primary pupils and visited the school to talk about the work the company has carried out in Malawi.

She said: 'SgurrEnergy is delighted to support Ballachulish primary in raising awareness of the effects of climate change and poverty in Malawi and the role of renewable energy in tackling these issues.'

Kinlochleven

BIOLOGY pupils from Kinlochleven high school travelled to Kingussie to learn about animal life at Highland wildlife park.

The third years attended with head teacher Rebecca Machin and their biology teacher.

The wildlife park's education officer Jasper Hughes explained the purpose of the park and how it helps with conservation and breeding programmes.

The students also learned about a topic close to home as Mr Hughes taught them about the plight of the Scottish wildcat as a result of breeding with feral cats.

At the end of the day the pupils were left to explore the park and see the animals they were most interested in, including Victoria, the new female polar bear.

On their return to school the pupils wrote their own news articles about the trip, which were combined to make this piece.



LEARNING: third year Kinlochleven biology pupils visited Highland wildlife park

Plockton

PLOCKTON and district community council met in Plockton hall on May 12.

Among the items discussed were:

- Village playground: the lease is awaited.
- War memorials: the names on both the Plockton and Lochalsh war memorials had been repaired and both were entered in the Legion Scotland competition.
- Roads: the lack of available funds for roads and pavements remains an ongoing problem. Erbusiag to Badicual should be resurfaced in July.
- Lyme disease: leaflets are now available in the village.
- Bank street greenery cutting: John McGill carried out the work and donated his payment to the Children's Hospice Association.
- Road markings to Plockton primary school: Safer Routes to School has said it will pay for this to be done prior to the autumn term.
- Burnside bridge safety issues: Allan Bryce from Safer Routes to Schools has agreed to meet with the community council to discuss the problems.
- Plockton primary school: the school is celebrating 150 years this year and is requesting any memorabilia for their event on June 6.
- The annual general meeting is on Tuesday June 30.

a talk by Ian Grimmer entitled 'The history of the Scottish white fish industry' in Plockton hall on May 14. He was introduced and thanked by Robert Kennedy.

LOCHALSH SWRI held a 'hands on day' in Plockton hall on May 16.

There was a display and demonstration of various crafts and opportunities to 'have a go'.

AT A PLOCKTON hall meeting on May 13, vice chairman Johnnie Nicholson presented Charlie M MacRae with an engraved decanter on his retirement after more than 50 years as treasurer.

He will continue as secretary. The new treasurer is Kally Leiper.

THE 30th annual general meeting of Skye and Lochalsh sports council was held in Kyleakin village hall on April 27.

Attendance was disappointing but chairman Charlie M MacRae, secretary/treasurer Peter Gordon and a new executive committee were all re-elected.

The secretary gave an update on the year's activities when 19 grants were made to eight different sports.

The next meeting is in Kyleakin hall on Monday June 15.

THE NATIONAL Theatre of Scotland presented Whisky Galore, a new Gaelic adaptation of the novel, in Plockton hall on May 6.

It has been adapted for the stage by Iain Finlay MacLeod and directed by Guy Hollands.

PLOCKTON historical society presented

MORVERN
lines

New book on tweeds

IT IS often said that if you see someone sporting a kilt in the Highlands these days the chances are the wearer is either a visitor or an expat and certainly not local unless on his way to a wedding or a funeral.

If kilts are now less popular as an everyday garment, the same cannot be said of tweeds which have been in vogue for generations.

There are two reasons. Firstly, despite the advent of high-tech synthetics, tweed made from natural wool is still the preferred material among professional outdoor folk. Its warm, hard-wearing, quick-drying properties are far superior to any other.

Secondly, and more importantly, many examples reflect the distinctive features of individual estate landscapes, blending tweed with shades of granite, heather and moss.

This provides deer stalkers with camouflage and identifies them with the area they live and work in - much the same as some tartans did before the Victorian tourist spin-doctors got to work.

As far as I am aware, the first bespoke tweed to be seen in Morvern was on Ardtornish where it was introduced by Patrick Sellar sometime between buying the estate in 1838 and his death 15 years later. He borrowed the simple brown and white pattern from the plaids worn by his Border shepherds whom he brought to the parish along with their sheep and altered it with a larger check and a thin red thread.

Later his grandson, Gerard Craig Sellar, provided all his stalkers and shepherds with a suit every year. It is some years since the Ardtornish tweed, known locally as the 'Bum-bee tartan', has been spotted in Morvern but I understand this is about to be rectified.

The design was well chosen as anyone wearing it on Achranich hill and elsewhere south of the White Glen, especially during the autumn when the bracken and deer grass change colour, is almost invisible. Lord Tweedsmuir, better known as John Buchan, who was a frequent stalking guest at Ardtornish, favoured it both on and off the hill.

Not merely a relic of Victoriana, tweeds are part of the history of Scotland. Classic designs, such as the black and white Glenurquhart check, have been a powerful influence on modern fabric design and contributed greatly to the world of fashion.

Today, even though many tweeds are more than 150 years old, they can still be found in fashion houses and clothing stores throughout the world.

Tweed can also be used for ladies' skirts, hats, scarves and soft furnishings. The list is endless.



WELL CHOSEN: Ardtornish estate tweed

In 1995, Johnstons of Elgin, one of Scotland's leading tweed makers, produced a fascinating book of estate checks called 'Scottish Estate Tweeds', which is now out of circulation but is being updated. In the intervening time many properties have changed hands; some have been split up and new tweeds invented.

Any reader wishing to have their tweed included in this new book should contact Ian Urquhart, chairman, Johnstons of Elgin, iurquhart@johnstonscashmere.com.

Second world war occupation

STAYING on the subject of books, Duff Hart-Davis has just produced a fascinating new title called 'Our Land at War - a portrait of Rural Britain 1939-45', published by William Collins, London, £20.

Based on unpublished letters, diaries and interviews, it tells of the hardships faced by people living on farms and in villages throughout Britain during the second world war.

Of particular interest to this area are accounts of the military take-over of two great local houses, Achnacary and Inverailort, for training purposes.



HISTORY: Inverailort Castle at the time of the military requisition

Mr Hart-Davis writes: 'Such was the haste with which the army moved in that the 81-year-old Christian Cameron-Head, owner of Inverailort castle, suddenly found herself without a home. She had travelled down to London, only to receive a registered letter which told her that her house had been requisitioned by the War Office. Hastening back home, she found the place being stripped and her furniture, pictures and china being carted away in army lorries.'

She wrote to her lawyers to ask if she had any redress. She didn't and Inverailort, the first of many properties in the area seized for military occupation, became a top secret special training centre which produced the first commando unit in the UK.

Soon other big houses were taken over for the same purpose: Inverlair, Glencripesdale, Dorlin, Arisaig, Traigh and Camusdaroch.

When the war finally ended, the ministry of defence handed back what they had taken, but it was a scene of devastation with barbed wire, bomb craters and slit trenches everywhere.

Buildings had been blown up and Inverailort castle was scarred by army boots and plastered with painted signs and bullet holes. But as Christian Cameron-Head's daughter-in-law, who died in 1984, said: 'There was a war on. No-one knew what was going to happen. You couldn't fault them when they were doing a job. The St Nazaire raid men were chosen from here. You can't expect people in the middle of a war - risking their lives - to take their boots off every time they walked in. I think they are honourable battle scars.'

The Cameron-Head family refused to take compensation on the basis that it was their contribution to the war effort. Others did likewise.

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SNP moves leads to council reshuffle

HIGHLAND council is set for a reshuffle after the Liberal Democrats pulled out of the SNP-led coalition.

It is now thought the Lib Dems will team up with the current opposition, the Independent party, to form a new council administration.

This will leave SNP and Labour councillors, who have worked in coalition with the Lib Dems since 2012, to form the opposition, along with members of Highland Alliance and non aligned councillors.

David Alston, Highland Council's acting leader, said: 'Discussions are ongoing regarding the formation of a new administration. I anticipate this will be confirmed on June 25 at the next Highland council meeting.'

The Independents also elected Margaret Davidson as their new party leader last week, after Jaci Douglas stepped down and resigned from the party.

Councillor Davidson said: 'I am honoured to have been elected by my peers to lead the group. We are very much a collection of community based Independent councillors and we all strive to serve them. Our focus for the next two years of this council will be very much on bringing local democracy back to Highland communities.'

School doors open for tour and ceilidh

FORMER pupils and staff of Upper Achintore primary school have been invited for a tour of the building and a celebration ceilidh.

The school will close in July when it merges with Fort William primary. Everyone is welcome to look round the Upper Achintore school between 11am and 3pm on Monday June 22 and Tuesday June 23.

A ceilidh will be held on the Tuesday evening from 6.30pm. Tickets are available from the school office, 01397 702059.

Parking permit holders say finding space is impossible

LOUISE GLEN
lglen@obantimes.co.uk

COMPLAINTS about parking will be considered at an area committee meeting after serious concerns about lack of space were raised at Oban community council.

Residents from the Esplanade said they now find it impossible to find a space in the town centre - in spite of the fact they pay hundreds of pounds each year.

Anne Malloch, who lives on the Esplanade, told fellow community councillors last week: 'The parking has all gone. We have paid for a permit and we get less and less. The parking on Stafford Street has gone - that's seven spaces. It is impossible to park. We are paying the same for a parking permit but there are no spaces.'

Explaining that the parking permits are only valid in a few streets around her property, she continued: 'Residents need

somewhere safe near their homes to park cars.'

Argyll and Bute council's website states: 'The only town that requires residential parking permits in Argyll and Bute is Oban.'

Councillor Roddy McCuish, area chairman for Oban, Lorn and the Isles, said: 'At the time there was time for people to object to taking away these spaces. There was no response or a request for an extension from the community council.'

'If there are no objections then the council has the right to assume that it should go ahead. Parking is bad in Oban and we need to do something about that.'

He explained that a parking review of the town centre was long overdue. Mr McCuish continued: 'There are proposals for the North Pier and parking at the former gas works on Tweeddale Street.'

Councillor Iain MacLean said: 'It is effectively a tax on Oban people. Would you turn the blaze pitch into parking?'

We could start charging at Atlantis where I know there have been problems. Something to think about.'

Community council chairwoman Marri Malloy said: 'When are these consistent parking problems going to stop? There is no doubt it must put people off coming into the town. We should be making the case that the bulk of the money comes back to Oban from parking as we seem to be one of very few areas who actually charge for parking.'

Busy week for Rockfield centre

OBAN Community Trust (OCT) hit the ground running with three developments in one week.

The busy week for the Rockfield centre saw the car park open, trees cut down and the start of a community art project.

A ticket machine will see parking charges go to OCT as part of the sustainability of the centre.

OCT chairman Gordon McNab said: 'We gave the public two weeks free parking as a gesture of goodwill. We are now looking to the community to pay for parking to help build our funds.'

Leylandii overhanging the huts have been removed and the area surrounding the building tidied up by volunteers. Artist Val Hamilton has started murals on the end of the hut facing Stevenson Street. The centre has a stall at charities day this Saturday with the chance to see photographs of work in progress and chat about future activities.



NEW WAVE: modern apprentice Andrew Moore from Taynuilt

Modern way into the world of work

AQUACULTURE modern apprentice Andrew Moore from Taynuilt is one of many young Scots choosing a vocational route into work through Scotland's Modern Apprenticeship Scheme, instead of going to university.

The modern apprenticeship scheme offers new and existing employees the opportunity to gain skills and qualifications in the workplace, without the need for full-time study. They are also a highly effective way for employers to recruit new staff, developing individual talent and training employees to meet the specific needs of a business.

Research indicates that investment in staff training is directly linked to improved productivity and staff loyalty.

According to SDS, three-quarters of modern apprentices expect to remain with their current employer after completing their training, while around two thirds will take on increased responsibility and improved pay.

These kind of figures are making the scheme an increasingly attractive option for many young people who are concerned about running up student debts at university.

Local aquaculture apprentice Andrew Moore has taken full advantage of the scheme, which has helped him excel as an assistant manager at Dawnfresh's Tervine fish farm at Loch Awe. Having already gained a number of years' experience working in fish farming, Andrew's employer Dawnfresh offered him a place on its scheme, which he believes has helped fast-track his career.

'For me a Modern Apprenticeship has been the ideal building block to progress my career in aquaculture.'

'I believe ultimately the modern apprenticeship has not only made me better at my job, it has given me great self-confidence and put me in a better position to take on more demanding managerial roles within the organisation,' said Andrew.

TIMESLINE

Tables and chairs not in the budget

ARGYLL and Bute council is looking to businesses in the newly-pedestrianised area of Stafford Street, Oban, to supply tables and chairs for the area.

But area chairman for Oban, Lorn and the Isles, councillor Roddy McCuish argues the benefits of the upgrade will outweigh the cost of the equipment.

At last week's community council meeting in the Salvation Army hall, Mr McCuish said: 'We'd obviously like it if the businesses got together to provide the same tables and chairs throughout the whole of the pedestrianised area.'

'There was never any money in the budget to buy these.'

'When they are in use they will be for the businesses and the other areas - the raised seating wall - will be for those people and others who want to bring their food and sit in the area.'

Julie MacKenzie, a community councillor, said she had heard an area of seating with lighting was being reserved for the public.

She said: 'Originally Stafford Street was left to the people of Oban. If we remember that then Oban people can sit there whenever they like.'

Decision due on homes cash loan

HIGHLAND councillors were due to decide yesterday whether to loan £300,000 for new affordable housing in Fort William.

Members of the local authority's planning, development and infrastructure committee met yesterday (Wednesday) to discuss the £300,000 loan, which will be used by Lochaber housing association (LHA) to buy land at Heathercroft Drive, Upper Achintore.

This funding, combined with grant assistance from the Scottish government, will allow LHA to build 21 houses and flats.

Foodies and craft goes well catered for at Festival of the Sea

SUNDAY was a great day to enjoy seafood, marine crafts and Taynuilt swing band at the Ocean Explorer Centre, Dunstaffnage.

A wide and wonderful range of local foods was on show as part of the Festival of the Sea, organised by the Ocean Explorer Centre and supported

by the Scottish Association for Marine Science, BID4Oban, the Scottish Government and the University of the Highlands and Islands.

Crubag, Argyll's latest textile company inspired by the beauty of marine science, launched its first shop at the Ocean Explorer Centre.



Jessica Giannotti of new company Crubag, shows off her luxury scarves and textiles inspired by the beauty and hidden secrets of the oceans. 16_123sunday5



Judith Vajk from The Caledonian Oyster Company shows how simple it can be to open an oyster. 16_123sunday3



Jo McLean, artist, designer, Forestry Commission worker and mum, was on hand to make little, and big ones, sparkle. 16_123sunday1



SAMS leads the way on seaweed farming

Seaweed farming is a massive industry in some parts of the world but despite growing interest no commercial farms are yet operational in mainland Britain. SAMS has two research farms and works with two commercial partners at another two sites. This trip was an opportunity for festival goers to visit the first research seaweed farm in the UK located within easy reach of Oban. The purpose of the research farms is to allow scientists to develop protocols that potential growers would need to cultivate different seaweed species in a sustainable and commercially profitable manner.



Karen MacDonald of Willie Fish and Kate Lee of Paradise Kitchen display the freshest produce from land and sea. 16_123sunday2



Knitting Jennys 16_123sunday4

Careers day causes a splash with pupils

A MARINE careers day and environment fair was held at Oban's Corran Halls last Thursday, as part of the Festival of the Sea.

Pupils, parents, teachers and anyone looking for new challenges were invited to meet employers showcasing careers in the marine sector from marine sports and aquaculture to marine and wildlife tourism, from art and design to marine science, as well as the Royal Navy.

'There was a strong local

attendance from primary schools, with pupils from Kilniver, Craignish, Strath of Appin, Kilmartin, Lochnell, Barcaldine, Luing, Park and Dalmailly primaries, as well as some from Oban high school.'

Helen McNeill, who organised the fair on behalf of the Scottish Association for Marine Science said: 'It's been an absolutely fantastic to see so many children and employers here engaging with each other and such a diverse range of activities on offer.'



Lochnell pupils enjoy a talk from Kilmartin House's education officer Kate Moody. 16_123fair06

Artistic skills float to surface in art contest

SCHOOL pupils from around Argyll took part in a Festival of the Sea art competition.

They created jaw-dropping and thought-provoking collages representing the local marine environment.

The three deemed the best, from Lochnell, Tobermory and Barcaldine schools, were on display at the CalMac ferry terminal in Oban.

Helen McNeil, who co-ordinated this year's festival, said: 'The schools have produced wonderful underwater collages - some celebrate the colourful diversity of our marine life, some show a real sense of place such as Loch Creran, Tobermory Bay, the wreck of the SS Breda or Katie Morag island, and some highlight issues the marine environment faces such as marine litter and over fishing.'



Helen McNeil with Tobermory primary school's competition entry. 16_123art2



Caledonian MacBrayne (CalMac) employees Rachael Carr and Anne Hughes show pupils from Kilniver and Craignish primary schools the map of CalMac ports. 16_123fair02



Matt Barnes of the Marine Conservation Society with Lochnell primary school pupils. 16_123fair04



Strath of Appin pupils with Calum Carmie, assistant quarry manager at Glensanda. 16_123fair03



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their interests, whether it's bird watching or music sessions. Carer's Week is being celebrated June 8-14 in Scotland. This is an annual campaign to raise awareness of caring, highlight the challenges carers face and recognise the contribution they make to families and communities throughout the UK. 'This is our call to action to urge individuals, organisations and service providers to wake up to the needs of carers and do their bit,' said Carers Scotland's Director, Simon Hodgson. 'Across Scotland 657,000 - one in eight people - are caring for a loved one. Without help and assistance at the right time carers can find themselves facing financial hardship, health problems, emotional stress and relationship breakdown.'

Successful relationships are hard work. But sometimes even hard work isn't enough, when there are changes within the family, addiction issues, death or financial crisis. Counselling allows family members or couples to talk about their feelings and problems with a trained, neutral professional in a confidential environment. Counsellors can help people deal with negative thoughts and situations and help heal family rifts, so there is no need to suffer- help is available from our trusted advertisers. The statistics on domestic violence are sobering. A domestic violence incident is recorded every 10 minutes in Scotland. At least one in five women in Scotland will experience domestic abuse, and one in three teenage girls

suffer an unwanted sexual act. These things are nothing to be ashamed about or keep hidden. Local organisations are there to listen and provide solutions, whether a victim needs to get safely out of a situation immediately or counseling for emotional trauma. There doesn't have to be an emergency situation for a person to reach out. Clinical depression is a medical condition, not just feeling blue, and can be treated as such. Or sometimes life gets overwhelming and people just need someone to talk with. Whatever the case, suffering in silence is not the answer. A call to one of our friendly and qualified advisers can be the first step to a happy, healthy life.

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Police files

POLICE in Lochaber are appealing for information about the following crimes:
 Sometime between midnight and 10am on Monday May 25, a window was smashed at the Granite House shop on High Street, Fort William.
 Overnight on Sunday May 24, an outbuilding to the rear of the Indian Garden restaurant, Fort William, was broken into and goods taken.
 A child's grey Apollo Rally mountain bike was removed from outside an address in Nairn Crescent, Upper Achintore, overnight on Sunday May 24.
 The bike has holes in the handlebar grips.
 Sometime between 2pm on Sunday May 24 and 4am the following morning, a rock was thrown through a window of a house in Shaw Place, Plantation.
 Sometime between Saturday May 16 and Friday May 22 the front door of a vehicle parked in Glendale road, Kinlochleven, was scratched.
 Anyone with information regarding these crimes is asked to contact police on 101, Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111 or online at www.crimestoppers-uk.org

COUNCIL BUDGET CUTS SEES THREE SERVICE POINTS ON CLOSURE HIT LIST AND TEN TO BE DOWNGRADED

Vulnerable villagers face 100-mile trek for services

EMMA CRICHTON
 erichton@obantimes.co.uk

THE MOST vulnerable people will suffer when Highland council closes a service point in rural Lochaber, a community council chairman has said.
 Acharacle villagers will now have to make 100-mile round trips to Fort William for face-to-face contact when paying bills and seeking advice on council issues.
 This is part of cost-cutting measures by the local authority, which will see three service points close across the region and a further 10 downgraded to 'access points', likely to be computers inside libraries.
 Acharacle service point is only open one day a week and Hugh MacPherson, chairman

of the Ardnamurchan village's community council, said he thinks this played a big part in the closure.
 He said: 'It was very much a reduced service but at least it was there. The council will say it closed due to lack of use but no wonder it wasn't used much when it was only open a few hours a week when most people are at work.'
 'In rural areas like ours we fight so hard to have things like this and then they're taken away from us. It's another loss for this community.'
 'The council doesn't seem to understand not everyone has a computer or a car and a lot of people rely on face-to-face advice and now they will have no-one to turn to. This will leave the most vulnerable people exposed.'

Kinlochleven and Mallaig currently serve as access points, manned by library staff, and the council confirmed this will remain the case, despite concerns they, too, would face the axe in Highland council's bid to save £160,000 from the community services budget.
 A specially created customer services board was created to decide which branches would be closed. The board cited lack of use as the main reason for closure.
 Martin Sullivan, chairman of Mallaig community council, said he is 'very relieved' the service in the village will be retained.
 He said: 'This was going to hit the people who most need support the hardest. Some people in the area who have mobility issues thought they

would have to travel 50 miles to pay a bill. That's quite a harrowing thought.'
 'I'm glad the council has finally realised not everyone has a computer and that the service point is most valuable for vulnerable people.'
 Mr Sullivan also pointed out many people from the Small Isles use the Mallaig service point and would face a 50-mile drive to the nearest facility in Fort William after reaching the mainland.
 The Broadford service point in south Skye was also on the hit list, but will remain open under the revised plans, which are expected to be approved by the full council in August.
 Councillor Audrey Sinclair, chairwoman of the customer services board, said: 'We have listened to the views of

communities and service users and we have tried to retain as wide a network of services as possible within the financial restraints. Board members and staff have worked through a number of models to maximise the service as far as possible. We will now have a network of 32 customer contact points with varying levels of service, but each will provide face-to-face contact, which is clearly important to customers.'
 'We have also identified business support work which can be carried out in quieter locations.'
 'I would like to thank the public and the staff for their responses to the consultation. These responses emphasised the value people place on service points in their communities.'

TIMESLINE

Grants for three produce groups

THREE west Highland community produce projects have received grants totalling more than £16,000.
 Out of 24 initiatives across Scotland, three in Lochaber, Ardnamurchan and the isle of Skye have received money from the community food fund by the Scottish government.
 Lochaber local producers network gained £6,879.57, Ardnamurchan at home festival received £4,777 and £4,500 went to Glendale farmers market in north west Skye from the £135,830 available.
 A Glendale trust spokesperson said: 'I'm delighted Glendale will benefit from the community food fund. We look forward to using this money to support local producers in our area deliver an even more successful market.'

Council snaps up old police house

THE OLD police house in Glencoe is to be bought by Highland council.
 Police Scotland declared the property surplus to requirements and the local authority has identified the four-bed bungalow as affordable housing for a family.
 If approved at the council's community services committee today (Thursday), the house will be bought for £16,000. The Scottish government will pay £50,000 of this through its council house development programme.

Cash handouts for Lochaber projects

THREE grants have been given to community groups in Lochaber council wards.
 At the joint ward business meeting on May 25, members agreed to contribute £2,000 to Knoydart renewables for dam works, £1,000 towards the Lochaber Gathering festival of piping and £500 to Voluntary Action Lochaber's award ceremony.



ON THE MARCH: walkers from all over Scotland climbed Ben Nevis to raise money for children's cancer charity STAR for Harris

Walkers still on the march for Harris

ALMOST five years after the tragic death of a Lochaber toddler, efforts are continuing to fundraise in his memory as a group of walkers took on Ben Nevis at the weekend.
 The 20-strong team included people from all over the country, from Fort William to Muir of Ord and Glasgow, raising money for STAR for Harris, a children's cancer charity.
 The charity was set up in memory of Lochaber baby Harris Ross who died at just 15 months old in August 2010 after suffering a cancerous brain tumour.
 His parents, Allan and Tanya Ross, could not attend on the day as Mrs Ross was due to give birth the same weekend.



Lochyside fun of the fair

Lochyside RC primary school enjoyed all the fun of the fair at the annual school fete. From ferret racing to bouncy castles and burgers, visitors flocked to the Fort William school for the fundraising event last Thursday and had a great time despite the wet and windy weather. Enjoying the bouncy castle, which had to be moved inside because of the inclement conditions, are, from left, Hale McPherson, Abbie MacKay, Jodzia MacAdam-Slater, Kirsty Oliver, Sian Patterson, Grace Wegner and Carly Rowsal



THE RIGHT NOTES: music students were assessed on the night



SHOWCASE: models prepare to take to the catwalk

Students shine at college showcase

STUDENTS from two West Highland college UHI courses came together to stage an event showcasing their work.
 The fashion design students of Fort William hosted a catwalk show and silent auction at college last week and music students entertained the audience by playing songs as part of their live performance assessment.
 Fellow students and friends took to the runway to model the clothes and cushions, clothing and other textiles designed by the fashion students were auctioned.
 Music students thanked members of West Highland band Skipinnish for their advice and expertise over the year.
 Tracy Matheson, curriculum manager at West Highland college, said: 'What a great event. It's always pleasing to see students grow in confidence and ability throughout their year at college. Congratulations to them all.'

Body of pensioner found in Minch

THE BODY of a pensioner from Lewis has been found in the sea following a major search.
 Thomas Tyrrell was last seen setting off alone from Breaig pier on the island at 7am last Tuesday (May 26) but had not returned by nightfall.
 A search and rescue operation recovered the boat in the Minch on Wednesday morning and Mr Tyrrell was found nearby later the same day.
 It was rumoured the 67-year-old had set off without a lifejacket or emergency flares but a statement released by his family on Thursday said he was wearing a lifejacket when his body was recovered. The statement said: 'Our beloved husband, father and grandfather Thomas Tyrrell was found deceased yesterday afternoon following a land and sea search. We would like to point out that Thomas had and was wearing his lifejacket when found. We would like to thank all emergency services, coastguard, RNLI, Hebrides search and rescue team and police for their efforts and for finding Thomas.'
 A police spokesman added: 'Enquiries are ongoing and a report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.'

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Viewpoint

PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB
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The Oban Times & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Established 1861 No 8216

It's very seldom that the wisdom of the Bard is contradicted, but with the tragic death of Charles Kennedy this is overwhelmingly the case. The outpouring of genuine grief and the eloquent and heartfelt tributes from the great and the good, and from the ordinary men and women of the West Highlands, clearly highlights the unique and remarkable contribution to civic life made by the former Westminster MP and son of Lochaber. Shakespeare had it that 'the evil that men do lives

after them; the good is oft interred with their bones'. But Charles Kennedy's huge popularity was not based on the knowing, cynical tactics of a crowd-pleasing politician; but rather on the wellspring of decency, honesty, courage and good humour that flowed through his personality. He was a true son of the West Highlands and a credit to his native town of Fort William. His loss will leave a vast void at the heart of politics which may prove almost impossible to fill.



Days gone by - Oban select shinty team players - 1960

This week's flashback photograph was submitted by Donald MacCallum of Longsdale Terrace, Oban, and features an Oban select shinty team in 1960. Back row: Kenny MacMillan; Eric Black; Donald MacInnes; Dougie Forgive; Campbell MacLeod; Lachie Birrell; Eddie Cooper and Jock Wilson. Middle: Paul MacKay; Duncan Cameron; Ewan Campbell; Leslie Groat; Peter MacCuish; Dougie MacIntyre and Jock Douglas. Front: Donald MacCallum and Angus MacGillivray. Digital versions of flashback photos for The Oban Times can be sent to editor@obantimes.co.uk or prints sent in to Editor, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban PA34 4HB. Anyone who wishes a print returned should include a stamped, addressed envelope.

Right to highlight funding shortfall

Sir, Congratulations on your strongly worded editorial on the emerging problems of education finance in Argyll and Bute council, The Oban Times, May 28. While the politicians squabble and blame each other, you have highlighted the real culprit - the refusal of the Scottish government to properly fund councils, including Argyll and Bute. The low pupil teacher ratio of 12 to two children per teacher in our council area is a number more urban areas would die for but here we are well aware of the sparse population Argyll and Bute serves, which is why the Barnett formula allocates more funding per resident to Scotland than the average in England. It's about time the Scottish government devolved the budgets down to councils who need it. Then the council would not have to make a choice between cutting teaching jobs and cutting other jobs in education and our children would get the teaching they deserve. David Pollard, Mull.

New committee helps dementia patients

Sir, Thank you for your article headed 'Oban group leaves Alzheimer Scotland'. I would like to clarify our position. The original committee, set up in 1992 by volunteers, which raised funds for the support of people with dementia and their carers, has been closed. A new committee, called Oban and Lorn Dementia Group, has come into being since news of the original committee's demise was reported in The Oban Times of May 21 2015. The restriction imposed upon us was not by the local committee but by national office. I can assure readers we will continue to raise money for people living with dementia and for the carers of people living with dementia. The money raised locally will be spent locally with the exception of donations to research into the treatment or cure of dementia. Our first fundraiser under our new name will be at Charities Day in Oban on Saturday June 6. Christine C Hammond, Oban and Lorn Dementia Support Group.

Privilege to represent Argyll for 14 years

Sir, It has been a privilege to represent Argyll and Bute in parliament for 14 years and I would like to thank the people of the constituency for electing me on three occasions. I have very much enjoyed the challenge of representing this wonderful constituency with its many communities, each with its own unique set of issues. People in Argyll and Bute are very community spirited and I found great satisfaction working with many community groups to help them achieve their objectives. I have made many friends throughout the constituency. I thank everyone who voted for me at the recent election and, although more people voted for me than in 2010, I am disappointed this was not enough to retain the seat. I also thank the many people who gave me valuable support and advice over the past 14 years. I congratulate Brendan O'Hara on his election and wish him all the best in his new job representing Argyll and Bute in the House of Commons. Alan Reid.

Glasgow Letter

ROBERT ROBERTSON
robert.d.robertson@hotmail.co.uk

West End Festival

WHAT a Gaelic singing extravaganza this year's West End Festival is going to be. Next week, Joy Dunlop, the superb Mòd gold medallist from Taynuilt, is hosting a workshop on the songs of her native Argyll. Later on in the month, the legendary Calum Ross will host a workshop on Gaelic love songs and, towards the end of the month, Murdo 'Wasp' MacDonald will host a workshop on the songs of the Baird Siadar a' Chladaich.

Kate Campbell

MEMBERS of Clydebank and District Highland Association joined family and friends at Clydebank crematorium to bid a fond farewell to a stalwart of the association who passed away last week, aged 94. Kate Campbell was born in Gillen in the Waternish area of Skye. She came to Glasgow to work in service where she met her husband, eventually settling in Clydebank. One of a family of seven, she herself was mother to seven daughters who lovingly cared for her at home during a long illness. A humorous, sometimes emotional, eulogy by her son-in-law Charlie summed up the love and affection held within the family towards their dear mother. Kate was a member of the association for more than 50 years attending to the culinary needs of the artistes performing at the ceilidhs and usually being rewarded by the singing of a Skye song, Iomadh cuimhneachain thoilichte.

Skerryvore success

AS I SAT down to write this week's letter, I realised I haven't actually been in Glasgow in the past week.

Beachd Ailein

ALLAN CAMPBELL
ailean@obantimes.co.uk

CUPA BALL-COISE NA H-ALBANN ga bhuanachadh 's gun ach deichneair aig Calum air a' phàirc airson nam fichead mionaid mu dheireadh den gheama! Gum meal buill, luchd-obrach, agus luchd-taice Caledonian Thistle Inbhir Nis uile an naidheachd! Choisinn saothair nan daoine seo adhartachadh nach beag dha inbhe agus iomhaigh na Gàidhealtachd. Bha mòran nach robh a' creidsinn gun d' rachadh aig sgioba Gàidhealach air an ire seo a ruigheachd agus nan robh an dìth-misneachd sin air buadhachadh cha robh Caley fiù 's air feuchainn! Tha e iomchaidh cuideachd gum bithe a' sealltainn air toradh obair-leasachaidh na Gàidhlig anns na deich bliadhna bho thàinig Achd na Gàidhlig gu bith, ach chomhairlichinn fhìn nach biodh daoine tuilleadh is deiseal dèidh a dhèanamh air beag adhartais. Gun teagamh tha uallach air Bòrd na Gàidhlig Planaichean Nàiseanta a dhealbhadh is a chur an gnìomh às leth sluagh agus Riaghaltas na h-Alba, ach mar a thuir mi bho chionn seachdain 's iad an sluagh aig am bheil an cumhachd as cudromaiche a thaobh fallaineachd cànan. Stèidhich an Achd bunait airson poileasaidh leasachaidh dhan Ghàidhlig a ghluasad air adhart agus tha feum air goireasan agus taic-ionmhais gun sin a chuideachadh. 'S e fàs a thoir air àireamhan luchd-labhairt agus cleachdaidh a' chànan tè de na h-amasan as deatamaiche a th' ann, agus 's i seo cuideachd an dùbhan



COLOURFUL: Byres Road will be busy this month for the West End Festival.

My week was spent with Skipinnish at the Islay whisky festival and then a memorable weekend in Oban at Skerryvore Decade. Skerryvore, of course, have strong Glasgow connections. All the boys stay in and around Glasgow, having plied their trade many moons ago in the likes of the Islay Inn and the Park Bar. Only last month they filmed the video for their latest single in the Park Bar and, in January, they chose a Celtic Connections gig in the Old Fruitmarket to announce plans for their big Oban gig in Mossfield park. Although I was away from Glasgow last week, I would guess the city's Gaelic world was a fair bit quieter as many made the trip up the road. For those who did head for Oban, the journey was worth it. What an incredible gig.

An Lochran at the West End Festival

Tuesday June 9: Togaibh Fonn, Gaelic singing workshop, with Joy Dunlop at Coffee and Craic, 74 Elderslie Street. Saturday June 13: A' Mhuir (The Sea), Gaelic themed 'book bug' session (0-3 years) at The Gaelic

Council, 32 Mansfield Street. Tuesday June 16: Togaibh Fonn, Gaelic singing workshop, with Calum Ross at Coffee and Craic, 74 Elderslie Street. Saturday June 20: Na Neonachain, Aliens Love Underpants), at the Gaelic Books Council, 32 Mansfield Street. Tuesday June 23: Togaibh Fonn, Gaelic singing workshop, with Murdo 'Wasp' MacDonald at Coffee and Craic, 74 Elderslie Street. Wednesday June 24: Seisean-ciùil (Traditional Music Session), at the Lismore, 206 Dumbarton Road.

What's on?

Friday June 5: The Glasgow Skye Association end of session social at the Redhurst Hotel, Giffnock. June: The West End Festival.

Pub scene

Pub Bar: Thursday June 4: Session. Friday June 5: Nicky McMichan and Martin Pottinger. Saturday June 6: Dodgy Ground. Sunday June 7: Martainn Skene. Islay Inn: Friday June 5: Crossroads. Saturday June 6: Penny Dogs. Wednesday June 10: quiz night.

Ailean Caimbeul

as motha! Mar phàirt den dealbhadh-cànain anns an robh Bòrd na Gàidhlig an sàs bha e nàdarra gum biodh e a' sealltainn air inneachd leasachaidh a dh'obraich dha cànanan eile, agus bha Ulpan air fear de na h-inneachdan sin. Bha mi tàmailteach a bhith a' faicinn 's a' cluinntinn fhaclan mar 'nàrachadh' gan tilgeil air obair a' Bhùird a thaobh Ulpan. Chan eil e fìor a ràdh gun deach am Bòrd an sàs san iomairt seo gun chùram agus feumar a thuigsinn gum bheil daonnas tomhas de chunnart ann an iomairt leasachaidh sam bith. Mar a bhiodh dùil, bha toradh na h-obrach seo an crochadh air èifeachdas an t-siostaim oideachaidh, ach bha e cuideachd an urra ri rùn ionnsachaidh nan oileanach agus an cuid dìonmhaltas na rùintean sin a choileanadh. Chan eil e na annas gum biodh oileanaich ag iarraidh tuilleadh cothrom gus an cànan a chleachdadh fhad 's tha iad ag ionnsachadh, agus ma tha

iad dol a dh'fhàs fileanta agus dol a chur ri àireamh luchd-cleachdaidh, feumar na cothroman sin an lorg dhaibh. Bheirinn mo làn-thaic dhan Bòrd nan oidhirpean a' trusadh luchd-ionnsachaidh Gàidhlig agus gam brosnachadh a dh'ionnsaigh fileantas. CONGRATULATIONS to Inverness Caledonian Thistle football club whose determination was rewarded last Saturday. Congratulations too to the thousands who have learned, and are learning, Gaelic. Growing speaker numbers is the single biggest challenge in the national plan for Gaelic and Bòrd na Gàidhlig was right to invest in a training initiative based on Ulpan. More than 3,000 people took part and the Bòrd must be encouraged to persevere in recruiting and supporting students to fluency in Gaelic. Ailean Caimbeul (Allan Campbell) ailean@obantimes.co.uk

Le taic bho

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

Crannog Lane, Lochavullin estate, Oban, PA34 4HB. We will attempt to resolve your issue in a timely, reasonable and amicable manner. However, if you are unsatisfied with our response, you can contact IPSO, which will investigate the matter. You can

Your letters

THE EDITOR welcomes letters of approximately 300 words in length for publication on this page. The editor also reserves the right to shorten, amend or to refuse to print them. Names and

postal addresses must be supplied, including on emails, to indicate good faith. A daytime telephone number is also required for verification. Anonymous letters or those supplied without a

contact telephone number will not be printed. Please write or fax to: Letters page, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB. Fax: 01631 568001. Email editor@obantimes.co.uk.

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- Across**
- 7 Sensors of all one's movements (7,6)
 - 8 Rotational engine part (8)
 - 9 Black (4)
 - 10 Laurel part (3,4)
 - 12 Digress (5)
 - 14 Normal (5)
 - 16 State of decline (7)
 - 19 Polluted air (4)
 - 20 Gun (3,5)
 - 22 One's kin (5,3,5)
- Down**
- 1 Stick down (4)
 - 2 Frank acknowledgment (6)
 - 3 I, for one (7)
 - 4 Church song (5)
 - 5 Casual top (1-5)
 - 6 Helps on board (8)
 - 11 Gathering (8)
 - 13 Impose upon (7)
 - 15 Grand season! (6)
 - 17 Knickknack (6)
 - 18 Fundamental (5)
 - 21 King of beasts (4)

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

T	E	B	T	D	S								
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SKERRYVORE A DECADE IN THE MAKING



Golden boy Daniel Gillespie of Skerryvore on stage



Another boy band from Tiree, Trailwest



Members of the Eilidh MacInnes school of dance kicked the event off with a memorial dance to their much-loved tutor Eilidh, who passed away last year



6,000 people packed into Mossfield park

IT WAS a day not to be missed as some of Celtic folk music's biggest stars made their way to Oban's Mossfield park for the area's first open air festival.

Almost 6,000 people, a capacity crowd, partied the day away with bands including The Red Hot Chili Pipers, Skipinnish and Trailwest in the line-up, alongside legendary folk musician Dougie MacLean, Sharron Shannon and members of the Eilidh MacInnes school of dance.

But celebrating with the most ambitious and logistically difficult concert Oban has ever held was Celtic fusion super group Skerryvore. The band came home to celebrate ten years in the music business with west coast friends.

Skerryvore, which formed on Tiree in 2005, was originally made up of Tiree-born brothers Daniel and Martin Gillespie who worked with holidaymaker Fraser West and friend Alec Dalgligh over a shared love of music.

The men liked everything from traditional to rock and jazz. It was this mix of musical styles and sounds that set the path for the band's 2005 debut album *West Coast Life*. The more the fledgling band experimented with fusing together a mix of musical styles, the more their signature sound evolved, aided by the arrival of Barry Caulfield and Craig Espie in time for their second album, *On The Road*, in 2007.

But it was the release of self-titled third album *Skerryvore* that saw the band catapulted into the musical limelight winning a string of prestigious awards.

The event was organised in association with Bid4Oban with Caledonian MacBrayne an additional key sponsor.

Daniel Gillespie, founding member of Skerryvore and accordion player, said: 'As a band we really wanted to mark our tenth year by holding the biggest and best Skerryvore gig to date.'

'It felt natural to return to the region that was so prominent in the early development of the band.'

'We were delighted to be joined by some of the most respected and creative musicians in the trad music scene that we have become friends with during our musical journey over the past decade.'

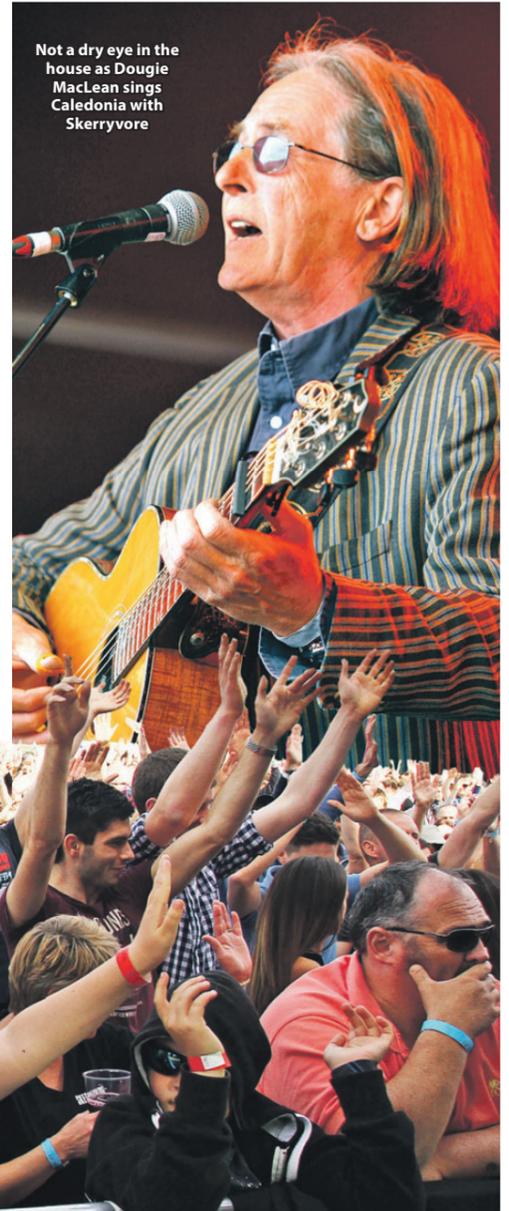
One of the musicians, fiddle player Allan Henderson from Mallaig, said: 'It seems much longer since I first encountered a precociously talented gaggle of toddlers from Tiree and Livingston that people referred to as 'Baby Skipinnish'.'

'They put on an incredible show in front of 6,000 people and I am deeply honoured and chuffed they remembered a wee fiddle player from Mallaig.'

'It is to their credit they have remained such thoroughly nice individuals - it is not always so - and they deserve all the success they get. Here's to another ten years boys.'



The charming and talented Sharon Shannon



Not a dry eye in the house as Dougie MacLean sings Caledonia with Skerryvore

food and drink

As part of the Year of Food and Drink Scotland, the *Oban Times* has teamed up with local businesses to celebrate the wealth of variety, quality and talent in this booming industry. Over the coming months, the paper will be promoting a selection of events, stories, restaurants, pubs and producers from the west coast. Each week, one business from the sector will be the focus of this exciting new column, along with a delicious recipe, so keep an eye out and allow the *Oban Times* to provide a taste of the fantastic food and drink available in the area.

The Year of Food and Drink is a chance to spotlight, celebrate and promote Scotland's natural larder and quality produce to people and visitors.



This week...

Who is it?
Loch Melfort Hotel

What do they do?
There are plenty of dining options at Loch Melfort Hotel to suit every budget, taste, appetite and occasion from tasty bistro snacks, excellent Scottish fine dining, picnic hampers and afternoon tea.

Where can I find them?
Overlooking Loch Melfort, it is a three-minute walk from Arduaine Garden and is 19 miles from Oban.



Loch Melfort Hotel

The Loch Melfort Hotel is renowned for its excellent food and head chef Mike Knowles (above left with Matt King) knows just how popular his sticky toffee pudding recipe is. It is a daily sell out in the Chartroom Bistro for people having a relaxing lunch after a pleasant walk in the NTS Arduaine Garden next door. Why not book a special afternoon tea in the beautiful hotel lounge with stunning sea views over looking Shuna, Jura and Islay? Mike, who lives in Oban with his family, is passionate about local sourcing and supports local suppliers and seasonal ingredients wherever possible. Seafood is a hotel speciality, with Loch Melfort lobster, langoustines and crab on the menu as well as oysters, mussels and scallops. Asknish Bay Restaurant is open daily from 6pm-9pm for fine dining or more casual dining is available in the Bistro all day from 10am-10pm. Visit the Loch Melfort website on www.lochmelfort.co.uk or follow Mike and his team on facebook and twitter. 01852 200233.

Loch Melfort Hotel original recipe Sticky Toffee pudding:



Ingredients

- Serves 6
- 150g of Dates - Pitted and chopped
- 150ml of water
- 60g of soft unsalted butter
- 150g of soft brown sugar
- 2 eggs
- 180g of plain flour
- Half a vanilla pod
- 1 tsp of baking powder

Method

Grease and flour the individual pudding moulds and pre heat the oven to 160°C.

Place the water into a pan and add the dates and the opened vanilla pod. Bring to simmer to allow the dates to soften. Take off the heat and allow to infuse for 15 minutes before putting in liquidiser and pureeing. I prefer it chunky so a robot coupe is what we use here, but up to you. Remove warm mix from the machine and allow to cool a little.

Meanwhile, cream the butter and sugar until frothy, add eggs and cream well.

Combine a little of the egg mix into the puree then fold the puree into the remaining sugar mix.

Finally, sieve the flour into the mix in small stages and gently fold through until combined well. Pour or pipe into moulds no more than 75 per cent full or it will overflow in the oven.

Cook for 10 minutes then cool for 10 minutes before covering with an unhealthy lashing of warm toffee sauce and clotted cream/ice cream. Enjoy.

Our food and drink column will appear weekly in the coming months

If you would like your business to feature here please call us on

01631 568000

Na Seudan Ùr win place at Music for Youth's Exchange

TARBERT'S young all-female band Na Seudan Ùr has been offered a performance slot during the Music For Youth Exchange at the Arches, Glasgow, on Friday June 12.

Na Seudan Ùr is delighted to have been selected as one of 34 young artists from across Scotland to perform at the Arches during the Music for Youth Exchange and have their music heard by music industry professionals.

The girls in Na Seudan Ùr are looking forward to performing in Glasgow again and are delighted to be able to perform at the prestigious Arches venue.

Band member Niamh MacKaveney said: 'It's great news that we've won a slot at this event. Not only can we perform for music industry

experts, we'll also have the opportunity to join in workshops and learn from other young performers from across Scotland.

'We're really looking forward to it.'

Music for Youth and Education Scotland have joined forces to create this opportunity for selected young performers to receive feedback on their performance from industry professionals, connect with inspirational speakers, learn new skills and obtain advice from music industry experts about careers in the music industry.

Na Seudan Ùr's first CD, *Seunta*, is available from Oban Music, various shops throughout Mid Argyll and Kintyre and www.musicscotland.com.



MUSICAL YOUTH: Na Seudan Ùr has won a place at Music for Youth's Exchange

Colonsay Folk Festival

COLONSAY, despite its size and remote location, has once again managed to attract a stellar cast to this year's folk festival.

Jointly topping the bill are the legendary Blazin' Fiddles and the internationally acclaimed Breabach. Kris Drever will be making his fourth appearance at the festival, this time with fellow guitar virtuoso Ian Carr.

Also appearing are Jenn Butterworth and Laura-Beth Salter - guitar, mandolin and singing - and stalwarts of the folk scene Ian Walker and Ian Bruce.

The younger generation are well-represented by the award-winning Mischa MacPherson, Radio 2 young folk singer of the year 2014, who will be performing as part of a trio,

and Canach featuring Caitlin McNeill from Colonsay and newcomers Ross Hull and Cameron Grant.

Local singer-songwriter Donald MacNeill will be showcasing his new album, a collaboration with Sardinian multi-instrumentalist and producer Roberto Diana who will also be playing a solo concert.

As always there will be a locals' concert, featuring amongst many the Machrins McNeills; lunchtime and late night sessions and a ceilidh with the Jen MacNeill Ceilidh Band.

The festival runs from Thursday September 17 to Sunday September 20 and is held in the village hall and the local hotel.



STELLAR CAST: a great line-up is on the cards for the Colonsay Folk Festival

Bring out the bodies as archaeologists find burial sites

AT LEAST two bodies have been found by archaeologists at Kilvickon Church on Mull, along with a further six at Eaglais na h-Aoidhe on Lewis.

Experts discovered the graveyard of Eaglais na h-Aoidhe extended to the north of the church, where shellfish, animal bone and a substantial amount of course pottery were also unearthed.

Mary Peteranna, head of the AOC Archaeology Group's Inverness office, said erosion and extreme storm damage had necessitated the work at Kilvickon - a Mull site where Clan MacLeod chiefs are known to have been buried.

'An early Christian pilgrimage route is

known to have crossed the Ross of Mull - a long, low peninsula that provided the best link to Iona and the early Christian monastic site associated with Saint Columba's landing in 563,' she said.

'Kilvickon Church is one of the seven medieval parish churches on Mull linked to the Abbey of Iona and was probably dedicated to Ernan, the son of Eoghan and a nephew of St Columba.

'It may overlie the site of an earlier Celtic church, although the present structure was thought to have been built in the 13th century by the Benedictine order of Iona and was in use until 1804, when a new church was built at Bunessan.

'The excavation uncovered a slabbed floor surface which contained two worn mill stones and at least two human inhumations.

'One of the burials had been covered by a large capstone and placed in a stone-lined grave cut. The burials were not excavated, but were preserved in situ.

'During the course of the work, the damaged east and west walls of the church were reconsolidated and made safe for visitors.

'A shallow trench was also excavated across almost half of the church interior for a new gravel surface.'

At Eaglais na h-Aoidhe, damage to the

base of the church was threatening the future of the building.

'The eroding section itself revealed one inhumation burial, while the hand-excavated trench along the shoreline next to it revealed five further inhumation burials,' said Ms Peteranna.

'The excavation of the piling trench demonstrated that the original graveyard of St Columba's church did formerly extend to the north side of the church and current graveyard wall.'

An unknown number of graves have been washed away from Eaglais na h-Aoidhe.

Both church sites are Scheduled Monuments in the care of Historic Scotland.

Afghanistan, changed our family



Left: Linda Norgrove

Campbeltown to commemorate Battle of Loos, Sept

A PARADE will be held in Campbeltown to commemorate one of the hardest battles of the Somme, in which many men from Argyll fought.

Organised by the Argyll and Bute World War I commemoration committee, the parade is in the wake of an event held in Oban in September 2014.

Chairman of the World War One steering group Patrick Stewart, MBE, WS, Lord Lieutenant of Argyll and Bute, said: 'Campbeltown has been nominated to commemorate the Scottish Battle of Loos which was launched by the British Army in conjunction with another attack by the French Army in the last few days of September 2015, in which Kintyre men participated, were wounded and killed.'

'A committee has been formed under the chairmanship of Alastair Cousin of South Park. The committee, at its first meeting, decided to involve young people in telling the story, not only of the battle but the effect of the First World War

on communities in Argyll and Bute.

'Important lessons are there to be learnt as to why the war, the war to end all wars, completely failed to achieve its objective.

'Its repercussions are still being felt today, particularly in the Middle East. 'A number of Kintyre schools, including the history department of Campbeltown grammar school, have already committed to participating.'

The main event will be an exhibition in the Victoria Hall on Saturday September 26 with a Beating the Retreat involving Campbeltown Brass and the Kintyre Schools Pipe Band being held at the New Quay Head the preceding Wednesday.

The Lord Lieutenant continued: 'Not associated with the battle, there is one recently discovered fact which is local and should fascinate.

'A pony requisitioned for the Highland Mountain Battery from Campbeltown in August 2014 was returned, apparently unscathed, to Campbeltown after numerous adventures, a year after the end of the war.

'Castlehill School Campbeltown

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Saturday 6th June From 9am Oban High School

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HAPPY HOUSE CHRISTIAN NURSERY

We would like to invite all our friends past and present to join us at our GARDEN PARTY To celebrate the last 20 years, on Saturday 13th June 2015 Between 1pm and 4pm. We would love to see any memorabilia or photos you may have of your time at Happy House

Scottish Wildlife Trust SUMMER FAIR

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To advertise in our community noticeboard call 01631 568000

and how it



THE MEMORIAL lecture on Thursday October 22 at Paire School, Gravr, will be given by John Norgrove of Uig, Lewis, who knew Angus 'Ease' Macleod through his involvement in the project to build memorial cairns in honour of the heroes of the land struggle.

John will use slides to illustrate his lecture and will start by describing Afghanistan: its geography and environment, its diverse peoples, cultural wealth and rich history. He will explain how Afghanistan's singular geographical location as Asia's crossroads led it to be a buffer between expanding Victorian empires and subsequently resulted in the global ideological conflicts of the cold war and jihad being played out by superpowers and richer neighbours on Afghan soil.

John will explore how a childhood on a croft in rural Lewis helped his daughter Linda to acquire the independence and self sufficiency that enabled her to both study and travel so extensively.

He will then explain how the magic of ravaged, but still highly cultured Afghanistan, drew his daughter Linda to work there and will recount the periences of the family throughout Linda's kidnapping and subsequent th.

John and the family jointly decided they would be defined by how they lived to these events, rather than being defined by the events themselves. In the days of Linda's death, they started the Linda Norgrove Foundation (LNF) to continue the work that was so close to their daughter's heart. In the five years since, LNF has transferred more than £750,000 to pay for more than 50 projects helping women and children affected by the wars in Afghanistan. John will describe some typical projects and talk of the highs and lows of running a small international charity from a remote croft house on Lewis.

John Morrison, Comunn Eachdraidh na Paire, and John Randall, the Oban Book Trust, joint organisers of the lecture in conjunction with Angus Macleod's family, commented: 'We are delighted and most grateful John Norgrove has agreed to give this year's memorial lecture.'

John and the family have responded to the tragedy of Linda's death. It is a huge honour that John has agreed to talk on this subject and we are sure that this will be both a memorable and moving occasion. Please make a note of the date of the lecture in your diaries now.'

For further information on the lecture, contact John Randall on 01851 365 or email john.lemrewa@talktalk.net

Wildlife watchers wanted for Butterfly Conservation survey

THE CALL is out for Argyll residents to report sightings of the rare and beautiful Forester moth as part of a Butterfly Conservation survey.

'Forester moth is a UK Biodiversity Action Plan Priority species, being confined in Scotland to the Argyll coast and to parts of the Solway,' said Dr Andrew Masterman of the Glasgow and southwest Scotland branch of Butterfly Conservation.

'The west coast of Scotland is renowned for its Burnet moths. However, unlike the other Burnets, which have bright crimson spots, Forester moth is a bright metallic green.'

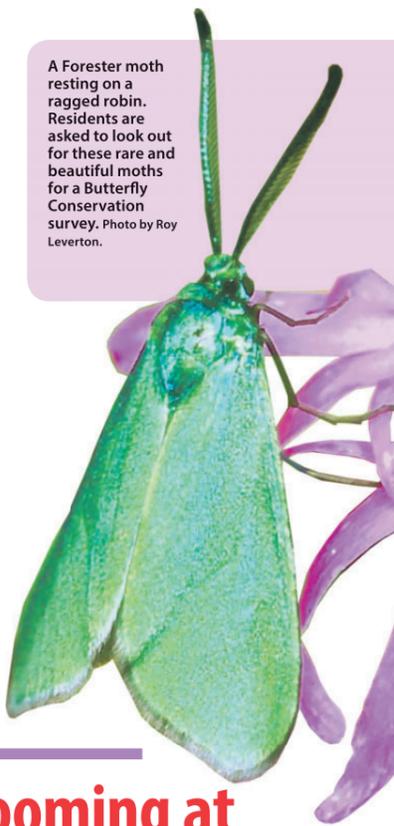
'The best place to look for the elusive Forester is in damp, flat, grazed, herb-rich grassland or mire. Usually they prefer moderate or gentle south-facing grass slopes with flowering plants and common sorrel, the food plant of the caterpillars, although a few are found on slopes exposed to the west. 'Tormentil, meadow buttercup, heath bedstraw and white clover are the most common flowering plants in Forester habitat,' Dr Masterman said.

'The Forester moth is on the wing during June and July, so keen wildlife enthusiasts should keep an eye out. 'All the moths seen in 2014 were in open, sunny habitats, distant from trees and shrubs, although bracken was a feature of some sites,' Dr Masterman advised. 'Although the moth is not conspicuous like butterflies, they can be seen nectaring on various flowering plants in sunny weather. In flight, they are more difficult to see, but you might notice a green insect flashing by. Butterfly Conservation would like to hear from anyone who has seen this beautiful green moth in Argyll.'

'There are four main areas in Argyll with reports of the moth - around Oban, on Seil, around Kilmartin and Tainult. If anyone sees Forester in these or other areas, they are asked to send details, including the date and a national grid reference, which can be calculated at gridreferencefinder.com, to andrewmasterman@hotmail.com.'

For further details about the Forester moth surveys, please visit www.southwest-scotland-butterflies.org.uk/surveys-2015/butterfly-and-moth-surveys-2015.shtml.

A Forester moth resting on a ragged robin. Residents are asked to look out for these rare and beautiful moths for a Butterfly Conservation survey. Photo by Roy Levertor.



Commemorate the September 25 1915

It investigate the background and provide a display at the exhibition. Readers are asked to send any memorabilia or memories relating to

1915 and the battle, which could be used in the exhibition and returned. Please contact Patrick Stewart on 01589 551717.



Blooming is booming at Arduaine Gardens thanks to changeable weather

ARDUAINE Garden, near Kilmelford, is flowering as never before, in spite of, or even because of, the changeable weather over the last month.

Not only is the spring flowering season greatly extended, but it's an amazing year for the tender rhododendrons in which the garden specialises.

Head gardener Maurice Wilkins said: 'Arduaine has probably the largest collection anywhere.'

'These flamboyant shrubs originate in the warmer temperate parts of east Asia, such as north east Burma, north Vietnam and Yunnan in south west China and fill the garden with fragrance and colour.'

'The camellia collection is hanging on and the azaleas

too, many fragrant, are still coming into flower, surrounded in many places by bluebells.

'Altogether a real feast for the senses and a surprise for those who've not visited before, tucked away as it is behind the Loch Melfort Hotel, just 20 miles south of Oban.'

'Certainly one of Argyll's great gardens.'



RHODODENDRON: the Edgeworthill is one fine example of the many plants on show at Arduaine garden

Entertainment Guide

Cinema

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05 JUNE 2015 - 11 JUNE 2015

- A ROYAL NIGHT OUT (12A)**
Fri, Thu: 16:00, 18:30; Sat: 15:00; Sun: 15:30; Mon, Tue: 16:00, 18:20; Wed: 16:00, 18:30
- HOME (U)**
Sat: 10:30; Sun: 11:15
- JURASSIC WORLD (TBC)**
Thu: 18:30
- JURASSIC WORLD 3D (TBC)**
Thu: 16:00, 21:00
- NT LIVE: LONDON ROAD**
Tue: 18:45
- POLTERGEIST (15)**
Fri: 20:45; Sat: 20:15; Sun: 20:20; Tue: 20:30
- POLTERGEIST 3D (15)**
Sun: 17:00; Mon: 20:45; Wed: 20:45
- SAN ANDREAS (12A)**
Fri: 15:30, 20:45; Sat: 16:30, 17:15; Sun: 17:50; Mon: 18:00, 20:30; Wed: 15:30, 20:20; Thu: 20:45
- SAN ANDREAS 3D (12A)**
Fri: 18:10; Sat: 19:30; Sun: 19:15; Mon, Tue: 15:30; Wed: 18:10
- THE LITTLE MERMAID (U)**
Sat: 10:00
- THE SPONGEBOB MOVIE: SPONGE OUT OF WATER (U)**
Sat: 12:50; Sun: 13:20
- THE SPONGEBOB MOVIE: SPONGE OUT OF WATER 3D (U)**
Sun: 11:00
- TWO BY TWO (U)**
Sat: 12:30, 14:30; Sun: 13:15, 15:00

FILM SYNOPSIS

HOME (U)
Oh, an alien on the run from his own people, lands on Earth and makes friends with the adventurous Tip, who is on a quest of her own.

SPONGEBOB: SPONGE OUT OF WATER (PG) 92MINS
Delightfully zany comedy for kids and grown-ups alike. Life is dandy in Bikini Bottom for SpongeBob Squarepants (Tom Kenny) and his friends Patrick (Bill Fagerbakke), Squidward (Rodger Bumpass), Mr. Krabs (Clancy Brown) and Sandy (Carolyn Lawrence). However, when the top-secret recipe for Krabby Patties is stolen, SpongeBob finds that he must join forces with perpetual adversary Plankton (Mr. Lawrence) and come ashore to battle a fiendish pirate named Burger Beard (Antonio Banderas), who has his own plans for the delicious delicacies.

SAN ANDREAS 12A 114MINS
A helicopter pilot embarks on a hazardous mission to rescue his daughter after a huge earthquake strikes the California coast.

A ROYAL NIGHT OUT 12A 96MINS
A charming, spirited, speculative account of the night spent by Princess Elizabeth and Princess Margaret during the VE Day celebrations.

LONDON ROAD
A ground breaking musical drama event, London Road documents the events of 2006, when the quiet rural town of Ipswich was shattered by the discovery of the bodies of five women. The residents of London Road had struggled for years with frequent soliciting and kerb-crawling on their street. When a local resident was charged and then convicted of the murders, the community grappled with what it meant to be at the epicentre of this tragedy. Starring Tom Hardy and Olivia Coleman.

JURASSIC WORLD
Terrific excitement for the whole family! Twenty-two years after the events of Jurassic Park (1993), Isla Nublar now features a fully functioning dinosaur theme park, Jurassic World, as originally envisioned by John Hammond. After 10 years of operation and visitor rates declining, in order to fulfill a corporate mandate, a new attraction is created to re-spark visitor's interest, which backfires horribly.

POLTERGEIST
Update of the classic supernatural thriller. A family whose suburban home is haunted by evil forces must come together to rescue their youngest daughter after the apparitions take her captive.

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THIS WEEK'S LISTINGS

MONDAY:
0800 AM on FM, 0810 Breakfast Show, 0900 Monday Morning With Andy and Stephen, 1100 Molly Black, 1300 CLYDE 2, 1500 Jim Edge, 1700 Drivetime With Danni Hay, 1900 Rosie's Highland Fling, 2000 John McLuckie's Show, 2100 David Cullen, 2200 American Jukebox with Michelle

TUESDAY:
0800 AM on FM, 0810 Breakfast Show with Maggie May, 1000 Ken Hunter, 1200 Memories are Made of This with Ken Hunter, 1330 The Quiz with Danni Hay, 1500 Lesley Blair-Simmonds, 1700 Drivetime with Jim Lynch, 1900 Sounds Scottish with Archie Cameron, 2000 Highest Praise with Stuart, 2100 Elaine Lamb, 2300 Northern Soul with Gordon Covey

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

THURSDAY:
0800 Maggie May's Carousel, 1100 Molly's Mix with Molly Black, 1300 CLYDE 2, 1500 Gordon Covey, 1700 Drivetime with DJ Taz, 1900 Christine's Collection, 2100 Ann's Ceilidh, 2200 Margo Till Midnight

FRIDAY:
0800 Jean Ainsley Breakfast Show, 1000 Teeny and Tiny Show, 1300 CLYDE 2, 1500 Weekend Warmup with Ian Blair-Simmonds, 1700 Drive Show with Jim Lynch, 1845 Sports View, 1900 Country Meets Country with Jackie Craig, 2000 Friday Night with Innes, 2100 TFI Friday with Jim Lavin

SATURDAY:
0900 Maggie's Swingin' Sixties, 1000 Saturday Morning Live with Linda Crowther, 1330 CLYDE 2, 1800 Sports View with the Dream Team, 1900 Marcus, 2000 Dave Lewis

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

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WIN A FITNESS DVD!



Kelta Fit is a brand new fitness workout using Ceilidh music and energetic Scottish dance moves to motivate and energise, whilst helping the body to burn serious calories during a low-impact high-energy workout. The Kelta Fit DVD features a unique, fun and inspired workout suitable for anyone at any age and level of fitness. The DVD contains 6 x 9 minute workouts that combine real Ceilidh dance moves with aerobic exercises, designed to raise heart rates, improve general fitness and therefore overall health. It contains body resistance moves too which are really effective at gaining muscle as well as burning fat, and there's no equipment or previous experience required, just a DVD player and a little space indoors - hand weights for a more advanced work out are entirely optional.

For your chance to win a copy of the Kelta Fit DVD, simply answer this easy question, complete the coupon and post it to The Oban Times, Kelta Fit Competition, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB. Entries must be submitted by midday, Friday 12 June 2015.

Question: What type of music is used during the Kelta Fit workout?
a) R&B b) Hip hop c) Ceilidh

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

Terms and conditions: The prize is as stated. No cash alternative. The Editor's decision is final. Photocopied entry coupons will not be accepted. The winner may be asked to take part in publicity and may appear in a Wywex Media publication and website. This competition is not open to Wywex Media and associated company employees and their families. Winners will be notified by Tuesday 16 June 2015.

Farming

Gamekeepers call for greater parity in law over traps

WITH vandalism of legal predator control traps in Scotland's countryside becoming more frequent, the Scottish Gamekeepers' Association (SGA) has called for greater parity in the law.

Gamekeepers, farmers and conservationists use legal traps to control abundant predators, with cages being used successfully recently for live-trapping grey squirrels to protect native

reds. They undergo training to set devices under licence to control pests, protecting game and wildlife, and can face fines, loss of employment or even jail if devices are set unlawfully.

Poor practise can increase the possibility of species that should not be trapped being caught, such as birds of prey.

However, gamekeepers are reporting worrying cases of damage and interference to

these devices by members of the public accessing the countryside for dog walking or recreation.

Not only are there consequences for conservation, but if a protected species becomes trapped or is harmed in a damaged trap, the gamekeeper or farmer is blamed.

Despite providing evidence, gamekeepers say Police Scotland are reticent to act because, unlike strict provisions governing trap use, offences for the public damaging or interfering with traps are vague.

The SGA, which represents 5,300 members, has sought clarification from Police Scotland on their procedures.

SGA chairman Alex Hogg said: 'It is everyone's right to have an opinion on the game or farming industries, but these tools allow people to do their jobs, are approved under licence from SNH and help a variety of species, some of which are in conservation danger.'

'Without traps, it would be harder for gamekeepers, for example, to look after such healthy numbers of endangered Curlew and Lapwing as well as game.'

'The conservation consequences of public interference is partly about better education. However, misguided actions can also land innocent people in serious trouble and this must be reflected in how these incidents are dealt with.'



LEGAL TRAPS: gamekeeper Mike Reddington and a legal crow cage trap

Switch focus to land management says NFU Scotland president

MANAGEMENT of land rather than owning it should be an important focus in the on-going land reform debate according to NFU Scotland president Allan Bowie.

Speaking at a conference on land reform, held by Holyrood magazine in the AK Bell Library, Perth, Mr Bowie said: 'At the core of any debate on land reform must be recognition that agriculture - on many different scales - is the primary land use over much of Scotland, underpinning the rural economy, the landscape and the social infrastructure.'

The event was held ahead of the Scottish government's official response to its recent consultation on a land reform bill.

The consultation closed in February and an announcement on the bill is expected in the coming weeks.

Mr Bowie added: 'Management of land, rather than who physically owns the land, should be a key element of discussions on reform, particularly if we are to take forward our ambition to grow our food and drink sectors.'

'Good land managers - and

there are many of them around Scotland - should have nothing to fear from any legislative changes.'

'Sadly, the good work of the majority of land managers is regularly overshadowed by the attention paid to the bad example set by a minority.'

'In our response to the consultation on the proposed bill, we believe an apolitical land reform commission linked into regional aspirations is fundamental to it being a positive.'

'Many land managers are already part of vibrant, local

communities, and many of them work in partnership on established or new projects.'

'We are happy to support community engagement where a partnership approach is likely to deliver greatest benefit.'

'On land tenancy, there is considerable support within the union to build on the recommendations from the agricultural holdings legislation review. This process is all about creating a more balanced and collaborative tenanted sector with new opportunities.'

'That vision must be carried forward to the legislative phase.'

Kyle village hall to host mini crofting conference

A MINI conference is to be held in August in Kyle village hall on 'defining the crofting cultural landscape'.

Organised by the National Trust for Scotland, it will hear from speakers including Iain MacKinnon, a crofter/historian from Camuscross, John Phillips, Highland Council ranger, and Kirsten Dallas and Iain Turnbull of Balmacara Estate, who will be talking about the on-going landscape character assessment

at the estate. The conference aims to discuss what it is that makes the crofting landscape so distinctive, how it contributes to the area and what its future holds.

There will be an open forum to discuss key elements and issues brought up by the speakers.

Booking is recommended and the closing date is August 14. Bookings or inquiries can be made via 01599 566325 or email balmacara@nts.org.uk

New rural development programme approved

A NEW rural development programme for Scotland has been formally approved by Europe.

The Scottish Rural Development Programme (SRDP) 2014-2020 is co-funded by the Scottish government and European Union and, as such, requires formal sign-off by the European Commission.

More than £1.3 billion of support for farming, food production, rural communities and the environment will be available.

Scottish secretary for rural affairs Richard Lochhead said: 'The SRDP is crucial for Scottish farming, food production, rural communities and the environment and I am pleased it has finally been approved.'

'This will enable the Scottish government to begin approving applications and make payments on those schemes we have already opened to mitigate, as far as possible, the impact of delays in the European sign-off process.'

'The consultation closes on Friday July 31.'

Views sought on future of agricultural wages board

VIEWS are being sought on the future of the Scottish agricultural wages board.

The body is empowered to set minimum pay rates, holiday entitlement and

certain other conditions of service for agricultural workers in Scotland and orders made by the board have the force of law.

In a formal consultation,

the Scottish government is asking whether the Scottish agricultural wages board should continue as it does now, be retained as an advisory body or be removed

so that arrangements for agricultural workers are determined under general employment law.

The consultation closes on Friday July 31.

North Argyll Young Farmers Shearing Competition
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Tel: 01546 606586
Email: Jamie.Mcgrigor.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

THE NATIONAL Farmers Union of Scotland, in conjunction with the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency and Police Scotland, will hold a half day Vehicle and Transportation Workshop encouraging farmers and crofters to get up to speed on legislation. The workshop will be held on Thursday, June 11 at Bruce Dixon's Killinlochnoch Farm, Kilmichael Glassary, by Lochgilphead, and will cover a range of issues related to farm vehicles.

'Following the success of previous workshops organised by the Union in other regions of Scotland, we are pleased to be hosting one in Argyll to give members, and non-members, a chance to ask questions and be brought up to speed on important transportation and vehicle legislation that may be of relevance to them and their employees,' said NFUS regional manager Lucy Sumsion. 'Vehicle legislation is complex topic

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Dairy farmers on Bute and Gigha handed government lifeline

DAIRY farmers on Bute and Gigha have been handed a lifeline after the Scottish government agreed to provide extra support for six months.

Around £65,000 is to be used to help cover the cost of tankers returning empty on ferries to Bute from the mainland.

The moves come after concerns that Bute farmers faced a bigger reduction in the price being paid by First Milk – 1.2 pence per litre over 0.2 ppl – from June 1 than mainland suppliers.

There was serious concern about the impact on the island's economy and the sustainability of the industry after First Milk said the large cut was needed to cover its transport costs.

Richard Lochhead, Scottish rural affairs secretary, said: 'We have been doing everything we can to help our dairy farmers through the recent deductions in milk prices globally.'

'However, the recent announcement from First Milk

that they will pay farmers on Bute a lower price for their milk is concerning and clearly highlights the extra challenges the dairy sector faces on this island.

'We recognise the significant additional burden being faced by dairy farmers on Bute.'

'I look forward to hearing from First Milk about their plans to ensure a sustainable future for these farmers and am pleased the Scottish government is able to provide some short-term funding. We are committed to working with the dairy sector in these volatile times and have separately agreed to provide funding of £400,000 to Campbeltown Creamery, which is expected to be made shortly.'

'The Scottish government has already set up the dairy growth board and published the dairy action plan to help increase exports and this work will take a significant step forward with the first glimpse of the Scottish dairy brand expected at the Royal Highland Show.'

Argyll and Bute MSP Michael Russell welcomed the news. He said: 'In the face of recent challenges for the sector, this is a very welcome piece of much-needed good news for Bute and Gigha dairy farmers – who will be pleased that the Scottish government has taken strong action to protect their interests by delivering this support.'

'This change has been supported by the National Farmers Union Scotland, the parliament's rural affairs committee and by the Bute Estate and so will be welcomed across the board. However, it is vital that the benefit which will accrue goes directly to the farmers and does not simply end up in the hands of First Milk.'

'It is also essential that the price paid by First Milk rises as soon as possible as it is presently well below the actual cost of production – threatening the future of dairy production on Bute and more widely in Kintyre and across Scotland.'



Mike Gallacher, chief executive officer of First Milk, and Jim Baird, First Milk director.

Search on for gamekeeper of the year

THE SCOTTISH Gamekeepers' Association (SGA) has announced the details of its 2015 Young Gamekeeper of the Year Award.

The prize recognises individuals whose passion and work, in line with best practice and responsible management,

make them ambassadors for their chosen profession in Scotland.

This year's award is open to young gamekeepers, stalkers, river or land ghillies, wildlife managers and rangers in the early stages of a career and individuals may be nominated

by estates, senior staff, shoot operators or college lecturers.

The winner will be selected following informal interviews and the presentation of a cheque will be made at the 26th GWCT Scottish Game Fair at Scone on Friday July 3 2015.

Single application for farming subsidies reach halfway

WITH less than three weeks to go, this year's applications for the single application for farming subsidies has reached the halfway point.

A total of 22,000 submissions are expected and by last week the Scottish government said just more than 10,500 had been

received. Rural affairs secretary Richard Lochhead said: 'Reaching the halfway point for SAF applications almost three weeks before the window closes is a significant milestone in this first year of the new Common Agricultural Policy (CAP).'

'We have seen a real surge in

the rate of applications since the major upgrade of the new Rural Payments and Services website at the start of the month.

'If this continues, we will be on track to receive all applications ahead of this year's deadline, which has been extended by one month [to June 15] because

of the complexity of the new system.

'We are implementing a very complex EU policy, and there have been some issues with the new system.'

'I am grateful for the patience farmers have shown us as we work to iron these out.'



and can cause confusion amongst farmers and those that use agricultural vehicles," she said. "Not everyone always complies with the law, some unknowingly, and these workshops will give them the skills and knowledge to comply."

There will be a session in the morning and the afternoon with lunch provided in between. Attendees can choose which session to come along to. The workshop will be undercover, but

warm, outdoor clothing is recommended. 'We continuously work with the DVSA and Police Scotland, and it is great that once again we have both organisations on board,' Sumsion continued.

Space will be limited. The event is free to NFUS members, but there is a charge of £50 to non-members. Booking is essential so call 0131 472 4000 to register.

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MPG figures are official EU test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results. Official fuel consumption figures for the All-New Subaru Outback range in mpg (l/100km): Urban from 32.5 (8.7l) - 40.9 (6.9l), Extra Urban from 47.1 (6.0l) - 58.9 (4.8l), Combined from 40.4 (7.0l) - 50.4 (6.6l). CO₂ emissions 148 - 161 (g/km).

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The new Subaru Outback, the fifth-generation of the brand's pioneering crossover, went on sale in the UK on April 1 2015 priced from £27,995 (on-the-road). Introduced in 1995 as the first crossover and spawning a whole range of copy cat models ever since, the Outback has continued to successfully combine the virtues of a tourer with those of an SUV, winning over drivers with its practical, all-road nature.

The on the road price range of £27,995 to £32,995 means the all-new Outback stays in the same price bracket as the outgoing version despite having new exterior design, a more spacious and higher quality interior and a range of advanced safety equipment and in-car technology. The new Outback also boasts a generous standard specification.

EyeSight safety assist - a 'second pair of eyes' for drivers

New to the latest model, EyeSight is Subaru's advanced collision avoidance technology which acts as a 'second pair of eyes' for drivers, employing stereo colour camera technology to monitor the road and traffic ahead for potential hazards. This is the first time the technology has been made available in the UK and Europe.

The system's two colour cameras are located in front of the rear view mirror to detect the presence of vehicles, pedestrians, cyclists and other potential hazards. EyeSight is fitted as standard to every Outback fitted with Subaru's Lineartronic (CVT) transmission, and includes autonomous Pre-collision Braking Control and Pre-collision Throttle Management, Adaptive Cruise Control and Lane Departure & Sway Warning.

New Outback goes more upmarket

While clearly maintaining the distinctive Subaru Outback identity, Subaru's designers strived to make the new model more dynamic while keeping true to its rugged cross-over roots. From the front, the bumper integrated hexagonal grille and hawk-eye headlights maintain consistency with other models in the Subaru family, while the profile is a subtle evolution of the existing Outback.

More significant changes can be found on the inside. The new model's revamped interior uses a range of higher quality materials throughout, resulting in a much more premium cabin, complimented by a new range of factory-fit infotainment and sat nav systems. The interior is also more spacious for passengers.

Two engines, two transmissions

There are two engines available in the UK - a pair of horizontally-opposed four-cylinder 'Boxer' engines, fitted deep in the engine bay to ensure a low centre of gravity for improved handling, despite the car's raised ground clearance. Buyers can choose between a 2.0-litre turbo-diesel, producing 150 PS and 350 Nm torque, or a naturally-aspirated 2.5-litre petrol unit, with power and torque outputs of 165 PS and 235 Nm respectively.

Diesel engines will be offered with either a six-speed manual transmission or Subaru's Lineartronic (CVT) transmission; the 2.5-litre petrol engine is sold exclusively with Lineartronic.

Generous standard specification

There are two trim levels available in the UK - SE and SE Premium - which both offer a generous level of standard equipment.

SE models are equipped as standard with automatic LED headlamps and headlamp washers, cruise control, Active Torque Vectoring, 17-inch alloy wheels, heated front seats, electrically-adjustable driver's seat and privacy glass, as well as a 7.0-inch touchscreen infotainment system, incorporating satellite navigation, audio, smartphone connectivity and a rear view parking camera. Petrol SE models also feature an emissions-reducing start-stop system and Subaru Intelligent Drive, which allows drivers to select different engine modes depending on road conditions for improved economy and performance.

SE Premium models add a sunroof, keyless entry and push-button start, 18-inch alloy wheels, leather seats and a powered rear tailgate for added functionality.

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New housing registrations continue to rise, reports NHBC

The number of new homes registered across the UK continues to outperform 2014 levels, according to the National House Building Council (NHBC).

For the rolling quarter (February to April), registrations increased by 20 per cent compared to the same period last year (41,307 in 2015; 34,451 in 2014). This follows the strong first quarter growth reported by NHBC earlier this month.

The private sector increased by 24 per cent during this period (31,083 in 2015; 24,993 in 2014), with the public sector also up by eight per cent (10,224 in 2015; 9,458 in 2014).

As the leading warranty and insurance provider for new homes in the UK,

NHBC's monthly registration statistics help to provide new and accurate data on the country's new homes market.

For April, 12,459 new homes were registered (9,268 private sector; 3,191 public sector), a four per cent increase on the 11,985 homes (8,955 private; 3,030 public) registered in the same month last year.

Commenting on the latest statistics NHBC chief executive Mike Quinton said: 'The very positive start to the year continues, with the growth in new home registrations unaffected by uncertainty ahead of the General Election, so 2015 is likely to be another strong year.'

'Now that the outcome of the General Election has been decided we look forward to continuing our work with government to ensure that housing remains at the top of the political agenda to help us get back to pre-recession building levels.'

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37 hours per week
(Ref: 045-327)

SNH manages four National Nature Reserves (NNRs) in Argyll - Glasdrum, Taynish, Glen Nant and Moine Mhor. Between them, they include a range of native woodland and raised bog habitats, as well as providing key ground for rare species of plants, butterflies, birds and mammals. All are set amid stunning west coast landscapes and are of exceptional natural and cultural heritage value. The above role takes the lead on bringing these exceptional reserves to life.

The successful candidate will manage and maintain the habitat and visitor infrastructure at the reserves and manage a small Argyll NNR team consisting of two Lochgilhead-based Site Management Officers. The post holder will also undertake management of contractors and volunteers.

You must have experience of supervising staff, contractors or volunteers on practical conservation tasks. You must also have practical understanding of the management requirements of a range of habitats, including an understanding of designated sites, peatland restoration and wetland hydrology. Excellent communication skills, both written and verbal are also a must. Finally, a full driving licence is required as you will be using a vehicle on the reserve.

We're as supportive, committed and proud of our people as we are of the natural world around us. To find out more, and apply, please go to www.snhjobs.co.uk Alternatively, call 01463 725182.

Closing date: 9 June 2015.
Interview date: 25 June 2015.

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SCOTTISH AMBULANCE SERVICE
TRAINEE RELIEF
AMBULANCE TECHNICIAN
BAND 4 - £19,502 - £22,458 pro rata per annum
37.5 hours per week

Applications are invited for the above vacancies based within Tarbert, Lochgilhead and Oban Ambulance stations. Applicants must ensure that they have the use of private transport as detached duty will be a feature of these posts. The successful applicants for the Ambulance Technician post will be enrolled on the new clinical programme which leads to a "Certificate of Higher Education (Cert HE) in Ambulance Studies". The programme is delivered over a 12 month period during which you will spend the first 11 weeks at our Scottish Ambulance Academy based within Glasgow Caledonian University. After the 11 weeks, you will progress to your allocated Ambulance Station to undertake "practice placement". The successful applicants will also be required to complete the 3 week "Emergency Response Driving Education and Training Programme". The next course will commence 11th January 2016. As it is a mandatory requirement to hold a C1 category driving licence to be a Trainee Ambulance Technician, all successful candidates must have obtained this category at least 6 weeks before their start date. All applicants must have held a full Driving Licence for 2 years and have no more than 3 penalty points.

All candidates will be required to satisfy the following recruitment and entry requirements:

- A&E Fitness Test
- Interview
- Occupational Health Screening/Medical
- Satisfactory application to the PVG (Disclosure) Scheme
- 2 Highers at grade C and 5 Standard Grades at level 3, to include English and a science subject for the Ambulance Technician post, OR evidence that you have studied and passed at level SVQ3 or SCQF level 7, HNC.

The starting salary for Technician Students is £16,843 pro rata per annum, rising to £19,502 pro rata per annum (plus unsocial) on successful completion of the Cert HE in Ambulance Studies. This will increase in annual increments to £22,458 pro rata per annum, subject to annual development reviews.

To apply please email scotamb.southrecruit@nhs.net to request an application pack quoting reference number SW4706. Informal enquiries can be made to Area Service manager Colin Whiteford on 07775 954005.

The closing date is Friday 19th June 2015.

POSITIVE ABOUT DISABLED PEOPLE | Stonewall SCOTLAND DIVERSITY CHAMPION

The Scottish Salmon Company

The Scottish Salmon Company is a leading independent producer of high quality Scottish Salmon. We are committed to high standards of animal welfare, sustainable operations and promoting a responsible environmental policy.

MARINE SITE MANAGERS (2)
Isle of Harris
Competitive Salary dependant on experience

Due to our expansion on the Isle of Harris, two new marine production sites will become operational in August 2015 and we therefore require two experienced Site Managers.

Marine Site Managers are responsible for managing and developing their salmon sites to the highest standards and must therefore be experienced and enthusiastic salmon farmers.

The successful candidates will have excellent fish husbandry skills, strong management and leadership qualities and proven organisational skills. Ideally, you will already be in a similar role where you have proven experience of automated feed systems, fish health, growth curves and feed management. A full, clean driving licence is essential together with a willingness to travel as and when required.

The roles report to the Production Manager and will be involved in the development of the new sites as well as the recruitment of your team, using our industry leading Competency Framework to assess and develop their skills.

As a Site Manager you will also demonstrate our Values of Pride, Passion and Provenance with a commitment to the safety and welfare of your staff, to the livestock within your control and to the local community, environment and beyond.

In return The Scottish Salmon Company offers a competitive salary package within a successful and innovative company. Where required, assistance with relocation will also be available.

To apply, please contact:
Dina Mackenzie, HR Coordinator,
The Scottish Salmon Company,
Marybank Industrial Estate, Stornoway, HS2 0DB
Tel: 01499 800 622
dina.mackenzie@scottishsalmon.com

Closing date for applications: Friday 19th June 2015
Visit our website at www.scottishsalmon.com

Classroom Assistant (Temporary)
£14,599 - £15,457 pro rata
Lochdonhead Primary School, Mull
7 hours per week term-time
Ref: CME35572

Clerical Assistant (Temporary)
£14,599 - £15,457 pro rata
Lochdonhead Primary School, Mull
18 hours per week term-time
Closing date for the above 2 posts: 12 June 2015.
Ref: CME00959

Driver/Pupil Escort (Permanent)
£15,433 - £16,340 pro rata
Inveraray area
15 hours per week term-time
Ref: CTF00670

Pupil Escort (Permanent)
£13,697 - £14,970 pro rata
Rockfield Primary Campus, Oban
12.5 hours per week term time
Closing date for the above 2 posts: 19 June 2015.
Ref: CTF01111

01546 604334

To apply visit our website www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/jobs

The Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

Senior Buildings Officer
Flexible location
£32,572 - £41,184

We are currently seeking applications for a Senior Buildings Officer within the Scottish Government Rural Payments and Inspection Division (SGRPID). The post could be based in the Inverness, Oban, Perth, Inverurie, Ayr, Hamilton, Galashiels or Dumfries office.

This post will provide technical input to the development and running of our capital grant schemes and take responsibility for the wide range of buildings and civil structures within SGRPID's management.

The successful candidate will require to have significant experience as a buildings professional or at a senior level in the construction industry and hold full membership of an appropriate professional institution e.g. RICS, CIOB or RIBA.

For further details and to apply online, visit our website at www.work-for-scotland.org. To apply, you must fully complete and submit an online application via our website before the closing date. This vacancy will close on the 17 June 2015 at midnight.

We welcome applications from all suitably qualified people and aim to employ a diverse workforce, which reflects the people of Scotland.

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Due to continued business growth

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48 hrs per week + overtime.
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Class 2 OTE £27,000 per annum
7.5t OTE £25,000 per annum

To apply please contact: John Gillies, Transport Supervisor, Forteith Foodservice, Glengallan Rd, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HG
Tel: 01631 569100
email: john.gillies@forteith.lhs.com

Forestry Commission Scotland
Coimisean na Coilltearachd Alba

Workshop Manager - Mechanical Engineering Cairnbaan

£32,217 - £35,402 plus benefits

To apply, please visit our website www.forestry.gov.uk/vacancies

✉ resourcing@forestry.gsi.gov.uk

Please quote ref 1455319.
Closing date: 10 June 2015
No recruitment agencies please.

We are committed to providing equal opportunities for all sectors of our diverse community.

www.forestry.gov.uk/vacancies

Leading the way in Learning Disability

ENABLE Scotland is a dynamic, vibrant and expanding organisation dedicated to improving the lives of people across Scotland.

Personal Assistants in Care (Male/Female)

Location: Oban. Salary: £7.80 per hour (various contracts available). We have a number of vacancies available due to growing hours of support.

Please contact the local office for further details or information on 01631 565062, email ciaran.bateman@enable.org.uk or visit www.enablescotlandjobs.org.uk

Closing date: 19 June 2015.

ENABLE Scotland is an equal opportunities employer. Scottish charity number SC009024.

ORMSARY FARMERS OFFICE ASSISTANT

We are looking for an assistant to join our small rural management team responsible for processing business transactions, customer and supplier contact, general administration, and invoicing at Ormsary Estate in mid Argyll.

Applicants should have a good knowledge of Microsoft Office. Experience with accounting software is desirable, but appropriate training is available for the right person.

An attractive employment package is offered. This is a full time position but flexible hours or job sharing may be considered.

Ormsary is a busy and diversified rural Estate with excellent local community and school facilities.

Apply with CV and references to Ormsary Farmers, Ormsary Estate Office, Lochgilphead, PA31 8PE or email to Enquiries@Ormsary.co.uk.

Carers Direct Limited
are an independent provider specialising in care at home.

We are looking for Carers to work in the Oban Area.

Rate of pay from £8.50/hour - evenings and weekends.

Alternate weekends essential. Car driver essential SVQ 2 preferred, training provided.

Application forms from 01631 569 550.

Registered with Scottish Care Commission. Applications subject to PVG Scheme vetting.

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GOODS VEHICLES OPERATOR'S LICENCE

GLENER OILS LTD. Trading as GLENER OILS AND GAS OF MILNFIELD, ELGIN, IV30 1UU is applying to change an existing licence as follows.

To keep three extra goods vehicle at the operating centre at Railway Yard, Connel, PA37 1PH.

Owners or occupiers of the land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s), who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representation to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A guide of Making Representation is available from the Traffic Commissioner's Office.

CROFTING COMMISSION COIMISEAN NA CROITEARACHD DECROFTING DIRECTIONS ISSUED

Name, Croft, Extent/Reason, Conditions, Case number

Ms Ivy Hancock & G Goulding
1 Portnaluchaig, Arisaig & Moidart
0.086 ha - Croft house site and garden ground
4.85.56833
Conditions: 3(a), 4 & 8

AJ Cameron
81 Portuairk, Ardnarmurchan & Sunart
0.100 ha - Site for a dwelling house
4.86.52450
Conditions: 3(b), 4

R MacIntyre
Part Ranachan, Ardnarmurchan & Sunart
0.125 ha - Croft house site and garden ground
4.85.54511
Conditions: 1, 3(c), 4, 6

Conditions

(1) Acquisition of area within 5 years of the date of direction and notification made to Commission within 3 months of acquisition.
(2) Complete enclosure of the land with a stock proof fence within 4 months of: (a) the date of the direction (b) the proposed development completion (c) acquisition
(3) That fence shall be maintained in good order and repair by each successive owner or occupier of the land.
(4) The crofter must notify the Commission within 3 months of acquisition.
(5) The Direction will expire 3 months from the date of the Direction unless an application for registration of the making of the Direction is submitted before the expiry of that period.

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.

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

Comhairle Earra-Ghàidheal agus Bhòid

AREA COMMITTEE MEETING

A Meeting of the Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee will be held in the Corran Halls, Oban At 10:00am - Wednesday 10th June 2015

Members of the public are welcome to attend and a public question time will take place during the meeting. Questions can be asked on the day or can be submitted in advance to the Area Committee Manager, Kilmory, Lochgilphead, PA31 8RT. Telephone: 01631 567945.

The Agenda for the meeting will be available to view from Wednesday 3rd June at the Service Point, Municipal Buildings, Albany Street, Oban, PA34 4AW and at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk

Douglas Hendry, Executive Director - Customer Services

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

Comhairle Earra-Ghàidheal agus Bhòid

PLANNING

These applications listed below together with other related documents may be inspected at Municipal Buildings Albany Street Oban PA34 4AW, Monday to Friday 9am to 12:30pm and 1:30pm to 5pm. On Wednesdays, the Customer Service Points will open at 10am. At the alternative locations detailed below or by logging on to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk. Written comments for the following list of applications should be made to the above address within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT

Ref	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
15/00848/PPP	Site for the erection of dwellinghouse, formation of vehicular access and installation of private drainage system	Vacant Land to South of Schiehallion Crossopol Isle of Tiree Argyll And Bute	Tiree Area Office
15/00894/PP	Amendment to planning permission reference 12/01249/PP (Erection of dwellinghouse) comprising revised house design and plot layout.	Land North Of Ardrachavaig House Usken Bunnass Isle of Mull Argyll and Bute	Sub Post Office Bunnass Isle of Mull
15/01107/PPP	Site for the erection of one dwellinghouse, formation of vehicular access and installation of private water and drainage systems	Plot 1 Land West of Ar-Dachaidh Bunnass Isle of Mull PA67 6DS	Sub Post Office Bunnass Isle of Mull
15/01258/PP	Erection of 3 holiday chalets, formation of vehicular access and installation of private drainage system	Land South Of Ardcannel Farm Connel Oban Argyll and Bute PA37 1RN	Oban Area Office
15/01363/PP	Siting of storage container (retrospective)	Workshop West Heynish West Heynish Isle of Tiree Argyll and Bute PA77 6UF	Tiree Area Office

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
15/00929/LIB	Alterations and extensions to dwellinghouse	Shuna Farm Shuna Island Appin Argyll And Bute PA38 4DH	Sub Post Office Ledaig

These applications listed below together with other related documents may be inspected between 09:00 - 17:00hrs Monday to Friday at 1A Marne, Lochgilphead Bree PA31 8RD, at the alternative locations detailed below during their normal opening times or by logging on to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk. 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, Central Validation Team, 1A Marne Bree, Lochgilphead PA31 8RD.

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.

COUNCILLOR'S SURGERY

Councillor Roddy McCuish (E.W. 4 Oban South and the Isles)

Councillor McCuish will be holding a surgery on Friday 12th June in the Municipal Buildings, Albany Street, Oban from 3:00pm - 5:00pm.

He can also be contacted by email - roderick.mcuish@argyll-bute.gov.uk and by telephone 01631 567854

Lochaber Fisheries Trust Ltd
SC:024490

Will hold their A.G.M on Friday 26th June at 10.00am Torlundy Training Centre, Torlundy, at 10.30am.

69%
of the business community read the regional press

www.highland.gov.uk

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 PLANNING (LISTED BUILDING AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

The applications listed below, along with plans and other documents submitted with them, may be examined between the hours of 9.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays) at the SERVICE POINT, LOCHABER HOUSE, HIGH STREET, FORT WILLIAM, PH33 6EL and online at <http://www.highland.gov.uk>

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
15/01858/FUL	Sunart Sea Farm, Kinmara, Salen, Acharacle	Marine Shellfish Farm - installation of longlines for mixed species culture of oysters (native & pacific), mussels, scallops (queen & king)
15/01859/FUL	Site 3, Camas Nam Mullach, Acharacle	Marine Shellfish Farm - installation of longlines for mixed species culture of oysters (native & pacific), mussels, scallops (queen & king)
15/01886/PIP	Land 150m North East of Fort William Health Centre, Camaghael, Fort William	Proposals for 2no. affordable housing units in overall development [development of 10 new housing plots under a previous application 12/02981/PIP]
15/02020/FUL	Land to East of Station Cottage, Corpach, Fort William	Erection of house (renewal of 12/00592/FUL - plot 1)
15/02047/FUL	Land 30m SE of Glenloch, Nevis Bridge, Glen Nevis, Fort William	Revised scheme - erection of proposed dwelling house (Planning Permission 15/00123/FUL granted 26th February 2015)
15/02048/FUL	Land 120m South West of Downey Birch House, Arisaig	Erection of dwelling house with integral garage and detached summerhouse

Time period for comments is 14 days
ePlanning Centre, The Highland Council, Glenurquhart Road, INVERNESS IV3 5NX
Email: eplanning@highland.gov.uk

BREEDON AGGREGATES

BREEDON AGGREGATES

BLAST AT BANAVIE QUARRY

WEDNESDAY 10TH JUNE
BETWEEN 11AM-2PM

First Registration of a Croft

Stephen Francis Cass and Christina Cass has registered their croft Fennachrochan, Lismore and Appin on the Crofting Register held by the Registers of Scotland. Any person who wishes to challenge the registration may apply to the Scottish Land Court by 18th February 2016. Details of the registration can be found at www.crofts.rsc.gov.uk/register/home. The registration number is C861.

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DIAMOND WEDDING
KIDD - COWAN - On June 1, 1955 at St. Modan's Church, Benderloch by Rev. William MacDonald, Marion to John.

DEATHS
CAMERON - Jessie (née MacDonald), Pierhouse, Lochaline, passed away peacefully on May 25, 2015 in Ardrossan, aged 84. A loving mother, mother-in-law, granny, grandma, sister and aunt. Beloved wife of the late Donald Cameron.

CAMERON - Peacefully, at the Beatson Unit, Gartnavel Hospital, Glasgow on May 28, 2015, Susan Cameron, aged 68 years, of North Park Cottage, Glenburn Road, Ardrishaig, beloved wife of Sandy Cameron, loving mother of Charles and Duncan and much loved granny of Colin, Cara and Lilly. Dear mother-in-law of Catherine and Katie, sister of the late Donnie and Russell and dear aunt to all the family. A dear neighbour and good friend to many, and a much admired volunteer in the local community. Funeral service was held in Ardrishaig Parish Church, on Wednesday, June 3, 2015, followed by interment at Achmabreac Cemetery, Saddy missed.

CAMPBELL - Douglas. Peacefully at home in Lochgoilhead, on Friday May 29, 2015 in his 80th year. Dearly loved husband of Jean, proud father of Keith, Allan and Roy and much loved father-in-law and grandpa. Funeral service, to which all family and friends are respectively invited, at Lochgoilhead Parish Church, on Wednesday June 10 at 11am. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, to the British Heart Foundation.

CAMPBELL - Mary (93) passed away peacefully with her three granddaughters by her side in Moss Park Care Home, Fort William on Tuesday May 26, 2015. Mary (formerly of Argyll House, Kensalroag, Isle of Skye) was the loving wife of the late Jim Ferguson and the late Ian Campbell, mother of the late Iain Ferguson and a much loved Nana to Jacqueline, Pauline and Norma and to nine great-grandchildren and seven great-great-grandchildren. Church service will be held on Thursday June 4, 2015 at 2pm in Duncansburgh Macintosh Church, Fort William. Interment will take place on Friday June 5, 2015 at 1pm at Dunvegan Cemetery, Isle of Skye. No flowers please but donations if desired to Moss Park and Crossroads Lochaber.

CAMPBELL - Peacefully, at the Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban, on May 31, 2015, aged 83 years, Elizabeth Hempseed, (Betty), nee Sinclair, of 7 Glenview, Dalnally, widow of the late Hamish, much loved mum to Ian, Evelyn and Shirley, sister to the late Donald, dear mother-in-law, aunt and adopted granny to many.

CLARK - Peacefully, on the May 30, 2015, at North Argyll House, Oban, in her 95th year, Mary Bell, wife of the late Jack, (formerly of 39 Combie Street, Oban), beloved mother of Sandy and mother-in-law of Helen, nana to Joanne, Senga, Shelley and Helen and great-grandmother of Tamara, Harrison, Corey, Erin, Kayla, Niamh and Rosie. Funeral will take place at Oban Parish Church, Glenruitten Road, Oban on Tuesday June 9, 2015 at 1.00pm. Family flowers only. Donations in lieu, if desired, to Alzheimers Scotland (local branch).

GILLIES - Peacefully, at home, surrounded by his family, Donald 'Donnie' Gillies. A loving husband to Roberta, father to Caroline and Grant, father-in-law to Sheena and devoted grandpa to Adam, Max, Ewan, Jasmyne and Hamish. Funeral service to be held on Friday June 5, 2015 at 12 noon in Kilmalie Parish Church, Corpach. Enquiries to John McLellan Funeral Directors Tel. 01397 702128.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
CLARK - The family of the late Annie (Boyd) Clark, wish to thank all relatives and friends for the kind expressions of sympathy received. Special thanks to former neighbours in Pulpit Drive, staff of the Argyll Care Centre, Helensburgh and all the home carers who looked after her in Oban. Thanks to the Rev. James Beaton for officiating at the funeral service and interment and to Hamish Hoey & Son Funeral Directors for efficient and dignified funeral arrangements. Thanks to all who paid their last respects at the church and graveside and who generously donated to Alzheimer Scotland, Action for Dementia - Oban Branch.

WHYTE - The family of Mrs Jean Whyte (Benderloch), would like to express their thanks to all who paid their respects at the funeral service, sent cards and flowers on their recent sad loss. Sincere thanks to Catriona, Owen, James and John of Hamish Hoey & Son for the efficient handling of arrangements. To the Rev. Jeff McCormick for a personal and comforting service and Norman Nicholson for musical accompaniment. Heartfelt thanks to all carers for their support in recent years. Forever in our hearts.

MEMORIAMS
BRYARS - Craig, died June 3, 2003. Always in our hearts - Mum, Dad, Darin and family. CAMPBELL - In loving memory of a dear auntie, Marie, who died June 8, 1989. Memories of you are fondly kept. Someone too special to ever forget. - Catherine, Kenneth, Margaret and families. DOWNIE - In loving memory of our dear mam and nana Aggie, who died June 7, 2001 and our dear dad and granpa George, who died May 28, 1968. There are no tomorrows for us to share. But yesterdays memories are always there. - Inserted by Betty, Auriol and families, Fort William, Inverness and Edinburgh.

JOHNSTON - Treasured memories of our Dad and Papa, Donnie, who passed away on May 26, 2014 and our Mum and Nana, Ruth, who passed away on April 16, 2010. "Dancing Together Again" - The Johnston Family. McLAREN - In loving memory of my beloved husband Donald, who died June 1, 2014. Those we love don't go away. They walk beside us everyday. Unseen, unheard, but always near. Still loved, still missed and very dear. - Cressia Ann.

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Project Trust hopefuls impress MSP



OPPORTUNITIES: two of the volunteers taking part in a Project Trust selection weekend with Scottish government minister MSP Humza Yousaf

A GROUP of hopeful 16 and 17 year-olds on a selection course to undertake a 12-month overseas volunteering placement with educational charity Project Trust were joined by Humza Yousaf MSP, Scotland's Minister for Europe and International Development. Project Trust, which is based on the Hebridean Isle of Coll, is the oldest educational charity specialising in overseas volunteering placements for school-leavers from the UK, and has been organising long-term voluntary placements in Africa, Asia and the Americas since 1967.

Esslingen visitors to Oban

KILMORE and Oban played host to 44 visitors from the Lutheran congregation of Esslingen, Baden Württemberg, southern Germany. They were treated to a wonderful Friday evening ceilidh followed by a tri-lingual service on Sunday June 7.



WELCOME: left to right: Rev Dugald Cameron, Jessie Macfarlane from Oban community council, Pf Christoph Bauerle and Rev Chris Fulcher

Hannah earns her stripes

A FEMALE sea cadet has become the first Lord Lieutenant's cadet in Lochaber. Lochaber high school student Hannah Calder officially took up her role after gaining numerous qualifications during her six years as a cadet on the TS St Christopher. The 16-year-old is the first in the regiment's history to be named a Lord Lieutenant's cadet and was presented with a certificate and badge by Donald Cameron of Lochail.



WELL DONE: Hannah Calder, Lochaber's first Lord Lieutenant's sea cadet, is presented with a badge and certificate by Lord Lieutenant Donald Cameron of Lochail as chief officer Derrick Warner looks on

PERSONAL NOTICE

Our Dad's not old - he just needs re-potting. Happy 60th Birthday Ian McCuish. Includes contact information for re-potting services.

Every year Project Trust sends around 300 young people for year-long voluntary teaching and social care projects. Working with international partners, projects are carefully chosen to ensure that the volunteers' skills can be put to good use in their host communities and do not take away work from local people. The minister spent the day meeting Project Trust staff and volunteers and seeing the selection process used by the organisation to decide if an overseas placement is right for each young person that applies. Over the four-day selection course, candidates take part in a range of activities including community volunteering, outdoor pursuits, group tasks and individual challenges. The range of different activities gives each of them the chance to demonstrate their strengths, whilst allowing them to get to know Project Trust. Humza Yousaf, Minister for Europe and International Development, said: 'My visit to the home of Project Trust on the Isle of Coll has shown me that excellent charities can be found all across Scotland including in the remotest parts. This island community is just as much part of the Project Trust story as the international communities its volunteers will go on to support. 'As well providing a great opportunity for young people to develop new skills and experiences, Project Trust is a great example of Scotland acting as a good global citizen, as well as the importance of sharing our knowledge and skills abroad.' Ingrid Emerson MBE, chief executive of Project Trust, said: 'Project Trust is delighted to welcome the minister to our centre

Obituary: Shirley Sinclair

January 4 1966 - May 20 2015

A WELL-KNOWN and respected member of the Mid Argyll community, Shirley Sinclair, passed away suddenly, aged 49, on Wednesday May 20. The long-time landlady and hotel manager was born to Christina Munro and Willie Sinclair on January 4 1966 in Oban. Shirley was the youngest of 10 children - the baby of the family. She moved to Taynuilt and then to Eredine where she spent her childhood years. Shirley later moved to Kilmichael with her father and in 1983 she left home for Callander where the homebird lasted just six months before returning to work in the Argyll Hotel in Lochgilphead. Shirley started working for Duncan 'Chunky' Beaton and remained at the hotel for 18 years, always committed to the various owners of the business. At one point she ran the business single-handedly, while the hotel was changing hands. Even when her beloved son, Ronald Daniel Sinclair, was born on January 15 1990 the workaholic would not take time off. Suited to Shirley's dedication to work, baby Ronald would be 'nabbed' by aunts Rhona and Fiona while she undertook long hours. She was a darts champion and held countless trophies for her achievements when

playing mixed doubles, singles and ladies leagues competitions and had a love for rugby and the Irish. Shirley was a people person who loved to have fun and laugh, but she was a determined soul who took work and the hearts of those close to her seriously. Shirley was the centre of the family tree, according to Ronald. She was the person who kept in touch with everyone in the family and held them together. Shirley left the Argyll Hotel in 2003, and began work at the Stag Hotel where she would later work under owner Stan Craig. After the loss of her own father in 2005, Stan became a fatherly figure who always looked out for her. Motherly Although Shirley acted as pub bouncer in her early years, with her broad appearance and notable roar, she was a motherly figure to many. She welcomed her countless nieces and nephews, as well as her son's friends, to her home in Lochgilphead for regular chats and a cuppa. In fact, while Ronald was growing up her home was the place 'the boys' would get ready for discos and nights out and they would fill her house with the smell of aftershave. Shirley was married to her work and partners did not fit into her life, until she met Rab Macrae in 2011. From Coll to see the start of our volunteers' journey. We passionately believe in the power of young people volunteering overseas to bring about positive change in them and more widely in local and global society. 'Our selection course is vital in informing our careful placement of volunteers, to allow them and their host communities to get the maximum benefit from the exchange. Our volunteers return from their projects overseas with broadened horizons, increased maturity and an impressive range of transferable skills.'



WELL-KNOWN: Shirley with baby Ronald. a23shirley01

Fife, he was working in the area when they met at the Stag Hotel. Rab popped the question at Christmas time in 2013 and planned to snap up a job in Mid Argyll so the pair could move in together. They never got their moment, but he will remain close to the family. Shirley impacted so many lives, with her dogged determination, strength, ability to stand up for herself and those around her. Shirley would listen to those in need and gave advice to anyone who asked. She was laid to rest beside her brother Ronnie at Kilmartin cemetery. She is survived by her partner Rab Macrae, son Ronald, his partner Susie Mills, her siblings and many nieces, nephews and friends.

CHARITY DONATIONS

CANCER RESEARCH UK Scotland Fighting Cancer on all fronts... CRC Scotland spends more on research than any other organisation. Commitment of over £15 million each year. Cancer Research UK Angel Building 407 St John Street London EC1V 4AD. WE ARE MACMILLAN. CANCER SUPPORT Working towards a time when every person in Scotland has equal and ready access to the best information, treatment and care for cancer. West of Scotland Fundraising Office 1st Floor, Erskine House North Avenue, Clydebank G81 2DR Tel 0808 100 6000 In memory of Dawn Joyce

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

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Medal success for Mid Argyll and Mull athletes
Athletics

TWO YOUNG athletes from Mid Argyll excelled at the West District track and field championships held recently at Kilmarnock.

Shaun Doy from Kilmichael Glassary won gold in the under 15s pole vault, clearing a new personal best of 2.50metres, and Donald Ferguson, also from Kilmichael, claimed the bronze medal in the under 17s javelin with a throw of 37.61metres which was also a personal best with the 700g javelin.

Both boys are members of Mid Argyll Athletic Club.

Molly Reade from Tobermory, a member of Mull Athletic Club, was third in the under 15s high jump, clearing 1.50metres. Molly was disappointed after jumping below her best but still pleased to come away with a bronze medal to add to her collection.

Earlier this year Molly won the Scottish indoor under 15 title to add to her gold medal at the Scottish Schools under 14 championship in June 2014.

Scottish Amateur Football League results and fixtures

Football

LAST Saturday's results: Premier Division - Oban Saints 2, Campbeltown Pupils 1; Premier Division 2 - Centre 2, Lochgilphead Red Star 4; Rosehill Star 3, Tarbert 2.

The Argyll teams will now take a week's break before the annual Joe Paterson Memorial Trophy fixture against a Scottish Amateur League select which will take place in Campbeltown on Saturday June 13.

Local success in Scottish championships



WINNERS: Tom Lines, Roanne Lilley and Callum Hunter swept the boards, not only winning the junior team competition but also winning the senior trophy outright

IT WAS the west area's turn to host the Scottish orienteering championships which was co-ordinated by local club EckO with the individual races being held at Ardnaskie just outside Connel and the relays at Inverawe Country Park, near Tainuult.

The event attracted Swiss, Norwegian and Hungarian teams which included some of the world's top orienteers who are currently training for the world orienteering championships to be held in the Highlands this coming August.

Success

The individual races saw great success for EckO club juniors with Roanne Lilley, Iris MacMillan, Emily Hunter and Ellis Hunter all winning their respective age classes, while Tom Lines was placed second in his age class.

Not to be outdone by the juniors, the adults managed a first

Orienteering

place with Julie Watson and a second with Briony Kincaid in their classes.

Thrilling

The relays were held the next day and provided a thrilling finish with Ellis Hunter, Rona Shearer and Fraser Campbell winning the younger junior class and Tom Lines, Roanne Lilley and Callum Hunter sweeping the board by winning not only the junior team competing in the seniors race trophy but also winning the senior trophy outright.

Callum, Tom and Roanne are three of 19 athletes in their age group who have been selected from across the UK for the GB talent Squad summer camp in July.



OVER THE LINE: Ellis Hunter wins the junior relay

Oban licensed trade outing

GLENCRUITTEN golf club hosted the annual golf outing of Oban and district licensed trade association.

Twenty players took part in blustery conditions. The committee decided to change the scoring this year to a Stableford format.

The winning score of 38 points for the Grants Standfast Trophy for best overall was returned by John Plunkett.

The best scratch score of 69 was returned by Gavin Owens.

The best licensee winning the

Golf

MacColl Rose Bowl was Nonnie MacInnes with 37 points.

Prizes for nearest the pin were won by Paul Kersley at the 2nd, Nonnie MacInnes at the 5th and Philip MacKinnon at the 15th.

Before presenting the prizes, Declan Curran thanked the golf club, the green-keeping and catering staff and Lindsay MacDonald of Markie Dans, who provided refreshments.



Oban licensed trade golf competitors and prizewinners



BOWLED OVER: the delighted triple of Hugh MacCorquodale, John McLaren and Patrick Freytag show off the George Barnett trophy which they won at Oban bowling club.

Kyokushinkai Karate
THE INTERNATIONAL tournament in Edinburgh brought some very satisfactory results for the Oban and Lochgilphead clubs of Shihan Iain Rodger.

In the junior sections Megan Williamson from the Oban club took first in the 12/13 years fighting.

Jodie Robertson and Amanda Gillies from the Lochgilphead club took first and second respectively in the 12/13 years kata (set patterns) and Chloe MacDonald, again from the Lochgilphead club, took third in the 14/15 years kata.

In the adult section, Mark Welsh from Oban fought in an open weight category giving away up to 30 kilos (nearly 5 stone) in weight.

His superior movement and striking power showed through and he won the category in great style, without doubt the best fighter on the day.

Mark also took part in the kata section and took second place in that event.

Since the tournament Mark and Iain have been invited to join the GB team as fighter and coach for the 2016 world tournament in Japan.

The tournament is held over three days from October 21 to 23 in Shizuoka, Japan. It is a massive honour just to be invited.

Mark had been training relentlessly for this event and it showed. His next goal is the British Open, incorporating the Cup of Europe, event on October 17 at the K2 Arena in Crawley, which will be followed by two or three tournaments in the first half of next year in what he hopes will be the build-up to the world tournament in Japan.

MARTIAL ARTS WITH IAIN RODGER

To undertake the dream of taking part in a world tournament in what is an amateur sport, Mark and Iain would have to rely heavily on sponsorship. If any local businesses would like to help please contact Iain Rodger on iain@ikku.co.uk or 07584 166542. The boys estimate that a total of £2,000 would need to be raised.

Kick Boxing

AT THE International tournament in Edinburgh, Cody McCulloch won his first fight in spectacular fashion stopping his opponent after two well-timed kicks to the head.

Unfortunately he couldn't repeat the performance in the final as he took a heavy kick to the leg, but managed to limp through the rest of the fight losing to his bigger, heavier opponent by judges decision.

Jamie Killorn stormed through his opposition winning his section after dominating and knocking out his opponent in the final with a thunderous kick to the head. This young fighter is someone to watch for the future.

Robbie Bratton fought through his section, going out in the fight off for third place by judge's decision.

Billie Bratton unfortunately went out in the first round to the eventual winner of his section although he put up a valiant effort against his much bigger

opponent. Angus Files took a bad knock to his knee in his first fight and was unable to continue.

Kaitlyne MacLeod lost an all Oban final to Megan Williamson after a close fought battle.

For club info: shihanwill@gmail.com

MMA

OBAN MMA has been getting final preparations done for the summer leg of the Scottish BJJ cup in Edinburgh June 6.

Competition training has consisted of positional work and improving student's knowledge in the rules of the IJJF tournaments.

Although with a smaller than normal squad entering, the club still hopes to place and come back with more experience and medals.

For information contact coogie-pots@gmail.com

Shukokai Karate

Argyll Martial Arts (Argyll Shukokai) held a junior grading in Inveraray on May 22. Twelve young students took part and all passed with flying colours.

Molly Blyth, who has missed out a few gradings went up from 7th kyu to 5th kyu. The standards were very high especially for those quite new to martial arts.

The club continues to grow in numbers monthly with both junior and senior classes near their capacity.

They will be having a break over the summer holidays but will be back again in August to prepare for the upcoming competitions in the autumn.



INVITATION: Mark Welsh and Iain Rodger have been invited to join the GB team as fighter and coach for the 2016 world tournament in Japan.

Shotokan Karate Club

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SPOT THE SHINTY BALL

THIS WEEK'S JACKPOT £2500

LAST WEEK'S SHINTY BALL WAS HERE. . .

We have removed the shinty ball from the photograph opposite. Now look carefully at the position of the players and use your skill and judgement to place a cross at the exact point where you think the centre of the ball was. You may have a maximum of 20 attempts on this coupon at a cost of £1. If you wish to have more attempts, you must enter on separate coupons.

Easy to enter
Cut out your completed coupon and put your entry plus £1 per 20 attempts into a sealed envelope and post it to "Spot the Shinty Ball" Competition, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB by 12noon Tuesday. No refunds will be given for entries received after the deadline.
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, mistaid 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 Wyvex Media, their immediate relatives and any person otherwise connected with the competition are ineligible to enter.

Please remember to enclose £1 for 20 crosses. The maximum number of attempts on this coupon is 20, but you may enter on separate coupons as many times as you wish. No photocopies allowed. You agree to abide by the rules. How to enter: Mark your crosses using a ballpoint pen. Twenty crosses may be put on this coupon for £1. Send to "Spot the Shinty Ball" Competition, The Oban Times, P.O. Box 1, Oban PA34 4HB

The game starts with a jackpot of £500 and will increase by £50 per week until it is won outright. To win the jackpot, the centre of your cross must be in the exact centre of the ball. If the crosses overlap the entry will be void.
If no correct entry is received, two 'near miss' prizes of £25 will be awarded. When the jackpot is won, no other prizes will be awarded that week.

Please tape your £1 coin here

Name
Address
Tel No.



Islay

MAY Medal played Saturday May 30 - 1 W Ramsay 77-10=67; 2 C Stroud 79-9=70; 3 C Holyoake 79-6=73. Csa 72.
Guy Quach played Friday May 29 and Sunday May 31 - 1 C Holyoake 73+79=152; 2 R Quail 77+76=153; 3 D Livingstone 75+83=158.

Killin

RESULTS of the mixed open held on Saturday May 30:

Scratch: 1 Jim Ronald and Laura Aitken (Killin) 75; 2 Ken and Rhona Milligan (West Lothian) 75; 3 Gordon Aitken (Killin) and Caroline Henderson (Aberfeldy)

Handicap: 1 Andy Cousins and Jackie Crossan (Killin) 62; 2 Glenn Marshall (Rye Hill) and Angela Marsall (Auchterarder) 65.5; 3 Dickie and Mary Lewis (Killin) 66.

Best Killin (Bill Mitchell Salver): Andy Cousins & Jackie Crossan

Best Overall Handicap (McRobert Thistle Cup): Andy Cousins & Jackie Crossan

Best Overall Scratch (Glen Ogle Trophy): Jim Ronald & Laura Aitken

Nearest Pin: Ladies (14th) - Jean Faichney (Killin); Gents (11th) - Andrew Leitch (Harburn).

In 3 (9th & 18th) - Ken & Rhona Milligan (West Lothian)

Longest Drive: Ladies (16th) - Caroline Henderson (Aberfeldy); Gents (9th) - Glenn Marshall (Rye Hill)

Magic Twos - Andy Cousins and Jackie Crossan (Killin), Joe and Aileen Kennedy (Harburn)



No major shocks so far in Camanachd Cup matches

Kingussie and Fort William must try again after 0-0 draw

Camanachd Cup

KINLOCHSHIEL fought hard but ultimately lost to the better team with Kyles winning their Camanachd Cup tie 5-3.

The first half was goal-less for 30 minutes until Dunkie Kerr scored to put Kyles ahead and that was how it stayed until the break.

In the second half, both sides played super shinty and goals came thick and fast.

Kerr scored his second and minutes later Jordan Fraser put 'Shiel on the sheet. A goal from Grant Irvine gave Kyles three.

In the next 10 minutes 'Shiel scored twice through Duncan MacRae and Fraser again before Kerr completed his hat-trick. Gordon Whyte made it five on 82 minutes.

'Shiel travel to Kilmallie for a Macaulay Cup tie this weekend.

INVERARAY had a stroke of luck when they forgot their kit and played in old Fort William strips.

Their 2-1 win over Glenurquhart came after going 1-0 down before the break when Andrew Corrigan put Glen ahead.

A 53rd minute goal from David McPherson levelled the score and Euan McMurdo provided the winner on the 81st minute.

Manager Garry MacPherson said: 'Someone was delegated to collect the strips from the clubhouse and forgot.

'It was a good omen because we have done this twice before for important matches and won.

'Coach Joe Fyfe collected old strips from Fort William but he was in the last car.

'He got to the pitch with seven minutes to spare so we did not get a very good warm-up.'

'Aray have a local derby, at home against Kyles in the Macaulay Cup, this weekend. They hope to do better than their 3-0 defeat last month.

LOVAT were at home for the first time since April 4 and gave fans a five goal feast to beat national league side Caberfeidh in a Camanachd Cup second round tie.

Kevin Bartlett evaded his cousin Blair Morrison, playing for the opposition, to score the first on 15 minutes.

Ryan Fergusson made it two and a moment later Lorne MacKay netted a third.

Caberfeidh stormed into the second half but failed to make any impact as Lorne MacKay took his chance on the 67th minute for the fourth.

Three minutes from the end, Greg Matheson fired a fifth, following a free hit, into the net.

Lovat have a free week before facing Kingussie in the Macaulay Cup on June 13.

NEWTONMORE'S Evan Menzies' birthday hat-trick and a single from Jamie Robinson added up to a 4-0 win for the league leaders in a second round Camanachd Cup tie against Lochaber.

The pitch at Spean Bridge was chopped up after a game the previous evening between Lochaber reserves and Kingussie seconds.

Lochaber have lost to

Newtonmore three times this season giving away 14 goals. Perhaps in the premierships on Saturday they can get a positive result.

KINGUSSIE'S goal-less draw against Fort William in the Camanachd Cup second round means another match is in prospect against the west coast men.

The omens looked good for Kingussie, the current Camanachd Cup holders, who won their last clash with the Fort in the league 2-1.

They have also won their last six games and Fort William are unbeaten in their last three, plus the two teams are one above the other in the league.

There will be a re-match at the Dell next weekend.

KYLES ATHLETIC dominated the first 30 minutes of their game against Kinlochshiel and netted the first goal through Dunkie Kerr's caman.

A score less spell followed until a seven goal glut in 17 minutes saw Kyles emerge on top to take the win 5-3, thanks to another two from Kerr and singles from Grant Irvine and Gordon Whyte. Jordan Fraser scored two for 'Shiel and Duncan MacRae a single.

Manager James Perlich said: 'It was a tough game but goals are what you need and we got them.'

Looking forward to the match against Inveraray in the Macaulay Cup this weekend, Perlich said: 'They have a couple of players back and are coming off a good win against Glenurquhart.'

GLENURQUHART faced a team with lady luck on its side and the sight of 'Aray players in Fort William strips proved their undoing with Glen going down 1-2.

Andrew Corrigan put Glen ahead, but a number of failed attacks left the scoreboard at 1-0 till after the break.

David MacPherson levelled the score before Glen goalie Stuart MacKintosh made a number of great saves keeping the damage down.

Euan McMurdo scored the clincher to give 'Aray the win.

Glenurquhart have a free week before they meet Newtonmore in the MacFavish Cup on June 13. The last time they met, Glen went down 5-1.

LOCHABER are out of the Camanachd Cup after going down 4-0 to Newtonmore in the second round.

The Spean Bridge side were no match for the premierships champions and a hat-trick from Evan Menzies followed by a goal from Jamie Robinson but a swift end to Lochaber's cup campaign.

But the misery is not over for Ally Ferguson's men as they welcome 'More to Spean Bridge in a league game this weekend.

FORT WILLIAM will replay the second round of the Camanachd Cup after a goal-less game against Kingussie at the weekend.

Co-manager Victor Smith said his team dominated the game but didn't do enough to take them through.

He said: 'We had most of the

Shinty

play but they had more shots. There was enough chances there for three games but neither of us did it.'

This weekend the game will be repeated at the Dell.

Smith said: 'This weekend we play until it's finished, even if it means extra time and penalties. The ground there is like a bowling green. The pitch is fantastic so the boys are looking forward to playing on it.'

Niall MacPhee and Calum Shephard will return to bolster the Fort ranks this weekend.

BUTE did well to hold off national league side Glasgow Mid Argyll for virtually the whole of their Camanachd Cup tie on Saturday. GMA made the breakthrough with two goals in quick succession in the 86th and 87th minute, thanks to Ben Dalgetty.

Bute, sitting in the middle of the league, take on bottom team Strachur this weekend at home.

OBAN CAMANACHD are set to welcome Inverness for the second round of the camanachd cup.

The Mossfield side has yet to play in the cup and got a bye to see them jump straight into this weekend's game.

Inverness haven't been at their best this season and only managed a 2-0 victory over south division's Kilmory to secure their place in the second round and as a premierships side Oban will be favourites to win.

SKYE Camanachd will welcome Beaulieu to Portree this weekend for the second round of the Camanachd Cup.

Both teams have been at the top of their game in the competition so far, as the islanders secured their position with a 4-0 win over Oban Celtic in the first round whilst the Inverness side thrashed Strathglass to take their place.

Both teams will be refreshed in league action, away at Paterson Park on Saturday, with a 3pm throw-up. The last time the two teams met GMA knocked Balla' out of the Camanachd Cup in a 3-2 defeat.



CLASH OF THE ASH: Inveraray's John Kennedy and Glenurquhart's Neale Reid in a race for the ball during their Camanachd Cup tie at Blairbeg Park, Drumnadrochit, last Saturday. The Argyll side forgot their strips and had to borrow one from Fort William which proved to be a good omen as the Royal Burgh side won a close game 2-1. Photo: Donald Cameron

South Division One
OBAN CELTIC had a good away win at MacRae Park picking up two points with a 3-0 victory over

The SSE Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup quarter-final draw

Lovat v Kingussie or Fort William
Oban Camanachd or Inverness v Newtonmore
Glasgow Mid Argyll v Inveraray
Kyles Athletic v Skye or Beaulieu

Quarter-final matches are scheduled to be played on July 11.

a win could see Evans' side sitting three points clear at the top of the table. Evans said: 'We have to step up our game for this one. Kyles are second and we're at the top so a good result on Saturday will give us a bit of air at the top.'

STRACHUR will be trying to take the game to Bute this Saturday and avenge the 4-1 loss they suffered last month in the Camanachd Cup.

Currently sitting bottom of the league with no points and only one win this season, things are looking bad for Strachur.

A spokesman said: 'Things are getting tough for a small village side and putting a team together can be awkward.'

GLENORCHY put two past Taynuilt to win their first league game of the season, but it was just their second in South Division One.

Taynuilt have played six and only won one.

Glenorchy's goals came from Conor Sartain in the 35th minute and Kieran MacKay in the 68th.

Glenorchy face a weakened Oban Celtic side at home this weekend so could cause an upset.

KILMORY went down 3-0 to local rivals Oban Celtic last Saturday and the damage could have been greater if Celtic had been more consistent and on target.

Kilmory sit in sixth place in the league but Glenorchy are just behind and have plenty of games in hand.

This weekend they have a local derby at home to Inveraray who beat them in April and are having a great run, being one below the top spot.

South Division Two
GLENORCHY gained the points

after beating Glasgow Mid Argyll seconds and knocking them off their top spot in the league last Saturday.

The 1-0 home victory sees Glenorchy gain fifth spot in the table thanks to an Andy MacLean goal in the first half.

Manager Gerry Kilmurray said: 'We kept trying but could not get the ball in the net after the first goal.'

'Both girls in the team, Lucy McNulty and Stephanie Dunstaffnage, played well and hopefully will be available next weekend for the game against Aberdeen.'

OBAN LORN'S trip to East Lothian was probably one they would rather forget with Tayforth slipping six past Lorn's goalie.

Steve Thomson started the feast on five minutes, adding his second 10 minutes later. Ross MacGregor was next on the whistle for the break.

Finlay Stark added a pair with MacGregor putting the icing on the cake on the 85th minute.

Lorn travel to Bute next weekend and if the teams last match is anything to go by, when Lorn stormed to a 5-0 win, it should be a good game.

North Division Two

GLENGARRY took a point home from their 2-2 draw with Aberdeen University.

Greg Tilman scored first for the university and just after the break Kenny Cushnie made it 2-0.

Glengarry's Daniel MacLennan brought his team back into it with a 62nd minute goal and his second saw the end of the scoring from either side.

Glengarry now have two free weeks until they meet Skye on June 20.

The Artemis Macaulay Sixes

Youth shinty
THE ANNUAL Macaulay six-a-side tournament takes place on Saturday June 13 from 10.30am at Mossfield Park, Oban.

Closing date for entries is Monday June 8.

Three competitions will be staged this year, the senior event for the Ian Cumming Memorial Trophy, runners-up receiving the Oban Celtic Shield. The juniors will play for the Alastair Campbell

Shield and the Macaulay Development Cup, formerly the Peter English Cup, will be presented to the best endeavour team. The best boy player will receive the Hector Campbell award and the best girl the Lochcarron Quich. For further information, contact David Hamilton on 07771 700664.

Fixtures

Friday 5 June

Marine Harvest North Division 1
Kingussie v Newtonmore
Archie Ritchie - 7pm

Saturday 6 June

SSE Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup 2nd Round
Oban Camanachd v Inverness
Deek Cameron
Skye v Beaulieu
Graham Cameron
Kingussie v Fort William

Artemis Macaulay Cup 1st Round
Kilmallie v Kinlochshiel
Ron Kennedy

Artemis Macaulay Cup Quarter Final (South)
Inveraray v Kyles Athletic
Robert Baxter

Marine Harvest Premiership
Newtonmore v Lochaber

Marine Harvest National Division
Glasgow MA v Ballachulish
David Mitchell - 3pm

Marine Harvest North Division 1
Fort William v Strathglass
John MacGregor
Lochcarron v Beaulieu
Evan MacRae
Lovat v Glenurquhart
Willie MacDonald

Marine Harvest South Division 1
Aberdour v Taynuilt
Euan Pearson
Bute v Strachur
Lachie Wood - 3pm
Glenorchy v Oban Celtic
Robert Baxter - 3pm
Kilmory v Inveraray
Jim Innes
Lochside Rovers v Kyles Athletic
Ronnie Campbell

Marine Harvest North Division 2
Lewis v Inverness
Martin MacLean
Lochaber v Kilmallie
Skye v Boleskine
Andy MacLean
Strathspey v Aberdeen Uni
Scot MacNeil - 1.30pm

Marine Harvest South Division 2
Ballachulish v Tayforth
John Matheson
Bute v Oban Lorn
Ewen MacDonald - 12pm
Glasgow MA v Col Glen
John Wood - 12pm
Glenorchy v Aberdeen
Jon Gallagher - 12pm

Throw ups 2.30 unless stated

Results

Friday 29 May

Strathdearn Cup 2nd Round
Lochaber 2 v 3 Kingussie

Saturday 30 May Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup 2nd Round
Fort William 0 v 0 Kingussie
Glasgow Mid Argyll 2 v 0 Bute
Glenurquhart 1 v 2 Inveraray
Kinlochshiel 3 v 5 Kyles Athletic
Lochaber 0 v 4 Newtonmore
Lovat 5 v 0 Caberfeidh

Strathdearn Cup 2nd Round
Skye 2 v 2 Fort William
Fort William won 4-3 on penalties after extra time

Marine Harvest North Division 1
Kinlochshiel v Glenurquhart
Postponed - unplayable field
Newtonmore 10 v 2 Lovat

Marine Harvest South Division 1
Aberdour 0 v 7 Lochside Rovers
Glenorchy 2 v 0 Taynuilt
Inveraray 2 v 0 Kyles Athletic
Kilmory 0 v 3 Oban Celtic

Marine Harvest North Division 2
Aberdeen Uni 2 v 2 Glengarry
Lewis 1 v 6 Caberfeidh

Marine Harvest South Division 2
Col Glen 5 v 0 Ballachulish
Glenorchy 1 v 0 Glasgow MA
Tayforth 6 v 0 Oban Lorn

Womens Camanachd Association

Marine Harvest National Division 1
Lochaber 1 v 0 Aberdour

Marine Harvest National Division 2
Glasgow MA 5 v 1 Strathglass
Lovat 2 v 1 Strathspey



TOP MAN: former Rangers manager Ally McCoist was an interested spectator at the recent Kyles Athletic v Oban Camanachd under 14 match. Ally is pictured with young Neil MacNaughton who had to leave the field with a hand injury. The Oban side won an entertaining match 8-5.



REPLAY: action from the Kingussie v Fort William Camanachd Cup tie last Saturday. The game ended in a 0-0 draw with the replay taking place at The Dell this Saturday. Photo: Neil Paterson

and raring to go after free weekends last week.

Macaulay Cup

Wet and windy weather could mean the third game free week for **KILMALLIE**.

Mark MacPherson's men are due to welcome Kinlochshiel in the first round of the Macaulay Cup.

But a week of rain has left Canal park waterlogged and could see the game postponed.

MacPherson said: 'It has been a quiet couple of weeks but we need the rain to clear up to be in with a chance of playing.'

'We're the underdogs in this one but I think we have a good chance. When we play to our full potential, we could beat pretty much anyone.'

Kilmallie will be without Al MacDonald and Liam MacDonald who are both on holiday but will see the return of Steven McAllister and Ryan Stewart.

National Division

BALLACHULISH had a free weekend as the Camanachd Association allowed Inverness and Beaulieu players who had purchased cup final tickets to lend their support at Hampden Park.

Perhaps it was the shinty player's support that tipped the balance in this historic match for the Caley Jags.

Balla' face Glasgow Mid Argyll,

Kilmory. Celtic are unbeaten in the league, with plenty of games in hand over the teams in the top three places.

Manager Davy Hamilton said: 'It was a good away win in difficult conditions. We dominated the play and should have scored more goals but if the ball is not on target you do not score.'

This Saturday the Oban side are away to Glenorchy at the Mart Park.

Hamilton said: 'We could be up to six players short due to injury and a stag party. It is a hard enough place to go with a full team.'

LOCHSIDE ROVERS manager Gareth Evans said Saturday's away game to Aberdeen was difficult, despite his team's 7-0 win.

Despite fighting a strong wind, two goals from Brian MacCallum in the first half gave the Oban side a strong start and with the gales on their side in the second, MacCallum put another two in the net, along with two from Daniel MacVicar and one from Scott Dempster.

Evans said: 'We were already 2-0 up but having the wind behind us in the second half really helped us out. I know 7-0 makes it look easy but it wasn't because Aberdeen are a really strong side. They're a very physical side.'

This weekend Rovers welcome Kyles Athletic's second team and

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Saints manager bows out with derby win over Campbeltown

'The boys were determined to get a win for Iain in his last game in charge'

OBAN Saints rounded off season 2014-15 with a 2-1 Argyll derby win over Campbeltown Pupils at Glencruitten last Saturday afternoon.

The win secures a seventh Scottish Amateur Football League Premier Division top three finish in nine seasons for Saints which, while not quite hitting the highs of last season's league and cup double win, represents a decent level of consistency over the period.

Saints were without Dougal and Jamie Graham and Lewis Cameron so manager Iain Jackson, taking charge of his final game, once again shuffled the pack, restoring Ross Maitland and Dean Smith to the starting eleven and deploying David McArthur in an unfamiliar role on the left of the back three.

Saints kicked off attacking the Mossfield end and carved out a chance straight from kick-off. Donnie Campbell picked out Dean Smith in the box who fired in a left foot shot which Pupils' keeper Reid Anderson could only

parry. The ball then broke loose to Paul Kerr on the edge of the box but his shot under pressure sailed high over the crossbar.

Despite the lightning quick start from Saints, Pupils soon signalled they were not just there to make up the numbers and won a penalty kick in the third minute for a trip in the box by Ross Maitland.

Pupils' skipper Paul Grumoli made no mistake from the spot, slotting the ball into the bottom corner of the net sending Saints keeper Thomas McCulloch the wrong way.

Saints slowly started to pick up the pace and created a hat-trick of presentable chances, all falling to Donnie Campbell in the 15th, 20th and 22nd minutes.

Saints eventually made the breakthrough just before the half hour after Pupils were penalised for handball 25 yards from their own goal line. Top scorer Allan MacKay curled the resulting free



ON TARGET: Donnie Campbell gets a shot on target despite the close attention of Campbeltown Pupils' defender Keith Mitchell. Match report: Derek Black. Photos: Kevin McGlynn

kick around the Pupils' wall and just inside the keeper's left hand post.

An exquisite piece of skill from Craig MacEwan in the 34th minute brought out the save of the match from Reid Anderson. Craig turned on a tanner on the 18-yard line and sent a delicate chip towards the postage stamp corner which Anderson somehow managed to reach with his fingertips to deny the Saints man.

The home side lost the services of Paul Kerr in the 37th minute following an ankle knock, with Scott Maitland taking Paul's place in the centre of the park.

There was no further scoring with the teams going in at the interval level at 1-1.

After a final half-time team talk from manager Jackson, and to the strains of the Red Hot Chili Peppers waiting across from the concert at Mossfield Stadium,

Saints clicked into gear in the second half producing some excellent football to keep the visitors pinned back in their own half for long periods.

Despite their dominance, Saints found chances hard to come by and were made to battle all the way by a determined Pupils side.

Pupils had their only chance of the second half in the 52nd minute when Gregor McFadyen threatened to burst into the Saints box only to be stopped in his tracks by a perfectly timed interception by Alex Craik.

Manager Iain Jackson decided on a change in the 56th minute, withdrawing Dean Smith and replacing him with Martin Bonar.

Ross Maitland almost added his name to the score sheet in the 59th minute from a throw-in on the left. Craig MacEwan found Allan MacKay in the box with the throw. Allan shielded the ball

well before rolling it back to Ross on the 18-yard line whose shot flashed inches over the crossbar with the keeper rooted to the spot.

Saints were really in the ascendancy at this point and seemed capable of opening up the Pupils defence at will. Another good passing move through the midfield involving Donnie Campbell, Scott Maitland and Myles McAuley presented Myles with a great opportunity on the right hand side of the Pupils' box. With the keeper advancing to narrow the angle, Myles fired a low shot across the face of goal which slipped narrowly wide of the far post.

In the 64th minute, Donnie Campbell had another opportunity to put the icing on the cake of a dominant midfield performance with a deserved goal. He made an excellent run through



LAST TIME: the Oban Saints management team pictured together for the last time before Saturday's game against Campbeltown Pupils at Glencruitten - David Buchanan, Iain Jackson and Peter MacCallum.



Saints under 19s pick up the silverware

UP FOR THE CUP: Oban Saints under 19s recovered from the disappointment of missing out on being Dunbartonshire under 19 league champions on the last game of the season, despite only losing one game throughout the whole league campaign, by coming out victorious in the league cup final against Broomhill SC at Millburn Park, Alexandria, last Saturday. Saints comfortably played out a 3-0 victory controlling the match throughout. Connor Howe netted a penalty and Joshua Coates scored two goals to seal the win. Our photo shows the squad along with coaches Arthur McCulloch, Jimmy Jackson, Alan MacLeod and Mark Welsh.

Two tag rugby trophies for Lochdonhead primary school

LOCHDONHEAD primary school on Mull took part in the tag rugby festival at Garmony on May 23.

They were joined by pupils from Ulva primary school.

The team won two trophies - the Golden Ball for best overall score on the day and the Scarlett Cup for the best overall score throughout the year.

The school has won the Golden Ball four times but never won the Scarlett Cup before which excited the children as it is a symbol of all the hard work they had put in to their rugby this year.

The children would like to thank Gus and Babs Whyte, David Callander and all the parents for their fantastic support throughout the year.



WINNERS: Lochdonhead primary school pupils with Argyll and Bute rugby development officer Allan Wright during the recent festival at Garmony

Race to forget for John McPhee

Motorcycling

THE 20-lap Italian GP at Mugello was run in bright warm conditions but sadly there wasn't much to smile about for John McPhee.

Starting 19th on the grid, he made a poor start, dropping back through the field to 27th over the first few laps. As a result of problems with his bike he was unable to make any progress from there.

He finally crossed the line in 20th - a position which drops him to twelfth in the overall championship standings.

John said: 'Once again, a difficult race for me. The biggest problem is that I cannot turn the bike in the next race in Barcelona on June 14.'

Seal wins round Creags Race

Sailing

BREEZY conditions confronted Oban sailing club's keelboat sailors as they prepared for the start of the Art and Sea Round Creags Race; the second of five feature races being held by the club over the summer.

The boats lined up on the start line for the short upwind leg to Kilbowie. First away was Seal, closely followed by Calvador, with Al Harija chasing all the time.

Once round the windward mark, the fleet had a long downwind leg out of Oban bay and down to the leeward mark off Ganavan. A 90 degree turn and the fleet headed across to the Creags and with the wind on the beam, fast sailing was experienced by everyone.

There was a short upwind beat between the islands and Lismore in a strengthening wind before rounding the tip of Eilean nan Gamhna and heading home.

Seal and Calvador remained close throughout the race, with Seal managing to cross the line first to secure victory.

The next race in this series, the Kilmelford Yacht Haven Round Garvellachs Race, will be on June 20.

Results 1 Seal - Andrew Mead and Leonie Wolf; 2 Calvador - Kevin McGrath; 3 Al Harija - Derek Grieg.

Oban Saints youths results and fixtures

Youth football

LAST weekend's results:
League - Under 13s 6, Broomhill SC 0. On target for Saints were Daniel Sloss (2), Jamie Forgive (2), Aaron Mackay and Aidan MacPhee. Under 13s 3, Campbeltown Pupils 0. Saints scorers were Euan Finlay (2) and Aidan MacPhee.

League Cup final - Ardencaple 1, Under 14s 0;
League - Milngavie 2 Under 15s 14. Saints goalscorers were Lewis Buchanan (3), Kenny MacDonald (3), Beppe Lopez, Craig Easton, Sam Forbes, Daniel McCuish and Cammy Scott. League - Blairdardie v Under 16s postponed

League Cup final - Broomhill SC 0, Under 19s 3. Scoring for Saints were Connor Howe and Josh Coates (2).

This weekend's fixtures:
Kilpatrick v Under 13s; Under 14s v Whitecraigs; League Cup final - Ardencaple v Under 15s.

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WEATHER

Thursday Light rain
Winds light southerly
Temperatures 9°C to 13°C.

Friday Light rain showers
Winds moderate south south westerly
Temperatures 8°C to 13°C.

Weekend Outlook Cloudy on Saturday
Light rain showers on Sunday
Winds moderate west south westerly
Temperatures 8°C to 13°C.

TIDAL INFORMATION

Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday, June 4, 2015** are listed below with differences for major ports listed on the right. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am				pm			
Thur	00.30	0.8	06.30	3.8	12.51	0.8	18.52	3.8
Fri	01.13	0.8	07.06	3.7	13.30	0.8	19.31	3.8
Sat	01.57	0.9	07.46	3.6	14.13	0.9	20.14	3.7
Sun	02.45	0.9	08.31	3.4	15.00	1.0	21.02	3.6
Mon	03.38	1.1	09.22	3.2	15.54	1.1	21.58	3.4
Tues	04.39	1.2	10.23	3.1	16.57	1.2	23.07	3.3
Wed	05.48	1.3	11.39	3.0	18.07	1.3	** **	**

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

Port	Difference	Port	Difference
Ardershaig	-5.35	Mallaig	+0.25
Campbeltown	-5.30	Portree	+0.55
Crinan	-0.47	Tobermory	+0.16
Islay Port Ellen	2.00	Dover	+5.30
Lochboisdale	+0.30		

Ferry Crossings/Sea States

Route	Sea State
Oban to Barra/South Uist	Moderate
Oban to Coll/Tiree	Moderate
Kennacraig to Islay	Moderate

**SKERRYVORE
DECADE**



**Were you part
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Charles Kennedy: 1959 - 2015 When will we see his like again?

EMMA CRICHTON
ecrichton@obantimes.co.uk

TRIBUTES have been flooding in from all corners of the world following the shock death of popular Lochaber politician Charles Kennedy, who was found dead in his Fort William home on Monday (June 1), aged 55.

The people of the West Highlands, Scotland and the UK were stunned by the tragic news of the death of the former Ross, Skye and Lochaber MP, who also served as Liberal Democrat leader from 1999 until 2006.

His family said they were devastated at the loss of 'a fine man and loving father'.

No cause of death had been given as the *Oban Times* went to press, but police said there were no suspicious circumstances.

Paramedics rushed to his home at Lochside on Monday evening and alerted the police.

The death was announced via a statement from Mr Kennedy's family on Tuesday morning. He leaves behind a 10-year-old son, Donald.

The statement read: 'It is with great sadness, and an enormous sense of shock, that we announce the death of Charles Kennedy. Charles died at home in Fort William yesterday. We are obviously devastated at the loss. Charles was a fine man, a talented politician and a loving father to his young son.'

Fort William solicitor Duncan MacPhee had been a friend of Mr Kennedy's for more than 20 years. He said it was his 'raw humanity' he will miss most.

He said: 'I consider myself extremely privileged to call Charles my friend. I totally agree with all of the kind words that have already been said about him and they all ring true.'

'He was a man who put his family first and dedicated his life to public service. Charles was a dear friend to everyone in Lochaber and a true Highlander.'

Mr Kennedy was one of the



CHIEF AMONG MEN:
Charles at Glenfinnan

“He was a man who put his family first and dedicated his life to public service. Charles was a dear friend to everyone in Lochaber and a true Highlander”

Duncan MacPhee
(Fort William solicitor and friend)

English Bob Dick, gaining skills which he further honed at Glasgow University and which made him such a popular figure both locally and nationally.

'He spoke regularly at our Burns supper, most recently delivering the 'Toast to the Lassies'. 'Today we have lost a powerful force for Lochaber and a great ambassador for our school. We extend our sympathies to his family and very many friends.'

His political career began in 1983 when, at 23 years old, he was elected the Social Democratic party member for Ross, Cromarty and Skye, becoming the youngest MP at the time. He then took over Liberal Democrat leadership from Paddy Ashdown in 1999 and continued until 2006, leading his party to its best election result in 2005, on the

back of his opposition to the Iraq war.

Celia Munro, widow of MSP John Farquhar Munro, said the death of Mr Kennedy has been like 'losing one of her own'.

The 76-year-old from Glenshiel, near Kyle of Lochalsh, went door knocking with Charles during his first election campaign. She said: 'Putting the radio on and hearing that news was heart-breaking. It was like losing one of my own bairns.'

'He was one of the most gentle people, but at the same time when he spoke, people really listened. That's when you know someone is special, when you notice that everyone stops to listen.'

Mr Kennedy lost his Ross, Skye and Lochaber seat to the SNP's Ian Blackford in May after more than 30 years as a Highland MP.

His successor paid this tribute: 'Charles Kennedy had so much more to give to Scotland and its people. My prayers and those of my family are being offered for him and his family at this, the worst of times.'

'Charles was a great democrat and was magnanimous in defeat as well as victory. I would like to say I have lost a friend.'

Dave Thompson, MSP for Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch, joined Ian Blackford in his praise: 'Charles Kennedy was a wonderful man who displayed great integrity and great courage.'

Alan Reid, former Lib Dem MP for Argyll and Bute, spoke of his sense of personal loss: 'I have lost a good friend.'

'He had the ability to connect with people and brought a positive style of politics to Westminster.'

'Whether it was on behalf of his constituents or as party leader, Charles was always able to make a clear compelling case without resorting to attacks on political opponents.'

'He was a great help to me, offering a lot of valuable advice and assistance. We worked together on many campaigns.'



DIGNITY IN DEFEAT: Charles Kennedy at last month's general election count
Photograph courtesy of Sandy McCook

'On his many campaign visits to Argyll and Bute, members of the public were literally queuing up to congratulate him and shake his hand.'

Michael Russell, MSP for Argyll and Bute, admired Charles Kennedy's intellectual prowess: 'Although Charles and I were political opponents from the first day we met - which was just before he was elected in 1983 as I was active in the Inverness constituency for the SNP in that election - I always enjoyed his company and talking with, as well as debating with him.'

'He was witty, engaging, clever and funny and we shared a sense of humour as well as a passion for higher education.'

'We often met at university events where his advocacy for students was strong and he will be missed by lots of us as a person as well as a politician.'

Jamie McGrigor, MSP for the Highlands and Islands, highlighted Charles Kennedy's battling qualities: 'One cannot think of politics in the Highlands without thinking of Charles Kennedy who through his extraordinary talents and affability with his constituents - for whom he fought many successful battles - reached the highest pinnacle that his party had achieved for many generations.'

'The Highlands and Lochaber have lost a great champion. His loss will be deeply mourned by many and my thoughts are with his family and friends.'

TRIBUTES

“He was without doubt one of the towering political talents of his generation”

Nicola Sturgeon
First Minister

“Charles had brains, talent, wit and bags of humanity”

David Cameron
Prime Minister

“Charles was one of the most gifted and personable leaders of our time”

Gordon Brown
Former Prime Minister



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Last Heather's walk in Lochaber



GREAT SUPPORT: hundreds turned out for the last Heather's Walk on Sunday 20_22heather01

THE SUN came out just in time for the last Heather's Walk in Lochaber and the eighth event pushed the total raised for Highland hospice to £70,000.

Almost 200 people of all ages turned out for the annual fundraiser in Corpach on Sunday and raised £6,162.86 in memory of Heather Robertson. This brought the total since the first walk in 2008 to £70,000 which made the memorial walk even more poignant for organisers and friends of Ms Robertson, Margaret Simpson and Sarah Walker, as they made the difficult decision to end the annual fundraiser.

As well as the walk, a fun day was held in Kilmallie hall with a raffle, tombola, auction and craft stalls. The fun continued at the Tradewinds bar with a ceilidh and Strip the Willow in the street. Ms Simpson said: 'I'm not getting any younger and it's a lot of work to organise. I'd like to see some young ones take on a fundraiser. All of this has only been possible because of the businesses who have supported us over the years. A huge thank you from myself and Sarah to the community for all of the support.'

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Police files

POLICE in Lochaber are appealing for information about the following crimes:
Sometime between midnight and 10am on Monday May 25, a window was smashed at the Granite House shop on High Street, Fort William.
Overnight on Sunday May 24, an outbuilding to the rear of the Indian Garden restaurant, Fort William, was broken into and goods taken.
A child's grey Apollo Rally mountain bike was removed from outside an address in Nairn Crescent, Upper Achintore, overnight on Sunday May 24.
The bike has holes in the handlebar grips.
Sometime between 2pm on Sunday May 24 and 4am the following morning, a rock was thrown through a window of a house in Shaw Place, Plantation.
Sometime between Saturday May 16 and Friday May 22 the front door of a vehicle parked in Glendale road, Kinlochleven, was scratched.
Anyone with information regarding these crimes is asked to contact police on 101, Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111 or online at www.crimestoppers-uk.org

COUNCIL BUDGET CUTS SEES THREE SERVICE POINTS ON CLOSURE HIT LIST AND TEN TO BE DOWNGRADED

Vulnerable villagers face 100-mile trek for services

EMMA CRICHTON
erichton@obantimes.co.uk

THE MOST vulnerable people will suffer when Highland council closes a service point in rural Lochaber, a community council chairman has said.
Acharacle villagers will now have to make 100-mile round trips to Fort William for face-to-face contact when paying bills and seeking advice on council issues.
This is part of cost-cutting measures by the local authority, which will see three service points close across the region and a further 10 downgraded to 'access points', likely to be computers inside libraries.
Acharacle service point is only open one day a week and Hugh MacPherson, chairman

of the Ardnamurchan village's community council, said he thinks this played a big part in the closure.
He said: 'It was very much a reduced service but at least it was there. The council will say it closed due to lack of use but no wonder it wasn't used much when it was only open a few hours a week when most people are at work.'
'In rural areas like ours we fight so hard to have things like this and then they're taken away from us. It's another loss for this community.'
'The council doesn't seem to understand not everyone has a computer or a car and a lot of people rely on face-to-face advice and now they will have no-one to turn to. This will leave the most vulnerable people exposed.'

Kinlochleven and Mallaig currently serve as access points, manned by library staff, and the council confirmed this will remain the case, despite concerns they, too, would face the axe in Highland council's bid to save £160,000 from the community services budget.
A specially created customer services board was created to decide which branches would be closed. The board cited lack of use as the main reason for closure.
Martin Sullivan, chairman of Mallaig community council, said he is 'very relieved' the service in the village will be retained.
He said: 'This was going to hit the people who most need support the hardest. Some people in the area who have mobility issues thought they

would have to travel 50 miles to pay a bill. That's quite a harrowing thought.'
'I'm glad the council has finally realised not everyone has a computer and that the service point is most valuable for vulnerable people.'
Mr Sullivan also pointed out many people from the Small Isles use the Mallaig service point and would face a 50-mile drive to the nearest facility in Fort William after reaching the mainland.
The Broadford service point in south Skye was also on the hit list, but will remain open under the revised plans, which are expected to be approved by the full council in August.
Councillor Audrey Sinclair, chairwoman of the customer services board, said: 'We have listened to the views of

communities and service users and we have tried to retain as wide a network of services as possible within the financial restraints. Board members and staff have worked through a number of models to maximise the service as far as possible. We will now have a network of 32 customer contact points with varying levels of service, but each will provide face-to-face contact, which is clearly important to customers.'
'We have also identified business support work which can be carried out in quieter locations.'
'I would like to thank the public and the staff for their responses to the consultation. These responses emphasised the value people place on service points in their communities.'

TIMESLINE

Grants for three produce groups

THREE west Highland community produce projects have received grants totalling more than £16,000.
Out of 24 initiatives across Scotland, three in Lochaber, Ardnamurchan and the isle of Skye have received money from the community food fund by the Scottish government.
Lochaber local producers network gained £6,879.57, Ardnamurchan at home festival received £4,777 and £4,500 went to Glendale farmers market in north west Skye from the £135,830 available.
A Glendale trust spokesperson said: 'I'm delighted Glendale will benefit from the community food fund. We look forward to using this money to support local producers in our area deliver an even more successful market.'

Council snaps up old police house

THE OLD police house in Glencoe is to be bought by Highland council.
Police Scotland declared the property surplus to requirements and the local authority has identified the four-bed bungalow as affordable housing for a family.
If approved at the council's community services committee today (Thursday), the house will be bought for £16,000. The Scottish government will pay £50,000 of this through its council house development programme.

Cash handouts for Lochaber projects

THREE grants have been given to community groups in Lochaber council wards.
At the joint ward business meeting on May 25, members agreed to contribute £2,000 to Knoydart renewables for dam works, £1,000 towards the Lochaber Gathering festival of piping and £500 to Voluntary Action Lochaber's award ceremony.



ON THE MARCH: walkers from all over Scotland climbed Ben Nevis to raise money for children's cancer charity STAR for Harris

Walkers still on the march for Harris

ALMOST five years after the tragic death of a Lochaber toddler, efforts are continuing to fundraise in his memory as a group of walkers took on Ben Nevis at the weekend.
The 20-strong team included people from all over the country, from Fort William to Muir of Ord and Glasgow, raising money for STAR for Harris, a children's cancer charity.
The charity was set up in memory of Lochaber baby Harris Ross who died at just 15 months old in August 2010 after suffering a cancerous brain tumour.
His parents, Allan and Tanya Ross, could not attend on the day as Mrs Ross was due to give birth the same weekend.



Lochyside fun of the fair

Lochyside RC primary school enjoyed all the fun of the fair at the annual school fete. From ferret racing to bouncy castles and burgers, visitors flocked to the Fort William school for the fundraising event last Thursday and had a great time despite the wet and windy weather. Enjoying the bouncy castle, which had to be moved inside because of the inclement conditions, are, from left, Hale McPherson, Abbie MacKay, Jodzia MacAdam-Slater, Kirsty Oliver, Sian Patterson, Grace Wegner and Carly Rowsal



THE RIGHT NOTES: music students were assessed on the night



SHOWCASE: models prepare to take to the catwalk

Students shine at college showcase

STUDENTS from two West Highland college UHI courses came together to stage an event showcasing their work.
The fashion design students of Fort William hosted a catwalk show and silent auction at college last week and music students entertained the audience by playing songs as part of their live performance assessment.
Fellow students and friends took to the runway to model the clothes and cushions, clothing and other textiles designed by the fashion students were auctioned.
Music students thanked members of West Highland band Skipinnish for their advice and expertise over the year.
Tracy Matheson, curriculum manager at West Highland college, said: 'What a great event. It's always pleasing to see students grow in confidence and ability throughout their year at college. Congratulations to them all.'

Body of pensioner found in Minch

THE BODY of a pensioner from Lewis has been found in the sea following a major search.
Thomas Tyrrell was last seen setting off alone from Breaigaig pier on the island at 7am last Tuesday (May 26) but had not returned by nightfall.
A search and rescue operation recovered the boat in the Minch on Wednesday morning and Mr Tyrrell was found nearby later the same day.
It was rumoured the 67-year-old had set off without a lifejacket or emergency flares but a statement released by his family on Thursday said he was wearing a lifejacket when his body was recovered. The statement said: 'Our beloved husband, father and grandfather Thomas Tyrrell was found deceased yesterday afternoon following a land and sea search. We would like to point out that Thomas had and was wearing his lifejacket when found. We would like to thank all emergency services, coastguard, RNLI, Hebrides search and rescue team and police for their efforts and for finding Thomas.'
A police spokesman added: 'Enquiries are ongoing and a report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.'

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Six thousand people want more of the same for Oban

LOUISE GLEN
lglen@obantimes.co.uk

THE DOOR is now open for 'mega' events to take place in Oban after the hugely successful Skerryvore Decade festival that took place over last week in Mossfield stadium.

With more than 6,000 people revelling in the town, the authorities had nothing but praise for the partygoers and the organisers of the event.

Cafes, restaurants, pubs, hotels and B&Bs all reported a great weekend's trade from the 'mini' festival to celebrate 10 years of Celtic trad fusion super band Skerryvore.

Full of praise, sergeant Alan Moore of Oban police station said: 'It was a new thing to bring 6,000 people to the town for a music event. There were months of planning that went into the event.'

'Of course there were some minor misdemeanours, but overall with thousands of extra people here all looking to have a great time - we are pleased with the way the event has been managed.'

Sergeant Moore explained that the Lorn Events Team had worked together on the project for some time.

This included Police Scotland,

••
A fantastic venue, a fantastic audience, fantastic acts and even fantastic weather
••

Argyll and Bute council and the event planners.

Business community company BID4Oban helped to fund the event from an early stage - giving the town backing required to let the gig planning go ahead.

BID4Oban chairman Graeme Bass said: 'On what would have otherwise been a fairly quiet weekend, we had 6,000 people from near and far visiting, spending and celebrating in Oban.'

'This is a great example of what an active and committed BID



CROWD PLEASING: having a great time at the Skerryvore event last week. It may be time for many more events to come to the town

can do to bring added value for the town and its business community.

'The BID4Oban staff in general and Neil Mackay in particular worked tirelessly to make this event a success. And what a success it was.'

'A fantastic venue, a fantastic audience, fantastic acts - and even fantastic weather for most

of the day. Oban has proved that we have the infrastructure in place to support events of this nature and the whole town has had a lift from sharing in the celebration of Skerryvore's success.'

'Our thanks go to Daniel and the band for choosing Oban for their tenth anniversary party. It certainly showed exactly why people love Oban.'

Skerryvore front man and organiser Daniel told the *Oban Times*: 'It was just amazing. Seeing it all come together was brilliant. Oban embraced us right from the start. The town proved itself to be a brilliant host for the weekend.'

'I think that we have proved is that Oban is ideal for a major concert. Anyone who saw the

event would know that not even half of Mossfield's pitch was used.'

'While we may have organised the first music event at Mossfield, I am sure it won't be the last. Elton John and Tom Jones like to play to about 6,000 people at gigs now - can you imagine those guys at Mossfield. That would be craic.'

Community campaigners call for review over town's hospital dental unit 'fiasco'

LOUISE GLEN
lglen@obantimes.co.uk

A DEMAND for a full review of the Oban dental hospital 'fiasco' was made at an NHS Highland public health partnership meeting held in the town.

Former economist and Tainuil resident Tom Dolan is calling for an investigation into why a million pounds was spent on the Lorn and the Islands hospital dental facility, which has lain empty for years.

It was agreed between all partners at the meeting held on Mon-

day night that the continuing search for dentists for the dental unit was becoming a sick 'joke'.

Representatives at the meeting included senior NHS Highland staff, senior Argyll and Bute council officers, community councillors and representatives from various groups and bodies.

Mr Dolan, a representative of the local health partnership, said: 'I have letters going back to at least to 2006 where I have been told that dentists are about to sign a contract.'

'Time and again, I've been told that NHS Highland are pursuing

the matter with vigour, and that various people are being interviewed, or contracts are about to be signed.'

'There has been a colossal amount of money put into the hospital's dental unit. A million pounds or more and yet it is still lying empty without any tenants.'

'The situation needs to be reviewed independently to assess how much money this whole project has cost.'

'I would suggest an organisation such as the King's Fund, which has specialised health economists, should be looking

very closely at this situation'

NHS Highland locality manager Caroline Henderson said that the health board was 'actively' speaking to someone about taking over the dental unit. However, she agreed with Mr Dolan, saying: 'I cannot deny that you are absolutely right.'

'I can pass the request for an independent audit of the dental unit in Oban to NHS Highland's board and I will impress on them that this request has come from the public partnership forum.'

Duncan Martin, who was chairing the meeting, said: 'The whole

project has been a huge embarrassment to everyone involved.'

'It is a fiasco. It wasn't the health board that funded the project, of course, it was the Scottish government and it too has been made to look very silly in this whole matter.'

'The strange thing is that in the time this dental hospital has been built and lain empty, the Scottish government's policy on dentists has changed.'

'The policy now is that people should be out getting their treatment in the community and not in a hospital building.'

Councillor Elaine Robertson said she thought the project had been in existence since 2005. She said the Scottish government invested in the project because the dental surgery at Argyll Square did not meet guidelines about disabled access at the time.

She continued: 'It is a dreadful shame that tenants have never materialised because everyone in the town wanted this work done at the time.'

'It is a disaster that it is not being used when so many people can not get the NHS dental care that they would like in this area.'

Bank holiday 'surge' hits car ferry

FERRY company Caledonian MacBrayne (CalMac), has said that a 'bank holiday 'surge' of passengers led to delays.

More than 30 ferries ran late before and after the bank holiday weekend on the Oban to Craignure route.

Passengers were asked to reroute via Lochaline Fishnish to reach the island.

While hundreds of passengers were delayed, help up or had sailings cancelled - the ferry

operator dismissed claims that there was simply not enough time to load and unload passengers during the busy bank holiday season.

Three workers, who did not want to be named, approached the *Oban Times*, saying that they were sick of 'getting it in the neck'.

They said it was clear there was simply nothing that could be done to speed matters up when loading and unloading

traffic in the 15 minutes allocated to do the job.

One said: 'For as long as I can remember, there has been a problem with getting vehicles on and off the ferry.'

'Yet the timings to turn around the ship are the same in the summer as they are in the winter.'

Another said: 'People are absolutely justified in complaining because it feels like no one listens to staff.'

When asked to comment about this, a CalMac spokesman said: 'I suspect it was a case of bank holiday surge.'

He continued: 'Last week, the ferry 'The Isle of Mull' had a technical issue with its stern ramp that restricted service over two days.'

'We apologise for any inconvenience this may have caused customers, but are working to resume normal service as quickly as possible.'

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Police Scotland VAT funding gap

A TEN million pound 'gap' in Police Scotland's budget could be 'fixed' by removing VAT from the force's finance commitment, Argyll and Bute councillors were told.

Speaking at last Thursday's scrutiny committee, Chief Superintendent Helen Swann said the Chief Constable of Scotland had asked the UK government to consider why Scotland is the only force in the UK to pay VAT at a cost of £25.5 million per year.

Ms Swann continued: '£10 million of savings still needs to be made. That could be cleared by our VAT bill. The number of police officers will be maintained.'

£26 million cuts to council's budget

BUDGET cuts were top of the agenda at a meeting held on Monday at Argyll and Bute council. A 'service choice' workshop presented councillors with the plans for taking £26 million out of the council's annual spending round.

A council spokesman said that every department within the council had put forward plans for making up to 20 per cent savings within each service.

This information was presented to all councillors on Monday but will remain confidential until later in the year when the local authority will hold a consultation on budget cuts.

Future of island living on agenda

PLANS for more power for Scotland's islands are at the heart of a consultation that will be published later this summer, the First Minister said on Monday.

Nicola Sturgeon told the Convention of the Highlands and Islands (COHI) that views would help draft a future Islands Bill to provide more power, equality and protection for the islands to allow them to build a more prosperous and fairer future for their communities.

Ms Sturgeon was speaking to council leaders during a meeting of COHI in Kirkwall, Orkney.

Scottish Field

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John Baird memorial cup ties Welfare football

CAOL United stormed the first game of the John Baird memorial cup with a 4-0 win against Lochaber.

The cup is the first of the Marine Harvest welfare league trophies and in the other games last week Lundavra went through 6-1 against Nevis Range and Ballachulish secured their spot in the semi final thanks to a 4-2 win against the Volley. Mallaig sailed through without even kicking a ball as their opponents Fort William under 17s failed to field a team.

In last week's league games Mallaig won 3-1 against Nevis Range and Lundavra beat Ballachulish 2-1.

This week Mallaig were due to play Lochaber on Monday, the Volley faced Caol united on Tuesday and Ballachulish were set to play Nevis Range last night (Wednesday). There are two games tonight as the Volley and Mallaig clash at the BA park and Caol united take on Lundavra at Lochaber high school.

Next week, Lundavra will play Lochaber on Monday, Caol united face Ballachulish on Tuesday and Nevis Range take on Lundavra on Wednesday.

League table (as of Monday June 1)

	P	Pts
Lochaber	3	9
Mallaig	4	9
Lundavra	4	9
Caol united	2	6
The Volley	3	3
Ballachulish	3	0
Nevis Range	5	0

Gymnastic gala at the Nevis Centre Gymnastics

YOUNG gymnasts in Lochaber will be showcasing what they have learned this year at a gala in the Nevis centre.

The performance on June 18 will also give Lochaber gymnastics club the opportunity to show off their new equipment, bought with donations totalling £1,250 from the rotary club of Lochaber, Lochaber sports association and highland wood energy.

This is also an opportunity for the club to fundraise for an inflatable 'tumble track', through donations, home baking, a raffle and bottle tombola.

For more information contact the club's chairwoman Carrie Balcombe at carrie.balcombe@gmail.com, or active schools co-ordinator Bridget Thomas on 07747 762497.

Good turnout for Laggan race Athletics

ALMOST 40 people turned out for this year's Laggan race.

The annual 10k fundraiser for Gergask primary school takes in the scenic route towards Corrieyairack pass and 38 runners from all over the country turned out to take part on Saturday.

It was Kevin Ewing from Keith who cleared the finish line first in 38 minutes and 43 seconds. First lady home was Lynne Kuz of Carnegie harriers in 47 minutes and 34 seconds.

Top 10 finishers: 1 Kevin Ewing 38:34; 2 Mark Winton 41:10; 3 Dino Roussias 42:08; 4 Rafal Tomaszewski 43:34; 5 Richard Roberts 43:59; 6 Dave Mathers 44:20; 7 Garry Henderson 44:31; 8 Simon Garland 44:35; 9 Rafael Salazar 45:33; 10 Neil Stewart 46:00.

Fort footballers celebrate best season in 25 years



Callum MacLean and Robin Harvey were named Fort William football club players of the year. From left: Club vice-chairman David MacDonald, Callum MacLean, David Corrigan, Robin Harvey and manager Calum MacLean 20_f23football02

FORT William football club celebrated their best season in 25 years with their prizewinning at Claggan park.

Manager Calum MacLean congratulated his men on their 13th place finishing position on Thursday night and named Callum MacLean (no relation) as the club's player of the year. Skye goalkeeper Robin Harvey, 17, was also named young player of the year. Awards were

presented by David Corrigan of Marine Harvest.

Fort William's youth club also announced their players of their first season, after the junior team was established at the end of last year.

Callum MacLean presented Robbie Rydings with the primary six player of the year award, the primary seven equivalent went to Alfie MacLeod and Sam MacKen-

zie won the first year prize. Jack MacLeod was named most improved player.

The following day (Friday), Fort William vice-chairman David MacDonald announced current players Iain Foggo, Iain MacLellan, Lewis Campbell, Robert Lewandowski, Danny Mackintosh and Stefan MacRitchie have signed one year contract extensions.



Fort William youth coach Mark Rydings with his players of the year. They are (from left) Alfie MacLeod, Jack MacLeod, Robbie Rydings and Sam MacKenzie 20_f23football01

Mountain bike world cup takes place this weekend Mountain biking



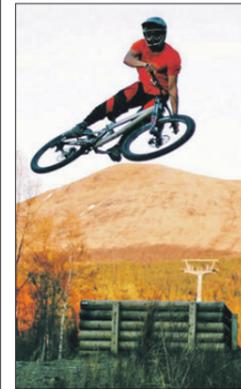
Drew Carters

THOUSANDS of sport fans will descend on Fort William this weekend for the mountain bike world cup.

Held on Saturday and Sunday at Nevis Range, the annual competition will see riders from near and far take to the hills of Aonach Mor.

Although bikers from all over the world take part every year, west Highlanders always hold their own and it is hoped this year will be no exception.

Nevis Range staff member Drew Carters will be competing for the first time, and Fort William local Lachlan Blair will be hoping for success on his second year of elite riding but veterans Ben Cathro and Fergus Lamb will provide familiar faces for long-time world cup fans.



Lachlan Blair

Returns from Isle of Skye Golf Club

THE Strath cup round two, played on Wednesday May 27: 1 Alasdair Grant 35 points; 2 Jamie Beaton 33 points.

Stableford cup, played on Saturday May 30: 1 Alasdair Grant, 42 points; 2 Kyle Pirie 39 points; 3 John Marshall 37 points; 4 Alex Munro 37 points; 5 Lloyd Brewett 37 points; 6 Ian Marr 37 points.

Double up for Lochside girls Netball

IT WAS a double triumph for a Fort William school netball team, as they won a tournament and league in one day.

The Lochside R.C girls took first place in Saturday morning's tournament and at the prize-giving they were also crowned winner's of the Lochaber schools league.



Prizewinners at the 15th annual rotary club of Lochaber am-am golf tournament. On the left are organisers Paul and Helen Brian and rotary president John Harvey 20_f23golf01

Am Am organisers step down after 15 years

AFTER 15 years and raising almost £60,000, the organisers of the rotary club of Lochaber's am-am golf tournament are stepping down.

"2B Ask 1" was the winning team at Fort William golf club on Sunday, out of almost 100 golfers who braved win and rain for the annual fundraiser.

Prizes were presented by Iain Johnston, of sponsor Marine Harvest, and went to local and visiting teams, with golfers from neighbouring clubs Spean Bridge and Oban attending.

Paul Brian, who organises the event with his wife Helen, said: "Over the last 15 years this event has raised almost £60,000. Although we direct most of our funds to local charities and organisations, this year we definitely want to help the victims of the Nepalese earthquake."

"The rotary club wish to thank their generous sponsors and the team players for their support. Several of the winners have been so supportive that they have donated their prizes back to rotary charities."

Mr Johnston added: "This is the second year of our sponsorship,

Golf

and Marine Harvest is delighted that the monies raised today, will be used to fund local charities and also assist some local students enhance their prospects in their chosen career path.

"I was sad to hear that Paul and Helen Brian, who have been the main organisers of this fundraising day, for the last 15 years, on behalf of the rotary club, are to stand down. Having been involved in arranging golf fundraising events myself I appreciate the hard work carried out by Paul and Helen over these years."

Prizewinners: Rotary trophy for first prize; 2B1 Ask1 (Duncan Rodgers, Ian Rodgers, Dave MacDonald, Mark Rydings) 121. Second prize; No Chances (Jason Wallace, Neil Feggans, Keith Sangster, Nick Hough) 123. Third prize; Team No Name (Scott MacNeil, Padraig MacNeil, Chris Bamber, J Bamber) 123. Yellow ball; Le Grande Fromage (David Matheson, Donnie MacInnes, Neil Young, Ewen MacColl) Ladies prize; Kraggies (Kathleen Leitch, Rosemary MacIntyre, Theresa Smith, Gail Anderson) 141. Visitors prize; Spean Hookers (Katherine Ann Munro, Tricia McIvor, Julie Fraser, Sheila Cameron) 145. Longest drive; Kathleen Leitch (ladies) and Padraig MacNeil (men). Nearest the pin; Hole three, Davie MacPherson; hole six Ian Rodgers; hole 12 Ian Rodgers; hole 16 David Fairgreive.

No clear winners at Lochaber inter-school sports day

THERE was no clear winners at this year's Lochaber inter-school sports day, as children from all over the region picked up silverware.

Swimming was the first competition at Lochaber leisure centre last Tuesday when Roy Bridge and Arisaig picked up joint first place for small schools, Spean Bridge won medium school and the prize for large school went to Banavie.

Afterwards, the children made their way to Claggan park for the athletics contests in the afternoon where Roy Bridge and Arisaig won the small school prize for the second time. Spean Bridge also picked up their second award for medium school and Caol were the winners of the large school

category. Individual prizes for sprints, hurdles, long jump and shot putt went to pupils from Inverloch, Caol, Invergarry and Lochside.

Results: Back stroke - Girls: 1 Polly Valentine, Banavie; 2 Kayleigh Howden, Lochside; 3 Evie Jay Clark, Inverloch. Boys: 1 Ben Dignan, Roy Bridge; 2 Gabriel MacCallum, Invergarry; 3 Fraser Davis, Mallaig.

Breast stroke - Girls: 1 Anna MacDonald, Caol; 2 Ellie Gibb, Arisaig; 3 Cara Henderson, Lochside. Boys: 1 Owen Pescod, Banavie; 2 Freddy Fulford, Spean Bridge; 3 Duncan O'Rourke, Arisaig.

Front crawl - Girls: 1 Jenna MacLean, Lochside; 2 Molly Henderson, Banavie; 3 Faye Henderson, Mallaig. Boys: 1 Joshua Balcombe, Spean Bridge; 2 Evan Atkinson, Inverloch; 3 Ben Dignan, Roy Bridge.

Mixed relay: 1 Inverloch; 2 Mallaig; 3 Lochside.

100m sprint - Girls: 1 Fiona Miller, Spean Bridge; 2 Leah Gillespie, Caol; 3 Klaudia Solinska, Inverloch. Boys: 1 Max

School sports

Henderson, Inverloch; 2 Arlo Van De Peer, Strontian; 3 Fraser Anderson, Spean Bridge.

200m sprint - Girls: 1 Millie Smith, Caol; 2 Cara Henderson, Lochside; 3 Ellie Johnstone, Mallaig. Boys: 1 Innes Orr, Inverloch; 2 Freddy Fulford, Spean Bridge; 3 Fraser Davis, Mallaig.

Hurdles - Girls: 1 Anna MacDonald, Caol; 2 Ana MacGillivray, Spean Bridge; 3 Lilliana Alexander, Ardgour. Boys: 1 Evan Atkinson, Inverloch; 2 Andrew Baker, Arisaig; 3 Alfie Duncan, Caol.

Long jump - Girls: 1 Josie Bloom, Invergarry; 2 Stephanie Spears, Roy Bridge; 3 Orla Soe-Paing, Lochside. Boys: 1 Fraser Anderson, Spean Bridge; 2 Fraser MacLean, St Bride; 3 Craig Allott, Inverloch.

Shot putt - Girls: 1 Anna MacDonald, Caol; 2 Agatha Jopek, Upper Achintore; 3 Kristiana Zalevica, Fort William. 100m x 4 mixed relay: 1 Caol; 2 Inverloch; 3 Spean Bridge.



Caol primary won first prize in the large school athletics category 20_f23schoolsport01



Spean Bridge primary were winners of the medium school prize in both swimming and athletics 20_f23schoolsport02



Banavie was best large school for swimming



Roy Bridge tied with Arisaig for best small school in swimming and athletics

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WEATHER

Thursday Light rain
Winds light southerly
Temperatures 9°C to 13°C.

Friday Light rain showers
Winds moderate south south westerly
Temperatures 8°C to 13°C.

Weekend Outlook Cloudy on Saturday
Light rain showers on Sunday
Winds moderate west south westerly
Temperatures 8°C to 13°C.

Stop Press: New pontoons recently installed by North West Marine at Kyle Lochboisdale for visiting yachts

TIDAL INFORMATION
Tide tables for Oban during the week from Thursday, June 4, 2015 are listed below with differences for major ports listed on the right. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am				pm			
Thur	00.30	0.8	06.30	3.8	12.51	0.8	18.52	3.8
Fri	01.13	0.8	07.06	3.7	13.30	0.8	19.31	3.8
Sat	01.57	0.9	07.46	3.6	14.13	0.9	20.14	3.7
Sun	02.45	0.9	08.31	3.4	15.00	1.0	21.02	3.6
Mon	03.38	1.1	09.22	3.2	15.54	1.1	21.58	3.4
Tues	04.39	1.2	10.23	3.1	16.57	1.2	23.07	3.3
Wed	05.48	1.3	11.39	3.0	18.07	1.3	** **	**

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

Ardrishaig	-5.35	Mallaig	+0.25
Campbeltown	-5.30	Portree	+0.55
Crinan	-0.47	Tobermory	+0.16
Islay Port Ellen	2.00	Dover	+5.30
Lochboisdale	+0.30		
Ferry Crossings/Sea States			
Oban to Barra/South Uist			Moderate
Oban to Coll/Tiree			Moderate
Kennacraig to Islay			Moderate