

The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

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75 pence



Tickets to the Circus Of The Orient

We have 10 family tickets up for grabs when the Circus of the Orient comes to Oban on June 29 and 30 and Fort William on July 1 to 3



Drugs raid nets 11

'This is just the beginning' warns Oban police chief

First World Championship point for John at Silverstone



Visit us at www.obantimes.co.uk : Oban Charities Day parade Oban police chief's message Macaulay Sixes

Road closure chaos ahead

Proposed road closures mean 7pm curfew for residents and tourists

A LIFELINE Argyll road could be closed up to 11 hours at a time – placing residents and tourists under an effective curfew.

Scotland TransServ's plans for road works on the A85, including weeknight closures from 7pm for four weeks, coincide with the height of the tourist season, the Oban Games and the visit of a 1,100 capacity cruise liner.

Temporary traffic lights and a convoy system are planned for two weeks at Pennyfuir north of Oban between July 25 and August 5. But to resurface the road at Connel and St Conan's Kirk, Loch Awe, TransServ has told local communities closures are needed because the road is too narrow. Diversions of more than 50 miles via Inveraray and Lochgilphead will operate.

At Glen Dochart, east of Crainlich, five-day patching work starts on July 4, with 10mph speed limit and delays for drivers.

David Fellowes, convenor of Glenorchy and Innishail Community Council, said Loch Awe residents would be severely disrupted by the proposals: 'Supposing you wanted to come into Oban for an evening meal, you just couldn't do it. You might get there but you can't get back.'

EXCLUSIVE

REPORT by CHRISTINE MCCARTNEY cmccartney@obantimes.

'I have holiday cottages myself – people who want to go into Oban or up north just won't be able to do it.'

Councillor Duncan MacIntyre, Argyll and Bute's transport spokesman, agreed the timing of the works could be disastrous to tourism.

He said: 'We are totally opposed, and always have been, to work in the summer season. This year it's pretty fragile anyway.'

'The work has been debated for the past three years; it can wait another few months in my

"The work has been debated for the last three years; it can wait another few months."

Argyll and Bute transport spokesman Duncan MacIntyre

opinion.' Les Stewart, secretary of Connel Community Council, said improving the road was essential but he was seeking a meeting with TransServ to discuss the timing of closures. He said: 'If you are going to get your roads tarmaced, you have to have some disruption. It's impossible for everything to be done at a time that suits everyone.'

'I think we could negotiate with them, even if it means the work takes a week longer, then perhaps we could put it back to 10pm. TransServ have always been very good so I'm expecting them to listen to us and be constructive about it.'

A spokesman for Scotland TransServ said: 'We are in the consultation period and will take cognisance of the views of the public.'

A letter from the roads body to community councils, seen by The Oban Times, said: 'The sections of carriageway at St Conan's Kirk and East of Connel are, in places, less than 6m wide.'

As a result, we cannot safely surface the road without using a road closure as I'm sure you appreciate the safety of the workforce and travelling public is paramount.'



A balloon bonanza: Little Laura MacGregor was a willing helper at the bright and colourful Argyll Voluntary Action stall at this year's Oban Charities Day. At the end of the successful and sunny fundraising day, the seven year old from Tainuill released 100 balloons into the atmosphere, each one bought by a member of the public for £1 and tagged with a return address to Oban. The balloon returned from the furthest destination will be the winner and its owner will be able to choose a charity to receive the £100 jackpot. The owners of the first three balloons returned will also receive a prize. The balloon race was just one of the many novel fundraising ideas on the day, which attracted hundreds of people to 50 stalls and made an estimated total of £21,000. See next week's Oban Times for more.

11 in court on drugs charges

ELEVEN people appeared in Oban Sheriff Court on Monday after the biggest police operation ever seen in Oban.

Charged with a range of drug offences – six were remanded in custody, all will appear again on Tuesday.

Only one gave an address out-with the town - John Pellow, aged 33, of Drumchapel, Glasgow was charged with being concerned in the supply of diamorphine between May 19 and June 10 - including supplying a police officer.

Mary Pauline McCuish, aged 52, James Hendry, aged 30, both of 7 Burnside Court, Oban were charged with intent to supply diazepam and Eleanor Lopez, aged 17, of 12 MacDougall Court, was allegedly found to be in possession of cannabis. All pled not guilty. McCuish and Hendry were released on bail, while Lopez was remanded to appear.

Alexander McKenzie, aged 39, of 12A Miller Road, was charged with supplying diamorphine including supplying the Class A drug to serving police officers on multiple occasions.

Willie McConnell, aged 31, of Kerrera Lodge was charged with being concerned with the supply of drugs.

James Kelly, aged 31, of 2c Sinclair Drive was charged with supplying an undercover police officer on two occasions with diamorphine and being in possession of Class A, B and C drugs.

David MacGillvaray, aged 33, of 2 Dunmore Lodge was charged with supplying diamorphine and having diazepam with the intent to supply.

Linda Boa, aged 39, and Andrew Morrison aged 41, both of 3/2, 22 High Street were charged with being concerned in the supply of diamorphine and allowing their premises to be used for the supply of a controlled drug.

Boa was also charged with actual supply on three separate occasions to an undercover police officer. Morrison was released on bail.

Another 17-year-old girl was charged but the procurator fiscal did not release her details. For more on this story see Page 3.

MV Finlaggan breakdown

A FAULT in the MV Finlaggan's ramp hydraulics caused further delays to the new ship's schedule on Tuesday.

The ferry, which is operated by CalMac, was stuck at Kennacraig, so the MV Hebridean Isles took passengers to Oban.

MV Finlaggan returned to service on Wednesday but will temporarily load and discharge traffic via the stern ramp only.

New anti-inflammatory could sooth local economy by £2.5 million



Dr Charlie Bavington, of Dunbeg-based marine research firm GlycoMar, holds the new anti-inflammatory powder. 15. 124644v1

AN INNOVATIVE new anti-inflammatory health supplement made from leftover processed salmon is to provide a £2.5million boost to companies in Dunbeg and Fort William.

Marine research firm, GlycoMar, based at the Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS) research facility, Dunstaffnage, has signed a deal with fish-feed processor Scanbio – which currently operates from a Portakabin on Corpach Harbour – to produce a new capsule to help ease joint pain, using only traceable and sustainable fish by-product.

The process to create the sup-

plement is being kept a closely guarded secret and is estimated to be worth around \$4million in global sales.

The deal between the two companies will see Scanbio will produce, market and sell the product, creating five new highly skilled jobs, while GlycoMar's will benefit from royalties on sales.

GlycoMar founder and managing director, Dr Charlie Bavington led research into the product, made from the poly-saccharins, or sugars, and said it will help strengthen the firm's long term future.

He said: 'The product value

based on available raw material is around \$4million; that's going into a consumer market which is worth \$2billion, so we're only taking a fraction of a per cent of it.'

'This is our first major deal and it's vital for the company. It validates our techniques, our approach and our business model over the last six years and will provide the necessary funding that will underpin the growth of the company.'

He added that potential for growth in the new anti-inflammatory is limited only by scope for production, while ongoing research into the completely

natural product has shown it may also have anti-aging properties.

Scanbio's managing director, Chris Jones, said: 'This is the first product of its type that's fully traceable and sustainable. Other similar products are produced from sources such as pig or shark cartilage. That doesn't suit everyone.'

'Also, this product is made from stuff that previously we threw away, which is remarkable.'

'There is no doubt that this will push Scanbio and GlycoMar into the global market.'

'We currently operate from a Portakabin; but there's no limit to our ambition.'

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Sea Cadets left high and dry by kayak theft

YOUNGSTERS who raised funds to buy kayaks for Oban's sea cadet unit are 'totally gutted' they have been stolen before even being unwrapped.

The six multi-coloured kayaks in plastic wrapping were taken from the Rugarbh area, south of Barcaldine between Friday and Tuesday morning. The sea cadets have appealed for the public's help in finding the culprits and getting their equipment, worth £3,000, back.

Ewan McCuish, commanding officer with the Oban's TS Pharos unit, said: 'We are totally gutted. We have worked hard to raise funds for these kayaks and trailers and to have them stolen before even getting to use them is gut-wrenching.'

Anyone with any information can contact Oban Police station on 01631 510500.

End to school closures was 'only decision'

BELEAGUERED councillors made the 'only decision' available to them and called off proposed school closures.

While it will go ahead with closing schools that have no pupils the full council agreed not to take forward plans for schools with pupils.

Councillor Ellen Morton, spokeswoman for education, said: 'The cabinet secretary for education has told us we are working with defective legislation.'

'Sorry'

Noting Mr Russell had said 'sorry' that the legislation had proven difficult to work with, Mrs Morton said: 'I am sure the minister is sorry, perhaps not as sorry as the pupils, parents and council officers, not to mention elected members, in Argyll and Bute who have suffered for almost a year as we made an

honest attempt to implement, what the cabinet secretary now tells parliament, is defective legislation brought in by this government.'

Clelland Sneddon, executive director of education, said he had tried to raise issues with the legislation – with fellow officers, councillors, government officers, cabinet secretary and Her Majesty.

At every turn, he said, 'I was told we could not make specific representations.'

'There was a legislative framework that was in place and while we had difficulties with this framework, we had to work within it.'

Councillor John Semple, SNP, said: 'Given where the council finds itself, we have been in a perfect storm. We have been working with legislation that has not been rigorously tested and that has been

the difficulty.' Councillor Dougie Philland, of Argyll First, said: 'We have always been against rural school closures.'

Victory

'This is a victory for democracy and people power. It is also good that we have agreed to do something today.'

'The council has said there are fundamental flaws. I am sure it is the experience of this council in taking forward school closure documents that has pointed out these flaws.'

Council Leader Dick Walsh said: 'The only way to deal with these difficult times is to deal with them together. It is onwards and upwards.'

The council agreed to ask for a place on the commission set up to look at the future of rural schools and economy.

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THE REGIONAL NEWSPAPER FOR THE WEST HIGHLANDS, ISLANDS AND ARGYLL



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Loch Lomond water bus service boosts National Park awareness

VISITORS can now set sail around the famous Loch Lomond and see the beautiful surrounding scenery thanks to a new timetabled water bus service.

Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park has supported the introduction of daily scheduled services that take in 12 destinations covering the south, east, west and north of the loch.

The route was successfully piloted last year. People can now leave their car at home and take a 45-minute train journey from Glasgow to Balloch or Tarbet, where they can enjoy a boat ride to places rich in history and culture.

Gordon Watson, a director of planning and rural development at the National Park, said: 'We hope to encourage more people to explore the National Park by alternative means of transport, providing a fantastic visitor experience.'

Plan 'These new timetables will help people plan their day out and we are delighted that local cruise operators have worked so closely with us to provide the new services.'

'It is a great way of getting more people visiting different destinations around the loch.'

Mike Cantlay, chairman of VisitScotland, said: 'We need to capitalise on the natural assets we have in Scotland and what better way to welcome people to one of the most iconic attractions than by water.'

Stuart Corder of Cruise Loch Lomond said: 'The new service gives walkers, cyclists and outdoor enthusiasts the opportunity to enjoy fresh air, take some exercise and sample the tranquillity that Loch Lomond has to offer.'

NHS turning deaf ear

Retired consultant says NHS Highland risks being viewed as dictatorship

NHS HIGHLAND'S recently retired consultant in public health medicine believes it should listen more to the public, else risk being viewed as a 'dictatorship.'

Dr David Bell, who retired from NHS Highland in May after more than 50 years working in public medicine, believes the way the body is currently run fails to pay heed to the most important source of information - the people it is supposed to serve.

His comments come in the wake of the row surrounding the redesign of wards at Oban's Lorn and Islands Hospital, with local councillors at loggerheads with NHS Highland over consultation - or lack thereof - on the moves.

Dr Bell said: 'I am totally in favour of having a great deal more input from the community. There is such a thing as 'herd' intelligence.'

'For example, on a certain game show the contestant, if unsure of the answer, can ask the audience. It is interesting to note that they always get it right.'

'We need to pay a great deal more attention to the public, but of course you have to back that up with expertise and technical knowledge.'

'If we are not doing that, what we basically have is a dictatorship.'

'As such, the ideal way of running the NHS is through dialogue between experts and the community.'

'Otherwise, when presented with an apparent fait accompli - by whoever - people will get their hackles up.'

'Equally, I believe we have to have an elected health board; of course, the health board are utterly against that.'

"The ideal way of running the NHS is through dialogue between experts and the community."

Dr David Bell retired consultant

'They say we've got on fine without that, but I believe that is a major weakness of health services. If you don't listen to your clients, how are you supposed to serve them?'

As part of his suggestions for reform, Dr Bell has called for public health partnerships to be scrapped, saying that, while fine in theory, they have proved to be too ineffective.

That view is backed by Dr Robert Black, the auditor general for Scotland, who this month published a report calling for a fundamental review of partnership arrangements, citing the fact that some national health trends are worsening.

Dr Bell said: 'The only way this is going to work though is not if it is forced upon the NHS by an outside influence - it has to be a collaborative and agreed process. As always the difficulty is, who will make the first move?'

'Someone like the councillor, Elaine Robertson, who is also an executive member of Highland Health Board, could make the moves and encourage Argyll and Bute CHP to have more discussions with the council officers and the health board to implement a system of democratic accountability, with the emphasis on accountability.'

Study hints grants encourage over-fishing

A CONTROVERSIAL new study has suggested that EU subsidies should not be paid to fishermen because they encourage over-fishing.

The paper, published today in scientific journal PLoS ONE, has been compiled by researchers from the UK and Canada, including Dr Sheila Heymans of the Scottish Marine Institute, Dunbeg.

Looking specifically at North Sea fisheries, the team discovered the 208 million Euros paid out by the EU in subsidies resulted in fisheries actually being less profitable by 71 million Euros.

Dr Heymans said: 'Our findings show the negative impact that subsidies have on both the biomass of important fish species and the profit that can be made.'

'We found that subsidising fisheries does not make good economic or ecological sense.'



Camuscross children give it their all in the tug-o-war 2012/camus05

Crofters' Olympics success at Camuscross

SLEAT people enjoyed one of their biggest community days of the year at the second annual Crofters' Olympics at Camuscross on Saturday.

Back after an enforced absence in 2010, the event proved a huge hit at its new venue, a field by the shore below Talla Duisdeil.

With the mountains of Knoydart and Loch Hour providing a stunning backdrop across the Sound of Sleat, competitors young - and not so young - lined up for a raft race, a hill race and less conventional events such as carrying the pail of water and 'wellie wanging'.

The raft race provided early drama as Charles Culbertson and Pam Christie's craft proved somewhat less than seaworthy and capsized before the start.

Undeterred, the determined duo set sail - but barely made it past the seaweed lining the shore before their vessel defied all attempts at propulsion.

In the end, Crisdean and Kylie MacDonald from Camuscross were judged winners after Malcolm and Fergus Parsons' raft, the Fat Hen, broke up yards from home.

'She was a wee bit unstable and we maybe got a wee bit enthusiastic near the finish,' Malcolm told The Oban Times.

But the tug-o-war was the highlight, with the children's,

ladies' and men's contests providing an exciting finale to the day.

Rivalries were fierce as judge Henry Mains told the teams to take the strain. With a partisan crowd roaring their champions on, Ardasar and Sasaig prevailed over their Camuscross hosts in the women's contest, but the Camuscross men restored local pride by defeating neighbours Duisdale.

Other highlights included home baking and local inventor Fergus Walker with his 'people-powered flour mill', while bean an taighe Susaidh NicNeill kept proceedings ticking over behind the mic, her classroom skills

from Plockton Primary School much in evidence.

Event co-organiser, Kyle Primary School teacher Mary Logan and volunteer Graeme MacKenzie, a local crofter, reflected on a successful day.

'One of the highlights this year has been the raft race - it was something different,' Graeme told The Oban Times. 'All in all, it has been a very family friendly event. The competitions are not taken too seriously and are very much aimed at enjoyment.'

'The direct and extended Camuscross communities support us, which is great,' Mary said.

For more photos see www.obantimes.co.uk

Young ballet stars for Oban performance

JUST days after returning from a six-week tour of China, Ballet West is preparing 220 of its youngest dancers for a sell-out performance in Oban this weekend.

The Tainuill-based school was in China last year, when the ash cloud delayed the tour by several days. However, despite a threat of ash from another volcano this year, their 17 performances all went ahead in cities such as Shanghai, Chengdu and Xian, many of which were sell-out shows.

Director Gillian Barton explained the school's production of Romeo and Juliet was new to many in the country, who are more used to Russian tours of shows such as Swan Lake.

'We took a chance by doing that but we had a wonderful reception from all the ven-

ues,' she said. 'I was sitting in the audience for each show and I saw some people crying - they had never seen Romeo and Juliet told this way before. They were totally caught up in it and that was thrilling to see.'

Gillian's son, Jonathan, and daughter Sara-Maria Smith played the principal roles and Ballet West made up the rest of the cast, along with some guest male dancers.

The school has an outreach programme in China, based in Changsa, which is run by two Ballet West graduates.

This Saturday some of its Scottish based outreach students from Oban, Fort William, Tainuill, Connel and Mull are performing a number of routines at the Corran Halls, including classical ballet, jazz and musical theatre.

Campbeltown sheriff voices concern over social work reports

CAMPBELTOWN'S Sheriff has criticised Argyll and Bute Council's social work department, claiming its background reports on offenders have become 'difficult to follow.'

Sheriff Ruth Anderson said the structure and content of the reports no longer reflected what the court need to know when sentencing offenders.

She said: 'I am concerned at the structure of the report. They are deteriorating nearly monthly and I'm finding them more and more difficult to read. The structure and syntax is all wrong. I find it really quite difficult to follow.'

A spokeswoman for Argyll and Bute Council said: 'The format of court reports has recently changed.

The old style Social Enquiry Report has been replaced by the Criminal Justice Social Work Report for crimes committed after February 1 this year, following a pilot in various areas and consultation with key bodies, including the Judiciary.

'This new template represents a more focused approach to the risk management and rehabilitation of offenders.'

'We have had no other negative comments from Sheriffs.'

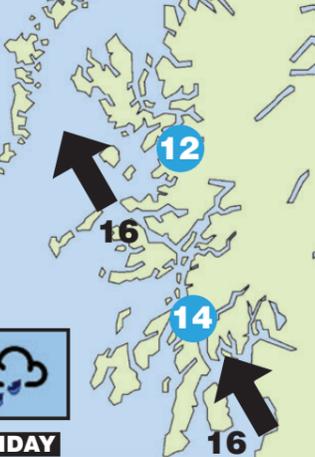
'As a council we are always interested in getting feedback from the court about any aspect of the service we provide.'

'We have arranged a meeting with Sheriff Anderson in July to address any concerns she has.'

Weather

Thursday Light rain shower. Winds moderate southerly. Temperatures 10°C to 14°C
Friday Light rain. Winds moderate, south easterly. Temperatures 7°C to 14°C.
Weekend Light rain showers. Winds light, northerly. Temperatures 4°C to 13°C.

Ferry Crossings/Sea States
Oban to Barra/South Uist Moderate
Oban to Coll/Tiree Moderate
Kennacraig to Islay Moderate



Tides

Tide tables for Oban during the week from Thursday, June 16, 2011

are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am	pm	***	**				
Thur	05.45	3.7	12.06	0.8	18.06	4.0	***	**
Fri	00.31	0.8	06.26	3.7	12.49	0.8	18.46	4.0
Sat	01.17	0.9	07.05	3.6	13.30	0.8	19.26	3.9
Sun	02.00	1.0	07.42	3.5	14.11	0.9	20.05	3.8
Mon	02.41	1.2	08.19	3.4	14.51	1.1	20.44	3.6
Tues	03.23	1.3	08.55	3.2	15.31	1.3	21.25	3.5
Wed	04.05	1.5	09.34	3.1	16.14	1.4	22.08	3.3

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

Ardrihaig	-5.35	Portree	+0.55
Campbeltown	-5.30	Tobermory	+0.16
Crinan	-0.47	Dover	+5.30
Islay Port Ellen	2.00		
Lochboisdale	+0.30		
Mallaig	+0.25		

Tiree windfarm opposition group call for members

THE group opposing the construction of a wind farm off the coast of Tiree is to formalise its membership in a bid to become a formal consultee.

No Tiree Array has drawn up a constitution and is seeking members to strengthen its position when the process to build the Argyll Array gets to the licensing and consenting stage.

Membership is achieved with a £1 donation, although 'sympathisers' are welcome to support the cause.

Barra pupils boost world's largest 'walking bus'

PUPILS from Eoligaray Primary School in Barra took part in an attempt to create the world's largest 'walking bus' in a national campaign to call for safer roads for children.

The 22 children marched from their school gates on Wednesday morning, appealing to local drivers to slow to 20mph or below in built-up areas to protect children on foot.

They were joined by tens of thousands more across the UK in the event, co-ordinated by road safety charity Brake and sponsored by fuel brand Jet.

Argyll choirs on song at Aberfeldy

ARGYLL-based Tainuill Gaelic Choir and Mull Gaelic Choir travelled through to Aberfeldy to take part in the Perthshire and Angus Provincial Mod last Saturday and both choirs returned home with silverware.

Tainuill won both the puirt competition and the set piece/own choice competition, while Mull took runners-up spot in both competitions.

In the second competition, Tainuill also took the music prize while Mull were first in Gaelic.

Both choirs were delighted with their performances, especially since they were up against stiff opposition in the form of Aberfeldy, Dundee, Largs and Aberdeen.

Coisir Ceann an Tuire (Argyll Male Voice Gaelic Choir) and Mull Ladies Choir also sang at the event, but only for adjudications.

Islanders question fuel cut delays

WESTERN Isles residents are impatient at delays in implementing a promised fuel price cut, according to Alasdair Allan, MSP for Na h-Eileanan an Iar.

He has written to the Treasury to ask why a 5p cut in duty on fuel in Scottish islands has not come into effect months after it was announced. Mr Allan said: 'In areas like the Western Isles, fuel at a reasonable price is not just a luxury, it is a lifeline, and people need to get to work, to be able to shop and to fuel their fishing boats.'

Advertisement for West Coast Plant Hire featuring various tools and machinery for hire, including mowers, excavators, and rollers. Contact details for Oban and Lochgilhead branches are provided.

Threatened school wins top award

AN ISLAND school threatened with closure has been named a winner at the Scottish Education Awards.

Keills Primary School, on Islay, won the Numeracy Across Learning Award at the ceremony in the Hilton Hotel, Glasgow on Tuesday. The school, which had been on Argyll and Bute Council's initial list of closures, was also a finalist in the Health and Wellbeing Award.

Head teacher Kathleen Johnston, teacher Sheila Brown, Parent Council treasurer Niamh MacLellan and primary sevens Gemma Cameron and Eilidh Hughes attended the ceremony. Kilmartin Primary School was a finalist in the Learning Through Award.

New Barra pier to open this weekend

ISLANDERS on Barra will this weekend celebrate the opening of the island's newest community owned port, the £146,000 Northbay Cidhe Beag.

The new tidal harbour is an extension and improvement of an older facility and now has double the berthing area, greater depth, more shelter and a new slip development.

Developed by the Northbay Port Users Association, the project has been funded by Big Lottery, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar and Highlands and Islands Enterprise.

While the fishing fraternity will benefit from the project it is also available to local leisure craft and visiting boats.

The opening will take place this Saturday, coinciding with the island wide hand line fishing competition, which will see an armada of boats of all sizes leaving from the Cidhe in the morning, with the weigh in at 2pm.

Gate thefts throughout Argyll

POLICE are calling for witnesses to a spate of thefts of farm gates.

So far, three have been stolen from Ardcattan, Kilmelford and Dunoon.

The gates are taken overnight and animals are then able to wander out of the field onto the road.

Overnight between June 7 and Wednesday 8, a gate was stolen from Ardcattan, on June 10 a gate was taken at Kilmelford.

Chief Inspector Brian Auld said: 'A van would have been required to move these farm gates. We believe they would have had a high scrap value.'

'Any information about the removal of these gates should be given to officers on 01631 510550.'

Belle and the Oban butcher's shop

OBAN has two unlikely new MTV stars in the shape of butchers Sean Grant and James Paterson.

The pair feature in Belle and Sebastian's new music video for the single, Come on Sister, which was partly filmed at Jackson Bros butchers on Oban's George Street.

Each band member visited a family business, which shared their surname, for the video and the Oban butchers welcomed guitarist Stevie Jackson for a day of filming.

Police net five in speed checks

A 40 year-old motorcyclist recorded at 96mph, a 42 year-old man driving at 90mph and a 23 year old man driving his car at 87mph were among five speeding motorists reported to the procurator fiscal following police check in a 60mph zone near Tyndrum last week.

On Friday a 50 year-old woman was caught driving at 89mph in the same area, while a 65 year-old driver was recorded travelling at 50 mph in a 30mph zone in the village of Taynuilt.

Coastguard cuts not treated seriously

WESTERN Isles MP, Angus MacNeil, believes concern over plans to cut Coastguard provision have not been treated seriously enough by the Government.

Mr MacNeil was speaking after a 90 minute debate on the subject in Westminster Hall on Tuesday, which he said simply wasn't long enough. Speaking after the debate, he said: 'This is the third time MPs have debated the Coastguard proposals in Westminster Hall, a 90 minute debate is not long enough.'

'The Commons Backbench Business Committee should allow this matter to be heard in the floor of the House of Commons and give the Coastguard Service the full and proper attention it deserves.'



Local officers from Oban Police Office were on hand to arrest several people as a result of a series of drug raid in the town last Friday



A local woman is led away in custody by a female officer

'Public pressure can drive drugs out of our town'

DRUGS will not be tolerated in Oban, that is the message of Chief Inspector Brian Auld. He is calling on information from the people of the town to stamp out the problem.

Mr Auld said he had used information given to him from places such as the Community Council and individuals who took the time to speak to him in order to build up a bank of information about the situation with drugs in the town.

One local businessman who asked not to be named said: 'People are sick to the back teeth of the habitual violence and petty crime that drugs have brought to Oban. Public pressure can drive drugs out of our town and I would encourage everyone to help the police. I use Crimestoppers. You don't need to give your name or address - and they pass the information directly to the police.'

The charity Crimestoppers phone line, where the public can air their concerns or report suspected crime without the requirement of revealing their own identity, has seen an increase in public awareness.

Kate Jackson, assistant national manager of Scotland Crimestoppers said: 'It seems to be clear that members of the public are just not prepared to put up with criminal behaviour.'

'A huge thank you must go to people across Scotland for using the charity to pass on information about crime. I'd like to reassure the public

'It seems to be clear that members of the public are just not prepared to put up with criminal behaviour.'

Kate Jackson
Scotland Crimestoppers

that our service is completely anonymous and in the 23 years that the charity has been running no one has ever been identified. 'The service is run for you, the public, to help make your community a safer place to live. 'We're not part of the police or government, we're an independent charity, so by contacting us you'll never have to give a statement to the police or go to court.'

Scotland Crimestoppers has helped in a 135 per cent rise in arrests in the Strathclyde area [to 23 May 2011] - from 133 last year to 313 this year. Operation Independence, as named by officers involved, was seen to be the answer to the growing drug problem in Oban.

On the Oban Times Facebook site, Catherine Gillies said: 'It is all good news. Needed to be done.' Joan Duncan spoke for many when she said: 'About time.' Katie Charlotte Ellen Smith said: 'Good job! Keep it up!' While Bridget McArthur added: 'Nice to hear this, I hope they catch a lot of them.'

Drugs raid nets 11
'This is just the beginning' warns Oban police chief

UNDERCOVER police officers were at the heart of an operation to expose drug users and dealers in Oban.

After the biggest police operation ever seen in Oban, Operation Independence - a covert plan aimed to help rid Oban's streets of serious Class A, B and C drugs multiple arrests were made in a series of raids last Friday.

It was 'hugely successful', claims the town's chief inspector. While 11 people have appeared in court, the message to drug users and dealers is this is only the beginning and officers are already gathering information with more arrests anticipated in the near future.

'This is just the beginning,' says new Police Area Commander Brian Auld.

Twelve houses were raided in Oban during the course of Friday morning, and one hotel bedroom searched.

Using heavy-duty door breaking equipment officers forced open doors shouting, 'police, we have a warrant to search these premises'.

Houses and flats were raided in the town's High Street, Nelson Road, Sinclair Drive, Miller Road, Kerrera Lodge, Burnside Court, McKelvie Road, Shore Street, Craigrad Road and Albany Street.

More than 80 officers from the specialist units of M17 and M18, Oban, Lorn and the Isles and Strathclyde Police's drug squad worked together in teams to take out many of the known drug users in the town.

They also captured a much-wanted individual in one raid.

The man, from Drumchapel in Glasgow, had been under police surveillance for some time and was discovered in a hotel in the town.

Chief Inspector Auld said the operation was 'hugely successful' thanks to the good intelligence gathered from officers and the people of Oban who were willing to pass on information about what they knew.

Mr Auld said: 'This operation was the first stage in a no toler-

REPORT and PICTURES by LOUISE LEE
llee@obantimes.co.uk



Police Area Commander Chief Inspector Brian Auld has praised the actions of the public who have come forward with information in a bid to clean up the streets of drug dealers

'This operation was the first stage in a no tolerance approach to drugs.'

Chief Inspector Brian Auld

ance approach to drugs. 'If people are using drugs or selling them our intelligence has already identified who you are.'

'As many of these users found out on Friday - they had sold drugs to undercover police officers.'

'This is only the beginning,' he promised.

Speaking to *The Oban Times*, a former Oban drug user said: 'Everyone knew it was coming.'

'It is a hazard of the job when you are a dealer.'

'One day you are going to get caught.'

Wife-killer Webster in new investigation

A NEW investigation has been launched into convicted wife-killer Malcolm Webster after concerns were raised about the deaths of three children in Abu Dhabi.

Webster, who tried to bigamously marry Simone Banarjee while living in Oban, worked as a nurse in the country in the 1980s.

RIB and Islay lifeboat come to aid of Oban boat

ISLAY lifeboat and the Islay Seafari RIB were called to help a fishing boat, which had broken down in Lagg Bay, on the east side of Jura.

The crew of the Oban vessel, Jacqueline Anne, called for assistance last Friday after the boat broke down and was about to run aground on shore when two nearby yachts came to assist.

The Seafari RIB arrived shortly after and towed the boat up the Sound of Jura to meet the lifeboat, however as the lifeboat got near Craighouse it was stood down, when the fishing boat crew managed to fix the engine and return to Oban.

Round Kerrera walk for Macmillan

MACMILLAN cancer support is encouraging locals to take part in their six mile walk around the Southern Circuit in Kerrera this weekend.

People can sign up for the walk, held on Sunday, June 19, or just turn up on the day at the Gallanach ferry slipway at 10am and make a donation to take part.

Jim Heward, Macmillan's Oban committee member, said: 'It's a really easy way to raise money for Macmillan while getting some exercise.'

Park celebrate bunting record

FAIRTRADE fans at Oban's Park Primary School are celebrating after contributing to new world-record line of bunting.

Children ranging from P1-P7 decorated some cotton bunting during Fairtrade Fortnight and sent it to the Fairtrade Foundation to be included in the world record attempt in May.

A pupil at Park Primary School said: 'We hope this has helped lots of people around the world involved in the cotton making industry.'

Capital Gaelic

A DEDICATED Gaelic school could open in Edinburgh as early as next year.

Councillors had been considering two options - either to create the dedicated school in the former Bonnington Primary, or to extend the existing Gaelic Medium Education (GME) unit at Tollcross Primary.

The city's councillors will be asked to vote on the issue at a full council meeting on June 30.

White-tailed eagles help island economy to soar

ECONOMIC benefits delivered by the Isle of Mull's white-tailed eagles have more than tripled in just five years, according to a new study by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB).

The organisation claim the birds bring at least £5 million to the island's economy annually, up from £1.4 million in 2005. Tourism generated supports 110 full-time jobs

and £2.4 million of local income.

The figures come as the result of a survey carried out last summer, in which over 1,200 people were asked their reasons for travelling to Mull.

Almost a quarter stated that the eagles were an important factor in their trip. Dave Sexton, RSPB Scotland's Mull officer said: 'This survey backs up previous studies looking at how

much wildlife tourism contributes to the Scottish economy; a strong argument for investing further in nature conservation projects. And of course, these figures say nothing about the additional benefits these projects can bring to our health and wellbeing, as well as the sheer exhilaration of simply watching these incredible birds soaring free.'

'Living and working with predators like eagles also has its challenges and we should be grateful for the work of farmers and land managers who have an essential role in safeguarding them for the nation.'

According to VisitScotland, the eagles account for 50 per cent of all enquiries at their information centre in Craignure during the summer months on the island.

Go ahead for forest buyout in Cowal

AN ARGYLL community is a step closer to an ambitious plan to turn around its fortunes after being granted the right to buy a local forest.

Colintraive and Glendaruel Community Development Trust, based in southwest Cowal, now has 18 months to raise £1.55 million to buy the land from the Forestry Commission.

They plan to use the 600 hectares of woodland at Stonafian for small enterprises, as an outdoor classroom for local school-

children and renewable energy projects. Trust chair Charles Dixon-Spain, said community ownership of the land would help reverse the area's social and economic decline. He said: 'The price tag may appear daunting, but we are confident development of our plans alongside our forestry consultant and potential funding agencies will secure this tremendous asset for the long term benefit of not only Colintraive and Glendaruel but for our neighbouring communities.'

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Western Isles hit by phone B&B scam

BED AND breakfast operators throughout the Western Isles are being warned of advertising scams after businesses were conned out of several hundred pounds.

Police officers have been informed that numerous businesses have been cold called by a man claiming that he is chasing up payments for advertising in a business directory - although there is no such publication.

Comhairle nan Eilean Siar's Trading Standards department have been contacted by numerous businesses throughout the Western Isles about fake invoices or calls demanding payments in excess of £200.

The council is advising businesses to be aware and not give out any personal details such as debit or credit card details to any cold callers.

Comhairle nan Eilean Siar's Trading Standards department can be contacted on 01851 822694.

Craignish Arts Festival 2011 aims to be best yet

CRAIGNISH Arts Festival 2011, which runs from July 23 - August 7, promises to be the best yet with a huge range of activities now lined up to suit everyone, from the youngest to the oldest members of the community and visitors alike.

In addition to the exhibition spaces around Ardfern and Craobh, showcasing the very best of local art, many artists will also be opening their studios and running workshops. An outdoor sculpture trail in the gardens of Lunga House, a fun scarecrow trail and the children's Pirate Parade workshops will add further splashes of colour.

With producers markets on each of the Sundays, theatre productions, live music, Vikings, Stramash archery and bush-craft activities, try-a-sail, guided archaeological, geological, toddler and gardens walks in addition to a wide range of other activities there really is something for everyone.

Spaces are still available for the car boot sale on the opening Sunday at Kintraw and entrants are still being sought for the Guinness Record attempt for the longest Reel of the 51 (Aberdonian Style) to be danced on the closing Sunday.



Brian gets ready for his 160-mile cycle ride for Yorkhill Children's Hospital, with proud son Joshua getting into the spirit.

Peddalling to say thanks to children's hospital

TAYNUILT'S Brian Reffin is to cycle 160 miles to Glasgow's Yorkhill Children's Hospital to say thanks for the care they have given his son, Joshua.

He will be joined on the gruelling fundraising journey in August by five friends from the North Argyll Cycling Club.

Joshua has already undergone eight life-saving operations at Yorkhill to correct a congenital heart defect.

While he is now well on the road to recovery, the family has learned that he will require his ninth general anaesthetic this summer to remove some excess muscle tissue from around his

heart - surgery that wasn't expected for another year to 18 months.

If anything, it has strengthened dad Brian's resolve to do as much as possible for the hospital - and he's set to put himself through the mill in what will be a mammoth 13-hour journey.

He will be joined in his efforts by Robin Morton, David Turnbull, Robert MacColl, Jim Montgomery and Kevin Whitehead.

Brian, already spurred on by wife Charlotte's efforts to run a 10k race last year in aid of the hospital, said: 'Initially, I had thought about doing John o'

Groats to Lands End, but it didn't seem relevant and logistically it would have been difficult.

'Then I thought about the journey we've taken hundreds, if not thousands of times from Taynuilt to Yorkhill for Joshua.

'Yeah, that's hard, but not hard enough, so I decided to make it a return journey so it's a real challenge.'

To complete the trip, Brian and his comrades will each burn 10,000 calories, whereas the average man would burn just 2,500 calories a day.

With only four brief stops planned and the cyclists climbing 4,247 feet across the route, it

will be an incredibly demanding physical challenge.

Preparing for it though, has proved a challenge, with weather and work combining to thwart many training days.

Brian said: 'I won't be able to put in anything like the 160 miles I'll be doing beforehand for a practice, but if I can get up to 120 or 130 I know I'll be able to do it.'

If you'd like to sponsor Brian and the team on their journey, visit www.justgiving.com/joshuasjourney. Sponsor sheets will also be circulated around the Oban and Taynuilt areas in the coming weeks.

Oban man admits attempted murder

High Court hears victim was stabbed several times before being doused with bleach

AN OBAN man who stabbed his victim several times before pouring bleach over his head admitted a charge of attempted murder at Glasgow High Court last Wednesday.

REPORT from GLASGOW HIGH COURT

"... both men warned him not to report the matter to the police."

advocate depute Laura Thomson

The victim was then chased by his attackers as he attempted to reach the safety of a nearby police station but collapsed unconscious near the entrance.

Nineteen-year-old Fraser McKerracher, whose address was given in court as c/o Polmont Young Offenders' Institution, and a friend attacked 37-year-old Michael MacDougall when he answered the front door of MacDougall's flat at Drimvargie Terrace, Oban on Sunday, February 27 this year.

MacDougall, a fisherman, was head-butted and stabbed four times because he took too long to answer his door, the court was told.

The court in Glasgow, held in front of Judge Lady Dorrian, also heard that MacDougall had been sleeping on a couch when he heard a knock at the door.

Advocate depute Laura Thomson, prosecuting, told the court: 'Mr MacDougall had fallen asleep

Miss Thomson added: 'As Mr MacDougall ran he heard the accused and the other man shouting at him not to go to the police.

'They caught up with him just as he reached the front door of the police station.

'Bystanders noticed that the accused had no top on and was covered in blood.

'Mr MacDougall fell to the ground and both men warned him not to report the matter to the police.

'At this point police officers saw Mr MacDougall lying on the ground. They saw he was bleeding heavily from a head wound and that he had collapsed to the ground unconscious.'

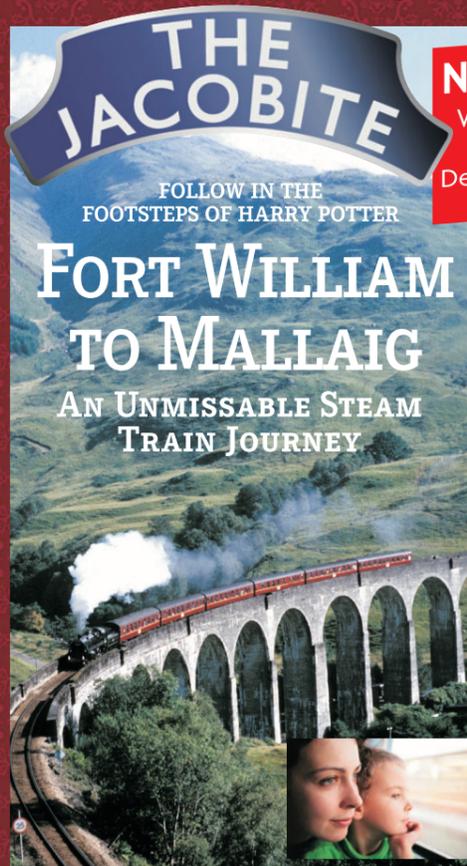
The court heard that MacDougall was taken to hospital in Paisley suffering from cuts to his head and stab wounds to his thigh and right forearm.

Mr MacDougall says he suffers from panic attacks as a result of this incident and is fearful when he hears people in the close area of his block of flats.

Judge Lady Dorrian deferred sentence on McKerracher until next month for background reports.

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Former Oban man faces jail

FORMER Oban man, Ruiridh Duncan, is facing a jail sentence after failing to complete his community service and lying about the reasons why.

Appearing at Campbeltown Sheriff Court on Thursday, Duncan, 20, now of 16C Saddell Street, Campbeltown, could face up to four years in jail after failing to turn up for community service on March 12 this year. He was originally convicted of being in possession of a knife near Oban High School on December 5, 2008.

Procurator fiscal, David Glancy, said the support network in place for Duncan had 'bent over backwards' to try and accommodate him, but found little in the way of reciprocation. The court also heard this was the third time Duncan had breached the order.

Sheriff Ruth Anderson said: 'He's had chance after chance and I'm giving serious consideration to imposing the direct alternative to community service, which is a custodial sentence.'

Sentence was deferred for background reports, but Duncan was warned any further revelations of lying would not bode well for him.

Sheriff Anderson told him: 'If I find out that you have been attempting to deceive this court in other matters, apart from this one, I will take a very serious view of your conduct.'



Staying safe are, from the left Kathleen McNiven, Little Learners Nursery manager, Mairi Blair, assistant director of Road Safety Scotland, Audrey McCamley, from Little Learners Nursery and June Graham, road safety officer with Argyll and Bute Council, plus three of the toddlers who have taken

Ziggy makes safety learning fun for toddlers

A GROUP of toddlers are on the road to a safe and secure future - and it's all thanks to a cartoon character called Ziggy.

Ziggy has been helping the youngsters at the Little Learners Nursery, in Dunstaffnage, look after themselves as part of a Road Safety Scotland (RSS) campaign.

Fun learning

RSS assistant director Mairi Blair called into the nursery last week along with road safety staff from Argyll and Bute Council to see how the children were getting along with Ziggy - and she was delighted.

The safety campaign is normally aimed at the three to five age group, but some 22 two to three-year-olds at the nursery have joined Ziggy in a number of stories which bring real life road safety situations to life.

Mairi said: 'Providing a brand new look at road safety education for early childhood was five years in the making.'

She explained that the beauty of the scheme is that the toddlers don't really know they are actually learning about road safety - they just think they are having fun.

Audrey McCamley, one of the Little Learners staff, added: 'It's been a massive success - the kids have loved it.'

Fate of Argyll outdoor centre to be decided this week

THE FATE of an Argyll outdoor education centre will be decided today, Thursday June 16.

Owners Fife Council agreed to stop funding for Ardroy in Lochgoilhead from next month, but a council committee will consider a proposal by individuals in Argyll to take over the centre as a social enterprise.

The bidders, who have not been named, hope to cater to Fife schoolchildren as well as families and business groups.

More than 7,000 campaigners have joined a Facebook group to save Ardroy.

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Ice rink in centre's plan

AN ICE rink will be laid at Oban's Atlantis Leisure centre to mark the beginning of a week-long Christmas celebration in the town.

Local charity Ready, Steady, Christmas will organise events from November 19 - 27, beginning with a visit from Santa Claus in a reindeer parade, run by the Rotary Club of Oban.

The ice rink will open the same day on the back football pitch at Atlantis Leisure, as well as carriage rides to Dunollie House and a Victorian Market.

Events during the week will also include a sugar craft workshop, a 'Call My Bluff' wine evening, comedy club, town ceilidh and a Santa race.

The culmination of the week will see a mass choir singing Christmas carols and a children's market at the Corran Halls.

Organisers say they hope to add a few more events to the calendar once they are confirmed.

This is the fourth year Ready, Steady, Christmas has organised a Christmas event. Businesses in the town have helped by way of work in-kind, as the events run without sponsorship. Any money made goes to an Oban-based charity and last year Friends of Oban Hospice benefited.

Cancer screening test reminder

WOMEN on the west coast are being reminded to make a date for a cervical smear.

Changes found by cervical screening tests may give an early warning to the possibility of developing cancer. By dealing with this at an early stage, many cervical cancers can be stopped.

Pauline Jespersion of Oban Medical Practice said: 'The test takes about five minutes and you should be able to carry on as normal afterwards. The test should not be painful but you may find it a bit uncomfortable.'

'Most women have the screening test carried out at their GP surgery. You can ask for a female nurse or doctor when making the appointment. Tell your doctor or nurse if you are feeling anxious and they will be happy to talk through any concerns, or visit www.nhs24.com/cervicalscreening.'

Halt transfer of sick children

Hospital practice called into question at council meeting

LOCAL area councillors in Lorn are condemning the practice of transferring sick children hundreds of miles by road to hospitals in Paisley or Glasgow - in some cases for them to be sent home within an hour of arrival.

Children are forced to make the long trip to the central belt as there is no paediatric specialist on duty in Oban after 5pm on weekdays - with no service at all at the weekends.

Hospital bosses argue there is always a service in Oban and clinicians keep their practice up to date.

However, Councillor Mary-Jean Devon, vice chair of Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee, is demanding a rethink before something serious happens. She said: 'Why are we sending children, babies, down the road when they could easily be treated in Oban.'

'It is a horrendous worry. 'Where are we if our local hospital cannot treat our children and has to send them all the way to Glasgow - a trip of three hours.'

'I want the local health partnership to justify why there is not a better service in Oban. In this day and age is there not a virtual link between consultants and patients that could be used. The cost, the

worry, and the distance should make everyone look at practical and simple alternatives.'

Oban councillor Donald 'Skye' McIntosh said: 'More children than ever are being taken to Glasgow - it is not good for children or their families. In some cases I know of children who have been sent straight back up to Oban, and on other occasions there have been four children, all from Oban, on a ward.'

'This proves there is a need for someone based full-time in Oban.'

Councillors have now called for a meeting to discuss this and other issues.

NHS Highland said: 'We have a consultant community paediatrician on duty Monday to Friday 9am until 5pm. The current post holder has been here for some time and there has been no recent change in this regard. Specialist children's nurses support the current post holder. Out of hours service to children is provided on site at Lorn and Islands Hospital by GPs who have undergone training in the care of children.'

'The hospital is also covered 24 hours a day by consultant physicians and consultant anaesthetists, all of whom have undergone training in paediatric life support.'



Jim Kirkpatrick, Oban and Lorn Horticultural Society president, and Donald MacKenzie's son, Stewart, take a seat on the memorial bench at the park beside Oban War Memorial as members of the horticultural society look on. 15_124bench03

Gardeners present memorial bench

A MEMORIAL bench has been erected in Oban to 'a man of many parts', by members of Oban and Lorn Horticultural Society.

Donald MacKenzie, who died last year, was a Commando in World War II and his bench now sits, fittingly, on the grass park beside the town's war memorial.

But, as his gardening friends explained, Donald was known to many for various roles within the Oban community, including

his gardening and horticultural exploits.

A stalwart of the horticultural society over many years, he remained a committee member until his death at the age of 91 years. Horticultural society member Ronnie MacKillop met Donald 43 years ago through the society's annual flower shows. He said: 'He was the backbone of this society for so long; when it was on a low, he would bring it back up again.'

'He was a man of many parts, whether it be local sports, horticulturalism, country dancing, gardening, bee keeping, or his knowledge of history. He was tops in all of them.'

Donald MacKenzie's son, Stewart, received the bench on behalf of the community and said: 'My father would be very humbled to think that he is remembered by so many people. He was never happier than when in his garden or in the company

of like-minded people. His family hugely appreciate such a kind gesture by the society.'

The committee said it bought the bench to have a lasting tribute to Donald and to commemorate his life. President Jim Kirkpatrick added: 'He remained part of the committee until he died and was always a willing helper - not just in an advisory role but also hands-on.'

'He wasn't one to sit back and watch.'

No complaints to barge in Oban Bay

DESPITE an offer to discuss moving or repainting it, not one person contacted cabling company North West Marine about its oft-criticised barge off Oban's north pier.

Tony Ratcliffe, managing director of the company, last month said he was quite prepared to consider options for the barge if people came to him with concerns. He also pointed out that the floatation is a vital cog in the heart of a working harbour.

With not one person taking up the offer to discuss the barge, he says he is now content to leave it where it is. He said: 'Not one person got in touch. I think that shows we have one or two individuals making a lot of noise about nothing. In fact, the only responses I've had to my comments in *The Oban Times* was that it was well said.'

Tory councillor calls for council workers to 'toughen up'

A TORY councillor is asking workers to 'toughen up', and in the meantime, he says, Argyll and Bute Council should look at the introduction of statutory sick pay for workers.

Comments made at last week's executive committee were met with shock in some quarters, and wishful thinking by others.

Authorities such as Glasgow City Council are already making the move towards statutory sick pay to save sick pay costs.

At present in Argyll and Bute workers take an average 2.7 days off every quarter costing the authority hundreds of thousands of pounds per year. If the trend continues the council has to find cover for 44,906 days lost per year through absence.

Councillor Gary Mulvaney, Conservative representative on the ruling group said: 'We are looking at huge payments for staffing compared to the private sector.'

'Statutory Sick Pay is a good incentive to get people back to work. We are going to have to toughen up.'

Argyll and Bute Council confirmed it was not considering any changes to its pay and conditions for staff.

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Corran man cut free from crash pick-up

A CORRAN man was taken to the Belford Hospital on Monday after his pick-up was in collision with another vehicle on the A82 at Three Mile Water south of Fort William.

The accident, which happened at around 12.15pm, closed the road in both directions for a short time as emergency services dealt with the incident.

It is understood the male driver had to be cut free from his vehicle by firemen after it overturned.

He was released from hospital later that afternoon after being treated for mild shock. A report is being submitted to the Procurator Fiscal.

West Highland writers win Neil Gunn awards

WEST Highland entrants were among the winners at the presentation of prizes in the 2011 Neil Gunn writing competition at Inverness on Tuesday.

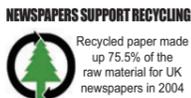
Ewen MacColl from Spean Bridge Primary won third prize and Auchtertyre Primary's John Williamson was commended in the primary section; Caitlin Ferguson from Ardnarmurchan High School was highly commended in the secondary school section and Sarah Van Hove from the Isle of Skye was highly commended in the adult poetry category.

Author Andrew Greig led the panel judging the 335 entries.

Midsummer Readings in Portree

SLEAT-based Gaelic writer Meg Bateman and poet and artist Alec Finlay will perform 'Midsummer Readings' at the Isle of Skye Baking Company in Portree next Tuesday.

The free event, organised by local arts groups ATLAS and Skye Literary Salon, begins at 7pm.



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Prizewinners line up at the Crofters Olympics at the event's new field next to the sea at Camuscross. 20_124camus01

Fun all the way at Crofters' Olympics

IT WAS fun all the way at the Crofters' Olympics at Camuscross on Saturday as Sleat communities celebrated high summer with one of their biggest social events of the year.

The event was much missed in 2010 after attempts to negotiate a venue broke down, but the enforced absence saw the Olympics return with a revamped format at a new site, a field next to the shore below Talla Duisdeil.

Some £2,400 was raised, before costs were deducted, for Camuscross and Duisdale Initiative's fund for community projects. However, the day was tinged with tragedy when Philip Robert Atkinson, known as Robbie, a chef at the nearby Kinloch Lodge, died when his motorbike collided with a car on the A87 near Breakish.

Community land group appoints first employee

COMMUNITY Land Scotland (CLS), the body set up to serve and represent the interests of the community land sector, will shortly appoint its first employee.

The organisation, launched at Inverness last September, will interview 'five excellent candidates' in the Highland capital on Monday for the part time post of policy director, chairman David Cameron told The Oban Times.

Mr Cameron, who also chairs the North Harris Trust, said the appointment would be a major step forward for the group as it seeks to expand its leverage at all political levels.

The new policy director would be key to establishing 'a visible and well respected leadership for the sector', Mr Cameron said, responsible for raising CLS' profile and building networks and relationships.

He said: 'We hope to be making representations on behalf of the Community Land Scotland membership to local and national government.

'We have to have an established policy regarding the Scottish Government's review of the Land Reform Act and the Scottish Land Fund.

'Other areas of interest are the Crown Estate's role, on which we have made a submission to the Scottish Affairs Select Committee, who we hope to meet later this year.

'We also have to take a policy stance on the transfer of public land into community ownership at nil or reduced cost - particularly land currently owned by the Ministry of Defence, Forestry Commission Scotland and Scottish Natural Heritage.'

CLS held a successful first conference in North Harris in March, boosted by £60,000 funding support from Highlands and Islands Enterprise.

It has a board of seven directors drawn from the community land sector and aims to establish community land ownership as 'the best model of sustainable community regeneration' by 2025.

Taxi owners fear fare hike backlash

Fort operators launch petition to keep prices as they are

TAXI operators in Fort William are fighting a council decision to increase fares across the Highlands, The Oban Times can reveal.

EXCLUSIVE REPORT by RICHARD HADDOCK fort@obantimes.co.uk

Highland Council recently announced a rise in the maximum amounts cabbies are allowed to charge for a journey, which is due to come into force from June 27.

However, many Lochaber taxi owners have signed a petition to the council's transport, environmental and community services committee to keep the current fare scale.

The council says raising fares is necessary to offset increases in the costs of operating taxis, such as rising diesel, petrol and insurance premiums.

Tommy Blyth of Greyhound Taxis told The Oban Times many operators in the town feared the price hike could drive local people away.

Claiming Fort firms' wishes were being ignored in favour of Inverness operators, he said: 'We feel these changes have been brought in to suit the taxi companies in the city, and we just can't sustain it down here.

The council in Inverness keeps adding to the fares and we don't think that's right.

'The majority of taxi operators here are in favour of keeping the status quo.'

Mr Blyth said Fort operators had lodged objections with Highland Council to the last three fares increases without success, and argued for a variable charging policy to reflect different economic circumstances in Inverness compared with elsewhere.

He said: 'I'm not sure if the petition will have any effect, it's as if we are just the country cousins here. But at least it will let them know we are not in favour of it.'

Six members of the public lodged objections to the fares rise, including one from an Inverness taxi driver. But on May 26 the committee decided to press ahead with the increase.

Vice chairman Councillor Brian Murphy told The Oban Times taxi firms had missed their chance to get their point across, as any public objections had to be in before the meeting.

He said: 'The decision has been taken and I doubt very much if any petition would change it. We review the taxi fares every 18 months and every taxi company should have received notification. But I'd be more than willing to talk to any taxi operators about it.'

'I think the majority of taxi drivers are in favour of this. Fuel prices have gone up considerably, and if they feel the rates are too high they can charge less than the maximum.'

Councillor Murphy agreed there should be different fare scales for different parts of the Highlands.

'They are different markets,' he said. 'I have tried to get that changed a number of times, but I have always been voted down. So this is what we are stuck with at the moment.'

pro rata you have the least support of all.

'Most people think that is wrong because the current system skews support away from schools with composite classes, whereas it should be skewed towards them.'

He added: 'Nobody will lose their job, we have funding available for 2011-12.

'We will discuss this with the unions.

'We aim to have the new system in place for August 2012 and we will deal with the finance required during this year.'

And in a one teacher school covering primary one to seven,

make budget savings. Highland Council leader, Councillor Michael Foxley told The Oban Times: 'Learning support and classroom assistants are highly valued for the work they do, but the system has not been reviewed for years.

'For example, if you are in a three teacher school with composite classes, you have less classroom support than a seven teacher school with seven classes and no composite classes.

'And in a one teacher school covering primary one to seven,

Scottish castle dream wedding become reality for Appin bride

IT IS usually the stuff of fairytales but one Appin bride made her dream wedding a reality after tying the knot in a romantic castle in the middle of a Scottish loch.

Lorna Cole and her husband-to-be Douglas Mason were taken to Stalker Castle in Loch Linne by boat, accompanied by piper Sandy MacDonell, from Kingussie, and the service was conducted by Appin minister Red Dr Roderick Campbell within the walls of one of the most scenic and photographed castles in Scotland.

The last bride to be married in the castle was Lorna's aunt, Mairi Lester (nee Black), who had travelled from Tasmania for the wedding.

There were also a host of relatives and friends from as far afield as Canada, USA and the Netherlands.

A reception and dance was held in a marquee at Stalker Croft, Appin next to the castle.



The bridal party gather at the stunning setting of historic Stalker Castle, Appin. Picture - Dougie Johnston Photography

Dunstaffnage fish farm manager wins top national industry award

Scottish Sea Farms, Isle of Colonsay Oysters, Scottish Salmon Company and Muckairn Mussels Ltd are winners

DESPITE only being in the position for just over two years, Dunstaffnage Marine Farm manager, David Duffy, has been named Scotland's finest.

David, who lives with his family in Oban, has been with Scottish Sea Farms since he was just 16 and worked his way up to becoming the company's youngest ever manager at just 29 in 2009.

Last week he was presented with the Scottish Marine Aquaculture Award's Best Farm Manager prize at Edinburgh's Prestonfield Hotel during an exclusive awards ceremony last week.

Judges say the accolade recognises his contribution to developing the Lochmuir salmon farming programme for Marks

and Spencer, for which he won the retail giant's Plan A award last year.

As well as being Scottish Sea Farms youngest ever manager, David was the youngest person nominated for the award.

David said: 'It's all a wee bit much to take in. I really didn't expect it, although I had an inkling I was in with a chance because of the Marks and Spencer award.

'I've just been doing what I think is the correct thing to do, and I've been doing this job since I was 16.

'I got slated for leaving school for this job because I could have gone to college to do a fish farming course, but I knew there was opportunities here.

'Hopefully I can be a role model to some of the younger guys coming in here.'

Best Marine Aquaculture Company award went to the Scottish Salmon Company, while the prestigious Best Finfish Farm Award was won by Scottish Sea Farms, Lismore North.

Scottish Sea Farms also won the Best Supplier of the Year award by nominating its partner, Fusion Marine.

Aquaculture Ambassador of the Year award went to Walter Speirs, managing director of Muckairn Mussels Ltd at Connel and one of Europe's leading authorities on shellfish farming, with Best Shellfish Farm award going to Isle of Colonsay Oysters.



David Duffy, who last week was named Scotland's top fish farm manager at the Scottish Marine Aquaculture Awards.

16 Years Ago Those Were The Days The Oban Times Thursday, June 15, 1995

£20 million to upgrade Argyll water supplies. A STAGGERING £20 million is to be spent over the next five years upgrading public water supplies in Argyll and Bute, it was disclosed this week.

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD. Across 7 Roll (6), 8 Bearded or Border (6), 9 Enthusiastic (4), 10 Beverage container (3,5), 11 File (7), 13 Fine and (5), 15 Class (5), 17 Large house (7), 20 Cold liquid (3,5), 21 A few (4), 22 Host (6), 23 Fisherman (6). Down 1 Shake (6), 2 Lying (4), 3 Merry (7), 4 Vivacity (5), 5 Nice (8), 6 Made to look better than it is! (6), 12 Bible (4,4), 14 Warming (7), 16 Yoke of lace (6), 18 Bangle worn high (6), 19 Swindled (5), 21 Story spanning the years (4).

National award for Glencoe Cottages

A LOCHABER cottage provider has scooped a national award for its efforts in promoting sustainable tourism.

Glencoe Cottages won the coveted Carbon Footprint Award from the Green Tourism Business Scheme at a prestigious ceremony at the Royal Yacht Club in Knightsbridge, London.

The company set up the first mini-district heating system in the UK using a wood-burning boiler to serve five sarking wood-insulated buildings. Solar panels heat the water in summer.

Owner Victoria Sutherland said: 'I'm originally from Denmark so using wood for fuel was something I was brought up with. I'm delighted that our efforts have been recognised because sometimes you wonder if people appreciate the effort you've put in.'

Bakery banks on Back School's new biscuit

BACK School pupils on Lewis have developed a new biscuit to help an island bakery expand its product range.

Tomorrow (Friday) the children will visit Stag Bakeries in Stornoway to see their prize-winning strawberry and white chocolate biscuit begin production.

The bakery had challenged local schools to develop a new product for distribution to hotels and coffee shops.

Primary schools on the move with gala, run and sports

THE LOCHABER primary schools' swimming gala, hill run and interschool sports next Tuesday promises to be another competitive affair.

The gala and prizegiving will run from 10am to 12noon at Lochaber Leisure Centre before the children move on to Claggan Park for the hill run at 1pm. An afternoon of athletics will follow, with the prizegiving scheduled for 4pm.



Helena Rose from Roy Bridge: Highland Young Musician of the Year 2011.

Roy Bridge violinist Helena wins Young Musician of the Year

LOCHABER High School violinist Helena Rose is Highland Young Musician of the Year 2011 after delivering a faultless performance at the Drumossie Hotel, Inverness, on Sunday.

Roy Bridge girl Helena, 13, was the youngest of the nine competitors in the afternoon heat and won through to the evening final, where the six contenders had to play a short recital in front of the judges and audience. Helena's superb 15-minute programme, accompanied by dad Peter on the piano, included pieces by Bach, Elgar and Sarasote.

A delighted Peter told *The Oban Times*: 'A really lovely comment made publicly by the three judges was that 'they could close their eyes and really believe they were in the Royal Albert Hall'. I don't think she could ask for more than that!'

He added: 'Helena was a great credit to her teacher Sarah Murray of Whitebridge, an ex-violinist with the BBC Welsh National Orchestra, Lochaber Music School of which she has been a member for six years and, of course, to her school, Lochaber High.'

Crofters lead war on plants

New bid to rid Lochaber woodland of invasive rhododendron

By STEPHEN NORRIS snorris@obantimes.co.uk

THE WEST Highlands' war to reclaim land from invasive rhododendron has opened a new front in a Lochaber woodland.

The Onich to North Ballachulish Woods Special Area of Conservation was being choked by the alien species, threatening its internationally recognised oak and ashwood habitat.

But now the 2.5 square-mile woodland is well on its way to recovery - thanks to the efforts of local crofters.

Leading the campaign is Cuilcheanna grazings clerk Colin Campbell, who has been cutting, burning and spraying the fast-spreading pest, allowing sunlight to reach plants and saplings once more.

Mr Campbell described the backbreaking work, which is being funded under the Scottish Rural Development Programme (SRDP), as 'at times a bit of a nightmare'.

He said: 'In part of the hill we faced 100 per cent coverage and



Colin Campbell and Martin Faulkner put paid to another rhododendron.

had to cut lanes to get access for equipment and to have space to work.

'There was nothing under this canopy but dead leaves and peat and the odd tree, but now we have cleared the site and from the main A82 you see a barren patch that is slowly being recolonised instead of dense green jungle.'

'The removal of these plants has enabled us to take the first steps in enhancing the native woodland

and the vegetation on the hill. In addition to the clearance we are refencing the whole hill and will have cattle and other livestock to promote regeneration and other benefits for not only ourselves but the community at large.'

He added: 'I would say that rhododendron control is a long term commitment and in our case very time consuming as we had to use manual clearance with chainsaws and tools.'

'But as long as you follow up and keep on top of the plants they can be contained and eventually eradicated. If it were not for the SRDP we would not have been able to do the work and enable the hill to be regenerated.'

Area officer with Scottish Natural Heritage Martin Faulkner said: 'We are really impressed with the progress Colin has made in tackling this. His efforts will go a long way to helping the site recover to favourable condition.'

SNH is appealing for more land managers across the country to join schemes designed to help improve the condition of protected nature sites.

Festival prizewinning pipers

THE OBAN Times would like to clarify that Eilean Donan Piping Festival prizewinning pipers James Roxburgh and Seamus O'Boaighill are tutored by Iain MacFadzean, teacher of music at Plockton High School, and are not members of Lochalsh Junior Pipe Band as we reported last week.

Plockton in running for top beach award

PLOCKTON is looking to lick the opposition in the Cadbury Flake 99 Great British Beach Awards.

The scenic Lochalsh village currently lies in third spot in the online poll to find the favourite UK seaside destination.

Eight finalists are in the running for the award and Plockton is the only Scottish representative.

Oban Times readers wishing to push Plockton up the rankings can vote at www.cadburyicecreamland.com/greatbritishbeachawardvote until June 30.

The winner will be announced on Monday July 4.



Irene Chapman receives her special birthday card from Donald Cameron of Lochiel.

Irene's 105 years young!

A LOCHABER woman celebrated her 105th birthday last Thursday, joined by Lord Lieutenant of Inverness-Shire Donald Cameron of Lochiel, who delivered a telegram from The Queen to mark the occasion.

Irene Chapman, from Spean Bridge, was born on June 9, 1906, two days after *RMS Lusitania*, then the world's largest ship, was launched in Glasgow.

Irene has lived in Spean Bridge with her good friends Audrey and John Hebborn for 30 years having first visited the area on holiday.

Born in Twickenham one of four children, she attributes her long life to eating good food and keeping active. Her family say her faith and sense of humour, which have never deserted her, also play an important part.

Always a caring person, Irene lived with and looked after her parents and aunts until their deaths.

Singing in her local church choir and playing the piano, music played an important part in her life. In her 60s Irene moved to Crowhurst Christian Healing Centre in Sussex as a member of staff and it was here that she met the Hebborns.

Her niece, who now lives in Italy, and one of her nephews, joined Irene to reminisce and celebrate her long, happy life.

A82 road upgrade group want answers on work timescale

Partnership to press transport minister over vital improvements

THE GROUP campaigning for the upgrading of the A82 will have its first meeting with the new SNP Government when it meets Transport Minister Keith Brown in Edinburgh on June 28.

Top of the A82 Partnership's agenda will be the timescale for beginning work on vital improvements along the tortuous eight-mile section north of Tarbet along Loch Lomondside and a bypass at Crianlarich.

The summit follows a meeting between A82 Partnership representatives and First Minister Alex Salmond in Fort William

during the Scottish Parliament election campaign.

Earlier this year at a conference at Bridge of Orchy, Transport Scotland confirmed it planned to proceed with £200,000 design work for road upgrades between Tarbet and Inverarnan, subject to funding. Highland Council and the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park Authority also agreed to contribute to the cost.

Progress
A82 Partnership chairman Councillor Brian Murphy said: 'We will be seeking an update from the Minister on the progress

of the planned works at Pulpit Rock and the Crianlarich bypass together with an update on progress of the design works for the upgrading of the road between Tarbet and Inverarnan.'

'These are the projects which the First Minister made a commitment to during his brief visit to Fort William prior to the recent Scottish Parliament elections.'

Guarantee
The group is also expected to press the Minister on the need to stipulate that bidders in the upcoming rail franchise contract tendering procedure must

guarantee adequate heating and toilets on West Highland Line trains. Passengers regularly complained of freezing carriages as temperatures plummeted below zero last winter, raising questions about the quality of the rolling stock.

In a letter to Highlands and Islands MSP last week, Mr Brown said: 'Preparations are currently being made to carry out a consultation later this year which will allow stakeholders the opportunity to comment on, and make suggestions on, what should be included in the next contract for rail passenger services.'



Mod trophy winner Alistair celebrates

Our comprehensive coverage of the Lochaber Provincial Mod last week was missing one important winner - Alistair MacRae of Lochside. Alistair gained first place with fiddle age 13 and under with 98 marks, a first for solo Gaelic singing in the boys age 9-10 section with 91 marks for Gaelic and 91 for music - the highest music mark of the day. Alistair is pictured, left, with his trophies.

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Drink drive clampdown

NORTHERN Constabulary says too many people are gambling with their own and others' lives by drinking and driving after week one of its Safer Summer campaign ended on Monday.

Figures reveal 14 drink drivers, 13 men and one woman, were caught compared with eight during the same period last year. Four men were also detected for impairment through drugs. There were three road traffic collisions where two drivers tested positively for drink driving and one for drugs impairment.

Six people were kept in custody, while one vehicle was requested for forfeiture as a result of drink driving. The campaign runs until Monday June 20.

THE WIDE MOUTHED FROG

Visit us for a Father's Day treat on Sunday 19th June

The Wide Mouthed Frog is one of the best award winning restaurants on the West Coast and offers an excellent meeting place in a truly spectacular and beautiful location.

Light or traditional breakfast, and morning coffees, lunches and dinner are served in our intimate restaurant, bistro, courtyard or decking areas, with stunning views of Dunstaffnage Bay and Castle with the Isle of Mull as a backdrop.

Come along and meet our Friendly and warm team not so far from Oban Town.

Dunstaffnage Marina, Dunbeg, By Oban. Tel: 01631 567005

CONNEL

CHILDREN at Achaleven Primary School will be ending the school year on a high note. Pupils took part in a music workshop lead by Fischey Music on Friday June 10 followed by a concert in Glencruitten Church. Then on Monday, they joined Dunbeg Primary School for a Scottish Opera workshop and again performed for parents. IT APPEARS Connel's community-owned speed camera is helping to encourage drivers to slow down. Secretary Les Stewart said members of the community council had been out using the camera on a number of occasions. He said drivers seemed to be getting the message to cut their speed through the village: 'The results have endorsed the police statistics that it doesn't seem to be as bad as we thought it was.'

STAFF at Connel surgery have apologised to any patients left confused about a regular staff training day on Tuesday June 7. The surgery was open as usual in the morning and notices to inform them of the afternoon closure were displayed in the run up to the event. The pharmacy was open all day. Practice manager Gail MacGregor said it was vital for staff to have the four scheduled training sessions per year and they always sought to make sure patients knew when they were taking place.



Ballachulish pupils go with the flow

Ballachulish Primary School pupils went with the flow when local Scottish Water employee Stephen Cairns brought his van and equipment to school. Mr Cairns explained what he does in his job working on the waste water side of the business. Pupils were really surprised with some of the contents on his van - particularly the fold away sink! The visit was part of the class topic on water.

CANNA

CANNA recently celebrated the life of the Gaelic bard, Alasdair MacMhaighstir Alasdair and his connection to the island at a day conference. The event, part of the Year of the Scottish Islands, was hosted by islands arts group Ealan nan Eilean, supported by the National Trust for Scotland (NTS) who provided the staff for the day.

Canna, with its strong Gaelic traditions, was formerly owned by Dr John Lorne Campbell, who had researched the life and work of the bard over many years, starting with his publication in the 1930's of the 'Highland Songs of the '45'. NTS made available artefacts from Dr Campbell's collection in Canna House. The event was chaired by Professor William Gillies with talks by Meg Bateman and Gavin Parsons ably supported by the excellent voice of Griogair Labhruidh. A large contingent from the Gaelic college of Sabhal Mòr Ostaig attended. The venue was St Columba's chapel, kindly made available for the day by the Canna congregation as a tribute to the Bard, who did so much for Gaelic when much of Highland culture was being decimated in the aftermath of the '45.

MORVERN

MORVERN Community Council met for its June meeting in Lochaline Village Hall. Abridged minutes: Michael Ansell and Alex Reading of Forestry Commission Scotland (FCS) gave a presentation on the development of small hydro-electric schemes. Sixteen schemes were being considered with an annual rent going to FCS and the local communities. Glen Lyon, Perthshire, was highlighted for the good working relationship which had been established between the different landowners, other stakeholders and the local communities. The proposed Savary River Scheme in Morvern is designed to produce 670kw but possibly being upgraded to 7-800kw. It would involve building a 2km pipeline on the west side of the burn and a turbine house close to the road, but it could be at least two years before the developer would be ready to submit a planning application. Various options for the local community to become involved were discussed. Self-development start-up costs would require raising around £150,000 followed by financial input from other sources. A Green Highland Scheme would require no capital and would cost £5k per megawatt installed. Five per cent equity would go to the community and thereafter they could invest along with other parties. FCS is considering its own hydro scheme in the Sallachan Burn, which should produce 341 kilowatts. It already has planning permission and a grid connection however work has been delayed on account of the higher than anticipated civil engineering costs. FCS engineers are examining the possibility of placing the intake at a higher elevation to decrease the installation costs and increase the flow rate. Further discussion with Scottish Power is needed to determine how the electricity generated will be exported. FCS hope this scheme will still go ahead but it may take longer than was first envisaged. The community benefit to Morvern was confirmed at the rate of £5,000 per megawatt. Wind potential as a renewable is not considered to be feasible in

Morvern and it is doubtful that wind farms will be next. Key to the success of all renewable schemes is the tariffs and if they hold up after a government review in 2012. However, it is unlikely that small-scale schemes will be affected. Councillor Bren Gormley stated his support for all renewable schemes, especially where small communities had the opportunity to become involved. Chairman Iain Thornber reported that he had had a further meeting with Mr Bruce-Low of Highland Council who reiterated his intention to carry out resurfacing work to the road from Lochaline Stores to the West Pier via the War Memorial and Torr na Faire. The section of road from the Mungosdale Bridge to the Driminn Ferry was inspected and considered to be in a poor state. The chairman had written to Mr Bruce-Low's line manager asking when repairs were to be done but had not received a reply. Trees along the Driminn Road had been inspected but other than in a few cases were not deemed to be dangerous. Secretary Sarah Jones reported on the outcome of a meeting she had had with Nick Taylor, Highland Council, regarding the foot path to the primary school and the necessity of moving the bus shelter during and after the completion of the contract. It was confirmed that repairs to the damaged core footpath leading from the Lochaline Stores to the school would be undertaken by the contractor and that the final position of the bus shelter would be determined through public consultation as the contract progressed. Area clean-up: In view of the likely increase in the number of people arriving in the lower village as a result of the pontoon project coming on stream, the MCC has agreed and approved a serious of schemes to tidy up and enhance the area from the Field of Hope along to the public conveniences above the road. This would entail the cutting of the steep bank below Lochaline Stores, Post Office and White House Restaurant. CMAL, which owns the bank above the bottom road and opposite the old shop, have agreed to pay for most of the thick vegetation to be cut, chipped and removed. David Christian has been given the contract. Alan Kennedy, representing Ardnornish Estate, has agreed to remove the scrub and trees on estate ground between Kyle House and the steps leading to the social club. Clearance in this area will expose an old landmark known as the Soldier's Well and make it suitable for restoration and interpretation. Estimates are being sought for the provision of an appropriate wooden screen round the commercial wheelie bins opposite Jean's Café. Lochaline Dive Centre and Lochaline Social Club have been asked as landowners and tenants to arrange for the abandoned boats, trailers and unwanted marine gear to be removed from the boat trailer area adjacent to the social club.



Ardgour summer fete fun

Ardgour Primary School held its summer fete recently and raised more than £800 for school funds. Activities included face painting, portraits, a barbecue, archery, plants stall, beat the goalie, a Hawaiian corner selling fruit cocktails and beautiful hand made garlands, and guessing the weight of the cake. School secretary Rosie MacLean said: 'The sun shone and everyone had a great day. The parent council would like to say thank you to the local Ardgour businesses for their support in making the day such a success.'

Down Your Way

This week - Morar and Arisaig



Camusdarach field was busy on Saturday as blue skies prevailed at the Road to the Isles Show. The venue is up for sale. 20_f24show07

THE ROAD to the Isles Show could be looking for a new home next year. Mr and Mrs Andrew Simpson are retiring and have put their house and the campsite, which includes the field where the show is held, up for sale. Camusdarach has been home to the show since the late 1990s, its seaside location proving popular with locals and visitors. Mr Simpson told *The Oban Times* finding a buyer would not be easy in the present climate, but he hoped the show would stay where it was. 'It is entirely possible that a new owner will continue to allow the show to use the field, but it is also possible that he might not. We are hoping that we find somebody who is sympathetic, but selling the property must come first.'

Local man Hughie MacDonald, of Craig Mhor, Arisaig, was founder of the show back in 1996. He praised the standard of entries and the commitment shown by exhibitors. He told *The Oban Times*: 'You have to admire the effort that people like Donald Campbell of Camaghael and all the people taking part have put in over the years. The show has gone from strength to strength and long may that continue.' Angie Cameron won the best animal in show with his Blackfaced ewe in milk.

Local man Hughie MacDonald, of Craig Mhor, Arisaig, was founder of the show back in 1996. He praised the standard of entries and the commitment shown by exhibitors. He told *The Oban Times*: 'You have to admire the effort that people like Donald Campbell of Camaghael and all the people taking part have put in over the years. The show has gone from strength to strength and long may that continue.'

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The Road to the Isles Show traditionally boasts a fine entry of Highland Cattle - and Saturday was no different as spectators enjoyed the spectacle of the beautifully turned out animals being judged in the showing. Pictured above are the class winners lining up for final judging. Champion was a Highland cow with a March-born calf at foot from Mr and Mrs Schuster, Glenstrae, Dalmally. 20_f24show08

ARISAIG Community Council secretary Maureen MacColl was among the hundreds of local people who attended the show. Maureen intimated to *The Oban Times* that an Arisaig village map to inform visitors where to go and what to see in and around the village would be unveiled on Tuesday June 14. The laminated map, produced to a design painted by Corpach artist Felicity Nightingale, will stand on the shorefront opposite the post office.



Audrey MacDonald of Portnadoran, Back of Keppoch, Arisaig, assisted by Ernie Yule, presented some high-class Suffolk sheep for judging at the show on Saturday. Audrey won the overall non-Blackfaced sheep section and reserve sheep champion with her ewe. 20_f24show09

PLOCKTON

TROPLALOC, organised by Louisa MacInnes, which raises money for the Ecuador project, held a film and food night in Plockton Hall on June 4 and raised more than £200. Mull Theatre presented 'The Mysterious Death of Netta Foinario' by Chris Lee to an appreciative audience in Dornie Hall on May 30. Sailing: The second and third races in the Moore Bowl series for local boats were held on Friday June 3 and Saturday June 4. Only two boats competed. Friday: 1 Ian Hay (Nan); 2 Douglas Hamilton (Ajax). Saturday: 1 Ian Hay (Nan); 2 Malcolm MacKenzie (Ajax).



Port Ellen Primary School Gaelic Choir

Port Ellen dominates prize list at Islay Mòd

COMPETITORS from Port Ellen largely dominated the prize list in the junior section of the Islay Mòd held in the local high school on June 4. Port Ellen Primary Choir, under the baton of Maureen MacDonald, took the top honours in the unison and two part harmony sections and went on to win the action song and psalm singing competitions. Solo singing performers from the village also covered themselves in glory including Alison Cairns and Eilidh MacDonald. It was also a successful day for Bowmore schoolboy Ryan Johnston, piper Alasdair Currie, chanter champions Rachel MacKinnon and Katie MacNiven and Port Wemyss soloist Ruairidh MacKinnon. Further honours went to Lily Ann Doyle from Port Charlotte, Mairi MacGillivray from Keills and Bowmore's Emily Gray and Hannah Gillies. Also clutching their Oscars were Rachel Johnston and Romy and Gregor Mitchell. Other list toppers were Còisir Òg Ghàidhlig Ile, led by Arlene MacKerrill, as well as Nicole Summers, Morven Brown, Catriona Sutherland, Zoe Welles and Natalie Dunn. Competition was equally keen in the senior section with Fergus Muir, Iain MacPherson, Iseabail MacTaggart, Lynn Mitchell, Josie Campbell and Stuart Jackson securing the silverware. Musical abilities greatly impressed the adjudicators, as did the increasing improvement in the standard of Gaelic. The prizewinners' concert was a complete sell-out and ably compered by Catherine Johnston, a member of Bòrd na Gàidhlig and current chairpersons of Ionad Chalum Chille Ile. The well-sponsored event was organised by Meur Ile of An Comunn Gàidhealach and its chairman Neil MacLean was fulsome in his praise of the contributors and supporters whose efforts had ensured a highly successful Mòd Ile 2011. For results see Page 17

ISLAY

HARRIS

THE ISLAND of Taransay has been sold for an undisclosed sum. The purchaser whose family already own property on Harris and have a long association with Taransay have no plans to change the existing regime or management of the island. John Bound, of estate agent vendors CKD Galbraith, said: 'Given its exceptional beauty and outstanding setting, it was no surprise that Taransay attracted so much interest and that it has been sold in less than two weeks. The existing owners know the purchaser and all involved are delighted with the outcome and the island passes into safe hands.'

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Ardnamurchan High pupils enjoyed their graduation dinner at Glenborrodale Castle.

Graduation dinner success

ARDNAMURCHAN High School staff and S6 pupils gathered at Glenborrodale Castle for the school's annual graduation dinner last Wednesday. The Glenborrodale staff did the school proud with a very warm welcome and beautiful meal to help celebrate their big night. In his speech, head teacher Chris Millar-Craig praised the young people for their contribution to the school community over the years and during S6 in particular. Replying for S6, head boy Joe Derham said: 'I am very pleased that I chose AHS over any other school, as being part of the family atmosphere here has allowed me to be myself. This atmosphere is one of the school's major strengths.' All pupils received an Ardnamurchan High School monogrammed conference wallet to mark the occasion.

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Telephone: 01631 568000 **The Oban Times**

COLONSAY

A WHO'S who of traditional music will fill the line-up for this year's Ceòl Cholasa, Colonsay's music festival.

Now in its fourth year, the festival has previously welcomed Phil and Aly, Karine Polwart, Karen Matheson, Drever McCusker Woomble, Daimh and Breabach to Scalasaig.

This year's line-up includes Lau, The Poozies, Bodega, The McCalmans and Joy Dunlop.

Although the festival, which will run this year from September 15 - 18, is always sold out months in advance, this does not stop people coming to the island for the weekend, as all tickets holders do not go to all concerts and entry can often be gained on the night.

There's also a ceilidh and all day and night music sessions in the local hotel.

Further details can be found at www.ceolcholasa.com.

TIREE

A VOTE to find an unsigned band to play at this year's Tiree Music Festival was an astonishing success, with more than 5,000 votes cast.

Celebrities such as Lorraine Kelly and Scotland midfielder Charlie Adam were among the voters in the poll, which saw Glasgow-based Huevo and the Giant win most support.

However, with The Defenders having to withdraw from the process, the festival has decided to include Lost City Soul, from Dundee, in this year's festival line up, after securing more than 2,000 votes in the space of a week. This year's festival takes place on July 23-24.

COLL

A LIMITED number of tickets for Tiree Music Festival, held on July 23-24, are now on sale at Coll Stores.

ISLAY

ISLAY'S local Buildbase, part of Grafton Merchants GB, has been successful fundraisers for Macmillan Cancer Support in the cancer care charity's centenary year.

Through to September, Islay Buildbase has a number of fundraising activities planned at the local depot. The staff held a crazy dress-up day on April 19, raising £585.47 from generous and supportive customers.

Buildbase's next charity event will be when Islay employee John Boyle cycles a 100-mile route to tie in with Macmillan's centenary, possibly with other employees and supporters, which will encompass all of the Islay and Jura distilleries on Saturday August 13.

DESPITE recent wet and stormy weather conditions, within the sheltering walls of the former kitchen garden of Islay House, all in Islay's community garden is growing well.

Fresh salad leaves and herbs are available, amongst other produce. The garden, behind Islay House Square craft shops, is free to visit and is a lovely sheltered place to walk and picnic.

DURING the month of July, Ionad Chalum Chille Ile Gaelic Centre will be offering four weeks of courses in Gaelic language, music and song and other aspects of local Gaelic



Happy smiles from Ford Spence resident Mary Ferguson and warden Anne Ferguson. 15. 124mary1

Ford Spence Court celebrates 20 happy years

Ford Spence Court residents have been marking 20 years since the sheltered home opened its door. Oldest resident Mary Ferguson led the celebrations at a ceilidh in the common room last week. Mary, who celebrated her 100th birthday there in November, said it was a great place to live. 'We are quite comfortable and well looked after,' she said. 'Someone who has been there since the very first day is warden Anne Ferguson. 'I came in as the builders went out,' she said. 'It has been a privilege and a pleasure to work with people who have had the life experiences of the war years - they don't make them like that anymore.' Ford Spence was purpose built in 1991 and is currently home to 23 Argyll Community Housing Association residents.



Dunbeg enjoys fantastic fun day

A fantastic fun day was made all the better by a little bit of sunshine at Dunbeg recently. With all the fun of the fair including throw the sponge at the head teacher, face painting, sand art making and throwing the hoop, youngsters and grown ups from the village and beyond had a great day. Jamie Turner, Duncan Turner, Euan MacLean and Aidan MacPhee decided to challenge themselves on the woodland nightline. 16. 123dunbeg5

culture. During week one, beginning July 4, the emphasis is on young learners.

Children are given the chance to learn Gaelic on two courses; one for older children who might wish to experience high school Gaelic before starting high school, and one to interest younger children where the emphasis will be on learning through song and play.

BENDERLOCH

BENDERLOCH'S newest stretch of cycle path has been proving popular with cyclists, walkers, children and dogs.

Lewis Morrison, owner of Ledaig Leisure Stores, said he had heard good feedback from residents and visitors since it opened a few months ago.

LOCHEARNHEAD

A LITTER collection on the east side of Loch Lubnaig and north of Loch Earn saw 78 bags of rubbish gathered by volunteers.

Organised by the Friends of Loch Lomond and The Trossachs, the group had to work around piles of human waste as they attempted to clear up the mess left behind by irresponsible wild campers.

Alistair Barclay is a member of the Five Lochs group hoping to improve the environs of the inland waters of the area.

He said: 'Most of the rubbish was the usual litter left by these reprobates, tins, cartons and the usual rubbish, but a lot of larger items were collected too, including car tyres.'

'Unfortunately, there was also a lot of human excrement and that's why we're trying so hard to cut down on wild camping in these areas.'

Meanwhile, new bylaws to combat wild camping came into force at Loch Lomondside on June 1. While the initial impact of that won't be known for some weeks, it's hoped it won't result in much displacement and instead encourage more responsible camping.

Alastair said: 'The idea is to let the new bylaws bed in and then stretch them out to other areas with in the park.'

CRIANLARICH

HOUSEHOLDS in Crianlarich have been targeted by scammers claiming to be from BT and

demanding immediate payment or the line would be cut off.

The caller claims to be able to demonstrate they are from BT by temporarily cutting off the phone, but instead simply put their phones on mute and stay on the line to prevent any outgoing or incoming calls.

If convinced by the con, the caller then asks the householder for credit or debit card details.

A spokeswoman for Central Scotland Police said: 'Under no circumstances should you give your personal details or bank details to anyone who calls you at home.'

'Reputable companies and organisations will never ask for these details. If you are in any doubt about a caller terminate the conversation.'

KILLIN

KILLIN'S Mountain Rescue Team was called out 29 times last year, spending a combined total of 1,423 hours on incidents, helping 47 people - and a sheep dog.

Revealing the figures, team leader John Morris said the number of callouts was the highest since 2008, an increase of eight in 2009.

There were many unusual challenges throughout the year, including the harsh winter which meant staff spent 15 unexpected hours on 'community resilience tasks' to help the area cope with the conditions.

The team also called upon help from the Coastguard's helicopter to recover an injured casualty from Ben A'an in the Trossachs, a first for the team as their own helicopter was searching for a missing sailor off the west coast.

Mr Morris said: '2010 was another busy year for the volunteers of Killin Mountain Rescue Team. The figures speak for themselves.'

'Some incidents only lasted a couple of hours, with others lasting a couple of days.'

'We hope our services are not required and that people will enjoy the hills safely, however, if called, members of Killin Mountain Rescue are ready to respond to those in difficulty.'

BARCALDINE

BARCALDINE Primary School's annual fundraiser will take place on Saturday June 18.

Past efforts by the pupils and parents have raised funds to improve the school grounds and for activities.

This year, the coffee morning will include stalls and games and the whole community is welcome to come along.

DUROR

A MEETING of Duror and Kentallen Community Council was held at the village hall on Wednesday June 8. Topics discussed included:

Residents are to be asked whether they want to keep a traditional red telephone box.

BT has written to the community council advising that the kiosk, on the roadside next to the entrance to the Stewart Hotel, is no longer needed.

Community councillors have been given three options. Firstly, they can agree for BT to remove the telephone box.

Secondly, the council can sponsor the kiosk for £300 a year and it would remain as a telephone box offering a limited service. Finally, the community

council is being offered the chance to adopt the kiosk for £1. All equipment would be taken out and the box would be available for whatever use the council saw fit to do with it.

Members agreed they did not want to sponsor it. Before making a decision on whether to have it removed by BT members agreed to canvas opinion in Duror and Kentallen to see if anyone showed any interest in it.

Posters will be put up and the kiosk will be featured on the community website.

A final decision on the telephone box will be made at the community council's July meeting.

MEMBERS are considering adopting a new constitution.

The meeting was told Highland Council is attempting to get all community councils in its area to sign up to the same constitution document so all would operate under the same terms. However, community councillor Kim Malcolm said: 'We have a perfectly good constitution. I see no reason to change just because someone wants us to.'

It was agreed that chairman Jonathan Baxter and Mr Malcolm would compare the community council's existing constitution with that they are being asked to sign up to. Members were told if they were to adopt the new constitution, an extraordinary general meeting would have to be held.

A NEW seat installed at the play park and paid for by the community council has been well received, the meeting was told.

Members expressed their thanks to staff at BSW Timber, at Corpach, for their help in the project.

THE NEXT meeting of the council will take place on Wednesday July 13 in the village hall starting at 7pm.

TAYNUILT

AIRDS Bay actress Jo Service has recently returned from the prestigious New York Drama Desk Awards, where she was nominated in the Outstanding Solo Performance category.

Jo - stage name Joanna Tope - played the alcoholic substitute primary school teacher Maggie Brodie in The Promise, produced by theatre company Random Accolpice, written by Douglas Maxwell and directed by Johnny McKnight.

The play ran for three weeks in New York, beginning during Scotland Week.

The nominees in the various categories included Al Pacino, Harry Potter star Daniel Radcliffe and Geoffrey Rush. Katie Holmes was host for the evening. Although Jo did not win her category, there was no shame in losing to Hollywood star John Leguizamo. 'I can't express what it was like,' said Jo.

LEWIS

DRIVERS in Lewis and Harris are being asked to heed speed restrictions and traffic controls during extensive resurfacing works on the islands' roads.

Works are currently getting underway in Harris and will continue as weather permits into July. Areas affected are Scalpay, Luskentyre, South Lochs, the Stornoway to Tarbert road, Bernera Road, Cameron Terrace to Carloway and Dalbeg Village.

Mull Lines

TOBERMORY'S Highland Cottage has proved to be a 'Winner' with a restaurant critic and film maker.

In his latest column, Michael Winner described the small hotel in glowing terms saying it was 'where everything bears the mark of absolute care and good taste'.

Following his stay at the six bedroom Highland Cottage the director of films Death Wish, The Jokers and Hannibal Brooks wrote: 'Lovely bedroom with a four poster bed, charming cottage-like decoration.'

The London-based critic concluded: 'I liked Mull. If I had a spaceship that got me there in five minutes I'd go regularly.'

Dave Currie, who owns and runs Highland Cottage with his wife Jo, said: 'Michael has a reputation for being notoriously difficult to please so we're thrilled that he thought we have a winning formula. Quite rightly he demands very high standards and is only difficult when he doesn't find them.'

'Otherwise he's great fun and we enjoyed having him as our guest.'



Auntie Morag opening Dervaig's School Fair.

FRIENDS of Dervaig Primary School raised the fantastic amount of £1,132 its recent Summer Fair.

Auntie Morag opened the fair and Glenn Denovan piped everyone into the school.

There was fun and games for all ages and many visitors enjoyed looking at photographs of pupils and staff from years gone by.

Pupils created a display in the classroom following events both in and out of school since it opened in 1877.

Organisers said thank you to all parents, pupils, staff and friends who helped, contributed and supported them on the day.

WILDLIFE presenter and filmmaker Gordon Buchanan returns home to Mull to search for whales and sharks with Sea Life Surveys next month.

Wildlife enthusiasts old and young can join Gordon on board the *Sula Beag* for a unique and exciting cruise with a percentage of the ticket price going to charity.

Already the 2011 season is shaping up to be one of the best yet for award winning Sea Life Surveys which recorded its earliest yet sighting of sharks last month, spotting four basking sharks before dolphins swam along side the boat, bow riding, for 20 minutes.

Gordon spent his childhood on the Isle of Mull and pursued a career in wildlife film-making as an adult, venturing to Sierra Leone, Venezuela and Brazil amongst others.

His work as a film-maker has seen him produce programmes for the BBC's Natural World and Big Cat Diary series and for MTV and the Discovery Channel.

While searching for whales, sharks, dolphins, porpoises and seabirds around the Isle of Mull, Gordon will be on hand to share his wildlife expertise with passengers and talk about the wealth of marine wildlife found in the area where he grew up.

Travellers will also enjoy a stop over on their very own private paradise at the Cairns of Coll, a desert island with pristine sands.

Sea Life Surveys, a family run business based on the Isle of Mull, was established more than 25 years ago and was the UK's first and is now the most experienced whale, dolphin, porpoise and shark watching operator in the UK.

They operate whale watching cruises and charters around the Hebrides for wildlife adventurers.

By joining a Sea Life Surveys cruise, passengers contribute to invaluable marine research, helping scientists and conservationists understand the changing oceans.

Skipper James Fairbairns of Sea Life Surveys said: 'It is really exciting to have Gordon Buchanan join us on the cruises. It is a fantastic opportunity for passengers to get to meet the man in person and we hope that people will flock from all around to be a part of the experience.'

'We have had a good start to the season with early sightings of dolphins and sharks and it will be great to see what other marine wildlife we can spot with Gordon onboard the *Sula Beag*.'

Ten per cent of each ticket price goes to the local charity The Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust which was chosen by Gordon.

The charity is dedicated to enhancing knowledge and understanding of Scotland's cetaceans and the Hebridean marine environment.

Cruises will depart from Tobermory, Isle of Mull, on Sunday July 24 and 31, each lasting eight hours with limited availability. To book call 01688 202916.

Contact 01631 568000 with your district news or email editor@obantimes.co.uk

INVERGARRY

THE HISTORIC Invergarry footbridge over the River Garry is in full use once more after being saved from collapse by Forestry Commission Scotland.

Cited as an important early example from the 'pioneering' days of steel in construction, the elegant B-listed bridge spans 60ms and has been a feature in the landscape since its construction in 1892.

However, over the years the West Highlands weather took its toll and some of the steel trusses became badly corroded. The bridge was closed on safety grounds, cutting off popular woodland walks.

Environment forester for Lochaber Forest District Kenneth Knott said: 'Getting the work done has taken a few years but it was well worth the effort and we're very pleased to see this historic bridge restored to its full glory.'

KILCHOAN

REPORTS are being received of dead puffins being washed up on the shoreline near Kilchoan. One bird was found floating in the tide below Pinkie Connell's croft. Local observers believe the birds could be victims of the recent violent storms.

On a more positive note on the avian front, greenfinches appear to be making a comeback on West Ardnamurchan after being practically wiped out by the bird parasite trichomonosis two years ago. The attractive birds were noted at feeders in several local gardens.

MALLAIG

IT WAS a long night last Wednesday for the Mallaig coastguard team when a planned power outage went wrong after lightning struck a cable in Stornoway.

Coastguard station officer Ian MacNaughton had to arrange for his team members to man the aerial site at Arisraig and later the station radio in their new premises on Mallaig Industrial Estate. This had to be done so that no mayday or urgency messages or calls for help were missed.

The Mallaig coastguard aerial site at Arisraig enables VHF (marine) radio coverage from Ardnamurchan Point to Skye and out beyond the Small Isles.

When BT finally fixed the problem at 4am and the team were stood down they had been in control of the airwaves for 16 hours. The Coastguard Agency is indebted to the team for giving up their time to ensure that the seas around Mallaig remained safe.

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The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Community input vital to defeat drugs

POLICE raids to crack down on drug dealers and users throughout Oban will be welcomed by locals, but the community's role in guiding their hand should be equally celebrated.

There can be no doubt that many of the raids were led by information passed on by neighbours and well intentioned locals who, suspicious of someone's behaviour or activities, contact the police to register their concern.

It can be easy to assume those complaints are ignored if arrests aren't immediate, but Friday's swift and high profile swoops demonstrate that each piece of information helps complete a jigsaw that includes every player in what is a highly dangerous game.

Chief Inspector, Brian Auld, says the operation is just the first step in a zero-tolerance approach to drugs to drive them out of the town; it is only with the co-operation of the community that this objective can be achieved.

GLASGOW LETTER

Vocal showcase

HOW IS this for a challenge? Take a dozen or so first year students of the traditional course at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama (RSAMD) and within a fortnight tutor them so they can sustain a concert of both Gaelic and Scots songs with no music or words allowed on stage.

That is what faced the tutors and students and they succeeded admirably despite the fact they had only one fluent Gaelic speaker, Ceitlin Smith, from Ness in Lewis, and two others who had association with the language, Chris Ross from Erbusaig near Kyle of Lochalsh, and Mhairi MacKinnon from Perth.

Excellent piping selections from four of the five boys in the group set the scene for a fun and relaxed night of top quality entertainment with the students introducing the items.

For the Gaelic songs the tutors sometimes joined them on stage and later in the concert Hamish Napier demonstrated his step dancing skills.

To add to the programme, former students Alistair Ogilvy and Claire Hastings sang and Fiona Dunn also sang as a last minute replacement. The students came from a range of Scottish locations, from Shetland to Dumfries, and one of the boys, a fiddler and singer of Scots song, came from California.

Having attended several of these concerts over the years this was certainly up there with the best of them.

Festival at St Peter's Church

THE BEAUTIFUL church on Hyndland Street was the venue for a Gaelic concert organised by Gillebride MacMillan.

The programme included a wide range of ages from diverse locations singing songs and playing tunes from all over the Gaidhealtachd.

Mairi MacDonald was the piper and her sister Kristina played the clarsach and sang. The other solo singers were Sineag MacIntyre, Alison Buchanan and Alasdair Whyte.

Meg Buchanan played fiddle selections and primary school pupils Karen MacDonald and Christine O'Hanlon sang, recited and played the whistle and the Glasgow Islay Gaelic Choir sang. Unfortunately Gillebride was unable to be present but he did make it for the second part of the evening which consisted of an informal ceilidh accompanied by food and refreshments provided by ladies from the church.

Gillebride had an excellent excuse for his absence as he and wife Maria Therese had just become the proud parents of baby son Niall. Many congratulations.

Joy Dunlop

LAST year's Ladies Mod Gold Medalist, Joy Dunlop, will be appearing in St Andrew's in the Square tomorrow evening at 8pm along with Patsy Reid, fiddle player with Braebach, and guitarist Paul Tracey. As I have often stated in this

column this is an excellent music venue. Tickets will be available at the door.

Music extravaganza

IF MY account of the recent vocal showcase raised your enthusiasm for traditional music there is a final chance this session to enjoy the music of the students of the RSAMD when they get together on Tuesday June 21 at 7.30pm, for a music extravaganza with Phil Cunningham, Artistic Director of their course.

Tickets are available from the box office, 0141 332 5057, or online at www.rsamd.ac.uk/events.

Diary dates

Thursday June 16: Live at the Star, St Andrew's in the Square, 8pm - Jeff Warner.
Friday June 17: Joy Dunlop and friends, St Andrew's in the Square, 8pm - see above. Glasgow Local Mod, Gaelic School - instrumental competitions. Old Blind Dogs, Oran Mor, 7pm. Fiddle Tunes, St Bride's Church, Hyndland Road, 8pm.

Saturday June 18: Glasgow Local Mod, Gaelic School, from 9am - singing and oral competitions. Highlander's Club, Partick Burgh Hall, 8pm - Ian Muir's Band. Young Person's Ceilidh, Hillhead Library, 2.30pm.
Sunday June 19: Colin MacIntyre, Oran Mor, 7pm.
Monday June 20: Jimmie MacGregor's Gathering, Oran Mor, 7pm.

Tuesday June 21: RSAMD Music Extravaganza - see above. National Centre of Excellence Concert, 7.30pm, St Andrew's Square.

Thursday June 23: Live at the Star, St Andrew's in the Square, 8pm - Allan Taylor, Alastair Savage Trio, College of Piping, 8pm.

Friday June 24: Old Blind Dogs, Tolbooth, Stirling - 8pm.
Saturday June 25: Edinburgh Argyll Association ceilidh, St John's Episcopal Church Hall, Lothian Road, 7.30pm.

Pub scene

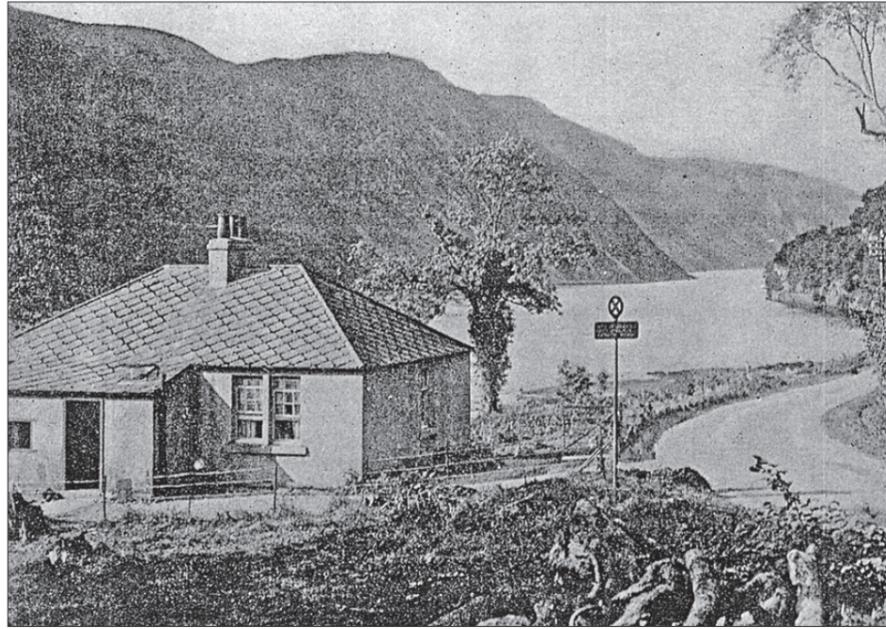
THIS evening, Thursday, Eriskay Lilt are launching their new CD in the Park Bar at 8pm.

Everyone welcome. For the rest of the weekend music in the Park Bar will be provided by the Monach Isles on Friday, Dodgy Ground on Saturday and Willie Cameron on Sunday. In the Islay Inn it will be Pneumatic Drills on Friday and Parting Glass on Saturday.

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

Highland Pupils on Tour

As part of their tour the pupils of the National Centre of Excellence for Traditional Music at Plockton High School will perform at St Andrew's in the Square at 7.30pm on Tuesday June 21st. This most talented group of youngsters, 24 of them, will perform as 6 bands and as one huge finale. Tickets are available at tel 0141 559 5902.



Pass of Brander, Loch Awe

This week's flashback photograph was submitted by Colin Armstrong of Coventry. It is from his collection of Scottish books and postcards and shows the Pass of Brander, Loch Awe, in days gone by. We invite readers to send in flashback photographs. Please send prints to *The Oban Times*, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB, or email editor@obantimes.co.uk. Prints or emails must be accompanied by a caption, name, address and telephone number. Anyone wishing their prints returned must supply a stamped addressed envelope.

Letters to the editor

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No public subsidy for Kerrera ferry

Sir,
I would like to congratulate the community on Jura for gaining council support for the continuing 'lifeline' passenger service to Jura for summer months to Jura.

I would also like to respond to the statement made by Rob Darroch of the Isle of Jura Development Trust in last week's *Oban Times* that 'there is no ferry service in Scotland that does not run without subsidy'.

Contrary to popular belief, there are several private ferry operators in Scotland, and at least three in Argyll and Bute, running without a subsidy.

The Isle of Kerrera ferry service runs successfully summer and winter, seven days per week, for both freight and passengers without public subsidy and also fulfills the title 'vital lifeline service'.

The Kerrera community is looking forward to the outcome of the Scottish Government Ferries Review.

Duncan MacEachen, Isle of Kerrera.

Council economical with schools information

Sir,
The 'news' on your front page last week that Argyll and Bute Council needs to spend £25 million on its 'crumbling classrooms' is not news at all.

It has been in the public domain since last October when the council first attempted to use it as justification for closing 26 rural and island primary schools.

The council's own data shows that Argyll's primary schools are in better condition overall than the Scottish average - 86 per cent are in grade 'A' (good) or 'B' (satisfactory).

A request earlier this year for a breakdown of the £25m into figures for individual schools was met with the response that it was a 'global estimate' and no breakdown existed. The council has entirely failed to make a convincing case that closing rural primary schools, most of them in perfectly adequate condition, will make any significant contribution to reducing its maintenance backlog.

On your letters page, Judith Gillespie conflates the failure to close schools with the loss of secondary teaching staff. This again is an entirely false argument.

The additional costs to the council of maintaining rural primary schools are fully compensated by the government through a number of funding mechanisms, primarily the GAE indicators for primary school teaching staff.

While the council may appear able to make short term savings from closing schools by effectively 'working the system' on these mechanisms, any such savings are likely to be minimal and short-lived.

Retiring council officer Ken MacDonald is quoted in the same issue as saying that a major change he has noticed in 36 years' service is that 'people are much more open with information than in the old days'.

Sadly it seems some departments are still being

extremely economical with information, perhaps because when it is eventually revealed, it tends to disprove the case for what they are proposing.

Tim McIntyre, Birch Cottage, Barcaldine, Oban.

Brainwashed over windfarms

Sir,
A proposal for nine, 256 foot high wind turbines near Clachan Bridge, also known as the Bridge over the Atlantic, is to be submitted to planners soon.

This will also require roads and overhead power lines to a sub station at Kilniver. The windfarm will only be one to two kilometres from the bridge and rivers at Clachan Seil.

Following discussion with Renewable Energy Foundation, I am told given an average performance of 25 per cent efficiency, the nine turbines will only produce 17,700 mega watt hours of electricity in any year. That, I am informed, is approximately 0.005 per cent of the total UK power consumption, not allowing for loss in transmission.

I have also been given an estimate that the owner of the farm will receive a subsidy of £887,000 per year. I think what it is going to contribute in power against the cost to us is a scandal. To quote VisitScotland: 'This reactive, piecemeal development of windfarms must be stopped.'

Yes, we need ever increasing amounts of electricity, but wind is not the long-term answer. The powers that be, especially now, have been brainwashed by all those with a vested interest and, of course, we now must look clever and green to meet our masters EU target.

G W Stewart, Clachan Seil.

Can readers help with shinty names?

Sir,
The Glasgow Celtic Society is seeking help from *Oban Times* readers to fully identify players from the Oban team that won the Celtic Cup in 1911.

The match programme for the cup final on Saturday June 25 at Inveraray, when Oban Camanachd face Kyles Athletic, will contain a transcript of The Oban Times report of the final 100 years ago when Oban defeated Glasgow Skye by three goals to two.

Unfortunately the Oban team listed in the report shows only the first initial of most of the players.

The society would be delighted if any reader can provide the full Christian names of any of the players who may have been family members or known characters of the renowned Oban shinty folklore.

Any photographs of that or other Oban teams of that era would be a real bonus.

The 1911 team was: D McPhail; D Livingstone and Allan Livingstone; D McKinnon; D Black, captain; D McGregor; D Morrison; D McColl; A Simpson; D Campbell, D Bell and D Gillies. Ten out of 12 with D as their initial!

Any information should be emailed to iain_d_cameron@hotmail.com.

Iain Cameron, Honorary Secretary, Glasgow Celtic Society.

Bloodhound memories

Sir,
It was interesting to read in *The Oban Times* that the former royal yacht *Bloodhound* will sail into Kerrera in July before hosting the Malts Cruise.

The 1936 built *Bloodhound* anchored previously in Ardentrive Bay in 1963 following a cruise of West Highland waters by His Royal Highness The Prince Philip.

At that time I was secretary of the Royal Highland Yacht Club (RHYC) and the club was invited to provide part of the crew for the yacht's return south.

Lake Falconer, John Stevenson and Russell Thomson represented the RHYC afloat but my duties were more mundane dealing with mail and laundry. I used my own small boat to collect and deliver the laundry bag and enjoyed the hospitality of *Bloodhound* where I first met with crewman Francis Drake who subsequently settled in Tobermory.

A few years ago I chatted to the Duke of Edinburgh at a reception in Holyrood Palace and was able to say to him that I had dealt with his 'dohybing' in *Bloodhound's* 1963 cruise.

The duke commented that he loved sailing in the west highlands and much regretted that his visit thereafter seemed to involve helicopters rather than yachts. I'm sure the 90-year-old Duke would still relish a chance to be back aboard *Bloodhound* in Oban Bay.

Peter MacLeod, Ganavan.

Concern at parents in conflict

Sir,
Mr Clark, *The Oban Times* June 9, seems surprised that Mr Russell MSP should make statements to ensure he gets elected.

That's what politicians do. The proposed moratorium, if accepted, on school closures is also a vote chaser. As this may work to the advantage of those wanting the schools not to close, let's wait and see if it works for the SNP at the next council elections.

Whereas in the past the electorate could make the politicians worry about re-election nowadays with golden goodbyes MSPs or councillors can depart with a smile on their faces and a few bob to start anew. What concerns me more is that the council by threatening cuts in high school curriculum have put two groups of parents against each other. This may not be intentional but it is a fact of debate that if you sow discord in the opposition ranks they will defeat themselves.

George Doyle, Easdale.

Relations identified

Sir,
Further to my flashback photograph being published on June 2, I have received a positive identification of the lady and boy-mother and son McVicar's of well known Mid Argyll family and related to my mother. Thanks.

George Mathieson, Willanyards, Colliston, Arbroath, Angus, DD11 3RR.

Interesting photo at Ballymeanoch

Sir,
Regards your flashback photograph of June 2, J G

Mathieson, Arbroath, is correct in asserting that the interesting photo taken at Ballymeanoch was sometime in 1930-31.

It must have been 1930 since his father, also J G Mathieson, Factor to Pottaloch, moved to Ri-Cruin, Kilmartin, at that time and my father, mother and their two children leased Ballymeanoch, presumably at Martinmas and remained there until father took up a teaching appointment in Dunoon Grammar School in 1938. They were well known Mod Gold Medalists, father in 1921 and mother, Jenny M B Currie, in 1923 and sang at many Highland gatherings as well as broadcasting and recording 140 records - old 78s - for Parlophone.

The other lady in the photo is vaguely familiar but like George Mathieson, I cannot name her nor the young lad either.

Could they have some connection with the Malcolm family at Pottaloch? My sister and I started school at Kilmartin under Miss McVean and the headmaster was Duncan MacDiarmid who was lost at sea during the war. His brother was Sheriff MacDiarmid, well known throughout Argyll. J G Mathieson Senior was a very able convener of Argyll County Council for many years as well as Factor to Pottaloch and other estates.

Niall Iain Maclean.

Encouraging, refreshing

Sir,
It was encouraging and refreshing to read the letter by Dr Stuart Chalmers and to know that he, Ken Hunter and Bill Harvey are of a similar view in relation to the state of the nation and the Church of Scotland.

As regards the churches, it is not too surprising when one reads the comments by Dr Naphy and co in the Daily Mail. Being an expert on sexuality and Calvinism is some claim and to say that the Bible is not very clear on the issue is staggering. He talks about 'interpreting a very limited number of verses' and that 'the Bible doesn't say much about sexuality at all'.

The Bible I read has whole chapters in both the old and new testaments regarding our behaviour in relation to sex and also to the marriage state.

For example, 1 Corinthians has three consecutive chapters - 5, 6 and 7 - on the subject, and earlier in ch 3 v16 and v17 give a severe warning about the defilement of our bodies. The church at Corinth was much like the churches today, in a very low moral state, and the apostle Paul under divine inspiration had to write in a strong corrective way in order to bring about an improvement in their state. However, what we have today going on in Edinburgh is a denial of the authority of the inspired word of God and the need to believe it and to obey its teachings.

They don't realise that even the unbelieving world is laughing at them and ridiculing them because even the unbeliever can see clearly that they are obeying God by the decisions they are making in relation to gross immorality in their ranks.

Finally, I close with Dr Chalmers' quotation, 'Awake thou that sleepest and Christ will give thee light,' and the apostle John's word to the church at Sardis: 'You have a name that you are alive, but are really dead.'

J A Elliot, Inveraray.



Beachd Ailein

Ailean Caimbeul

'THA FIOS air a dhol chun an teaghlach.' Saoilidh mi aig amannan gum bheil blas rudeigin coma, cha mhòr mar gum b' e cuis beag seagh a bh'ann, as an dòigh 's an cluinnear naidheachd bàis saighdear eile ann an Afghanistan. Tha e air fàs cho bitheanta a-nise is nach eil leithid sin de naidheachd tuilleadh a' faotainn prìomh inbhe aithris. Mar a tha iomchaidh gu leòr ann am prògram naidheachd, tha am fiosrachadh a tha na bhuille bròin dha teaghlach air choreigin air a libhrigeadh gum fhaireachdainn làidir. Ach dhan fheadhainn air an tàinig an call obann, chan eil am pian agus an ionndrainn mhathreannach ach a' tòiseachadh. Aig an àm a tha mi a' sgrìobhadh seo, tha dha theaghlach fìchead air leithid seo fhulang 's gum chrìoch air fàire air an iomairt aig Breatann ann an Afghanistan.

Gun teagamh, tha duilgheadasan le iomairt na dùthcha sin a dh'ionnsaigh deamocrasaidh agus tha e iomchaidh gum faigheadh iad taic bho dhùthchannan eile. Ach chan iongnadh ged a bhiodh daoine an seo a' faighneachd cuin a tha cuid Bhreatainn den taic sin gu bhith dèanta is sinn a sior chall dhaoine òga air a sgàth. Ciamar a ghabhadh air tòir ceartais agus gu clù Bhreatainn agus theid an cur às an cosnaidhean aig Ministreachd an Dìon. Abair aithne air an cuid gaise!

Ach chan ann san aon àite tha 'n t-òc. Tha feachdan NATO an sàs ann an Libya a' tòirt taic dhan fheadhainn a tha ag iomairt airson còirichean deamocratach a bhuninn sin agus tha iad a' marbhadh shìobhaltaich ri linn 's gum bheil saighdearan Ghaddafi a' falach nan meag. A dh'aindeoin mìlean de dh'ionnsaigh de chumhachd armachd NATO, chan eil Gaddafi air gèilleadh an dèidh seachdainean de dh'fhulang dha muinntir na dùthcha.

Chan eil mìlean bhliadhnaichean de dh'eachdraidh fhuiltreach air dad ionnsachadh dhan t-saoghal a rèir coltais is sinn fhathast an eisimeil sabaid mar shlighe gu rèite air duilgheadasan mòra. Cionnas nach tug sinn sgilean dioplomach air adhart mar a rinn sinn le uidheamachd cogaidh?

AS I WRITE this British service personnel losses in Afghanistan have reached 22 and "the families have been informed".

That phrase of news media seems trite against the lifetime of pain and loss facing bereaved families and friends and with drastic public spending cuts at home many people are again asking when this loss of life and expense to Britain will end.

Thousands of air attacks by sophisticated NATO planes have failed to secure a settlement in Libya and it is sad to think that mankind apparently still requires armed aggression to resolve difficulties. If diplomatic skills had developed as effectively as armaments the world might be a better place.

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

A view from the tower

by McCaig

'I'm eight going on 18'

IT SEEMS we have hit a patch when those sociologists, experts on behavioural psychology and busy-bee parents have decided to take a long look at their and other people's offspring and pontificate about whether our children are missing out on what some would loosely describe as 'the best years of their lives' - which they probably are not.

Another train of thought is that forward-thinking parents should get their tots and primary school pupils through this stage in their lives so that mum, especially mum, can get them on a training path to be adults and into adult-style clothes.

It's a strange fact that while grannies want their lovely - always lovely despite unfortunate physical defects which may have developed - grandchildren to stay somewhere between three and six years of age parents now seem to romp through the nappy disturbed nights, tantrums et al' towards nine or ten years of age to start turning them into young adults.

They don't believe in waiting until the boys' voices break or their sisters begin to mature physically, before they are into teenage-style fashion clothes.

One so-called expert wrote to one of the 'experts' to seek advice on how she should handle her three year old daughter who wanted, nay demanded, her first bikini because 'her mummy always wore one at the beach or the pool and she must have one now'.

The expert's advice was, of course, 'give her one.'

There's howls and rages when she doesn't get what 'she has always wanted'. And, the nonsense of 'she wants, she must have' has started in earnest.

At that sort of age mummy hasn't the heart to tell her little darling that 'must have's' cost money.

Don't imagine this growing up 'give, give, give me' tantrum is reserved to the female of the species.

Little boys want to imitate their dads, big brothers, sporting idols and star players in local teams, or top players like tennis player Andy Murray who is seen so often on the TV.

If big brothers, uncles, even grandparents have any family loyalty they, too, will revel in buying expensive sports goods far too early for their young relations before the recipients know how to appreciate and look after them.

In the dim and distant days when I was in primary school a war was on and the range of sports and leisure goods was pretty limited and, there was, most certainly, a shortage of money to indulge anyone with anything. There was the big

argument as to when boys got their first pair of long trousers.

When refused, say at ten years of age, there most certainly were tears and tantrums but mum and dad did set it out straight and to the point: 'We can't afford them until the new term or the new school year.'

Miserably that was grudgingly accepted because the kid knew that what was said was true.

I must say I find it very amusing that boys probably get their first pair of 'longs' in the final years of primary school and then revert to shorts as often as they can on the excuse that they were going to play sport after school, or it is more macho and 'healthier'.

The expensive stuff comes for evening wear and boy, doesn't that cost a fortune.

While all us 'oldies' criticise these over-doting parents and relatives we secretly envy the recipients whom we know are going to find life hard as they enter the world of work or study when there will only be cash for second-hand gear.

At long last

THE HIGH profile drugs raid in Oban last week and the seeming success of it is to be welcomed for more than one reason.

Obviously, those who live in certain parts of Oban have been well aware that there are people known to them who regularly show obvious symptoms and get away with going 'for their own use'.

'Dealing' quickly follows thereafter because that's the only way they can get money to indulge their habit. How often have we seen cash changing hands furtively and being checked by a suspected dealer - many aren't very bright as they will flash cash when known to be unemployed and not able to be in honest possession of say £3,£5,£7 or £1,000 but did we do anything about it? All too often, no. We don't want to get involved, give evidence or are worried about personal protection.

If you suspect someone is using 'hard, class A or illegal substances' you are doing them a favour in getting them 'lified' and sent on a rehabilitation course before addiction ends in jail or, sadly, death. While the police may not catch every dealer, especially those who do it in a small way, they will find out who Mr Big is in a small community and even engineer a dealer 'war' that will flush out small fry who in the eyes of their bigger competitors are expendable and quite simply fed to the cops to save their own necks. Let's clean up Oban once and for all.

McCaig

YOUR LETTERS

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

Dingwall cattle trade stays firm

DINGWALL and Highland Marts Ltd sold 279 store cattle, 131 Over 30 Month cattle and two breeding cattle at Dingwall when a mixed show of cattle on offer met a similar demand to the previous sale with quality kinds selling particularly well.

Bullocks averaged 175.7p and sold to 220.4p per kilo for a 245kg Limousin cross from Craigton, Bonar Bridge, and £830 for a pen of 482kg Limousin crosses from 73 Dalchalm, Brora.

Heifers averaged 170.4p and sold to 248.3p per kilo for a pen of 290kg Charolais

crosses from Keppoch Farm, Dundonnell, and £1,180 for a 725kg Aberdeen Angus cross from Springfield Croft, Balblair.

Young bulls averaged 154p and sold to 179.3p per kilo for a 290kg Shorthorn from 209 East Doll, Brora, and £960 for a 650kg Limousin from Dalmagarry, Moy.

Breeding bulls sold to £1,450 for a Beef Shorthorn bull from New Croft, Dingwall.

OTM prime cows averaged 134.8p and sold to 177.7p per kilo and £1,315 for a 740kg Limousin cross from Calrossie Mains, Nigg.

Cheviot gimmers with lambs at foot sell to £154 at Stirling

UNITED Auctions sold 491 store cattle and young bulls, 176 breeding cattle and 134 cows and store sheep at Stirling last Wednesday when Cheviot gimmers with single lambs and Cheviot ewes with singles from Rhyndal sold to £154 and £100 respectively.

Bullocks averaged 178.05p (-2.35p) and sold to 200.3p per kg for a 302kg Charolais cross from Rankinston and £1240 for a 658kg Charolais cross from Meikle Ittington.

Heifers averaged 167.36p (+0.27p) and sold to 195.2p per kg for a 397kg Simmental cross from Lochlea and £910 for a 494kg Limousin cross from Little Galla.

Young bulls averaged 148.44p and sold to 177.5p per kg for a 262kg Aberdeen Angus cross from Borenich and £730 for a 443kg Simmental cross from Lochlea.

Cast cows averaged 122.99p and sold to 158.6p for a Limousin cross from Cloquhat Farms and £1225 for a Simmental cross from Loanleven.

Tractors sell to £35,500 at Dingwall

DINGWALL and Highland Marts Ltd had 37 tractors, loadalls and plant machinery, 724 implements, 88 trailers, 50 ATVs, motorcycles and lawnmowers, 10 caravans, 16 motor vehicles, 120 builders items, and 678 small tools forward at Dingwall for their June implement sale held on Saturday, June 4 when tractors sold to £35,500 for and Massey Ferguson 6475.

Loadall/tractors: Massey Ferguson 6475 tractor, £35,500; Massey Ferguson 5460 tractor with loader, £18,500; Merlo P35 telehandler, £12,000; JCB 925-67 loadall, £5,000; Massey Ferguson 35 tractor, £23,900; Massey Ferguson 35 tractor, £3,500; Massey Ferguson 135 tractor, £3,500.

Plant machinery/lorries: Scania 6-wheel tipping lorry, £15,200; Kobelco SK500R mini digger, £5,000; Benford road roller, £3,450; Dump truck 6000, £3,000; 4WD rough terrain cement mixer, £1,000.

Motor vehicles: Renault Master dci 100 panel van, £1,000.

Caravans: Coachman Mirage, £1,400; Lunar Clubman, £1,000; Avondale Grampian, £900.

Trailers: Stewart 20' float and trailer, £11,000; Nelson 10' dump trailer, £10,000; 14' Chieflain dump trailer, £4,400; Marston low loader trailer, £3,600; Portquig bale trailer, £3,100; Marston 25' flatbed trailer, £2,600; Hudson 14' tri-axle stock trailer, £2,500; 12' x 6' 6" tipping trailer, £2,000.

ATVs, motorcycles & lawnmowers: Argocat, £3,000; Honda quad, £2,200; Honda Fourtrak quad, £1,800; Suzuki King quad, £1,700; Honda Foreman, £1,500; Kawasaki 300 KLF, £1,000; Honda 300, £800; Honda Big Red, £800; Countax ride-on mower, £570; Westwood S1300 ride-on mower, £550.

Boats: 21' boat cow trailer, £2,500.

Implements: McHale F540 round baler, £10,700; Claas Variant 260 round baler, £4,500; Claas Rollant round baler, £4,200; Vicron RV1601 round baler, £4,200; Taurup 8055 hay turner, £3,600; Welger RP25 round baler, £2,900; Pottinger hay turner, £2,600; John Deere 342 square baler, £2,000; Taurup 7558 bale wrapper, £2,000; Taurup 2024 mower, £1,950; Krone AM2422 mower, £1,850; Ritchie 6-bale carrier, £1,800.



Above: The Highland cattle champion, from Mr and Mrs D Schuster, Glenstrae, by Dalmally, shown by Donald Dempster, was judged the overall livestock champion 20. f24show10



Overall sheep champion was a two year-old Blackfaced ewe in milk from Angie Cameron of Kilchoan 20. f24show02



A three month-old Charolais cross heifer calf from Donald Campbell, Camaghael won the best commercial cattle title 20. f24show11

Mull maintains 'war' against constant spread of bracken

Toxic weed spreading at 100,000 acres per annum

THE CHALLENGE of fighting bracken and the problems it presents formed the focus subject at a recent meeting of the Mull Monitor Farm.

Over 50 farmers from the Isle of Mull and the mainland attended the meeting to hear that the weed is now spreading throughout the UK at a rate of 100,000 acres per annum.

Aside from being an extremely resilient fern, bracken is toxic and harbours ticks which can transmit diseases to sheep and humans.

It also shades out resident vegetation, which poses a particular problem for farmers as it kills grazing areas.

Monitor farmer at the Torloisk farm, Iain MacKay, described bracken control as: 'not a battle, but a war - you just have to keep fighting it.'

The 7,600 acre farm, which is predominantly a

hill unit, is fairly typical of much agricultural land around Argyll, ideally representing the challenges bracken control presents.

The options for bracken control basically fall into two categories, physical - which includes cutting, crushing, stock trampling and chemical - weed wiping or spraying with tractor/quad mounted sprayer, knapsack or helicopter.

Iain, together with his wife Helen, have employed numerous methods of trying to control the Torloisk bracken, with the effectiveness of each discussed in detail.

Representatives from two bracken control companies, MFH Helicopters and PDG Helicopters, also attended the meeting.

The next Mull Monitor Farm meeting will be held on 1st September.

Glenstrae takes Road to the Isles champion's ticket

Highland cow is overall show champion as Arisaig enjoys perfect day

THE 16th Road to the Isles Agricultural Show attracted near-record crowds to its traditional home at Camusdarach, Arisaig, on Saturday.

A seven year-old Highland cow from Mr and Mrs D Schuster, Glenstrae, Dalmally, was judged the overall livestock champion, with the overall sheep champion, a two year-old Blackfaced ewe in milk from Angie Cameron of Kilchoan, the reserve.

Other major trophy winners included

Donald Campbell of Camaghael, who won the commercial cattle ticket with a superb three month old Charolais/Belgian Blue cross heifer. Audrey MacDonald from Portanadoran, Arisaig, won the any other breed sheep section with her Suffolk ewe. Sunshine and a cool breeze provided a perfect day for livestock and people alike. See www.obantimes.co.uk for more pictures.

Lochhead meets EU on 'unworkable' tags

SCOTTISH agricultural minister, Richard Lochhead, is to meet EU ministers this week to call for 'unworkable' sheep tagging rules to be revised.

Mr Lochhead, who also described the rules which demand 100 per cent accuracy as 'unjust and unfair', will tell EU commissioner John Dalli that failure to change to rules will unfairly persecute every sheep farmer in Scotland.

His stance is echoed by NFU Scotland, who say the situation is 'unworkable.' The vice-president of the union, Allan Bowie, says the EC's stance would make recording sheep in Scotland impossible unless the limitations of the tag readers are acknowledged.

Livestock chairmen from the IFA, NFU, NFU Cymru, NFU Scotland and the UFU came together in Cardiff last week and agreed the next steps that the unions will take to try to bring some common sense to the commission's thinking. The union is in talks with the EU to try and untangle the knot of red tape that could completely hamper the industry in Scotland. Mr Bowie said: 'Without tolerances, individual recording in Scotland's extensive sheep systems is simply not possible. This hard line approach to cross compliance goes against all previous assurances from the Commission and would place every sheep farmer in Scotland in a position of non-compliance.'

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08 MAZDA BT 50, TDCI, double cab pick up, air con, e pack, met grey, 59K £8,450
08 FORD RANGER, Double Cab Pick-up, manual, 3 tonne tow, E/Track, Air Con, 60K miles £8,450
08 FORD RANGER THUNDER, Double Cab Pick-up, manual, canopy, full leather, 3 tonne tow, black £8,450
08 FORD RANGER THUNDER, Double Cab Pick-up, manual, full leather, black, 30K miles £8,450
08 FORD RANGER 2.5 TDCI single cab, 4WD Pickup, E/Track, Tow-bar 35K £7,950
08 TOYOTA HILUX HL2, Double Cab Pickup, Manual, E/Track, Air con, Black, 45K £10,950
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08 FORD TRANSIT 350 115 LWB, high top van, panel lined, white, 30K £6,950
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08 VAUXHALL VIVARO 2.0CDTI 115 van 6 speed, remote locking, white 60K £5,950
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59 Renault Clio Exp. Dci Sport Tourer, Silver, 15,000 miles£10,795
59 Renault Clio Dyn, 1.5 DCI, 5Dr, Silver, 20,000 miles£9,500
09 Renault Koleos Dyn Dci 4WD, black, 13,000 miles£14,995
09 Ford C-Max Style. 1.6, 5Dr, Blue, 15,000 Miles£8,500
08 Renault Scenic Dyn 7 DCI 106 silver, 25,000 miles£8,750
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08 Renault Clio Ext, 3Dr HB, White, 13,500 miles£6,250
08 Renault Clio Freeway, 3Dr HB, Blue, 8300 miles£5,950
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54 Ford transit Connect L200 TD, 55,000 miles, White£3,850 + vat
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The Dangleberries - Nae Sleep Tae Regent Street
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Allie Robertson - Traditional Spirits
Award winning clarsach player, joined by seven of Scotland's finest musicians, in a new composition. A musical soundscape of whisky making, from sowing barley to the taste of the amber gold in a glass. Combining traditional and classical styles, with tonal and atonal writing. Allie wrote a short piece based on whisky for the Distil composers showcase and in 2010 was delighted to receive a grant from Creative Scotland to write a suite of music for a traditional ensemble, expanding the previous work.

Coast - The Turning Stone
The band is rapidly rising in popularity and this album is full of musicality and beautifully crafted lyrics. Once in a blue moon I get sent a CD for radio air-play that simply blows me away. This has to be one of the best CDs of the year. Musically, lyrically and atmospherically Coast can stand proud amongst the very best of the Celtic artists in the world." Karin Ingram, Radio Borders. If you like Runrig you should give them a try.

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Saturday night > Club Night with DJ's
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Friday 17 June > LIVE MUSIC
Markie Dans WITH FINN @ 9.30PM

Saturday 16 June > LIVE MUSIC
Markie Dans WITH CROOKED REEL @ 9.30PM

Thursday 23 June > LIVE MUSIC
Markie Dans WITH CHRIS SUCKLE @ 9.30PM

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Tuesday 21st June - An Tobar, Tobermory. 8.30pm
Wednesday 22nd June - Parish Church, Lochgilphead. 8pm

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10 am to 3 pm
LOTS TO EAT AND DO
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Interested Producers contact
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Local Origins Rural Network
www.lorn.org.uk

CREAR CONCERT
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7.30pm Wednesday 6 July
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PC George Burns was marched off the parade at the end of his last shift handcuffed to Isle of Skye Pipe Band drummer Donnie Matheson. The band marched George back to the police station to start his retirement.



Highland dancer Mia Mutch from Uig in Somerled Square.

Newsdesk
01631
568000

Isle of Skye Pipe Band celebrates 50 years in style

THE ISLE of Skye Pipe Band (IoSPB) celebrated its 50th anniversary in grand style in Portree on June 3 and 4 along with six other pipe bands who travelled to Skye for the occasion.

Bands from Uist, Lewis, Nairn and District, Lochaber, the Highlanders Army Cadet Force and Portree High School joined IoSPB in Somerled Square on Saturday, providing a spectacular display of colour and music for the crowd.

Pipe Major Alan Mackenzie of Isle of Skye Pipe Band was presented with a gift of Talisker from past Pipe Major Norman Stoddart, who took the salute during the afternoon.

The band's drum major from its early days in the 1960s, Alisdair Campbell, made the trip from Fochabers to join the celebrations.

Salute
Known as 'The Duke' in piping circles, Alisdair, now in his 80s, took the salute on Friday night and was invited to be one of the drum majors on Saturday, current drum major Peter MacDonald told *The Oban Times*.

'The whole occasion was a huge success and hugely enjoyed by all the bands that came, as well as the many locals and visitors who enjoyed the spectacle over the two days,' Peter said. 'We would like to thank all our supporters and funders and the whole community. The event certainly brought quite a lot of business into the village.'



Isle of Skye Pipe Band Drum Major in the 1960s Alisdair Campbell, left, with current Drum Major Peter MacDonald.



Former Isle of Skye Pipe Band Pipe Major Norman Stoddart, who took the salute on Saturday afternoon, congratulates current Pipe Major Alan Mackenzie.

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Syllabus, Supplement and Entry forms from:
The Secretary 01631 710314 or scoganobain@aol.com
Closing date for entry: 26th August, 2011

Thinking of replacing your boiler?

Use Green Heat event: Planning for the Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI)

Loch Fyne Hotel, Inveraray, June 24th 2011
10.00: Registration
10.30: David Doherty, ALLI energy Introduction and overview of Argyll context
10.45: Howard Roche, Vital Energy Update on the RHI
11.15: Stuart Reid, HW energy Wood fuel boilers: Installations and models of heat supply for businesses
11.45: Tom Addy, Argyll Forest Products Supplying quality assured woodchip
12.10: Daniel Borisewitz, Scottish Renewables Policy impact of the RHI in Scotland and feedback from the renewables sector
12.35: Questions for the panel
13.00: Lunch and networking

Call ALLI energy on 01631 565183 for more information or email david@alienergy.org.uk

use green heat

WIN 10 family tickets to the Circus Of The Orient up for grabs!

A spectacular, fun-packed world-class circus for all the family is coming to Oban and Fort William. The Big Top will be at Mossfield Stadium, Oban on Wednesday June 29 and Thursday June 30 and at the Auction Mart, Lochaber Rural Complex, Fort William from Friday July 1 to Sunday July 3. Circus Of The Orient will feature a galaxy of international circus stars from China, Mongolia, Kyrgyzstan, Bulgaria, Romania and France. Audiences can witness world famous martial art experts, the Shaolin Wu Shu Warriors and sensational springboard acrobatics and aerialists who will be on hanging straps high in the roof of the Big Top. Unbelievable somersaults will be performed on Chinese poles and artists will dice with death on the cloud swing trapeze. Crazy Clowns Duo Delbosq will get up to all sorts of antics whilst entertaining families. Visit www.circusoftheorient.co.uk.



Question: Which Oban Stadium will the Circus of the Orient visit this month?

Fill in your details along with your answer below and post to Competitions, Wyvex Media Group, PO Box 1, Oban, PA34 4HB.

Entries must be submitted by Thursday June 23, 2011

Answer

Name

Address

Telephone

Email

Which circus venue are you entering for? Fort William Oban Both

Tick here to receive information on special offers and promotions from The Oban Times.

Terms & Conditions: The prize is as stated. No cash alternative. The Editor's decision is final. Photocopied entries will not be accepted. Winners will be chosen at random. The winner may be asked to take part in publicity and may appear in a Wyvex Media publication and website. This competition is open to readers of other Wyvex Media publications.

For over 18s only. The family tickets are for grandstand seating and grant two adults and two children access to the show. This competition is not open to Wyvex Media and associated company employees.

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



The Scottish Salmon Company

Companaidh Bhradan na h-Alba

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Marine Site Manager, Strome (Ref MSM/ST/11/WI)

(Salary Grade 3 £32,960 - £36,050 depending on experience)

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Working Hours: Full time 40hrs per week, Monday to Friday, with weekend work required on occasions.

Boat handling and forklift certificates would be desirable.

A full, clean driving licence is also essential for this position.

In return, the Company offers a comprehensive pay and benefits package.

Closing Date for Applications 5.00pm 24th June 2011

For an application form and job description, please contact:

The Scottish Salmon Company, HR Department, Marybank Industrial Estate, Stornoway, Isle of Lewis HS2 0DB. Tel. No. 01499 600 622

Email: dina.mackenzie@scottishsalmon.com

Visit our website at www.scottishsalmon.com

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Please contact **Pauline on 01631 568000**

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Qualifications/Skills desired but not essential

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If you feel you have the experience required to contribute to a progressive, results orientated company then please send your application by 2011 to:
Ms Debi Longmore, Human Resources Assistant, Northern Isles Salmon Ltd
Hatston Industrial Estate, Kirkwall, Orkney, KW15 1RG
debi.longmore@northernislessalmon.com

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- The parties submit to the jurisdiction of the Scottish Courts and Scots Law. In the event of any dispute or action by the Publisher to recover payment from an advertiser, it is agreed that matters will be settled in the Oban, Argyll Sheriff Court or such other Court as the Publisher may choose.
- The Publisher shall not be liable for any loss or damage occasioned by any total or partial failure (however caused) of publication or distribution of any newspaper or edition in which any advertisement is scheduled to appear. In the event of any error, misprint or omission in the printing of an advertisement or part of an advertisement, the Publisher will either re-insert the advertisement or relevant part of the advertisement, as the case may be, or make reasonable refund or adjustment to the cost. No re-insertion, refund or adjustment will be made where the error, misprint or omission does not materially detract from the advertisement.
- Errors must be notified to the Publisher in writing within fourteen days of publication. In no circumstances shall the total liability of the Publisher for any error, misprint or omission exceed the amount of a full refund of any price paid to the Publisher for the particular advertisement in connection with which liability arose or the cost of a further or corrective advertisement of a type and standard reasonably comparable to that in connection with which liability arose.
- The Advertiser/Advertising Agency agrees to indemnify the Publisher in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the publication as the result of legal actions or threatened legal actions arising from the publication of the advertisement in any one or more of a series of advertisements published in accordance with copy instructions supplied to the publication in pursuance of the Advertiser/Advertising Agency order.
- Adverts under the value of £75 must be paid on acceptance of order by the Publisher. All advertising on a credit basis must be agreed with the Publisher in advance.
- Payment of any invoice raised by the Publisher will be due 15 days from the date of invoice or as otherwise directed on the invoice. In the event of non-payment the Publisher may charge late payment interest at a rate of 2% and this is chargeable on a daily basis from the due date until the bill is paid. In addition the Publisher may charge a late payment levy of £10 as an administration fee. In the event of late payment the Publisher reserves the right to disallow any discounts given and to raise an additional invoice for the discount which will be treated as though it has been raised with the original invoice.
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Closing Date: 12 noon on Friday 24th June 2011
Interviews for these posts will be held in early July 2011

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Starting Salary £21,133 (Pay Band C)

The Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh is currently recruiting a Senior Horticulturist to work at Benmore Botanic Garden, Danuon, Argyll.

Further information on this post, including a full job description, person specification and application form can be found on our website, www.rbge.org.uk/about-us/vacancies or by calling Ruth Pool on 0131 248 2985.

The closing date for applications is Friday, 8 July 2011.

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Applications are invited from individuals who have a positive approach to this type of work and who feel comfortable working over water. Experience is certainly an advantage although training will be provided. A driving license is desirable.

If you would like to apply for one of these posts, please submit an application in writing, no later than Friday 1st July to: Vicky Ferguson, Human Resources Manager, Marine Harvest Scotland, Business Resource Centre, Blar Mhor Industrial Estate, Fort William, PH33 7PT.

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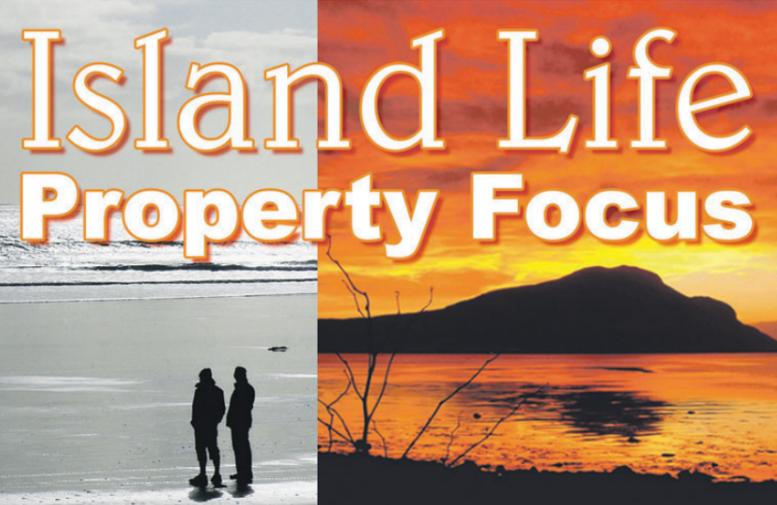
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Island Life Property Focus





FOR some people the idea of 'getting away from it all' sounds idyllic; for others it is purgatory. Island living can take the term 'getting away from it all' to a new level, but it may offer a life changing experience that you simple won't find anywhere else.

The definition of an island and the definition of remoteness spell out different things to different people. However, if an island life is your aim, then make sure that you move towards your dream with both eyes wide open.

A slower pace of life, an opportunity to take an active part in the community, a safe environment for children to grow up in and the chance to enjoy some of the most spectacular scenery in the UK, are key attractions and, if you rate these ahead of the hustle and bustle of urban life including having everything neatly packaged and to hand, then perhaps life on a Scottish island is just what you are looking for.

Write down the reasons that you have for deciding on a move to an island. Place the list in an easily seen position and refer to it regularly, daily if required - especially if the going gets tough.

Despite the dream, it can be a daunting prospect to venture into the unknown, or perhaps to set-up a family home, or business, lock-stock-and barrel in an area that you have, at best, only experienced as a brief holiday destination. Living permanently on an island can be a very different to a carefree fortnight in the summer and one which will require organisation, thought and careful planning if you are to reap the rewards.

Arrange to view your chosen destination over as long a period as possible, from as many angles, and in a many seasons, before finally deciding on your future. Check ferry or flight timetables plus local haulage contractors and don't assume that because your needs can be delivered to your door on the mainland that island arrangements will automatically be the same. Many supermarkets, online and mail order companies will either charge premium rates for delivery to an island destination or blankly refuse to take an order from potential customers with island postcodes.

Take advice from as many local outlets as are available. Many 'islanders' will have joined the community from outwith at some point in the past and will have experienced the problems and tribulations that you could face - they will be only too willing to suggest how to adapt. They may also shed some light on the local history of the building, land or site that you are aiming to invest in.

If you intend to build or expand a property, talk to the local building and supply companies, utility providers, tradesmen and plant hirers, who will be able to put your expectations into context. It may take longer - but it will be worth the wait in the long term.

Don't forget that local architects may not have the trappings of a main street office, staff numbers and 'street cred' that their urban counterparts enjoy but they will understand the sometimes complex world of local planning and be able to guide you safely through the pitfalls of the paperwork maze.

Employment prospects are always limited within an island community so many families find self-employment as the ideal. However, again, careful consideration needs to be given before embarking on a move that may be dependent on a regular wage coming in. Make some simple checks - is there a need that you could fulfill, ie a plumber, electrician, joiner or computer expert - is there sufficient potential volume of work to keep you in gainful employment or would you need to diversify? And often top of the things you 'forgot to consider' list is communication. Does your dream home get a mobile phone signal, a broadband connection, digital tv signal or even something as basic - in today's world - as a landline telephone? Don't assume - check.

Even the Scottish Islands cannot be considered remote by the standards of such islands as those located in the South Atlantic or Mid Pacific Ocean. Ultimately, what defines remoteness are the lines of communication with centres of population. That said, even 10 miles of persistent stormy sea can render an island very isolated.

Other factors that render an island remote are:

- Distance
- Regularity and quality of transport links
- The standard of telephone or radio communication
- The size of the population
- Resources such as shops and services.

Balance these against your original 'wish list' - and if your positives still outweigh the negatives, then taking the next step could prove worthwhile - if not, go back to the drawing board and consider if your dream has the potential to become a nightmare - or does your plan just need a little adaptation.

Survival on a remote island beyond the span of a brief holiday takes planning and resilience. It is also necessary to be able to get along with people. Much depends on how desperate one is to immerse oneself totally in the experience.

For those securing their island dream, the rewards can be immense.

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crofters commission

In pursuit of its Croft Occupancy Initiative, the Crofters Commission has been unable to contact the following crofters at the addresses last provided:
**Mr Russel D Campbell
54 Ormsaigbeg
Ardnamurchan & Sunart**
In the interest of the crofters concerned; they or anyone with relevant information are invited to contact the Croft Occupancy Team, Crofters Commission, Great Glen House, Leachkin Road, Inverness IV3 8NW (01463 663471) or Email: occupancy@crofterscommission.org.uk by **Friday 15th July 2011.**

**CROFTERS COMMISSION
COIMISEAN NAN
CROITEARAN
DECROFTING
APPLICATIONS RECEIVED**
Applicant, Croft, Case number; Extent & Purpose
Ms C Wong
Gate House, Ardnamurchan
4.87.32261
14.000 ha -
Mr A Macarthur
2 Greenhill, Isle of Tiree
4.86.32277
0.063 ha - Site for dwellinghouse

Within 14 days of the date of this newspaper - Comments can be made to the Crofters Commission by any member of the crofting community within the locality of the land.
Applications marked with an asterisk - Interest can be expressed in obtaining the tenancy of the area subject to the application.

**DECROFTING DIRECTION
ISSUED**
Name, Croft, Case Number, Extent, reason, conditions
T B MacLean
Cuin Croft, Kilmuir & Kilmore
4.86.30947
0.057 ha
Reason: to regularise an existing Direction.
Conditions: 2a & 3.
Conditions

(2) complete enclosure of the land with a stockproof 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.
Within 42 days of the date of this newspaper any person with an interest in the application may appeal the decision to the Scottish Land Court.

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**PLANNING
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT
MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2008 REGULATION
20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT**

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

Ref No	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
11/00453/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse and formation of new access.	5 Vaul Isle of Tiree Argyll and Bute PA77 6TP	Lorn Area Office
11/00676/PP	Alterations and extensions to dwellinghouse to form 3 holiday letting units	Traghobhor Isle of Iona Argyll and Bute PA76 6SP	Sub Post Office Isle of Iona
11/00704/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse and ancillary accommodation unit	Celtic Sea Ltd Ardunain Oban Argyll and Bute PA34 4XD	Sub Post Office Kilmelford
11/00732/PP	Erection of a dwellinghouse and domestic shed.	Land North West of Benmoreach Isle of Coll Argyll and Bute PA78 6TE	Sub Post Office Isle of Coll
11/00844/PP	Change of use from vacant store building (Class 6) to dwellinghouse (Class 9).	Land Opposite Burnbank Breadalbane Street Tobermory Isle of Mull Argyll and Bute PA75 6PD	Tobermory Area Office
11/00867/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse, detached garage, formation of new access and installation of septic tank.	Site North West of The Parsonage Bonawe Loch Eive Argyll and Bute	Sub Post Office Ledaig
11/00886/PP	Erection of store between existing sheds	North Ledaig Caravan Park Ledaig Oban Argyll and Bute PA37 1RU	Sub Post Office Ledaig
11/00915/PP	Proposed pitched roof over existing flat roof	19 Pulpit Rock Oban Argyll and Bute PA34 4LZ	Oban Area Office

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

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

Ref No	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
11/00848/PP	Erection of a dwellinghouse with associated car parking and landscaping	Dungallan House Hotel Gallachan Road Oban Argyll and Bute PA34 4PD	Oban Area Office

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, Dairiada House, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8ST.
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.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

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

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

Reference Number	Development Address	Proposal Description	Alternative locations where application may be inspected
11/01016/FUL	Land 78m east of The Moorings Camsnagaul Fort William	Erection of interpretation panel	Lochaber Area Planning & Building Standards Office (14 days)
11/01979/FUL	Site west of Glencoe Independent Hostel Glencoe Ballaichulish PH49 4HX	Erection of house (renewal of 05/00198/FULL0)	Lochaber Area Planning & Building Standards Office (14 days)
11/01854/FUL	Rosslyn Invergarry PH35 4HL	Permanent site for residential caravan	Lochaber Area Planning & Building Standards Office (14 days)

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

**SEA EAGLE
MANAGEMENT SCHEME
INVITATION TO APPLY**



Scottish Natural Heritage, on behalf of the sea eagle partnership, are offering eligible land managers an opportunity to take part in a new management scheme targeted at areas supporting breeding sea eagles in Scotland.
This new scheme replaces previous schemes operated by SNH and has the following aims:
• Providing opportunities to undertake projects for the benefit of sea eagles.
• Spreading the economic benefits of the presence of sea eagles to a wider section of the community.
• Assisting positive management of land and livestock which reduces the impact of the foraging behaviour of sea eagles on agricultural enterprises.

The scheme is open for applications until 31st August 2011. Further application rounds will be available each year until autumn 2013.
Further details on the scheme and how to apply are available at: www.snh.gov.uk/protecting-scotlands-nature/species-action-framework/species-action-list/wt-eagle/sea-eagle-managementscheme
For potential applicants in Mull, a meeting will be held on 29th June at 8pm, in the Salen Hotel.
For potential applicants in Lochaber, the following drop-in information sessions are being held:
• Mallaig - Monday 27th June; 3pm - 9pm, in the West Highland Hotel
• Acharacle - 1st July; 3pm - 9pm, in the Loch Shiel House Hotel
Alternatively, you can contact your local office, as follows, to request a scheme booklet and application form:
• Mull - Colin Macfarlane: 0300 244 9360
• Mainland Argyll - Liam Wright: 0300 244 9360
• Islay, Jura & Colonsay - Morven Laurie: 01496 810711
• Lochaber - Martin Faulkner: 01397 704716

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ANTIQUES AND COLLECTABLES

WOLF KNIFE (BOWIE) Collectors Wolf Knife, the 'Pawnee Wolf Knife' by Ben Nighthorse. inc's wall plaque frame, google for photo, £49 Telephone 01631 566491.

AUDIO EQUIPMENT

DISC PLAYER Cambridge compact disc player CD5 ex cond used hardly, £35 Telephone 01631 565241.
PIONEER TUNER Pioneer digital synthesizer tuner f55l ex cond, £25 Telephone 01631 565241.

BABY EQUIPMENT

BABY BATH SET white bath with yellow trim, include big changing box and top & tall bowl - matching set, £10 Telephone 07880 876634.

BASE UNIT FOR MAXI COSI BABY S fits in car and baby seat just lifts in and out, no need to fit each time, £30 Telephone 07789 228628.

BRITAX VIGOUR 3 PUSHCHAIR in good condition, some light marks on frame. Light blue colour, with raincover. Delivery in/around Oban included, £45 Telephone 07885 711643.

CHICCO HIGH CHAIR Unisex design, good condition, £30 Telephone 07789 228628.

COT BED pine bed, £20 Telephone 07876 762631.

EGG TEMPERATURE GUIDE for baby's room, £10 Telephone 07789 228628.

FISHER PRICE CAR SEAT group 0, suitable from birth. Includes head support. Pale blue, candlelight, £15 Telephone 07970 827860 Benderloch.

FOOT FINDER & RATTLE Lamaze Gardenbug foot finder & wrist rattle set. Used but boxed and in like new condition, £6 Telephone 07795 075995.

MAMAS & PAPAS X-CEL CHASSIS Pram travel system, face both ways, carrycot, seat, footmuff, raincover, big shop basket, birth to 15kg, adjustable backrest, £49.99 Telephone 07880 876634.

MAXI COSI BABY SEAT Blue, good condition, also fits Quinny chassis for use with pram, base for car available separately, £40 Telephone 07789 228628.

MOTHERCARE BABY CAR SEAT 0-9mths, Light blue and yellow cover, £15 Telephone 07880 876634.

MOTHERCARE TRAVEL SYSTEM pram, car seat, push chair and lots of extras, chocolate waive, £100 Telephone 07876 762631.

PLAYPEN/ROOM DIVIDER Lindan Safe and Secure, good condition, £45 Telephone 07876 762631.

RAIN FOREST JUMPAROO PANE 1599 Argos Catalogue, £40 Telephone 07876 762631.

SPIN & EXPLORE Lamaze Spin & Explore the sea gym perfect for tummy time. Used but boxed and in like new condition, £20 Telephone 07795 075995.

STAR-LITE SWING Mamas & Papas Star-lite swing for 0+ months. Boxed in like new condition, £49.99 Telephone 07795 075995.

TOMMEE TIPPEE CLOSER TO NATURE warms baby bottle/food quick and easy. Not car bottle warmer, £8 Telephone 07880 876634.

TOMY BABY MONITOR with sensor pad for cot/mosses basket, excellent condition, £20 Telephone 07789 228628.

TRAVEL COT Graco, with changing table, colour grey, £49.99 Telephone 07876 762631.

BICYCLES

CRUD MIT GUARD SET Black Clip on, fit all bikes except racers. Brand new in wrapper, £10 Telephone 07704 291746.

GENTS BICYCLE, £10 Telephone 01631 563655.

LADIES BICYCLE one ladies bicycle, £10 Telephone 01631 563655.

BOOKS

BRAND NEW HARD COVER BOOK 'The Ridgeway Trail', brand new unwanted prize book. Full of pictures and map of trail. Great for those who love walking, cyclist. Listed as £16.99, £9.95 Telephone 01546 606475.

NEW HARD COVER BOOK 'The Square Mile' new unwanted prize book, by Beata Moore. Captures the architecture, history & beauty of the square mile, price on book £16.99, £9.95 Telephone 01546 606475.

BUILDING / DIY

BRAND NEW QUINN ROOF TILES Black Western Slate. Each tile 420mm x 334mm. (9.7 tiles per m²), 384 tiles available. £1 for 4 tiles. Telephone 07872 986164.

BRAND NEW ROOF RIDGE TILES Black Western Slate, Universal angle. Length 455mm, 54 tiles available (more can be purchased from Rembrand Oban), £49 Telephone 07872 986164.

PVC DOOR FRAME including glass panel, 93cm x 206cm, £80 Telephone 07876 762631.

SCAFFOLDING kwikform for sale, standings, ledgers, transoms, jacks, bracings, hop ups and boards, enough to do a large house, £1,950 Telephone 07775 665503.

CAR ACCESSORIES

BATTERY CHARGER C-TEK Tronic T4/SE 12 volt unisex, £20 Telephone 01631 565241.

LANDROVER TYRES Two Vredstein tyres in excellent condition 185/70 SR14 86Q M&S Snow+, £49.99 for the pair Telephone 01631 565143 or 07796 981697.

CLOTHES, SHOES AND ACCESSORIES

COWBOY BOOTS Ladies size 7. Brown. Worn once. 1.5" heel, £15 Telephone 01631 720493.

PINK WELLIES by Cotswold Company, Size 7. Worn once, £20 Telephone 01631 720493.

WEDDING DRESS Ivory, 2 piece. Size 12. Sash around waist. 39" skirt. Never worn, with two clear storage bags, £49.99 Telephone 01631 720493.

COMPUTERS AND GAMES

NETGEAR RANGEMAX MODEM/ROUTER Wireless DG834PN, 6 internal antennas, boxed, CD, etc, 10x10x speed, multi player gaming, £12 Telephone 01546 606475.

NETGEAR WIRELESS N USB ADAPTOR WN111v2 Wireless N USB Adaptor with lead, £6 Telephone 01546 606475.

CREELS

PRAWN CREELS FOR SALE new, Corolene netting and bound, £18.50 Telephone 07717 336315.

DOMESTIC APPLIANCES

BOSCH CLASSIC FRIDGE 150cm tall larder, ex cond £49.99, £49.99 Telephone 01631 566429 after 6pm.

DISHWASHER Zanussi essential, very good condition AAAA rating, £45 Telephone 01880 821485.

FREESTANDING FRIDGE Lec Elan A class, one safety glass shelves, 2 star frozen food compartment, good condition, perfect for holiday home, comes with instruction manual, £40 Telephone 01631 720073.

FREEZER White Built in style-4 shelves, 54x47x86cm, Diplomat 6636, £250 Telephone 01631 566909.

FRIDGE white built in style-4 shelves, 54x47x86cm, Diplomat APM6742, £250 Telephone 01631 566909.

FRIDGE FREEZER Fridge freezer for sale...Beco Glacier, good condition, £49.99 Telephone 01631 569819.

HALOGEN OVEN (as new) changing for larger size. Cook book included, £25 Telephone 01631 565206 after 4pm.

MINI HOB 2 ring oven grill, suitable for worktop, new, never used, white 57cm(w), 35cm(d), 38cm(l), £49.99 Telephone 01880 730204.

MINI HOB 2 ring mini hob oven grill, suitable for worktop, new, never used, white, 57cms (w) x 35 cms (d), 38 cms (h), £49.99 Telephone 01880 730204.

SODA STREAM DRINKS MIXER with new cylinder and six bottles, £5 Telephone 01586 552109.

STAINLESSSTEEL ROASTING PAN new, ideal for Xmas turkey, £6 Telephone 01586 552109.

DOMESTIC PETS

COLLIE PUPS of good working parents, or ideal pet, dogs only, ready now, £150 Telephone 01870 132004.

JACK RUSSELL PUPPIES 6 weeks old, wormed, lovely markings, one girl, one boy, Telephone 01838 200657.

LHASA-APSO PUPPIES two girls, sweethearts, ready now, near Oban, can email pic, £395.00 Telephone 01852 314009.

EQUESTRIAN

HARRY HALL BODY PROTECTOR Never worn. Blue/Black/Grey/Red. Ladies medium, £49.99 Telephone 01631 720493.

HIGHLAND PONY Registered gelding 3 yo approx 14.2hh Dark Dun quiet good to handle Companion pony or child's gentle hack. Free to good home. Telephone 01687 462362.

HIGHLAND PONY Registered gelding 3 yo 14hh Dark Dun Halter broken good to handle Ready to bring on. Genuine all round pony. Isle of Muck. Telephone 01687 462362.

HIGHLAND PONY Registered Brood Mare 8 years old 13.2hh blue grey good temperament, foals easily. Previously shown good to handle, Isle of Muck. Telephone 01687 462362.

RIDING HARD HAT brand new, with bag. Size 56-61cm. Black, £25 Telephone 01631 720493.

FURNITURE

2 GUEST BEDS two folding single guest beds, one used plus one new, £10 and £30 respectively. Can deliver locally. Telephone 01631 566491.

3 DINING CHAIRS Matching pine, £15 Telephone 01631 720493.

BAR STOOL, £5 Telephone 01631 564844.

BAR STOOLS four bar stools, £15 Telephone 01631 720342.

BED new single divan, Hypnos and headboard 2 drawer, unused, very good quality, £250 Telephone 01631 720425.

BEDSIDE UNITS 2 x Pine MDF Bed side units, 2 drawers in each unit, 35x40x49 cm. Excellent condition, £25 Telephone 01631 566909.

BOOK CASES Billy book cases (Ikea), as new, pale birch, 218cm x 72cm, £2 @ £25 each M&S Snow+, £49.99 for the pair Telephone 01852 200227.

BOOK CASES Billy book cases (Ikea), as new, pale birch, 218cm x 37cm, £20 Telephone 01852 200227.

CHEST OF DRAWERS faux wood effect, full size, 5 drawers, £15 Telephone 01631 720342.

CIRCULAR TABLE wooden, extending with four matching chairs, £30 Telephone 01631 566001.

CORNER UNIT Billy book case (Ikea) corner unit, as new, pale birch, 202cm x 77cm, £30 Telephone 01852 200227.

DINING TABLE round glass topped chrome dining table and four chairs, £45 Telephone 01631 720452.

DOUBLE HEADBOARD white metal with brass effect, £10 Telephone 01631 566491.

KINGSIZE DIVAN BED without mattress. Comes in 2 pieces. Excellent condition. Collect from Barcaldine, £49.99 Telephone 01631 720493.

OFFICE CHAIR £15 Telephone 01631 564844.

PINE DESK/DRESSING TABLE with drawer and shelf. H - 31". W - 42". D - 20". No marks or scratches, £25 Telephone 01631 720493.

PINE DINING TABLE pine dining table with five chairs, £45 Telephone 01631 720342.

PINE TABLE round pine pedestal table, vgc, £25 Telephone 01631 566429 after 6pm.

SHELVING UNITS 5 foot high shelving units on casters, grey colour, can be stacked together or used as bedside table, £25 Telephone 01631 720073.

SINGLE BED solid pine single bed, painted grey, excellent condition, ideal for holiday home, £49 Telephone 01631 720073.

LADIES TEN PIN BOWL with bag, 10lb size, £20 Telephone 01631 570319.

TELESCOPE Meade ETX-90, as new condition, possible part delivery, cost £450 new, £250ono Telephone 01852 200332.

TRUNDLE SINGLE BED with two mattresses. One bed pulls out from underneath other. Excellent condition. Collect Barcaldine, £49.99 Telephone 01631 720493.

GARDEN

WHEEL BARROW aluminium, £8 Telephone 01586 552109.

WHITE PLASTIC CHAIR Ideal for sitting in the garden on sunny days. Folds flat. Hardly used, £8 Telephone 01631 720493.

GARDEN MACHINERY

ROLLATOR new four-wheeled rollator with hand grips and brakes, £45 Telephone 01631 720342.

HEALTH AND FITNESS

DIGITAL STEP MACHINE full working order. Made by V-Fit. Excellent condition, £30 Telephone 01631 720493.

EXERCISE BIKE Full size. Marks on base at front. Doesn't affect workings. Not sure if computer works. Different gradients and speeds, £25 Telephone 01631 720493.

LADIESDUMBELLS/WEIGHTS x6. Purple, green and pink. 1.5kg, 1kg and 0.5kg, £10 Telephone 01631 720493.

HEATING, FIRES AND FIREPLACES

OIL LIVING FLAME STOVE to fit in fireplace, vgc, £200 Telephone 01631 566429 after 6pm.

OIL RAYBURN NOUVELLE green, very good condition heats 11 radiators cooks and hot water. Can be seen working, can email pictures, can be taken now, £800 Telephone 01681 700589.

WOOD BURNING STOVE Clark Thames wood burning stove, 6kw, used once, genuine reason for sale, £160 Telephone 01631 566429 after 6pm.

HOBBIES AND CRAFTS

FAMILY TREE MAKER 2009 Great Platinum Family tree maker, boxed. Integrate with Ancestor.co.uk. view timelines & interactive maps. Book of answers, £9.95 Telephone 01546 606475.

HOME ENTERTAINMENT

28" TV old style, new stand and freeview box, £35 Telephone 01631 566429 after 6pm.

TELEVISION WALL BRACKET white, as new condition, £10 Telephone 01586 552109.

TRINITRON TV Sony Trinitron TV with remote control and cabinet, excellent condition, £49 Telephone 01631 720073.

TV PANASONIC 21" on stand. Free, Telephone 01631 710352.

HOME FURNISHINGS

KING SIZE MATTRESS Restus Orthopaedic, firm, excellent, very clean condition, £49.95 Telephone 07500 716262.

HOME OFFICE

COMPUTER CHAIR child's pink computer chair, £5 Telephone 01631 720342.

COMPUTER TABLE new computer table, £5 Telephone 01631 720342.

P C TROLLEY mahogany effect PC trolley similar to item 6 Argos page 999 Max tower H52 W22 D48, £15 Telephone 01852 300015.

KITCHEN AND BATHROOM

BATHROOM CABINET mirror door, £15 Telephone 01631 720342.

HOP SPLASHBACK stainless steel, 70cm x 90cm, brand new in box, £49.95 Telephone 07500 716262.

KITCHEN UNITS three 1000mm white base units, carcasses only, new, boxed, £5 Telephone 07500 716262.

KITCHEN WORK SURFACES charcoal grey with oak trim (new), 135cm x 60cm, £35 and 80cm x 60cm £25. Telephone 01862 200227.

TOILET ROLL HOLDER and magazine rack. Silver metal. From Lakelands, 23.5" high, £10 Telephone 01631 720493.

WINE RACK (24 bottles), metal and wood, made up from flat pack but unused, very strong construction, £6 Telephone 01586 552109.

LEISURE AND LIFESTYLE

BENQ CP120 - DIGITAL PROJECT built-in wireless connection, super light weight 1.3kg. As new £100. Canon Power shot S51S Digital Camera, 8mp 12 x optical zoom £100. Telephone 01631 570356.

FOUR PERSON TENT two bedrooms, 224 x 420 x 140, new and unused, still in unopened packaging. Cost £65 bargain at £35.00. Telephone 01631 562339.

LADIES TEN PIN BOWL with bag, 10lb size, £20 Telephone 01631 570319.

TELESCOPE Meade ETX-90, as new condition, possible part delivery, cost £450 new, £250ono Telephone 01852 200332.

LIVESTOCK

PURE SOAY LAMBS and a unrelated Soay Ram. Telephone 01866 833263.

ERISKAY PONY FOR SALE 3 year old, very quiet and easy handled. Telephone 01967 431611.

GARDEN HENS Garden hens pure breed and hybrid. Point of Lay, DEFRA Reg. Telephone 01786 842788 (evenings) or 07500 264977.

PULLETS FOR SALE brown, black or pure breeds, ducks, geese, feeders, drinkers, hen sheds. Telephone 01470 572213. uk

MARINE

JOHNSTONE OUTBOARD 5hp, hardly used, £450 Telephone 01631 720452.

MARINE UNDER £250

GARMIN GPS 38 GPS Garmin 38, vgc, £30 Telephone 01397 772604.

MISCELLANEOUS

OUTDOOR AERIAL CABLE approx 60m green heavy duty outdoor aerial cable for use with satellite dishes/aerials, £25 Telephone 07868 481242.

MOBILE AND HOME TELEPHONES

MOBILE PHONE Sony Ericsson K800, charger, manual, 3.2 megapixel camera, carry strap, earphones, O2 or Orange sim card available, £35 Telephone 01631 710649.

MOTORCYCLE EQUIPMENT

CUSTOM HANDLEBARS chrome (new) California Pullbacks 8" Rise (7/8" diameter). The classic custom bar! 28 1/2" wide, 8" rise, 11" pull, £40 Telephone 01631 566491.

STOP TAIL LIGHT Harley Davidson universal rear fender chrome stop/tail light combined number plate holder, £35 Telephone 01631 566491.

TANK BADGES pair classic motorcycle Tank Badges, new, BSA B31 - Red and white background with vivid gold print and the famous piled arms, £35 Telephone 01631 566491.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

BURDETT PIANO good tone, needs some attention, £20 Telephone 01880 821485.

DIGITAL PERCUSSION DRUMS Yamaha DD6, ex cond, £25 Telephone 01631 566429 after 6pm.

ELECTRIC GUITAR and amplifier, £30 Telephone 01631 566429 after 6pm.

GIBSON EPIPHONE ACOUSTIC Guitar Vintage sunburst. As new, no marks or scratches. Steel strung, round sound hole, £160 Telephone 01631 720377.

PIGGY AMPLIFIER, £45 Telephone 01631 566429 after 6pm.

OUTDOOR SPORTS EQUIPMENT

GOLF CLUBS assortment of left handed golf clubs with bag, £20 Telephone 01631 720342.

WET SUIT Large Neoprene Wet Suit 6mm thick, complete with booties and hood, £40 Telephone 01397 772604.

PET ACCESSORIES

DOG CAGE medium size, £20 Telephone 01631 570319.

DOG CAGE medium size black dog cage, in very good condition, £20 Telephone 01631 570541.

PHOTOGRAPHY

MANFROTTO 785B MODO TRIPOD Quick release and lock. Boxed with instructions, 5 sections, with photo & video head. 43.5cm-150.5cm height. Free shoulder bag, £20.50 Telephone 01546 606475.

POLAROID 600 LAND CAMERA model Lightmixer £30 LM in good condition, £10 Telephone 01546 886300.

STAR 8 MONOPOD Excellent condition. Doesn't look as been used. boxed. Weight 250g, 40cm-141cm height, 5 sections. Padded handle. Carry strap, £9.95 Telephone 01546 606475.

JOB PRESSURE WASHER PW1RB, used once, as new, £49.99 Telephone 01631 565241.

MAKITA METAL CHOP SAW Model LC 1230; 240v 1650w; 305mm TCT blade. Excellent condition, £250 Telephone 07899 878112.

POWER TOOLS

JOB PRESSURE WASHER PW1RB, used once, as new, £49.99 Telephone 01631 565241.

TOYS AND GAMES

FANTASY PALACE Barbie Princess Pauper Fantasy Palace, boxed, including 2 dolls, good condition, £45 Telephone 01631 720073.

BIRTHS

BROWN - Eddie and Linda (Sharp) are delighted to announce on June 7, 2011, the birth of their daughter Freya Mhairi-ann. First granddaughter for Alex and Marion, Oban and John and Anne, Glasgow.

MACARTHUR - Neil and Karen are delighted to announce the safe arrival of Hector James MacArthur, on Monday, June 6, at Ayrshire Maternity Unit, grandson to Sine and the late James MacKinnon, Sannox, Arran and the late Morag and Alastair MacArthur, Tiree, brother to Ruairidh.

MACISAAC - WILEMAN

Colin and Debbie are delighted to announce the arrival of their beautiful daughter Ailish Elizabeth, at Aberdeen Maternity on Tuesday June 7, 2011. First grandchild for Iain and Flora and first grand daughter for Tom and Joey. Both well.

MCCUBBIN

Kevin and Ann-Maree (nee Campbell) are delighted to announce the birth of their precious baby boy, Ryan Campbell, on Tuesday June 7, 2011. First grandchild for Bill and Elma, Glencoe and John and Helen, Dunbeg. Special thanks to all at Oban Maternity Unit and RAH Paisley.

ENGAGEMENTS

CROSSLAND - PURCELL - William and Cona MacNicol are pleased to announce the engagement of Richard MacPherson Crossland, Ballachulish, to Orla Purcell, Waterford. Congratulations.

MARRIAGES

MACLEAN - FLEMING
On Saturday, June 4, 2011, in Oban Free High Church, Flora Ann, daughter of Alex and Agnes, North Connell, to Colin, son of Mairim and step-son of Sonny, Oban.

DEATH

FLANNIGAN - Peacefully at the Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban on June 13, 2011, in her 90th year, Isabella "Sybil" nee MacPherson, beloved wife of the late John, much loved mum of Isabel, Gerald and Linda, a dear mother-in-law, gran and great-gran.

GRAY - After a short illness borne with humour and dignity, Elliott passed away at home in Inverloch on June 10. The funeral service will be held in the Duncansburgh MacIntosh at 10am on Friday, June 17, followed by cremation at Inverness Crematorium, small chapel, at 2.30. Elliott is survived by his son Elliott, daughter Jane, son-in-law Campbell MacLean, grand daughters Laura and Sarah and their husbands Gary Strang and Mark Croft. Donations in lieu of flowers can be made at the church in favour of Glen Mhor district nurses and Marie Curie.

BEATON - Archie and family of the late Elizabeth Beaton (Lizzie), would like to sincerely thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for their kind expressions of sympathy, cards and floral tributes received following their sad loss. Special thanks to the staff of Abbeyfield, Ballachulish, for their care and kindness, grateful thanks to Dr Calder and Dr Wilmington of Ballachulish Medical Centre for their caring and professional attention, to Rev Alison Burnside for the lovely service, Helen and Douglas MacIntyre for efficient funeral arrangements, Ballachulish for catering and to all those who paid their last respects at the church and graveside.

FAGAN - The family of the late Frank Fagan would like to thank all family, friends and neighbours for their messages of sympathy and cards following their recent sad loss. Special thanks to the Glen Mhor Practice, Macmillan nurses and the Belford Hospital, also to Ewen MacLennan and Fr Roddy MacAuley for their excellent services. The sum of £315.20 collected at the church was donated to Lochaber Palliative Care.

MACDONALD - Sheila and family would like to thank all family, friends and work colleagues for their many kind expressions of sympathy, cards, flowers and phone calls following the sad loss of Donnie. Grateful thanks to all at Craig Nevis Surgery, The Stepdown Ward at Belford Hospital, The Highland Hospice and Macmillan Nurses for care and support to Donnie and the family. Thanks also to Rev D MacQuarrie for his comforting service and also his support during Donnie's illness, especially his final days. Thank you to Ewen and staff, funeral directors for caring and

LEONARD - Mary (known by many as Mary Binnie), died peacefully on June 11, 2011 at Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban aged 96, late of North Argyll House and formerly of Ardbhan Farm, Gallanach, Oban. Beloved sister, sister-in-law, aunt and great aunt to all the family. A good neighbour, dear friend and work colleague to many. Funeral will take place at the Church of Scotland, Glencruitten Road, Oban on Tuesday, 21 June 2011 at 1.30pm and thereafter to Pennyfuir Cemetery. Mary will be missed.

LIDDLE - Norman Graham Ferguson, June 11, 2011 at John Flynn Hospital, QLD, after a short illness, aged 73 years, late of Yamba NSW, dearly loved husband of Adele, loving father, father-in-law and friend of

Calum and Debra, Ferguson and Nicole, Duncan and Victoria and Fraser and Christina. Loving grandfather of Liam, Rory, Caelan and Esme.

MACLEAN - Peacefully at home in Kenovay, Isle of Tiree on 6 June 2011, Donald Archibald (The Butcher) aged 84 years, beloved husband of Nan, a much loved father of Archie John and Neil, dear father-in-law and proud grandfather.

MACLEOD - Suddenly but peacefully, on June 13, 2011, at the Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban, in her 94th year, Dolena, nee Mackenzie, Old Parish Manse, Dunuaran Road, Oban, beloved wife of the late Rev. John MacLeod, (of Oban Old Parish Church) and loving mother of Kathleen and the late Christeen and dear mother-in-law of Seumas. Funeral will take place from The Church of Scotland, Glencruitten Road, Oban, on Friday, June 17, 2011 at 11.00 a.m. thereafter to Pennyfuir Cemetery. Family flowers only. Retrial collection/donations will be taken in lieu for Argyll Beats Cardiovascular Disease (known as ABCD).

MUNRO - Peacefully on Sunday June 12, 2011 in Ardenlee Care Home, Dunoon, Mary Munro (nee MacLean), beloved wife of the late Duncan Neil, much loved mother of Anne, Neil and the late Katrina, loving mother-in-law to Carrie and loving granny of Catherine, Graham, Hayley, Kieran, Melanic and baby Duncan. Sadly missed by all family and friends. The funeral service will be held on Friday June 17 in Strachur Parish Church at 12 noon, thereafter to Strachur Cemetery to which all are respectfully invited. Family flowers only please, donations if desired to Alzheimer's Society

MEMORIAL SERVICE

CLEMENSON - A Memorial Service is to be held in Tobermory Parish Church on Saturday, June 25, 2011 at 2pm for the late Marion Shaw Clemenson.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

BARR - Peter, Ann, Joe, James and families, would like to thank everyone who paid their respects to Johnny at the funeral service and at the graveside. The family have been overwhelmed by everyone's kindness at this sad time, thank you all. A big thank you to the doctors, nurses and staff of the Cruachan Ward, for looking after Dad over the past few weeks and a special thank you to Morag Kerr. We would also like to thank Rev. Dugald Cameron for his comforting and fitting service, D and A Munn for their help, guidance and efficient service, Aulay's for the hospitality after the service. The retiring collection for the Cruachan Ward Equipment Fund, raised £983.41.

JAMIESON - In loving memory of Laurie, a dearly loved husband, dad and granda, died June 18, 2004. Resting where no shadows fall. Loved and remembered by us all - Love Irene, David, Sharon, Paul and girls xxx. Lovingly remembered.

LAIDLER - Annie. Died June 9, 2009. Her name is in a book of remembrance, but the true remembrance is in our hearts and minds.

MACALLISTER - In loving memory of our dear parents and grandparents Margaret, who died on June 17, 1995 and William who died July 20, 1996. Always in our thoughts Forever in our hearts.

MACDONALD - Treasured memories of Allan Alexander MacDonald, a much loved husband, father, father-in-law and grandpa who died June 16, 2010 age 60. We often visit the place you rest

MACDONALD - And thoughts of you are simply the best. When we turn and walk away. We know you are with us every day. The precious years we had together. Are memories we can keep forever.

MACDONALD - Treasured memories of my beloved son Allan who passed away so suddenly on June 16, 2010. Loved and remembered every day.

MACDONALD - In loving memory of a dearly loved mum, gran, supergran and great-great gran Mary, who passed away on June 19, 2010. Dearly loved, sorely missed, never forgotten.

ROBERTSON - Treasured memories of my mum Mary, who died June 18, 2010. Always in our thoughts Lorne, Suzy and Alfie

ROBERTSON - Treasured memories of my dear sister who left us a year ago and is sorely missed. Janet, Johnny and family.

SUTHERLAND - Ray, died June 19, 1998. The birds still sing. The flowers grow. The breeze still whispers too. But it will never, ever be the same. This world's just empty without you.

MACDONALD - In memory of Allan who died June 16, 2010. Simply the best. - Davy and Pat.

MACKENZIE - Treasured memories of a dear son Alexander, who tragically drowned June 14, 1998. We have loved him in life. Let us not forget him in death.

MACKINNON - Remembering our parents and grandparents, Alan and Isabel, who both passed away in June, 1994.

MACNEIL - In loving memory of my dear husband Michael, died June 16, 2007. Always with me.

McLENNAN - In loving memory of my dear wife Isa, who passed away June 15, 2005, a loving granny and great-granny. Remembering you is easy. We do it every day. Missing you is the heart-ache.

REECE - Cherished memories of Alec, devoted husband, dad and pappy, who died June 20, 2002 and Catherine, who died on September 1, 2009. Greatly missed.

ROBERTSON - In loving memory of my wife Mary, who died June 18, 2010. Sorely missed Billy

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CHISHOLM - In memory of my dear son, Scott, who died June 20, 1992. This time comes with sad regret. The day, the hour, I will never forget. My love for you will never die.

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Energie's MoonWalk Team would like to thank Flit Self Drive for donating our mini bus and to Gary at Oban Milk Supplies for donating all the fuel. It was much appreciated! Not forgetting Jane Dodd for being our fabulous chauffeur!
Also big Thank you to all who sponsored us, we did it! X

Iain MacMillan
Glencoe Dairy, Ballachulish
I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for all the gifts, cards and good wishes I received on my retirement. It was all very much appreciated.
Thank you Iain.

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Thought for the week

'Consider the lilies, how they grow; they neither sow nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these.'

As the summer comes a huge range of flowers both wild and cultivated will give us beauty all around. We may not be able to compete with such finery but most of us have a level of concern about what we wear.

The Church and Society Council of the Church of Scotland produces reports on many serious issues. A report on clothing might

Road to the Isles Agricultural Show



Commercial cattle judge Bert Leitch casts an expert eye over the entries before him 20_024shw01

Commercial cattle - Judge: Mr R. Leitch, Lagannulla, Ulva Ferry, Mull. Class 11 - Breeding Cow (any breed) - 1, Stewart, Skyview, Arisaig; 2, W. Henderson, Traigh, Arisaig; 3, W. Henderson, Class 12 - Breeding Beef Cow with calf - 1, W. Henderson; 2, I. Stewart; 3, W. Henderson. Class 13 - In-calf Heifer - 1, D. Wright, Snr, Clovullin, Ardour, Class 14 - Heifer born before 01/01/10 - 1, R. Wright, Woodend, Ardour; 2, D. Wright, Jr., Woodend, Ardour; 3, I. Stewart. Class 17 - Bullock calf born on or after 01/12/10 - 1, D. Wright, Jr., Woodend, Ardour; 3, W. Henderson. Class 18 - Bullock calf born after 01/03/11 - 1, I. Stewart; 2, W. Henderson. Class 20 - Heifer calf born on or after 01/12/10 - 1, D. Campbell, Camaghael, Fort William, Commercial Cattle Champion - D. Campbell, with Heifer Calf Reserve - D. Wright, Snr with in-calf Heifer.

Highland Cattle - Judge: Mr Alan Blackthorn, Broomfield, Perth. Class 22 - Highland cow in milk or calf - 1, Mr and Mrs R.D. Schuster, Dullietter Farm, Lochawe; 2, D.C. Lewis, Drimmin Estate, Morvern. Class 23 - Highland Heifer Calf 1, Mr and Mrs R.D. Schuster, Dullietter Farm, Lochawe; 2, D.C. Lewis, Class 24 - Highland Heifer, 3 year old - 1, D.C. Lewis; 2, Mr and Mrs O'Hara. Class 26 - Highland Heifer, 2 year old - 1, Mr and Mrs R.D. Schuster; 2, D.C. Lewis. Class 27 - Highland Heifer, 1 year old - 1, Mr and Mrs R.D. Schuster; 2, Mr and Mrs R.D. Schuster. Class 29 - Undressed Cow/Heifer - 1, I. Stewart. Class 30 - Undressed Calf - 1, I. Stewart. Highland Cattle Champion - Mr and Mrs R.D. Schuster with cow. Reserve - Mr and Mrs R.D. Schuster with 1 year old heifer. Overall cattle champion - Mr and Mrs R.D. Schuster with Highland Cow.

Blackface Sheep - Judge: Mr Archie Macgregor, Allanfauld, Kilsyth. Class 34 - Aged Tup - 1, N. MacPhail, Aros, Mull; 2, A. MacGillivray, Lanth, Salen; 3, D. Cameron, Tresaig, Class 35 - Shearing Tup (born 2010) - 1, D. Cameron; 2, D. Cameron; 3, N. MacPhail. Class 36 - Tup Lamb (born 2011) - 1, A. MacGillivray; 2, M. Cherry, Mull; 3, N. MacPhail. Class 37 - Homebred Blackface Shearing - 1, N. MacPhail; 2, A. MacGillivray; 3, A.J. Cameron. Class 40 - Ewe Lamb (born 2011) - 1, M. Cherry; 2, M. Cherry; 1, D.C. Lewis; 2, A. MacPhail; 3, A.J. Cameron; 3, A. MacGillivray, Champion Blackface Sheep - A.J. Cameron with ewe in milk. Reserve Blackface Sheep - N. MacPhail with ewe hog.

Any breed or cross other than blackface - Judge: Mr Donald Morrison, United Auctions, Oban. Class 42 - Aged Tup - 1, D. Cameron, MacDonald, Portadoran, Arisaig; 2, D. Shaw and C. MacKechnie; 3, E. Smalley, Laudale Estate, Morvern. Class 43 - Shearing Tup (born 2010) - 1, A. MacDonald; 2, E. Smalley; 3, E. Smalley. Class 44 - Tup Lamb (born 2011) - 1, A. MacDonald; 2, A. MacDonald; 3, D.C. Lewis. Class 45 - Ewe in Milk - 1, A. MacDonald; 2, A. MacDonald. Class 46 - Ewe Hog (born 2010) - 1, A. MacDonald; 2, A. MacDonald; 3, D. Shaw and C. MacKechnie. Class 47 - Ewe Lamb (born 2011) - 1, D.C. Lewis; 2, A. MacDonald. Class 48 - Ewe and Lamb(s) - 1, A. MacDonald; 2, A. MacDonald. Non Blackface Champion - A. MacDonald with Suffolk ewe. Reserve - A. MacDonald with Suffolk ewe hog. Overall Sheep Champion - A.J. Cameron with Blackface Ewe.

Overall Livestock Champion - Mr and Mrs R.D. Schuster with Highland Cow.

Trophy Winners
Sheep
Frank O'Donahue Cup: Blackface Champion - A. J. Cameron. Inverglasgow Cup: Blackface Shearing - D. Cameron. Arisaig Stores Salver: Champion other Breeds - A. MacDonald. Knoydart Cup: Best B.F. ewe in milk - A. J. Cameron. Best B/F Ewe and Lamb Cup: M. Cherry. Moineach Mhor Trophy: Best Non B/F Ewe and Lamb - A. MacDonald. Steven Ferguson Cup: Best Blackface Lamb - A. MacGillivray. Cameron Head Trophy: Overall Sheep Champion - A. J. Cameron. MacGillivray Trophy: Home Bred B.F. Shearing Tup - N. MacPhail.

Cattle
Portadoran Cup: Best Cow and Calf - W. Henderson. Best Beef Calf Cup: D. Campbell. Donald Campbell Cup: Best A.I. Calf - D. Campbell. Phosyn Shield:

Best in calf Heifer - D. Wright, Snr. Scamdale Cup: Best Native Animal - Mr and Mrs R. D. Schuster. Iain Stewart Cup: Best Highland Animal - Mr and Mrs R. D. Schuster. Roshven Cup: Reserve Highland Cattle - Mr and Mrs R. D. Schuster. MacMillan Shield: Overall Cattle Champion - Mr and Mrs R. D. Schuster. Alick Craig-Mhor Cup: Reserve Cattle Champion - D. Campbell. Bank of Scotland Cup: Overall Livestock Champion - Mr and Mrs R. D. Schuster with Highland Cow. Dog Show

Floral Art - Judge: Mrs Margaret Bellwood, Fort William. Class 50 - Arrangement of three blooms and foliage - 1, E. MacPhie, Mallaig; 2, J. Cairns, Arisaig. Class 51 - Arrangement using variegated foliage (no flowers) - 1, E. MacPhie. Class 52 - Flowering pot plant - 1, H. Simpson, Mallaig; 2, E. MacPhie.

Handicrafts and knitting - Judge: Mrs Margaret Bellwood, Fort William. Class 55 - Pair of gents socks or knit hose - 1, C. Haynes, Morar; 2, I. MacPhie. Class 56 - Child's sweater or cardigan - max. 26 inch chest - 1, H. Simpson; 2, C. Haynes; 3, P. Elwell, Morar. Class

Robert rides a superbike at the Isle of Man TT

'You have to concentrate 100 percent because if your mind wanders for a second you could be off'

TOPPING the speedometer at 182mph and travelling 1,345 miles in only five races, Taynuilt road racer Robert Wilson has described his first Isle of Man TT event as, the best thing he has ever done.

Robert spent two weeks on the island, practising and competing, and had initially planned to only compete in two 600cc Supersport races.

Invited

However, whilst at the Northwest Championship, in the lead up to his Isle of Man TT adventure, Robert was invited to race with Soneki Racing Kawasaki on their 2011 Kawasaki ZX10 1000cc superbike - he jumped at the chance and was told he could ride the bike on the Isle of Man too.

'I had never ridden a superbike

before the Northwest but it was an amazing opportunity I just couldn't turn down. I suppose it was pretty daunting at the time; the power difference was unbelievable to the extent that when I got back on my own 600cc bike I thought there was something wrong with it.'

Robert was one of seven rookies invited to compete in the Isle of Man TT and, on his 600cc bike, was fastest rookie in the first race. However, he was placed second in the second race because of a 30-second time penalty, incurred by going just 0.2km/h over the pit-lane speed limit. Were it not for the penalty, Robert would have finished the race 13th overall.

In the superbike race, Robert raced six laps, compared with four in the 600cc Supersport

races, and finished each race feeling exhausted but exhilarated.

'I recorded 182mph in the speed trap at the Sulby straight on the superbike and managed to lap the course at an average speed of 120.588mph over the 37.37-mile track.

Concentrating

'You see the blur of the houses and trees going past but don't realise you are going that speed because you are just concentrating on each corner and staying as low on the bike as you can.

'After the final superbike race I was exhausted, even with all the gym work I have been doing. I must have been gritting my teeth because they were aching. You are using your legs throughout the race as suspension, because there are times you are not even

MOTOR CYCLING

sitting on the bike.

'You have to concentrate 100 per cent because if your mind wanders for a second you could be off.'

He said it was a relief to finish each race, because you knew you had survived, but admitted to feeling 'a total rush of adrenalin'.

'It's the best thing I have ever done and can't wait to go back next year,' he added.

Robert was presented with three bronze medals and two bronze replica trophies by former multiple World 500 CC Champion, Mick Doohan.

Robert thanked all his sponsors and pit crew John Stoddart, Steven Carson and Billy Robertson.



Robert Wilson gets airborne during the Isle of Man TT.

Glorious sunshine greets 44 teams at the Macaulay Sixes

FOLLOWING his death earlier this year, the Macaulay National Primary Six-a-side competition was this year dedicated to Oban shinty stalwart Alastair Campbell.

Mr Campbell was heavily involved with the Macaulay Association and helped to establish the Macaulay Sixes competition in 1984.

For the competition last Saturday Mossfield Park bathed in sunshine and in fine condition.

With 44 teams entered and more than 300 children playing on the day, the competition provided a fine stage for the future talent of

shinty to display their skills.

In the senior event for Primary 6/7, the Ian Cummings Memorial Trophy was won for the second year running by St Columba's who defeated Banavie by two goals to one in a ding-dong, end-to-end final filled with fast shinty.

Too Strong

The Primary 5 and under competition for the Alastair Campbell Shield went to another younger team from Banavie, Tomonie Tigers who proved too strong for a young side from Glasgow Gaeltach School, the Lochaber side winning by six goals to nil.

YOUTH SHINTY

The Peter English Trophy this year was awarded to Teanassie from Strathglass who showed the greatest sportsmanship and endeavour.

Best boy player was won by Teanassie's Rhuairidh Strachan and the best girl player was Shona MacKay of Glasgow Gaels.

Each school was presented with a First Aid Kit courtesy of Artemis and the presentation of trophies and awards was undertaken by Mrs Alison Mowatt, daughter of the late Alastair Campbell.



Alastair Campbell Shield winners were Tomonie Tigers, from Banavie. 15_24sixes16



Ardnamurchan fielded three teams in the two competitions. 15_24sixes02



Rockfield Rockets. 15_24sixes03



Rockfield Rovers. 15_24sixes04



Rockfield. 15_24sixes05



Glasgow Gaels. 15_24sixes13



Inveraray. 15_24sixes08



Glengarry. 15_24sixes11



Caol. 15_24sixes15



Kingussie fielded a team in each competition. 15_24sixes12



Achadh-na-Creige from Rockfield Primary School. 15_24sixes01



Oban's St Columba's win the Ian Cummings Memorial Trophy. 15_24sixes17



Taynuilt. 15_24sixes09



Park Primary School, from Oban. 15_24sixes14



Teanassie, from Strathglass won the Peter English Trophy for endeavour and sportsmanship. 15_24sixes06



Glen Aray. 15_24sixes07



Taynuilt Tigers. 15_24sixes10

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Fort fit for cup final

FORT WILLIAM go into the Co-operative MacFavish Cup Final against Kingussie at Bught Park, Inverness on Saturday in the unaccustomed role of underdogs after a rollercoaster of a season so far.

Fort banished the memory of their heavy defeat to Newtonmore with a 9-0 drubbing of league strugglers Glenorchy 9-0 last weekend to set themselves up nicely for the final, with Daniel Stewart and Gordy MacKinnon grabbing hat-tricks, Gary Innes a double and Bryan Simpson one.

Realistically, the MacFavish Cup could be Fort's only chance of silverware this season. They lie second in the league a distant five points behind Kyles and were bundled out of the Camanachd Cup and MacAulay Cup by Newtonmore and Lovat, respectively. Fort assistant coach Willie MacDonald is relaxed about Kingussie being tagged favourites, not least because his team have almost legendary status as being able to pull out their best shinty when it matters.

'We are a big game team and players like Gary Innes and Gordy MacKinnon are big game players,' he told The Oban Times. 'I don't think there will be much in it and I'm sure we will get a performance on the day.'

KINGUSSIE are focussing their efforts on cup competitions rather than the league, according to manager Steven Borthwick.

Borthwick said: 'I think we missed our chance in the league when we drew with Kyles. We were 2-0 up and we had the chance to win it but we threw it away. Until we find the consistency which can help us challenge for the league, I'll definitely be looking at us as a cup side.'

'It's a rebuilding programme here, and we are heading in the right direction.' Kings moved into the third round of the Macaulay Cup with a 4-1 win against Lovat at The Dell on Saturday. Ronald Ross scored twice before Lovat threatened to make a comeback when Fraser Gallacher scored in the 65th minute. But two goals in five minutes from Craig Dawson sealed the victory.

Borthwick said: 'It was a very good game, pretty much end to end stuff. Lovat are a good team and they always come to The Dell with a good side.'

Macaulay Cup
OBAN CAMANACHD face another potential cup meeting with Kyles Athletic in the Macaulay Cup if both overcome Glasgow Mid Argyll and Bute, respectively, this weekend.

The two teams will already meet up next weekend in the Celtic Cup final in Inveraray and are favourites to progress in this weekend's matches.

Camanachd co-manager Diarmid MacMillan said: 'We are looking forward to Saturday's match, which will take place at



Lochside Rovers' Malcolm Clark celebrates scoring his side's winning goal at Ganavan on Saturday as Lochside defeated Strachur 3-2 in the Bullough Cup

Picture - Kevin McGlynn

Ganavan because of the AMP football tournament at Mossfield.

'We will be going into the match without two defenders, the injured Andrew Pearson and David Macmillan, but we have enough strength in our squad to replace them.'

'The Macaulay Cup would be a great trophy to win as it is our local competition and it has a little added spice, as it ensures a north versus south final.'

INVERARAY manager John Smylie is not one to be dramatic but even he describes this weekend's home league match against Kilmallie as a 'must win'.

Traditionally, Winterton Park has been a fortress for the men from the Royal Burgh but inconsistent team availability has cost them dearly and they are currently second bottom of the Scottish Hydro Premier League.

John, who has a full squad this week, said: 'The Kilmallie game is a must win because it is at home and they are one of the teams that will be around us at the end of the season.'

'We lost 5-2 up there after going 2-0 up and we know they have a young and fit team, with a good forwardline.'

'However, we should have Douglas Dando back to steady the defence. The plan is simple: Stop them scoring and start taking our chances.'

KILMALLIE head for Inveraray after suffering a 6-0 Artemis Macaulay Cup home defeat at the hands of resurgent Newtonmore on Saturday.

Chairman Hugh MacIntyre said Martin Stewart should be back in the team after picking up an injury requiring three stitches in the Newtonmore game, and should have a full squad available.

Inveraray will present a stern test, but Kilmallie will be looking to build on recent fine form in the league to continue their climb up the table.

MacIntyre said: 'Inveraray have not hit the form they had last season yet and we managed to beat them earlier this year, so I would like to hope that if we have our full team we can be pretty confident.'

NEWTONMORE will be looking to continue their recent excellent form when they visit Drumnadrochit to take on Glenorchy this weekend.

The home side have a strong defensive record at Blairbeg Park, but 'More manager Norman MacArthur will be hoping to get the win to take advantage of the other sides around them in the league being on cup duty.'

MacArthur's side followed up their recent 8-1 thumping of Fort William with a 6-0 win over Kilmallie to move into the third round of the Artemis Macaulay Cup at Canal Parks on Saturday.

Danny MacRae opened the scoring in the 34th minute, but the home side managed to make it to half time without conceding any further goals. MacRae made



Kilmallie's Euan Stoddart comes under pressure from Newtonmore's Rory Kennedy at Canal Park on Saturday as Newtonmore progressed in this season's Artemis Macaulay Cup thanks to a 0-6 victory

the score 2-0 just a minute into the second half and the floodgates opened. The in-form forward completed his hat trick with 20 minutes left, and later scored his fourth goal of the game. Glen Mackintosh and John Mackenzie also scored to complete a comfortable win.

GLENORCHY haven't played a league game since May 14 due to cup ties and had last weekend off completely.

Manager Jim Barr said the rest might have an adverse effect on his side. 'We would have preferred to have been playing, the time off can break the rhythm and concentration.'

'We played Newtonmore earlier this season and got a decent result but I don't think they'll be as easily frustrated this time.'

'They are a very strong side physically and they are very strong up front. Danny [MacRae] is the man we have to stop. We have to find a way of trying to keep him quiet.'

The Drumnadrochit side would move level on points with their opponents with a win.

LOVAT take on Glenorchy at Bught Park on Saturday in their Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup second round replay looking to book a quarter-final spot against Kilmallie.

The teams drew 1-1 at Glenorchy in an instantly forgettable match - the first minute excepted - and Lovat coach John MacRitchie wants his side to make sure they make no mistake this time around.

Lovat posted a highly creditable showing at Kingussie in the Artemis Macaulay Cup last weekend and, but for an inspired showing by Kings' keeper Andrew Borthwick in goal, could have sprung a surprise.

In the end Kings ran out 4-1 winners, but MacRitchie was satisfied his team's showing indicated Lovat should have enough in the tank to take care of Glenorchy.

'I was happy with the performance and I felt we played really well. I don't think I've seen

Andrew Borthwick play a better game,' he said.

'If we can play to the same standard as we did against Kingussie we should be able to beat Glenorchy.'

GLENORCHY manager Allan MacKeech denied his side's 9-0 thrashing by Fort William last weekend was purely down to the opponents having something to prove.

Fort's players had been heavily beaten by Newtonmore the previous weekend and will have been playing for their place in this weekend's MacFavish Cup final.

But Allan said the nature of the defeat was largely through his own team's efforts.

'I'm not convinced it was just a Fort backlash because if that was the case you would expect them to come out and score early.'

'It took them 29 minutes to score the first goal but the disappointing thing is that the boys' heads go down after that. We'll need to knock that out of them.'

'There's a bit of inexperience in the team and they are not learning from the mistakes they make. They can't afford to feel sorry for themselves because they will get punished for it in this league.'

However, Allan was more upbeat about his team's prospects in this Saturday's Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup replay against Lovat. Although it is an away game, Allan should have most of his squad available.

'We're looking for our first win,' said Allan. 'The boys got a bad one on Saturday, so they've got something to prove.'

KINLOCHSHIEL travel to North Division 1 rivals Caberfeidh on Saturday after maintaining their 100 per cent record with a solid 3-0 win over Strathglass at Kirkton last weekend.

Keith MacRae put 'Shiel one up after 25 minutes, Gordie MacDonald made it two 15 minutes after the break and MacRae's second late on sealed the points.

'Shiel coach Johnston Gill reflected on a job well done, but knows

Cabers will be a tough challenge.

'Strathglass were difficult to break down and we were very pleased to get the two points. Our main priority is the league and we play Caberfeidh on Saturday in a game which, as far as we're concerned, is the biggest of the season so far.'

MacFavish Juvenile Final
LOCHABER'S senior team have their second weekend off in a row, but the under 17 side will be in action as they look to defend the MacFavish Juvenile Cup against Skye Camanachd under 17s in the final on Saturday.

As the precursor to the senior final between Fort William and Kingussie, the youngsters will face off at Bught Park in Inverness at 11.30am.

Cup holders Lochaber knocked out Glenorchy in the semis to earn the chance to defend the trophy, while Skye booked their final place by beating Kilmallie 6-0 in their semi final in Portree.

'It just seemed to click on Saturday,' explained KILMORY player Alistair MacArthur, who challenged his team-mates to repeat their excellent performance in last week's win over Taynuilt.

This weekend the Mid Argyll side, who are already battling to stay in South Division One, welcome Lochside Rovers.

Alistair said: 'We were missing a few players on Saturday but the young boys that came in were excellent and they should start this weekend's match as well.'

TAYNUILT lost two games on Saturday but can take heart from being able to field two teams for the first time last Saturday, despite having a handful of absentees.

The second team went down 4-0 to Tayforth in the Bullough Cup but a more disappointing result was at Kilmory when the senior team lost 4-1.

'We just didn't perform,' said Taynuilt coach Fraser Inglis. 'Kilmory were the better team and deserved their win. They seemed to want the points more than we did.'

Taynuilt face another tough

away tie this weekend against Ballachulish and should have close to a full squad. Fraser said he has asked the team for a 'dramatic improvement' from the previous weekend.

BALLACHULISH manager Willie Sutherland admitted visitors Bute were too good for his team last Saturday.

The Jubilee Park side held the league leaders for the first half but three goals in the second period gave the islanders a deserved win.

Willie said: 'They were just too good for us. We held them until half time and made two or three chances but we are not going to come up against many teams as good as that in this league.'

'It wouldn't surprise me if they went through this season unbeaten.'

Willie is more confident of a result against Taynuilt and will have Scott Henderson back from injury but Scott Rodger is still out and Grant MacKenzie suspended.

Super-sub Malcolm Clark hit yet another winning goal for LOCHSIDE ROVERS on Saturday after they edged out Strachur team by the odd goal in five.

The Bullough Cup match looked to be going in the Oban team's favour after they built a two-goal lead through Daniel MacKinnon and Brian MacCallum but a penalty just before half-time, converted by Ian MacLennan, got the Cowal team back into the match.

After Strachur equalised on 52 minutes, Lochside made three changes that would change the game, bringing in Keith MacMillan, Jamie Kerr and Clark, who struck the winner on 78 minutes.

Lochside co-manager David McInnes said: 'Malcolm always seems to score when he comes off the bench and has been giving me pelters about not starting. But there were other young players, who came into the team and were excellent.'

'We conceded two sloppy goals and we will need to be better against Kilmory next week.'

Leagues

Scottish Hydro Premier Division

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Kyles	9	7	2	0	16
Fort William	9	5	1	3	11
Kingussie	9	4	3	2	11
Newtonmore	8	4	3	1	11
Glenorchy	8	4	1	3	9
Kilmallie	8	4	0	4	8
Oban Camanachd	8	3	1	4	7
Lovat	9	3	1	5	7
Inveraray	8	3	0	5	6
Glenorchy	10	0	0	10	0

Marine Harvest

North Division One					
Kinlochshiel	5	5	0	0	10
Beaulie	7	3	2	2	8
Caberfeidh	5	3	1	1	7
Inverness	6	1	3	2	5
Lochaber	4	2	0	2	4
Locharron	4	1	2	1	4
Skye	7	1	2	4	4
Strathglass	8	1	2	5	4

Marine Harvest

South Division One					
Bute	7	7	0	0	14
Glasgow MA	7	5	2	0	12
Lochside Rvrs	9	4	2	3	10
Ballachulish	9	4	1	4	9
Taynuilt	7	3	1	3	7
Kyles Athletic	7	3	0	4	6
Kilmory	7	2	1	4	5
Oban Celtic	8	1	3	4	5
Aberdour	8	1	0	7	2

Marine Harvest

North Division Two					
Newtonmore	10	9	0	1	18
Glenarry	8	6	0	2	12
Kingussie	9	6	0	3	12
Fort William	6	4	1	1	9
Glenorchy	9	4	0	5	8
Lovat	8	5	0	3	8
Lochaber	9	3	0	6	6
Kinlochshiel	10	3	0	7	6
Skye	10	2	0	8	4
Kilmallie	8	0	1	7	1

Marine Harvest

South Division Two					
Strachur	10	9	0	1	18
Bute	10	2	3	1	12
ColGlen	10	6	0	4	12
Tayforth	7	5	1	1	11
Ballachulish	9	4	0	5	8
Glasgow MA	11	3	7	6	7
Inveraray	8	3	0	5	6
Aberdour	11	1	0	10	2

Marine Harvest

North Division Three					
Aberdeen U	11	11	0	0	22
Boleskine	13	9	13	19	
Beaulie	10	7	1	2	15
Caberfeidh	8	6	0	2	12
Lochbroom	10	4	3	3	11
Locharron	11	4	1	6	9
Inverness	10	3	0	7	6
Ardnamurchan	12	2	0	10	4
Strathglass	9	1	1	7	3
Lewis	10	0	1	8	1

Results

Artemis Macaulay Cup

2nd Round
Kilmallie 0 Newtonmore 6

Kingussie 4 Lovat 1

Balliemore Cup Semi Final
Caberfeidh 4 Beaulie 1

Strathdearn Cup Quarter Final
Glenarry 3 Kingussie 2

Bullough Cup Quarter Final
Lochside Rovers 3 Strachur 2

Taynuilt 0 Tayforth 4

Scottish Hydro Premier Division
Fort William 9 Glenorchy 0

Marine Harvest

North Division 1
Kinlochshiel 3 Strathglass 0

Marine Harvest

South Division 1
Ballachulish 0 Bute 3

Glasgow MA 7 Aberdour 2

Kilmory 4 Taynuilt 1

Marine Harvest

North Division 2
Newtonmore 4 Lovat 1

Marine Harvest

South Division 2
Ballachulish 3 Bute 2

Col Glen 6 Glasgow MA 0

Marine Harvest

North Division 3
Aberdeen Uni 4 Boleskine 2

Lewis 3 Ardnamurchan 1

Spot the

SHINTY BALL

Competition

All you have to do

We have removed the shinty ball from the photograph opposite. Now look carefully at the position of the players and use your skill and judgement to place a cross at the exact point where you think the centre of the ball was. You may have a maximum of 20 attempts on this coupon at a cost of £1.

If you wish to have more attempts, you must enter on separate coupons.

The game starts with a jackpot of £500 and will increase by £50 per week until it is won outright. To win the jackpot, the centre of your cross must be in the exact centre of the ball. If the crosses overlap the entry will be void. Prizes will be shared between those submitting correct entries.

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

Easy to enter

Cut out your completed coupon and put your entry plus £1 per 20 attempts into a sealed envelope and post it to reach "Spot the Shinty Ball" Competition, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB by 12noon Tuesday.

You may hand it into The Oban Times Head Office, Lochavullin, Oban by the same time. Otherwise all entries must be posted.

Competition Rules

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

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

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

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

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

This week's nearest the ball winners, who each receive £25 are:
J Hewes, Waternish, Isle of Skye and C Peterson, Ardforn, Lochgilphead

I enclose £1 (note) for 20 crosses (tick box) The maximum number of attempts on this coupon is 20, but you may enter on separate coupons as many times as you wish. No photocopies allowed. You agree to abide by the rules.

How to enter: Mark your crosses using a ballpoint pen. Twenty crosses may be put on this coupon for £1.

Name _____

Address _____

Tel No. _____

Send to 'Spot the Shinty Ball' Competition, The Oban Times, P.O. Box 1, Oban PA34 4HB

News from Oban Bowling Club

BOWLING

ON MONDAY June 6 the Oban triples of H MacLean, M MacAlpine and D Forbes were again winners in another round towards their way to the Nationals in Ayr. Their game was in Alexandria against Dumbarton.

On Wednesday June 8 Oban's men played their final league match against Lochgilphead. All four teams won.

Oban's men and women teams have been successful and have now won the West Argyll League. Oban's men have also won the William Hay Trophy, a cup which is played for each year between the Oban and Lochgilphead league teams.

On Thursday June 9 it was the turn of the men's senior fours. They played a team from the Vale of Leven in Helensburgh green but unfortunately were defeated.

Oban junior D MacAlpine is still in the running after beating a young man from Dumbarton. On Saturday June 11, our one day of summer, Oban hosted 15 teams in the Invitation Triples competition.

After each team playing four hard fought games it came down to a final between Oban and Tarbert.

The Tarbert team, I MacNicol, H Prentice and S Campbell played really well and it ended in them having to play an extra end. But Oban were victorious, so M Speadbury, J Fraser and G Morse won the competition.

First World Championship point for John at Silverstone

The Connel youngster kept a cool head to master the rain-lashed conditions

WILLD card entrant John McPhee scored his first World Championship point in the British 125cc Grand Prix at Silverstone with 15th place in the rain-lashed race.

The Racing Steps Foundation rider, nursing an injured left leg, secured the last of the points-paying places within yards of the finishing line after a gritty ride from the last row of the grid.

The final place was won at Club with a last ditch move on the Finn Niklas Ajo, following a race-long battle in which the pair traded places half a dozen times or more.

REPORT by EUAN PATERSON

epaterson@obantimes.co.uk

A strong start netted earlier gains as the injured McPhee launched himself simultaneously through the pain barrier and up from 29th on the grid to 20th by the end of the first lap.

The atrocious conditions also played a hand as riders slid out of contention while the Connel teenager kept a cool head to master the conditions and climb further up the order.

McPhee was one of the few riders to welcome the foul weather in the knowledge that it would help minimise the disadvantage of his back row start.

The wished-for conditions also had the added effect of lessening the impact of the injury he sustained in Friday afternoon's free practice after parting company with his bike.

The incident - which compromised his qualifying pace - left him with restricted mobility after the rear wheel of the machine ran over his leg, crushing the calf muscle.



John McPhee in action at Silverstone. Picture by Tim Keeton/Impact Images

'It's a great feeling knowing that I've made it into the points after the disappointment of qualifying,' said John.

'The rain definitely helped by making it more of a level playing field for me. It also made it less physical, which was good because my leg is still quite painful.'

'But you can't dwell on these things, particularly in today's conditions otherwise it affects your concentration.'

John was due to fly to Spain today (Thursday) for the next round of the CEV Buckler 125cc Championship, following treatment to his leg.

The race will take place at Catalunya where the double World Championship wild card winner produced a strong showing in last week's Grand Prix, despite a flawed tyre choice.

'I'm really looking forward to it,' he said. 'We made the wrong tyre choice last week unfortunately and paid the penalty in the race. But overall our pace was pretty good over the course of the weekend, so hopefully we can go there and have another strong weekend and get a good result out of it.'

John is currently eighth in the Spanish championship.

Saints lose league by a single goal

FOOTBALL

OBAN Saints lost the Scottish Amateur Football League premier division title by a single goal after Aikenhead Thistle defeated Cambria 2-1 last Wednesday night.

Saints manager Iain Jackson said: 'To lose the championship by a single goal is hard to take, but all credit to Aikenhead they had a very tough schedule of games at the end of the season, so fair play, we have no complaints. We only lost three league games all season, but drew six, four of which were against the two relegated teams, which isn't really good enough.'

'However, the boys know that we should have won the league and they will be more determined next season to win the title back.'

Saints start pre-season training at Oban Lorne Rugby Club on Wednesday, June 29 starting at 6.30pm. The club are looking to strengthen their squad for next season so any new players are welcome to come along.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Gd	Pts
Aikenhead	18	10	3	5	43	26	17	33
Oban Saints	18	9	6	3	38	22	16	33
Kilpatrick	18	10	2	6	30	27	3	32
Greenock	18	8	4	6	31	30	1	28
Thorn Ath	18	7	3	7	31	33	-2	24
Castlemilk	18	7	2	9	34	35	-1	23
Inverclyde	18	6	5	7	33	34	-1	23
St Joseph's	18	7	2	9	29	44	-15	23
Cambria	18	6	2	10	22	25	-3	20
Arkleston	18	4	3	11	25	40	-15	15

AMP Tournament

YOUTH FOOTBALL

THE annual eight-team youth football tournament sponsored by AMP Electrical Services is taking place at Mossfield Stadium, Oban, on Saturday.

Section 1: Hamilton Accies, Dumbarton, St Mirren and Lochgilphead. Section 2: Kilmarnock, Clyde, Queens Park and Oban Saints.

The competition gets underway at 10.30am with the top two in each section qualifying for the semi-finals.

A great day's football is in prospect, so come along and support the local boys against some of Scotland's best young talent.

Oban Town Regatta

SAILING

OBAN Town Regatta run by Oban Sailing Club had a good entry with nine boats enjoying a great weekend of racing.

It was to be Peter Watt and his team on the BB10 Vaiala from Glencoe Boat Club that won the Diamond Jubilee Trophy for the best overall performance of the weekend. Vaiala also won Class 1 from Eric Chapman's Sigma 33 Amber Haze with Billy Forreth's First 31.7 Shadowfax in third place. Alison Chadwick's Sadler 25 Hot Toddy won Class 2 from Ian Gibson racing with his son Tom in their Nicholson 32 Tegumai with Owen Hoey and daughter Karina in the GK24 Girl Karina third.

The prizegiving was held in the clubhouse after racing with trophies being presented by Caroline Carter. Peter Watt, on behalf of Glencoe and Lochaber, thanked Oban Sailing Club for their excellent hospitality and to Murray MacDonald for his efforts in running the regatta. Oban sailors now look forward to the Glencoe Regatta this weekend with the feeder race from Oban to Ballachulish this Friday preceding the event.

Islay Golf Club

GOLF

THE Guy Quaich Trophy played on Sunday: 1 Ruairaidh MacIntyre, 71+68=138; 2 Arthur Holyoake 70+72=142; 3 Graeme Hamilton 70+74=144.

June Medal played on Sunday June 5: 1 Lachlan Gairns, 83 less 13, net 70; 2 Keith MacDonald, 77 less 6, net 71; 3 David Livingstone, 79 less 8, net 71. C.Ss 71.

Pre-season games

FOOTBALL

OBAN Saints senior team will play four top quality pre-season friendlies before the league campaign starts on August 13.

After the team take part in the Keyline Cup Tournament on July 9 the Oban lads will take on East Kilbride, July 16; Fort William, July 23; Hamilton, July 30 and Greenock on August 6.

All the games will take place in Oban.

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Stephen and Kevin Lockhart in action.

Lockhart brothers are top class

OBAN'S Stephen Lockhart and co-driving brother Kevin got their 2011 rally season off to a fantastic start by recording two top 10 finishes in the first two events they have entered.

The Mitsubishi Lancer Evo 7 of the Scottish Championship crew was ninth overall on the notoriously difficult Border Counties Rally, based in Jedburgh, using the infamous Keilder stages, an excellent achievement as the pairings times were in the top 20 all day.

With a return to Stephen's preferred tarmac surface for the Jim Clark Reivers, they set their pace well early on, finishing the first stage in 13th overall.

RALLY

The pair kept their speed all day to take another top ten finish in ninth overall, this was also enough to give them the very competitive class 10 award for group N cars.

The family would like to thank Dawson Energy Limited for their support this season, the new sponsor has been rewarded with the boys lying 13th overall in the Scottish Rally Championship and fifth in class 10.

The team's next event is the Scottish Rally on June 25 in Dumfries.

Argyll and Bute Secondary School Games held in Oban

REPORT by OWEN THOMAS

ALL 10 secondary schools from Argyll and Bute met in Oban for the 2011 Secondary School Games.

The games, held last Thursday were organised by Active Schools to celebrate National School Sport Week.

Volunteered
The annual event attracted 670 pupils from first and second year, as well as 180 senior pupils and

staff, who had volunteered to give a helping hand.

Mossfield Stadium was where the opening ceremony began with an archery demonstration from Kyle Dods, from Oban, who took part in the Commonwealth Games last year in Delhi.

Nicola Hackett, Active Schools manager, said: 'Because of the geography of the area it is hard to bring all the schools together on a regular basis, so these games are an ideal opportunity to bring the competition together.'

'All first and second year pupils from the 10 secondary schools around Argyll and Bute; Tiree, Tobermory, Oban, Lochgilphead, Tarbert, Campbeltown, Islay, Hermitage, Dunoon and Rothesay, have come to compete.'

New Friends
'The games are a chance for everybody to meet new friends and give them something to work towards.'

'Leadership is a big part of what this event is about, so senior pupils and staff have been getting

SCHOOL GAMES

involved to provide support.'

Athletics events were held at Mossfield Stadium, along with the prizegiving.

Other events, such as; hockey, softball, swimming and badminton were held at Atlantis Leisure. Football, rugby, dance and basketball were on Oban High School grounds and shinty was played at the rugby pitch, beside Mossfield Stadium.



Hannah Gillies and Ellie MacNiven represented Oban High School girls' football team. 15_124gms04



Lochgilphead girls' athletics team, from left to right: Olivia Kerr, Freya Corner, Hannah Harper and Rosie Burrell. 15_124gms07

Rugby's just a beach on the Isle of Islay

THE LARGEST entry in the eight-year history of the Islay Beach Rugby competition was greeted with sunshine last Saturday.

Sponsored by Bruichladdich Distillery, the Islay Rugby Club tournament on the White Hart Beach, Port Ellen, brought 34 teams to the island, including 10 women's teams.

Organisers must have been praying for some sunshine as the lead up weeks had been very wet and the sand at the Port Ellen

beach made the playing surface more compact than usual, which made for faster, quicker action.

The rugby club were delighted to welcome new teams for the first time with the expansion of the competition, so teams travelled from all over Scotland and even Italy; the Bogia Nen Rugby Club travelled from Turin and fast became the favourites of the huge crowd and the other participating teams.

Ian MacLauchlan, SRU President and chairman of Islay Rugby Club

was on hand for the weekend and assisted during the prizegiving.

Eventual winners Bruichladdich looked strong from the outset, as did Kilchoman, Oban Lorne, Cartha and Islay.

Cartha ran out winners of the plate competition, just squeezing past Islay RFC in the final. The Ladies Final for the Lassie Cup was extremely hard fought with Watsonians taking the trophy for the first time.

The Laddie Cup Final for the men was between the two best

BEACH RUGBY

sides of the day, Bruichladdich and Kilchoman distilleries and Bruichladdich just nicked it 5-4 despite a dramatic fight back by the Kilchoman lads in the dying seconds.

After the presentations to the teams of a limited edition bottling of Bruichladdich Single Malt, East Sand 5, the charity 'drumming' tent swung into full action and it is believed to have raised more than £2,000 for various charities.



Saints youths plan for life in the Dumbarton Development League

Planning for next season: The Oban Saints Under 13 team, grey strip, who will play in the Dumbarton Development League next season took on the Saints Under 12 team who will enter the Dumbarton league the year after, in a friendly match at Glenclruitten last Friday evening. In an entertaining match the older boys won a close game 5-4.

Football development visits Coll

ARGYLL and Bute Council Football Development Officer Martin Rae enjoyed a wonderful three-day stint of football development on the island Coll.

The weekend trip was organised through the local school, local children's club and the adult volunteer coaches on the island.

Challenging
The weekend started with a visit to the school on the Friday morning to take the whole school from pre-school to primary seven for the whole day with challeng-

ing but fun football sessions.

The day continued with a personal development course for the adult coaches on the island, based on the SFA creative player, where the coaches were put through the newest coaching techniques and good practice.

On the Saturday and Sunday the children of the island were again put through their paces with sessions from the Argyll and Bute Development officer with the local volunteer coaches in attendance again for their own personal

FOOTBALL COACHING

development and to see what they were taught put into practice with a group of children.

Suitable
Also over the weekend a session was put on for the adult football team in the village, again to give them more ideas on the type of practices/drills that are suitable for an adult player.

Overall a fantastic weekend was had by all.



The children of Coll enjoyed three days of football coaching.

Sharp shooting at Dalmally GC

SOME sharp shooting at Dalmally Golf Club started in first round of the Cowan Cup, with Andrew Smith roasting the course with a net 56, closely followed by Shaun Squire's 58.

Shaun's gross return of 66 will take some beating this season with a new course record set to be ratified at the end of the season.

The opening round of the Club Championship saw Gerry Davies hit form, opening a two-shot lead with his scratch score of 71 (net 58).

Tucked
Dale Robertson lies in second place, with past champion Des McNulty tucked in nicely on 74. The Ladies Club Championship

GOLF

Net scores from Round 2: 1 Lucy McNulty 68; 2 Heather Clement 70; 3 Alison Livingstone 71. The competition now enters the semi-final stage where Lucy McNulty will defend her Scratch Championship title.