

The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Established 1861 No 8359

Thursday 15 June, 2017

www.obantimes.co.uk

85 pence



Oban Charities Day is a roaring success

GLASGOW
CELTIC
SOCIETY
CUP FINAL



2017 PREVIEW
KYLES ATHLETIC
OBAN CAMANACHD

Infirm and poor priced out of appointments at hospital

LOUISE GLEN
lglen@obantimes.co.uk

ELDERLY, infirm, poor families and looked-after children will be worst hit by long journeys to hospitals in Paisley, Alexandria and Glasgow, Councillor Mary-Jean Devon told hospital bosses on Tuesday evening.

The meeting to update people on hospital services, and take questions and answers from the community, was attended by around 100 people, including a large number of Oban hospital staff and managers.

The largest round of applause of the evening was in response to a statement by Councillor Devon, who outlined her concerns about the number of morning appointments now being made in the city for patients.

While people can reclaim the mileage and an allowance for overnight accommodation, Mrs Devon told of one patient who had raised concerns with her.

Mrs Devon, who lives on Mull, said: 'Mr X is in his late 70s his appointment is at 9am in Paisley. It is impossible for him to get from the island to the hospital for that time, so he has to stay overnight in the city.'

'At his appointment, there can often be more than 10 people who have been given the same appointment time. Therefore he can sometimes be waiting until 1pm to be seen.'

'He depends on his wife to drive him to Paisley. This month he has had three appointments and a further appointment next week. This means he will have travelled more than 1,000 miles. 'They are unable to find

Oban meeting hears transfer of services is impacting on patients

accommodation at the rate of £35.70 [understood to be the amount that can be refunded]. The last number of times, accommodation cost £80.

'There are many people who cannot afford this and will mean people who have not got the money to travel to the hospital will not go.

'Has there ever been an impact assessment of moving these services away from Oban?'

'I am very concerned that there will be a divide between the rich and the poor, and that people will just not attend appointments. What do you have in place to deal with that?'

Another woman, who said she was involved with looked-after children, said it would not just be the elderly and the infirm who would suffer. She said: 'Please don't forget the impact on children, especially those who are looked-after, when people have to get time off to take children to appointments for five minutes.'

Annie MacLeod, locality manager for Oban Lorn and Isles, said: 'Anyone who is experiencing problems should speak to us.'

'In the future, we will do much more video conferencing for appointments. For example, on T3 we are planning to offer a

midwife service so women can get in touch with us.'

In response to a question about why the public did not know about the removal of the urology service to Glasgow until they read about it in *The Oban Times*, Mrs MacLeod said: 'It was discussed last year at the health forum. We wrote to users of the service and told people who used the clinic.'

'If we haven't got it right, then we need to look at that differently.'

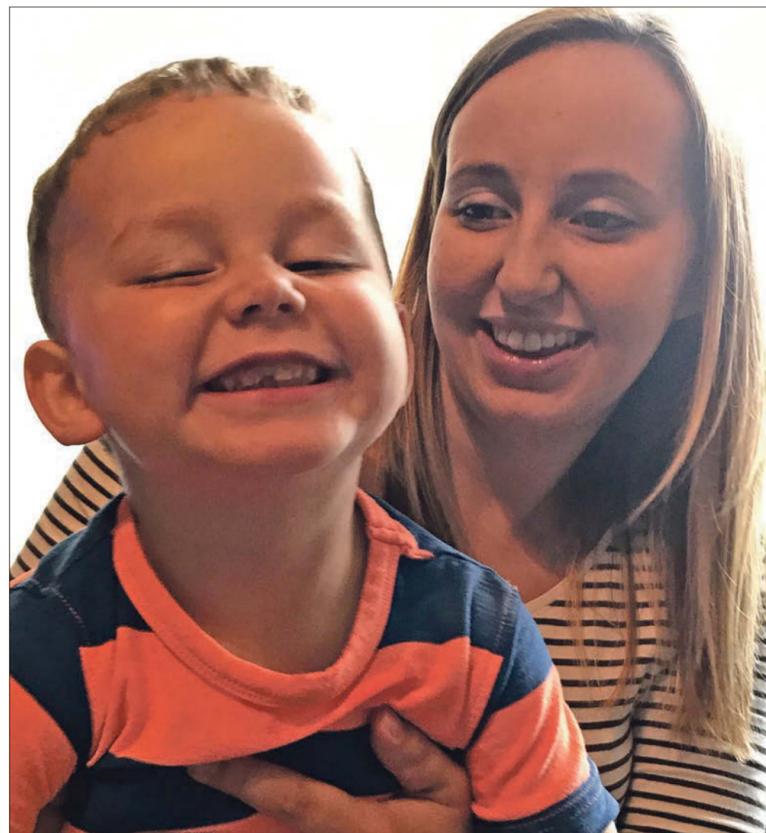
Steven Wiston, head of planning for Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership, said: 'We want to know about people's experiences. I have heard so often that people from the islands are offered 9am appointments and this cannot be achieved. People should phone up and get the time changed.'

'But if you are having problems, contact us. We need to know about it. I have a commitment from Glasgow and they will look at that.'

'The Highlands and Islands transport scheme attempts to reimburse as closely as possible. It will not cover everything, but that is the resource we have.'

'We want to mitigate that [the cost of accommodation and travel] and improve access to services.'

The bonniest baby of them all ...



More than 200 wee tots were entered into *The Oban Times'* annual bonnie babies competition - but in the end it all came down to one happy chap - wee Calum Brown from Tobermory. For the full story and to find out who were the runners-up, turn to page three.

INSIDE YOUR
OBAN TIMES
THIS WEEK

Threat to rally

THE Mull Rally looks to be in jeopardy after organisers said it is unlikely to go ahead in October owing to 'insurmountable' insurance costs. Full story - page two.

Historic day

TOBERMORY made history at the weekend when the village took over responsibility for running its own harbour. Full story - page three.

Stay Alive on A85

THE *Oban Times* campaign to improve safety on the A85 moves up a gear with the delivery of thousands of new car stickers. Full story - page five.

Education awards

THE head teacher at Dunbeg school and Port Ellen Primary on Islay have won prestigious national awards at a glittering ceremony in Glasgow. Full story - page five.

Up and running

SALES of sheep and cattle went 'very well' at United Auctions' first Oban mart on Tuesday, its 'delighted' director said. Full story - page 16.

Macaulay sixes

THE MACAULAY Association held its annual six-a-side tournament last Sunday. Full report and picture special - page 32.



MEMORIAL BENCHES • BENCHES
PICNIC TABLES • FENCING
DECKING AND MUCH MORE

A TOUGH DEPENDABLE AND SUSTAINABLE SOLUTION

Fusion
RECYCLED PLASTIC PRODUCTS
WWW.FUSIONRECYCLEDPLASTIC.COM

Tel: 01631 720 730
Marine Resource Centre
Barcaldine by Oban PA37 1SE

Concern voiced over terror threat

SAFETY on the West Coast's ferries and in rural areas will be discussed at a government level, after a senior police officer voiced fears over the force's ability to deal with terror attacks, writes Louise Glen.

The *Oban Times* raised the matter with islands and transport minister Humza Yousaf when he visited Mull this week.

As Counter Terrorism Awareness Week was launched across Scotland, Mr Yousaf said he was concerned to hear that staff working on transport systems and in rural police offices were being put in the firing line.

Many staff members and police officers who have approached *The Oban Times* feel they have

nothing to use against terrorists if the unthinkable were to happen.

Island and rural communities are considered 'soft targets' by terrorists, but as one senior Argyll police officer explained off the record: 'We have none of the resources required to meet the threat of a terror attack.'

'Police armed units are at least an hour away by helicopter and three hours by road.'

'All we have here is a vehicle to drive at people. That leaves us in a vulnerable position and leaves staff ill-equipped to cope with a response in the firing line.'

It is understood that until now the majority of firearms staff are based in the two major cities in Scotland.

North Argyll has a number of strategic facilities and events that have been identified as soft targets for terrorists. Ferry terminals, strategic routes, events such as Oban Live and Oban Airport are all relatively lightly protected.

Concerns have been raised by staff across the area that there is little or no security to check people, bags and vehicles before accessing ferries, buses or trains.

Mr Yousaf said: 'After a few tragic weeks, it has been imperative that we review safety. That review led us to consider the number of armed officers and in the weeks to come we will be deploying increased number of personnel at ports and airports to make sure people are as safe

as possible. But the key message is that we want to hear people's concerns about safety. We are still living in a "critical" time and other attacks may be imminent.'

'But I want to reassure everyone that the concerns raised today will be taken back by me to my colleagues.'

This week, Police Scotland launched a week of action to promote counter-terrorism activity. Until Sunday June 18, specialist and local officers will work together with other partners to undertake a range of activities throughout Scotland, aimed at providing the public with useful information to help deter terrorism and keep them safe in the event of a terrorist incident.

The Lime Tree Tickets are limited and are payable in advance from the Lime Tree, info@limetreefortwilliam.co.uk or call 01397 701806

Achintore Road, Fort William

Midsummer Delight 22nd June 2017 - 7pm

An evening with Francois Naude exploring wines from the Rhebokskloof Wine Estate matched with a selection of dishes from The Lime Tree's award winning restaurant

Hors-d'oeuvre
Tian of Orkney Brown Crab with Bosstok Chenin Blanc 2016
Pork Belly with 'MGS' 2014
Blade of Beef with Pinotage 2015
Kaiserschmarren served with a Cape Dessert Wine

Francoise is a hugely respected figure in South Africa and possesses tremendous 'encyclopaedic' knowledge of both wine making and the history of the Cape wine industry.

£50 per person

Now You Can Correct Your Short Sight, Long Sight & Astigmatism WITHOUT GLASSES or Day-time Contact Lenses And Without Risking Invasive & Irreversible Laser Eye Surgery ... All While You Sleep

For more information and a free report please call us today at The West Highland Orthokeratology Clinic. 01631 563170 11/12 Argyll Square, Oban

WALLACE optometrists member of Kodak LENS VISION CENTRE

Threat to Mull Rally due to soaring insurance costs

LOUISE GLEN
lglen@obantimes.co.uk

ORGANISERS of the Mull Rally say that due to 'insurmountable' insurance costs the event is unlikely to go ahead in October, although they are working hard to ensure an alternative event takes its place.

The sport's governing body, the Motor Sport Association, says it is of 'considerable regret' that insurance costs have affected the annual event.

In a statement from 2017 Beatson's Mull Rally organisers it was stated: 'It is a matter of considerable regret for the organisers and the Motor Sport Association, the sport's governing body, that Mull Rally cannot run as a closed road event

in 2017 due to insurmountable insurance issues.'

The association's chief executive Rob Jones explained the current situation: 'The Mull Rally runs under a private Act of Parliament.

'It has emerged that the private closed road legislation raises very significant insurance challenges for Mull this year, which was first thought to render the Mull Rally uninsurable. 'The MSA has been endeavouring to find a solution with its brokers.

'Whilst the brokers have offered a potential solution for 2017, this is unfortunately totally impractical as each and every claim under the policy would be subject to a very significant excess payable by the organisers,

and one which the organisers cannot afford.'

Consequently the Mull Rally is unable to run as a closed road event this year.

It will be the first time the world-renowned three-day rally, which last year attracted 150 crews and generates around £1 million for the local economy, will not be run on closed public roads since the event was granted its Act of Parliament in 1990.

'This development has come as a massive shock,' Andy Jardine, Mull Rally clerk of the course, said on receiving the news, 'as we were well on with a lot of the early work of setting the route and preparing the paperwork.'

'As I understand it, the MSA has been working behind the scenes to try to agree a work-

around but have been unable to come up with an acceptable solution.

'Our attention is now focused on what can be done in the short timescale to make sure something happens over the weekend.'

Donald Brown, chairman of the Guardians of Mull Rally, admitted cancelling the 2017 Mull Rally would have a negative financial impact on the island.

'There's no denying this is a huge blow to the island and its businesses who work hard to welcome the competitors, volunteers and spectators each year to the island in October,' Mr Brown said.

'The organising team is endeavouring to put on an alter-

native motorsport event for the same weekend on Mull.

'Naturally those plans are at a very early stage of development, but it's hoped the new event will be attractive to Mull residents, competitors, volunteers and spectators alike.

'Initial feasibility checks have been started to see what can be done to mitigate the impact and we hope we can rely on our regular visitors continuing to support us.'

Organisers hope that following the conclusion of the Fatal Accident Inquiry into the Jim Clark and Snowman rallies, that the Scottish Government will quickly adopt legislation which will allow the Mull Rally to make a return in its closed road format in 2018.

Line-up announced for Purvai festival

AN LANNTAIR has now released the first tickets for its festival of South Asian Art and Culture.

Purvai 2017 is a signature event for Scotland's Year of History, Heritage and Archaeology 2017, supported by EventScotland as part of the themed celebrations and the Heritage Lottery Fund.

This year's Purvai festival from August 10 to 19 promises to delight audiences with an eclectic mix of concerts, workshops and exhibitions, all celebrating the South Asian culture and heritage, which is such an important part of Scotland and the Hebrides today.

The headline concert, Yatra (meaning Journey), on Friday August 18, will be a performance of a newly commissioned musical score by Dalbir Singh Rattan. Yatra will depict the journey of Stornoway-man and collector extraordinaire Colin Mackenzie (born 1754). The piece will explore traditional Gaelic vocal traditions using islanders' songs of travel and seafaring, through to the traditional Indian raga and folk music that Mackenzie would have experienced and encountered during his travels in India.

A world-first exhibition of Mackenzie's Collector Extraordinaire will be showing at Museum nan Eilean from August 12. Mackenzie is the oldest and largest collection of ancient South Asian art and comprises a remarkable range of material, including beautiful figures intricately carved in stone, thousands of drawings and sketches from across India and Java depicting ancient monuments, people and customs, maps, coins, and incredibly old and precious palm leaf manuscripts.

Items from the collection will be on loan from the British Museum, the British Library and the V&A, and exhibited at Museum nan Eilean at Lews Castle. The exhibition is supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund. Award-winning sitarist Roopa Panesar will be back at Purvai this year to launch the festival following her standing ovation at last year's event. Roopa will perform with tabla virtuoso Dalbir Singh Rattan, at An Lanntair on Thursday August 10 at 8pm.

Check out her performance from An Lanntair's Purvai 2016 - www.youtube.com/watch?v=bttszaG-fZU

On Wednesday August 16, Kaviraj Singh Dhadyalla will perform a classical Indian music concert with the santoor, accompanied on tabla by Dalbir Singh Rattan. Combining musicality with complex rhythm, Kaviraj Singh is emerging as a unique and celebrated talent of the new generation. The youngest artist to have performed at the prestigious Darbar Festival of classical Indian music, he has shared his music widely at popular venues across India, Europe and the UK.

There will also be a packed programme of workshops and talks from artists including Kathak dance, a writers' event with Edinburgh Book Festival, a special curator's talk, visual and performing arts and a specially prepared children's drumming and singing performance.

Festival passes are now available and early bird tickets. A pass for all the main stage events can be purchased for £30 or £25 for concessions/members, which will include all three concerts, Sonu Datta talk on Mahabharata, New Passages writers event, Aziz Ibrahim: Artist Talk, and festival club night.

This month only, individual tickets for the three concerts will be available for a special early bird price of £9 or £8 for members. From July tickets will be £12/£10. The community drumming and singing performance will be free to attend. The full festival line-up can be found at lanntair.com/purvai.

Historic bill will meet unique needs of Scotland's islands

'GAME-CHANGER' legislation for island communities has been announced at an 'exceptional' community-run facility, writes Louise Glen.

On Monday (June 12) Islands minister Humza Yousaf MSP chose Tobermory's Harbour Association (THA) to make the 'most significant announcement' for island communities in decades.

Mr Yousaf revealed the Scottish Government's Islands Bill, a strategic piece of legislation that will 'island-proof' all laws and public body standards for areas such as transport, travel, business, economy and health care.

Addressing board members of the THA, Mr Yousaf said: 'We are introducing the Islands Bill to ensure the islands of Scotland are considered in the introduction of legislation.

'It will, of course, have to make its way through the committee and parliamentary process, but it will be a game-changer for the islands. But this is a cross-party approach.'

Measures in the bill will include a requirement to 'island-proof' future legislation and policies, the creation of a National Islands Plan, statutory protection for the Na h-Eileanan an Iar Scottish parliamentary constituency boundary, greater flexibility around councillor representation within island communities and extended powers to island councils in relation to marine licensing.

Mr Yousaf continued: 'This government is committed to promoting islands' voices, to harnessing islands' resources and enhancing their wellbeing. The measures in this bill underpin this ambition.

'In particular, the provision to island-proof decision-making across the public sector will ensure the interests of islanders are reflected in future legislation and policy from the very outset.



Islands minister Humza Yousaf, left, met members of Tobermory Harbour Association this week.

'The National Islands Plan will set out the strategic direction for supporting island communities, continuing the momentum generated by the Our Islands, Our Future campaign and the work of the Islands Strategic Group.

'This is the first bill for Scotland's islands, marking a historic milestone for our island communities. I am proud and privileged as islands minister to be guiding the bill through Scotland's Parliament.'

Councillor Robin Currie, Argyll and Bute Council's spokesman for islands, added: 'The introduction of the bill is welcome news.

'Argyll and Bute has 23 inhabited islands, each with its own distinct identity.

'We have been working to identify and address issues which affect them and take forward initiatives to attract people to the area and boost the local economy.'

'We also joined forces with colleagues from the other island councils to work together for the benefit of all the island communities we represent.

'The provisions of the bill acknowledge the unique needs of our islands and provide the support mechanism to facilitate further empowerment, help them prosper and grow. We will engage with our island communities and stakeholders to allow us to have an input to the bill.'

Hugh Smith's letter from Islay

Bruichladdich Distillery

BRUICHLADDICH Distillery, situated on the western side of Lochindaal, was built in 1881 by the brothers William, John and Robert Harvey, who were part of a whisky dynasty that also owned Glasgow's Yoker and Dundas Hill distilleries.

The brothers were firmly of the opinion that the creation of a third distillery under their ownership would establish them as a dominant factor in the Scotch whisky industry.

Revolutionary building methods were used in the construction of the island distillery and Bruichladdich became Islay's first purpose-built distillery as the majority of the others had been established on what had formerly been farm steadings.

Dissent among the Harvey family led to various managerial and financial difficulties and saw the formation of the Bruichladdich Distillery Company in 1886.

Troubles continued, not all of the Harveys' making it must be said, and with the outbreak of the First World War, production stopped.



Bruichladdich Distillery has had a chequered history.

The Great Depression of 1929 had an adverse effect on the distilling industry, including Bruichladdich. Joe Hobbs, a high-flying entrepreneur persuaded the Harveys to let him purchase Bruichladdich for £8,000 in 1937. He went on to sell the distillery at a vast profit to Associated Scottish Distillers (ASD), a concern in which he had many financial interests.

A period of refurbishment followed

and production resumed in 1938 but a year later the country was again at war and distilling ceased. Hostilities over, Bruichladdich was eventually sold to Train and MacIntyre, a subsidiary of National Distillers of America. They, in turn, sold it in 1952 to the Glasgow whisky brokers Ross and Coulter.

A further change took place in 1960 when ownership passed to distillers

A B Grant, who also owned the Bladnoch Distillery.

The Grants greatly expanded output at Bruichladdich before they sold it on in 1968 to Invergordon Distillers, who also increased the annual capacity.

Following a somewhat hostile takeover bid, Invergordon Distillers were acquired by Whyte and MacKay in October 1993 and Bruichladdich was closed down as 'being surplus to requirements'.

Mothballed and facing complete extinction, the outlook for the island distillery could only be described as bleak. Salvation was at hand, however, when a group of businessmen, led by wine merchant Mark Reynier, bought the distillery in December 2000 for £6.5 million. During the opening months of the following year the whole distillery was dismantled and re-assembled, with the existing Victorian décor and equipment retained along with most of the original Harvey machinery.

Another change of ownership took place in 2012 when the shore side distillery was purchased by the French

spirits giant Remy Cointreau for £58 million.

As well as its whisky output, Bruichladdich produces the famed Botanist Gin and also houses the island's only commercially-scaled bottling hall. It is also the largest private employer on the island with a staff complement of around 60.

Relief for Glasgow Islay

AS A former president, I am delighted that the future is now looking brighter for the Glasgow Islay Association following the surge of interest shown at the group's recent annual general meeting.

In recent months it looked as if the 155-year-old association would cease to function owing to a lack of committee members and those willing to serve as office-bearers.

Happily, new office-bearers have been elected and a new management committee is in place. The new president is physiotherapist Katherine MacArthur, who has completed four

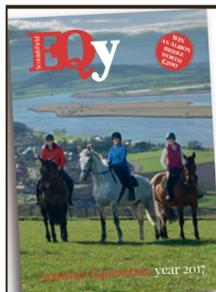
years in office and has steered the committee through good and trying times. The new president is well known in the Bowmore district and is the only daughter of Jeanie and Michael McNaughton.

Taking over secretarial duties from the dedicated Dr Liz Campbell is Mairi Orr, who also has strong family connections with Bowmore. She is the daughter of Catherine and Hamish Orr, and her mum is best known in the village as Shasha, nee MacKechnie.

Financial responsibilities, previously held by Sheila Loach, now rest with new treasurer Christine Gillan, who is a daughter of the late Flora and Tom Watson and whose formative years were spent at Bridgend.

Managing other matters are Dawn MacEachern, Anne Melrose, Christine MacAuley, Mairi MacGillivray, Irene Justice, Iona Darroch, Susan MacDougall, Sheena Smith and Robert MacDougall.

Hugh Smith, 4 Flora Street, Bowmore, Islay PA43 7JX. Tel: 01496 810 658.



FREE with the July issue of Scottish Field

EQ Scottish Equestrian Year Magazine 2017

HORSE HOLIDAYS · SHOW JUMPER DOUGLAS DUFFIN · EVENTER WILLS OAKDEN · DRESSAGE STAR JO BARRY

MEET THE ROYAL HIGHLAND PONIES · SCOTLAND'S HORSE HEROES · WHO TO WATCH IN 2017

Win a stunning Albion bridle worth over £200
Out in shops now or go to www.scottishfield.co.uk



Historic day for Mull harbour

LOUISE GLEN
lglen@obantimes.co.uk

TOBERMORY was celebrating last Friday after its harbour association was granted an order to become the authority within Tobermory Bay.

The order extends from MacBrayne's Pier on one side of the bay to Aros Pier on the opposite side. The statutory powers to operate Tobermory Harbour were announced by minister for transport and the islands, Humza Yousaf, MSP, during a visit to the island. The Harbour Empowerment

Order (HEO) gives Tobermory Harbour Association the legal and regulatory framework to manage the bay and assets on behalf of residents and businesses on Mull, as well as other stakeholders.

Mr Yousaf said: 'By granting this Harbour Empowerment Order, we have conferred statutory harbour authority status on the Tobermory Harbour Association.

'It is best placed to make the important decisions about the future of the harbour.

'This formal granting of powers will allow it to manage the

harbour more effectively and progress a long-term vision for the facility that is in the best interests of the residents of Mull and harbour users.

'The Scottish Government is committed to empowering our island communities and this is a great example of providing greater community control at a local level.

'We recognise the importance of Mull and the strategic nature of the harbour here.'

Chairman of Tobermory Harbour Association Brian Swinbanks said: 'This is a huge step forward for us and for everyone

who lives and works around our iconic and very colourful harbour.

'The new harbour authority will be a community-run and community-driven organisation. It will be dedicated to building facilities for all, benefiting local boat owners, fishermen and charter boats, our wonderful island of Mull and the wider west coast of Scotland.

'The Harbour Empowerment Order also brings security to the next phase of our plans to create a welcoming and safe hub port at Tobermory, where visitors can enjoy our island

hospitality as they prepare to sail to the more remote communities beyond Ardnamurchan.

'There are so many people to thank for getting the THA to where we are now.

'Special mention should be made of Lorna Spencer of CMAL, which has an interest in the pier but who stepped back and allowed the application for the authority to be made for the full area - including the MacBrayne Pier.

To Mr Yousaf, Mr Swinbanks said: 'The government has helped us to create a port hub. We are the last safe harbour

between the mainland and the Western Isles.'

Board members at THA outlined the progress made to date on the harbour.

John MacDonald raised concerns about a £4.5 million shortfall in funding for a new project that will further increase the capacity of the pontoons and the installation of a fuel tank.

Mr Yousaf, who was 'incredibly impressed' with the work of THA, said he would raise the matter with Highlands and Islands Enterprise and government officials.

POLICE FILES

with Sergeant Iain MacNicol

BETWEEN 3pm on Sunday June 4 and 9am on Monday June 5, a red and black EFCO petrol lawn mower was stolen from the garden of a house near the Kilchrenan Road in Taynuilt. Police are investigating the incident and are appealing for any witnesses or anyone with any information to contact them.

ABOUT 5.30pm on Wednesday June 7, on Sinclair Drive, Oban, a man aged 35 was stopped and searched by police. The man was allegedly found to be in possession of a small amount of heroin. The man was charged with the offences and a report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.

ABOUT 9pm on Wednesday June 7, a flat in Miller Road, Oban, was searched by police and a small quantity of heroin was allegedly found. The occupier, a 32-year-old man, was arrested and charged with alleged possession of drugs and supplying drugs. A report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.

BETWEEN 4pm on Monday June 5 and 11.30am on Wednesday June 7, at Stevenson Street, Oban, a black car was damaged by having the roof dented. Police are investigating and are appealing for any witnesses or anyone with any information to contact them.

ABOUT 2am on Sunday June 11, in George Street, Oban, a woman was allegedly assaulted by another woman. Police are investigating the incident and are appealing for any witnesses or anyone with any information to contact them.

ABOUT 12.20pm on Sunday June 11, a house in Lochnell Road, Oban, was searched by police and a small cannabis cultivation was allegedly found. The occupiers, a man aged 34 and a woman aged 37, were charged with cultivating and supplying cannabis. A report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.

IF ANY member of the public has information in relation to any of these incidents, they can contact their local police office on telephone number 101, or anonymously through Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Tobermory's Calum is voted Times' top tot

MORE than 200 babies were entered into *The Oban Times* annual bonnie babies competition, but in the end it all came down to one happy chap - wee Calum Brown from Tobermory.

But Calum was much more interested in a bottle of milk than the fact he had just won the biggest competition in his local newspaper.

Mum Kayleigh made up for Calum's lack of enthusiasm. Heavily pregnant with her next baby, Kayleigh said: 'Alec [Calum's dad] and I are delighted that our wee boy won the competition.'

Kayleigh (nee McGee), who comes from Bunnassan, and Alec from Tobermory, live in the town's newly-built estate where there are lots of children for the tot to play with.

Kayleigh said: 'I am over the moon. It might have been the most stressful thing I have ever done. We were on the edge of our seats waiting to find out if Calum had gotten through to the next round every week.'

'To see him win is amazing and I am so delighted for him. There were so many beautiful babies taking part.'

Pauline Clifford, marketing executive at *The Oban Times*, said: 'The whole of the island of Mull must have gotten behind Calum.'



And the winners are ... Calum Brown, left, Jessica Grieve-McCaffrey and Donny Kerr.

'I would like to thank everyone who entered the competition. They have made what could have been a very hard job delightful. We have so many bonnie babies on the West Coast, it is

really difficult for only one to be chosen as the winner in the end.

'Congratulations to Calum and his family.' Jessica Grieve-McCaffrey from Caol, Fort

William, finished in second place in the bonnie babies.

Third place went to Donny Kerr, two, from Tober Oisín Drive in Oban.

Eigg celebrates 20 years since its historic community buyout



Members of the Eigg community celebrate back in 2012.

RESIDENTS of a Hebridean island are celebrating the 20th year since its historic purchase by the community.

Twenty years ago Eigg was bought by the community following a major fundraising effort by the Isle of Eigg Heritage Trust (EHT), a partnership of residents which now owns and manages the island, with the support of the Highland Council and the Scottish Wildlife Trust (SWT). Prior to 1997, the island was owned by 'absentee' German landowner, Dr Marlin Eckhard Maruma.

Since the community buyout, the island's population has risen to more than 100 people, schools have enough children to make them viable and people are working.

Speaking from the Isle of Eigg, after the publication of the Islands Bill [see page two], leader of the Highland Council Margaret Davidson said: 'I welcome publication of this bill, which recognises the importance of our island communities and the valued contribution they make.'

Caol and Mallaig councillor Allan Henderson, chairman of

Highland Council's Places Committee, said: 'This is an important step forward in recognising the unique interests of our island communities and I am pleased that we have been able to engage positively with the Scottish Government on this bill.'

Also proposed in the bill is a statutory protection for the Na h-Eileanan an Iar Scottish parliamentary constituency, greater flexibility for councillor representation within island communities, and extended powers to island councils in relation to marine licensing.

Business Advice Sessions

ARE YOU IN BUSINESS AND NEED HELP DEVELOPING YOUR BUSINESS?

BUSINESS GATEWAY CAN HELP YOUR BUSINESS DEVELOP AND GROW

DO YOU WANT TO BE YOUR OWN BOSS OR CONSIDERING A CAREER CHANGE?

WHY NOT COME AND MEET ONE OF OUR ADVISERS TO DISCUSS YOUR PLANS OR IDEAS

Interested? Our Business Advisers are available to meet with you at a location convenient to you. To arrange an appointment with an adviser call 01546 604030 or email bg@argyll-bute.gov.uk

Argyll & Bute Council business gateway your gateway to business expertise

Workshops

BUSINESS START-UP WORKSHOP

A one and a half day business start-up workshop designed to help you move into self-employment. The workshop covers business planning, finance, marketing and market research helping you turn your ideas into a practical and effective plan.

Lochgilthead 21st June and 22nd June 2017

PRACTICAL BASIC BOOK-KEEPING

Book-keeping is a core business skill and, even if someone else does it for you, you still need to understand and value the process. Learn how to keep accurate financial records, understand the key components of book-keeping, produce a bank reconciliation and understand VAT.

Lochgilthead, 19th July 2017

To book on a workshop contact Business Gateway 01546 604030 or email bg@argyll-bute.gov.uk

Argyll & Bute Council business gateway your gateway to business expertise

The entertainment just keeps coming in Oban

WE HAVE another music festival coming up this weekend and although it may not be quite as big as Oban Live, I'm sure the music will be just as good, writes Bid4Oban ambassador Kay MacDonald.

Markie Dan's annual music festival begins on Friday and continues through the weekend ... if your feet have recovered and you're raring to go.

If you fancy something a wee bit quieter, then Oban Phoenix Cinema honestly has something for everyone just now and it's such a worthwhile venture to support. I don't want us to become complacent and forget what it was like when we didn't have the cinema - the town was much poorer without it.

It's quite nice to have it a wee bit quieter after the buzz of Charities Day and Oban Live the weekend before. I like a bit of calm before we head back into another hectic weekend on June 24 and 25 with the Bid4Oban local market in Station Square on the Saturday and the Lorne Games on the Sunday at Mossfield.

Don't forget your entries for the produce and crafts tent. Schedules are available online or in the Bid4Oban office on Stevenson Street.

We also have a small cruise ship in the bay on the day of the games. Called the Star Pride, it's her first visit to Oban, so let's pray for a lovely sunny June weekend.

Although it's been a bit of a dreich start to June, we've been incredibly lucky for the events so far as the sun has come out just in time, although for the Rainbows in the parade on Saturday it wouldn't have mattered as the

girls had lovely jellyfish umbrellas to keep them dry.

The parade was great, as always. What a lot of effort went into the outfits, it's a credit to all the charities that took part and the commitment of the people involved. I do miss the floats though. Oban is so generous to the charities it supports and Charities Day just shows and shares the love.

Don't forget that you can let me know if you have any events coming up that you want to add to Oban What's On. We're also happy to put up posters in the office window if we have room.

WHERE IS THIS?



You can email me at kay@bid4oban.co.uk, call 01631 659915, access Oban What's On online, or you could just stop me in the street and tell me ... I'll be the one in turquoise with the big bag.

Which reminds me: I get asked a lot what I keep in my bag. Usually far too much, but it includes maps of the town, leaflets with things to do while you're here, timetables for ferries, trains and buses, a notepad and pens, sunscreen, hankies, doggie poo bags (for the people who forget to carry their own), wipes, lip balm and a comb. That's why it's such a big bag, but it's also useful for letting people know what I do and that they can ask for information and help.

I often see people reading the bag as they walk by and then turning to come back and ask me something.

Did you recognise last week's photo? It was the Rowantree Hotel, with beautiful colours in the stone. This week is easy, but that may only be because I know where it is. See how you get on.

HIRE and SUPPLIES

More than JUST TOOL AND PLANT HIRE

Webb stockist and service agent for Oban

Large range of WEBB & HONDA powered lawn and garden products available online and in store

LAWN-KING making lawn mowing fun Ask in store for details	Webb R41HP 16" Petrol Push Lawnmower £159.60 inc VAT	Solo sprayers available Ask in store for details
Webb PHT26 Petrol Hedge Trimmer 430mm Blade with 26cc Engine £169.20 inc VAT	Webb HC600 Sided Petrol Hedge Trimmer 560mm Blade with 26cc Engine £159.60 inc VAT	Webb THSR Garden Roller 300mm Diameter £40.00 inc VAT

Mill Lane, Oban PA34 4HA Tel: 01631 566306
online @ www.hireandsupplies.com

OT

WHITE VAN Man

ONE of the biggest problems faced by the NHS is ill health brought on by alcohol abuse.

For those of us who enjoy a sociable drink and can put the bottle aside, it's fine, but what of those who cannot?

Last year, across Scotland, more than 1,200 licensed premises closed for various reasons – from the smoking ban to the increasing cost of alcohol. So pubs are suffering.

What of pub prices? In Oban, the average pint of beer or lager is around £3.20. A whisky or vodka costs around £2.40 with a dash, not the cheapest night out by any means.

However, we must never forget the sociable benefit of your local. They are great gathering points, not just for a drink, but for company.

The biggest eye-opener I got while researching this subject was the price of alcohol. At one local store, a 12-pack of lager is £7.20, four cans of cider £1.99, and six bottles of lager £5.49. A litre of whisky is £16.

I think the above says it all: the problem is not pubs but stores selling cheap alcohol.

As one taxi driver said to me, people go home, get fuelled up with the contents of a carryout and then call a taxi between 10pm and 11pm to go to the pub when some of them have already had enough.

So what of the Scottish Government's pledge on Minimum Unit Pricing of alcohol? In order to help the NHS with this situation – which now involves children as young as 12 – the government must act now, before it is too late.



The young firefighters operate the powerful hoses, stand to attention on parade and, inset, are trained in resuscitation.

High school pupils are blazing a trail on fire course

OBAN High School pupils completed a Fire Reach course at Oban Community Fire Station on Friday, by demonstrating how to rescue a casualty from a road traffic accident.

The week-long course, only the second in Argyll and Bute,

also teaches first aid and how to put out a fire using the fire engine's hoses and pump.

Community firefighter Iain Hunter, who led the training, said: "The scheme should raise the young people's awareness of the role of the fire service and

other linked agencies. One of the main aims of the course is to try to change attitudes and perceptions of young people by showing them life skills and responsibilities."

Local senior officer Jim McNeil said: "The students have been

really enthusiastic and thrown themselves into learning about fire safety in the home and also road safety as they may soon be the young drivers on our roads.

"They are also given instruction in first aid and how they can assist in keeping their homes

safe. Our partners at Police Scotland enhance the week with safety information.

"This course is a fantastic example of the community planning partnership working together to keep young people safe across Argyll and Bute."

Oban mums urge backing for breastfeeding project

A BABY support group is urging Oban businesses to display a breastfeeding-friendly sticker.

Oban Bumps, Babies and Beyond gets together every Monday at 10am at the Baptist Church Hall, Albany Street, Oban.

The group contains a number of NHS-trained Infant Feeding Peer Supporters and they are asking Oban businesses to embrace NHS Highland's breastfeeding friendly campaign.

NHS Highland's Welcome Baby sticker scheme aims to ensure mums can breastfeed, and businesses are asked to participate by displaying a sticker to let women know they are welcome to breastfeed there. Businesses can apply for the pack online, via the NHS Highland website.

Oban establishments to have already signed up include Roxy's, the Bridge Cafe/Go Bananas, Oban Chocolate Company, Oban Library, Little Potting Shed, Oban Phoenix Cinema, the Kitchen Garden, Kerrera Tea Garden, the Robin's Nest in Taynuilt, and the Ben Cruachan Inn at Lochawe.

Ailidh Campbell of Oban Bumps, Babies and Beyond said: "It is your right to breastfeed in public, but if places are breastfeeding-friendly then they are showing mums they will be made to feel welcome and if anyone complains, it is the complaining customer who is offered alternative seating."

Search for Oban Bumps, Babies and Beyond on social media.



Some of the mums and babies who attend Oban Bumps, Babies and Beyond. 17_124Babies01.



Home-baking and artworks were on sale to raise funds.

Charity is in the pink with £600

THE Breast Way Round motorcyclists enjoyed time in Oban recently as part of the charity's 10th anniversary fundraising events.

Along with the Macmillan day bed unit at Lorn and Islands Hospital, the bikers took part in a special event in Station Square.

Some 60 bikers came along, and there was face painting, cakes and selfies with the bikers who were wearing their hot pink and black gear. More than £600 was raised.



It was all smiles as the bikers posed for pictures.

Applied Sciences at Argyll College

Advertorial



Argyll College's applied science tutor Sophie Hall (centre) teaches microbiology to students Lauren Powell (left) and Kirsty Wright (right) in a SAMS laboratory, in Dunstaffnage.

Do you ever wish you had the chance to develop your scientific knowledge? Or are you looking for a stepping stone in your science career? If so, the answer may be on your doorstep.

Argyll College UHI's HNC Applied Sciences course gives students a broad base in general science – and the chance to do part of their study in one of Europe's leading marine science research institutions.

The one year, full time course incorporates a range of topics including biology, chemistry, genetics, ecology, ecosystems and microbiology.

Most of the classroom element is based at Argyll College UHI's Oban centre, with practical elements carried out at the Scottish Association for

Marine Science (SAMS) UHI base in Dunbeg.

Tutor Sophie Hall said the SAMS UHI link means not only that students have world class science facilities at their disposal, but also that they get a valuable taste of what University life is like.

"This is the perfect course for anyone who is interested in science but not sure what particular area they might like to concentrate on in terms of further study or employment," Sophie said.

"It gives a broad grounding in all the basic elements, plus students can choose from a range of other units depending on their individual interests."

A major part of the course is a personal project in which

each student investigates a topic of their choice, in any of the disciplines, and designs an experiment around that topic.

Sophie said: "Using the SAMS UHI facilities means this is a unique opportunity to tap into some of the best scientific facilities in the country."

"The course is a great foundation for either employment in a science-related field, or going on to further study. I'd encourage anyone who wants to find out more about it to look at the website or come to the college and have a chat."

Argyll College UHI principal Fraser Durie said: "The collaborative way in which we are delivering this course demonstrates just one of the

advantages of our status as a partner of the University of the Highlands and Islands, and underpins Oban's position as a University Town."

Current student Kirsty Wright, who is hoping to do an HND in Glasgow next year, said: "This course is an excellent gateway into science for people who are looking to progress into university or the HND course."

"The tutors are enthusiastic and supportive, and the course has developed the knowledge and skills I need to advance into other avenues of higher education."

To find out more about the HNC Applied Sciences course, go to <https://www.argyll.uhi.ac.uk/courses/hnc-applied-sciences>.



University of the Highlands and Islands Argyll College

Apply online now for a wide range of full and part-time courses starting September.

Outdoor Adventure Sports
Sound Production · Hairdressing
Applied Science · Sport and Fitness
Maritime · Horticulture · Catering
Hospitality · Admin and Business
Computing · Social Science
Childcare · Health and Social Care
Agriculture & more



Glenshellach Business Park
argyllcollege.ac.uk
01631 559 500

Population grows overnight with new houses

THE Ulva Ferry community on the Isle of Mull has welcomed two new families who have moved into the first affordable-rent housing to be built in the area for decades.

Six years ago the community was under threat of losing its primary school due to long-term population decline brought about by the lack of affordable housing options for young people.

Now these families bring six children to the area, cementing Ulva Ferry's future sustainability.

The new houses were built as a joint venture between the Ulva School Community Association (USCA) and Mull and Iona Community Trust (MICT), and are next to Ulva Primary School.

The houses have been allocated via a points system which gave priority to young families.



The new houses have been built close to the primary school.

The Ulva Ferry community has been at the heart of the project from the outset, from choosing the architect and finalising the design, to agreeing the allocation policy. Community-led housing

projects are never the easy option, but the completion of these houses is testament to the dedication of local community members and the project team. Tenant Samantha Wright said:

'We are thrilled to be moving into this beautiful new home. Everyone has been very welcoming and our daughter can't wait to settle into Ulva Primary School. Having had to move frequently from one private let to another, it is comforting to know we can make this our long-term home.'

Housing project manager Helen MacDonald said: 'We are just delighted to see these two families moving into the new houses, and we hope they are very happy in them for many years to come.'

'This community housing project proves that social housing can be innovative and stylish, as well as affordable. The level of interest from potential tenants was significant, giving us the impetus to plan further affordable housing in the Ulva Ferry area.'

Chairman of USCA Iain Thomas added: 'It is fantastic to welcome these two families into the new houses and the community. When the school was threatened with closure, we would never have dreamed that six years on not only would we have two long-term rental houses here, but also a pontoon facility and a transport scheme. Together, these projects will ensure a sustainable future for Ulva Ferry.'

The housing project was backed by the Scottish Land Fund, Argyll and Bute Council, the Trusthouse Charitable Foundation, the Quaker Housing Trust, the Scottish Government's Rural Housing Fund, Triodos Bank, USCA, a significant anonymous bequest and more than £22,500 in local donations through a high-profile crowdfunding campaign.

Pick up your stickers to back road campaign

BACKERS of *The Oban Times'* campaign to improve the A85 can visibly show their support through new car stickers.

The Oban Times launched the campaign to improve the road between Oban and Connel.

The stickers can be collected from *The Oban Times* office, Oban Phoenix Cinema, the Bid4Oban office in Stevenson Street, the Halfway House petrol station, Tesco, Lidl, and Dunbeg Village Stores.

Over the years, people in North Argyll have lost friends and family in accidents on the A85 between Oban and Connel.

So far 176 people have signed the petition, which will be delivered to transport minister Humza Yousaf. Help strengthen the campaign by adding your name.

Speaking to *The Oban Times*, Dunbeg resident Allan Strang said: 'The issue I have with the road is the lack of awareness drivers have at the Dunbeg junction.'

'On Saturday just past I had to apply my brakes approaching the junction as a service bus pulled out in front of me. The bus driver



actually apologised with a wave as he knew he had made a mistake.

'Something desperately needs changing on the road layout.'

Breege Smyth thinks the problem is down to bad driving.

She said: 'We need a combination of two things - reduce the speed limit and get people taking more care.'

Breege has had some bad experiences on the A85, particularly between Oban and Dunbeg.

'People overtaking on the double white lines just after the filling station,' she said. 'That's bad driving and this is where reducing the speed limit and having a camera at the end of the stretch of road could help, so you can catch people speeding and improve the driving.'

'If you cut the speed limit, it should cut down the severity of accidents and number of deaths.'

Top awards for Dunbeg head and Islay primary

SANDY NEIL
sneil@obantimes.co.uk

A DUNBEG head teacher and an Islay primary school have both scooped prestigious honours at this year's Scottish Education Awards.

Port Ellen Primary School was awarded the prize for Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM), and the Lifetime Achievement Award was scooped by Sine MacVicar, who retires on June 30 after 44 years teaching at Dunbeg Primary School, including 25 years as its head teacher.

Sine travelled to the ceremony in Glasgow with three pupils, Calum Drummond, Cara Duncan and Fergus Beard, to hear if she had won. 'I did not find out until the day,' she said. 'You have to sit in agony and wait. I had to wait until the end.'

When her name was announced she said she 'jumped' out of her seat. She recalled: 'I realised I could not do it alone, so grabbed the children. It was so great the kids were there, because I was gobsmacked. The kids were up on stage before me. Everyone got up and said, "44 years".'

The award was presented by education minister John Swinney. School secretary Vivianne Clark said Cara told the audience Ms MacVicar had 'inspired so many kids over 44 years, and



Sine MacVicar travelled with pupils, Calum Drummond, Cara Duncan and Fergus Beard.



Port Ellen's Maggie Harrison, left, and Alison Logan with pupils Charlotte-Rose Munro, Rowan Morrison and Natalie Logan.

that it must have been difficult'. Sine told the crowd: 'I have loved every month of my 44 years, and I still do.'

There was also a live link to the school so pupils could watch - and cheer. 'I got a video clip of them all shouting,' she said.

she is one of eight nominees for Head Teacher of the Year. The next day sees her party with former colleagues and pupils in the Argyllshire Gathering Halls, to which anyone is invited if they contact the school for tickets.

'There is a lot of dread in leaving,' she added. 'I have not had time to think about the consequences at the other end. I cannot honestly say what I am going to do.'

'I am not taking up gardening, or baking or knitting. I am a people person, so I would hope to help within the community. I am going to carry on with the Brownies in Connel.'

'When you get to 65, it is time to go,' she said. 'I have always aimed to create an ethos of caring warmth, and I have always hoped children will be happy and want to come to school every day.'

'I just look on them as my family. I follow what they do now and I am so proud of what they are doing, no matter what they are doing. Thank you all for the privilege of sharing in your lives, and being able to follow your successes. I want to thank the dedicated and committed members of the staff, past and present, who have contributed to my love of being head teacher at Dunbeg Primary School.'

Vivianne, a former pupil, added: 'She is an inspiration, an excellent boss.'

Two charged with stealing boat after rescue by RNLI

TWO men who had to be rescued by Oban RNLI have been charged with stealing a boat from the Corran Esplanade.

The RIB-type boat was taken from the esplanade between Saturday night, June 10, and the early hours of Sunday morning.

The 19-year-old and 22-year-old then had to spend the remainder of the night on the uninhabited Creag Islands after the boat ran out of fuel.

They remained there until 11.30am on Sunday June 11, when another vessel discovered them.

The boat was subsequently taken under tow towards Oban, but due to the wet and breezy conditions and the ordeal, Oban RNLI was tasked with getting them back to shore as quickly as possible.

Oban lifeboat met the two

vessels at Maiden Island just outside Oban Bay and took the two men onboard.

They were quickly taken back to the lifeboat slip where an ambulance was waiting to check them over.

Both men appeared to be shaken and were suffering from hypothermia, but should suffer no long-lasting effects.

A police spokesman said: 'Between 8pm on Saturday June 10, and 10am on Sunday June 11, a moored RIB-type boat was allegedly stolen from the Corran Esplanade, Oban.'

'Two men, aged 19 and 22 years, were found in the boat near the Isle of Kerrera by the Coastguard and taken to hospital to be checked over.'

'The men will be the subject of a report to the procurator fiscal.'

Dawnfresh bids for licence

DAWNFRESH has applied to Marine Scotland for a licence to modify moorings for its existing trout farm site at Port na Mine on Loch Etive.

The move comes after a plan to increase the size of the pens and the spacing between them was granted planning permission by Argyll and Bute Council in November last year.

The decision by the council allowed Dawnfresh to increase the size of the pens from 70m to 80m in diameter and to increase the spacing between them. The application to Marine Scotland is the latest in a series of permissions which must be sought.

A public consultation is now open for people to provide views to Marine Scotland.

Dunbeg calls for review of A85 safety

DUNBEG residents are inviting the roads authority and transport minister to review the safety of the A85 junction, before any more of the Dunbeg Corridor Masterplan's 600 houses are built, writes Sandy Neil.

Dunbeg community councillor Marion Power said on Monday this week that she has written to Transport Scotland's (TS) chief executive requesting it conduct a new review. 'We have been told TS stated the village is able to take up to 300 more cars daily,' she wrote. 'We dispute that.'

The village, she added, at Monday's meeting of the village's community council, had seen 'lots of changes' since the last TS review she could find in 2012.

'Already there have been 82 new houses built (75 from Link), a science centre, a nursery and a café. At peak times the traffic entering and leaving this village is heavily congested.'

'We have been told that Traffic

Scotland has no reported incidents/accidents on this stretch of the A85. We would also dispute this. The village was informed there was to be a roundabout built nearer to the Halfway House garage with a new road leading into the new houses. That has not happened. We would like to see the [60mph] speed limit reviewed.'

When they received no response, Councillor Elaine Robertson sent a second letter, on behalf of the ward's councillors, to say they were also 'extremely concerned' about the junction's safety.

She told Monday's CC meeting: 'We are totally committed to working with you to get that junction improved. That junction has to be looked at.'

Monday's meeting discussed local reaction to last month's council information event on plans to upgrade Kirk Road.

Ms Power, who beforehand had

submitted a door-to-door survey of residents' views, noted the low turn-out.

She said: 'People feel they are not being listened to. It was a protest not being there. I took down exactly what people said. They cherrypicked what they gave us, and that is not acceptable.'

Community councillor Bill Harvey added: 'I was not impressed when I was told we would not get a roundabout. We have been at this for five years ... five years of going to meetings. A survey was done by the community council and nobody seems to be listening.'

'People are getting very, very angry. Somebody is going to get killed. They have lost confidence in Argyll and Bute Council, Link Group and Transport Scotland.'

Mr Harvey plans to urge Scotland's transport minister to not allocate any funding, and villagers 'to resist any more development', until 'proper infra-

structure is put in place'.

Transport spokesman Councillor Roddy McCuish said council planners hope, if their funding application to the Scottish Government is successful, to begin upgrading Kirk Road this winter.

'They reckon it will not be until October that the planning application for houses goes in,' he added. 'The road is closer to getting done than the houses.'

Councillor McCuish also advised setting up a liaison group to help reduce the 'distrust in this room', and agreed to write to the transport minister, Humza Yousaf, and TS for a meeting on the A85 junction. 'With the RET, the road is much busier,' he said.

Councillor Robertson, as convener of the local area committee, agreed to invite all interested parties, including Link Housing Association, the police and council planners, into one room for a public question and answer session.

find us on facebook
www.facebook.com/obantimes

University of the Highlands and Islands West Highland College Oilthigh na Gàidhealtachd agus nan Eilean Colaiste na Gàidhealtachd an Iar

Do you have Accommodation for Rent?

In readiness for our September intake of students in Fort William we are keen to hear from you if you have:

- A guest house or property for rental
- Single/twin roomed accommodation for rent

This would be for the period from September 2017 - June 2018
Please contact: Chrissy Harris, West Highland College UHI, Carmichael Way, Fort William PH33 6FF
01397 874380 | Christine.Harris.whc@uhi.ac.uk | www.whc.uhi.ac.uk
West Highland College UHI is a company limited by guarantee (SC153921) with charitable status (SC024193)

CAIRNGORM
EXQUISITE BESPOKE KITCHENS

The stunning new German kitchen range has arrived.

Cairngorm Group
tougher, warmer, smarter

1 Longman Drive, Inverness Tel: 01463 238 000
Tyock Industrial Estate, Elgin Tel: 01343 545315
18 High Street, Thurso Tel: 01847 894956
111 Gallowgate, Aberdeen Tel: 01224 900837

info@cairngormgroup.co.uk | www.cairngormgroup.co.uk

OT

Western Isles

THE Lord Lieutenant for the Western Isles, Donald Martin, has announced the appointment of Elizabeth McAtear from Barra as the new Vice-Lord Lieutenant.

The post, which has been vacant since November 2016, was held by the current Lord Lieutenant since 2013.



Donald Martin congratulates Elizabeth McAtear.

Mrs McAtear was appointed a Deputy Lieutenant in 1998 and has served under three Lord Lieutenants over the past 19 years. She took early retirement from the Citizens' Advice Bureau in Barra after 25 years as manager, and she is a former councillor, former chairwoman of the board of Lews Castle College (UHI) and former vice-chairwoman of the Western Isles NHS board.

She has been active in community development with Voluntary Action Barra and Watersay for more than 35 years, being involved in establishing the Western Isles CAB service, local community newspaper *Guth Bharraidh*, the community bus service and the local housing association, (now part of Hebridean Housing Partnership).

Mrs McAtear said: 'It is a great privilege and honour for me to be appointed as the Vice-Lord Lieutenant and I look forward to supporting the Lord Lieutenant in carrying out the work of the lieutenancy.'

Luss

AN ESTATE at Luss has won an award recognising its outstanding work in encouraging rural business in the area.

Luss Estates Company put into its motion a long-held desire to grow the local economy and the sustainability of the local community.

The first steps were made by facilitating the develop-

ment of two international golf courses. This was followed by the refurbishment of the Loch Lomond Arms Hotel and the creation of the Luss Strategic Development Framework.

The Luss Seafood Bar, The Clan Shop, Luss Filling Station and Luss Smokehouse have been developed in the village, all but the last named operated by Luss Estates.

Dunbeg



Dunbeg pupils enjoyed the Wild about Scotland bus.

CHILDREN at Dunbeg Primary School have been busy planting tree saplings in their grounds as part of a national campaign from Royal Zoological Society of Scotland (RZSS) and Clydesdale Bank.

Pupils were visited by the Wild about Scotland bus last week and were given 15 trees to plant.

An estimated 60 trees are required to grow in order to offset the Wild about Scotland bus's carbon footprint,

so to plant 420 means the campaign, in theory, would offset emissions from the bus seven times over.

Wild about Scotland educates the next generation of conservationists about the importance of protecting Scottish wildlife. The bus visited the various schools throughout the week to teach pupils about Scottish native species, their habitats and environments and what they can do to protect them.

Mull



The group picked up masses of litter during their beach clean.

Schools lead beach clean

THE Marine Conservation Society and Greenpeace joined 25 primary school children on north-west Mull as part of scientific expedition.

Two leading conservation charities have visited the Isle of Mull as part of a scientific voyage around the Scottish coastline looking at the impact of plastic pollution.

Greenpeace scientists are currently sailing around Scotland on board Beluga II to document how the country's globally important marine life is being affected by the rising tide of plastic rubbish in our oceans.

The voyage will see them investigating impacts on

the puffins and gannets of Bass Rock in the east to the basking sharks of Gunna Sound in the Hebrides.

On Monday May 22, Beluga II moored off the Isle of Mull and Greenpeace staff met with a Marine Conservation Society (MCS) team to carry out a clean-up and survey the litter on Kilninian beach, together with three primary schools – Ulva, Lochdonhead and Dervaig – and a representative from the group City to Sea.

Catherine Gemmell, MCS Scotland Conservation Officer, said: 'We found more than 30kg of rubbish, made up of a mixture of rope, bottles, caps and other plastic items.'

'Today was a fantastic celebration of working together. It was great to see members of staff from Greenpeace and City to Sea being trained up by some true local Beachwatch experts – the pupils from three schools.'

Catherine Gemmell continues: 'It was a wonderful team effort, but I'd like to give special mention to an amazingly dedicated Sea Champion volunteer Janie Steele from Oban, who has been busy promoting the Beachwatch project in the area and thanks to her there are now 12 extra beaches now adopted and sending in that all important data to MCS.'

Frank Heweston, Greenpeace campaigner, said: 'It was fabulous to work with the primary schools during the beach-clean today. Greenpeace looks to encourage and support environmental awareness at as young an age as possible. If Ulva, Lochdonhead and Dervaig schools are anything to go by, there is so much to be hopeful and positive about.'

The MCS runs beach clean and surveys throughout the year, and everyone is welcome to join in. The next Great British Beach Clean will be held from September 15 to 18. Go to see www.mcsuk.org for details.

South Uist

A CARBON-NEUTRAL sustainable furniture recycling and training project has been opened by South Uist learning centre, Cothrom.

Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) has awarded a grant of £127,188 for the project which is in addition to funding from the Big Lottery, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, LandAid, Western Isles Development Trust, Stòras Uibhist and the Scottish Government Regeneration Fund.

Cothrom, which means 'opportunity' in Gaelic, offers a range of flexible learning opportunities to adults including training and employability skills, and is supported by a full-time Gaelic nursery.

A STREET party is being organised on June 27 by the Adult Learners' Forum as a celebration of 25 years of learning since Cothrom



Restore South Uist

opened its doors in 1992, and to wish the manager, Barbara Macdonald, well as she leaves her post after 19 years.

Barbara said: 'We would

like to thank the funders for their help and support in bringing this project to fruition and we are delighted with the spacious new facility which completes

the campus so well. Staff and learners look forward to working and learning in the new workshops, and we look forward to welcoming customers to the new shop.'

Stornoway

FASLANE patrol boat HMS Tracker continued her journey around Scotland and Northern Ireland in the final stages of her deployment.

HMS Tracker left Stornoway on Sunday May 28 and completed a transit south calling into Portree, Kyle of Lochalsh, Tobermory, Craobh and arrived in Port Rush in Northern Ireland on Thursday June 1.

While in Stornoway the crew took part in a training exercise with the Search and Rescue (SAR) helicopter before moving on to Tobermory to take part in sea training with the RNLI.

The sea training involved the modified P200 Archer

class patrol vessel teaming up with the all-weather lifeboat Elizabeth Fairlie Ramsey. The two crews spent the day transferring personnel from boat to boat allowing the RNLI team to simulate trying to get on and off vessels in need.

Once the crews had perfected the ability to move between the two vessels, they took part in a number of casualty handling exercises, which involved the transfer of casualties on stretchers from one boat to another.

The teams finished off by taking the opportunity to pass towing equipment to complete a very successful day's training.

Luig



Diamh entertained in the Atlantic Islands Centre.

AN AVOWED mission to play on all inhabited Scottish islands brought multi-award winning Gaelic band Daimh to the Atlantic Islands Centre on the Isle of Luig on Tuesday May 30 with a strong reputation preceding them.

Their blend of instruments creating music evoking paths and lyrical drama, with a sub-structure of ironic humour had the

audience sailing across oceans of emotion.

It's easy to understand the band's appeal as Gaelic Singer of the Year (MG Alba Scottish Music Awards) Ellen McDonald punctuated the outstanding instrumentals with a great voice.

Organisers said: 'We thank Daimh for including Luig in their tour – they left a full house on a rolling wave of appreciation.'

Stornoway

SCOTLAND'S West Highland Line – dubbed '...the most beautiful rail journey on Earth...' – will be alive to the sound of a Nordic-inspired programme of music performed by two musicians from Scotland's national orchestra next week.

The ScotRail Alliance said that violinist Katherine Wren and violist David Martin, from the Royal Scottish National Orchestra (RSNO), had performed two special concerts along the West Highland Line, on Tuesday and Wednesday, June 6 and 7.

Mallaig, the terminus of the route which was voted 'most beautiful rail journey on Earth' three times by readers of *Wanderlust* magazine, played host to the first performance, which

features a collection of music developed by Katherine during her year-long sabbatical where she visited Scotland's northern isles, The Faroes, Greenland and Iceland.

Crianlarich saw the second. Both recitals will feature music from talented strings players, performing from their Nordic repertoire. The events were hosted by the West Highlands Community Rail Partnership, supported by the ScotRail Alliance.

The concert is one of five across Scotland hosted by local community rail partnerships (CRPs), who volunteer their time to promote and improve their local railway line.

The West Highlands CRP covers the line between Crianlarich and Mallaig.

Kilmore

KILMORE 100 Club's lucky winner for May was M Farmer, while those

cashing in on June's bounty were A Ferguson and K Den Heijer.

At Random

Vital to equip and train police officers

TERRORIST atrocities have shocked the country in recent weeks and have hit home in this area with such devastating effect.

The three attacks on innocent people recently may have taken place in London and Manchester but there is no knowing when or where any further incidents may happen.

While it might be difficult to consider the likelihood of anyone bringing this kind of horror to remote Argyll, there can be no room for complacency.

We all rely absolutely on our emergency services to keep us safe – and they display great courage at times to do so. But to protect us adequately, the police require to be properly staffed and equipped. And that means having officers available who are fully-trained in the use of firearms and tasers.

We hope, of course, that they will never be needed but it is essential that we have them to deal with such extreme situations.

We saw all too graphically in the most recent London attack the speed with which armed officers dealt with the jihadis – it took just eight minutes from the first call for all three terrorists to be shot – thereby saving an unknowable number of lives.



Oban Charities Day had a great response from the public.

It is crucial that Police Scotland reassures us that even here in the Oban area, we have the resources to keep us all safe.

Heroes deserve great praise

TALKING of emergency services, our local fire service responded swiftly and with great professionalism last week to a blaze above Nories chip shop in George Street.

However, the firefighters weren't alone. In what was a serious incident, two local men, Alasdair McBurnie and Tom Mackay, ran into the smoke-filled building to wake up sleeping night shift workers and help them to safety.

Thankfully, no-one was injured but that was due in large measure to the selfless actions of Mr

McBurnie and Mr Mackay, who deserve great credit, as do the firefighters who tackled the blaze and extinguished it.

Brilliant Oban is still buzzing

AFTER the brilliant Oban Live, Oban Mòd and Rotary Am-Am weekend, you could have been forgiven for thinking everything was about to settle down.

Not a bit of it. Oban Charities Day on Saturday was followed by the Macaulay Sixes shinty tournament on Sunday at Mossfield Stadium in the town.

The weather may not have been what we would have wished, but that couldn't be helped.

Nevertheless, events such as charities day keep Oban on the

map and provide great entertainment for residents and visitors. And the shinty competition for juniors is a great way to hook children into sport, which is always to be encouraged.

As ever, these events take a good deal of planning and organising, so well done to all involved.

Congratulations to MP Brendan

WHOEVER you voted for – and shame on you if you did not vote at all – we must congratulate Brendan O'Hara for holding the Argyll and Bute seat in the general election last week.

Mr O'Hara again has the very great privilege of representing the good people of this area in the House of Commons. In what will undoubtedly be a turbulent time given the seismic events that will unfold over the months and years ahead of us, we will watch with interest to see how he performs.

It is inevitable that Mr O'Hara will obey his party whip but he should remember that he was sent to the Palace of Westminster as an emissary of the whole electorate in Argyll and the Isles.

What do you think?

Write to me at The Oban Times, Crannog Lane, Oban, PA34 4 HB, or by email to miaing@obantimes.co.uk.

MARTIN LAING
miaing@obantimes.co.uk



Gael Force GROUP

Argyll Bute COUNCIL

Looking for a new partnership opportunity?

Gael Force Group are a leading provider of marine related products and engineering services. Following recent success of being awarded contract by Argyll and Bute Council to supply transit berthing pontoons in Oban, Gael Force would like to invite the business community to meet the team, and representatives from the Council, where they will receive an introduction to their services and involvement in the Aquaculture sector. This will be an opportunity to establish working partnerships with Gael Force and the wider supply of product and services offered.

Format An informal drop in session with information presented on Gael Force plus an opportunity to discuss specifics.

Who is it for? Anyone, business or individual, interested in partnering with Gael Force Group in supply of service or product, or able to provide trade to better support Gael Force range specifically within Aquaculture.

Where Corran Halls, Oban.

When Wednesday 21st June 15:30 – 18:30

Further information Jamie Young 07702207538 or jamie.young@gaelforce.net



The Currie clan will parade at the Edinburgh Military Tattoo this summer.

Currie clan gathers to appoint a commander

THIS August will see members of the worldwide Currie, Curry, Currey family (anciently MacMhuirich or MacVurich) gathering in Scotland to take part in two special events.

The Curries will hold a family convention to select their first commander or chief.

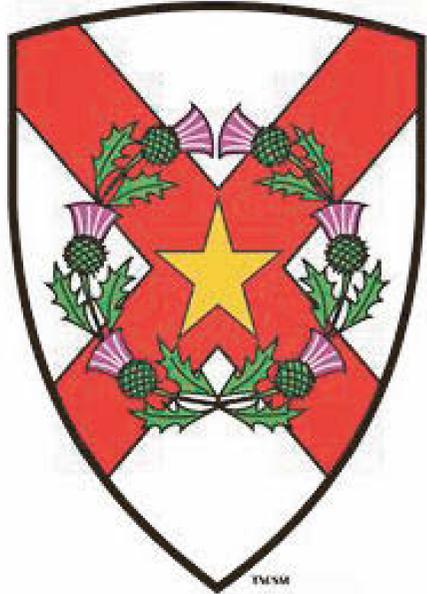
This will be followed by a stint at the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo, with other honoured clans to celebrate the Scottish diaspora as part of the tattoo's Splash of Tartan celebration.

The Curries were once influential poets and historians to the MacDonald Lords of the Isles and other prominent families and clans.

In a process regulated by Dr Joseph Morrow, QC, Lord Lyon King of Arms, family members will meet at the Trades Hall in Glasgow on August 15 at 2pm for a family convention to select a commander who would act as head of the clan in the anticipation of a later selection of a chief of the Name and Arms of Currie.

As part of the procedure to find that person, the family has conducted an international search for representatives. The closing date for nominations is noon on June 30.

The Court of the Lord Lyon, which has jurisdiction in such matters, said there are a number of reasons why a family might hold a family convention. Most



The Clan Currie Society

appropriately for the Curries, it is: 'Where neither blood link to a past chief nor representative of a cadet line can be identified but it is wished to propose a particular person of the surname as commander.'

The proceedings in Glasgow

will be overseen by Liam Devlin, Unicorn Pursuivant, as the appointed presiding officer.

Professor Hugh Cheape from the National Centre for Gaelic Language and Culture said: 'This kindred [Currie] as "bardic dynasty" with such a remark-

“ I have had the privilege of meeting hundreds with my surname ”

able history ought now to be recognised on the wider stage of Scottish culture as a family with an independent role at the centre of a widely connected and well-ordered culture.'

The family is descended from the 13th-century Irish bard, Muireadhach Ó Dálaigh (O'Daly).

Well-known genealogist, heraldist and historian Dr Bruce Durie said: 'Historically, there never was a Clan Currie or Clan MacMhuirich, with territories and a quasi-military structure.'

'The term "family" is probably inappropriate for Currie, as it indicates the Lowlands. The MacMhuirichs, however, were proud Highlanders, and hereditary bards to a number of clans. They were truly a learned kindred, which may be the best designation for Currie.'

On Saturday August 19 at 10.30pm, as part of an exciting new partnership between the Scottish Diaspora and the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo, the Currie clan, one of a number of honoured families, will march up the Royal Mile onto Edinburgh Castle esplanade and be recognised in a pre-show ceremony. A proud moment for all involved.

The Reverend Dr David Currie said: 'As chaplain of the Clan Currie Society, I have had the privilege of meeting hundreds with my surname from around the world at our Pipes of Christmas concerts, Tartan Day on Ellis Island and other events.'

'One of the most memorable events for me was marching up the Royal Mile as part of the gathering of the clans event about a decade ago.'

'As we Curries took our place alongside other Scottish families, the only thing that I thought could make it better would be if we could take our place as formally recognised by the Lord Lyon with a commander or chief.'

'After our family convention on August 15 I look forward to retracing our steps later that same week having fulfilled that hope as a recognised learned kindred with a commander leading us to the castle as one of the honoured clans for the Edinburgh Tattoo.'

Work experience for Emily... a money saving experience for Mike



All set for your work experience at Cairngorm Group, Emily? Let me know more about their solar panels, I've heard they can save you a lot of money.

Yeah dad. I didn't know there was so much to do. I have a day in the factory, then I'm going to learn all about solar panel's. Then I have a day in the office, then with a glazier, then the joiners.



MORVERN lines

Highland Retreats

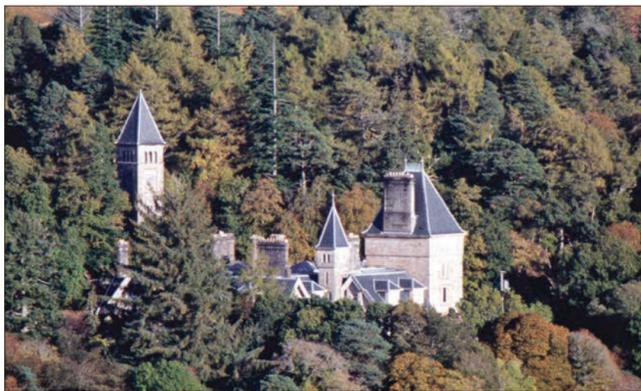
A FEW years ago, I took a party of visitors from Texas into Loch Aline by boat. Jerking her thumb in the general direction of the massive Ardtornish House which dominates the head of the loch, one of the group turned to me and asked: 'Is that some kind of factory up there?'

Knowing how most Texans like the world to think they have everything bigger and better than anyone else, I thought to myself, I'm not letting you away with that and replied, rather casually: 'Actually, it is only a holiday cottage' - which it is. 'Gee,' was the response from the lady whose eyes were now standing out like organ-stops. 'If that's a holiday cottage, what's the main house like?'

Mansion houses grandstanding on hillsides or quietly tucked away in secluded wooded glens have attracted admiration and intrigue for generations. There are those which embody Gaelic tradition and others that exude Victorian elitism.

The first are often the living heart of the local community and a source of inspiration and excellence; the second, when their owners say they have a little place in Scotland but don't get up nearly as much as they would like, become a reminder of an old proverb dating back to the time of the infamous Highland Clearances, about there being nothing so slippery as the doorstep to the big house.

Of course Ardtornish House, built in 1884-95 on the proceeds of gin and wool by Thomas Valentine Smith for sporting holidays, is no manufactory but an outstanding example of a period country villa of the late Victorian era still with its original decorated interiors and furnishings. Its story, and that of many other architectural Highland



Ardtornish House

gems, appears in one of most remarkable books published this millennium.

Highland Retreats - the Architecture and Interiors of Scotland's Romantic North by Mary Miers - Highlander, historian, writer and the fine arts and books editor of *Country Life* magazine - is a new and sumptuous work, beautifully produced with hundreds of stunning colour photographs by Paul Barker and Simon Jauncey.

It would be wrong to infer Highland Retreats is yet another coffee-table production. It isn't. Unlike Aristotle's bee, it brings together a vast amount of information and images, some never seen before, lovingly compiled and written in a lively style reflecting the author's enthusiasm for her subject.

In eight chapters illustrated with photographs of historic paintings, drawings and sketches, Miers shows how one of the wildest and most beautiful regions of Europe was transformed into a sporting paradise by industrial wealth and old family money from the south.

Taking Torosay, Ardtornish, Ardkinglas and Cour in Argyll, Dunrobin, Kinlochmoidart, Ardverrick, Kinloch [Rum], Skibo, Corroul, Mar Lodge, Shewglie and numerous others, the author charts the development of Highland shooting and fishing lodges which began long before Queen Victoria and Prince Albert came to Scotland. Many large houses were commissioned by leading architects of the day containing art work of national importance and equipped with the latest technology. Others were less so.

Lord Malmesbury, who was twice Foreign Secretary, in 1852 and 1858, took Achnacarry Castle and its surrounding deer forest on a 15-year lease from its owner, Donald Cameron of Lochiel. He recorded with amusement the experience of one of his guests, Sir James Hudson, the British ambassador to Turin, who was obliged to spend a night in a bothy after a day's deer stalking in Glencamagarry on the south side of Loch Arkaig.

'He said there were seven men, five dogs, three women and a cat in two small rooms and only three beds for the whole party. The maid asked him with whom he would like to sleep and that he answered that if he couldn't sleep with her, he would prefer Macoll the stalker. The latter, however, replied, "Methinks you had better sleep alone". So Sir James had a bed to himself, as far as I know.'

Mary Miers's conclusion is bang up to date. 'For the makers and inheritors of great wealth, owning large swathes of the Highlands is still a powerfully seductive aspiration. Increasingly, though, the impetus is not so much the desire to buy access to top sport and society as the irresistible urge to manipulate nature.'

For those who have everything, playing God in the wilds represents the last major challenge.

And so today, not only sportsmen, but also sporting eco-warriors and other romantic visionaries, are drawn inexorably north with dreams of creating their own Highland Eden.'

I have only a minor criticism of this book. None of the modern photographs has any people in them, making the houses, especially their interiors, seem somewhat embalmed and impersonal, like a book of pressed flowers - pretty, but dead.

Houses mirror their owners' taste and style. It would have been nice to have been able to have seen something of those individuals who usually stand aside from the ordinary course of life.

Highland Retreats is to be the definitive book on the subject for years to come. Price £45 (Amazon £29.25). ISBN: 978-0-8478-4476-0: Rizzoli New York.

Iain Thornber
iain.thornber@btinternet.com



1 Longman Drive, Inverness IV1 1SU
Tel: 01463 238 000

Tyock Industrial Estate, Elgin IV30 1XY
Tel: 01343 545315

6-8 High Street, Thurso KW14 8AG
Tel: 01847 894956

Email: info@cairngormgroup.co.uk
www.cairngormgroup.co.uk

#MeetTheCairns

OT

Viewpoint



Write to us: send your letters to editor@obantimes.co.uk or The Editor, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB

The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Actions have, unfortunately, consequences, and these can sometimes be serious, as was heard at a public meeting in Oban on Tuesday evening this week.

The meeting was called as a result of growing concerns regarding the diminution of services provided at Lorn and Islands Hospital.

The meeting heard from a number of people severely impacted by the removal of key services, including most recently urology.

While there are increasing problems for anyone in Argyll who is given an appointment in the city, these are felt most acutely by residents of the islands, who face

extremely problematic journeys – and the concomitant expense – to be seen by specialists.

In fairness to the NHS, there have been pernicious problems with attempts to recruit consultants to work in Oban, as a consequence of which the specialities they provide have been transferred to Paisley, Glasgow and Alexandria, though Vale of Leven Hospital located at the last named has also been hit by swingeing cuts to its services.

If there are difficulties with hiring consultants, the solution should not be to abandon the attempt. People in Argyll and the Isles deserve better.



Days gone by – 1997

Mrs Pat Greenhill OBE, second left, with Mrs Barbara Caldwell, chairwoman of Isle of Bute Housing Association, meet Mrs and Mrs Dugald McGlynn who live at 10 Baddens Park, Lochgilphead.

MacPhail

ANGUS MACPHAIL
angusmacphail@yahoo.co.uk



TO GIVE further background to my position on the conflict between fragile human populations and adverse effects of external influence – in the case of last week's subject, over-zealous and ill-informed environmentalists – this is a continuation on that theme.

There is no doubt as to the importance of stewarding our natural environment.

One of the greatest assets the Highlands and Islands has is the relatively untouched surrounding natural world. This is understood by the populations of islands such as Tiree and they have lived in harmony with their surroundings for many generations.

There are always going to be legitimate areas of debate regarding certain issues, and that, of course, is essential to progress.

However, the place of the human population of these islands is in a precarious position.

Continued survival of indigenous people should never be put at risk by the narrow agendas of special-interest groups from far away with little care or knowledge of the culture, language, history, present and future of the people living there, be that a landlord of years gone by, a multinational power company, an environmental group or a holiday-maker protesting against a local fisherman sustainably dredging for scallops.

The Reaping of the Barley

I stand upon Ben Hynish and view a barren land Reaped and raped by strangers to feed the landlord's hand; Those left pushed to the shorelines and thousands forced abroad Driven out like cattle, by systems foul and flawed.

Deceit and lies were used to prise the people from their homes. When that no longer had effect, there came more brutal tones. Triple rents by landlords bent, the world's wealth to keep, Evictions, burning houses, just to clear the land for sheep.

Too long our people trodden down had no resisting voice. Made weak by laws of lords because we thought we had no choice. The 1880s saw the change, no longer we'd retreat And fought for firm tenure on the land beneath our feet.

We know how cruel is the world, such ruthlessness we see. These sad but constant truths of life will never cease to be. Grudges held for anger's sake bear no fruit now or then But learn, and move and never let our corn be reaped again.

RSPB and SNH have ever-growing powers. These faceless groups would make Tiree a land of birds and flowers. If they could they quickly would fill ships in Hynish Bay, 'Clear and burn, get out, get off, you're getting in our way!'

Talk of turbines standing high along our western view, Reaping wind to save the world, I do not doubt they'll do; But if our doorstep holds the gold of winds or birds or flowers We must not dance to the strangers' tune – they must dance to ours.

Play parks on surrounding seas for experimental science, No thought of Milton's fishing fleet, to be killed with forced compliance; Control if stolen yet again, by fickle far off whim For livelihoods and families – the reaper's scythe is grim.

The paradox is change must be a constant by our side. This fact we must embrace because we cannot stop the tide. Sail with the tide but choose our course, show strength in where we steer And give the children of the grain a future bright and clear.



from trees and when it's warm it's vile. Not really nice to see and heartbreaking that people care so little about our countryside!

Mark Cardwell said: 'Don't know if it's on the increase but it is worse than many other towns. Particularly annoying are when people do manage to bag it up and then leave it lying around or hanging from branches, who do they think is going to bin it for them?'

Malcolm Cullen wrote: 'The whole Glencruitten/Mossfield/Dalintart area is quite bad.'

Crannog Lane, Lochavullin estate, Oban, PA34 4HB.

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

either telephone IPSO on 0300 123 2220 or email inquiries@ipso.co.uk. IPSO is an independent body which deals with complaints from the public about the editorial content of newspapers and magazines. We will abide by the decision of IPSO.

SNP members have been great value

Sir, I write in response to the letter from D Johnson, Tarbert, ('A poor choice of election candidates', *The Oban Times*, June 1).

While I agree with his comments regarding Alan Reid and Jamie McGrigor, I take exception to his comment regarding Brendan O'Hara.

The latest Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority (IPSA - <http://www.theipsa.org.uk/>) show SNP MPs are the hardest working MPs at Westminster, cost significantly less and are better value for money than their predecessors from other parties.

Here are the facts. Figures published on IPSA's website confirm that in 2015-16 SNP MPs in fact cost more than £1 million (£1,140,801.64) less than their predecessors in 2014-15. On average, SNP MPs cost more than £21,000 less than their predecessors.

New figures show that SNP MPs work harder than their predecessors, and are some of the most active MPs at Westminster. In 2016, SNP MPs spoke in an average of 64 debates. This compares to an average of just 43 debates for Labour MPs and 38 debates for Conservative MPs.

SNP MPs have each tabled an average of 58 written parliamentary questions. In total, SNP MPs have tabled over 3,000 written parliamentary questions – holding UK government ministers to account and providing a strong voice for Scotland at Westminster. SNP MPs have tabled over 600 early day motions – helping bring attention to the important issues facing local communities, the people of Scotland and the UK. SNP MPs have contributed to the work of 77 select committees, sub-committees, bill committees and commissions, including chairing three select committees.

I Sanderson, Tarbert.

Parking charges are driving tourists away

Sir, I have just returned from an exhilarating family holiday on the Isle of Iona. On reading *The Oban Times* of June 1, I note that under Argyll and Bute Council's off-street parking places and charges (Isle of Mull) order 2017, I will in future be charged for leaving our vehicle in the currently free car park at Fionnphort.

Diesel and ferry costs for travel from the south of England are about £250 for a family of four, even after the welcome reduction in CalMac fares. I fear that any further charges could be the tipping point – we can be in Normandy for less than £100.

I have no idea what the parking fees will be (the council invites queries on its website, but a search for 'Fionnphort off-street parking' results in a message telling me I am not authorised to access this information), but I fear that a seven-day stay on Iona will no longer be in next year's holiday plans.

Mike Jones, 4 Oak Close, Pinhoe, Exeter.

Beachd Ailein

ALLAN CAMPBELL
ailean@obantimes.co.uk



A' SIUBHAL CHUN an Eilein Sgìtheanaich tràth madainn Dhisathairne seo chaidh, bha an aimsir cho fliuch, dorcha agus mi-thlachdmhor 's gun robh faclan a' bhàird a' tilleadh thugam air mar a bhiodh 'geamhradh is samhradh' a' cogadh le chèile.

Ach thog an latha air tràth feasgar agus chan fhaca sinn an còrr uisge chun an d' ràinig sinn Gleann Seile sin a' tilleadh. Cha b' iongnadh leam sa mhadainn na bha de charbadan a' togail a-mach bhon iar a' teicheadh bhon uisge. Sin mar a bha riamh le mòran luchd-turais, seunta le maise agus sìth àrainneachd nan eileanan nuair a tha an aimsir fàbharach ach air an tàmailteachadh le mar a dh'atharraicheas cùisean cho luath.

Ach mar a dh'innseas croitear, tuathanach, neo gairnealair sam bith dhuinn, bha an talamh feumach air uisge agus eadar na fhuaras den sin bho chionn ghoidid, agus blàths, tha fàs da-riabh air a bhith ann. Fàs air planntais agus luibhean, agus an cois sin fàs air obair-àiteachais!

CalMac must provide Islay back-up ferry

Sir, The recent problems with ferry sailings from Kennacraig to Islay highlight the need for a back-up ferry on this run during the busy periods.

This time of year is when we need a reliable ferry service the most, for locals and tourists alike.

Along with the recent disruptions to the Jura ferry service, the problems with ferry sailings will inevitably cause further hardship for our island businesses that have to make the most of the tourist season in order to make it through the quieter winter months.

A big thanks must go out to the hard-working, front-line CalMac staff, who did a fantastic job of helping and supporting all the passengers who were affected by the disruptions.

As a councillor, I will continue to press CalMac for a back-up vessel for the Islay run.

Councillor Alastair Redman, Islay.

Thanks to all the people who voted

Sir, I would like to thank the near 16,000 people who voted for me last week. We came from third in 2015 to within 1,300 votes of the winning this seat.

My congratulations to Brendan O'Hara on his victory and best wishes for what will be an interesting parliament. Commiserations to Alan Reid and Michael Kelly.

My campaign team, led by John McMurtrie, was unbelievable and I don't think I have laughed so much as we travelled across the area meeting some fantastic folk along the way.

For me, it is back to the day job and the family I love.

Gary Mulvaney, Conservative candidate for Argyll and Bute.

Students exchange reaches landmark

Sir, Just over 26 years ago a small delegation from Laurinburg, North Carolina, met some Oban leaders at the Rowantree Hotel on George Street.

We jointly signed a hastily drawn, but thoughtfully-worded, agreement to begin co-operating for the betterment of both communities.

To our chagrin, no-one really had a clue what we were doing.

The editor of our local newspaper and I were rooming together, and sitting in our room that evening we tossed out ideas about where this agreement was going.

As a summer-long exchange student in 1968 studying in Mexico with two other classmates, the idea to establish some sort of student exchange programme quickly became the prime goal. The idea was shared with former head teacher Brian Mitchell, who in turn asked former Oban High School teacher Tom Laursen to take control on the left side of the pond.

The first exchange started small, with one student and one teacher from our Scotland High School visiting for a week in October, and two students – Nicola Meekin and Lisa MacKinnon (McNeill) – visiting for almost a fortnight in April.

On Saturday June 17, a celebration recognising the 25th annual exchange will be held in Oban. Many former student participants will be there from both sides of the pond.

I truly hate to miss it, but family illnesses are keeping us confined close to home, but one of the greatest honours is know that folks in Oban now understand and even speak 'y'all', and folks in Laurinburg and Scotland County are now having ceilidhs.

Best wishes to all of my friends and former exchange students. You have established and continued long-binding friendships at a time when every country on earth needs to start build bridges of friendships rather than walls.

Beacham McDougald, Laurinburg, North Carolina.

Drive with more care and consideration

Sir, Isabel MacKenzie (Letters, *The Oban Times*, June 1) asks if someone would explain what the road sign 'Let motorbikes overtake safely' means.

There are several instances of these (and similar) messages in our region. This is in response to several road traffic collisions and one fatality caused by drivers pulling out into the path of overtaking motorcyclists. The usual cause is because the driver of the overtaken vehicle had demonstrated poor road sense and had not used their mirrors correctly. The Highway Code clearly states what is expected and what is required by law and in summary includes:

1. Before overtaking make sure the road is clear ahead, others are not beginning to overtake you and there is a suitable gap in front of the road user you plan to overtake.

2. Do not get too close to the vehicle you intend to overtake.

3. Use your mirrors, signal when it is safe to do so, take a quick sideways glance if necessary into the blind spot area and then start to move out.

4. If a driver is trying to overtake you, maintain a steady course and speed, slowing down if necessary to let the vehicle pass. Never obstruct drivers who wish to pass. Speeding up or driving unpredictably while someone is overtaking you is dangerous.

This does not mean (as Ms MacKenzie writes) that the overtaken driver should 'pull over' or indeed take any action other than continue a steady course.

It is the duty of all road users to comply with the Road Traffic Act and the Highway Code, and motorcyclists are no exception. Motorcyclists are particularly vulnerable road users and where a small 'bump' to a car driver may be inconvenient, to a motorcyclist it could result in a serious injury or fatality.

There cannot be any room for adversarial behaviour on our busy roads, and whether on two, four or multiple axles, we should be driving defensively and with care and consideration for all.

Geoff Nix, Appin, Argyll.

Ailean Caimbeul

Social media

One of the most talked about topics on our social media in recent days was Oban Live and the performance of K9 Kev and Rory O'B, the two Oban rappers who won the chance to play at the festival.

Lyndsay Elliott cheered: 'Loved them! Highlight of the day, wish they could have been on again later.'

Bob Blainey posted: 'Brilliant. In honour of Oban we should call the Drizzle Kicks.'

Laura Docherty agreed: 'They were fab would have loved more of them

will be keeping an eye out for more from them.'

Rachel Smith said: 'They were fantastic! I hope they go far!'

There was also comment on the problem of dog fouling in Oban and its surrounding areas.

Mairi MacDonald complained: 'I walk my daughter to nursery at dunbeg school everyday and at the start it was really bad on the pavement and even along the shortcut path to the school it's seems to be not so bad now but there are some poo filled bags hanging

Press policy

WE AT The Oban Times endeavour to ensure that all our reports are fair and accurate and comply with the Editors' Code of Practice set by the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO). We realise, however, that mistakes happen from time to time.

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

Crannog Lane, Lochavullin estate, Oban, PA34 4HB.

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

either telephone IPSO on 0300 123 2220 or email inquiries@ipso.co.uk. IPSO is an independent body which deals with complaints from the public about the editorial content of newspapers and magazines. We will abide by the decision of IPSO.

Your letters

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

must be supplied, including on emails, to indicate good faith. A daytime telephone number is also required for verification. Anonymous letters or those supplied without a contact telephone number will not

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

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

Nevis Centre upgrade plans to be unveiled at public meeting

ELLIE FORBES
eforbes@obantimes.co.uk

DETAILS of a £1.5m refurbishment of the Nevis Centre in Fort William will be unveiled later this month by operators Linnhe Leisure.

Plans to fix the 20-year-old leaking roof and re-design the foyer are among the items to be discussed at a public meeting on Tuesday June 27.

Despite a cut in funding from the Highland Council of almost 50 per cent last year, the centre has appointed Fort William architects Kearney Donald Partnership to draw up plans for the project which it is hoped will start later this year.

Speaking to the *Lochaber Times*, Linnhe Leisure chairwoman Sheana Fraser said she hopes to give the community a better understanding of how the centre is run and a chance to get involved with the upgrade of this 'vital community resource'.

'The Nevis Centre building is leased by the Highland Council, but Linnhe Leisure is the charitable company, managed by volunteers, that runs the centre. This is a community resource and all the money that is made goes back into the company and the running of the centre.'

'With this public event, we are asking what people want to see done with the Nevis Centre and will be showing, in particular, what the foyer area could look like. We are looking for their comments on what they think of our plans.'

'We want to make the foyer more welcoming and more of a social space for people coming in. But the roof leaks so badly

“
We are looking for their comments on what they think of our plans **”**

we can't do anything inside until it is fixed and that's going to cost us more than £350,000.

'If the centre is refurbished we hope that would encourage more people to use it and develop into new markets, including businesses using the space for conferences or workshops. There's potential there that has not been fully developed. That way we can bring in more income and make it more sustainable, because we need to make up the grant funding we have lost.'

Despite a year-on-year cut in funding from the local authority, the council awarded the centre £250,000 through its capital discretionary fund last year.

'We are delighted the capital fund gave us £250,000, but we are still on a funding package. We have some capital reserves and we have the support of HIE and LEADER.'

The centre has faced challenging times over the last four years, but Ms Fraser said it is looking to the future: 'The businesses has now stabilised, thanks to new management and committed staff. We are looking to the future.'

Head along to the Nevis Centre on Tuesday June 27 between 2pm and 4pm to see the plans and have your say.



Laura hits all the right notes at Lochaber Mòd

BUN-SGOIL Ghàidhlig Loch Abar pupil Laura Robertson hit all the right notes at this year's 2017 Lochaber Provincial Mòd. The event was held last Friday and Saturday at the Gaelic school in Caol, Fort William.

Laura competed in piping, fluent tradi-

tional singing, fluent conversation, fluent recitation and took part in her school's choir.

She picked up first place in the under-13 fluent traditional singing, 11-12 fluent solo singing, bagpipes under-15 Piobaireachd Ground.

Laura also won two trophies – the Donald MacDonald Memorial Cup for the highest Gaelic mark (solo) and the Archie MacLean Memorial Quaich for the highest combined Gaelic and music mark.

For more photographs and full results, turn to pages four, 10 and 11.

Millions to be spent on affordable housing

MORE than £100million is to be invested in affordable homes across the Highlands.

The Scottish Government announced further investment of £1.75 billion in affordable housing across the country on Tuesday (June 13).

For the first time, councils and house-builders across Scotland's 32 local authorities will have the opportunity to plan ahead with grant subsidies guaranteed for three years.

Kate Forbes, MSP for Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch, said: 'The announcement the Highlands will receive £125m over the next three years provides the certainty Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch and the sector needs to keep progressing and ensures we keep up the momentum to reach the Scottish Government's target of 50,000 new affordable homes by 2021.'

Ms Forbes said the investment will 'strengthen' the estimated 14,000 jobs the affordable housing supply programme supports each year.

Spending on affordable homes in the Highlands is set to increase by around £8million between 2018/19 and 2020/2021.

The Scottish Government is aiming to have 50,000 new affordable homes by 2021.

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING



Digital news at your fingertips

Digital VERSION Included

Unlimited access

The Oban Times & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Established 1861 No 8358 Thursday 8 June, 2017 www.obantimes.co.uk 85 pence

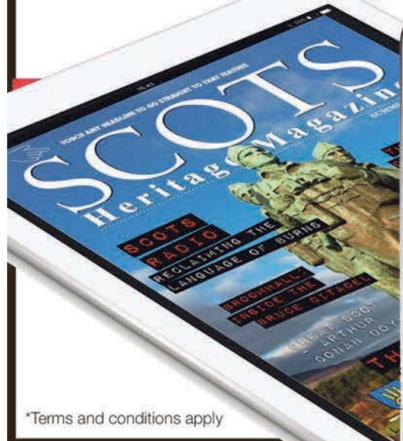
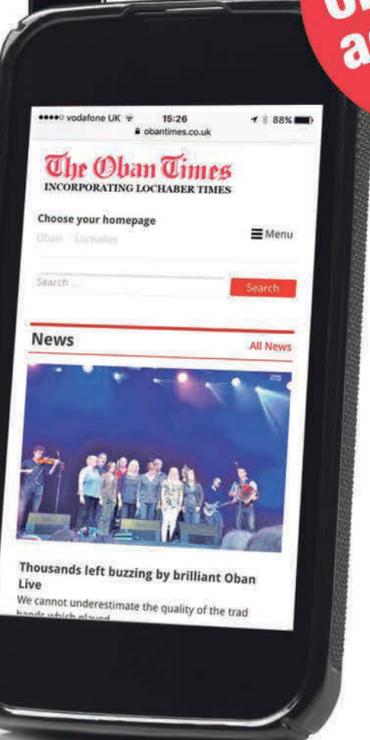
5 PAGES OF OBAN LIVE COVERAGE LAST CHANCE TO VOTE FOR YOUR WINNER bonnie babies

Heroes run into building as blaze rips through flats

LOUISE GLEN
AT LEAST three people were rescued from flat six at Chalmers George Street after a fire spread from the chip shop below on Tuesday morning.
...
Mr Matheson, manager of a neighbouring shop, said a taxi driver who was a resident of the building, helped sleeping staff workers escape the blaze.
...
The fire started in a kitchen at the flat and spread to the living area. It took about 15 minutes to get under control. Firefighters had to cut through the roof to reach the fire. It is believed there was no way that this could be a chimney fire.

Crowds flock to Oban Live

MORE than 2000 people flocked to Mansfield stadium over Friday and Saturday for a highly successful live.
...
The festival goes over to two days of top musical entertainment from the local Shetland and Skye bands. The festival was a success and the organisers are looking forward to next year's event. The festival was the set piece of the week for the Oban Live singing competition. It was won by Kevin Irvine and Rory O'Keefe. The Oban Live singing competition was held at the Oban Live singing venue on Saturday afternoon. Donald Galloppe said the festival was a success and the organisers are looking forward to next year's event. It was held over 2000 people all over the world. It was a success and the organisers are looking forward to next year's event.



obantimes.co.uk/magoffer

SPECIAL OFFER

Offer ends July 15, 2017

FREE digital subscription to Scottish Field magazine **AND** Scots Heritage Magazine when you subscribe to obantimes.co.uk

USE CODE OTSFSH1

*Terms and conditions apply

Arena

> cinema, radio and what's on listings > leisure ideas > local events

Oban Charities Day is a roaring success

OBAN'S biggest street fair took place at the weekend, with the sun finally making a late arrival after what was a bit of a wet start.

Jim Edge, of Oban and Lorn Lions Club, which organises the popular annual event, said: 'It has been a great day. The sun came out late – it was a bit like Brexit it was on European time and was an hour later.'

Station Square and Queen's Park Way were packed with stalls, with around 40 charities and communities group taking the opportunity to raise awareness and vital funds for their projects. And the Oban community came out to support them in huge numbers.

There was a real buzz around the Alzheimer Scotland stall where dementia adviser Sue Pagan had opted to have her head shaved to raise money for the charity. Money had already started coming in through a Just Giving page, and on Saturday Sue said she thought they had raised close to £1,000 so far.

Sue had 379mm of hair taken off, with the pigtail being donated to the Princess Trust. They also ran a 'Guess the length of the pigtail' at £1 a guess, with Maureen Drummond guessing correctly.

Sue told us: 'I first decided I would do this in November – I used the app to see what I would look like with my head shaved. Fortunately, my head is reasonably shaped and my ears are quite small and close to my head. I had to go back to the car to get

a hat due to the sun, because I was worried about getting sunburned – and this was the only one I had!'

The various charities and community groups all offered information, games, raffles and plenty of fun in a bid to help them raise the cash they need to keep their services up and running. And volunteers on the stalls all agreed, the afternoon had been busy, and the Oban community had done them proud.

Rob Chipchase, of Oban and Lorn Lions Club, said: 'The stall has been really busy and staff have been rushed off their feet, which is the usual. The kids love trying to win a cuddly lion, coming back again and again.'

Other stalls included Seed for Life, Feed for Life, a new project set up by Netherlorn churches. The project is aiming to raise £10,000 by September so that seeds can be bought to help 20 parishes in Bemvu, Malawi, grow their own food. Profits from the harvest will help buy seeds for the following year, but also will help fund a meals programme in Bemvu primary school, similar to Mary's Meals.

Oban Mountain Rescue were on catering and kept everyone fed during the afternoon. Marie Porter was helping out on the burger stall. She works at SAMS and has been part of the team for a year, but has only just joined the call-out list.

She said: 'So far I've attended two call-outs, one to rescue a dog on Ben Cruachan, and

a lady with a broken leg near Dalmally.'

Oban FM was also on hand during the afternoon with music and chat from the team.

Towards the end of the afternoon, Mr Edge said: 'We are the catalyst for the fundraising – it will have been worth it if everyone made £100 apiece.'

'I want to say a big thanks to everyone on the taxis, because they were brilliant and we couldn't do without their help.'

'If people have enjoyed the day and would like to offer more support, why not think about becoming a club member or if they would like to just come along and meet us, they can email aspoban@sky.com.

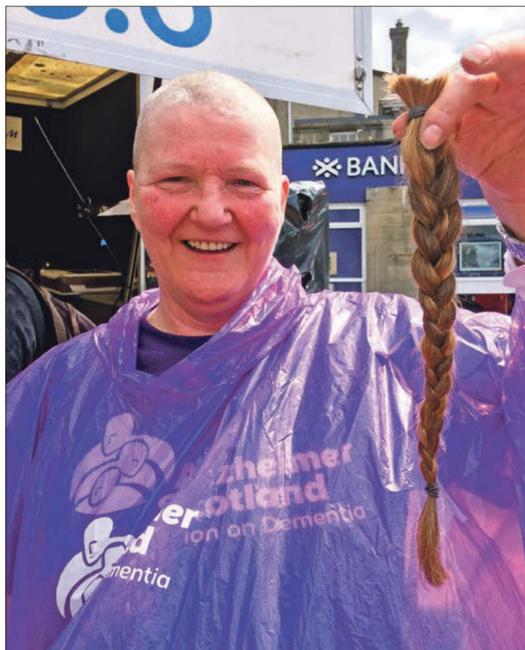
'The next big event is the raft race on August 5.'

With so much effort put in to decorating stalls and to the adult and children's costumes for the parade, Oban and Lorn Lions Club decided to give the following prizes:

Best dressed stalls – 1. Oban Inner Wheel, shield and £25; 2. Spotlight Musical Theatre Group, £10; 3. Argyll Animal Aid, £10.

Best dressed groups in parade – 1. Oban Rainbows (Mermaid Mayhem), shield and £25; 2= Diabetes UK, St Columba's School (The Mad Hatter's Tea Party), and Soroba Young Families Group (The Wizard of Oz), who each won £10.

For lots more photographs from the day, visit www.obantimes.co.uk.



Sue Pagan with the pigtail that will go to the Princess Trust.

Photograph: Marian Milarvie/Stripey Straws DV Production.



Dylan Ross and Harry Clyne with the scale model of a 1907 Tasker road tractor. Photograph: Alan Windram.



Minnie Mouse turned up on the day. Photograph: Alan Windram.



Beata Gajek-Fituch and Helen McGuigan, left, are all smiles.

Photograph: Alan Windram.



Spotlight Musical Theatre group came second in the best-dressed stall. Photograph: Alan Windram.

WIN

A RANGE ROVER EVOQUE FOR THE WEEKEND




Whether you're braving the boutiques of the West End, or exploring the wilds of the West coast, the Range Rover Evoque is the perfect travelling companion. Equipped with the luxuries you would expect from Range Rover, combined with Land Rover's unparalleled Terrain Response technology on all four wheel drive models – drivers can select from four settings to tackle a variety of conditions like grass, gravel and snow, mud and ruts and sand - the Evoque provides the ideal vehicle for adventuring in comfort. In conjunction with Scottish Field, Pentland Land Rover are offering one lucky reader the chance to win a fabulous Evoque for a weekend.

**FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN, just answer the following question:
How many settings does the Evoque's Terrain Response system provide?**

T&Cs apply. Reference code will be provided to winner following draw and must be presented when booking vehicle. The driver must be 26 years or older and have less than 6 points on their licence. Weekend based on vehicle collection from participating Pentland Land Rover retailer on Friday before 6pm and return on Sunday before 4pm. Maximum mileage allowance of 400 miles. Competition closes on 11 August 2017.

To enter, send your name, address, telephone number and email address to Wyvex Media Competitions, Fettes Park, 496 Ferry Road, Edinburgh EH5 2DL. Closing date is August 11 2017. Entrants must be 18 or over. Employees of Wyvex Media, the competition promoters, and their direct families are ineligible to enter. No purchase necessary. The winner will be first correct entry drawn after closing date. No cash alternative is available. The winner will be informed by telephone. Promoter reserves the right to request post publicity. Indicate if you do not wish to receive further information from promoter. Usual Wyvex Media rules apply. Information will be shared with promoters and sponsors.

Summer Promotion

Free Wash and Blowdry

When you book a Tamefrizz deep conditioning treatment (£8) or Lisaplex deep conditioning treatment (£11)



Book now with Junior Stylists Hannah and Patrick
* Subject to availability

3 High Street, Oban 01631 566696

Monday 9am - 3pm, Tuesday 9am - 5pm,
Wednesday 9am - 6pm, Thursday 9am - 8pm,
Friday 9am - 6pm, Saturday 9am - 4pm

What's on at **The Nevis Centre**

Superbowl

open everyday from
12 noon until 10pm



Spectrum soft play area

Suitable for children of all ages. Baby area 0-2 years, toddler area 2-5 years and older children can be let loose in all the other areas.

The Nevis Centre An Aird, Fort William
Tel: 01397 700707 www.neviscentre.co.uk

ADVERTORIAL

Digging deep for Scotland's Gardens Scheme

The charity's roots go back to 1931, when its original purpose was to raise funds to support the Queen's Nurses, better known as district nurses. There was no NHS at this time so this support was critical to Scotland's communities. The scheme was a huge success – more than 500 gardens opened in return for a 'voluntary contribution'. As war loomed some gardens closed but, as Terrill Dobson, national organiser for Scotland's Gardens, explains, the spirit of the Blitz took over and many garden owners dug for victory by growing vegetables for sale in their flower beds.

'Teas continued to be served on the lawns – without sugar,' she adds.

The authorities realised that these gardens were providing a valuable source of income for district nursing and a welcome form of relaxation for war workers. As a result,

it was decided that extra petrol would be provided for special buses to take visitors to garden openings.

More than 70 years on, 500 gardens of all shapes and sizes are opening across the country this year. Their support will benefit 200 deserving causes, including the Queen's Nursing Institute Scotland, enabling them to carry on their valued work in 21st-century community nursing.

'We're incredibly inclusive, looking for all types of gardens,' says Terrill, 'everything from large and small and ranging from formal estates to wild havens for bees and insects; village and cottage gardens to community allotments.'

'Many people worry that their garden won't be good enough to open with us which is usually just plain nuts. We're looking for enthusiastic gardeners with gardens that

are truly loved – that's what makes a special garden which others will enjoy visiting.'

Sat/Sun 24/25 June Dal An Eas, Kilmore, Oban, PA34 4XU

Stunning informal country garden which aims to increase the biodiversity of native plants and insects while adding interest and colour with introduced trees, shrubs and naturalised perennials. A structured garden and pond, burn with a pool, wildflower meadow with native orchids and a vegetable plot. Grass paths lead to waterfalls, views and ancient archaeological sites. Teas. Proceeds to Mary's Meals.

Open all year 9am to dusk Barguileans's Angus Garden, PH35 1HY

A short drive from Dal An Eas, this nine-acre woodland garden with 11-acre loch nestles in the Glen Lonan Hills. Flowering North American rhododendron hybrids, de-

ciduous azaleas, conifers and unusual trees. Some paths can be steep. Three wonderful walks from 30 minutes to 1½ hours. Children under 14 and dogs go free. Donation to SGS Beneficiaries.

Open all year 9am to dusk Ardmaddy Castle PA34 4QY

Spectacular gardens shielded by mature woodlands and protected from the winds by the elevated castle. The walled garden is full of magnificent rhododendrons, a collection of rare and unusual shrubs and plants, the Clock Garden with cutting flowers, the new crevice garden with fruit and veg. Beyond, a woodland walk, with a 60ft hydrangea, leads to the water gardens – in early summer a riot of candelabra primulas, irises, rodgersias and other damp loving plants and grasses. Lovely autumn colour. A plantsman's garden for all seasons. Donation to SGS Beneficiaries.

Open until October 31, 9.30am to 5.30pm, Ardchattan Priory PA37 1RQ

Beautifully situated on the north side of Loch Etive, a rockery, extensive herbaceous and rose borders with excellent views over the loch. Shrub borders and a wild garden, numerous roses and many different varieties of sorbus providing excellent autumn colour. The Priory, founded in 1230, is now a private house. The ruins of the chapel and graveyard are in the care of Historic

Scotland and open with the garden. Donation to SGS Beneficiaries.

Open by appointment Barochreal PA34 4UT Call: 01852 316151

Enjoy a tour of this vibrant young garden of rhododendrons and azaleas, a rose garden, water feature with rockery, a pond with island, raised vegetable beds and a wild garden with beehives, waterfalls and burns. Maintained walking tracks in the fields and to viewpoints. Proceeds to Argyll Animal Aid.



Barochreal



Ardmaddy



Dal-an-Eas



Clockwise from above left: Diabetes UK's John Twort, Rachel Sinclair and Ann-Marie Sinclair, with Ann-Maree Campbell in the Peppa Pig costume; Beth Campbell from Hope Kitchen was all smiles and rainbows; Oban Mountain Rescue, including Marie Porter pictured with Fly, kept everyone fuelled with burgers; St Columba's Primary School helped make the parade a colourful spectacle; Adele Duncan was helping on the stall for Gaelic medium education in Oban; and Netherlorn Churches are aiming to raise £10,000 by September to buy seeds for families in Bemvu, Malawi. The profits from subsequent harvests will help feed children in Bemvu's primary school. Photographs: Alan Windram.



Oban Community Sensory Garden volunteers, from left, Caroline Silkowski, Claire Rizos, Kerry McInnes, Marina MacDonald, Mari Scott and Linda Flannigan. Photograph: Alan Windram.



Members of Oban Community Skatepark Project, including Councillor Julie McKenzie and youth worker Kevin Irvine, were raising awareness and cash to build a skatepark. Photograph: Alan Windram.

Summer dining

A feast for all the senses – Loch Melfort Hotel and restaurant

Loch Melfort Hotel
FOOD WITH A VIEW
 OPEN ALL DAY 11am-10pm

Seafood, kids playground, home baking
 NEXT TO NTS ARDUAINE GARDEN ON A816

ARDUAINE, BY OBAN, PA34 4XG, 01852 200233
 AA www.lochmelfort.co.uk



For the best of West Coast produce, fresh and wonderful flavours, served in a stunning setting, look no further than Loch Melfort Hotel and Restaurant.

Loch Melfort is situated by Arduaine Point next to Arduaine Gardens and has direct access to the beach, where you can take a digestive stroll by the sea after a lovely meal.

You can dine in the hotel's 2AA Rosette restaurant (evenings) or the more informal bistro

(open all day for refreshments and drinks, as well as lunch and dinner service). Both have direct sea views and you won't fail to be taken in by the amazing scenery, looking out over the Sound of Jura and the Inner Hebrides beyond.

Loch Melfort is passionate about good food and fine wine and this is reflected in a menu that makes the most of Argyll produce and foraged summer ingredients.

The bistro is a relaxed bar and restaurant with an emphasis on fresh local seafood although meat lovers also get plenty of choice. It boasts a strong wine list and some excellent local ales and draught beers.

The home-made ice-creams and baking make it an excellent choice for families with a play area next to the terrace and our friendly local residents, the hens and Highland cows.

The restaurant offers a wonderful dining experience in comfortable, more

formal surroundings. The seasonal menu delivers options that combine traditional dishes with modern techniques, showcasing a range of locally-foraged ingredients from the woods and the sea. Sure to delight food lovers from home and abroad. With a choice from the a la carte or table d'hôte menus and a beautiful wine list to select from, a meal here is a lovely experience you won't forget in a hurry.

Loch Melfort looks forward to welcoming you this summer.

Manor House Hotel & Restaurant

More than just beautiful seafood!

Gallanach Road 01631 562087



If you would like to advertise in the Summer Dining section, please call our sales team on 01631 568000

Arena

> cinema, radio and what's on listings > leisure ideas > local events

Storas – a night to relish and remember



IT WAS billed as a journey though the music of Argyll and not one single note of the superbly curated night of music and song disappointed a near capacity audience for Storas. The musical evening was brought together by Connel's Sileas Sinclair, a musician best known to readers as the conductor of Oban Gaelic Choir and a composer of great skill. The talk of the event after last Thursday was much more animated than it was before. Those who had missed out on attending the event wanted more, and

for the full event to be filmed in order to be shown throughout the region and beyond. Highlights for my taste was Mary Catherine MacLean's solo *Alasdair a Laigh Mo Chèille* written by Diorbhail Nic a' Briuthainn, Luing, around 1643. Oban Gaelic Choir singing a rousing *Colla mo Run* with Angus MacColl opening the song with the pipes and a solo by Mary Catherine MacLean. The small band included Sileas, Finlay Wells, Archie MacAllister, Lorne MacDougall and Angus MacColl.

The show was compered by Dougie Beck. He placed the importance of Gaelic to Argyll as fundamental in its use in and around Argyll for centuries. Dougie's commentary was thoughtful and incredibly interesting and would make a book in its own right. The backdrop to the atmospheric staging were a series of photographs by Chris MacIntyre. Chris is also the Gaelic tutor for Oban Gaelic Choir. Sileas thanked everyone who came along to the event, saying: 'Moran

tàigh dhuibh uile airson tighinn gu Stòras. Abair gun robh oidhche air leth againn. Cruinn còmhla le òrain agus pìosan ciùil. 'A massive thank you to everyone who came to our concert. 'We had a fantastic evening celebrating music and song from Argyll. 'We hope you all enjoyed it as much as we did. 'Keep an eye out for our CD later in the year.' Oban Gaelic Choir also performed with Manran at last week's Oban Live.

Electronic Gaelic band set to play at Oban cinema on Thursday

A GAELIC band with a twist are set to play at Oban Phoenix Cinema tonight (Thursday June 15), as part of their 2017 Scottish Tour. Whyte is a two-piece band featuring electronic composer Ross Whyte and Gaelic singer-songwriter Alasdair Whyte. Alasdair is from Mull, while Ross resides in Aberdeenshire. The event will start at 8pm in Screen 1 and will feature songs from Whyte's album *Fairich*. The pair were recently crowned the Hands Up for Trad Nòs Ur winners. The band formed after they were commissioned by Ceòl 's Craic, who wanted to bring together artists from the fields of electronic and traditional music for a live performance. The duo took inspiration from historic Gaelic songs and poetry, but they put their twist on it by creating

ambient electronic arrangements to accompany it. Following the event hosted by Ceòl 's Craic, Whyte continued to perform and, after a number of successful shows, the pair decided to release an album. The tour follows the release of Whyte's debut album, *Fairich*, which was launched on October 21, 2016. They are playing a total of 11 gigs across Scotland, with Oban being the second last. Following their performance in the town, which will feature projected visuals, Whyte will travel to the Centre for Contemporary Arts in Glasgow on June 17 for the tour finale. Tickets are available online at www.obanphoenix.com, in person at the Oban Phoenix Cinema box office at 140 George Street, Oban, and by phone on 01631 562 905.

Goddess Gathering will take place at Portavadie this year

THERE isn't long left to purchase an early-bird tickets to the Goddess Gathering event in Loch Fyne. Women from all over the UK will gather at the Portavadie Marina Spa to take part in a variety of workshops, arts, crafts, speakers and performances. The event takes place in the Freya suite on November 3-5. The early-bird tickets cost £99, with all profits from the event going to the charity Rainbow Valley, which helps people with cancer. The early-bird tickets cover all the speaker events, but workshops have

to be booked as number as limited. The Goddess Gathering will start on Friday night at 6pm with an opening ceremony. The event itself will feature around 30 female speakers or teachers. Saturday will give participants the opportunity to dine, wine and have fun. The closing ceremony will begin at 6pm on Sunday. The event poster and details of the speakers can be found on <http://www.liliasinclair.com/goddess-gathering-2017.html>.

WEST COAST WHISKY FÈIS 22 JULY
Oban's Whisky & Gin Festival
 Hundreds of Whiskies & Gins to sample : Tasting Masterclasses : Free tasting glass & fèis shop voucher : 12 - 6pm
 Tickets: www.westcoastwhiskyfeis.co.uk, call 01631 570586 or visit Oban Whisky & Fine Wines, 19 Stafford St, Oban

MISSING CAT
 Name: Frieda.
 Went missing around Glencruitten road area on the 4th June. Very small black female cat, no markings, no collar. Has a crooked tail.
£300 reward offered for her safe return.

 Please contact Rosie on 07585507921

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD
 If you would like to advertise in the Oban Times Community Noticeboard please call 01631 568000

CREAR CONCERTS
 Kilberry, by Tarbert, PA29 6YD
Steven Osborne (piano)
 6.30pm Thursday 22 June
Aidan O'Rourke & Kit Downs
 6.30pm Wednesday 5 July
Gringotts Quartet
 6.30pm Thursday 17 August
 Tickets £20
www.crear.co.uk

Summer Tea Dance
 featuring That Swing Sensation and local group 'The Boogies'
 Sunday 18th June, 3pm-5pm
 In the Argyllshire Gathering Halls, Oban
 Tickets £6 which includes afternoon tea
 Tickets from Oban Music, Argyll Square, Oban
 The Wee Gallery, Stafford Street, Oban
 Argyll & Bute TSI, 21 High Street, Oban
 or call Maggie on 01631 564839 or Maggie@argylltsi.org.uk

Green Shoots Open Garden Day
 Glencruitten Woodland, Oban, PA344NB
 Saturday 17th June 11am - 3pm
 Workshops for all ages, refreshments and plants
 Free event (donations welcome towards activities)
Contact Catriona Petit for more information 0775995650.

Glasgow Letter

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



West End Festival 2017 is now in full flight

IT IS that time of year again and the West End Festival is well under way. Over the course of the next month, Glasgow will be buzzing from Kelvingrove to the Merchant City with all sorts of music, drama and general partying.

Gaelic choirs at West End Festival

AS ALWAYS, An Lochran have organised a number of exciting Gaelic events for the festival programme. One of these is an excellent series of evenings called Ceilidh Leis a' Choisir - Ceilidh with the Choir.

This brings each of Glasgow's big three choirs to three of Glasgow's most famous

Highland establishments. The Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association (the GG) got things started off last week with a ceilidh in the Park Bar just before the Thursday session commenced.

Tomorrow (Friday June 16), the Glasgow Islay Gaelic Choir will host a similar ceilidh in the Snaffle Bit and then, on Tuesday June 20, the Govan Gaelic Choir will be having a sing-song in the Islay Inn. All those events begin at 8pm and have free entry.

Seeing Gaelic choir members in the so-called 'Teuchter triangle' is, of course, far from unusual - it is something of a natural habitat for many of them. Seeing them all singing together, however, in this relaxed environment surely makes for a good night.

Later on in the month, on Saturday June 24, the choirs will take to the stage

together at the Kelvingrove bandstand and bring the sound of massed Gaelic choirs to this unique and popular venue. This event will also be free entry and, going by what I heard about the similar event last year, it is likely to be a lovely afternoon.

Workshops and concerts with fine Gaelic singers

ALSO as part of the West End Festival, Margaret Stewart will host a workshop called Orain Sìurghie is Caithris na h-Òidhche (songs of courtship and night visiting) on Wednesday June 21 at 7pm in An Lèanag on Mansfield Street, Partick.

Spaces are limited and the venue is small, so An Lòchran recommend booking your place in advance. Entry is £4 or £2 for concessions. All ages are welcome

to this event - although I suppose that depends on how young you would wish your children to learn to sing about courtship and night-visiting.

The following night, Thursday June 22, Margaret is joined in concert by Kathleen MacInnes and 'Sian' (Eilidh Cormack, Ellen MacDonald, and Ceitlin Smith) for an evening of Gaelic song featuring songs of female bards in the Kelvinside Hillhead Parish Church on Observatory Road.

All the singers will be accompanied by Jenn Butterworth and Ingrid Henderson. All five of those ladies are among my very favourite Gaelic singers so I think this will be a really excellent night.

Tickets are available from eventbrite.com for £12. Student and OAP tickets are reduced to £10 while children can get in for £7. A family ticket costs £30. The festival runs until Sunday June 25.



The Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association are one of three choirs to be hosting ceilidhs in Glasgow during this month's West End Festival.

BBC ALBA

A' cur 's a' Buain
 Listings for Thursday 15 June - Thursday 22 June 2017

DIARDAIN 15 ÒGMHIOS
 THURSDAY 15 JUNE
 17.00 **Prògraman Chloinne** - Children's programming
 19.10 **Iomall nan Tonn** (rpt)
 19.35 **Speaking our Language** (rpt)
 20.00 **An Là** - News
 20.30 **UR | NEW: Cuimhneachan** - Songs and poetry about World War 1
 21.00 **UR | NEW: Air a' Chanàl** - Calum MacAulay & Niall Iain MacDonald exploring Scotland's canals
 22.00 **UR | NEW: Belladrum 2016** - Keston Cobbler's Club
 22.30 **UR | NEW: Dhan Uisge**
 22.40 **UR | NEW: Amish at the Altar**
 23.25 **Eadar-chluich** (rpt)
 23.35 **Ceòl aig a' Chaisteal** (rpt)

23.55 Earrann Eachdraidh (rpt)

DIHAOINE 16 ÒGMHIOS
 FRIDAY 16 JUNE
 17.00 **Prògraman Chloinne** - Children's Programming
 18.35 **Machair** (rpt)
 19.00 **An Là** - news
 19.25 **Fraochy Bay** (rpt)
 19.30 **An Lot** - The Croft (rpt)
 20.00 **Disappearing Island An-diugh** (rpt)
 21.00 **A gu U: Glaschu** - Catriona MacPhee introduces us to Glasgow (rpt)
 22.00 **Opry an Iúir** (rpt)
 22.50 **Dhan Uisge** (rpt)
 23.00 **Corp & Anam** - Irish Drama (rpt)
 23.50 **Eadar-chluich** (rpt)

DISATHAIRNE 17 ÒGMHIOS
 SATURDAY 17 JUNE
 16.00 **Prògraman Chloinne** - Children's Programming
 19.00 **Machair** (rpt)
 19.25 **Binneas** - Na Trads (rpt)
 19.30 **Craic** - Women's panel discussion (rpt)

20.00 Ceòraidh (rpt)
 20.30 **Puirt-adhair** - S1, Ep1 (rpt)
 21.00 **Opry an Iúir** (rpt)
 21.50 **Dhan Uisge** (rpt)
 22.00 **Blondie: Parallell Lines** (rpt)
 22.50 **Eadar-chluich** (rpt)
 23.00 **Corp & Anam** - Irish Drama (rpt)
 23.50 **Dhan Uisge** (rpt)
 24.00 **Gun Sgot?** - Pub Quiz (rpt)

DIDÒMHNAICH 18 ÒGMHIOS
 SUNDAY 18 JUNE
 16.00 **Prògraman Chloinne** - Children's Programming
 18.30 **Seachd Là** - News Review
 19.30 **Alleluia!** (rpt)
 20.00 **Fuine** - Seasonal Fruits (rpt)
 20.30 **Cuimhneachan** - Songs and Poetry about World War 1 (rpt)
 21.00 **Farpaisean Chon-chaorach** (rpt)
 22.00 **Opry an Iúir** (rpt)
 22.50 **Dhan Uisge** (rpt)
 23.00 **Pòsaidhean Amish** - The Amish community preparing for weddings (rpt)
 23.45 **Binneas** - Na Trads (rpt)

DILUAIN 19 ÒGMHIOS
 MONDAY 19 JUNE
 17.00 **Prògraman Chloinne** - Children's programming
 19.00 **Binnean nam Beann** (rpt)
 19.25 **Binneas** - Na Trads (rpt)
 19.30 **Speaking our Language** (rpt)
 20.00 **An Là** - News
 20.30 **An Lot** - The Croft (rpt)
 21.00 **Trusadh - A' Chaitheamh** - Meeting victims of the White Plague (rpt)
 22.00 **Hòro Gheallaidh** (rpt)
 22.30 **Archibald Hall** - An Uaislean (rpt)
 23.30 **Fonn mo Bheatha** (rpt)

DIMÀIRT 20 ÒGMHIOS
 TUESDAY 20 JUNE
 17.00 **Prògraman Chloinne** - Children's programming
 19.05 **Iomall nan Tonn** - The Edge of the Waves (rpt)
 19.30 **Speaking our Language** (rpt)
 20.00 **An Là** - News
 20.30 **Puirt-adhair** - Highland Airports (rpt)
 21.00 **Farpaisean chon-chaorach** (rpt)
 22.00 **Trusadh - Faram nam Bròg** - A trip to Canada in search of the origins of Step Dance (rpt)
 23.00 **Craic** - Women's panel discussion (rpt)
 23.30 **Alleluia!** (rpt)

DICIADAIN 21 ÒGMHIOS
 WEDNESDAY 21 JUNE
 17.00 **Prògraman Chloinne** - Children's programming
 19.05 **Binnean nam Beann** (rpt)
 19.30 **Speaking our Language** (rpt)
 20.00 **An Là** - News
 20.30 **UR | NEW: Fuine** - Store Cupboard
 21.00 **Robert Mone** - Saorsa gu Siorraidh? (rpt)
 22.00 **Fonn Fonn Fonn** - Music Quiz (rpt)
 22.30 **Hòro Gheallaidh** (rpt)
 23.00 **Air a' Chanàil** - Calum MacAulay & Niall Iain MacDonald exploring Scotland's canals (rpt)

DIARDAIN 22 ÒGMHIOS
 THURSDAY 22 JUNE
 17.00 **Prògraman Chloinne** - Children's programming
 19.05 **Iomall nan Tonn** (rpt)
 19.30 **Speaking our Language** (rpt)
 20.00 **An Là** - News
 20.30 **UR | NEW: Cuimhneachan** - Songs and poetry about World War 1 - S2, Ep2
 21.00 **UR | NEW: Air a' Chanàil** - Calum & Niall Iain explore the Fort & Clyde Canal
 22.00 **UR | NEW: Belladrum 2016** - The LaFontaines
 22.30 **UR | NEW: Dhan Uisge**
 22.35 **UR | NEW: An Cuan a Tuath** - Secrets of the North Sea
 23.25 **Eadar-chluich** (rpt)
 23.35 **Ceòraidh** (rpt)

bbc.co.uk/alba | bbc.co.uk/iplayer

The BBC ALBA air a ruith le MG ALBA ann an co-bhuinn ris a' BhBC. | BBC ALBA is run by MG ALBA in partnership with the BBC.



community-owned and run
Tel: 01631 562905 www.obanphoenix.com

Thursday 16 – Friday 22 June

ANOTHER MOTHER'S SON | 12A | 123 MIN

Fri, Sat: 18:45, Mon, Tue: 18:15
SILVER SCREEN: Silver Screening - Concessions (age 60+) entry just £3! : Sun: 14:30

The drama is set during World War II on the Nazi-occupied island of Jersey. Lou took in an escaped Russian POW and hid him over the war's course.

BAYWATCH | 15 | 136 MIN

Fri, Sat, Sun: 21:00, Mon, Tue: 20:30, Wed, Thu: Fri: 21:00

BAYWATCH follows devoted lifeguard Mitch Buchannon (Johnson) as he butts heads with a brash new recruit (Efron). Together, they uncover a local criminal plot that threatens the future of the Bay.

DIARY OF A WIMPY KID: THE LONG HAUL | U | 120 MIN

Sat: 13:45, Sun: 16:45, Mon, Tue: 16:00

Greg convinces his family to take a road trip to attend his great grandmother's 90th birthday as a cover for what he really wants: to attend a nearby gamer convention.

GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 2 | 12A | 157 MIN

Fri, Sat: 16:00

The Guardians must fight to keep their newfound family together as they unravel the mysteries of Peter Quill's true parentage.

THE BOSS BABY | U | 120 MIN

Sun: 12:15, Wed, Thu: 16:00

KIDS CLUB: Children's. Entry £2: Sat: 11:30
The Boss Baby is a hilariously universal story about how a new baby's arrival impacts a family, told from the point of view of a delightfully unreliable narrator, a wildly imaginative 7 year old named Tim.

NT LIVE: SALOMÉ | 15 | 200 MIN

Thu: 19:00

The story has been told before, but never like this. An occupied desert nation. A radical from the wilderness on hunger strike. A girl whose mysterious dance will change the course of the world.

PARENT & BABY SCREENING - PARENTS' CHOICE | 120 MIN

Tue: 11:30

Parent & Baby Screening! Lights will be left on at a dimmed level and baby changing available. This week's film is viewers' choice!

RESILIENCE | TBC | 180 MIN

Sat: 12:00

THE CHILD MAY NOT REMEMBER, BUT THE BODY REMEMBERS.

To book tickets, please follow this link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/resilience-documentary-scottish-tour-oban-tickets-34238223448>

Researchers have recently discovered a dangerous biological syndrome caused by abuse and neglect during childhood.

THE HANDMAIDEN | 18 | 175 MIN

Sun: 19:00

1930s Korea, in the period of Japanese occupation, a new girl (Sookee) is hired as a handmaiden to a Japanese heiress (Hideko) who lives a secluded life on a large countryside estate with her domineering Uncle (Kouzuki). But the maid has a secret.

WONDER WOMAN | 12A | 161 MIN

Fri: 19:30, Sat: 15:30, 21:30, Sun: 15:00, Mon: 16:30, Tue: 19:30, Wed: 16:30, 18:15, Thu: 18:15

3D: 16:30, Sat: 18:30, Sun: 12:00, 18:00, Mon: 19:30, Tue: 16:30, Wed: 19:30, Thu: 16:00

Before she was Wonder Woman, she was Diana, princess of the Amazons, trained to be an unconquerable warrior. Raised on a sheltered island paradise, when an American pilot crashes on their shores and tells of a massive conflict raging in the outside world, Diana leaves her home, convinced she can stop the threat.



give a pet a HOME

HARVEY



Supported by
LORN TAXIS
Oban
01631 564744
or 0800 915 8380

SPARKY



Supported by
OES
Oban
01631 564203

MANDA



Supported by
OBAN VETERINARY SURGEONS
Tweeddale Street,
Oban
01631 562876

FIONN



Supported by
THE FERRY SHOP
Fionnphort
Isle of Mull
01681 700470

SKIP



Supported by
WEST HIGHLAND GAS
Torrans Gorm Ind Est.,
Oban
01631 564050

PERKIE



Supported by
City Plumbing Supplies
Oban
01631 567640

PATSY



Supported by
OBAN TIMES
Oban
01631 568000

TIBBLES



Supported by
CAMPBELTOWN COURIER
Campbeltown
01586 554646

SMUDGE



Supported by
ARRAN BANNER
Isle of Arran
01770 302142

SCRABBLE



Supported by
ARGYLLSHIRE ADVERTISER
Lochgilthead
01546 602345

DID you know that most unwanted animals which are turned in are destroyed? For more than 20 years, the dedicated volunteers at Small Paws on Seil have saved thousands of unfortunate cats and kittens from that fate by rescuing them and finding loving forever homes. They receive no public funding, instead relying on volunteers, donations and fundraising efforts.

Open from 9am to 1pm, Monday-Saturday, Small Paws welcomes prospective cat owners to come have a cuddle

with the cats on site – you just may find that a cat will choose you rather than the other way round. New owners are asked to agree to a home check, and a minimum donation of £30 for each cat or kitten is appreciated.

Cats make fantastic pets. There are eight million pet cats in the UK, with 17 per cent of households having one.

Small Paws in Balvicar, which rescues and re-homes cats, kittens and small animals, is running a re-homing drive, to try to find families for furry friends.

If you would like to rehome one of the cats from Small Paws, or more information, please contact Pat Blunsden on
01852 300362 or 07818 636613
www.smallpaws.co.uk
Small Paws Rescue, Achabeag, Cuan Rd, Balvicar
Small Paws Rescue is a registered charity SC044301

International Gathering celebrates 125 years

The Maclean Clan International Gathering is to be held from Tuesday to Sunday, June 20 to 25, with the principal event being the gathering at Duart on Saturday June 24.

The number attending is expected to be in the region of 700 clanspeople, coming from Argentina, South Africa, Sweden, Australia, New Zealand as well as France Belgium, Germany, England, Wales and Scotland.

There will be a welcome for all, especially those from Mull and Argyll, to attend the Saturday gathering, which will include the March of the Clan and the installation of the new Chief's Piper, Calum Maclean, from Tobermory. There will also be re-enactors, dancers, pipe bands, storytellers and a harpist.

2017 is the Year of History, Heritage and Archaeology, and the gathering will be a chance for Macleans to see the work that has already been undertaken in the major conservation and ongoing repair work on Duart Castle. Most of this work has so far been concerned with the keep, and also repairs to the 'ghost walk'.

The worldwide Clan Maclean has contributed more than £125,000 to the appeal so far. Sir Lachlan Maclean has said how grateful he is to the clan for their support, and especially to the many donors of small sums, who have contributed to this magnificent total.

The gathering has been called to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the founding of the Clan Maclean Association in 1892 in

Glasgow. The association, still based in Glasgow, now has a worldwide membership of about 4,500, under the presidency of Vera MacLean, widow of the late Colonel Donald MacLean, who together arranged so many of the previous gatherings, which started in 1986. This gathering is being arranged by Anne Maclean, wife of Canon Maclean, formerly provost of St John's Cathedral, Oban.

The Clan Maclean Association is very grateful for the award of a Supporting Community Fund grant from Argyll and Bute Council, and has also received a VisitScotland grant of £5,000 from the Scottish Clan Event Fund set up to encourage 'clan tourism', which is specifically for the marquee at Duart.



Clan Maclean Association
COMMEMORATING 125 YEARS
INTERNATIONAL GATHERING
DUART CASTLE SATURDAY 24TH JUNE
11.00 am to 3.30 pm
Grand March led by Mull and Iona Pipe Band
Welcome by Sir Lachlan Maclean of Duart and Morvern
Re-enactments; Dragoons; Choir, Dancers; Pipe Band; Story teller; Harpist
Stalls of local craftspeople and interests
Beer Tent and Local Food Producers
All residents of Argyll, Mull and the Isles are welcome especially those with a Maclean connection.
Free buses will meet 9.50 ferry from Oban; returning 17.05
Entry at the gate: Adults £15, Children (7-15 years) £7

Great days out aboard Waverley!

Sailing from **TARBERT**

Cruise Loch Fyne WEDNESDAYS June 21 until August 23 Leave 2.45pm back 4.20pm
SUNDAY July 30 Leave 3pm back 4.30pm
Fares: Cruise Loch Fyne £21 SC £19

Sailing from **CAMPBELTOWN**

Redbay Cruise Antrim Coast SUNDAY June 25 Leave 12.30pm back 7pm
Fares: Visit Redbay £31 SC £29 Cruise Antrim Coast £33 SC £31

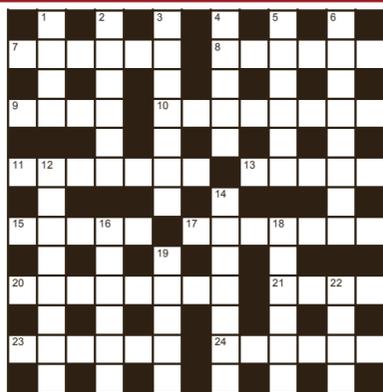
Cruise Sanda Isles SUNDAY July 16 Leave 2.30pm back 5pm
Fares: Cruise Sanda Isles £23 SC £21

Book online at waverleyexcursions.co.uk or call 0845 130 4647



or book at Campbeltown & Tarbert Tourist Information

THE OBAN TIMES GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD



Across

- 7 Soap up (6)
- 8 Prose (6)
- 9 Stare at (4)
- 10 A game bird, similar to a snipe (8)
- 11 Sail line (7)
- 13 Creep (5)
- 15 Not this (5)
- 17 Walk unevenly (7)
- 20 Cleaning place (8)
- 21 Mineral used in heating elements (4)
- 23 Ordained people (6)
- 24 Filling food (6)

Down

- 1 Report (4)
- 2 Sounding raspy (6)
- 3 Topless boxes for storage (7)
- 4 A recruit (5)
- 5 Guiding light (6)
- 6 Conveyance of cargo (8)
- 12 In reality (8)
- 14 List (7)
- 16 Encourage (6)
- 18 Joint from a pig (6)
- 19 A growth (5)
- 22 Pen (4)

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION



Your local radio listings

OBAN Community Radio - your local radio station
Tune in to **103.3** or listen live at www.obanfm.com

For requests, competitions or questions please email: studio@obanfm.org.uk or call us on 01631 570057

MONDAY: 08:00 AM on FM, 08:10 Breakfast Show, 09:00 Monday Morning with Stephen, 11:00 Ian Simmonds on Monday, 13:00 Clyde 2 17:00 Drivetime, 18:00 Drivetime, 19:00 Rosie's Highland Fling with Rosie Macoll, 20:00 John McLuckie's Show, 21:00 David Cullen Show, 23:00 station close, midnight Clyde 2
TUESDAY: 08:00 AM on FM, 08:10 Breakfast Show, 10:00 Ken Hunter's Tuesday Morning, 13:00 Macky on FM, 15:00 Clyde 2 17:00 Drivetime with Jim Lynch, 19:00 Highest Praise with Stuart Chalmers, 20:00 Elaine Lamb, 22:00 Northern Soul with Gordon Cove, midnight Clyde 2.

WEDNESDAY: 08:00 AM on FM, 08:10 Breakfast Show, 09:00 Sound Scottish Repeat, 10:00 Comfort Zone with Doug Carmichael, 11:00 Comfort Zone, 12:00 Comfort Zone, 13:00 Clyde 2 15:00 Elaine Lamb, 17:00 Drivetime, 17:30 Drivetime with Campbell Cameron, 19:00 Country Meets Rock & Roll with Len & Ken, 21:00 Gordon's Grooves, midnight Clyde 2.

THURSDAY: 08:00 Breakfast with Laura, 10:00 Molly's Mix with Molly Black, 13:00 Elaine's Time Capsule, 15:00 Gordon Covey, 17:00 Drivetime with Stephen McPhee, 19:00 Christine's Collection, 21:00 Ann's Ceilidh, 22:00 Margo till midnight, midnight Clyde 2.

FRIDAY: 08:00 Breakfast with Laura, 10:00 Teeny and Tiny, 13:00 Clyde 2 17:00 Drive Show with Jim Lynch, 18:45 Sports View, 19:00 Country meets Country with Jackie Craig, 20:00 Lewis Binham.

SATURDAY: 08:00 Breakfast show with Archie Darling, 10:00 Saturday Morning Live with Linda Cosher, 13:00 Clyde 2 18:00 Sports View with the Dream Team, 19:00 Sounds Scottish with Archie Darling, 20:00 Dave Lewis, 22:00 Margo till midnight, midnight Clyde 2.

SUNDAY: 09:00 Sunday morning with Breege, 11:00 Sunday Morning with Archie, 12:00 Sunday Brunch, 13:00 Clyde 2 16:30 Archie Darling, 18:00 Ken's Friends with Ken Hunter, 19:00 New Country Show with David Entwistle, 21:00 Drum & Bass with Graham Scott, 23:00 Station close, midnight Clyde 2.

OUTDOORS

TO PLACE YOUR ADVERT IN THE OBAN TIMES:

TELEPHONE: 01631 568000
Lines open: Mon to Fri 9am- 5pm

FAX: 01631 568001

POST & IN PERSON: Lochavullin Industrial Estate, Crannog Lane, Oban, PA34 4HB
Office hours: Mon - Thurs 9- 5pm, Fri 9 - 4pm

E-MAIL: adverts@obantimes.co.uk
Please remember to give your name, address, postcode and phone number.

Mountaineers asked to tell their tallest of tales

SANDY NEIL
sneil@obantimes.co.uk

WRITERS with a passion for the hills and climbing are being sought by Mountaineering Scotland for its annual literary competition.

The Mountaineering Scotland Writing Competition 2017 is looking for the best in new mountain writing, whether fact or fiction, prose or poetry.

And, with more and more people taking art in outdoor activities, there should be no shortage of climbers and walkers ready to put their experiences into words and share what makes mountains, or walking and climbing, so special to them.

Entries should have some connection with mountains and mountaineering, rock or ice climbing, walking or ski-mountaineering, and winners will receive a cash prize and the chance to see their entries in print in the *Scottish Mountaineer*, the quarterly Mountaineering Scotland magazine which goes out to its more than 14,000 members.



Ben Nevis from Aonach Eagach, by Neil Reid.

The first placed winners in prose and poetry categories will also receive a free weekend pass (worth about £100) to the 2016 Edinburgh Mountain Film Festival.

Prose entries should be a maximum of 2,000 words. Poetry entries can be of any length. The competition is open to anyone resident in the UK, whether members of Mountaineering Scotland or not.

The deadline for this year's competition is September 30. Entries should be sent to the MWC Coordinator, Tommy McManmon, preferably by email to article@mountaineering.scot or by hard copy to Mountaineering Scotland, 'MWC2017', The Granary, West Mill Street, Perth PH1 5QP.

Full details of the competition are available on the website.



Flanders Moss has been inspirational for artists.

Art goes outdoors

FLANDERS Moss National Nature Reserve near Stirling is to become an outdoor art gallery as part of the Forth Valley Art Beat festival.

The Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) reserve, which boasts the largest lowland raised bog in Britain, has proved inspirational for five artists whose work will be on display around the boardwalk path.

Flanders Moss is a vast expanse of all things damp and wonderful. From a distance, the perfectly formed domes of peat rise gently from their surroundings. Closer up, squelchy mats of sphagnum moss carpet the reserve with their swirling colours, while adders and lizards bask in the sunshine and snipe and stonechat call overhead.

David Pickett, Flanders Moss reserve manager, said: 'We're delighted that Flanders Moss is to be one of the venues for open studios week. The boardwalk path will be turned into an outdoor gallery and the artworks will be on display around the site. We want people to come and explore this special place and to see the wonderful art it has inspired.'

As well as being able to view the artwork, weekend visitors during the event will be able to talk to David and his staff about the bog and its wildlife.

The Forth Valley Art Beat Open Studios event runs until June 18. More than 140 artists take part in a variety of events at 80 different locations across central Scotland. You can find out more at the website www.forthvalleyopenstudios.com.

New bothy opens at Glen Kinglas

THE Mountain Bothies Association has opened a new unit in Glen Kinglas in Argyll.

Thanks to the efforts of 50 volunteers over a three-week period, the building known as Abyssinia, on Strone Estate, has been converted into a bothy and is now available for use.

There are still a few jobs left to do, including unblocking the chimney, and it is hoped these will be tackled during the summer. In the meantime, guests are advised not to use the fire.

Among the mountains that can be climbed from it are the Munros Beinn Ime, Ben Vorlich, Beinn Narnain and Ben Vane, as well as Corbetts such as the Cobbler, Beinn Luibhean and Binnein an Fhithleir.

Founded in 1965, the Mountain Bothies Association (MBA) exists to maintain remote buildings for which the owner has little or no use, yet remain important to walkers and others who make use of the shelter they provide.

The single-storey bothy is situated 4km up a private estate road. Visitors are asked not to take vehicles onto the estate road and, during the stalking season, to comply with advice which will be posted both at the road end and in the bothy.

The MBA thanked the landowner of Strone Estate.



The bothy is now available for use by walkers and climbers.

Public are asked to see red with survey

VISITORS to and residents of Scotland's first national park are being called upon to help monitor endangered red squirrels in the area.

Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park and Saving Scotland's Red Squirrels project are working together to strengthen the red squirrel population within the national park, a nationally important refuge for the native species.

People are being asked to help the annual survey of red squirrels by reporting any sightings of them and grey squirrels online.

Red squirrels are in danger in Scotland because of the spread of non-native greys, which not only compete for food and space but also carry a disease called squirrelpox which is often fatal to reds.

Greys are carriers of the disease but are resistant to it.

Earlier this year, the Scottish Wildlife Trust was awarded a grant of £2.46 million from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for the Saving Scotland's Red Squirrels project to enlist community volunteers.

The annual survey is now under way using feeder boxes to see where both reds and greys are across the landscape. Mary-Anne Collis, Saving Scotland's Red Squirrels project officer for Argyll, Trossachs and Stirlingshire, said: 'We rely on locals and visitors to let us know what is happening so we can focus our efforts. We are very keen to know what squirrels are about and would love people to record their sightings on our website.'

THIS WEEK'S WALKS

Friday June 16
Easy leisurely walk - Torlundy Circuit.

This is a circular route from Carrs Corner down towards the river Lochy, following a track to Tomnucharich Road continuing on to Torlundy. There is then a short walk along A82, before you turn off towards Happy Valley and walk along the track behind Inverloch Castle back to Carrs Corner and the start.

Meet at Ben Nevis Highland Centre (Woollen mill) at 1pm.

The walk is approximately 5 miles. Contact walk leader Colin Campbell on 07796 043836 or email: colin@laragain.co.uk

NEVIS HILLWALKING CLUB

Please see full walk details at www.nevishillwalking.club. If you would like to go out on the walk please contact club secretary Suzanne Theobald on 01397 701783 or email enquiries@nevishillwalking.club.

Saturday June 17

Loch Mullardoch hills - An Socach (the Projecting Place, or Snout), 1,069m, An Riabhachan (the Brindled Greyish One), 1,129m, Sand gurr na Lapaich (Peak of the Bog), 1,150m, and Carn na Gobhar (Hill of the Goats), 992m.

Hopefully, a boat will have been hired (see website for details) to take you from the dam on Loch Mullardoch to Benula Lodge.

From here, go west on a stalkers' path towards Coire Mhaim and climb the SE ridge of An Socach. You are now on the main range of hills between Glen Strathfarrar and Glen Cannich.

Head east over the west and SW tops of An Riabhachan, over the summit to the east top, where there is a steep rocky face above Loch Beag and Loch Mor.

Continue over the col to Sgurr na Lapaich and then Carn na Gobhar, the final Munro.

Descend the south ridge over Mullach na Maoile to the loch side and back to the dam.

The hillwalk is 20.1km in total, with a climb of 1,810m. Without

a boat means an extra walk of 8.4km with 220m ascent along the north shore of the loch on a good path. Suggested by Gavin Theobald, co-ordinated by Ken Stevenson.

Wednesday June 21

Pap of Glencoe - Sgurr na Ciche, 742m. This is an evening walk. Please see website for further details.

Park at the forest entrance on the old Glencoe Road, and follow it a short distance SE to a gate on the left where a track leads up the hill.

Crossing a small bridge on the right, join a fair path that meanders up the hill. This gives access to the prominent col SE of the Pap of Glencoe.

Climb the Pap by a rocky path that traverses its SE flank from the lower left to upper right. It then curves sharply upwards to the left to reach the summit.

The easiest descent is to reverse the upward route.

The walk is over 7km, with a climb of 710m. Suggested and

co-ordinated by Suzanne Theobald.

LOCHABER AND LORN RAMBLERS

The walk leader is to be contacted beforehand for meet up and start times. Car sharing usually possible and you can try before you buy. You can walk three times with the club before joining. Further information at www.lochaberandlorn-ramblers.org.uk. Lochaber and Lorn Ramblers Group, can be contacted by email on info@lochaberandlorn-ramblers.org.uk.

Today (Thursday June 15)

Beinn Achaladair and a'Chreachain, Bridge of Orchy - two fine hills overlooking Rannoch Moor offer a splendid high-level traverse into remote country.

Start from the car park on the approach road to Achallader Farm, NN313438.

A footpath going W has developed from here leading to the track heading S from the farm.

Follow this over the railway and continue up through Coire Achaladair and Coire Daingean to the col at NN340405.

Climb N up the ridge, over a small summit at 1,002m (Munro top), to reach the summit of Beinn Achaladair, 1,038m.

The summit ridge extends NE to a spot height, 1,036m, above a large corrie to the N. Follow its rim down E to a col at 813m.

Climb gradually NE up over Meall Buidhe, 978m (Munro top) and continue along the ridge to the rim of Coire an Lochain.

Follow its rim and climb E, curving S to gain the summit of Beinn a'Chreachain, 1,081m.

Return N to the rim of Coire an Lochain and descend the ridge NE, over a small summit at 961m, turning N to another at 894m.

Descend NW to reach the Allt Coire an Lochain where it flows down the edge of Crannach Wood. Follow the burn downhill until just before the railway*, where an indistinct path may be found heading SW through Cran-

nach Wood. Follow this to cross over the railway on the bridge at NN349454. The path continues to the Water of Tulla, which can be followed downstream to join the track to Achallader Farm at the Barraourich bridge.

*(An alternative route passes under the railway at NN358466 and makes for the track on the far side of the Water of Tulla. However, the bridge over the Water of Tulla at NN353468 was not usable - May 2015).

This is a strenuous walk of 17Km, climbing to 1,180m. Meet at Longsdale car park, Oban, NM862307 at 8.50am, Glencoe Village CP NN098587 at 9.25am. The walk starts at 10am.

The leader is Graham Innes, on 01631 562290 or 07767 714503.

Sunday June 18

Meall Bhanbaidh - Fort William An easy walk for this grade, with many points of interest and good views from the summit of a small hill.

Start at Neptune's Staircase car

park, NN112769. Head NE along the Caledonian Canal towpath on its N side.

Just before the aqueduct over the Allt Sheangain at about NN130791, turn N off the towpath and make for the B8004.

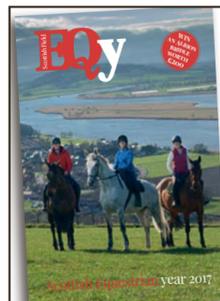
Cross the road and head NW up Glen Laragain following the wooded S bank of the Allt Sheangain. Once past the corner of a fenced area at NN121796, follow a small burn W up the hill until the slope eases, then curve SE up to the summit of Meall Bhanbaidh.

Descend SW to a ring contour, Tom Allt FineEX, 150m, then continue SW down to the back streets of Corrach.

Walk through the village to the sea lock at the canal entrance and follow the towpath back to the start.

This is a medium walk of 11Km, climbing 380m. Meet at Fort William Woollen Mill NN112742 at 10.40am, with the walk starting at 11am.

Leader is Colin Campbell on 07796 043836.



FREE with the July issue of Scottish Field

EQy Scottish Equestrian Year Magazine 2017

HORSE HOLIDAYS . SHOW JUMPER DOUGLAS DUFFIN . EVENTER WILLS OAKDEN . DRESSAGE STAR JO BARRY

MEET THE ROYAL HIGHLAND PONIES . SCOTLAND'S HORSE HEROES . WHO TO WATCH IN 2017

Win a stunning Albion bridle worth over £200
Out in shops now or go to www.scottishfield.co.uk



BUSINESS NEWS

TO PLACE YOUR ADVERT IN THE OBAN TIMES:

TELEPHONE: 01631 568000
Lines open: Mon to Fri 9am- 5pm

FAX: 01631 568001

POST & IN PERSON: Lochavullin Industrial Estate, Crannog Lane, Oban, PA34 4HB
Office hours: Mon - Thurs 9- 5pm, Fri 9 - 4pm

E-MAIL: adverts@obantimes.co.uk
Please remember to give your name, address, postcode and phone number.

Isle of Eriska launches four luxury new lodges

FOLLOWING the success of its two Hilltop Reserves self-catering lodges, the Isle of Eriska Hotel, Spa and Island has announced the launch of an additional four properties on the island.

Hilltop Reserves can be booked for a short break, or membership packages can be purchased priced at £10,000 plus VAT for 70 nights across 10 years. Once guests become a member, the reserves can be booked in blocks of three, four or seven nights with an upper limit of up to 21 nights per year.

The lodges, complete with luxury interiors and en-suite bathrooms, also have a modern, fully-equipped kitchen, their own heating and water system and high-speed wi-fi.

The new Hilltop Reserves are positioned on the hill away from the main hotel and have a sense of privacy and seclusion. All lodges have their own terrace with decking, including a hot tub, where guests can enjoy the scenery across Loch Crenan.

Though the lodges are self-catering, guests are welcome to use both of the hotel's two restaurants: the Michelin-starred restaurant and the relaxed Deck.

While staying in the lodges, guests may enjoy the nine-hole golf course, swimming pool and tennis courts. During their stay guests can indulge in a range of treatments in the Stables Spa from ESPA and Ishga.

For more information on the Hilltop Reserves at the Isle of Eriska, call 01631 720 371 or email at office@eriska-hotel.co.uk. Go to http://www.eriska-hotel.co.uk.



The lodges have comfortably furnished rooms, well-appointed kitchens and hot tubs on the outside decking.



BUSINESS MATTERS

EMBROIDERY SERVICES

EMBROIDERY & GARMENT SUPPLIER
KATYA EMBROIDERY
Telephone: 0800 999 6979
Mobile: 07813687362
mail@kataembroidery.com
www.katyaeembroidery.co.uk

55 Easdale Island, Oban PA34 4TB

FINANCIAL ADVISORS

Protection Mortgages Pensions Investments ARGYLL FINANCIAL
Argyll Financial Services Limited
Dunollie Halls, Dunollie Rd, Oban PA34 5PH t: 01631 562525
27 Ferry Brae, Dunoon, Argyll PA23 7DJ t: 01369 706198
f: 01369 705691 m: 07775870721
www.argyllfinancial.co.uk

BUSINESS ADVISORS

R A Clement Associates
Chartered Accountants & Business Advisors
www.raclement.co.uk • mail@raclement.co.uk
'Put your BUSINESS in safe hands'
Fort William: 3 Cameron Square, PH33 6AJ • Tel: 01397 700171
Oban: 5 Argyll Square, Argyll PA34 4AZ • Tel: 01631 562643
Payroll: Abacus Services, Oban: 8 High Street, PA34 4BG • Tel: 01631 568272

BUSINESS SERVICES

Interface
The knowledge connection for business
Contact us to find out more:
lorraine.thomson@interface-online.org.uk
tel: 01463 245263 (for businesses in Argyll and the Isles)
or carol-ann.adams@interface-online.org.uk
tel: 01463 245262 (for businesses in Lochaber, Skye and Wester Ross).
www.interface-online.org.uk

Scottish Field JULY ISSUE OUT NOW
ISLAND PARADISE
GALLOWAY THROUGH A LENS
Rugby legend Ian McLauchlan's PASSION FOR ISLAY
free SCOTTISH EQUESTRIAN YEAR MAGAZINE



Steve Bracken and Ben Hadfield cut a celebration cake marking Steve's 40th year with Marine Harvest. Picture: Iain Ferguson, The Write Image.

Marine Harvest employee nets 40 years of service

A LOCHABER employee at Marine Harvest has celebrated crossing the 40-year milestone with the company – and has become the first person to do so.

Steve Bracken started with the company when he was aged 24 on May 23, 1977, under Unilever, as a fish farm assistant, based at Lochailort. The tonnage in 1977 was 250 and the firm

operated at three sites – Lochailort, Leven and Invergarry.

In Steve's 40-year service he has held many positions working in both Scotland and on a secondment in Sri Lanka.

He has worked as a site supervisor, factory manager, general manager and on technical support before taking up his current position as

business support manager, which he has been in since 2000.

Steve was joined by friends and colleagues recently in Stob Ban where Ben Hadfield presented him with his long service award, thanking him for his enormous contribution and everything that he has done and continues to do for Marine Harvest.

Lifetime ISA is now on offer

INDIVIDUALS can now start saving money into a lifetime ISA for the first time from – if they can find a provider.

Savers must be aged 18 to 39 to open a lifetime ISA and can contribute up to £4,000 each year until the age of 50.

The government will add a 25 per cent bonus to the savings, up to a maximum of £1,000 per year. This bonus will be added at the end of the 2017/18 tax year and will be paid within 28 days of April 6. During 2018/19 the bonus will be based on contributions made each month.

Funds saved can be used to purchase a first home after the account has been open for 12 months if the property purchased is worth less than £450,000.

Savings can be withdrawn after the age of 60 to support your retirement. Money accessed or withdrawn before reaching 60 will result in a 25 per cent exit charge.

Talk to R A Clement Associates about the tax and cash flow implications of the lifetime ISA by calling 01631 562643.

People admit lack of insurance

A RECENT survey, according to Argyll Financial Services, has revealed that up to 60 per cent of adults don't have any life insurance.

When asked why, the answers vary. Some people simply don't want to think about life's unexpected events and don't believe it could happen to them.

Here are a few stark statistics.

It is estimated that every day in the UK, around 500 women become widows, more than 100 children lose a parent, and approximately 75 men aged under 50 become widowers.

When asked why they don't have life insurance, people often say that policies don't pay out in the event of a claim, but in fact 97.2 per cent of protection claims are paid.

According to figures from the Association of British Insurers, UK insurance companies pay out more than £10 million every day on protection policies, including income protection, critical illness and life insurance.

Another common misconception is that cover is expensive. Many people are surprised

to learn that life insurance premiums are easily affordable. It's a small price to pay when you consider that having no insurance could mean real financial hardship, especially for less well-off families.

If you were to die, how much money would your family have to live on?

Many families would find themselves running short of money very quickly. Your salary would stop, but the household bills would keep coming in.

Even if you are not the main breadwinner, you may still be the primary care giver, providing housekeeping and other home-based services that are vital to your family's wellbeing and would cost a lot to replace.

A pay-out from a policy could make the difference between your loved ones facing a financial struggle at a challenging emotional time, and being able to maintain the sort of lifestyle they enjoyed when you were still around.



Lorraine Thomson, who heads Interface's Highlands and Islands team.

Interface has business solutions

DO YOU want to create or develop a new product, service or process to take your business forward, but need help to overcome some of the technicalities?

If so, Interface could help you. Interface connects businesses and organisations to Scottish universities, research institutions and colleges that can best provide the knowledge firms need.

This free service started in Scotland in 2005 and is designed to save businesses time and money. It has already helped hundreds of organisations across all sectors, including tourism, creative industries, energy and food and drink.

Lorraine Thomson, who heads Interface's Highlands and Islands team, said: 'We have worked with many businesses and organisations across the region and the feedback has been positive about their experiences of partnering academics. We would love to help more local businesses meet their goals in this way.'

Among the businesses Lorraine and the

team have supported are Craine Communications, Johnnie Mac's Oysters, Zing Organics and Staffin Community Trust.

Lorraine explained: 'People sometimes think of research and development as being just for large corporates, but we have matched micro businesses to academic expertise many times with really positive results.'

From kitchen table enterprises to family run companies, academics are seeking many businesses as partners. Business can access specialist facilities such as 3D printers, microscopy, human performance labs, wave tanks, virtual reality and textile printing.

The Interface team will establish your needs and prepare a brief which will be shared among the appropriate departments within universities.

Visit www.interface-online.org.uk/oban-times, or Lorraine.thomson@interface-online.org.uk, 01463 245263 (Argyll and the Isles) or Carol-Ann.Adams@interface-online.org.uk 01463 245262 (Lochaber and Skye).

FARMING NEWS

Sponsored by NFU Mutual
Oban, call Euan Warnock
and Donna MacDougall
on 01631 567 036 for
your insurance needs.
Agent of The National Farmers Union
Mutual Insurance Society Limited.



TO PLACE YOUR ADVERT IN
THE OBAN TIMES:

TELEPHONE: 01631 568000
Lines open: Mon to Fri 9am- 5pm

FAX: 01631
568001

POST & IN PERSON: Lochavullin Industrial
Estate, Crannog Lane, Oban, PA34 4HB
Office hours: Mon - Thurs 9- 5pm, Fri 9 - 4pm

E-MAIL: adverts@obantimes.co.uk
Please remember to give your name,
address, postcode and phone number.

It is summertime down on the farm

Around the markets



Some of those at the first UA sale at Oban Livestock Centre.

OBAN – United Auctions had a catalogued entry of 115 store cattle, 20 cows and calves, 10 cast cows, 112 ewes and lambs and 452 grazing hogs and ewes at their opening sale at Oban Livestock Centre on Tuesday June 1. A large turnout of buyers resulted in a buoyant trade throughout and sellers returned home satisfied with their day's trading.

Bullocks sold to a top of £1,080 for Limousin crosses from Achnaba and to 326 pence per kilo, also for Limousin crosses from Glencreran Estate. Heifers sold to £1180 for Simmental crosses from Ardencaple and to 347 pence per kilo for British Blue cross from Tiree. Breeding cattle sold to £1220 for cows with heifer calf from Ardmay, Tiree. Hogs from Barguilean sold to £101. Gimmers with lamb at foot from Tiree sold to £180, whilst the same home sold ewes with lambs at £162.

Principal lots and prices.
Top prices per head
Bullocks
AAx: £890(3) – Poltalloch.
LIMx: £1080(2), £1020 and £960 – Achnaba: £830 – Ardchatten HF.
LUNING: £970(2) – Slaterich.
SIMx: £870(2) – Scammadale: £860 – Ardencaple: £820 – Muckairn: £810(5) – Ardencaple: £800 – Achnacree more.

Heifers
BRBx: £750 – Tiree.
CHARx: £970 & £960 – Creagan, Benderloch.
LIMx: £770 – Ardchatten HF: £740 – Ledcharrie: £700(3) – Poltalloch.
LUNING: £690 – Ardchatten HF.
SHx: £690 – Lochnell HF
SIMx: £840 – Ardencaple: £760(5) & £720 – Scammadale.

Bulling heifers
SIMx: £1180(2) – Ardencaple: £1140(2) – Scammadale: £920(2) – Ardencaple.

Cows with heifer calves
£1220 and £1000 – Ardmay, Tiree: £920 – Slaterich: £900 – Lochnell HF & Ardmay.

Cows with bull calves
£1180 – Lochnell HF: £1180 & £1120 – Tiree: £1000, £950 & £920(2) – Lochnell HF.

Prices per kilo
Bullocks
AAx: 267p and 235p – Poltalloch.
LIMx: 327p – Glencreran Estate: 323p – Aird Farm: 305p – Glencreran Estate: 296p – Antium: £290p(2) – Achnaba: 287p – Strongorm: 285p & 282p – Achnaba: 267p – Poltalloch: 261p – Ardchatten HF.
LUNING: 271p(2) – Slaterich.
SHx: 297p – Glencreran Estate.
SIMx: 284p & 274p – Scammadale: 272p – Muckairn: 253p, 252p(5) & 248p – Ardencaple: 244p(2) & 243p(2) – Scammadale: 237p – Achnacree more.

Heifers
BRBx: 347p – Tiree.
CHARx: 225p – Creagan, Benderloch.
LIMx: 316p – Aird Farm: 301p(2) – Glencreran Estate: 284p(3) –

Ledcharrie: 265p – Antium: 263p – 1 Knockvologan: 261p & 260p – Aird Farm: 254p(3) – Poltalloch: 253p & 250p – Ardchatten HF: 250p – Antium.
SHx: 238p – Lochnell HF.
SIMx: 323p(2) – Ardencaple: 295p(3) & 284p – Scammadale: 262p – Tiree: 257p(2) – Scammadale.

Sheep
Gimmers with lambs at foot
£180 & £140 – Tiree
Ewes with lambs at foot
SUFFx: £162 & £125 – Tiree
TEXx: £152 & £128 – Tiree: £115 – Balliemore: £108 – Birchfield.
BF: £90 – Balliemore.
CROSS: £135 – 56 Tangasdale, Barra: £111 – Brae Rd, Ardrishaig: £98 – 56 Tangasdale, Barra.

Hogs
SUFFx: £80 – Homestead: £77 – Strongorm: £74 – Upper Largie: £73 – Glenshellach.
BFLx: £70 – Homestead.
BELx: £70 & £68 – Crinan.
TEXx: £85 – Ardachy: £69 – Strongorm.
CHEVx: £71 – Strongorm.
CROSS: £86 – Strongorm: £82 – Portcastle.
MULE: £101 – Barguilean: £76 – Balligarve.
BF: £74 – Gorteneorn: £64 – Turnnault: £63 – Upper Largie.
Cast ewes.
SUFFx: £88 – Tiree: £74 – 56 Tangasdale, Barra: £69 – Ballimackillichan.
BFLx: £78 – Barguilean.
TEXx: £93 – Tiree: £80 – Balliemore: £74 – Strongorm.
CHEVx: £73 – Croic Ur: £63 – Barguilean.
CROSS: £93 – 56 Tangasdale, Barra: £87 – Portcastle: £85 – Glenshellach.
MULE: £75 – Balnagown: £72 – Tiree.
BF: £72 – Balliemore: £70 – Lochnell HF: £70 – Birchfield.
Cast rams
SUFFx: £80 – Tiree
BFL: £72 – Achalic
TEX: £96 – Achnacree more: £96 – Ellary Farms: £86 – Tiree.
BF: £82 – Achalic.
SWAL: £62 – Achalic.
Widders:
CHEVx: £61 – Ellary Farms.
CROSS: £88 – 56 Tangasdale, Barra.
BF: £89 – Achalic.

ISLAY – United Auctions sold 289 grazing cattle at their sale held at Islay Auction Mart on Friday June 9. A superb entry of quality stock sold to a strong force of mainland buyers. Bullocks sold to average 249.15 pence per kilo or £918.74 per head against 230.9 pence or £836.90 at the corresponding sale last year whilst heifers averaged 243.58 pence per kilo or £820.69 against 222.9 pence per kilo or £761.25 per head last year. Bullocks from M/s Epps, Ardnave sold to £1,120 and heifers from the same home sold to £1,030. Ardnave again led the prices per kilo for bullocks at 331 pence as well as M/s Wood, Octofad and heifers from Ardnave sold to 284 pence per kilo. Principal lots and prices.
Top prices per head
Bullocks
AAx: £880(2) and £860(3) – Keppols.
BRBx: £800(3) – Octofad.
BAx: £1120, £1090(2), £1060 and £1050 – Ardnave.
CHARx: £1090(5), £1060, £1030 – Ardnave: £1010(3) – Tallant: £1000 – Ardnave and Tallant: £990(3) – Octofad: £960 – Ardnave(2), Tallant(3) & Octofad: £940(2) – Tallant: £930(3) – Ardnave: £920 – Blackrock.
LIMx: £1060 & £1050(2) – Ardnave: £1050(8) – Balaclava: £1040(2) – Ardnave: £1020(6) – Balaclava: £1000 – Tallant and Ardnave(6): £990 & £950(2) – Octofad: £950 – Gartmain(5) & Balaclava(3): £940(7) – Octofad.
SIMx: £960 and £920(2) – Gartmain.
Heifers
AAx: £960 – Gartmain.
BAx: £930 and £10(3) – Ardnave.
CHARx: £1030(5) & £1000 – Ardnave: £950(2) – Tallant: £940(4) – Octofad: £910 – Blackrock: £900(2) – Ardnave.
LIMx: £1020 – Ardnave: £1000 – Starchmill: £970(3) – Ardnave: £960(7) – Gartmain: £940 Ardnave: £920 – Gartmain: £910 – Balaclava(2) & Carrabus.
Top prices per kilo
Bullocks
AAx: 251p(3) – Keppols: 245p(2) – Tallant: 242p(2) – Keppols.
BAx: 256p, 253p, 245p & 235p – Ardnave.
CHARx: 302p – Carrabus: 290p(3) – Tallant: 280p – Ardnave: 272p(3), 268p(2) & 263p(2) – Tallant: 262p(3) – Ardnave: 258p – Octofad: 245p(5) – Ardnave: 242p(3) – Octofad.
LIMx: 331p – Ardnave(3) & Octofad: 330p – Carrabus: 310p – Ardnave: 306p(2) and 302p – Carrabus: 299p(2) – Ardnave: 293p(2) – Carrabus: 292p(2) & 278p(2) – Tallant: 272p(5) – Octofad: 269p – Ardnave: 269p and 268p(4) – Balaclava: 267p(2) and 266p – Octofad: 266p(2) – Ardnave: 263p(3) – Balaclava: 254p – Octofad.
Heifers
AAx: 245p(4) – Keppols.
BAx: 284p – Ardnave.
CHARx: 280p(2) and 261p – Carrabus: 259p(4) – Tallant: 257p(2) – Carrabus: 253p – Ardnave: 251p(2) – Tallant: 248p – Ardnave(2) & Octofad(2): 240p(4) – Octofad: 238p(5) – Ardnave: 234p – Gartmain.
LIMx: 280p(2), 273p(4), 268p(4) and 261p – Carrabus: 257p – Tallant(2) and Carrabus: 255p(4) – Keppols: 254p(2) & 253p(2) – Ardnave: 252p(3) & 249p(3) – Octofad: 249p – Balaclava(9) & Lossit: 248p(2) – Ballychattraig: 247p – Carrabus: 246p and 245p(3) – Ardnave: 244p – Gartmain.
BG 276p and 257p – Carrabus.

texacloth

Ireland's Leading Wool Merchant
Texacloth kick off their 24th year buying wool in Scotland
Market Price paid in full

If you need to deliver wool please call Alan who will be more than happy to accommodate. All deliveries must be prebooked, thank you.

Texacloth Limited
Alan Walsh (Scotland)
07836 547 987
Andy Woodburn (Muirkirk)
07710 488 679
or 01290 661 258
www.texacloth.co.uk

SALES of sheep and cattle went 'very well' at United Auctions' first Oban mart on Tuesday, its 'delighted' director said, and farmers hope it will keep the standard up.

United Auctions (UA) replaced Caledonian Marts as the operator of Oban Livestock Centre, after a shake-up by shareholders at their AGM on May 30, following complaints of low stock numbers and high commission rates.

UA's first sale at Oban Livestock Centre (OLC) on Monday (June 13) was conducted by auctioneer Raymond Kennedy.

UA's managing director George Purves said: 'The sales have gone very well for both sheep and cattle. It's been well supported by buyers and sellers. The prices are very good and the numbers are up on the same time last year, and we hope to build on that.'

Donald Young, UA's north of Scotland managing director, added: 'We are pleased to be here. There are a lot of people from all over the country,

A A McIntyre Poultry
Point of Lay pullets
Delivery into Argyll and Lochaber w/c 19th June.
Telephone
01292 591266 or
0779311149
web
aamcintyreoultry.co.uk

2017 SHOWSTOPPERS!

STARRING THE
NEW MF 4709
WORKHORSE OF THE WORLD

WITH GUEST APPEARANCES FROM

- MAJOR
- WACKER
- NEUSON
- KUBOTA
- FOSTER

and much more.
SEE YOU AT THE SHOWS!

Follow us on

Hamilton BROTHERS
For more information call Alastair Dixon on 07771 577889
alastaird@hamiltonbros.co.uk
Bishopton 01505 862010 • Campbeltown 01586 553031

Fane Valley Stores

CATTLE & SHEEP WORMERS
ORDER VIA TELEPHONE OR ONLINE

Trust Fane Valley to protect your flock!
Fane Valley are completely farmer owned with over 100 years experience.

www.fanevalleystores.com Tel: 028 3839 4900

Holding stocks of creosote and green treated timber, galv and wooden gates and wire

G. Hodge Fencing
www.hodgefencing.co.uk
Hodge Fencing, Lerags, By Oban - 01631 563271

Morris Leslie PLANT AUCTIONS
Large Municipal & Utilities Auction
10:30am Wednesday 28th June 2017
Errol Airfield, Errol, Perth PH2 7TB

Wednesday 28th June 2017
Over 300 Entries Expected - All types of Plant, Machinery HGV's, Vans, Trailers, Specialist Utility Vehicles, Contractors Tools & Equipment etc.

FURTHER SELECTED ENTRIES INVITED
Full online bidding available: morrisleslie.com
For further information Call 01821 642940 or visit morrisleslie.com
All Items Subject to Arrival

FLY PRODUCTS AVAILABLE NOW

orders@fanevalleystores.com | www.fanevalleystores.com | Tel: 028 3839 4900

Fane Valley Stores

West Coast **MOTORING TIMES**

DRIVETIMES
 SAILING TIMES
 GARAGES
 CAR DEALERSHIPS
 MOTORING NEWS

TO PLACE YOUR ADVERT IN THE OBAN TIMES:

TELEPHONE: 01631 568 000
Lines open: Mon to Fri 9am- 5pm

FAX: 01631 568001

POST & IN PERSON: Lochavullin Industrial Estate, Crannog Lane, Oban, PA34 4HB
Office hours: Mon - Thurs 9- 5pm, Fri 9 - 4pm

E-MAIL: adverts@obantimes.co.uk
Please remember to give your name, address, postcode and phone number.

VOLKSWAGEN UP!



3 Door, 998cc, September 2013, 18,000miles, Very Good Condition, inc free service and MOT test in Septemer.

£4,800

01770 302 066 or 07817 450 331 (Arran)

TRIALS BIKE



Bultaco Sherco 200, 1999, Good runner, decent condition for age but needs bit of attention, great bike for starting out and learning the mechanics.

£850 ono

Tel 07867 893349

WOLSELEY 16/60 1965

Unfinished project, runs well, needs paint job. No MOT, Stored in a garage for last 3 years.

£3,000 ono

Tel. 07795 104110

TOYOTA HILUX HL3



3 litre diesel, 57 plate, 82,000 miles with service history, just been Mot'd for one year. Fantastic condition inside and out.

£8,250

Tel 07712625335

NEW CAR INDEX



VAUXHALL

Autovision
40 Harbour Road
Inverness
Tel. 01463 251500
www.scottishvauxhall.co.uk

PEUGEOT 207 1360CC



2011 reg. Low mileage - 39,000. Immaculate condition. MOT until April 2018.

£2,300ono

Tel: 07899 459705

YARIS T3



Sept. 56 plate, 36,000 miles, good condition, elec. windows and aircon. New clutch, battery and alternator. MOT to Jan 18. Lochgilphead area.

£1850 ono

Tel 07484 712254

MEGANE 1.6



Nov 59 plate, 34,000 miles. 4 elec. windows, aircon and alloys. Excellent condition. Lochgilphead area.

£3200 ono

Tel 07484 712254

MAZDA BT50 T'S



Pickup 4x4 in fantastic condition inside and out with only 29000 miles from new m.o.t February 2018 must be seen to fully appreciate the condition it has chunky tyres drives like new, also comes with a set of steel wheels for the winter!

£6595 delivery can be arranged

phone or txt me 07712625335

SUZUKI

Gordon Motors
UK Dealer Of The Year 2014
Comrie Rd, Crieff, Perthshire
PH7 4BQ
Tel.01764 652125
Delivery throughout the West
www.suzuki.co.uk/gordonmotors

FIAT PUNTO



1.2, 2004, 101K, One years MOT, New Tyres, Very Good Condition.

£750 ono

Tel 07769 516134

KIA RIO 1.4, 2009

Black, MOT till March 2018, 5 door, serviced for last MOT, 65,000 miles, vgc

£895 ovno

Tel 07786809994 or 01631 563337

WANTED

All 4 x 4s, old or new Toyota Hilux, land cruiser, all pickups single or double cabs, any condition, runner or not, high miles no problem.

Tel 07703490572 ask for Robert

54%
of people travel 10 miles or less to buy a second-hand car

Regional press is the relevant choice for motors advertising.

Regional Press
CLOSER TO HOME

ISUZU

S & S Services
Old Bridge Road, Heathfield, Ayr
Tel.01292 880080
01292 880440

SAILINGTIMES

BLUE FISH



Twenty three foot day boat built on the famous COLVIC WATSON hull. Powered by three cylinder 10 HP VETUS. Completely restored interior/exterior deck replaced. Spray painted hull. Sitting on its own custom built trailer (not road legal) this is the perfect safe, deep deck, vessel for all the family to enjoy. A rib with seating may be accepted as part exchange. For further details and photographs contact McPHEE BOAT SALES

(01586) 554480 or 07788923890

CARAVANTIMES

ELDDIS AUTOQUEST 320S



1993, 33,000 miles, 2.7 diesel, 4 berth, Awning, Shower, Great condition.

£5,000

01631 720224

DRIVETIMES NOW ONLY

£32.80

IF UNSOLD AFTER 1ST WEEK JUST CALL BEFORE TUESDAY 3PM TO GET YOUR SECOND WEEK FREE

Tel: 01631 568000

SUBARU

S & S Services
Old Bridge Road, Heathfield, Ayr
Tel.01292 880080/880440

TO PROMOTE YOUR NEW CAR DEALERSHIP PLEASE CALL: 01631 568000

W.D. SEMPLE RENAULT/DACIA

VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE TO VIEW A MORE COMPREHENSIVE RANGE OF VEHICLES ON OFFER

Any of our pre registered or used stock can now be viewed in or around Campbeltown

Call for an appointment to view.

Approved Renault Dealer
www.wdsemple.com
Inveraray - Shore Street. Tel: 01499 302150 Fax: 01499 302281
Lochgilphead - Highbank Park. Tel: 01546 606767 Fax: 01546 606272
Car & Van Hire from both branches.



FIND US  IMAGE SHOWN *ALL NEW RENAULT MEGANE

New and Pre-Reg Renaults ready for immediate delivery



These are just a small selection of cars currently in our showrooms

USED CARS

16 Renault Clio Dyn Nav TCE, 5Dr, H/B, White, Delivery Mileage.....	£11,850
65 Dacia Duster Laureate, DCI, 4x2, Silver, 5,500 Miles.....	£11,995
14 Renault Scenic DYN, 1.5 DCI, T/T, Black, 16,500 Miles	£11,850
14 Renault Captur, NAV DCI, Orange/ Black, 22,000 Miles	£9,600
14 Dacia Duster Laureate 4x4, Grey, 30,000 Miles	£9,450
14 Nissan Note 1.2 Accenta Premium, 5Dr, Blue, 14,000 Miles	£8,550
14 Nissan Micra 1.9 Visia, 5 Dr, White, 18,000 Miles	£5,950
62/13 Renault Megane DYN, 1.6, Coupe, Silver, 18,000 Miles.....	£7,450
13 Dacia Duster DCI 4x2, Blue, 31,000 Miles.....	£8,400
11 VW Polo SEL TSI 1.2, 5Dr, Red, 34,000 Miles.....	£7,150
11 Renault Megan Coupe, GT-Line TCE, Blue, 25,000 Miles.....	£6,250
09 Ford Focus Zetec 100 1.6, 5Dr, Black, 84,000 Miles	£3,750

COMMERCIALS

63 Renault traffic, LL29, DCI, White, 10200 Miles	£8,500 + VAT
60 Vauxhall Vivara DCI Van	£6,750 + VAT

LOWER PRICE VEHICLES UNDER £2000

Renault Scenic 1.6	Renault Laguna	Citroen Picasso
Megan DCI	Clio 1.4	

DACIA STEPWAY
Dacia Stepway SUV style. Supermini Costs.

EAGLESHAM GARAGE

2017/17 ISUZU D-MAX ARCTIC TRUCK AT35
VISION PACK, BLACK NEW VEHICLE, BEAT THE WAITING LIST
£35995 + VAT

2015/15 Isuzu D-Max Utah, Nautilus Blue, Leather, One owner, 24923 miles	£17495 + VAT
2016/16 Isuzu D-Max Eiger, Mineral Grey, One owner, Reversing camera, 17656 miles.....	£16995 + VAT
2012/62 Isuzu D-Max Utah, Automatic, Nautilus Blue, Leather 36685 miles	£13495 + VAT
2016/16 Subaru Brz SE Lux, Silver Manual Leather/Alcantara seats only 5156 miles.....	£19995
2016/16 Subaru Brz SE Lux, Black, Automatic, Leather/Alcantara 12748 miles.....	£19995
2015/65 Subaru Levorg GT, White, STI bodykit, Immaculate condition, 18105 miles.....	£19995
2014/14 Subaru Forester XT, Silver, One owner Leather, Sat Nav, Automatic 37231 miles	£17995
2012/12 BMW X5 XDrive 30D SE, Automatic, Diesel, Leather Metallic Blue, 45069 miles.....	£20995
2011/61 Mazda MX-5 Roadster, Sport Limited Edition, Spirited Green Metallic, Convertible, 5988 miles No.75 of 500 made	£9995
2009/09 Volkswagen Golf GTI, White, 3 Door, Alloys, Sports seats 99355 miles	£8995
2011/61 Mini Cooper Clubman, Black, 5 doors, manual, petrol, 43343 miles	£7995
2014/14 Mercedes-Benz GL Class GL350 CDI AMG Sport, Diesel, Black with Beige Interior, 7 Seats, Fantastic spec	£42995
2015/15, Landrover Defender TWISTED, Corris Grey, Scarce vehicle, Full Twisted Spec, Call for options list, 9017 miles	£44995 NO VAT
2005/55 Fiat Panda 4x4, Blue, manual, Petrol, 78699 miles	£2995
2011/11 Hyundai ix20 Active CRDI, Manual, Diesel, 5 Doors, Silver, 33467 miles	£5495

77 GILMOUR STREET EAGLESHAM GLASGOW G76 0LH
T: 01355 302685 www.eagleshamgarage.co.uk

The Oban Times & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES



NOW DELIVERING NEWS 7 DAYS A WEEK ONLINE

www.obantimes.co.uk

FROM 56p PER WEEK

MUNRO'S
OF OBAN

MOTs • Servicing • Repairs
All makes of vehicle serviced and repaired.

Munro's of Oban, Lochavullin Ind. Estate, Oban PA34 4PL
Tel: 01631 564463
Email: munrosoban@aol.com
Web: www.munrosoban.co.uk

Fin's Place

Free pickup from BALLACHULISH SOUTH

Timing belts, exhausts, brakes, clutches, batteries, servicing, M.O.T, repairs, diagnostics

NO FIX - NO FEE
11 Old Tweedmill, Oban
01631 566220 01766 757013

ADCOCK
AUTOCARE & TYRE SERVICES
Tel: 01546 600040

Car Repair & Service
Tyres & Brakes
Diagnostic & more...

HOTEL - BOOKED BAGS - PACKED PETS - SORTED
CAR - TYRES? FLUIDS? BRAKES? BATTERY?
DON'T BE STUCK ON YOUR HOLIDAY THIS YEAR, GET YOUR CAR CHECKED AT ADCOCK AUTOCARE & TYRE SERVICES BEFORE YOU GO...

FORT WILLIAM TYRE SERVICE

Contact: Alec
Mobile: 07702 433495 Tel: 01397 700277
Email: fort-tyres@hotmail.co.uk

TYRES FITTED BY OUR MOBILE VAN
at your work, your home or where's easiest.

CARS, VANS, LORRIES, TRACTORS
24hrs Commercial Tyre Breakdown Service

Number plate guide: Everything you need to know about vehicle registrations

THE NUMBER plate has been around for many years. The first country to introduce it was France with the passing of the Paris Police Ordinance on August 14, 1893. Other European countries started to follow suit, with the Netherlands becoming the first country to introduce a nationally registered licence plate in 1898, naming it a 'driving permit'. Eventually, the UK also adopted the number plate using index marks of one or two letters. These were issued to various licensing authorities in 1903 when most powers that be allotted registrations starting at 1. It is believed that the first ever UK registration was DY1 from Hastings, Kent, registered on November 23, 1903. Three letters/three number series were subsequently introduced in 1932. All marks were allocated by the mid-1950s, and annotations issued by certain authorities were reserved with letters following numbers. Some continued to issue 'forward' marks (numbers following letters) until the mid-1960s. August 1, 1983, saw the introduction of a 'prefix' system using a single

letter to show the year of first registration with an 'A' prefix. This method identified the age of the car with the first letter of the registration, which changed every August. The second and third numbers on the plate were random, with two of the last three letters denoting the registration area. The last number was also chosen at random. This classification remained until the current number plate system was launched.

Today's approach features an 'age identifier' in the middle of plate and has been in force since September 2001.

Why do cars have number plates? Cars were growing ever more popular in the UK. As demand increased the British government decided to take steps to regulate vehicles on the nation's roads. Number plates would also be useful in the event of an accident or crime, making it easier for the government to track down the owner of the vehicle and take appropriate action.

How does the number plate system work? The scheme in use today has three main sections. The first two letters represent the 'local memory tag' indicating where the vehicle was registered. The third and fourth digits are known as the 'age identifier' and change every six months in March and September. The digits in March will always be the same as the last two digits of the current year. For example, a car registered in London from March this year would have the digits LA17. In September, 50 is added to this number, so if the same car was registered in September 2017 the number plate would be LA67.

The final three letters are chosen at random, generated by a computer, but are carefully checked to ensure no offensive results are created. If you want a new car with the latest number plate,

you can either wait until March 1 or September 1, or net a good deal earlier before the new plates are released.

Does the plate change affect personalised number plates? Depending on the age of your car, there can sometimes be registration restrictions. Before making a decision, consider the following limitations:

- The third and fourth digits on the plate known as the 'age identifier' are changed every six months in March and September.
- In March, the digits will always be the last two digits of the year.
- In September, 50 is always added to the number.
- When the personalised registration has an age identifier, you can only add that number to a current or more recent vehicle.
- For example, if your personalised number plate has the numbers 10 or 60, then the car will have been registered in 2010 or later.

The restrictions also apply to older cars - if you want to design a personalised number plate with a single letter, the old system will need to be checked to see if it's suitable for your car.

How do I get a new number plate? UK registration plates changed on March 1, 2017. If you want to purchase a personalised one, be aware of the restrictions listed above.

Every six-monthly release of new plates reveals numerous, fresh variations - consumers can create something unique, whether it's their name, a reflection of something they love or simply an eye-catching design!

MOT DUE?



MOT TESTING, SERVICING & REPAIRS
TYRES & EXHAUSTS SUPPLIED AND FITTED
ALL MAKES AND MODELS OF CARS, 4X4'S VANS

Your car is in good hands at...

S. D. MacDOUGALL
AUTOSERVICES

Unit 6, Lochavullin Ind. Est., Oban
Tel: 01631 566502 01631 566470

CAR OF THE WEEK
SUBARU STI TYPE UK
2014 64 REGISTRATION, 16500 MILES,
FSH, GREY

£21,495

Full Range of STIs in stock from £14495.
Picture for illustration purposes only

S&S SERVICES
www.sandsservices.co.uk
Excellent finance packages available. Tel: 07831 808702 or 01292 880080

like us on facebook
www.facebook.com/obantimes

DRIVE TIMES
Oban Times
DRIVE TIMES
Oban Times
DRIVE TIMES
Oban Times
DRIVE TIMES

DRIVE AWAY - FLY AWAY WITH HENRYS SSANGYONG GLASGOW

OFFER AVAILABLE WHILE STOCKS LAST

£1500 THOMAS COOK VOUCHER
WITH THE PURCHASE OF SELECTED MODELS FROM HENRYS SSANGYONG

£1,500 value can be taken in Thomas Cook vouchers or as a discount against purchase, deposit contribution or cash back. Offer available while stocks last. Thomas Cook vouchers or cash back option payable 24 hours after delivery.

0141 649 6000 HENRYS-CARS.COM

REXTON W, 2.2 ELX AUTO, SPACE BLACK, 5DR, ESTATE, SH16NCC	£23,500.00
TIVOLI, 1.6D ELX MANUAL, TECHNO GREY, 5DR, HATCH, SJ17YML	£17,250.00
KORANDO, 2.2 EX 4X4, SPACE BLACK METALLIC, 5DR, ESTATE, SJ17YMT	£18,495.00
KORANDO, 2.2 ELX AUTO, SPACE BLACK, 5DR, ESTATE, SJ17YMO	£21,995.00
TURISMO, EX AUTO, WINE BLACK, MPV, SJ17YMP	SOLD
TIVOLI, XLV STYLE, TECHNO GREY/BLACK, 5DR, ESTATE, SE66BYP	£19,995.00
TIVOLI, 1.6D ELX 4, SPACE BLACK/WHITE, 5DR, HB, SJ17YME	£19,995.00
KORANDO, 2.2 SE, GRAND WHITE, 5DR ESTATE, SJ17YLV	£15,250.00
KORANDO, 2.2 ELX, MANUAL, GRAND WHITE, 5DR ESTATE, SB17OER	£21,250.00
REXTON W, 2.2 ELX, TECHNO GREY, 5DR ESTATE, New	£28,495.00
KORANDO, 2.2 LE, GALAXY GREEN, 5DR ESTATE, SB17OEU	£16,995.00
REXTON W, 2.2 EX AUT, TECHNO GREY METALLIC, 5DR, ESTATE, New	£26,495.00
TIVOLI, XLV STY AUTO, DANDY BLUE METALLIC, 5DR, ESTATE, New	£19,995.00
TURISMO, 2.0 ES, FINE SILVER, MPV, RO64KDX	£14,500.00
REXTON W, 2.2 EX AUTO, SILENT SILVER, 5DR, ESTATE, RE16ZHZ	£22,000.00

Henrys
henrys-cars.com

Henrys SsangYong
95 Titwood Road, Glasgow G41 2DG
Telephone: 0141 649 6000 www.henrys-cars.com

SSANGYONG
Est. Korea 1954
5 YEAR WARRANTY

Summer Motoring



Summer is just around the corner

And there are very few things that can bring people out of their self-imposed winter hibernation more than the prospect of buying a new motor car.

Owning a car is an essential component for those of us who live in the beautiful but distant and vast West Highlands. Without a car, our lives would come to a

standstill: how would we ever get things done? How would we get to work, take the children to school, do the weekly shop or visit friends?

It can be no surprise then that buying a motor car is, for most people, the second most important purchase they will ever make, next to purchasing their house.

People devote serious time and consideration to the acquisition of a car and are prepared to clock up the miles in pursuit

of the perfect purchase. That is especially true of the West Highlands where potential buyers will not only trawl Argyll and Bute, but think nothing of travelling to Perth, Stirling, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Inverness, Ayr and many other places to find the ideal vehicle.

And this is where our motoring supplement comes in: it is a route map to the many dealerships, both locally and beyond, who will help you find the car that suits your

family requirements and your wallet; and the many garages and services who will keep you on the straight and narrow with first-rate maintenance.

And to make that journey more memorable, we have compiled a tour-de-force of Scotland's five most scenic drives – all of which are to be found in the West Highlands. Happy hunting and happy motoring; after all, the 17-plate of your dreams may just be around the corner.

S&S SERVICES

ALL ROADS LEAD TO S&S



THE NEW GENERATION ISUZU D-MAX. IT JUST WORKS.

ISUZU D-MAX UTAH FROM **£24,149**

ISUZU THE PICK-UP PROFESSIONALS

5 YEAR 125,000 MILE WARRANTY | 3.5 TONNES TOWING CAPACITY | -OVER- 11 TONNE PAYLOAD | 164 PS | -OVER- 40 MPG COMBINED | EURO 6 NO ADBLUE | 5 YEAR UK & EU ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE | BOOK A 48 HOUR TEST DRIVE TODAY*



SUBARU Confidence in Motion

SUV RANGE STARTS FROM **£22,495**

Available with 0% APR*

Are you a member of the Caravan Club? Ask about our free accessories with selected new Subaru forester and Outbacks!

THE CARAVAN CLUB

NOW AYRSHIRE'S APPROVED DAIHATSU SERVICE AND PARTS DEALER

Supporting the people of Argyll for over 30 years

The Largest Range of New & Used Subarus in the UK available for immediate delivery

S&S Services Isuzu, 8 Old Bridge Road, Ayr KA8 9SX Tel: 07831 808702 or 01292 880080



Keep kids safe in the car this summer

Barbecues, fireworks, s'mores and road trips – they're summer classics. They rarely change because when you know something works, you stick with it. You know what else stands the test of time? Car seat safety tips.

However, a staggering three out of four car seats

are incorrectly installed. This is so alarming because motor vehicle crashes are one of the leading causes of death among children.

The good news is that a properly installed car seat can help dramatically reduce injury and prevent death.

So we are sharing the following tips, just in time for the busy summer road trip season.

1. Always use the 'Inch Test' and the 'Pinch Test'. Pinch the car seat strap near the child's shoulder; if you can pinch a wrinkle in the fabric, tighten the strap until it is snug. For the 'Inch Test', grab the car seat from the back and bottom and tug from side to side and front to back. If the seat moves more than an inch in either direction, tighten it.

2. Never add towels or extra layers between the seat and your child. Car seats can get hot in summer weather, but don't pile up towels in your child's seat to keep them cool. Extra material could interfere with the seat's ability to restrain the child in the event of a crash, so it is important only to use accessories and products specifically approved for use by the seat's manufacturer.

3. Take time to cool off; then buckle up. If the car seat is hot because of high summer temperatures, take some extra time to cool the car down before placing your child in the seat. Test buckles to ensure they are not hot, and if they are, open the windows or turn on the air conditioner before buckling children in. Never leave children alone in the car, especially in the summer, when temperatures can escalate dangerously in a matter of minutes.

4. Don't rent a car seat. If you are renting a car this summer, use your own car seat. When you rent a seat, you don't know important facts about its history that could affect its ability to protect your child (eg, expiration date, crash history). The good news is that most airlines allow you to check your car seat for free.

5. Secure loose items in the car. Make sure all loose items – including summer travel essentials such as beach chairs, coolers, umbrellas and suitcases – are tightly secured in your vehicle. These objects could become projectiles in the event of a crash.

Photo credit: SaferCar.gov



Slipway Autos Ltd

Unit 3a Annat Point, Corpach, Fort William, PH33 7NB

Tel/fax - 01397 772404

MOT Testing (Classes 4, 5 & 7) Servicing / Repairs / Bodywork / Terraclean

Nissan Juke (Acenta Premium DCI) 15 - 1.5 Diesel 5 door h/back - 26,155 miles.....	£10,650
VW Tiguan Match Tdi Blue Motion Tech DSG 15 - 5 door - 20,700 miles.....	£17,995
VW Polo 1.0S 15 - 5 door h/back - 16,700 miles.....	£8,100
Skoda Octavia SE Tdi 15 - 5 door h/back - 21,000 miles.....	£12,495
VW Caddy Van 64 - 1.6 Diesel - 44,586 miles.....	£8,750
Renault Captur (Dynamique Medianav Energy TCE S/S)63 - 5 door h/back - 9,272 miles.....	£9,475
Ford Focus Zetec (Auto) 63 - 5 door Estate - 14,500 miles.....	£8,950
Citroen Nemo 63 - 1.3 HDI - 39,200 miles.....	£5,495
VX Astra Elite 1.6 13 - 5 door h/back - 9,671 miles.....	£8,249
Dodge Nitro 57 - 4 x 4 CRD - 63,808 miles.....	£4,550

NEW STOCK ARRIVING SOON

Mobile - 07873587908 (Martin - Salesman)

We can also source new and used cars to suit your requirements

All above vehicles come with warranty - Finance available on request



Subaru Forester

From £26,495

AVAILABLE WITH 0% APR*
50% Deposit
50% Final payment in 1 year



WHAT OTHERS CALL UNIQUE, WE CALL OBVIOUS SUBARU SENSE



XV

From £22,495

Outback

From £32,995



DISCOVER MORE AT YOUR LOCAL DEALERSHIP

Helensburgh Subaru

101-103 East Clyde Street
Helensburgh G84 7PJ

Telephone: 01436 672779
helensburgh-subaru.co.uk

f /HelensburghSubaru
t @HBurghSubaru



SUBARU FORESTER Fuel consumption in mpg (l/100km): Urban 25.2-39.8 (11.2-7.1); Extra Urban 40.4-57.6 (7.0-4.9); Combined 33.2-49.6 (8.5-5.7). CO² Emissions 197-148g/km. MPG figures are official EU test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results.

On the road price includes VAT, delivery, number plates, 12 months road fund licence and first registration fee. With Subaru Personal Contract Purchase you have the option at the end of the agreement to: (1) return the vehicle and not pay the Final Payment. If the vehicle has exceeded the allowed mileage a charge per excess mile will apply. In this example, 10.5p per excess mile up to 4,999, or for excess mileage of 5,000 or more, a charge of 21.0p will apply to each excess mile above the allowed mileage plus VAT. If the vehicle is in good condition and has not exceeded the allowed mileage you will have nothing further to pay. (2) Pay the Final Repayment to own the vehicle. (3) Part exchange the vehicle subject to settlement of your existing finance agreement; new finance agreements are subject to status. Credit is available to UK residents aged 18 years and over. Credit available subject to status. Excludes motability and fleet sales. Available at participating dealers only. Not available in conjunction with any other offers. Offer is only available through Subaru Finance provided by International Motors Finance Limited, St William House, Treillian Terrace, Cardiff, CF10 5BH. We may receive commission or other benefits from introducing you to Subaru Finance. We can introduce you to Subaru Finance and a limited number of other lenders to provide funding. Please consult your local Subaru dealer for an exact quotation. Offer Ends 31st March 2017. *Every vehicle marketed by Subaru (UK) Ltd, excluding WRX STI, is covered by a 5 Year/100,000 mile (whichever comes sooner) Limited Warranty which comprises of a standard 3 Year/60,000 mile (whichever is sooner). Manufacturer's Warranty (bumper to bumper, excluding clutch driven plate) and an Extended Warranty (applies to powertrain only) provided by the importer. Vehicle shown is the Subaru Forester 2.0D XC, OTR price of £28,440 plus special paint finish at £550. Prices correct at time of going to print.





EAGLESHAM GARAGE

Subaru & Isuzu Specialists Since 1989



THE SUBARU FORESTER
Now available with interest free credit* on the Subaru Forester 50/50 scheme.
Subaru Forester models are now available with 1 years interest free finance, when purchased on the 50% deposit and 50% final payment after 12 months.
NOW AVAILABLE IN DIESEL LINEARTRONIC AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION.



THE NEW GENERATION ISUZU D-MAX - IT JUST WORKS
All 4x4 models of the Isuzu D-Max come with class-leading 3.5 tonne towing capacity. This impressive load-lugging competence provides plenty of power to help you get the goods to their final destination, wherever that may be.

77 GILMOUR STREET EAGLESHAM GLASGOW G76 0LH T: 01355 302 685 www.eagleshamgarageltd.co.uk

Are you and your car ready for summer?

SUMMER is fast approaching and motorists need to ensure that along with the more pleasant weather, their cars, and their attitudes on the road, also need to be in tip-top shape. Drivers need to make sure their cars are in good condition, especially if they are looking at taking advantage of the warmer weather to make longer journeys.

If you are going on holiday, even if it is a long weekend, or if you will be using your car more now than in winter, it is important to ensure it is ready for the change in the weather. Driving in summer months is different to driving in winter, especially inland, and there are a few things people must check before it is too late.

Among the important items that motorists should check are their windscreens, wipers and tyres. It is also important that vehicles be visible at all times, including at night. For this reason, owners should ensure their lights (front and back) and indicators are also working properly.

Any cracks on windscreens need to be repaired and it is vital that tyres are checked to ensure they are in good, roadworthy condition. Too often, motorists ignore the condition of their tyres, which are a critical component to safe driving.

Consider that during the summer months small pools of water may accumulate on the road, and worn tyres may lead to aquaplaning; this occurs when the tread on the tyres is no longer able to channel water away, and the tyre lifts off the road surface, and starts to skim across the water like a speedboat.

As the seasons change, so too will the demands on your vehicle. It is important that motorists have their vehicles checked and serviced, and that they are confident that each and every aspect of the car is working properly.

In addition, the AA again urged all drivers to ensure that their attitudes are positive on the road at all times. This includes not speeding, not using any electronic devices while driving and always wearing seatbelts.

During the summer, when there are holidaymakers on the roads, we all need to be aware that these will lead to delays for everyone, and that drivers should remain calm and appreciate that everyone else is in the same situation.



CAMPBELTOWN MOTOR COMPANY

FANTASTIC NEW CAR OFFERS

NEW 17 PLATE PEUGEOTS AVAILABLE FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY

108 ACTIVE 1.0 68 12V	208 GT LINE BLUEHDI 100	2008 SUV ALLURE 1.6 BLUEHDI 100	308 ALLURE BLUEHDI 120
			
Bluetooth & DAB radio	GT styling & Apple Car Play	Grip control & parking sensors	Satellite navigation and alloys
From 48x £138.69 per month Personal Contract Hire. Deposit £832.14 Includes all maintenance, servicing & road tax! All figures exclusive of VAT.	From 48x £177.62 per month Personal Contract Hire. Deposit £1065.72 Includes all maintenance, servicing & road tax! Petrol models also available All figures exclusive of VAT.	From 48x £200.26 per month Personal Contract Hire. Deposit £1201.56 Includes all maintenance, servicing & road tax! Petrol models also available All figures exclusive of VAT.	From 48x £213.85 per month Personal Contract Hire. Deposit £1283.10 Includes all maintenance, servicing & road tax! Petrol models also available All figures exclusive of VAT.

All finance prices above based on 6000 miles per annum. Images shown for illustration purposes only. Terms & Conditions apply. Age restrictions may apply on certain models. Excess mileage charges may apply. Contact us for more information. Peugeot Contract Hire – you will not own the car. All figures quoted subject to VAT.

JUNE IS VAN MONTH! FANTASTIC OFFERS

BIPPER PROFESSIONAL HDI 80	PARTNER PROFESSIONAL BHDH 100	NEW EXPERT PROFESSIONAL COM BHDH 115
		
Bluetooth & satellite navigation	Satellite navigation & parking sensors	Bluetooth & look pack
List Price £13,580+VAT Our Price £10,995 + VAT Includes ply-lining and side loading door!	List Price £16,665+VAT Our Price £11,995 + VAT Includes ply-lining and side loading door!	List Price £20,545+VAT Our Price £16,995 + VAT Includes ply-lining and side loading door!

ALL VANS ABOVE IN STOCK AND READY FOR WORK
0% FINANCE AVAILABLE

We are open Monday to Friday 8:00 – 17:30 and every Saturday 8:30 – 13:00

www.campbeltownmotorcompany.co.uk

Campbeltown Motor Company, Snipefield, Drumore, Campbeltown 01586 552030

All finance prices above based on 6000 miles per annum. Images shown for illustration purposes only. Terms & Conditions apply. Age restrictions may apply on certain models. Excess mileage charges may apply. Contact us for more information. Alternatively email us at cmc@peugeotmail.co.uk

BUILT IN

RECRUITMENT IN ASSOCIATION WITH HIJOBS

Visit hijobs.net

- ✓ FIND A JOB
- ✓ SIGN UP FOR JOB ALERTS
- ✓ GET CAREER ADVICE
- ✓ ADVERTISE A JOB

TO PLACE YOUR ADVERT IN THE OBAN TIMES:

TELEPHONE: 01631 568 000
Lines open: Mon to Fri 9am- 5pm

FAX: 01631 568001

POST & IN PERSON: Lochavullin Industrial Estate, Crannog Lane, Oban, PA34 4HB
Office hours: Mon - Thurs 9- 5pm, Fri 9 - 4pm

E-MAIL: adverts@obantimes.co.uk
Please remember to give your name, address, postcode and phone number.



Field Engineer

Oban, Argyll
Scottish Sea Farms are an internationally recognised farmer of superior quality Scottish salmon. We pride ourselves in providing industry leading and highly personal development paths which build into fulfilling professional careers. If you are committed to developing our industry and are driven to put your strengths to work we would very much like to hear from you.

We are currently recruiting for a Qualified Engineer / Mechanic to join our skilled team of Engineers servicing shore bases, vessels and installations at sea. While we have an operational base in Oban, Argyll this role involves periods of travel across the west coast of Scotland.

The successful candidate will be a time served Engineer / Mechanic with preferably some experience on the following: marine vessels, generating sets, inboard diesel engines, outboard engines, forklifts and small plant repairs. Candidates must also possess a meticulous standard of workmanship, excellent written and verbal communication skills and to be highly self-motivated.

Work will involve preventative maintenance, service and repair of the following:

- Work vessels
- Personnel craft
- Feed systems
- Forklifts
- Generating sets
- Cranes, capstans, winches and various small plant

In return Scottish Sea Farms will offer an attractive salary dependant on experience along with pension scheme, life cover, occupational health support, subsidised gym membership and cycle to work scheme. A current driving licence is essential.

To find out more please contact **Angela Hand, Recruitment & HR Coordinator on 01786 445521 or email angela.hand@scottishseafarms.com for an application pack.**

Closing date Friday 23rd June 2017



We currently have 2 fantastic opportunities available for the right individuals to join the Fyne Homes team.

Technical Services Officer

Kintyre – based Campbelltown with some travel to Mid Argyll, Bute and Cowal

You will be an enthusiastic, customer focused professional skilled at property management services. To be successful in this role you will have experience of delivering high quality, cost effective work through managing delivery of cyclical and reactive maintenance plus, delivery of our exciting capital investment programme. You will have credibility with customers and contractors, to make sure that performance indicators are achieved and delivered within the relevant Health and Safety guidelines.

Applications are welcomed from individual with or working towards, a relevant professional qualification or demonstrable equivalent working knowledge and experience in the property maintenance/building sector. Generous benefits including 40 days leave and salary starting at £29,840.00 for a 35 hour working week await the right person. Closing date for applications is noon on **Monday 3rd July 2017** and interviews will be held on **Wednesday 12th July 2017**.

Maintenance Operative

Lochgilhead – covering Mid-Argyll and Kintyre

You will be a self-motivated, customer focused and Health and Safety aware person with excellent practical skills to carry out general maintenance, routine repairs, inspections and cyclical gardening duties in mid-Argyll. Duties will include upkeep and reactive maintenance ensuring that customers receive a prompt and courteous service. There will also be a need to carry out painting and decorating (internal and external) and other maintenance duties as well as lifting and moving furniture and domestic goods within empty and tenanted homes.

Your skills will include holding a full UK driving licence as you will have access to – and be responsible for – a Fyne Homes vehicle. A starting salary of £18,160.00 for a 35 hour week, plus excellent benefits, including 40 days leave will be available to the successful applicant. Closing date for applications is noon on **Monday 3rd July 2017** and interviews will be held on **Tuesday 11th July 2017**.

Each of these roles provide critical customer facing services for Fyne Homes and it is vital that we attract responsible and conscientious applicants to fit with our ethos and values.

About Fyne Homes

Fyne Homes Ltd is a charitable, community based, Registered Social Landlord owning and managing 1500 homes in Bute, Cowal, Mid-Argyll and Kintyre. Fyne Homes is also a registered Property Factor and provides factoring services to around 400 homes. It also has an active capital development programme.

If you believe you have the aptitude, skills and relevant knowledge for either of these roles, please access our website www.fynehomes.org.uk to download an application pack or contact;

Fyne Homes Ltd, 81 Victoria Street, Rothesay, Isle of Bute PA20 0AP
Tel: 0345 6077117

Email: postmaster@fynehomes.co.uk

Fyne Homes believes in promoting equality and diversity and is a member of the Living Wage Foundation.

Registered Scottish Charity number SC0009152

NO AGENCIES PLEASE



Dawnfresh Farming Ltd, part of the Dawnfresh Seafoods Group, is the largest Trout Farming Company operating in the UK. Our Marine and Freshwater farms are located throughout Scotland and Ireland. We are looking to recruit for the following positions:

Fish Farm Technicians - Loch Etive, Taynuilt

Working outdoors as part of a small team, it is focused upon all aspects of successful trout production including fish health, feeding, grading, harvesting, net changing and other general farm maintenance tasks, including boat handling.

Previous aquaculture experience is desirable but not essential as full training and support will be provided. A full driving licence is essential.

These are full time positions, working a 40 hour week, either Monday to Friday or Sunday to Thursday including weekend cover on a rota basis. You would be expected to undertake additional hours as required in order to accommodate the needs of the business. We offer attractive salaries dependent on experience along with pension scheme.

If you are interested in applying for this position please send your CV, to:-

Jane McCusker, HR Department, Dawnfresh Seafoods Ltd, Bothwellpark Industrial Estate, Uddingston, G71 6LS. Office - 01698 810008, E-mail: hr@dawnfresh.co.uk

Closing date for applications is: 26 June 2017.

North Argyll Eventide Home

Recruiting for domestic staff, permanent post

Cook, part time to assist chef.

Good pay and conditions

For an application form contact Manager Morag Telfer. 01631 562168 Email info@northargyllhouse.org

Lochfyne Langoustines Ltd.

Financial Accountant/Administrator

A full time (permanent) exciting opportunity has arisen for Book keeper/Administrator within a fast-growing shellfish company in the rural village of Tarbert, Loch Fyne on the west coast of Scotland.

The ability to demonstrate a good operational knowledge of SAGE Accounts and SAGE Payroll software is essential.

Responsibilities will include the day to day running of the office, payroll administration, book keeping including maintaining the nominal ledger.

The role will also involve producing monthly management accounts and other financial information to assist the growth of the business and working with others in the team to develop real-time stock accounting systems (using either SAGE or bespoke systems). The successful candidate will be responsible to the Director of the company and will be based in its facility in Tarbert.

Salary is negotiable depending on experience.

Interested applicants should contact us including your CV by 29th June 2017, to lochfynelangoustines@hotmail.co.uk



HGV Class 2 Driver

We're looking for a HGV Driver to join our team at our very busy branch in Oban, to deliver building materials direct to customers throughout Argyll. You will be required to assist in the yard, serving customers and making up orders for dispatch/collection. This position is full time, working Monday to Friday 7.30am - 5pm including alternate Saturdays. You must hold a current HGV Class 2 licence along with a digicard. CPC an advantage.

Please apply in writing to:
Michael Higgins, Oban Manager,
Rembrand Timber Limited, Glenshellach Business Park, Oban, PA34 4HG

RECRUITMENT RECRUITMENT HIJOBS HIJOBS



Housekeeping Assistants

Full time and part time hours available through a variety of hours.

Please contact Jennifer Foote Home Manager for application form or further information. Tel: 01631 720278 or email lynnoflorne@mckenziecare.com



Administrative Officer – Lochgilhead

£19,750 - £20,930 plus benefits

To apply, please visit our website www.civilservicejobs.com

✉ HRScotland@forestry.gsi.gov.uk

Please quote ref 1544203.

Closing date: 26 June 2017.

No recruitment agencies please.

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



www.forestry.gov.uk/vacancies

CCP Haulage Ltd

Kinlochleven

require a Class 1 Driver for general haulage, 3 to 4 nights out a week.

Telephone 07796 818187.



Development Manager

Ref: 474. Fixed period initially for 12 months. Hours: 18.75 hours weekly – to be worked as the service requires. Salary: SP31-34 - £25,825 - £28,126 per annum pro-rata. Locations: Office base in Paisley. Operating area is Argyll & Bute, East Renfrewshire, Inverclyde, and Renfrewshire.

Closing date: Monday 3rd July 2017 at 4pm

Development Worker

Ref: 473. Hours: 16 hours weekly – to be worked as the service requires. Salary: SP26 Fixed - £21,940 per annum pro-rata. Locations: Cowal and Bute, Helensburgh and other parts of Argyll when required.

Closing date: Monday 10th July 2017 at 4pm.

Please visit www.ramh.org for full job descriptions. For further information or an informal discussion about these posts, please contact: Stephen McLellan, CEO on: 0141 847 8900.

Application packs can be obtained by telephoning the RAMH recruitment line on: 0141 847 8910 quoting the reference number or download from our website www.ramh.org

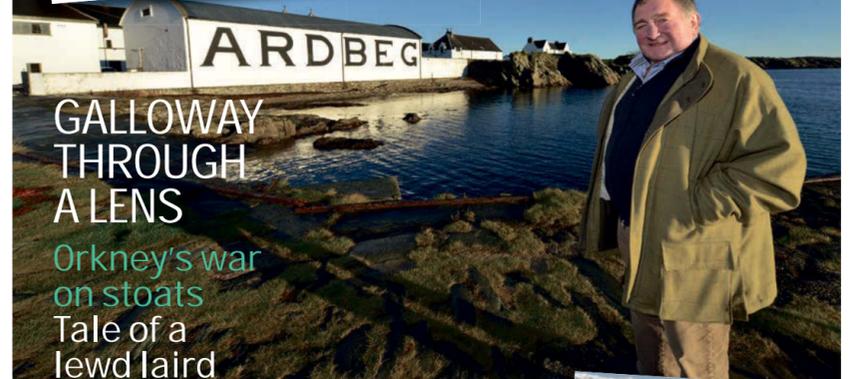
Posts are subject to a PVG (Protection of Vulnerable Groups) check. RAMH is an Equal Opportunities employer. RAMH is a Charity registered in Scotland, Number SC010430.

RECRUITMENT RECRUITMENT HIJOBS HIJOBS



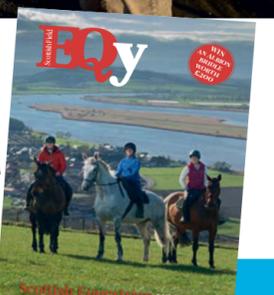
JULY ISSUE OUT NOW

Rugby legend Ian McLauchlan's PASSION FOR ISLAY



A beautiful Berwickshire garden

free SCOTTISH EQUESTRIAN YEAR MAGAZINE



PUBLIC NOTICES

TO PLACE YOUR ADVERT IN THE OBAN TIMES:

TELEPHONE: 01631 568 000
Lines open: Mon to Fri 9am- 5pm

E-MAIL: adverts@obantimes.co.uk
Please remember to give your name, address, postcode and phone number.

www.highland.gov.uk

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997
PLANNING (LISTED BUILDING AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997**

The applications listed below, along with plans and other documents submitted with them, may be examined online at <http://wam.highland.gov.uk> or electronically at your nearest Service Point. You can find your nearest Service Point via the following link https://www.highland.gov.uk/directory/16/a_to_z

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
17/02623/FUL	Land 250M SW of The Glebe	Isle of Eigg	Erection of four detached community-owned houses, including construction of access track and infrastructure

Time period for comments is 14 days
ePlanning Centre, The Highland Council, Glenurquhart Road, INVERNESS IV3 5NX
Email: eplanning@highland.gov.uk

Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

TRANSPORT SCOTLAND

THE A82 TRUNK ROAD (GLENDOE ROAD, FORT AUGUSTUS) (TEMPORARY VEHICLE WIDTH RESTRICTION) ORDER 2017

THE SCOTTISH MINISTERS give notice that they have made the above Order under sections 2(1) and (2), 4(1) and 14(1)(a) and (4) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, temporarily prohibiting traffic on that length of the A82 Dalnottar - Inverness Trunk Road from a point 4.3 kilometres or thereby northeast of its junction with the B862 Glendoe Road, Fort Augustus in a north eastwards direction to a point 6.3 kilometres or thereby northeast of that junction with the B862 Glendoe Road, Fort Augustus, a distance of 2 kilometres or thereby. The Order, which is required to facilitate resurfacing works will be in operation from the 18th June 2017 until the 4th July 2017. The Order does not apply to vehicles while being used in an emergency for fire brigade, coastguard, ambulance or police purposes or vehicles being used to carry out the works but will only have effect in relation to such lengths of road as indicated by the appropriate traffic signs.

ALTERNATIVE ROUTES
Alternative route for traffic will be signposted. Detailed descriptions can be obtained from BEAR Scotland LTD, BEAR House, Inverlmond Road, Perth PH1 3TW

A copy of the Order and this Notice will be available on the Transport Scotland website at <https://www.transport.gov.scot/road-orders/?roadorderregion=1291>

For information about roadworks on motorways and trunk roads visit www.trafficscotland.org.uk

F BROWN
A member of the staff of the Scottish Ministers
Transport Scotland, Buchanan House, 58 Port Dundas Road, Glasgow G4 0HF

Argyll and Bute Council

PLANNING

These applications listed below together with other related documents may be inspected between 09:00-12:30 -13.30-16:00 hrs Monday to Friday at Municipal Buildings Albany Street Oban PA34 4AW, 1A Manse Brae Lochgilphead PA31 8RD, at the alternative locations detailed below during their normal opening times or by logging on to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 (AS AMENDED), RELATED PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

Ref. No.	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
17/01509/PPP	Renewal of planning permission in principle reference 13/02720/PPP (Site for the erection of dwellinghouse)	Land East Of Laggan Croft Port Ramsay Isle Of Lismore Oban Argyll And Bute PA34 5UN	Sub Post Office Lismore
17/01482/PPP	Renewal of planning permission in principle reference 14/01313/PPP (Site for the erection of dwellinghouse)	Land East Of Traighuaine Arduaine Argyll And Bute PA34 40X	Sub Post Office Ardfren
17/01465/PP	Erection of 28 bedroom hotel	Former Argyll Hotel Site Corran Esplanade Oban Argyll And Bute PA34 5PZ	Oban Area Office
17/01120/PP	Alterations to existing quay, erection of shed, improved vehicular access and car parking and associated works	Milton Harbour Caolis Isle Of Tiree Argyll And Bute	Tiree Area Office
17/01290/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse, installation of septic tank and formation of vehicular access	Land North Of Anam Cara Benderloch Argyll And Bute	Sub Post Office Connel
17/01475/PP	Site for the erection of dwellinghouse and installation of septic tank	Land South Of Inveralt Cottage Barcaldine Oban Argyll And Bute PA37 15F	Sub Post Office Connel
17/01401/PP	Demolition of dwellinghouse and erection of replacement dwellinghouse, installation of sewage treatment plant and formation of vehicular access	Gartloist Smiddy Bowmore Isle Of Islay Argyll And Bute PA43 7LW	Bowmore Area Office Isle of Islay
17/01472/PP	Erection of chocolate factory/retail unit and formation of vehicular access	Land North West Of Tourist Information Centre Craignure Isle Of Mull Argyll And Bute	Sub Post Office Craignure
17/01112/PP	Erection of telecommunications equipment compound with 20 metre high lattice tower and associated works	Land Approx. 1396 Metres South East Of Achinreir Farm Barcaldine Oban Argyll And Bute	Sub Post Office Connel
17/00334/PP	Erection of telecommunications equipment compound with 15 metre lattice tower and associated works	Land North East Of Torrabus Cottage Port Askaig Isle Of Islay Argyll And Bute	Sub Post Office Port Askaig
17/01402/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse, formation of vehicular access and installation of septic tank and soakaway	Land North Of Yum Yum Caolis Isle Of Tiree Argyll And Bute	Tiree Area Office
17/01517/PP	Site for the erection of dwellinghouse	Land West Of Manna House Manna Isle Of Tiree Argyll And Bute	Tiree Area Office
17/01220/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse	Land South Of Barcaldine House Barcaldine Argyll And Bute	Sub Post Office Connel

Written comments can be made to the above address or submitted online <http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/plan-and-comment-planning-applications> within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence. 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. A weekly list of all applications can be viewed at all Area Offices, Council Libraries and on the Councils website.

To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us at: www.argyll-bute.gov.uk
Comhairle Earra - Ghàidheal agus Bhòid

Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

TRANSPORT SCOTLAND

THE A82 TRUNK ROAD (GLENDOE VILLAGE) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF SPECIFIED TURNS AND WIDTH RESTRICTION) ORDER 2017

THE SCOTTISH MINISTERS give notice that they have made the above Order under sections 2(1) and (2), 4(1) and 14(1)(a) and (4) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, temporarily prohibiting traffic on that length of the A82 Dalnottar - Inverness Trunk Road from a point 50 metres or thereby southwest of the eastmost junction with the access road to Tigh Phuirt Glendoe northeastwards to a point 50 metres or thereby northeast of the Tigh Phuirt access road, a distance of 100 metres or thereby from making the following turns:

All right turns from the northeast bound carriageway of the A82 to the unclassified road leading to Tigh Phuirt, Glendoe.
All left turns from the southeast bound carriageway of the A82 to the unclassified road leading to Tigh Phuirt, Glendoe.
All right turns from the unclassified road leading from Tigh Phuirt, Glendoe to the northeast bound carriageway of the A82.
All left turns from the unclassified road leading from Tigh Phuirt, Glendoe to the southeast bound carriageway of the A82.
Temporarily prohibit vehicles in excess of 2.6 metres wide from using that length of the A82 Dalnottar - Inverness Trunk Road from a point 1 kilometre or thereby southeast of its junction with the B863 Kinlochleven Road north westwards to a point 300 metres or thereby southwest of that junction, in Glendoe Village, a distance of 1.3 kilometres or thereby.

(i) The Order, which is required to facilitate works on that length of Trunk Road, will be in operation from 18 June 2017 until 30 June 2017 and will only have effect in relation to such part or parts of the length of road as is indicated by the appropriate traffic signs. The Order does not apply to vehicles while being used in connection with the placing of the required signage or vehicles being used in an emergency for fire brigade, coastguard, ambulance or police purposes or to acts done with the permission or upon the direction of a police constable in uniform.

ALTERNATIVE ROUTES
The alternative routes for traffic during the prohibition will be signposted. Detailed descriptions can also be obtained at BEAR Scotland Limited, BEAR House, Inverlmond Road, Inverlmond Industrial Estate, Perth, PH1 3TW.

A copy of the Order and this Notice will be available on the Transport Scotland website at www.transportscotland.gov.uk/road/policy/legal-requirements/road-and-traffic-orders/TROs

For information about roadworks on motorways and trunk roads visit www.trafficscotland.org.uk

F BROWN
A member of the staff of the Scottish Ministers
Transport Scotland, Buchanan House, 58 Port Dundas Road, Glasgow G4 0HF

First Registration of a Croft

Mr Colin Jamieson has registered his croft 7 Dalnabreck, Arisaig & Moidart on the Crofting Register held by the Registers of Scotland.

Any person who wishes to challenge the registration may apply to the Scottish Land Court by March 16, 2018.

Details of the registration can be found at www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home. The croft registration number is C3852

First Registration of a Croft

Kathleen Millar has registered her croft 19 Cleadale, Small Isles on the Crofting Register held by the Registers of Scotland.

Any person who wishes to challenge the registration may apply to the Scottish Land Court by March 7, 2018.

Details of the registration can be found at www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home. The croft registration number is C4143

69%
of the business community read the regional press

Source: Business Choice II, The Newspaper Society

Regional Press
closer to home

GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENCE

TSL Contractors Ltd trading as TSL Contractors Ltd of Craignure, Isle of Mull, Argyll PA65 6AY is applying to change an existing licence as follows to add an operating centre to keep 12 goods vehicles and 12 trailers at Land opposite MacQueen Bros, Glengallan Road, Oban, PA34 4HG. Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A guide to making representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's Office.

sse Public Exhibition

Coire Glas pumped storage proposal

SSE is proposing a revised planning submission for the Coire Glas pumped storage scheme at Loch Lochy.

We are holding a public exhibition in order to provide the local community the opportunity to meet members of the project team and discuss our proposals.

There will be a final exhibition in Autumn 2017 prior to submission of the planning application to Scottish Ministers for determination. Copies of the exhibition boards will be available from (www.sse.com/coireglas) from Thursday 28th June

Date: Wednesday 28th June Time: 3pm - 7pm
Location: Glengarry Community Hall, Invergarry PH35 4HG

For questions about the project, please contact,
Corporate Affairs, SSE, 1 Waterloo Street, Glasgow
Email: corinna.scholes@sse.com

CROFTING COMMISSION COIMISEAN NA CROITEARACHD DECROFTING APPLICATION

J MacLachlan
2 Unachan, Kilmonivaig
*2.24 ha - General purpose 76677

Written comments from any member of the crofting community within the locality of the croft may be sent to the Crofting Commission by 13/07/2017 - Crofting Commission, Leachkin Road, Inverness, IV3 8NW, info@crofting.scotland.gov.uk

*The Commission will consider any expressions of demand when deciding whether to issue a Direction.

First Registration of a Croft
Dugald Cameron has registered his croft 40 Banavie (Share) Banavie, Kilmallie on the Crofting Register held by the Registers of Scotland. Any person who wishes to challenge the registration may apply to the Scottish Land Court by February 22, 2018. Details of the registration can be found at www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home. The croft registration number is C4071.

Argyll and Bute Council

UNAUDITED ANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1ST APRIL 2016 TO 31ST MARCH 2017

Public notice is given in accordance with under the Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2014, that:

(a) Copies of the Unaudited Annual Accounts of Argyll and Bute Council and applicable charities for the period from 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017 will be available for public inspection in the offices of the Council at the following locations:

Council Headquarters, Kilmory, Lochgilphead; Manse Brae, Lochgilphead; Hill Street, Dunoon; Burnet Building, Campbelltown; Municipal Buildings, Albany Street, Oban; Eaglesham House, Mount Pleasant Road, Rothesay; Jamieson Street, Bowmore; Breadalbane Street, Tobermory; Crossapol, Tiree (restricted hours); Helensburgh and Lomond Civic Centre, East Clyde Street, Helensburgh.

A copy of the Unaudited Annual Accounts will also be available on the following website: www.argyll-bute.gov.uk

The Unaudited Annual Accounts will be open to Public Inspection during business hours from Monday 3rd July 2017 until Friday 21st July 2017 inclusive.

(b) Any person interested may inspect a copy of the annual accounts to be audited, all books, deeds contracts, bills, vouchers and receipts related thereto, and may take copies of any or all parts of the accounts;

(c) Any person interested may object to the annual accounts or to any part of those statements, no later than Monday 24th July 2017, by:

- 1) sending their objection in writing, together with a statement of the grounds thereof to David McConnell, Assistant Director, Audit Scotland, 4th Floor Suite, The Atheneum Building, 8 Nelson Mandela Place, Glasgow, G2 1BT and;
- 2) sending their objection in writing, together with a statement of the grounds thereof to the Controller of Audit, 4th Floor, 102 West Port, Edinburgh, EH3 9DN and;
- 3) sending a copy of that objection and statement to the authority and to any officer of the authority who may be concerned, both at Strategic Finance, Council Headquarters, Kilmory, Lochgilphead, PA31 8RT.

(d) The auditor shall, if requested by the person objecting, the authority, or by any officer of the authority who may be concerned, afford to that person or authority or officer, as the case may be, an opportunity of appearing before and being heard by the auditor with respect to that objection; and any such person or officer may so appear and be heard either personally or by a representative.

Cleland Sneddon, Chief Executive
15 June 2017

To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us at: www.argyll-bute.gov.uk
Comhairle Earra - Ghàidheal agus Bhòid

THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL (LOCHABER) (DISABLED PERSONS' PARKING PLACES) ORDER 2011 AMENDMENT ORDER 2017

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that The Highland Council on 6th June 2017 made, in terms of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the above Order which will come into operation on 19 June 2017

The Order was previously advertised by Notice in the Lochaber Times on 13th April June 2017 and the effect of the Order is as described in those Notices.

Copies of the made Order, together with a copy of the relevant map can be inspected at the Highland Council Service Point at Lochaber House, High Street Fort William PH33 6EL on weekdays during normal office hours.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or of any of its provisions on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or that a requirement of that Act or of any relevant regulations made thereunder has not been complied with may, within six weeks from the date on which the Order was made, make application for the purpose to the Court of Session.

15 June 2017 Mrs Lesley Howie, Legal Manager, Highland Council HQ, Glenurquhart Rd, Inverness

MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010

SME: PLAT-I DEVICE TESTING, CONNELL SOUND, CONNELL, ARGYLL.

Notice is hereby given that Sustainable Marine Energy Ltd (SME) has applied to the Scottish Ministers of the Scottish Government, under Part 4 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, in respect of PLAT-I device testing at:

Location	Latitude Co-ordinates	Longitude Co-ordinates
Connell Sound, Oban	56 27.30'N	005 23.94'W
	56 27.29'N	005 23.99'W
	56 27.31'N	005 23.99'W
	56 27.31'N	005 23.89'W
	56 27.29'N	005 23.87'W
	56 27.30'N	005 23.88'W
	56 27.30'N	005 23.98'W

(WGS84)

Plans showing the position of the works may be inspected at Connell Village Store and Post Office, Connell, Argyll, PA37 1PA.

Objections relating to safety of navigation or environmental issues in respect of the application should be made in writing to: Licensing Operations Team, Marine Scotland, Marine Laboratory, 375 Victoria Road, Aberdeen, AB11 9DB within 28 days of the date of this notice or by email to: MS.MarineRenewables@gov.scot, quoting reference:

MCMS No. 06398
Applicant: Sustainable Marine Energy Ltd (SME)

Argyll and Bute Council

UNAUDITED ANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1ST APRIL 2016 TO 31ST MARCH 2017

Public notice is given in accordance with under the Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2014, that:

(a) Copies of the Unaudited Annual Accounts of Argyll and Bute Council and applicable charities for the period from 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017 will be available for public inspection in the offices of the Council at the following locations:

Council Headquarters, Kilmory, Lochgilphead; Manse Brae, Lochgilphead; Hill Street, Dunoon; Burnet Building, Campbelltown; Municipal Buildings, Albany Street, Oban; Eaglesham House, Mount Pleasant Road, Rothesay; Jamieson Street, Bowmore; Breadalbane Street, Tobermory; Crossapol, Tiree (restricted hours); Helensburgh and Lomond Civic Centre, East Clyde Street, Helensburgh.

A copy of the Unaudited Annual Accounts will also be available on the following website: www.argyll-bute.gov.uk

The Unaudited Annual Accounts will be open to Public Inspection during business hours from Monday 3rd July 2017 until Friday 21st July 2017 inclusive.

(b) Any person interested may inspect a copy of the annual accounts to be audited, all books, deeds contracts, bills, vouchers and receipts related thereto, and may take copies of any or all parts of the accounts;

(c) Any person interested may object to the annual accounts or to any part of those statements, no later than Monday 24th July 2017, by:

- 1) sending their objection in writing, together with a statement of the grounds thereof to David McConnell, Assistant Director, Audit Scotland, 4th Floor Suite, The Atheneum Building, 8 Nelson Mandela Place, Glasgow, G2 1BT and;
- 2) sending their objection in writing, together with a statement of the grounds thereof to the Controller of Audit, 4th Floor, 102 West Port, Edinburgh, EH3 9DN and;
- 3) sending a copy of that objection and statement to the authority and to any officer of the authority who may be concerned, both at Strategic Finance, Council Headquarters, Kilmory, Lochgilphead, PA31 8RT.

(d) The auditor shall, if requested by the person objecting, the authority, or by any officer of the authority who may be concerned, afford to that person or authority or officer, as the case may be, an opportunity of appearing before and being heard by the auditor with respect to that objection; and any such person or officer may so appear and be heard either personally or by a representative.

Cleland Sneddon, Chief Executive
15 June 2017

To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us at: www.argyll-bute.gov.uk
Comhairle Earra - Ghàidheal agus Bhòid

To advertise in the Oban Times Public Notice section please call 01631 568000

West Coast PROPERTY GUIDE

- ✓ LETTINGS
- ✓ COMMERCIAL PROPERTY
- ✓ SALE
- ✓ PROPERTY REVIEWS
- ✓ PROPERTY NEWS
- ✓ LOCAL ESTATE AGENTS

TO PLACE YOUR ADVERT IN THE OBAN TIMES:

TELEPHONE: 01631 568 000
Lines open: Mon to Fri 9am- 5pm

FAX: 01631 568001

POST & IN PERSON: Lochavullin Industrial Estate, Crannog Lane, Oban, PA34 4HB
Office hours: Mon - Thurs 9- 5pm, Fri 9 - 4pm

E-MAIL: adverts@obantimes.co.uk
Please remember to give your name, address, postcode and phone number.

CIH Scotland welcomes rise in new affordable housing approvals



THE Chartered Institute of Housing Scotland has commented on the latest quarterly statistics, published on Tuesday (June 13) by Scotland's chief statistician. CIH Scotland executive director Annie Mauger said: 'A 29 per cent rise in the number of approvals for affordable housing over the year ending March 2017 is to be welcomed, particularly when we consider the Scottish Government's ambitious target to deliver 50,000 new affordable homes by the end of the Scottish Parliamentary term in 2021. 'I know that the Scottish Government is doing all it can to ensure that the supply

of new affordable homes increases to meet that target. There are always challenges in building capacity to deliver when significant investment is forthcoming. Be it in terms of land supply, planning policy, or finance and investment, we are bound to encounter obstacles on the road to delivering that commitment in what continues to be a challenging economic environment. For its part, CIH Scotland and its membership of housing professionals throughout Scotland will continue to work closely with the Scottish Government to help pinpoint these obstacles and to help overcome them.'

Home buyer activity in April down on March but up on a year ago

On a non-seasonally adjusted basis, lending in April:

Home buyers borrowed £9.6bn, down 14 per cent on March but up 19 per cent on April 2016. This came to 51,200 loans, down 16 per cent on March but up nine per cent on April 2016. Within this, first-time buyers borrowed £4.1bn, down 16 per cent on March but up eight per cent on April 2016. They took out 25,400 loans, down 18 per cent month-on-month but up two per cent year-on-year.

Meanwhile, home movers borrowed £5.5bn, down 11 per cent on March but up 28 per cent year-on-year. This equated to 25,700 loans, down 15 per cent month-on-month but up 17 per cent compared to April 2016.

Home-owner remortgage activity was down 16 per cent by value and 18 per cent by volume on March. Compared to a year ago, remortgage lending was down 15 per cent by value and 16 per cent by volume.

Gross buy-to-let saw month-on-month

decreases, down 17 per cent by value and 16 per cent by volume. Compared to April 2016, the number of loans increased one per cent and the amount borrowed remained unchanged.

Paul Smee, director general of the CML, commented: 'April comparisons are distorted by the weakness last year following the stamp duty changes, and the normal seasonal lending surge in March.

'But the seasonally-adjusted picture shows lending relatively unchanged month-on-month across all lending segments.

'Heading into the summer months, we expect the market to remain slightly lopsided. Buy-to-let and home movers may well remain subdued, as they have been for the past six months. But both first-time buyer and remortgage lending should maintain momentum on the coattails of the attractive deals available.'

On a seasonally adjusted period, first-time buyers and home movers went up by

value and remained relatively unchanged by volume compared to March. Buy-to-let and remortgage activity also remained relatively unchanged in April from March. The proportion of household income used to service capital and interest rates continued to be near historic lows in April for both first-time buyers and home movers at 17.3 per cent and 17.5 per cent respectively.

Affordability metrics for first-time buyers saw the typical loan size increase from £133,500 in March to £136,500 in April. The average household income increased to £40,700 from £40,000. This meant the income multiple went from 3.53 to 3.57.

The average amount borrowed by home movers in the UK increased to £176,500 from £172,400 the previous month, while the average home mover household income increased month-on-month from £54,100 to £55,200. The income multiple for the average home mover went up to 3.35 from 3.34.



07872 986 164
info@fiuran.co.uk
www.fiuran.co.uk

Fiuran PROPERTY

3 Bedroom detached Bungalow | Gowan Brae, Taynuilt PA35 1JE

- Appealing 3 Bedroom detached bungalow
- Vestibule, Hallway, Kitchen, Dining Room
- Lounge, 3 double Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Centrally situated in popular village of Taynuilt
- Fully double glazed, electric storage heating
- Large Loft space with development potential
- Excellent storage including integral Garage
- Easily maintained, enclosed garden
- Private, off-road parking

Offers Over £225,000

ROOM TO LET

Double room with sea view in Oban centre. Shared kitchen and bathroom. No smoking, No parties, no pets. £120 p/w including all bills and Wi-Fi. Would suit professional person or student. Can be a twin room for £150 p/w. Landlord reg: Pending. Contact: 07595333454

ELLENABEICH, ISLE OF SEIL

PRETTY 2 BEDROOM COTTAGE TO LET

Furnished, gas C/H. Initial 1 year lease. Deposit and references. No pets or smokers. £500 pcm plus c/tax and utilities. Landlord Registration No: 237338/130/28011 EPC G16. TEL: 07548 741522

TEN STEPS TO BUYING A HOME



Whether you are in the market for your first home, or want to move up the property ladder, buying a house is probably the biggest financial commitment you will make. At West Property, we are here to help you make the right decisions, starting with the ten basic steps to home buying.

1. **Get independent advice.** Speak with a financial advisor to see how much you can borrow based on your salary and lifestyle.
2. **Make sure you can afford it.** It's important to work out a realistic budget before you even start your hunt.
3. **Choose the right mortgage.** With so many options, it can be confusing - that's where an experienced advisor will come in handy. We recommend getting an Agreement in Principle.

4. **Find a solicitor.** They will help you through the legal process.
 5. **Start searching.** Browse our website or adverts in the newspaper, or come by the office.
 6. **Get viewing.** Look at a few properties to get the hang of what to look for, and if you see something you like, go back with someone who can give you an opinion.
 7. **Read the Home Report.** This will have the survey, a property questionnaire and an energy report.
 8. **Make an offer.** Speak to your solicitor first and then you will put in a bid.
 9. **Finalising the mortgage.** Get your mortgage approved - if you have an Agreement in Principle this will be a bit easier.
 10. **Arrange the legals.** Work with your solicitor to finalise the details of your offer, each of which - the missives - will have to be negotiated, agreed and clearly set out in the contract.
- Give us a call and let us help you every step of the way.

info@west-property.co.uk
www.west-property.co.uk
See our independent reviews on www.allagents.co.uk

PROPERTIES FOR SALE & TO LET

CORRY FARMHOUSE, ISLE OF MULL

- Detached farmhouse and 2 outbuildings with planning permission
- Spectacular sea views over the Sound of Mull
- Excellent holiday let potential
- Set in 14 acres of land
- EPC Rating - D65

OIRO £480,000

This traditional detached farmhouse is situated within approx. 14 acres, above the Sound of Mull with far reaching views in all directions. Upon entering the property through the front door, the central hall leads to a cosy sitting room, complete with wood-burning stove, ideal for those chilly winter nights! The kitchen diner leads, through patio doors, to a large conservatory to the front of the property where you can make the most of this fabulous setting, watching the ferries sail up the Sound of Mull and looking for the islands famous sea eagles!

RIVERSIDE COTTAGE, SALEN

- Semi-detached Cottage
- 2 Bedrooms/1 Bathroom
- Views over River Aros
- Renovated to a high standard throughout
- Excellent Holiday Let
- EPC Rating - D62

OIRO £195,000

Riverside Cottage - A beautifully maintained two bedroom cottage nestled in a cluster of houses on the banks of the Aros River close to Salen on the Isle of Mull. Renovated and upgraded in 2010, Riverside Cottage is a thoroughly modernised traditional cottage and comprises an open plan lounge, kitchen and dining area, two bedrooms and bathroom. The lounge area is a cosy place to relax, with its fireplace, wood burning stove and views towards the old Aros bridge.

LERAGS, OBAN

- Spacious detached bungalow
- 3 Bedrooms/2 Bathrooms
- With 0.4 Acre Plot with Planning Permission
- Lifestyle & income opportunity
- 1.5 Acres in total
- EPC Rating - E(51)

OIRO £348,000

A spacious three bedroom detached bungalow with plot located in the beautiful Lerags Glen only a 10-minute drive south of Oban. Enjoying stunning loch views and an elevated secluded position, the bungalow would make an ideal family home or holiday let investment. The building plot comprises approximately 0.4 acres and enjoys panoramic loch views across fields and woodland. The plot is located below the main house and has detailed planning permission. 1.5 acres in total.

ACH-NA-CAORANN, DERVAIG

- Detached Bungalow
- 3 Bedrooms/2 Bathrooms
- Large Garden
- Elevated Situation
- Panoramic Views over Dervaig and Loch Cuiin
- EPC Rating: F37

OIRO £195,000

Ach-na-Caorann: A spacious detached bungalow with three double bedrooms, in an elevated situation enjoying panoramic views over the village of Dervaig to Loch Cuiin. The property offers spacious accommodation and a practical layout, making it the ideal family home or holiday let investment. The accommodation consists of a bright open-plan kitchen which leads to a dining area which opens onto the lounge. The lounge area benefits from a fireplace (currently unused but could be reinstated) which offers potential for installation of a wood burning stove.

BROOKE COTTAGE, ISLE OF MULL

- Detached 1 & 1/2 Storey House
- 3 Bedrooms/1 Bathroom
- 1 Shower Room
- Sea Loch Views
- Attached garage & private garden
- Established holiday let
- EPC Rating - E53

OIRO £275,000

Brooke Cottage is a well-presented 3 bedroom 1 1/2 storey detached house located in the desirable area of Lochdon on the Isle of Mull. The property currently operates as a successful holiday let property, achieving approximately 30 et weeks per year. The accommodation is arranged over 2 floors, on the ground floor, a sizable porch takes you into an open hallway area. Leading off the hallway, you find a bright, airy kitchen fitted with plentiful modern units and the large window allows you to enjoy views over the front garden to Loch Don. To the rear of the kitchen is a generous utility room with built in units and back door.

DUNOLLIE ROAD, OBAN

- Delightful detached bungalow
- 3 Bedrooms/1 Bathroom
- Convenient location
- Garden to front and rear
- Excellent Family Home
- EPC Rating D (61)

OIRO £195,000

Grianan - A unique opportunity to purchase a sizable family home within an easy walking distance of Oban's local amenities. The property comprises a cosy lounge with wood burning stove and patio doors out onto a large covered to the front of the house, ideal for sitting and enjoying the view or even dining washing on those showery days! Adjacent to the lounge is a bright and generous dining room, perfect for family meals and entertaining guests. The kitchen features fitted units, a gas cooker, washing machine and tall fridge freezer.

GLENCRUITEN ROAD, OBAN

- Detached House
- 4 Bedrooms/2 Bathroom
- Easy walking distance to the town
- Off road parking
- Large Conservatory
- EPC Rating - F

Guide price £200,000

Fair Haven is a well-proportioned family home located only a short walk from all of Oban's amenities. The ground floor comprises a large conservatory which is currently used as a bright lounge area which benefits from patio doors which lead out to the garden area. There is also a large dining room, well-appointed kitchen and double bedroom on the ground floor. Upstairs there are a further three double bedrooms (1 ensuite) and a family bathroom.

POLFEARN HOUSE, TAYNUILT

- First Floor Flat
- 1 Bedroom / 1 Bathroom
- Lovely views
- Rural, quiet location
- EPC Rating - C (69)

OIRO £75,000

No. 6 Polfearn House - A well proportioned one bedroom flat which enjoys views of Loch Etive. The flat is accessed via a communal carpeted stairwell and comprises hall, lounge, kitchen, bedroom and bathroom. The lounge and kitchen boast large windows where you can enjoy views over fields to Loch Etive and the hills beyond. The property is entirely double glazed and heating is provided via electric panel and storage heaters. Hot water is provided by an electric immersion.

- ✓ FREE Lettings Assessments
 - ✓ FREE Valuations
 - ✓ Professional Service
 - ✓ Experienced Local Team
 - ✓ Fast Results
- 9 Combie Street
Oban, Argyll
PA34 4HN
Tel: 01631 569 466
- North Road
Fort William
PH33 6PP
Tel: 01397 747123

Call, email or visit us online to find out how we can get your property moving ... today.



West Coast CLASSIFIEDS

BUY LOCAL SELL LOCAL
 TRADE LOCAL SWAP LOCAL

TO PLACE YOUR ADVERT IN THE OBAN TIMES:

TELEPHONE: 01631 568 000
Lines open: Mon to Fri 9am- 5pm

FAX: 01631 568001

POST & IN PERSON: Lochavullin Industrial Estate, Crannog Lane, Oban, PA34 4HB
Office hours: Mon - Thurs 9- 5pm, Fri 9 - 4pm

E-MAIL: adverts@obantimes.co.uk
www.westcoastclassifieds.co.uk

LOCAL SERVICES

MOBILITY

ACORN STAIRLIFTS



On display at
MATHESONS FURNISHINGS
Soroba Road Oban PA344HQ
01631 565195 info@mathesons.co.uk

QUARRYING & AGGREGATE

Argyll Resources Group

QUARRYING & AGGREGATE
• AGGREGATES • GRAVEL • SAND • CONCRETE



Our quarrying operations service the local construction industry and Ready Mixed Concrete operations.
We have sites at:-
Upper Soroba, Oban - Hard Rock and Aggregate production
Pennygown, Isle of Mull - Hard Rock and Aggregate production
Torsay Sand Quarry, Isle of Mull - Concrete and Building Sand production

Contact: Call and speak to our commercial team.
Tel: 01631 566370 (Oban) / 01397 701414 (Fort William)
Email: info@argyllresources.co.uk
Open Monday - Friday - 8am to 5pm.

CHIMNEY SERVICES

ARGYLL & ISLES CHIMNEY SERVICES

07834 640989

SWEEPING THROUGH ARGYLL!
www.argyllchimneyservices.co.uk

When Was The Last Time You Had Your Chimney Cleaned?

- AWARD WINNING POWER SWEEPING SYSTEM
- OPEN FIRES • WOOD BURNING STOVES
- OIL & GAS FLUES
- AGA & RAYBURN
- BIOMASS FLUES
- CCTV CHIMNEY INSPECTION



CHIMNEY SWEEPING THROUGHOUT ARGYLL, LORN AND THE ISLES

REMOVALS & STORAGE

MACQUEEN BROS LTD

Removals/Storage & Self Storage
Full range of packing materials
We store boats, caravans, trailers etc
Glengallan Road, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HG
Tel: (01631) 564848
www.macqueenbros.com

TRADE SUPPLIES

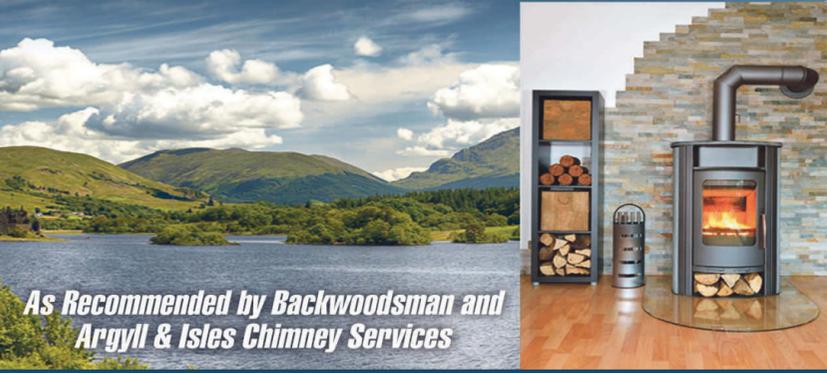
TRADE DEALS JUNE

Ask in branch for more details...
Sinclair Dr, Oban PA34 4DR
T: 01631 562208
North Rd, Fort William PH33 6TQ
T: 01397 700744
JEWSON

PROPERTY SERVICES

West Coast PROPERTY SERVICES

Stove Installations, Maintenance
All General building works



As Recommended by Backwoodsman and Argyll & Isles Chimney Services

Tel: 07717 825 402 or 07891 518 573

HOME IMPROVEMENTS

Gordon & Strathern Ltd
HOME IMPROVEMENTS



Kitchens, Glazing, Windows & Doors, Rooflights, Flat Roofs, Roofline, Porches, Conservatories, Sun Rooms, Extensions, New Builds including Architectural Services
TEL 01631 720074 or 07776402550
sales@homeimprovementsargyll.co.uk
www.homeimprovementsargyll.co.uk

GARDEN SERVICE & REPAIRS

Service & Repair of Garden Machinery

Allan MacGilvray
The Boat Store
Lower Dunollie Road, Oban, PA34 5PJ
Tel: 01631 563 553
E: am.machineryrepairs@outlook.com



OBAN BLINDS

Oban-Blinds

Vertical Blinds • Roller Blinds
Blackout Blinds • Venetian Blinds
Free Measuring and Estimating Service

Vast range of Domestic and Commercial blinds
Telephone: Donald Cameron
07979 826614
Email: oban.blinds@hotmail.co.uk

Oban Times Oban Times
TRADE CLASSIFIED TRADE CLASSIFIED

FREE LISTINGS FOR ITEMS UNDER £100

Advertise your unwanted items in The Oban Times, Campbelltown Courier or Argyllshire Advertiser and your ad will also appear online at
www.westcoastclassifieds.co.uk.

ANTIQUE AND COLLECTABLES

BRASS BED Antique Edwardian 6' length x 4' width. Phone for details and price, Under £100 Tel 07919 106318

COLLECTION OF VINTAGE CAMERAS fair condition and untested, £99 Tel 01631 720159

SOUTH PERSIAN ANTIQUE RUGS 2 Handwoven 1 at 6' and 1 at 4' in length, can sell separately, £60 & £40 Tel 07919 106318

STEAMER LUGGAGE TRUNK Vintage brown with wood trim, well used but in good condition. Oban, £50 Tel 07733 485482

AUDIO EQUIPMENT

SPEAKER STANDS black, height adjustable speaker stands, £20 Tel 07780 795870

BABY EQUIPMENT

FISHER-PRICE precious planet 2 in 1 wind up mobile, suitable for cot or buggy, £25 Tel 07733 485482

BICYCLES

GENTS BIKE 18 speed, cost £170, £60 Tel 07775 836445

LADIES PUSH BIKE Probike Explorer, suit age 12 plus, in good condition. Oban, £35 Tel 07733 485482

BRIC-A-BRAC

BARBECUE TOOLS Brand new barbecue tools including tongs, thermometer, fish slice, basting brush, skewers etc, £10 Tel 01631 563096

BUILDING / DIY

CHIMNEY POTTS Victorian and Edwardian fireclay chimney pots for replacements. Various sizes, shapes and colours. Prices start at £40, Tel 01631 564578

LADDER small 3 section aluminium ladder, closed 7', open 21', never used, £60 Tel 07766 714414

RAIN HOPPERS Cast iron rain hoppers for replacement use. Victorian era. Priced at £25, Tel 01631 564578

CAMPING & CARAVAN EQUIPMENT

AIR MATTRESSES 2 unused single air mattresses, £5 each Tel 07796 104145

CARAVAN & MOTOR HOME Fiamma Levelling Ramps X2 Towing Mirrors Blinds Twin Pack Toilet Fluid Propane Regulator Triple Waste Outlet Adaptor/Reducers, £40 Tel 07999 680085

CARAVAN/MOTORHOME Wastemaster Large 38Ltr capacity comes with carry bag, Aqua Roll Large 40Ltr capacity collapsible handle, both great condition, £65 Tel 01631 680085

OVEN Small electric oven suitable for a caravan, £10 Tel 01631 720501

TENT new and unused two person tent, with twin zip and roll up entrance, £12 Tel 07796 104145

DOMESTIC APPLIANCES

BELLING COOKING RANGE All electric, 90cm, stainless steel double oven, 5 ring hob with extraction hood and chimney, excellent condition, £200 ono Tel 01631 563046

COOKER Bush white 50 cm wide freestanding electric cooker, 4 metal hobs, good condition. Calls evening, £50 Telephone 01852 300154

DISHWASHER Pro-Action white dishwasher, full size, excellent condition, used just a few times. Calls evening, £99.99 Tel 01852 300154

ELECTRIC CARPET SHAMPOO Cleaner, not used often, £35 Tel 07502 046641

LG TOWER Sear & Stew Slow Cooker, used twice, £15 Tel 07502 046641

VACUUM CLEANER Vax cylinder vacuum, £10 Tel 01631 720501

VAX VACUUM CLEANER Vax vacuum cleaner, upright, excellent condition. Calls evening, £40 Tel 01852 300154

FURNITURE

BEDSIDE CABINET SET Pair of bedside cabinets. Colour: antique pine. Each cabinet includes three drawers. Very good condition, £25 Tel 07920 487939

BOOKCASE Large, solid, light coloured wood 34"wx15½"dx61"n lovely piece of furniture, £85 Tel 01631 570955

IKEA EKTORP SOFAS 2 and 3 three seater Ikea Ektorp sofas both including spare covers (red), both good condition. Two seater £195 3 seater £230, Tel 01631 720425

IKEA WARDROBE Ikea pine coloured, two-door wardrobe with frosted effect doors. Very good condition, £50 Tel 07920 487939

RECLINING CHAIR Black reclining chair, good condition, £140 ono Tel 01631 566001

GARDEN

RAIN HOPPERS Victorian cast iron rain hoppers for replacements on older houses or these make nice garden planters, £25 each Telephone 01631 564578

SUN LOUNGERS Malibu black, set of two, 1 in excellent condition, 1 still in original wrapping, cost £50, sell for, £40 Telephone 07733 485482

VINTAGE CART WHEELS and smaller implement wheels. Colourful garden display items. Prices from £30, Telephone 01631 564578

VINTAGE CHIMNEY POTTS Vintage chimney pots in various sizes and styles, make lovely garden planters, prices from £40, Telephone 01631 564578

VINTAGE LAWN ROLLERS cast iron and decorative, for working use or colourful garden feature, various sizes from £90, Telephone 01631 564578

GARDEN MACHINERY

HONDA LAWN MOWER 18 inch cut, serviced and in good condition, £99 Telephone 01631 720159

VIKING STRIMMER Viking electric trimmer model TE300, £25 Telephone 07899 901775

HEALTH AND FITNESS

FIT FLOPS genuine and brand new, size 6, pewter, wrong size purchased, cost £60, will sell for, £50 Telephone 07733 485482

HOBBIES AND CRAFTS

MAT MASTER SYSTEM Mat Master System 1260B, Bevel mount cutter, guide rule 120cm. Excellent condition, used once or twice. Calls evening, £99.99 Telephone 01852 300154

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

HOME FURNISHINGS

DOUBLE BED AND MATTRESS Steel framed double bed with nearly new, orthopaedic spring interior mattress, £80 Tel 07920 487939

DUVET SET Brand new single Kingsley Indiana Duvet Set, blue and white print cost new £19.99, £10 Tel 01631 563096

FOOT STOOL Foot stool. Features Queen Anne legs and fabric upholstery. Very good condition, £8 Tel 01586 552534

STOOL Camel stool, walnut wood, excellent condition, black leather cushion, 30cm high. Calls evening, £30 Tel 01852 300154

LEISURE AND LIFESTYLE

HOT STICKS by Babyliiss, in carry case and in excellent condition, £25 Tel 07733 485482

MAIL ORDER

SCOTTISH FIELD CALENDARS featuring spectacular photography of some of our most scenic lochs, rivers, beaches and mountains. Places include: Stirling, Fort William, Glencoe, Aberdeen, Isle of Skye, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Loch Lomond, Kelso, Aviemore, Forfar, Rùm and Eigg, Shetland, Glentworth and Dryburgh. Always a popular gift for family and friends at home or abroad. Order on-line at www.scottishcalendars.co.uk or tel 01371 851868

OBAN TIMES WEST HIGHLAND CALENDAR, fabulous views of the West Highlands portrayed in this handy and conveniently sized calendar. Places include: Inveraray, Appin, Oban, Seil, Isle of Mull, Campbelltown, Tarbert, Machrihanish, Fort William. Ideal for home offices or as a gift. Order on-line at www.scottishcalendars.co.uk or tel 01371 851868

MARINE

LIFEJACKETS X3 Automatic, £35 Tel 01880 820478/07780 638812.

NEW CQR ANCHOR & CHAIN 35lbs, £75 Tel 01880 820478/07780 638812

YAMAHA OUTBOARD 2HP Good Runner, £95 Tel 01880 820478/07780 638812

MISCELLANEOUS

FREE MAGAZINES FREE to uplift. Number of magazines, incl back numbers of WHICH, also about 30 GOOD HOUSEKEEPING. All clean condition, Tel 01546 602701

GARDEN SUN LOUNGERS 2 - quality loungers with cushioned mattresses in excellent condition, £50 Tel 07934 491712

WATER FEATURE bronze effect, mermaid on a shell pool with 3 glass lights, photo available. Cost £350, sell for, £99.99 Tel 07733 485482

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

DRUM Arabic style drum, 18" long, excellent condition with carrying case, £50 Tel 01631 770310

OUTDOOR SPORTS EQUIPMENT

MINI TRAMPOLINE Rebound Air 1m diameter fold up legs, £50 Tel 01397 705818.

SET OF GOLF CLUBS Dunlop with stand bag, never used, £70 Tel 01631 564578

TRIOLOGY GOLF IRONS Full set of trilogy golf irons R/H plus driver, 3 wood, 5 wood, rescue club and putter. Immaculate condition, £70 Tel 07788 833110 or 01631 566443

PET ACCESSORIES

DOG AGILITY Garden dog agility equipment for sale, dog walk, jump stands, weaving poles, all well used, sold separately at various prices, £20 Tel 01855 821519

DOG CAGE Steel dog cage for small dog / puppy. Hardly used. Easy to open and close. Includes carry handle. Very good condition, £10 Telephone 0158552534

DOG GUARD As new non adjustable dog guard. Fits hatchback cars, £20 Tel 07780 795870

PHOTOGRAPHY

TRIPOD Miranda pro video tripod, £10 Tel 01631 720501

POULTRY

PULLETS Skye pure pullets, black or brown, ducks and sheds, Tel 01470 572213

POWER TOOLS

SANDER Bosch Orbital Belt Sander model PSS22, £30 Tel 07899 901775

PERSONAL NOTICE

PRINTING AND STATIONERY

PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL Market your business effectively with professionally designed leaflets, posters and flyers from Krisp Print, Tel 01586 554975.

THANK YOU CARDS New baby or wedding, with a photo of your new arrival or big day. Truly individual, a treasured keepsake. Call Krisp Print, Tel 01586 554975.

TRAILERS

TRAILER ERDE 102, 3x4, galvanised steel, includes fitted LED lights, spare wheel, waterproof cover, £135 Tel 01631 720425

WANTED

GAS CYLINDER
Second hand 47kg Propane gas cylinder. Will collect, cash pay. Contact John Wilson
Tel 07760 491294

THANK YOU

I would like to take the opportunity of thanking everyone who sent me a card or made a phone call following the death of my mother Eileen (Horrell). I was more than a little overwhelmed by the number of cards and phone calls received. Thank you all for your thoughtfulness. Jane MacIntyre, Cuilvona, Ganavan Road, Oban

BIRTHS

GRANT - Dougie, Issy and Jack are delighted to announce the birth of Hamish George on June 6, 2017 at Lorn and Islands Hospital. Huge thanks to all the midwives there.

DEATHS

ANDERSON - Katie (née MacLeod), (Edinburgh/Berneray, North Uist). Peacefully at Manor Grange Care Home on June 4, 2017, Katie, beloved wife of the late George, mother of Rhoda and Betty and granny and great-granny of the family. Service at The Church of The Good Shepherd, Murrayfield Avenue on Tuesday, June 13 at 11.00am. Interment thereafter at Berneray Cemetery, North Uist, on Friday, June 16 at 12.30pm. All are invited. Family flowers only. Collection for St Columba's Hospice.

GILFILLAN - Caroline Allison (née Buchanan). Passed away peacefully at home on June 8, 2017. Dearly beloved wife of Robert, much loved mum to Carol and Claire and Granny to Lewis and Sam. Funeral service will be held at St John's Cathedral on Friday June 16 at 1pm. Thereafter to Pennyfuir Cemetery. Family flowers only please. Retiring collection/donations to Cancer Research UK.

LAMONT - Peacefully at home on June 7, 2017, aged 96 years, Danny Lamont, Tobermory, Isle of Mull, formerly of Rothsay and Edinburgh. Sadly missed by all his family. Funeral service to be held at Tobermory Parish Church on Thursday June 15, 2017 at 11.30am. Thereafter to High Street Cemetery Rothsay on Friday June 16, 2017 at 1pm.

MCDOWALL - Lachlan of Aros and Lettermore, sadly passed away on Sunday June 11, 2017. His love, laughter and warmth will be greatly missed by his family and friends.

MCQUADE - Peacefully, at Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban, on June 13, 2017, in her 73rd year, Ann of 8 Longsdale Terrace, Oban, dearly beloved wife of John and much loved mother of Andrew and Anthony.

TINTO - Mary Catherine Tinto née Watson, 64, of Dervaig, Isle of Mull, peacefully passed away at Craignure Hospital on June 10, 2017. The beloved wife and mother is survived by her husband Tom, daughter June and son Stuart. The funeral service will be held at Melrose Parish Church, on Friday, June 16 at 12.45 p.m. and interment at Wairds Cemetery at 1.30 p.m. All welcome. Please make any charitable donations to the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ANDERSON - James, Janet along with their families wish to express their gratitude to the H.D.U staff for the medical care given to our loved and admired mother Mary and for the kindness to us before and after her peaceful passing with her family at the Lorn & Islands Hospital, Oban. Many thanks and appreciation to D&A Munn for their professional guidance, to Rev. C. Fulcher for her blessing at the Parish Church, Oban, to Rev. C. Buchanan for his touching service at Cardross Crematorium. We are grateful to our dear family, friends and neighbours for the beautiful flowers, thoughtful cards and for sharing memories with love and laughter of our devoted mother, mother-in-law, Grannie and Great big Grannie who will live in our hearts forever.

CAMPBELL - The family of the late Betty wish to thank relatives, friends and neighbours for their cards, letters and expressions of sympathy. Thanks to Dr Ken Ross for his thoughtful and compassionate service; to the office bearers of Kilbrandon Church for their kind assistance; to Ken Butler for playing the organ and the friends who helped out at the funeral tea; to the many who paid their last respects at the church and graveside and heartfelt thanks to Hamish Hoey and Son for their care and professionalism. A special thanks to the staff at Easdale Medical Centre and the many carers who looked after Betty so well for several years. £861 was raised for the local car scheme and Oban Hospice.

MACINNES - The family of the late Neil John MacInnes (Nonny) would like to thank all concerned for the overwhelming support they received from so many quarters following his sad and untimely passing. From the phone calls, cards and huge presence both at the church service and later at the committal it is clear that Nonny was much loved by all who knew him. A special thank you to the NHS professionals here and Glasgow for all that they did for Nonny in endeavouring to overcome and then alleviate his illness; the shinty community for expressing in their special way the regard and affection in which Nonny was held in the game; Reverend Dugald Cameron for his uplifting service and the thoughtful manner in which he made sure no one in the large turnout be excluded; Hamish Hoey & Sons (Catriona) for their efficient but sympathetic funeral arrangements and the Argyllshire Gathering (Amanda) for the catering. We know that Nonny would

have been very proud that he was so very well thought of. A retiring collection raised the sum of £3,788.69 for Pancreatic Cancer Research.

MACKINNON - Donald, Donald and Katie, and Alasdair wish to thank, most sincerely, all family and friends for their kind thoughts, prayers and cards at the time of Mary's passing. Special thanks are due to the Rev. Dugald Cameron for his beautiful service to celebrate Mary's long and fruitful life, and for his continuing pastoral care to the family. We also wish to thank the staff of Ward I at Lorn and Islands Hospital for their care and compassion to both Mary and all the family. Thanks are also due to Ian MacInnes of D&A Munn for sensitive funeral arrangements and the Argyllshire Gathering Hall for a lovely buffet. The retiring collection amounted to £1030.04 and will be shared by Oban Dementia Support Group and Mary's Meals. Moran Taing.

MACPHAIL - The family of the late Bethea (Betty) MacPhail would like to express their sincere gratitude to friends and neighbours for their support and kindness following their recent bereavement. Special thanks to Community Nurse Moira Westland for listening and reacting when help was needed and to the staff on Ward B at Lorn and Islands Hospital and to the nurses at Mull and Iona Hospital who enabled Betty to spend her last days comfortably on her beloved Isle of Mull. Thanks also to Rev Johnny Paton for his support and kind words and to everyone who attended the service at Tobermory Parish Church and at the graveside and for their generous donations totalling £1000 which will be shared between Argyll Animal Aid and Macmillan Cancer Care. We are indebted to Billy McClymont for his professional management of the funeral arrangements and for the services of the pallbearers. Thanks also to Rebecca and her team at Park Lodge for providing the funeral tea.

ROSS - Bridie, Allan and family would like to thank all friends and neighbours for all their kindness during Jimmys illness. All the medical staff from Glen Mor, the Belford Hospital and Mossbank. We'd like to thank the Rev Richard Baxter, Morag Muirhead and Father Roddy MacAulay for their comfort in leading both church services. Also Mike McFall for all his help and kindness with arrangements along with Shiona and Colin in McDonald Bros. Thanks to all that attended Jimmy's funeral, their kind generosity which raised £1,881 for Star for Harris, charity very close to his heart.

MEMORIAMS

BOA - In loving memory of Isobel, who passed away June 17, 2007. Remembered always. - Willie and family.

CAMPBELL - Fond memories our dear mum, nana and mother-in-law Marion L., who passed away June 19, 2007, our father, grandpa and father-in-law Angus D on April 27, 1981 and our sister, auntie and sister-in-law Lexy Donaldson on July 27, 1989. Never more than a thought away - All the families in Buinessan (Mull) and away.

FERGUSON - Precious memories of a dear husband, dad and grampa Angus, died June 11, 1993. - From Catherine and family

GALLACHER - In loving memory of John, who died on June 16, 2015, R.I.P. In my lonely hours of thinking, thoughts of you are always near I who loved you sadly miss you as it dawns another year. Our Lady Star of the Sea, pray for him

Love you always - Margaret x Life changes many things but not the memory this day brings. - His son John

MACALLISTER - In loving memory of our dear parents, grand parents and great grand parents, Margaret who passed away June 17, 1995 and William who passed away July 20, 1996. Always in our thoughts Forever in our hearts. - Phemie, Alex, Margaret, John, Fay and family.

MACDONALD - In loving memory of Allan, a much loved husband, dad, father-in-law and grampa, who died June 16, 2010. We often visit the place you rest To us you were simply the best And as we turn and walk away We know you are with us every day The precious years we had together Are memories we will have forever. Loved and remembered always - Margaret, Allan, Emma, Beth and Aidan xx

MACDONALD - In loving memory of Helen (Nell), who passed away June 12, 2014. A gentle heart, a gentle soul Kind and caring too Not everyone is lucky enough To have had a wonderful mum like you Love always. - Donna xxx

MACINNES - Precious memories of Jackie, loving husband, dad and seair, who passed away on June 16, 2016. So very sadly missed. - Marina, Rena and family.

MACKENZIE - In loving memory of my son Alexander, drowned June 14, 1998. Forever in our thoughts and prayers. - Mum, Michael, Gordon, Lynda, Louis and Mhairi.

SINCLAIR - Precious memories of Ronnie, who passed away June 17, 2008, a beloved husband, dad, father-in-law and grampa. If memories bring us closer You are never far apart For you are always in our thoughts and forever in our hearts. - Inserted by Joan and family.

SMITH - Treasured memories of James, dearly loved husband, father, father-in-law, granddad and great-granddad, who died June 14, 2000. Memories are precious - Rena and family, 31 Glencruitten Drive.

SUTHERLAND - Ray Loving, caring and known by all Taken away by that fatal fall Our dad that we all loved so much Was no longer here to see or touch Life is cruel so we can only pray We all meet you again in Heaven some day. - Louise, Elaine, Lorna and Donna x

The Oban Times
& West Highland Times
THE REGIONAL NEWSPAPER FOR THE WEST HIGHLANDS, ISLANDS AND ARGYLL

The Oban Times is the best-selling weekly newspaper in the Highlands and is distributed via 1742 newsagents every week

Lochavullin Industrial Estate, Crannog Lane, Oban, PA34 4HB
Tel: 01631 568000
Fax: 01631 568001
www.obantimes.co.uk

Editorial

Chief reporter
Louise Glen
lglen@obantimes.co.uk

Senior reporter
Sandy Neil
sneil@obantimes.co.uk

Reporter
Elle Forbes
eforbes@obantimes.co.uk

Reporter
David McPhee
dmphee@obantimes.co.uk

Newsdesk
Oban 01631 568060
Fort William 01397 703003
editor@obantimes.co.uk

Advertising

Director of Advertising
Nicky Murphy
nmurphy@obantimes.co.uk

Advertising supervisor
Nadine Ross
nross@obantimes.co.uk

Advertising executive
Rhona McKillop
advtrts@obantimes.co.uk

Advertising executive
Stephanie Dunstaffnage
sdunstaffnage@obantimes.co.uk

Advertising executive
Julie Baird
jbaird@obantimes.co.uk

Branch Offices

Fort William
Tel 01397 703003

Lochgilphead
Tel 01546 602345

Campbeltown
Tel 01586 554646



Volunteers dress to impress at the Palace ... resplendent in their charity shop outfits

CHARITY supporters in Oban who have been invited to a royal garden party hosted by the Queen will celebrate in style - by attending the event wearing clothes donated to the charity shop where they volunteer. After the royal occasion at the Palace of Holyroodhouse, the team at the Mary's Meals shop in Oban plan to resell the clothes, complete with a little message to say the outfits have been worn to the royal occasion. Mary's Meals is a Scottish-based charity which serves life-changing daily meals to impoverished children living in some of the world's poorest countries, attracting them to the classroom where they can get an education that can be their ladder out of poverty. The charity has seven shops in Scotland - mainly run by volunteers -

which sell donated goods to raise vital funds. Marie Rowan, shop manager in Oban, will join 19 of the shop's volunteers at the royal garden party in Edinburgh on July 4. The team agreed a fitting way to represent the work of Mary's Meals on the special day was to wear as much as they could from items donated to the shop. Marie said: 'I'm so happy for the team - this invitation is a wonderful recognition of the volunteers who will be attending the royal event, and of all our volunteers. They work tirelessly and give their time so freely to help us make a difference to some of the world's poorest children. 'We want to celebrate Mary's Meals as much as we can at the palace, which is why we have decided to wear the outfits from our Oban shop.

'Hopefully, we will show that we can look just as good wearing upcycled goods, even at an event with the Queen.' Christina Litster, 75, who has volunteered at the Oban shop for the past seven years, added: 'It is an absolute honour to have been asked to go to the Queen's garden party. 'I feel so lucky and excited. I have already looked out a lovely purple jacket and skirt suit to wear on the day. I can't wait!' Mary's Meals provides 1,230,171 children in 14 countries with a daily meal every school day. The charity's average global cost to feed a child for a whole school year is just £13.90. Where Mary's Meals is provided, there is a rise in rates of enrolment, attendance and academic performance.

Thought for the week

OUR Bible tells an amazing story about a day when Jesus walked and talked with some of his followers, but they didn't even recognise him. Here is what happened. After Jesus was crucified and rose from the grave, two of his followers were walking on the road that led to a town called Emmaus. They were sad and were talking about what had happened to Jesus. Suddenly, Jesus joined the disciples and walked along with them, but they did not know who he was because God kept them from recognising him. 'You seem to be having a very serious discussion. What are you talking about?' Jesus asked them. One of them answered, 'You must be the only person in Jerusalem that doesn't know what has happened the past few days.' Then they told them about how Jesus had been crucified, and buried, and that some women had gone to his tomb, but the tomb was empty. 'We have heard that he is alive,' they said, 'but we have not seen him.'

When He was at the table with them, He took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognised Him, and He disappeared from their sight. Luke 24:30-31 (NIV)

'Do you find it so difficult to believe what was written by the prophets in the Scripture?' Jesus asked. 'It was predicted by the prophets that the Messiah would have to suffer all these things before entering his time of glory.' Then Jesus quoted passages from the writings of the prophets, explaining what the Scriptures said about himself. By this time, they had come to Emmaus and the disciples invited Jesus to stay with them since it was getting too late in the day to travel. So Jesus stayed with them and when they sat down to eat, Jesus took the bread and blessed it, broke it and gave it to them. Suddenly, their eyes were opened and they saw that it was Jesus. Then, just as quickly as he had appeared to them, Jesus disappeared. They were so happy and excited to have seen Jesus that they ran back to Jerusalem to tell the others that they had seen Jesus. Dear Lord, open our eyes, we want to see Jesus as He walks with us!

Argyll Convention

CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE FOR ADVERTISEMENTS

YOUR attention is drawn to the following terms and conditions which relate to the placing of advertisements in all publications owned by Wyvex Media Limited.

Parties to this agreement are the Publisher, Wyvex Media Limited Limited on the one part and the Advertiser on the other part. The Publisher publishes newspapers, magazines, books and provides advertising space therein or provides for the delivery of advertising materials to the public within these publications.

- Advertising copy shall be legal, decent, honest and truthful and comply with the British Code of Advertising Practice and all other codes.
- The Publisher does not guarantee the insertion of any particular advertisement.
- The Publisher reserves the right to cancel or alter the advertisement by giving reasonable notice.
- An order for an advertisement shall be deemed to be made on acceptance of the advertiser's order by the Publisher whether placed by telephone, mail, fax or in person.
- Cancellation of display advertising must be received by the Publisher before the publishing deadline, failing which, the publisher reserves the right to invoice the customer in full for the whole cost of the advertisement.
- 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.
- Advertisers 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.
- A request to insert an advertisement assumes acceptance of our conditions. Published by Wyvex Media Limited, P.O. Box 1, Oban, PA34 4HB, Tel: (01631) 568000 www.obantimes.co.uk and registered as a newspaper at the Post Office. http://termsandconditions.wyvexmedia.co.uk

MEMORIALS

OBAN MEMORIALS
A & D MacLean
Master Sculptors
Glenalma, Soroba Road, Oban
Design and prices on request
LETTERING AND RENOVATING DONE IN MOST CEMETERIES
TEL: 01631563123 / 07765815982

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

D & A MUNN LTD.
FUNERAL DIRECTORS | Est.1880
Owned and run by Ian MacInnes & Son

Breadalbane Street, Oban
Argyll PA34 5NZ
Tel: (01631) 562562 & 562203
Mob: 07778 373 759
email: info@mumns-oban.co.uk
www.mumns-oban.co.uk

Professional and Dignified Service with Courtesy and Respect

24 hour Family Run Business
Reparation Service

Golden Charter

WE ARE MACMILLAN. CANCER SUPPORT

Working towards a time when every person in Scotland has equal and ready access to the best information, treatment and care for cancer

Fundraising Office
Macmillan Cancer Support
PO Box 24040 Edinburgh EH3 1DZ
Tel 0300 100 0200
In memory of Dawn Joyce

Oban Hospice

CARING FOR THE FUTURE

Donations always gratefully accepted

Please contact
Jack Tolan
Birch Hill
Achnacreebeag
North Connel, PA37 1RE

CANCER RESEARCH UK

Fighting Cancer on all fronts ...

CRC Scotland spends more on research than any other organisation

Commitment of over £15 million each year

Cancer Research UK
Angel Building
407 St John Street
London EC1V 4AD

MARIE CURIE CANCER CARE

Oban & Lorn Fundraising Branch

Donations always gratefully accepted

Please contact
Marie Curie Care
Mannin, 2/5 Lismore House
Station Road, Oban
01631 571009

like us on facebook
www.facebook.com/obantimes

GLASGOW CELTIC SOCIETY CUP FINAL 2017

OBAN CAMANACHD



KYLES ATHLETIC



Photograph: Paul Paterson.



Photograph: Kevin McGlynn.

TAYNUILT SPORTS FIELD
SATURDAY JUNE 24 2017
THROW UP: 4PM

which Kyles won 3-0 courtesy of a Scott MacDonald double and a Thomas Whyte goal. Sandy MacKenzie has been an injury concern for Kyles in the lead-up to the final.

Kyles have made an almost perfect start to the season. The only game they've failed to win was a 1-1 draw with finalists Oban Camanachd at Tighnabruaich.

Roddy MacDonald put Kyles ahead in that one but Daniel MacVicar equalised.

Oban Camanachd last won the famous trophy in 2005 and were runners-up a couple of years ago, losing to Kyles Athletic in the final. They were given a walk-over against Tayforth in this year's quarter-finals before beating 2016 runners-up Inveraray 1-0 in the last four of the tournament with Daniel Cameron scoring. Oban Camanachd's Scott MacMillan will be relieved he is able to serve a one-match suspension against Oban Celtic this weekend, leaving him free to play in the final.

Camanachd Association Grade 1 official Lachie Wood will be the match referee and the Donald J MacNiven Memorial Medal will be awarded to the man of the match.

With the big day looming, Archie Robertson from the Glasgow Celtic Society said: 'We are looking forward to a great day at Taynuilt following

the success of recent finals at this superb venue. We thank sponsors Gregor Cameron for their support over the past three years. We've also had a successful partnership with Taynuilt Sports Council and Taynuilt Shinty Club. Their co-operation in the lead-up to the big day is much appreciated. Kyles Athletic and Oban Camanachd are two very good sides and there's great interest in the game so I'm sure it will be an entertaining final.'

This will be Gregor Cameron's final year of a successful three-year sponsorship deal so the organisers are on the lookout for a replacement.

At the final on June 24, the Glasgow Celtic Society will honour the winning team from 50 years ago when Kyles Athletic beat Glasgow Mid Argyll 3-2 at Yoker. Alasdair Turner had put GMA ahead that day in 1967, but Scott Turner and Tommy Nicolson's brace had Kyles 3-1 up before Kenny MacNiven's late counter. The winning Kyles Athletic team was: John Paterson; Alasdair MacRae; Roddy Carswell; Chic Jamieson; Scott Turner; Stuart Davidson; Kerr Crawford; Jim Jamieson; Tommy Nicolson; Neil Blair; Donald Shaw and Russell Thorburn and the surviving veterans able to make this year's final will be introduced to the crowd.

Throw-up is at 4pm and the final will be broadcast live on BBC Alba.



GLASGOW CELTIC SOCIETY CUP FINAL 2017

WISHING THE BEST OF LUCK TO BOTH TEAMS

www.gregorcameronltd.co.uk

The 113th Gregor Cameron Glasgow Celtic Society Cup Final between Kyles Athletic and Oban Camanachd takes place at Taynuilt Sports Field on Saturday June 24.

This tournament is open to all south senior sides playing in shinty's top three tiers. Glasgow Cowal were inaugural winners in 1879.

Holders Kyles Athletic are going for 'five-in-a-row' with Grant Irvine and Gordon Whyte both scoring four times in a resounding 18-0 quarter-final victory over Kilmory. This secured a semi-final against Glasgow Mid Argyll

NEIL McGOUGAN LTD BUILDING CONTRACTOR
Reliable, Professional Service
Competitive Prices
Free Estimates
Good luck Scott and the team
Unit 1, Sinclair Drive, Oban, Argyll PA34 4DR
Tel: 01631 570060 Fax: 01631 570088
E: info@neilmcgoogan.co.uk W: www.neilmcgoogan.co.uk

Good Luck to Kyles
from all at
Andrew's Garage
Tighnabruaich, PA21 2DS
01700 811386

IPM Associates
Consulting Civil & Structural Engineers
Wishing Kyles Athletic lots of luck in The Celtic Cup Final from Paul & Chris Moss at IPM Associates.
The services we provide as part of our business that we would like to include in the advert are as follows;
• Civil & Structural Engineering
• Timber Frame Panel Drawings For The Self Builder
• SER Certification
• Drainage Assessment & Design
• Site Investigations
• Topographical Surveys & Setting Out
• Architectural Design Services
Tel: 01700811811

J.M. BOYD Plumbing & Heating Contractors Ltd.
Good Luck to Oban Camanachd
Tel: 01631 562383 • Fax: 01631 565512
Mobile: 07774 480 393
Email: boydnjl@supanet.com
16 Airds Crescent, Oban, Argyll, PA34 5SJ

Ian McCuish
Landscaping & Garden Maintenance
Mull View, Laurel Crescent, Oban, Argyll, PA34 5ED
t. 01631 564792 m. 07516 490365
email: ian.mccuish@btinternet.com
Good Luck to Iain Hay and his team in the final

AAC RENEWABLES & PLUMBING LTD
UNIT 1C, TORRAN GORM IND ESTATE
OBAN, ARGYLL, PA34 4PA
CAMPBELL CLARK 07760254569
ANDREW INGLIS 07899795995
Plumbing-Heating-Renewables
info@aac-renewables.co.uk
www.aac-renewables.co.uk
Good Luck to Oban Camanachd on Saturday

THE GLASGOW CELTIC SOCIETY
The Gregor Cameron Consultancy
Celtic Society Cup Final
Shinty's Oldest Competition
Kyles Athletic v Oban Camanachd
Saturday 24th June 2017



HIGHLAND FASTENERS LTD
GOOD LUCK TO OBAN CAMANACHD ON SATURDAY
OBAN BRANCH OPENING HOURS
Monday to Friday 07:30 till 17:00
Saturday 08:00 till 14:00
Tel: 01631 570584

Bradbury brothers star for Scotland



Fergus Bradbury.

Rugby

OBAN'S Bradbury brothers - Magnus and Fergus - have been in action for their respective Scotland rugby teams.

Magnus, who plays his club rugby for Edinburgh in the Guinness Pro12 league, played in the Scots team that thumped Italy in Singapore on Saturday. Magnus was on the bench but came on in the back row during the 34-14 defeat of the Italians.

The Scotland squad is now continuing its tour, which sees them in Australia preparing to take on the mighty Wallabies this Saturday at the Allianz Stadium in Sydney.

Younger brother Fergus, who plays for Stirling County in the BT Premiership, is in Georgia with the Scots team playing in the World Rugby Under-20 Championship.

The Scots have been doing well, despite losing their opening fixture against New Zealand on May 31. Fergus started that game but was on the bench for the second clash, in which Scotland beat Ireland 32-28 on June 4.

He was on the bench again last Thursday, June 8, as Scotland won 17-16 against Italy to qualify for the knockout stages in second place in Pool B.

Scotland were playing Wales on Tuesday evening in their first knockout game.



Magnus Bradbury and Damien Hoyland at full time after the win over Italy.



Abi Evans.

Abi in Scotland sevens squad

OBAN'S Abi Evans has been featuring in the Scotland squad at the Rugby Europe Women's Sevens Trophy in the Czech Republic.

The Scots women were in action on Saturday and Sunday, beating Moldova 46-0, Israel by the same scoreline and Germany 36-0 in the pool stages on the first day.

On Sunday they defeated Hungary 46-0 in the last eight and then Ukraine 26-7 in the last four.

That pitted them against Germany in the final and they came out on top 46-0.

The second leg of the event is in Hungary on July 22 and 23.

Trevor Allen Mixed Texas Scramble at Taynuilt

Golf

THE GREGOR Cameron Consultancy Ltd-sponsored Trevor Allen Mixed Texas Scramble open competition was played at Taynuilt on Sunday June 11.

1 Donald MacVicar/Moira MavVicar (Taynuilt GC)/ Douglas Whyte (Lochgilhead GC): 63 - 07 = 56; 2 David Currie/Hilary Currie/Andy Ronald (all Taynuilt GC): 67 - 10 = 57; 3 Andrew Diggory/Alex Needham/Anne MacCalman (all Taynuilt GC): 63 - 06 = 57.

Longest drive at 1st/10th - Andy Ronald (Taynuilt GC); Longest drive at 7th/16th - Donna Campbell (Isle of Seil GC).

Nearest the pin at 3rd / 12th - Kevin Mills (Taynuilt GC); Nearest the pin at 6th / 15th: Hilary Currie (Taynuilt GC).



Prize-winners at the Trevor Allen Mixed Texas Scramble.

Points and progress for McPhee in Catalan GP

CONNEL'S John McPhee had a mountain to climb after a tough qualifying session for the Gran Premi Monster Energy de Catalunya, but McPhee was confident about his race pace and was proved right. Although it wasn't the full fairytale from outside the points to podium, John put in an impressive ride to finish the race in 12th place.

McPhee made light work of the first lap to move up into 12th - setting the scene for a battle to the finish - and was pushing to catch the front group before finding himself in a fight with those around him. Unable to break clear and then deciding to keep it on the road and take the points, John crossed the line only five seconds off the victory.

Now the British Talent Team rider can have a brief breather and regroup for the next back-to-back stint in two weeks as the TT Circuit Assen prefaces a trip to the Sachsenring in Germany.

John said: 'It was a good start



John McPhee in action at the Catalan Grand Prix.

and good first few laps. I did everything I needed to but then I got into a fight with a couple of other riders.

'I couldn't get the laptime I needed to stay with the front group, but as soon as I got put off line or made a mistake, I didn't have the pace to push past my limit to get back on the group.

'Normally you ride at 100 per cent but if you need 105 per cent you can chance your luck for a couple of laps, but I was riding the whole race chancing

Moto3

my luck and didn't have anything else in the bag.

'We made a small change on the bike from warm up to the race to help corner entry, and it was the correct decision but we almost went too much.

'We have a clear direction now and it was nice to find it although it was a bit late in the weekend. With three laps left I decided I had to take the points that were available.'



Ormsary's Elaine MacEachern in action at the FIM Women's Motocross World Championships in France recently.

Mid Argyll motor biker Elaine takes on the world

ARGYLL dirt biker Elaine MacEachern battled with the world's top motocross riders after racing in France recently.

The 19-year-old accountant from Ormsary travelled to Ernee, France, to compete in the third round of the FIM Women's Motocross World Championship on May 28 to 29.

After recovering from an injury that left her out of the last round of racing, Elaine proved her mettle once again against the world's top riders by finishing 22nd overall after two days of hard racing.

In race one, on the Saturday, Elaine got off to a good start but two crashes meant she finished in 27th position and was left disappointed with the day's action.

Keen to make amends,

Sunday was a more successful outing for Elaine as a good start off the line saw her push into third position. Although dropping back a few places on the first lap, she remained in the top 10 for the majority of the race. A mid-race crash cost her more spots but she hung on for an 18th place finish and three points.

The three points meant she finished in 22nd position for the round of racing and cemented her place as the highest-ranked British female.

Elaine said: 'The weekend in France was up and down. On Saturday I qualified 27th, which is pretty disappointing. I was feeling a bit better on Sunday and I was sitting in the top 10 the majority of the race before dropping it in the corner.'

Motocross

The strong performance in France has spurred Elaine on to improve her position in the next round of the championship in the Czech Republic in July.

Speaking about her hopes for the next round, Elaine commented: 'At least I know I should be top 15, if not the top 10. But I really need to get more time on the bike and more fitness training. It was pretty sweet considering my bike is pretty much standard and considering I was injured and missed round two in Italy.'

In the weeks running up to the race in France, Elaine was training with former British Pro Motocross rider Bryan Mackenzie.



Elaine MacEachern.

Argyll drivers hit the road at Granite Stages Rally

THERE were Argyll drivers spread through the field at Leuchars recently for the Granite Stages Rally organised by Aberdeen and District Motor-sport Club.

John Kean and Malcolm McDonald were once again out in their 106 GTI powered Peugeot 205. Seeded at 64 out of 66 starters, they were determined to improve their placing after their disappointing performance at Ingliston.

They started well but partway into stage three were forced to slow down with a bad vibration coming from the rear of the engine. A quick check revealed it was only the exhaust working loose so stage four was run at full throttle and it was back to the service area where service crew member Frazer Shaw ably sorted out the problem.

This cost the team about a minute and a half but they were confident they could claw the time back over the final four stages. And as the day progressed, John was gaining more confidence in the car and a committed drive over the afternoon stages took the car to fourth in class and the team finished 30th overall. On stages five and six they set the 26th fastest time – a big improvement on previous outings.

Jamie Miller was co-driven



Gordon Morrison and Calum MacPherson finished the Granite Stages Rally at Leuchars in third place in their TEG Sport Subaru. Photos: westcoastphotos

by Ross Carbry (who is more accustomed to sitting behind the wheel and not shouting encouragement/jabbing the driver in the leg with his pencil/screaming/trying desperately not to be sick).

Whatever preparation he had done, it was to prove worthwhile. The service team

were witnessed still trying to get the car to drive in a straight line in service on the Saturday morning.

Four-wheel alignment may have been slightly wasted on the Lochwinnoch Motors/J Plant Hire-sponsored Nova as it barely ever has all four on the ground at one time.

Jamie and Ross, despite getting stuck behind some slower cars once the splits and merges came into play, pushed hard right from the start and set very quick times over the morning stages. The pair managed to keep everything in shape and on the tar (nearly all the time) to secure first in class one and 23rd overall.

The final local lad out in the silly seat for the first time was Eoghan Anderson from Cairnbaan. Eoghan had made it clear how much he admired Fergus Gray's BMW 130i at previous events and, when the opportunity arose, Fergus was

kind enough to let Eoghan guide him around the fast stages at Leuchars. The pair clearly enjoyed it and judging by the style that Fergus adopted, sideways all day with late braking a must, it would appear that either there were some wrong/late notes being delivered, Eoghan was taking to it like



Fergus Gray and Eoghan Anderson in their BMW 130i.



John Kean and Malcolm McDonald in their Peugeot 205.



Golf News

Glencruitten

PHILLIP Murphy won the Glencruitten Centenary Trophy at Glencruitten at the weekend with a score of 62-2 = 60.

Martin Rae was runner-up with a score of 69-6 = 63, followed by Willie McAdam 69-5 = 64 and Jordan Campbell 74-10 = 64.

In the ladies' section, the monthly medal scores were Louise MacLeod 87-30 = 57, Diane Colewell 77-15 = 62, Christine Cameron 86-22 = 64.

On Saturday the first round of the championship and the George Smith Trophy first round take place.

Taynuilt

LADIES: Scratch championship – 1 Anne MacCalman 85; 2 Moira MacVicar 90; 3 Fiona McGlynn 92.

Medal – 1 Moira MacVicar 90-20-70 – 2 Anne MacCalman 85-13-72; 3 Fiona McGlynn 92-17-75.

Islay

SUMMER league played Wednesday June 7 – 1 I Shaw 43 pts; 2 D Muir 42 pts; 3 R Shaw 39 pts. C.Ss 69.

Islay Open played June 10 and 11. Gross scores – 1 D Muir 75+71=146; 2 M Wilson 81+71 =152; 3 S Johnston 80+75 =155.

Net scores – 1 D Muir 74+70 =144; 2 B Davies 75 +70 = 145; 3 I Marshall 69+ 77=146.

Inveraray

SUNSHINE brought a good turnout of competitors to Inveraray Golf Club for the June medal.

The fine weather held up for the duration of the competition and some great scores were posted.

Derek McCulloch led the way with an excellent net 65 to win by two from Iain MacDonald who shot a 67. Dougie Fraser had a strong 68 to finish in third.

The competition was a qualifier for the Scottish Golf National Club Championships and Derek and Iain will now go forward to represent the club in the regional final at Paisley Golf Club in September.

LADIES greensomes open: Saturday June 3: Scratch 1 Suzanne Graham and Jolan Audsley (Pumpherston) 86 BIH; 2 Alex Glaister and Irene Reid (Muckhart) 86 BIH.

Handicap – 1 June McGrath and Maureen Beaumont (Crieff) 64.6; 2 Kate Paterson and Margaret Neilson (Stirling) 66.6; 3 Sheila Aitken (Killin) and Maureen Burton (Balbirnie Park) 69.8.

Killin Cup (best overall handicap) – June McGrath and Maureen Beaumont (Crieff) 64.6; Bridge of Lochay Salver (best local handicap) – Kay Dowling and Susan McRobbie 73.4; Dochart Trophy (best overall scratch) – Suzanne Graham and Jolan Audsley (Pumpherston) 86.

Nearest the pin in 2 – June McGrath and Maureen Beaumont (Crieff); Longest drive silver – Caroline Henderson (Aberfeldy); Longest drive bronze – Moreen Cromwell (Lanark).

Magic twos – Jean Faichney and Hilary Wheeler (Killin); June Sutherland and Maud Marshall (Dalmally) Audrey Weaver and Moira Reilly (Killin).

Tobermory

MEN'S section: June medal – 1 Calum MacLean, 74-13-61; 2 Paul Brown 71-07-64; 3 Lewis Brown 69-04-65.

Nine-hole stableford – 1 Paul Langhorne 23 points; 2 Paul Brown 18 points; 3 William MacCrone 18 points.

Dalmally

RESULTS from recent gents competitions at Dalmally Golf Club: McLure Cup round one – 1 W Dougal 64 (12); 2 G MacKechnie 66 (7); 3 G Wilson 70 (17).

Handicap championship round 1 – 1 J Tollan 64 (18); 2 G MacKechnie 70 (7); 3 J Livingstone 70 (13); Jim Livingstone (130) leads by five shots from Graeme MacKechnie going into final round.

Derek proves to be the big shot at Glenfiddich shoot

THE GLENDARUEL and Colintrave Gun Club held the fifth Glenfiddich Challenge Trophy Shoot on Saturday June 3. The weather was relatively kind to the members and visitors who came from all over the region to attend this well-established trophy shoot.

The G&CGC ground enjoys a favourable aspect in a fine glen, and the benefit of never shooting into the sun. This partially explains the attendance of 43 guns, but excellent prizes, good targets and catering are also a factor.

Consistent

The Glenfiddich Trophy went to Derek Street, Glendaruel, with a score of 147 points out of a possible 150. This score is consistent with Derek's ranking as one of Scotland's top down-the-line target shooters.

Club member Alex Gray and John Gilchrist, Campbelltown, tied for second place on 144. Fourth place went to Willie McDermott on 142. One point behind, there was a three-way tie

Shooting

between Duncan McColl, Oban; John Mackin, Ballachulish; and Stuart McNeill, East Kilbride.

The ladies' prize went to Tracey Rooney, Bute; Archie McBride, Glendaruel, took the junior prize; and the novice prize went to Ronnie McDonald, Glendaruel. The Ormidale Trophy for the top local gun went to Derek Street.

The club and visitors were extremely grateful to Messrs William Grant and Sons, represented by Anna Morrison who presented the prizes, for their generous sponsorship of the shoot. The prizes extended to all who took part – in fact there were no losers.

The club wishes to thank all those who provided practical support maintaining the traps, refereeing and scoring the competitions. Thanks also go to Pat Currie, Johann McBride and Anne McPhail for the delicious food on offer.



Anna Morrison presents the prizes to the winners of the Glenfiddich Challenge Trophy Shoot at the Glendaruel and Colintrave Gun Club. Left to right are Pete Currie (club president), D A McColl, Ronnie MacDonald, Willie McDermott, Anna Morrison, Alex Gray, Derek Street, John Mackin, Stuart McNeill and John Gilchrist.

SPOT THE SHINTY BALL

THIS WEEK'S JACKPOT £1850

LAST WEEK'S SHINTY BALL WAS HERE. . .



This week's nearest the ball winners, who each receive £25 are:

C O'Doherty
Erray Road
Tobermory

I MacDonald
Creagan Park
Tobermory

We have removed the shinty ball from the photograph opposite. Now look carefully at the position of the players and use your skill and judgement to place a cross at the exact point where you think the centre of the ball was. You may have a maximum of 20 attempts on this coupon at a cost of £1.

If you wish to have more attempts, you must enter on separate coupons.

Easy to enter

Cut out your completed coupon and put your entry plus £1 per 20 attempts into a sealed envelope and post it to 'Spot the Shinty Ball' Competition, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB by 12noon Tuesday. No refunds will be given for entries received after the deadline. You may hand it into The Oban Times Head Office, Lochavullin, Oban by the same time. Otherwise all entries must be posted.

Competition rules

No responsibility will be accepted for entries which are delayed, 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

game starts with a jackpot of £500 and will increase by £50 per week until it is won outright. To win the jackpot, the centre of your cross must be in the exact centre of the ball. If the crosses overlap the entry will be void.

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

competition and no correspondence will be entered into. The final decision rests with the Company.

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

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

Employees of Wyvex Media, their immediate relatives and any person otherwise connected with the competition are ineligible to enter.

Please remember to enclose £1 for 20 crosses. The maximum number of attempts on this coupon is 20, but you may enter on separate coupons as many times as you wish. No photocopies allowed. You agree to abide by the rules. How to enter: Mark your crosses using a ballpoint pen. Twenty crosses may be put on this coupon for £1. Send to 'Spot the Shinty Ball' Competition, The Oban Times, P.O. Box 1, Oban PA34 4HB



Please tape your £1 coin here

Name

Address

.....

Tel No.



SHINTY

Best for all shinty news, results and fixtures

Marine Harvest Media Award winners 2016

Newtonmore lift MacTavish Cup after narrow win over Kilmallie

MacTavish Cup final

Newtonmore 3
Kilmallie 2

Newtonmore retained the MacTavish Cup with a hard-fought 3-2 win over Kilmallie in their 4.05pm throw-up at Bught Park, Inverness.

Newtonmore manager Paul John MacKintosh was without young forward Iain Robinson who was abroad on a school trip. Jamie Robinson came in at full centre with Steven MacDonald continuing in attack. Evan Menzies joined the senior squad for the first time this season after scoring six times in two outings for the seconds and he took a place on the bench.

Kilmallie boss Mark MacPherson was without suspended defender Stephen McAlister so Martin Stewart dropped back to cover. Innes Blackhall returned after a hand injury and started in midfield. Aaron Sandison was freed of his five-match ban and joined Ryan Stewart and veteran John Stewart as substitutes. New signing Daniel Stewart was cup-tied.

It was a difficult fortnight for Kilmallie in the lead-up to the final following the passing of top scorer Duncan Rodger and club stalwart Donald Lamont senior. The Camanachd Association had given The Canal Parks side the option of postponing the final, but a decision to proceed was taken at a club meeting.

Both men were remembered on specially designed pre-match Kilmallie training tops and there was a minute's applause ahead of throw-up as a mark of respect. Michael Rodger added to the poignancy, wearing his cousin Duncan Rodger's number 12 shirt rather than his usual number nine top in this televised match.

Kilmallie started with a light wind in their favour, playing towards the town end in the first half.

A Steven MacDonald shot within 20 seconds showed early intent but the ball bounced wide. MacDonald went close again on four minutes when he got to a ball that looked to be going out of play, but his touch from a wide angle went across the face of goal.

A couple of minutes later, as a heavy rain shower fell, Drew MacDonald sent a great ball into the goal area but Glen MacKintosh uncharacteristically blazed a strike over the top from point black range.

A long ball from Kilmallie defender Steven Stewart bounced into the Newtonmore 'D' where keeper Norman Campbell chested it down before volleying it to safety.

Newtonmore still looked the more threatening though and they broke the deadlock on 16 minutes. Ackie MacRae lofted the ball high into the danger area where it was controlled by Steven MacDonald on the Newtonmore left and, with his back

to goal, MacDonald made just enough space to turn and drill a low shot just inside the keeper's left post to make it 1-0.

Kilmallie were forced to make an early change when Peter McIntyre was caught on the top of the head by the dropping caman of team mate Martin Stewart, leaving a nasty gash, so Aaron Sandison came on.

Newtonmore made a set-piece opportunity count on 26 minutes. Allan MacDonald bundled down Steven MacDonald just outside the 'D' as the forward made for goal. Fraser MacKintosh, with his back to goal, slipped the ball to his left where Drew MacDonald lost his marker before crashing the ball into the same spot as MacDonald had for the opener to make it 2-0.

Kilmallie needed a goal and Calum MacDougall's direct running was causing problems for the Newtonmore defence. With the match approaching the half-hour mark, MacDougall forced his way through on goal but Michael Russell got a crucial touch with his stick to clear for a corner.

Moments later, a superb Mark Graham run across goal saw him latch onto a Michael Rodger free-hit but he dragged his shot wide of goal.

Play started to flow from end to end and Glen MacKintosh was denied a shot on goal by an excellent Steven Stewart block.

A Michael Rodger free-hit found Craig MacIsaac but his effort from the left was well-blocked by Scotland defender Andy MacKintosh.

Both keepers were called into action as Norman Campbell saved with his feet from Calum MacDougall, although the shot lacked power, and Kilmallie custodian Shane Gillies kept out a Drew MacDonald strike.

Calum MacDougall went on another direct run before being impeded by Andy MacKintosh and a fiery midfield exchange saw both players spoken to by referee Archie Ritchie.

Glen MacKintosh launched the ball just over the bar from the Newtonmore left and Shane Gillies used his feet to keep out a low Fraser MacKintosh drive.

Peter McIntyre returned to the field of play after treatment with Aaron Sandison returning to the bench.

Norman Campbell had to look lively to get to a Lewis Birrell ball from the left ahead of Mark Graham who was looking to profit from any slip-up.

It remained 2-0 until the break. Newtonmore looked home and dry three minutes into the second half when Fraser MacKintosh ran down the left to get onto a low, diagonal Steven MacDonald pass. MacKintosh steadied himself before giving keeper Gillies no chance with a blistering drive which made it 3-0.

Kilmallie didn't buckle though and, showing great courage, pulled a goal back on 54 minutes. Innes Blackhall ran at



The victorious Newtonmore team after their 3-2 win over Kilmallie. Photographs: Neil Paterson.

the Newtonmore defence and his ball forward deflected to Michael Rodger who took a superb touch before sending a low strike past the keeper from just inside the 'D'. You could sense the emotion in the goal celebrations, from the pitch to the touchline to the Bught Park stand. Kilmallie were back in the game.

Newtonmore returned on the attack and Shane Gillies made a great save from Fraser MacKintosh, turning the strike from the left away for a corner.

Norman Campbell then made a good stop from Mark Graham, both sides recognising the importance of the next goal.

Martin Stewart was the first player to find his way into referee Archie Ritchie's book for something said to the match official.

Aaron Sandison was reintroduced for Lewis Birrell, who had taken an earlier knock, as the final moved into the final quarter.

Veteran John Stewart took over from Mark Graham in the Kilmallie attack with 20 minutes remaining and it was to prove to be a profitable change.

Fraser MacKintosh came within a whisker of netting a fourth Newtonmore goal when he controlled a Glen MacKintosh ball from the right but his low drive went just past Shane Gillies' left post.

Keeper Gillies was back in action again when his clearance from inside the 'D' went straight to Paul MacArthur and his drive came off the crossbar. Gillies got his body in the way of Fraser MacKintosh's effort from the rebound with Martin Stewart bundling the ball out of play for a corner.

Newtonmore were now dominating again but given their limited preparation for the final, Kilmallie's fitness levels were surprising and they pulled another goal back on 76 minutes.

Calum MacDougall had taken a knock and was down to the left of the outside of the 'D'. As he made his way to his feet, Kilmallie's Peter Carmichael sent the ball back into the goal area where Michael Rodger kept it moving to John Stewart and his ball forward deflected into Calum MacDougall's path and, under pressure from Rory Kennedy, he found just enough space to drill the ball home to make it 3-2.

For all Newtonmore's pressure, there was now only one goal in it and, when John Stewart was fouled just outside the 'D', he sent the free-hit to Michael Rodger at the back post but the Newtonmore goal survived.

Craig MacIsaac came off in

favour of Ryan Stewart before Andy MacKintosh and Calum MacDougall resumed hostilities with the pair picking up yellow cards after another midfield spat.

Glen MacKintosh hit the side netting following a disputed free-hit when Steven Stewart was penalised for a challenge on the Scotland forward.

Iain Richardson was introduced to add energy to the Newtonmore midfield, replacing Jamie Robinson with less than five minutes to go.

With Martin Stewart now pushed forward, the traffic was mainly towards the Newtonmore goal and an Aaron Sandison free-hit from wide on the right was well-defended with just over two minutes left.

Evan Menzies took over from Drew MacDonald with a minute of the regulation 90 minutes to



Kilmallie's Calum MacDougall was voted man of the match.

go. A Steven MacDonald shot swerved wide as the final moved into stoppage time.

Kilmallie tried desperately to create the chance that could take the final into extra-time.

David MacLean was booked for hitting the ball away after he fouled Aaron Sandison. Sandison touched the free hit to Peter Carmichael but his shot was blocked and three shrills of referee Archie Ritchie's whistle brought proceedings to a close.

Kilmallie deserve enormous credit for their part, in difficult circumstances, in what was an entertaining final. Goalscorers Michael Rodger and Calum MacDougall also netted in the semi-final win over Kinlochshiel. The other scorer that day was Duncan Rodger and the players did his memory, and that of stalwart Donald Lamont, proud with their display.

The man of the match award went to one of the game's bright young talents, Kilmallie's Calum MacDougall, who was a constant threat throughout.

It was another trophy success for Newtonmore who put in a professional performance in what must have been a difficult game to prepare for.

Susan Scott from match-day sponsors Anderson, Shaw & Gilbert presented the medals and the MacTavish Cup to Rory Kennedy, his first as Newtonmore captain, as the squad and supporters celebrated a 41st success in this North of Scotland cup competition.

Balliemore Cup – quarter final

Inveraray 3
Oban Celtic 1

Inveraray are through to the Balliemore Cup semi-finals after beating Oban Celtic 3-1 in their 3pm throw-up at The Winterton.

Oban Celtic were 3-2 winners when the sides met at the same venue in the Artemis Macaulay Cup.

Inveraray manager Ruairidh Graham had Douglas Dando back in defence in place of Ross Montgomery, whilst Graham MacPherson returned in goal for Scott MacLachlan.

Oban Celtic boss Kenny Waterspoon was without Ally McKerracher who started a three-match ban following his red card against Inverness in their last game a fortnight earlier. Brothers Jack Hill, John Hill and David Hill were all missing, as was Connor Howe who was on holiday.

Inveraray started well, with Lewis MacNicol again impressing in midfield, but they found Stephen Davidson in the Oban Celtic goal to be in fine form.

Inveraray eventually took the lead on the half-hour mark in a move started and finished with a fine Fraser Watt strike.

The goal seemed to spur Oban Celtic on and they slowly started to work their way back into the game during the remainder of the half, aided at times by a lethargic looking Inveraray side.

Inveraray managers John Montgomery and Ally Watt must have had stern words for their boys at the break because they made a fast and determined start to the second half and doubled their lead a minute after the re-start with Lewis Montgomery producing a composed finish. The goal gave Inveraray a cushion and settled home nerves.

Oban Celtic had a chance to pull a goal back when referee Robert Baxter penalised Nicholas Crawford for pulling down his opponent inside the 'D'. But Graham MacPherson showed he hasn't lost his touch by saving Daniel Madej's spot-hit.



Newtonmore captain Rory Kennedy with the MacTavish Cup.

As the second half wore on, both teams spurned chances despite knowing the next goal would be pivotal.

Inveraray were next to get a penalty when Oban Celtic keeper Stephen Davidson fell on the ball with 68 minutes on the clock. Fraser Watt smashed the spot-hit home for his second goal of the game.

Inveraray were awarded a second penalty when Stephen Davidson was penalised for a swing at Lewis Montgomery, earning the goalie a yellow card. But Fraser Watt passed up the chance of a hat-trick goal with his penalty strike sailing off target.

Despite a 3-0 scoreline, Oban Celtic, with Andy Hunt in great form, came back strongly and they started to dominate the centre line, looking dangerous every time they broke forward.

In an attempt to upset Celtic's rhythm, Inveraray made three changes, bringing on youngsters Hamish McLennan and Robert Wood and the experienced David MacPherson. This seemed to work and Inveraray started to look strong again with Robert Wood, in particular, catching the eye at full forward.

Oban Celtic's Fulton Ronald pulled a goal back with 10 minutes remaining, following a scramble in the box, to make the final score 3-1.

This was a solid Inveraray performance against a well organised Oban Celtic team and they will play either Skye Camanachd or Fort William, who play this coming weekend, in the semi-finals.

Inveraray will want to extend their winning streak this Saturday when they head north to play Inverness in the Marine Harvest National Division.

Oban Celtic have a local derby to look forward to this weekend as they host Oban Camanachd at Ganavan in the Artemis Macaulay Cup quarter-finals. David MacInnes should return

for Celtic but Connor Howe is on holiday. Ally McKerracher is still banned, as is Oban Camanachd's Scott MacMillan.

Aberdeen Considine Sutherland Cup – quarter final

Bute 0
Lochside Rovers 7

Lochside Rovers are through to the Aberdeen Considine Sutherland Cup semi-finals after beating the Bute seconds 7-0 at The Meadows.

A Craig MacDougall goal on three minutes set the tone for the tie. It was a simple goal as MacDougall peeled off his marker before sending the ball low into the net.

Lewis Buchanan opened his account on 15 minutes. Craig MacDougall took a free-hit from midfield out of the air and played the ball to Buchanan around the penalty spot and his first time finish flew into the net.

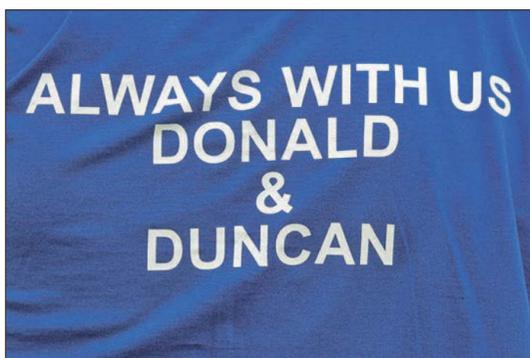
Lewis Buchanan got his second and Lochside's third on 28 minutes when he moved to the back post to get on the end of a corner and he fired the ball hard into the net for a good finish.

Lewis Buchanan sent a penalty wide of the post shortly after and the visitors led 3-0 at the break.

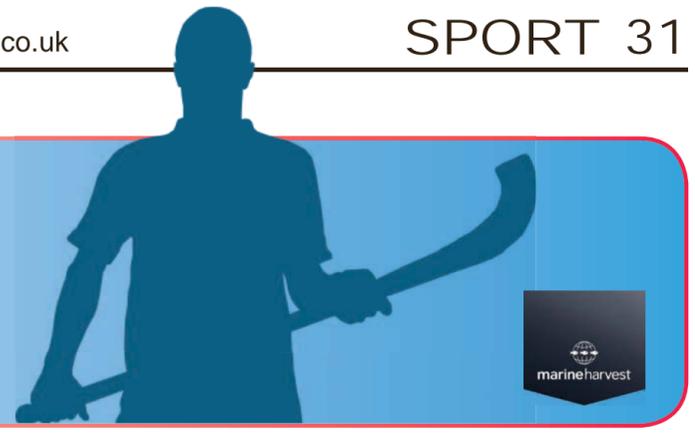
Lochside's fourth goal, a minute into the second half, sealed the tie. Iain MacMillan went on a mazy run, showing great close control, and set up Lewis Buchanan who thumped the ball into the roof of the net to make it 4-0.

Craig MacDougall added a fifth three minutes later when he came out to the penalty spot to gather a free-hit and turned before shooting low into the net.

The Bute keeper made a number of great saves, three with his hand and another couple of outstanding stops to keep



A touching message on the Kilmallie warm-up tops, in memory of Donald Lamont and Duncan Rodger who recently passed away.



Camanachd Cup Macaulay Cup MacTavish Cup Celtic Society Cup

Sutherland Cup Balliemore Cup Strathdearn Cup Bullough Cup

Lochside at bay until 83 minutes when Iain MacMillan drilled the ball across the keeper into the far top corner of the net to make it 6-0.

Michael MacQueen set up Lewis Buchanan to round off an impressive individual performance from the youngster with his fourth goal of the game with just a minute remaining.

Next up for Lochside Rovers is a trip to Silversands this Saturday to take on Aberdour in the Bullough Cup.

Caberfeidh 2 Glenurquhart 3

The Glenurquhart seconds came from two goals down to beat the Caberfeidh seconds 3-2 in their 1pm throw-up at Castle Leod.

Glenurquhart made the better start but Caberfeidh went in front on 22 minutes through Jamie Matheson who tucked home a re-bound after his initial shot was saved.

It looked good for the home side when Ruairidh McCreadie made it 2-0 following a good passing move three minutes after the re-start.

Ben Hosie started the Glenurquhart fightback with a goal a minute later and Oliver Black was on target on 66 minutes to make it 2-2.

The winning goal came 10 minutes from time when Ben Hosie netted his second of the afternoon.

Glenurquhart will now play Lochside Rovers in the semi-finals.

Marine Harvest Premiership

Glenurquhart 2 Kinlochshiel 0

Kinlochshiel dropped their first league points of the season, losing 2-0 to Glenurquhart at Blairbeg.

Glenurquhart manager Iain MacLeod was without talisman John Barr.

The Scotland captain has been playing at full forward whilst recovering from a hand injury but he missed this encounter as he served a one-match suspension for passing through the disciplinary points threshold. James Hurwood and Callum Smith were also missing and, with Arran MacDonald joining the returning David MacLennan and Iain MacLeod on the bench, Connor Golabek started at full centre.

Kinlochshiel boss Johnston Gill was without Scotland forward John MacRae who was serving the second game of a three-match ban. Fellow international Conor Cormack was also sidelined as his red card against Oban Camanachd the previous Saturday triggered a two-match suspension. Injury continued to rule out Paul MacRae whilst Alasdair Nixon was unwell.

Duncan 'DA' MacRae was back and started in attack, whilst there was a place on the bench for Gordie MacDonald. Kinlochshiel fielded Finlay MacRae at full back, marking

James MacPherson, with Keith MacRae at full centre, flanked by Colin MacDiarmid and Jonnie MacAskill.

With the MacTavish Cup Final taking place 15 miles down the road, throw-up was brought forward to noon.

It was an even first half with keepers - Stuart MacKintosh for Glenurquhart and Scott Kennedy for Kinlochshiel - making good saves.

Kinlochshiel brought Gordie MacDonald on for young wing forward WD MacRae on 37 minutes. He was withdrawn shortly after though with a recurrence of his knee injury.

Glenurquhart took the lead on 48 minutes. Ally MacKintosh's ball forward found James MacPherson. His shot was partially blocked by Mark MacDonald but it fell for Michael Fraser with his back to goal. Fraser turned and sent a low shot into the net to make it 1-0.

Daniel MacKintosh made it 2-0 with a cleverly worked goal on 78 minutes. James MacPherson feigned to take a Glenurquhart free-hit but, instead, ran forward, leaving the set-piece to Eddie Tembo. This seemed to catch out the 'Shiel defence as Tembo played the ball to MacPherson who got past Donald Nixon as he broke down the wing. David Falconer went wide to close MacPherson down, leaving Daniel MacKintosh unattended and MacPherson found MacKintosh with his pass and his confident finish made it 2-0.

Kinlochshiel edged the first half but shaded after the break with the Glenurquhart centre line, playing away from the shop end, winning more than their fair share of the ball. The game was tousy at times and there was a flash-point when a Colin MacDiarmid challenge on Connor Golabek led to the Glenurquhart man having to be replaced by Arran MacDonald. With Neale Reid also involved, referee John Angus Gillies calmed the situation without producing a yellow card.

The win means Glenurquhart move up to sixth in the table, leap-frogging Oban Camanachd, as they reach the half-way point in their league campaign.

Lochaber 2 Glasgow Mid Argyll 1

There was a four-pointer at Spean Bridge where Lochaber moved off the bottom of the Marine Harvest Premiership with a 2-1 win over Glasgow Mid Argyll.

Lochaber boss Ally Ferguson had to make a change in goal as Callum MacDonald was working so Lachlan Campbell deputised. Conor Sweeney has a fracture, whilst John Sweeney, Pat Toal and Danny Delaney were still out injured and Donald MacRae was working off-shore. Ben Delaney came into the squad for the first time this season and started on the bench. Jack Dignan has been a long-term Lochaber absentee with an eye injury but he could return soon.

Glasgow Mid Argyll manager Iain Hay had to do without



Inveraray's Allan MacDonald and Oban Celtic's Andy MacDonald in a tussle for the ball during their Balliemore Cup tie at the Winterton. Photograph: Stephen Lawson.

Stuart Reid who was working and Duncan 'Ach' MacRae who is still injured. Lochaber took the lead when Shaun Nicolson scored the only goal of the first half. The goal came from a good Martin Johnstone clearance from midfield. Brennan MacDonald was involved in the link-up play which culminated in Shaun Nicolson hitting a brilliant strike from 25 yards out which gave the keeper no chance, beating him inside his right-hand post.

Lachlan Campbell was excellent in the home goal and gave confidence to the Lochaber defence, clearing his lines well and making one particularly good save with his feet in the first half. He also saved a Craig Anderson penalty at 1-0 to keep his side in front.

GMA equalised when Seb MacMillan got onto a ball over Lochaber defender Duncan MacKinnon and dribbled the ball inside the 'D' before slipping it past keeper Lachlan Campbell as he came off his line.

Lochaber introduced Ben Delaney with 20 minutes to go and he played a part in his side's second goal. After link-up play with Brennan MacDonald, Delaney slipped the ball past the full back before drawing the keeper and playing in Stuart Callison who finished well from close in.

Lochaber put on 18-year-old Callum MacDonald to good effect in the second half, with fellow substitutes James MacRae and Neil MacDonald unused.

The win makes it tight at the foot of the table. Lochaber now climb off the basement at Kilmallie's expense.

Lochaber are a point better off than Kilmallie but a point behind GMA with Kilmallie having played a game more than their rivals.

Lochaber manager Ally Ferguson had plenty to be encouraged about. Reflecting on the game, he said: 'We have had to make a number of forced changes in recent weeks for a combination of reasons including player availability, injury and work commitments. But we have now taken four points out of four from our last two league matches which is encouraging and we have scored eight goals in our last three outings. GMA are a good side with a lot of enthusiasm and drive but on the day, I felt we were worthy of the two points. We always felt threatened by GMA throughout the game though as we did not take full advantage of the good chances we created to kill the game off with a further couple of goals.'

Marine Harvest South Division 1

Aberdour 3 Ballachulish 1

Aberdour top Marine Harvest South Division 1 after they overcame Ballachulish 3-1 at Silversands. Ballachulish keeper Donald Pearce started a two-match suspension, so forward Lorne Brown deputised in goal.

With a number of absentees, the visitors fielded a youthful side with 11 teenagers in their squad. Manager Donald Wilson came out of retirement to help out and was joined in the side by his son David Wilson who made his senior debut.

Aberdour took the lead within the opening minute when talisman Roddy MacColl finished off some neat link-up play.

Aberdour dominated the early play and extended their lead on 26 minutes when Roddy MacColl collected a Ruairidh Reid corner and turned his marker to score.

Ruaridh Reid was again involved in Aberdour's third goal as he found John Martin Philips with a free-hit and the former Lochcarron man scored to make it 3-0 with 37 minutes played.

Some good goal-keeping from Lorne Brown prevented Aberdour running away with the match and the visitors had something to celebrate with 15 minutes remaining when Daniel Wilson's effort from distance dropped into the net to give the Ballachulish U14 player a debut goal.

Aberdour now go two points clear at the top of the table, although second placed Lochside Rovers are in a strong position with three games in hand.

Ballachulish don't have a fixture this coming week and have their free Saturday the week after.

Taynuilt 3 Tayforth 1

Taynuilt go fourth after they beat third-placed Tayforth 3-1 at Taynuilt Sports Field.

Stuart Scott gave the hosts the lead after 25 minutes and he added a second on the stroke of half-time.

David Campbell made it 3-0 on 52 minutes and although Craig Ferrier pulled a goal back 10 minutes later, Taynuilt saw out the remainder of the game to secure their second league win of the season.

Glenorchy P Bute P

An unplayable pitch led to the postponement of the meeting between Glenorchy and Bute at Mart Park.

Col Glen P Kilmory P

The encounter between Col Glen and Kilmory was postponed on Saturday morning as the wet weather left the Glendaruel pitch unplayable.

Marine Harvest North Division 2

Lovat 1 Glengarry 8

League leaders Glengarry stay on course for title success after they beat the Lovat second team 8-1 in their 1pm throw-up at Balgait.

Nick Dalgety put Glengarry ahead after six minutes and Raymond Robertson made it 2-0 on 21 minutes.

Lovat's response was immediate as Raymond Rennie pulled a goal back a minute later, only for Daniel MacLennan to restore the visitor's two-goal advantage on 23 minutes.

Scott Bremner made it 4-1 on 35 minutes and it remained that way until the interval.

Nick Dalgety has proved more than a useful signing since joining Glengarry from Lochcarron in the close season and he took his tally to four goals with strikes on 55, 60 and 83 minutes to make it 7-1.

Raymond Robertson got his second a minute from time to make it 8-1, leaving Glengarry four points ahead of the Lochaber seconds although they have played a game more.

Strathglass 3 Lewis Camanachd 1

The Strathglass seconds beat Lewis Camanachd 3-1 in their 1pm throw-up at Cannich.

Alistair MacLean put the home side ahead after 26 minutes, but a Barry John Phimister own goal on 37 minutes drew Lewis level.

Colin Birnie on 52 minutes and Steven Hyslop on 53 minutes gave Strathglass their second league win of the season.

Strathspey Camanachd P Lochcarron P

The game between Strathspey Camanachd and Lochcarron at Grantown Grammar School will be re-arranged.

Boleskine P Lochaber P

The 1pm throw-up between Boleskine and the Lochaber seconds was postponed as Smith Park was ruled unplayable on Friday.

Marine Harvest South Division 2

Strachur 5 Aberdour 1

Strachur go second in Marine Harvest South Division 2 on goal difference after beating the Aberdour second team 5-1 at Strachurmore.

Stuart Robertson and Angus Campbell bagged doubles, with Kyle McEwan also finding the back of the net.

Chris Bowerman countered for Aberdour.

Strachur have played a game more than leaders Inveraray seconds with the sides still to meet at Strachurmore.

Inveraray P Glasgow Mid Argyll P

A Friday pitch inspection deemed The Winterton unable to host two matches, so the noon throw-up between the Inveraray and Glasgow Mid Argyll second teams will be re-scheduled.

WCA round-up

The ladies' focus was on the regional leagues.

Marine Harvest North Division 2

Strathglass 3 Inverness 3

Strathglass and Inverness shared the points following a 3-3 draw in their noon throw-up at Cannich.

Mattie Jones, Kayleigh MacGregor and Cassie Dorrian scored for the home side, with Amber Mackay, Caitlin Mutch and Katie MacMillan earning Inverness their first point of the season.

Glenurquhart P Lochaber P

The match between Glenurquhart and the Lochaber seconds will be re-arranged.

Marine Harvest South Division 2

Glasgow Mid Argyll 2 Ardnamurchan 3

League leaders Ardnamurchan faced second-placed Glasgow Mid Argyll reserves for the first time this season, notching an impressive 3-2 win in their 1.30pm throw-up at Hillhead Sports Club.

Sophie Tinney got both GMA goals, but Annie MacDonald, Kate Bradley and Rachel Ford gave Ardnamurchan victory, maintaining their 100 per cent start to their league season.

Cowal & Bute P Oban Lorn P

The clash between Cowal & Bute and Oban Lorn fell foul of an unplayable field.

Dunadd P Lorne Ladies P

The meeting between Dunadd and Lorne Ladies was postponed because of an unplayable field.

Lochaber are high school champions

Lochaber won the Senior High School Girls League in Fort William on Thursday June 8.

Lochaber and Portree won all their league games, whilst drawing with each other, in this round-robin tournament, so they met in the final where Lochaber won the day.

Glenurquhart High School won the 2017 Development Shield, overcoming Kingussie in the final.

The eight teams involved were: Ardnamurchan, Glenurquhart, Kingussie, Lochaber A, Lochaber B, Plockton, Portree, and Uddingston.

Fixtures

Friday June 16
Marine Harvest North Division 2
Inverness v Strathspey
Andy MacLean - 7pm

Saturday June 17
Artemis Macaulay Cup Quarter Final (South)
Kyles Athletic v Glasgow MA
Robert Baxter
Oban Celtic v Oban Caman Willie MacDonald

Balliemore Cup 3rd Round
Skye v Fort William
Graham Cameron

Strathdearn Cup 3rd Round
Glenarry v Fort William
Brian MacKay
Lochaber v Newtonmore
Des McNulty - noon
Kingussie v Kilmallie
John Wood
Strathglass v Skye
Scott McNeil

Bullough Cup 2nd Round
Aberdour v Lochside Rovers
Ewan MacDonald
Bute v Kyles Athletic
Euan Pearson - noon
Inveraray v Kilmory
Graham Fisher
Strachur v Oban Lorn
Jim Innes

Marine Harvest Premiership
Lovat v Newtonmore
Martin MacLean
Lochaber v Kinlochshiel
Innes Wood - 3pm

Marine Harvest National Division
Caberfeidh v Strathglass
John Angus Gillies
Inverness v Inveraray
Calum Girvan

Marine Harvest North Division 1
Aberdeen Uni v Kinlochshiel
Archie Ritchie
Glenurquhart v Beaulie
John Matheson - 3pm

Marine Harvest South Division 1
Bute v Tayforth
Ross Brown
Glenorchy v Kilmory
Deek Cameron
Taynuilt v Col Glen
David Mitchell

Marine Harvest North Division 2
Boleskine v Lochcarron
Steven MacLachlan
Lewis v Caberfeidh
Ronnie Campbell

Throw-ups 2.30pm unless stated.

Results

Saturday June 10
MacTavish Cup Final
Newtonmore 3 v 2 Kilmallie

Balliemore Cup 3rd Round
Inveraray 3 v 1 Oban Celtic

Aberdein Considine Sutherland Cup 3rd Round
Bute 0 v 7 Lochside Rovers
Caberfeidh 2 v 3 Glenurquhart

Marine Harvest Premiership
Glenurquhart 2 v 0 Kinlochshiel
Lochaber 2 v 1 Glasgow MA

Marine Harvest South Division 1
Aberdour 3 v 1 Ballachulish
Col Glen P v P Kilmory
Unplayable field
Glenorchy P v P Bute
Unplayable field
Taynuilt 3 v 1 Tayforth

Marine Harvest North Division 2
Boleskine P v P Lochaber
Unplayable field
Lovat 1 v 8 Glengarry
Strathglass 3 v 1 Lewis
Strathspey P v P Lochcarron
To be re-arranged

Marine Harvest South Division 2
Inveraray P v P Glasgow MA
Unplayable field
Strachur 5 v 1 Aberdour

MacTavish Cup U17 Juvenile Cup Final

Skye Camanachd 3 Kingussie 1

Skye Camanachd retained the MacTavish Juvenile Cup with a 3-1 win over Kingussie U17 in their 1pm throw-up at The Bught Park, Inverness.

Skye welcomed forward Ruairidh MacLeod back into their squad, whilst Kingussie went into the match without Ruairidh Anderson and Roddy Young who were abroad on a school trip.

Dylan Borthwick put Kingussie ahead after 31 minutes. Ross Gordon levelled on 51 minutes with Mark MacQueen putting the islanders in front four minutes later.

Ruaraidh MacLeod sealed the win on 75 minutes and Skye captain Stewart Taylor lifted the trophy. Skye's James Morrison was named man of the match.



Skye's James Morrison was awarded the Sandy MacKay Medal for Man of the Match.



Skye's Stewart Taylor lifts the MacTavish Juvenile Cup.
Photos: Donald Cameron.

Weather fails to dampen the spirits at Macaulay Sixes

IN A MIXTURE of weather conditions at Mossfield Park, Oban, last Sunday the Macaulay Association held its annual six-a-side tournament.

A total of 25 teams battled it out for the three trophies. The main event for the Ian Cumming Memorial Trophy for Primary 7 and under was won by Bute who beat Inverloch by two goals to nil in the final.

The Alastair Campbell Shield for Primary 5 and under was won by Inverloch who defeated Taynuilt by two goals to nil in the final.

Primary shinty

The Macaulay Development Cup was won by Dunollie Dynamos from Park School, Oban. Boy player of the tournament was Robin McAlister from Bute and the girl player of the tournament was Briana Sloss from Taynuilt.

The Macaulay Association would like to thank everyone who helped on the day, Artemis for its continued sponsorship, the ladies who ran the tuck shop and raffle, the referees, the score collectors and all parents and coaches who organised their teams to come to the competition.

Results: Primary 7s - Ian Cumming Memorial Trophy - semi-finals Inverloch 3, Glasgow Gaels 0; Bute 1, Taynuilt 1, Bute won on penalties. Final - Inverloch 0, Bute 2.

Primary 5s - Alastair Campbell Shield - semi-finals - Inverloch 3, Rockfield Rockets 0; Taynuilt 1, Bute 0. Final - Taynuilt 0, Inverloch 2.

Macaulay Development Cup - Dunollie Dynamos.

Best boy - Robin McAlister, Bute; Best girl - Briana Sloss, Taynuilt.



Inverloch won the Alastair Campbell Shield.



Winners of the Ian Cumming Memorial Trophy were Bute. Photographs: Kevin McGlynn and David Hamilton.



Taynuilt lost out in the final of the Alastair Campbell Shield.



Winners of the Macaulay Development Cup were Dunollie Dynamos.



Rockfield Runners.



Park Panthers.



Rockfield Rockets.



Inverloch lost 2-0 to Bute in the final of the Ian Cumming Memorial Trophy.



Boy player of the tournament, Robin McAlister from Bute.



Girl player of the tournament, Briana Sloss, Taynuilt.

SPONSORS OF THE OBAN TIMES WEATHER AND TIDES

NORTH WEST MARINE
DIVING & MARINE SPECIALISTS

7 E Glengallan Road, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HG
T: 01631 565740 F: 01631 565780 M: 07836 366419
Em: enquiries@northwestmarine.co.uk Web: www.northwestmarine.co.uk



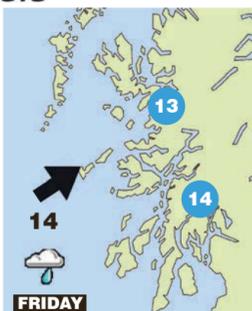
Chain, shackles, buoys all available to purchase in Oban

WEATHER

Thursday Light rain showers
Winds moderate south westerly
Temperatures 11°C to 14°C.

Friday Light rain
Winds moderate west south westerly
Temperatures 11°C to 14°C.

Weekend Light rain showers on Saturday
Outlook Cloudy on Sunday
Winds moderate west south westerly
Temperatures 12°C to 15°C.



Stop Press: New pontoons at Ulva Ferry and visitor moorings installed at Lochaline by North West Marine Ltd

TIDAL INFORMATION

Tide tables for Oban during the week from Thursday June 15, 2017 are listed below with differences for major ports listed on the right. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date		am		pm	
Thur	03.09	1.5	18.53	3.2	15.18
Fri	03.55	1.6	09.38	3.1	16.06
Sat	04.55	1.6	10.35	3.0	17.05
Sun	06.04	1.6	11.47	3.0	18.14
Mon	00.44	3.3	07.14	1.5	13.15
Tues	02.08	3.4	08.19	1.3	14.30
Wed	03.10	3.6	09.18	1.1	15.27

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

Ferry Crossings/Sea States

Oban to Barra/South Uist	Moderate
Oban to Coll/Tiree	Moderate
Kennacraig to Islay	Moderate

LOCHABER TIMES

& Oban Times

Established 1861 No 8359

Thursday 15 June, 2017

www.lochabertimes.co.uk

85 pence



Youngsters hit the right note at Lochaber Mòd

GLASGOW
CELTIC
SOCIETY
CUP FINAL



2017 PREVIEW
KYLES ATHLETIC
OBAN CAMANACHD

Nevis Centre upgrade plans to be unveiled at public meeting

Millions to be spent on affordable housing

ELLIE FORBES
eforbes@obantimes.co.uk

DETAILS of a £1.5m refurbishment of the Nevis Centre in Fort William will be unveiled later this month by operators Linnhe Leisure.

Plans to fix the 20-year-old leaking roof and re-design the foyer are among the items to be discussed at a public meeting on Tuesday June 27.

Despite a cut in funding from the Highland Council of almost 50 per cent last year, the centre has appointed Fort William architects Kearney Donald Partnership to draw up plans for the project which it is hoped will start later this year.

Speaking to the *Lochaber Times*, Linnhe Leisure chairwoman Sheana Fraser said she hopes to give the community a better understanding of how the centre is run and a chance to get involved with the upgrade of this 'vital community resource'.

'The Nevis Centre building is leased by the Highland Council, but Linnhe Leisure is the charitable company, managed by volunteers, that runs the centre. This is a community resource and all the money that is made goes back into the company and the running of the centre.'

'With this public event, we are asking what people want to see done with the Nevis Centre and will be showing, in particular, what the foyer area could look like. We are looking for their comments on what they think of our plans.'

'We want to make the foyer more welcoming and more of a social space for people coming in. But the roof leaks so badly

“
We are looking for their comments on what they think of our plans **”**

we can't do anything inside until it is fixed and that's going to cost us more than £350,000.

'If the centre is refurbished we hope that would encourage more people to use it and develop into new markets, including businesses using the space for conferences or workshops. There's potential there that has not been fully developed. That way we can bring in more income and make it more sustainable, because we need to make up the grant funding we have lost.'

Despite a year-on-year cut in funding from the local authority, the council awarded the centre £250,000 through its capital discretionary fund last year.

'We are delighted the capital fund gave us £250,000, but we are still on a funding package. We have some capital reserves and we have the support of HIE and LEADER.'

The centre has faced challenging times over the last four years, but Ms Fraser said it is looking to the future: 'The businesses has now stabilised, thanks to new management and committed staff. We are looking to the future.'

Head along to the Nevis Centre on Tuesday June 27 between 2pm and 4pm to see the plans and have your say.



Laura hits all the right notes at Lochaber Mòd

BUN-SGOIL Ghàidhlig Loch Abar pupil Laura Robertson hit all the right notes at this year's 2017 Lochaber Provincial Mòd. The event was held last Friday and Saturday at the Gaelic school in Caol, Fort William.

Laura competed in piping, fluent tradi-

tional singing, fluent conversation, fluent recitation and took part in her school's choir.

She picked up first place in the under-13 fluent traditional singing, 11-12 fluent solo singing, bagpipes under-15 Piobaireachd Ground.

Laura also won two trophies – the Donald MacDonald Memorial Cup for the highest Gaelic mark (solo) and the Archie MacLean Memorial Quaich for the highest combined Gaelic and music mark.

For more photographs and full results, turn to pages four, 10 and 11.

MORE than £100million is to be invested in affordable homes across the Highlands.

The Scottish Government announced further investment of £1.75 billion in affordable housing across the country on Tuesday (June 13).

For the first time, councils and house-builders across Scotland's 32 local authorities will have the opportunity to plan ahead with grant subsidies guaranteed for three years.

Kate Forbes, MSP for Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch, said: 'The announcement the Highlands will receive £125m over the next three years provides the certainty Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch and the sector needs to keep progressing and ensures we keep up the momentum to reach the Scottish Government's target of 50,000 new affordable homes by 2021.'

Ms Forbes said the investment will 'strengthen' the estimated 14,000 jobs the affordable housing supply programme supports each year.

Spending on affordable homes in the Highlands is set to increase by around £8million between 2018/19 and 2020/2021.

The Scottish Government is aiming to have 50,000 new affordable homes by 2021.



• MEMORIAL BENCHES • BENCHES
• PICNIC TABLES • FENCING
• DECKING AND MUCH MORE

A TOUGH DEPENDABLE AND SUSTAINABLE SOLUTION

Fusion
RECYCLED PLASTIC PRODUCTS
WWW.FUSIONRECYCLEDPLASTIC.COM

Tel: 01631 720 730
Marine Resource Centre
Barcaldine by Oban PA37 1SE

Community council future uncertain

THE RESIGNATION of two Caol community councillors has left the future of the group hanging in the balance, writes Ellie Forbes.

Chairwoman Jane Young and committee member Steven Young stepped down at the community council's annual general meeting on Monday (June 12).

Jane, a stalwart volunteer in the community for the last decade and community council chairwoman for the past two years, said she no longer had the time required to be at the helm.

She said: 'I am stepping down for personal reasons. I just don't have the time to dedicate to it any more.'

Before the AGM, the committee was made up of, Jane, vice chairman John Gillespie, treasurer Kirsty Kyle, Liam

Simmonds and Lorraine MacKinnon, alongside Donny Elder and Eddie Morgan, two co-opted members. Any vacancy can be filled by a co-opted member who must first be voted in by the community council.

The Highland Council said there must be a core membership of five, so Caol Community Council is currently in 'abeyance'.

With the two resignations, it leaves four elected committee members, plus the two co-opted councillors, who are not currently 'officially' counted.

Jane said she would stay on as chairwoman until June 25 and then the community council normally takes a break over the summer. It is hoped community council elections would be held in October, when existing councillors and the two co-opted

members would stand for election. John Gillespie told the *Lochaber Times*: 'Both Stephen and Jane will be a loss to the community council. Under Jane's chairmanship, we have tried at all times to give the community the opportunity to comment on the many developments in our area. Hopefully there will be an early opportunity to reconstitute the council and I would encourage people to put themselves forward.'

At the meeting, councillor Billy MacLachlan said: 'Hopefully the people of Caol will rally round to get the community council going again. Community spirit has dissolved. If the government wants community councils to continue you need to pay the chairperson. It's just not feasible otherwise these days.'

The Lime Tree Tickets are limited and are payable in advance from the Lime Tree, info@limetreefortwilliam.co.uk or call 01397 701806

Achintore Road, Fort William

Midsummer Delight 22nd June 2017 - 7pm

An evening with Francois Naude exploring wines from the Rhebokskloof Wine Estate matched with a selection of dishes from The Lime Tree's award winning restaurant

Hors-d'oeuvre
Tian of Orkney Brown Crab with Bosstok Chenin Blanc 2016
Pork Belly with 'MGS' 2014
Blade of Beef with Pinotage 2015
Kaiserschmarren served with a Cape Dessert Wine

£50 per person

Francois is a hugely respected figure in South Africa and possesses tremendous 'encyclopaedic' knowledge of both wine making and the history of the Cape wine industry.

Fort William's Leisure and Recreation Facility

The Nevis Centre

What's on at The Nevis Centre

FUN BOX

HIGHLAND FLING WEAR SOMETHING TARTAN

2 July 2017, 1:00 pm
The Nevis Centre, An Aird Fort William
Tel: 01397 700707

FW



Class one and two winners left to right: Daisy Mahon, solo singing gold, Seonaidh Forrest, gold for poem recitation, Caitlin Culbertson, solo singing silver medal and Daniel Flynn, solo singing gold.



Left to right: Emily MacDonald won joint gold in the 'reading an unseen passage', silver in 'traditional solo singing' and bronze for 'prescribed solo singing'. Eubha Chaimbeul won two equal golds in conversation and reading an unseen passage, while classmate Caramarie MacAlman took the other shared gold in the reading competition, plus a bronze medal for poetry recitation.



Winning Skye Provincial Mòd smiles from Maeve MacGillivray who won silver in the accordion competition, left, while Erin MacNeill won a joint silver in solo singing.



Talent on show at Skye Mòd

Standards were high at this year's Skye Provincial Mòd, held over four days at Portree High School.

The Mòd kicked off with piping competitions on Wednesday May 31. The large number of entrants provided a great evening's entertainment with a high standard throughout.

On Thursday June 1, the Church of Scotland in Kilmuir hosted a Bible reading and presenting competitions.

Chairman of Skye Provincial Mòd Stuart Jackson told the *Lochaber Times*: 'The children provided a great evening of competition which was enjoyed by a very knowledgeable audience. The church is a magnificent setting for this event and the hospitality everyone received was greatly appreciated.'

Instrumental competitions were held in Portree Primary School on Friday June 2 when there were brilliant performances on a variety of instruments. The accordion, fiddle, clarsach and piano competitions were particularly strong, which bodes well for the future.

On the final day of the Mòd, Saturday June 3, events were held in both Portree primary and Portree high school.

Among the adjudicators for the day was newly-appointed An Comunn Gaidhealach president Allan Campbell who praised the children, teachers, tutors and parents for the high standard of Gaelic on display.

Mr Jackson added: 'The Mòd committee is extremely grateful for the time and energy everyone contributes to insure the success of the event.'

Results

Chanter (under 1 year) - 1 Calum MacKenzie, Portrigh; 2 Beth NicDhòmhnaill, Portrigh; 3 Bethany MacIntosh, Elgol Primary. Chanter (Over 1 year) - 1 Angus MacKinnon, Slèite; 2 Seonaidh Alex Macleod, Macdiarmid Primary; 3 Brook Lamond, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh. Gàidhlig Air - 1 Jonathan Beaton, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh; 2 Dougal McKiggan, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh; 3 Archie MacLean, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh. March (under 14) - 1 Archie MacLean, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh; 2 Sara Jayne Edmondson, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh; 3 Rachel Henderson, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh. Strathspey and Reel (under 14) - 1 Archie MacLean, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh; 2 Declan Malloy, Sgoil Stafainn; 3 Sara Jayne Edmondson, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh. March (under 18) - 1 Katrina Martin, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh; 2 Gilleasbuig MacVicar, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh; 3 Dougal McKiggan, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh. Strathspey and Reel (under 18) 1 Katrina Martin, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh; 2 Gilleasbuig MacVicar, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh; 3 Jonathan Beaton, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh. Jig (open) - 1 Jonathan Beaton, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh; 2 Archie MacLean, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh; 3 Gilleasbuig MacVicar, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh; Reading of Psalm (P4/5) - 1 Eoghann Caimbeul, Cille Mhoire; 2 Anna Varwell, Cille Mhoire. Reading of Psalm, P6/7 (fluent) - 1 Beth Chaimbeul, Cille Mhoire; 2 Ellen NicIomhair, Stafainn; 3 John Varwell, Cille Mhoire and Lexy NicLeòid, Stafainn. Bible reading S1-2-1 Seumas Caimbeul, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh; 2 Erin Nic'Illosa, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh. Primary Presenting - 1 Beth Chaimbeul, Cille Mhoire; 2 Ellen NicIomhair, Stafainn; 3 John Varwell, Cille Mhoire; Secondary Presenting - 1 Erin Nic'Illosa, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh; 2 Seumas Caimbeul, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh; 3 Mhàiri Gillies, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh. Violin (beginners) - 1 Finlay James, Portrigh; 2 Tilly Ng; 3 Amy Robertson. Violin (intermediate) - 1 Lucy Livingstone, Broadford; 2 Iona MacMath, Portree; 3 Annie Wilson, Broadford; Violin (advanced) - 1 Kathleen NicDhòmhnaill, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh; 2 Mia MacGillivray, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh; 3 Rona Stewart, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh. Fiddle groups (primary) - 1 Skye Stringlets, Elgol. Clarsach (beginners) - 1 Anna Varwell, Cille Mhoire; 2 Caramarie MacAlman, Slèite. Clarsach (intermediate) - 1 Isy MacLean, Edinbane; 2 Erin Nic'Illosa, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh; 3 Mia Mutch, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh. Accordion (beginners) - 1 Calum MacCoinnich, Portrigh; 2 Maeve MacGillivray, Slèite; 3 Emma Chaimbeul, Cille Mhoire. Accordion (intermediate) - 1 Chloe MacAskill, Portrigh; 2=Carmen NicAsgaill, Portrigh and Innes MacNeil, Phortrigh. Accordion (advanced) - 1 Emily Matheson Ard-sgoil Phortrigh; 2 Emily Matheson, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh. Keyboards (beginners) - 1 Isabella

Langlands, An Ath-leathann; 2 Eubha Chaimbeul, Slèite; 3 Catriona M MacKinnon, An Ath-leathann. Keyboards (intermediate) - 1 Lucy Livingstone, An Ath-leathann; Keyboards (advanced) - 1 Emily Matheson, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh; 2 Isla NicLeòid, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh. Any other instrument (beginners) - 1 Giacomo Fraser, Portrigh; 2 Catherine Robertson, Dunvegan; 3 Daniel Warby, Dunvegan. Any other instrument (intermediate) - 1 Kathleen MacDonald, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh; 2 Charlie Latton, Portrigh; 3 Joshua Turner, Portrigh. Any other instrument (advanced) - 1 Elsa Galbraith, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh; 2 Mhàiri Gillies, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh; 3 Rachel Shaw, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh. Recitation (fluent) Age 5/6 Girls - 1=Lucy Henderson, Portrigh and Lena Henderson, Cille Mhoire; 2 Peigi NicFhearghuis, Portrigh; 3 Leah MacKinnon, Portrigh. Age 5/6 Boys - 1 Logan MacKay, Cille Mhoire; 2 Lewis MacQueen, Cille Mhoire; 3 Lachlan MacLeod, Stafainn. Boys age 7 - 1 Seonaidh Forrest, Slèite; 2 Calum Alasdair Rothach, Cille Mhoire; 3 Finlay James, Portrigh. Girls age 8 - 1 Isla MacKay, Cille Mhoire; 2 Catriona MacKinnon, Cille Mhoire 3=Lexi Nicolson, Cille Mhoire and Catriona MacKinnon, An Ath-leathann. Age9 - 1 Emma Chaimbeul, Cille Mhoire; 2 Eoghann Caimbeul, Cille Mhoire; 3= Willow NicFhearghuis, Stafainn and Màiri Smith, An Ath-leathann. Age 10 - 1 EvieNic'Illosa, Portrigh; 2 Miya van der Merwe, An Ath-leathann. Age 11/12 Girls - 1=Beth Chaimbeul, Cille Mhoire and Lexy NicLeòid, Stafainn; 2 Eubha Chaimbeul, Slèite; 3 Caramarie MacAlman, Slèite. Age 11/12 Boys - 1 John Varwell, Cille Mhoire; Reading of unseen passage P4/5 Girls - 1 Anna Varwell, Cille Mhoire; 2 Catriona MacKinnon, AnAth-leathann; 3 Willow NicFhearghuis, Stafainn. P4/5 Boys - 1 Eoghann Caimbeul, Cille Mhoire; 2 Eubha Chaimbeul, Slèite; 2 Emily NicDhòmhnaill, Slèite; 3 Sadie Dhòmhnullach, Portrigh. P6/7 Boys - 1 Innes MacNeil, Portrigh; 2 John Varwell, Cille Mhoire. S1/2 - 1 Seumas Caimbeul; 2 Erin Nic'Illosa 3= Chrissie MacKinnon and Kathleen MacDonald. Short dialogue P1/3 - 1 Nicco Guidi and Rory Turner, Portrigh. Age 9/10 - 1 Anna Varwell and Eoghann Caimbeul, Cille Mhoire; 2 Joshua Turner and Charlie Latton, Portrigh; 3 Ellen NicAonghais and Louise Gate, Cille Mhoire. Age 11/12 - 1 Ellen NicIomhair and Lexy NicLeòid, Stafainn; 2 Sadie Dhòmhnullach and Evie Nic'Illosa, Portrigh; 3 Beth Chaimbeul and John Varwell, Cille Mhoire. S1/2 - Kathleen NicDhòmhnaill and Erin Nic'Illosa, Sgeulachd. P1/3 - 1 Peigi NicFhearghuis, Portrigh; 2 Rory Turner, Portrigh. Age 9-12 - 1 Lexy NicLeòid, Stafainn; 2 Chrissie MacKinnon. PHS Short talk and Conversation P4/5 - 1 Eoghann Caimbeul, Cille Mhoire; 2 Anna Varwell, Cille Mhoire; 3 Màiri Smith, An

Ath-leathann. P6/7 1=Eubha Chaimbeul, Slèite and Beth Chaimbeul, Cille Mhoire; 2=Sadie Dhòmhnullach, Portrigh and Iona MacMath, Portrigh; 3= Innes MacNeil, Portrigh and John Varwell, Cille Mhoire. S1/2 - 1= Kathleen MacDonald and Chrissie MacKinnon, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh. Verse speaking P1/3 - 1 Cille Mhoire 2 Class 2-3 Portrigh; 3 Nigheanancas 1-2 Stafainn. P4/7 - 1 Stafainn; 2 Portrigh. Class 5/3 - Cille Mhoireclas 6/7. Learners Recitation Age 5/6 - 1 Krista Nicolson, Broadford. Age 7/8 - 1 Nelly Blair, Raasay; 2=Ailish McLaughlin, Cille Mhoire and Thomas Gillies, Raasay; 3 Kate MacKinnon, Cille Mhoire. Age 9/10 - 1 Charlie MacKinnon, Cille Mhoire; 2 Neela Mutch, Cille Mhoire; 3 Cailean Dunkel, Cille Mhoire. Prescribed Song (fluent) Girls Age 5/6 - 1 Peigi NicFhearghuis, Portrigh; 2 Caitlin Culbertson, Slèite; 3= Siobhan Hunter and Màiri Anne MacKenzie, Portrigh. Age 7 - 1 Daisy Maclean Mahon, Slèite; 2 Eva MacCaskill, Portrigh; 3 Grace Pert, Portrigh. Age 8 - 1 Marina MacRae, Slèite; 2= Grace Anderson, An Ath-leathann and Jessica Miller, Slèite; 3= Amy Mackinnon, Slèite and Catriona MacKinnon, An Ath-leathann. Age 9 - 1 Màiri Smith, An Ath-leathann; 2= Isabella Langlands, An Ath-leathann; 3 Beth NicDhòmhnaill, Portrigh. Age 10 - 1 Eva Peggy Mahon, Slèite; 2 Carmen MacAskill, Portrigh; 3 Grace MacLaren, An Ath-leathann. Age 11-12 - 1 Elspeth Dibble, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh; 2 Ellen NicIomhair, Stafainn; 3 Emily NicDhòmhnaill, Slèite. Age 13-15 (Silver medal) - 1 Erin Nic'Illosa, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh; 2 Mhàiri Gillies, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh. Boys age 5/6 - 1 Peter MacKinnon, An Ath-leathann; 2 Hamish Turner, Portrigh; 3= Seumas MacDonald and Tormod MacLeòid, Portrigh. Age 7/8 - 1 Finlay James, Portrigh; 2 Calum Alasdair Rothach, Cille Mhoire; 3 Peter Martin, Portrigh. Age 8: 1 Caleb Phelps, Portrigh; 2 Iain Graham, Portrigh; 3=Rory Turner and NicoGuidi, Portrigh. Age 9/10 Boys - 1 Calum MacKenzie, Portrigh; 2 Eoghann Caimbeul, Cille Mhoire; 3= Finlay Breen, An Ath-leathann and Joshua Turner, Portrigh. Prescribed Learners Boys age 5-6 - 1 Daniel Flynn, Slèite. Girls age 11/12 - 1 Kizzy MacLeod, Portree; 2 Louise Budge, Portree; 3 Lucy Speed, Portree Primary. Age 13-15 (Silver medal) - 1 Mia Mutch, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh. Traditional Primary (Girls) - 1 Beth Chaimbeul, Cille Mhoire; 2 Emily NicDhòmhnaill, Slèite; 3 EvieNic'Illosa, Portrigh. Traditional Primary (Boys) - 1 John Varwell, Cille Mhoire; 2 Eoghann Caimbeul, Cille Mhoire; 3 Calum MacCoinnich, Portrigh. Traditional Secondary - 1 Seumas Caimbeul, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh; 2 Kathleen NicDhòmhnaill, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh; 3 Erin Nic'Illosa, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh. Choral (Unison) - 1 Clann Thràndairnis; 2 Còisir an Ath-leathann; 3 Slèite. Choral Puirt a Beul -

Clann Thràndairnis. Action Song P1/3 - 1 Slèite; 2 Portrigh GM1; 3 Portrigh. GM2/3 P4/7 1 Cille Mhoire; 2 Portrigh 3; Slèite. Luadh - 1 Clann Thràndairnis. Folk Group (primary) - 1 Cuirnan Car (Thràndairnis); 2= Portrigh A; 3= Portrigh B and Clann Thràndairnis. Adults Solo - 1 Stuart Jackson; 2 Anjali A Angel. Solo (Skye Song) - 1 Stuart A Jackson. Traditional (men) - 1 Stuart A Jackson. Literacy - Poster with Gàidhlig caption (A) - 1 Lachlan MacLeòid, Stafainn; 2 Ava Nic'Illosa, Stafainn; 3 Peigi Gordon, Stafainn. (B) - 1 Willow NicFhearghuis, Stafainn; 2 Katie NicRath, Portrigh; 3 Toby Wallwork, Stafainn. (C) 1 Lexy NicLeòid, Stafainn; 2 AylaMacRae, Portrigh; 3 Alexander Whitehead, Stafainn. (D) - 1 Ellen NicIomhair, Stafainn; 2 Ceitidh NicCoinnich, Slèite; 3 Eubha Chaimbeul, Slèite. Written Article - 1 Eoghann Caimbeul, Cille Mhoire; 2 Anna Varwell, Cille Mhoire; 3 Louise Gate, Cille-Mhoire.

Trophies

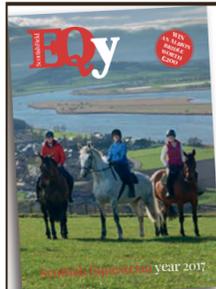
Presenting (Mòd committee) - Beth Chaimbeul, Cille Mhoire. Presenting (Mr and Mrs J Budge) - Freddie Wallwork, Stafainn. Nicol Campbell (Under 14 most points) - Archie MacLean, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh. Murdo MacDonald Memorial (Gàidhlig Air) - Jonathan Beaton, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh. Gàidhlig Society of London (March) - Katrina Martin, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh. Most points (under 18) - Jonathan Beaton, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh. Iain (Cordovox) MacDonald (accordion) - Emily Matheson, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh. Most promising clarsach player - Anna Varwell, Cille Mhoire. Tongadale (advanced violin) - Kathleen NicDhòmhnaill, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh. Urras Baile Fhlòdaigearraidh (Luadh) - Clann Thràndairnis. Runrig (Folk group) - Cuirnan Car (Thràndairnis). Oban Rosebowl (English Unit/school with most points) - Raasay Primary. Fiddle group (Primary) - Elgol Primary. P1-3 Verse Speaking - Class 1-3, Cille Mhoire. P4-7 Verse Speaking - Bun-sgoil Stafainn. P1-3 Action song - Bun-sgoil Slèite, class 1-3. P4-7 Action song - Bun-sgoil Chille Mhoire. Choir - Clann Thràndairnis. Ross Gillies Memorial (highest individual music points in singing, primary) - Eva MacCaskill, Bun-sgoil Phortrigh. Most points in oral competitions - Bun-sgoil ChilleMhoire. The McKeeve Trophy (Open Solo) - Stuart Jackson. Skye Mòd Committee Trophy (Skye song) - Stuart Jackson. Sir Iain Noble shield (primary traditional) - Girls - Beth Chaimbeul, Cille Mhoire and Boys - John Varwell, Cille Mhoire. Urras an Eilein Quaich (aggregate prescribed solo and traditional) - Erin Nic'Illosa, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh. Silver medal (girls age 13-15 fluent) - Erin Nic'Illosa, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh. Silver medal (girls age 13-15 learners) - Mia Mutch, Ard-sgoil Phortrigh.



Class 3/4/5 winners in solo singing were: Marina MacRae, gold, Jessica Miller, silver, and Ami MacKinnon, silver.



Bun Sgoil Slèite sisters Daisy and Eva Mahon both won gold in their respective age categories for solo singing.



FREE with the July issue of Scottish Field

EQ Scottish Equestrian Year Magazine 2017

HORSE HOLIDAYS . SHOW JUMPER DOUGLAS DUFFIN . EVENTER WILLS OAKDEN . DRESSAGE STAR JO BARRY

MEET THE ROYAL HIGHLAND PONIES . SCOTLAND'S HORSE HEROES . WHO TO WATCH IN 2017

Win a stunning Albion bridle worth over £200
Out in shops now or go to www.scottishfield.co.uk



WHAT'S ON

STAFF and volunteers from Lochaber Sensory Care for sight and hearing support will visit Abbeyfield Care Home, Ballachulish, on Monday June 19 between 10.30am and 12.30pm. They will offer help and advice to anyone living with a hearing or sight loss - residents or members of the community.

SUNDAY June 18 will see almost 100 youngsters take part in the Lochaber Music School concert at Lochaber High School at 3pm. Admission is £5 for adults and free for school age children. The concert will display many aspects of the wonderful musical activities Lochaber Music School - now in its 30th year - provides for more than 150 children every week in Camaghael Hostel, adjacent to the High School in Fort William.

MÒD AIRD nam Murchan is on Friday June 16 and will once again be held in Ardscoil Aird nam Murchan and Arainn Shuainert in Strontian. Competitions start at 9.15am and continue until 5pm. Everyone welcome. The prizewinners' concert will start at 7pm in Arainn Shuainert.

CROILEAGAN Grianach is hosting a fashion show on Thursday June 22 in aid of the nursery group's funds. The show starts at 6.30pm in M&Co, 2 High Street, Fort William. Tickets, £5/£2.50, can be bought in-store or by contacting Croileagan Grianach on 01397 709724 or at croileagan6grianach@gmail.com.

KILMALLIE Community Centre is hosting another community garden clean-up and needs volunteers to help. The clean-up will start at 10am on Saturday (June 17). For more information, contact Sarah Kennedy on 07768 805040.

CAOL gala day takes place on Saturday June 24 at Bun-Sgoil Ghàidhlig Loch Abar from noon to 4pm. Attractions include a fair, a licensed bar, snacks, craft stalls, tug-of-war, bonnie baby competition, gala grannie and cheerleaders. Teams for the tug-of-war are encouraged to get in touch, as is anyone with home baking donations. Fancy dress is encouraged. An unlimited ride wristband costs £9, with a single ride costing £1. For more information, email kirstykyle75@gmail.com.

Concern voiced over poor bus access for the disabled

ELLIE FORBES
eforbes@obantimes.co.uk

CONCERN has been raised in Lochaber over poor access to buses for people with disabilities.

Lochaber Transport Forum had a busy May meeting with bus issues at the forefront of discussions. Problems ranged from lack of wheelchair access to lack of low floor buses on certain routes.

Following the complaints, Highlands and Islands MSP David Stewart has written to Stagecoach Bus.

Mr Stewart said: 'Transport should be accessible for everyone.'

'It's good for the economy and means fewer car journeys, which reduces carbon emissions. Dis-

abled people should be treated fairly and in parity with all others.

'It is my understanding buses or coaches may need to meet the Public Service Vehicle Accessibility Regulations 2000 (PVSAR) allowing access on the vehicle for disabled passengers. Whether the vehicle has to meet the regulations depends on its size, age and purpose. Only buses that can carry 22 passengers or more have to comply with the regulations. There is a timetable for these regulations to phase the development for bus companies.

'Obviously I am concerned to hear some disabled people in and around Fort William have experienced difficulty with access to some Stagecoach Buses so I have written to the

area manager of Stagecoach Bus to ascertain what the current position is with disability access buses used in and around Fort William.'

Speaking to the *Lochaber Times*, Arthur Cowie, chairman of the Scottish Accessible Transport Alliance (SATA), said there have been numerous issues related to elderly and disabled residents of Lochaber accessing buses operating in the Highlands.

He said: 'These are constantly raised with the operators at places, such as the Transport Forum. Many of these can be directly connected to the age of the vehicles and the poor maintenance of the national operator's fleets of buses servicing the area.'

'However, there is an issue on what is an 'accessible' vehicle.

All the operators will inform you they are operating vehicles which are compliant with current legislation. This means they are accessible by a wheelchair user via either a level low floor entry or by the use of the wheelchair hoist.

'This issue has been raised with politicians from all parties for a number of years, in both Westminster and Holyrood. It will require both parliaments to review and address the failings in the legislation of what is an 'accessible' vehicle. This applies to all transport, not just the buses.'

'Last year SATA attended meetings in Aberdeen relating to accessible issues in buses which had been brought into service in Buchan. These vehicles were fully compliant

with the legislation, yet the politicians laid the full onus on the operator. The elected politicians appear unwilling to recognise or accept their responsibilities on this issue.

'It is important to stress public transport should be accessible to all.'

A Stagecoach North Scotland spokeswoman said: 'We await Mr Stewart's letter and will respond to him fully. All our vehicles operating in Fort William are already fully compliant with the standards and regulations applicable to accessibility for local bus services.'

'Any customers with access concerns should contact our disability help desk on 01463 258933 or by email at highland.disabilityhelpdesk@stagecoach-bus.com.'

Glen Nevis opening

A NEW £600,000 riverside path and bridge in Glen Nevis will open this weekend.

Music will fill the Glen this Sunday, June 18, for a community event to celebrate the opening of the all-abilities crossing and path.

Following the 1.5km upgrade, a section of Glen Nevis is now within reach for wheelchair users, elderly and frail visitors and families with young children.

The opening is being sponsored by part of the GFG Alliance, the new owners of the Lochaber smelter.

GFG estates became the owner of a large part of the glen when the business bought the nearby smelter. GFG has pledged to work with community groups to make best use of the land for the benefit of Lochaber and the area's economy.

The scheme to create the path was led by the Nevis Partnership and The Highland Council, and funded by Heritage Lottery Fund, The Highland Council, Highlands and Islands Enterprise, Sport Scotland, Scottish Rural Development Programme and Scottish Youth Hostel Association.

The new route will be declared open by guest of honour, musician and Oban Times columnist Robert Robertson, who will cut the ribbon before Lochaber Schools Pipe Band marches across the new bridge.

The ceremony will be followed by live music and community activities around Glen Nevis Visitor Centre from 11am to 2pm.

Police files

OVERNIGHT on Thursday June 1, the mirrors of a van parked in Alma Road, Fort William, were stolen. An identical theft took place from a van parked overnight on Melantee in Claggan on Tuesday June 6. Police would like to speak to anyone who saw anything suspicious in these areas.

A BIKE locked to a pole near the Royal Bank of Scotland on Fort William High Street on the evening of Saturday June 3 was badly damaged.

AT 11.45PM on Friday June 9, a disturbance took place in the bar of the Marine Hotel in Mallaig, resulting in one person being injured.

Police would like to speak to anyone who was in the bar at the time.

What a cutie!



Jessica Grieve-McCaffrey from, Caol, Fort William, finished second in the Bonnie Baby competition run by *The Lochaber Times*.

MORE than 200 babies were entered into our annual bonnie babies competition.

Tot Jessica Grieve-McCaffrey from Caol, missed out on the top prize, but the youngster was all smiles, showing just why she took second place.

The winner was Calum Brown from Tobermory, with Donny Kerr, two, from Oban taking third place.

Pauline Clifford, marketing executive at *The Oban Times*, said: 'I would like to thank every one who entered the competition. They have made what could have been a very hard job delightful. We have so many bonnie babies on the West Coast, it is really difficult for only one to be chosen as the winner in the end.'

'Congratulations to Calum and his family.'

Teddy bear hunt for Harris brings families together

ORGANISERS of a charity bear hunt hope the event has raised more than £500 for STAR for Harris, writes *Ellie Forbes*.

The fundraising group was set up by Tanya and Allan Ross after their son Harris lost his battle with a brain tumour in 2010, aged just 16 months.

On Sunday the couple held a Bear Hunt Teddy Toddle which involved families walking 2kms, stopping half-way to hunt in the woods for bears, which the children kept, and making dens for the bears.

Tanya told the *Lochaber Times*: 'Allan and I find this such a lovely, special event as we get the chance to meet lots of wonderful families. We can't thank the families enough for coming along to support the toddle.'

The toddle was sponsored this year by Bidfood, Morrisons and Peter Easton Irrigation. They provided much-needed snacks and the adorable superhero teddy bears.

Tanya continued: 'Yet again, we are grateful to Ruari Watt for helping us run the successful toddle. We also had some of our wonderful trustees along with us to help with the event. Thank you so much to all of them. Their support means so so much. We

Tanya Ross with daughter Livia and husband Allan, put on the hunt for STAR for Harris, a charity set up in memory of their son.



haven't got a total for this year yet, but hope to raise more than £500.

'We continue to fund music therapy, gifts for children going into isolation, ward resources/visits from entertainers and memory casts for families whose children who have no more treatment options available to them.'

'After seeing a recent report on the progress being made into the research of Medulloblastoma (Harris' tumour type), in part thanks to money donated to this particular study by STAR for Harris over a two-year period, we are more determined than ever to get more money to the research institute in Newcastle as they continue this study.'

Council to consider ranger merger plan

THE HIGHLAND Council is to consider plans to transfer countryside ranger services to High Life Highland (HLH).

The new places committee will meet for the first time today (June 15) when it will be asked to approve the recommendation to merge the services with HLH later this year.

The Highland Council's Countryside Rangers is one of the largest local authority ranger services in Scotland. Rangers manage a large number of countryside sites and are responsible for the promotion of the outdoors in schools.

Uncertainty has surrounded the service over the last few years, with staffing cut from 22 full-time equivalent jobs to 10.5. With increasing council budget cuts, the local authority has said alternative solutions need to be found to safeguard the future delivery of the service.

HLH, a limited company with charitable status, receives funding from the council. If the transfer was to go ahead, an agreed budget will be given to HLH to enable the delivery of the ranger service.

Caol and Mallaig councillor Ben

Thompson told the *Lochaber Times*: 'It has always seemed slightly odd to me that the ranger service was part of the development and infrastructure section of the council. The ranger service used to be part of libraries and leisure, which is now High Life Highland.'

'This proposal to put libraries, leisure and rangers back together makes sense to me as there is a lot more in common there.'

If the transfer is approved, it is thought all remaining ranger staff will go to HLH on their existing contractual terms and conditions.

Initial consultations took place in April. Highland council said the meeting was 'fully attended and well received by staff.'

The council also met with trade unions in May. No objections were raised and unions were said to be 'broadly supportive' of the proposal.

However, concerns over the potential loss of ranger identity and prioritisation of workload have been expressed by rangers. The council said HLH has given assurances these will be preserved.

Lochaber jobs hope

JOBS could be created in Lochaber if plans for a shellfish growing site are approved by the council.

Fassfern Mussels has applied for permission to install a 220-metre longline on the west shore of Loch Linnhe, at Inversanda Bay, south of the Corran Narrows, to catch and grow mussel spat, sparking the need for additional seasonal jobs.

The Lochaber-based company already operates shellfish sites in Loch Eil, Loch Linnhe and Loch

Sunart. The company hopes to grow the spat at Loch Linnhe for a year before transferring them to the Loch Eil site where they will continue to grow for up to another two years and then be harvested.

Equipment would be located approximately two miles from the east shore of Loch Linnhe and the company claims it would be difficult to see with the naked eye from the opposite shore.

A decision is expected by July 28.

Business Advice Sessions

ARE YOU IN BUSINESS AND NEED HELP DEVELOPING YOUR BUSINESS? BUSINESS GATEWAY CAN HELP YOUR BUSINESS DEVELOP AND GROW

DO YOU WANT TO BE YOUR OWN BOSS OR CONSIDERING A CAREER CHANGE? WHY NOT COME AND MEET ONE OF OUR ADVISERS TO DISCUSS YOUR PLANS OR IDEAS

Interested? Our Business Advisers are available to meet with you at a location convenient to you. To arrange an appointment with an adviser call 01546 604030 or email bg@argyll-bute.gov.uk

Argyll & Bute Council business gateway your gateway to business expertise

Workshops

BUSINESS START-UP WORKSHOP

A one and a half day business start-up workshop designed to help you move into self-employment. The workshop covers business planning, finance, marketing and market research helping you turn your ideas into a practical and effective plan.

Lochgilthead 21st June and 22nd June 2017

PRACTICAL BASIC BOOK-KEEPING

Book-keeping is a core business skill and, even if someone else does it for you, you still need to understand and value the process. Learn how to keep accurate financial records, understand the key components of book-keeping, produce a bank reconciliation and understand VAT.

Lochgilthead, 19th July 2017

To book on a workshop contact Business Gateway 01546 604030 or email bg@argyll-bute.gov.uk

Argyll & Bute Council business gateway your gateway to business expertise

HIRE and SUPPLIES

More than JUST TOOL AND PLANT HIRE

Webb stockist and service agent for Oban

Large range of WEBB & HONDA powered lawn and garden products available online and in store

LAWN-KING making lawn mowing fun Ask in store for details	Webb R41HP 16" Petrol Push Lawnmower £159.60 inc. VAT	Solo sprayers available Ask in store for details
Webb PHT26 Petrol Hedge Trimmer 430mm Blade with 26cc Engine £169.20 inc. VAT	Webb HC600 Sided Petrol Hedge Trimmer 560mm Blade with 26cc Engine £159.60 inc. VAT	Webb THSR Garden Roller 300mm Diameter £40.00 inc. VAT

Mill Lane, Oban PA34 4HA Tel: 01631 566306
online @ www.hireandsupplies.com

FW

Lochaber Provincial Mòd success

Bun-Sgoil Ghàidhlig Loch Abar hosts two-day event

LOCHABER competitors have been hitting all the right notes at the annual Provincial Mòd.

The two-day event was held at Fort William's Gaelic school, Bun-Sgoil Ghàidhlig Loch Abar, on Friday June 9 and Saturday June 10.

The two-day event saw school pupils from all over Lochaber taking part, including youngsters from St Columba's Fort William, Caol, Banavie, Lundavra, Lady Lovat, the Gaelic Medium school in Mallaig, Ballachulish, Kinlochleven, Spean Bridge and St Brides.

This was the second year senior competitions were run for anyone over the age of 18. The eldest contestant this year was a man in his 70s.

Committee member Moira Robertson said standards at this

year's competition were 'very high'.

She said: 'Everything has gone really well this year and the judges were very impressed with the high standard performances from all the children.'

Ahead of this year's Royal National Mòd being held in Fort William, Moira said they have been trying to get more entries. 'We have tried to get as many people involved as possible as a practice for the Mòd when it comes in October. It's good to use this to encourage people to enter.'

Moira, who is on the Royal National Mòd committee, said the Lochaber group had to raise £31,000 for running costs and have been doing various fund-raising activities over the past two years.



Bun-Sgoil Ghaidhlig Loch Abar won two awards for choir singing.



Sgoil Chuil Loch Abar fiddle group winners.



Three pupils from Bun-Sgoil Ghaidhlig Loch Abar show off the two awards the choir won.



Ballachulish Primary School pupil Charlotte Bathurst won first place in the 9-10 years learner conversation.



Calum Archie MacKinnon won the boys under 13 Fluent Traditional Singing.



Cameron MacIlsac won the Intermediate Accordion Class.



Calvin Maxton won first place in the 5-6 years learner conversation.



Eva Griffin won 7-8 years fluent recitation and 1st place in fluent solo singing.

See pages 10 and 11 for more photographs and full results

All photographs by Abrightside Photography.

Applied Sciences at Argyll College

Advertorial



Argyll College's applied science tutor Sophie Hall (centre) teaches microbiology to students Lauren Powell (left) and Kirsty Wright (right) in a SAMS laboratory, in Dunstaffnage.

Do you ever wish you had the chance to develop your scientific knowledge? Or are you looking for a stepping stone in your science career? If so, the answer may be on your doorstep.

Argyll College UHI's HNC Applied Sciences course gives students a broad base in general science – and the chance to do part of their study in one of Europe's leading marine science research institutions.

The one year, full time course incorporates a range of topics including biology, chemistry, genetics, ecology, ecosystems and microbiology.

Most of the classroom element is based at Argyll College UHI's Oban centre, with practical elements carried out at the Scottish Association for

Marine Science (SAMS) UHI base in Dunbeg.

Tutor Sophie Hall said the SAMS UHI link means not only that students have world class science facilities at their disposal, but also that they get a valuable taste of what University life is like.

'This is the perfect course for anyone who is interested in science but not sure what particular area they might like to concentrate on in terms of further study or employment,' Sophie said.

'It gives a broad grounding in all the basic elements, plus students can choose from a range of other units depending on their individual interests.'

A major part of the course is a personal project in which

each student investigates a topic of their choice, in any of the disciplines, and designs an experiment around that topic.

Sophie said: 'Using the SAMS UHI facilities means this is a unique opportunity to tap into some of the best scientific facilities in the country.'

'The course is a great foundation for either employment in a science-related field, or going on to further study. I'd encourage anyone who wants to find out more about it to look at the website or come to the college and have a chat.'

Argyll College UHI principal Fraser Durie said: 'The collaborative way in which we are delivering this course demonstrates just one of the

advantages of our status as a partner of the University of the Highlands and Islands, and underpins Oban's position as a University Town.'

Current student Kirsty Wright, who is hoping to do an HND in Glasgow next year, said: 'This course is an excellent gateway into science for people who are looking to progress into university or the HND course.'

'The tutors are enthusiastic and supportive, and the course has developed the knowledge and skills I need to advance into other avenues of higher education.'

To find out more about the HNC Applied Sciences course, go to <https://www.argyll.uhi.ac.uk/courses/hnc-applied-sciences>.



University of the Highlands and Islands
Argyll College

Apply online now for a wide range of full and part-time courses starting September.

Outdoor Adventure Sports
Sound Production · Hairdressing
Applied Science · Sport and Fitness
Maritime · Horticulture · Catering
Hospitality · Admin and Business
Computing · Social Science
Childcare · Health and Social Care
Agriculture & more







Glenshellach Business Park
argyllcollege.ac.uk
01631 559 500

SNP holds Ross, Skye and Lochaber

SNP MP Ian Blackford has held on to his Ross, Skye and Lochaber seat.

Mr Blackford secured a majority of 5,919, winning 15,480 votes in last Thursday's general election. But the Skye-based MP was down 40 per cent on the 2015 result.

His closest rival, Conservative Robert MacKenzie, polled 9,561 votes. The party saw support surge 18 per cent in the constituency compared to 2015.

In what used to be a Liberal Democrat stronghold, with the late Charles Kennedy holding the seat for more than three decades, the Lib Dem candidate Jean Davis came third with 8,042 votes.

Labour candidate Peter Ó Donnghaile secured 4,695 votes, while Ronnie the Crofter Campbell got 499. Something New candidate Stick Sturrock had 177 votes.

The total number of votes cast across Ross, Skye and Lochaber constituency was 38,503. A total of 49 ballot papers were rejected.

The count was held at the Highland Football Academy, Victoria Park, Dingwall.

Following the election, Mr Blackford told the *Lochaber Times*: 'I am delighted to have been returned as MP for Ross, Skye and Lochaber and thank everyone who trusted me with their vote. During the campaign, I and my teams of volunteers knocked on doors and held meetings across the constituency to hear what issues were actually of concern to local people.'

'It is an honour and privilege to once again represent this constituency and, as in the previous parliament, I will be a strong and persistent voice in Westminster for everyone in Ross, Skye and Lochaber.'

Independent leader of the Highland Council Margaret Davidson said: 'I am looking forward to working with our newly-elected MPs to make sure the Highlands has a stronger voice in Westminster. With two MPs having served as Highland councillors, we have MPs acutely aware of the challenges facing the Highland Council. We need to work together to get a better deal for Highland residents. It remains unclear who will form the next UK government, but we need to be ready to knock on ministers' doors to raise Highland issues.'

Chainsaw-wielding OAP, 76, guilty of six charges

A 76-YEAR-OLD retired police officer 'set himself up as the policeman of Ballachulish', Sheriff William Taylor QC said on Monday at Fort William Sheriff Court.

He then intimidated people, the sheriff added.

He found Thomas Allan Kirsop, of Brudair, North Ballachulish, guilty of six charges, including swinging a chainsaw with its engine running while staring at neighbours, uttering threats and shouting offensive remarks; staring at the head teacher of the village primary school in an intimidating manner; engaging in conduct which caused a husband and wife fear and alarm by following the wife's car, pulling alongside; banging into her at the village primary school; sending an anonymous letter containing a news-

paper clipping and placing signs with an offensive slogan on a boundary fence.

The offences took place between January 1, 2015, and May 29, 2016, and were said to have followed a falling out within an extended family circle.

Kirsop was also found guilty of behaving in a threatening or abusive manner on September 7, 2014, outside an Onich address by shouting, swearing and uttering offensive remarks towards the householder; repeatedly parking outside a local village store and staring at the occupants in an intimidating manner; and on August 28, 2015, in Glenahulish, shouting, swearing and uttering offensive remarks to a man who lived there. None of these offences was related.

Sheriff Taylor had heard the prosecution and defence cases previously

and on Monday June 12 he heard the closing submissions of procurator fiscal Ross Carvel and Kirsop's solicitor Clare Russell before delivering his verdict of guilty.

In reaching this decision, Sheriff Taylor said he had taken into account the Moorov doctrine, where a number of offences witnessed by only one person can be grouped together to show a pattern of behaviour and then could be used in a court case in Scottish law.

The procurator fiscal said Kirsop had not given evidence.

This was only given by his wife and daughter and their evidence was not credible.

The sheriff said: 'His wife would have come and told the court black was white if it was going to get her husband off

these charges,' adding that the daughter's evidence was 'a case of over-acting'.

In Kirsop's defence, his solicitor said: 'While she [his wife] was a very nervous witness, she was an extremely credible and reliable witness.' She added that his daughter was very upset about her father being accused.

Kirsop had never been in trouble before, his solicitor said. He and his close family have lived in Ballachulish for years without any trouble and then his daughter's sister-in-law and her family moved in next door.

Sentence was deferred until July 17 for community justice and social work reports to be prepared on Kirsop. Sentence was also deferred on three other bail-related charges to which Kirsop had previously pleaded guilty.

Doors open on new children's care home

A CHILDREN'S charity has opened a residential home for youngsters in Fort William.

Aberlour, a national charity supporting vulnerable children and their families, has set up the home in a former guest house in Lochside.

Planning permission to convert the building was accepted by the Highland Council in February.

Lochan Cottage, a seven-bedroomed property, will house up to five children, aged between eight and 18, who will be supervised by two staff 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Aberlour chief executive Sally Ann Kelly said: 'We are delighted to have found accommodation to provide safe, stable and caring homes to children who really need one. We have had great support from our neighbours and the children have already been made to feel part of the community.'

'We could not have hoped for a warmer welcome.'

'These are family homes and the children are part of our family. For some, this may be for a short period, before returning to live with their own family. Others will grow up with us into adulthood. All our children will be encouraged to look forward to a happier future. Every child deserves the chance to flourish.'

Two houses, in Fort William and Inverness, have been opened in partnership with the Highland Council. They support children who have often experienced trauma, which could include witnessing domestic violence or drug and alcohol use in the home.

The council has welcomed the charity's new houses. Councillor Alasdair Christie, chairman of the People Committee, said: 'We are excited to be working with Aberlour and hope this will be the start of a long partnership, bringing both innovation and high quality services to families and children in the area.'

'Aberlour is focused on improving the lives of children and young people and has brought a fresh perspective to the care of the most vulnerable young people, including them in how services are run.'

Volunteering around Lochaber highlighted in annual VOSCARS



Left to right: Maria MacDonald, Moyra Austin, Jo Shepton, a group from Lochaber Hope, Sarah Kennedy and John Hutchison (lifetime achievement award) and on behalf of West Highland Museum which was best volunteer supporting organisation. Photograph: Iain Ferguson, The Write Image.

VOLUNTEERING in Lochaber was celebrated last week as community representatives gathered for the 2017 VOSCARS.

As part of national volunteers week, Voluntary Action Lochaber (VAL) hosted the awards at the Ben Nevis Hotel.

VAL manager Flora McKee told the *Lochaber Times*: 'We would like to thank the Ben Nevis Hotel staff for their support, everyone who took part in the nominations, our independent panel of judges, master of ceremonies David Ogg, photographer Kim Ferguson and Iain Ferguson.'

'Thanks also to the Lochaber Community Partnership representatives who came along to present the awards. A final thanks to Highland Council, the Rotary Club of Lochaber and Strathmore Hotels which sponsored the event.'

The winners were: young volunteer, Jo Shepton; volunteer of the year, Maria MacDonald; best supporting organisation, West Highland Museum; board/committee member of the year, Sarah Kennedy; organisation of the year, Lochaber Hope; good neighbour finalist, Myra Austin; and the lifetime achievement, John Hutchison.

Community hopes to take over cemetery

NETHER Lochaber Community Council is to make a bid to take over ownership of a graveyard from the Highland Council.

The move follows a row between the community and the local authority last year after the 200-year-old dry-stone wall around Craig Mhor cemetery at Onich was uprooted and replaced with modern fencing. The community council claimed the decision to replace the wall was taken by the council without any public consultation.

Fort William and Ardnamurchan councillor Andrew Baxter told the community of the council's plans last October.

After the wall was demolished, members of community went to great lengths to recover the

pieces of stone, which were dumped at Invercoe beach.

Speaking to the *Lochaber Times*, community council chairman Iain Jenner said: 'Given the effort the community council made to recover the stone wall after it had been dumped on Invercoe beach last September, it makes sense that ownership is transferred to us.'

'The graveyard should be a community council asset because of the intrinsic value it has. Some people have grandparents buried in that graveyard and Reverend Alexander Stewart is buried there which raised the profile of Nether Lochaber.'

Mr Jenner said the community council plans to raise funds to employ a professional dry-stone waller to put the wall back or run

a training course to show residents how to rebuild the wall.

Poor maintenance is another reason the community wants to take over the graveyard. Mr Jenner said: 'They [the council] don't get the grass cut monthly any more following budget cuts. We want to take it on because it's part of Nether Lochaber's cultural history.'

'We want to be advised further on it. We were told in September they would look into the process of us acquiring it, but we have heard nothing more since.'

Councillor Baxter added: 'The local community has decided it wishes to take over ownership of the graveyard and be responsible for future maintenance.'

'Following the council-endorsed vandalism of the dry-

stone wall last year, which saw the stone removed and dumped on the foreshore across the loch, I support the community's efforts.'

'Let's hope the council can be quick in completing the transfer before the graveyard becomes completely neglected.'

'I've a meeting next week with the officer responsible for graveyard maintenance to discuss problems elsewhere and I intend to take her to visit Craig Mhor.'

A Highland Council spokesperson said the process can be completed through an assets transfer within community planning legislation and there are specific timelines laid down for responses. She said: 'Our ward manager has been in touch with them and clarified this process.'



Councillor Andrew Baxter.

Plan for £1m skatepark in Fort William taking shape

A PROJECT which could see a £1 million skatepark built in Fort William is taking shape.

Fort William pumptrack and skatepark, which is run by a group of seven Lochaber locals, is trying to gauge interest in a skatepark similar to the one in Inverness.

Dentist Gregor Muir told the *Lochaber Times* the group

is running a survey to gauge interest in the project.

Mr Muir said inspiration for the skatepark came from seeing his son and friends enjoy the one in Inverness. He said: 'We are trying to move this along and get things going. We have been looking at what Highland Skatepark has, which is phenomenal and really well used. It

has a great environment for the children because it's got such a buzz about it.'

The group is looking at a few sites and plans to shortlist ideas before carrying out a feasibility study.

Based on the Inverness park, which cost around £800,000 to build, Gregor thinks the group would need to fundraise about

£1 million. He said the extra money needed for here would be to buy a cover for the park to protect it from adverse weather.

He said: 'We would hope to get the feasibility study done on a chosen site around October and, all being well, we could have something open at the end of next year. But we need to get people interested first.'

Lochaber institute marks centenary with afternoon tea

THE SCOTTISH Women's Institute is celebrating its centenary in July and Lochaber branches of the organisation are marking the occasion with an afternoon tea.

The tea will be held in Duncansburgh Church Hall, Fort William, on Saturday July 1 from 2pm to 4pm.

Martine Young told the *Lochaber Times*: 'In 1917, many rural women lived isolated lives in houses that were small, cold, damp, draughty. Thanks to a far-sighted farmer's wife in East Lothian, realising their plight, she founded the Scottish Women's Rural Institute (SWRI). The local institute

provided one evening a month away from their demanding domestic duties, giving them the opportunity to meet and exchange ideas, broadening their horizons.'

Today, with declining support in the countryside, the organisation is open to all women in Scotland and the word 'rural'

has been dropped from the title.

Current and former members are invited to Duncansburgh Church Hall for the anniversary event. As hats were a feature of women's wear in the early days of the organisation, please wear one if you have one - the fancier the better.

find us on facebook
www.facebook.com/obantimes

University of the Highlands and Islands
West Highland College

Oilthigh na Gàidhealtachd agus nan Eilean
Colaiste na Gàidhealtachd an Iar

Do you have Accommodation for Rent?

In readiness for our September intake of students in Fort William we are keen to hear from you if you have:

- A guest house or property for rental
- Single/twin roomed accommodation for rent

This would be for the period from September 2017 - June 2018
Please contact: Chrissy Harris, West Highland College UHI, Carmichael Way, Fort William PH33 6FF
01397 874380 | Christine.Harris.whc@uhi.ac.uk | www.whc.uhi.ac.uk

West Highland College UHI is a company limited by guarantee (SC153921) with charitable status (SC024193)

CAIRNGORM
EXQUISITE BESPOKE KITCHENS

The stunning new German kitchen range has arrived.

Cairngorm Group
tougher, warmer, smarter

1 Longman Drive, Inverness Tel: 01463 238 000
Tyock Industrial Estate, Elgin Tel: 01343 545315
18 High Street, Thurso Tel: 01847 894956
111 Gallowgate, Aberdeen Tel: 01224 900837

info@cairngormgroup.co.uk | www.cairngormgroup.co.uk

FW

Banavie

A SHORT film shot in Lochaber is to premier at the Edinburgh International Film Festival and is up for a top award.

1745, about the Scottish slave trade, was filmed in Glen Nevis, Glencoe and Glen Etive last October in some of the worst weather a Scottish autumn could throw at the team.

The film, which has been nominated for Best Short Film, was inspired by adverts for runaway slaves in Scottish newspapers of the time. These were discovered by writer and actress in the film Morayo Akandé.

Morayo's sister and fellow actress in 1745 Moyo told the *Lochaber Times*: 'The film highlights a forgotten part of Scotland's history. We enter the world of 18th-century Scotland, but from a new perspective.'

'While the majority of slavery happened elsewhere, there were African slaves here, kept as trophies and pets in the houses of their rich merchant masters. A historian who specialises in the transatlantic slave trade has corroborated her research and is our advisor for the project.'

The film is directed by Fort William native Gordon Napier who grew up in Banavie before heading to Edinburgh to study film directing. Gordon has a wealth of experience from working on big productions including *Harry Potter* and *007: Skyfall* to short fiction films.

The film follows the story of sisters Rebecca and Emma Atkin who are running blindly into the highland wilderness, away from slavery in the house of their owner.

Ardnamurchan



Left to right: John MacInnes, Kate Bradley, Christopher Millar-Craig, Rachel Ford and Margaret Ford.

High school wins top Gaelic education prize

ARDNAMURCHAN High School has won a prestigious Gaelic prize at the annual Scottish Education Awards.

Gaelic-medium pupils at the school Kate Bradley (S5) and Rachel Ford (S1) were accompanied to the ceremony in Glasgow on Wednesday June 7 by Rachel's mother and principal teacher from Acharacle Primary School Margaret Ford, Ardnamurchan head teacher Christopher Millar-Craig and Gaelic teacher John MacInnes.

Mr Millar-Craig said: 'We are immensely proud of our Gaelic department. They thoroughly deserve this award. The department strives to create an inclusive ethos where the focus is on innovation and positivity.'

'Staff ensure learning is engaging and provide opportunity and context for Gaelic to be used outside the classroom in partnership with the wider community. We believe languages are central to developing key skills necessary to conquer the attainment gap and ensuring positive destinations for everyone.'

Councillor Alasdair Christie, chairman of the council's People Committee, congratulated Ardnamurchan on its Gaelic Education Award. He said: 'Well done to Mr Millar-Craig and the pupils and Gaelic department at Ardnamurchan High.'

'Not only is this a great achievement for the school and Lochaber, it is an honour for the Highland area to have such talent and dedication among its teaching staff and pupils.'

Young Kinlochleven volunteers recognised at awards for effort

KINLOCHLEVEN High School pupil Jo Shepton has won young volunteer of the year at Voluntary Action Lochaber's 2017 VOSCARS.

The S5 student started recording her volunteering hours in August 2015. In that time she has spent an amazing 277.5 hours of her time supporting Active Schools, Kinlochlovin', the Prom Committee, Pupil Support, Young Enterprise and Nevis Radio.

Kinlochleven head teacher Rebecca Machin said: 'Jo supports everything and everyone while studying hard for her Nationals last year and five Highers this year. Not only is she an amazing student, but she gives so much to her community. Amazing at such a young age.'

S2 pupil Thomas Price made the finals at this year's awards.

The 13-year-old has spent more than 150 hours volunteering in the last 12 months, donating time to projects including Kinlochlovin', the schools Rock Challenge and UNICEF



Kinlochleven pupils with Inspector Isla Campbell at the VOSCARS.

Club. He has also raised money for Social Bite, a charity supporting homeless people in Scotland, and is the youngest presenter of the Kinlochlovin' Drive Time Crew at Nevis Radio. Hannah Newson was also a finalist. Hannah has amassed the most volunteering hours of any student

this year – 235 hours from August 2016 to May 2017.

Ms Machin said: 'It is incredible to think any youngster of this age could find five to six hours a week to volunteer for their committee, especially such a diligent student who works so hard for her exams. She does 87 hours for Active

Schools, 49 hours for Pupil Support, as well as the schools Prom Committee and Young Enterprise, it is an incredible achievement, well deserving of praise.'

The awards were part of National Volunteers Week and were presented at a ceremony in the Ben Nevis Hotel.



Pupils from Lundavra Primary School with their signed Danny Hart signed posters. Photograph Abrightside Photography.



Lundavra pupils meet one of the riders.



Spean Bridge Primary School pupils were excited about their trip. Photograph Abrightside Photography.



St Brides Primary School children had a fantastic day at Nevis Range. Photograph Abrightside Photography.

Mountain bike fun for school pupils

AHEAD of Fort William's mountain bike world earlier this month, children from Lochaber schools visited Nevis Range to get a first-hand look at the UCI event.

Primary schools from Lochaber ventured up Anoch Mhor on Friday June 2, where more than 1,000 children got to meet their mountain biking heroes and get a close up of the action.

Heather Thomson, Kinlochleven Primary School head teacher, told the *Lochaber Times*: 'The primary 5-7 children who attended the Nevis Range visit had a brilliant day. They loved going up on the gondola and seeing the mountain bikes in action

during training. Most of the children also did the ropes course. They were all really brave and had a go, most loved it. I even got 'roped in' to doing it. Thanks to the organisers for the opportunity to attend the schools day.'

Nick Thomson, Lundavra Primary School head teacher, said: 'We went up in the gondolas to the top of the track, walked to Sgurr Finnisg-aig to admire the amazing view, watched the bikes flying down the course, visited the World Cup Village where we picked up some freebies and got autographs from the riders. It was a fantastic day.'



Lochaber Schools Pipe Band in concert. Photograph Abrightside Photography.

Schools pipe band back on home turf

LOCHABER Schools Pipe Band hosted a concert in Lochaber High School last Wednesday – the first there in many years. A band spokesperson said: 'The band plays at many events throughout the year but this gave them the opportunity to showcase their talents in a different format.'

Some pipers gave solo performances or played with small groups, while others showcased their talents by playing different instruments.

The band has seen an upsurge in interest in pipe band drumming and now has a 14-strong drumming corps with three members performing publicly for the first

time at last week's concert. This season the drumming section is playing with new drums following a generous grant from the Helen and S G MacGregor Bequest Fund. Pupils from Lochaber High School's Ceilidh Band group also played a traditional set at the concert to the delight of the audience. Invited guests Lochaber Gaelic Choir performed traditional songs and four of its members sang solo.

Talented Lochaber musicians Andrew MacDonald, Lauren Moir and Deirdre Beck performed lively traditional which ensured an evening of musical variety, ably hosted by Lochaber High School teacher Bill Cameron.

Comedian Elaine gets her skates on



Scottish comedian Elaine C Smith got her skates on during a recent visit to Lochaber. Elaine joined Lochaber Artistic Roller Skating Club at one of its sessions in Fort William, which was filmed for her show *Burds Eye View*.

Zoe Mackenzie, left, and Emma Kelly from the club helped the comedian hone her skating skills. Elaine spent three days in and around Fort William and staged her one woman show at the Nevis Centre. At the end of the show the audience donated to a collection for the youth of Barra which Elaine handed over at her last tour performance on Barra. Photograph: Anthony MacMillan Photography.

RETRO Roamer

MORE mid-1980s murmurings from Roamer.

■ I hear there's a likelihood of night classes starting at Lochaber High School to teach high finance to some of us locals. This means we'll be able to co-ordinate the insertion of our cards while pressing the correct buttons on 24-hour cash dispensers.

■ The glory hole in the High Street provided a rare local talking point at the weekend. An early morning warning indicator it was, prior to the advent of pedestrianisation. But spare a thought for the hardy workmen who have had to dig up the street in freezing 'spring' temperatures. One of them even got icicles on his moustache.

■ Then there was the railway guard's van which began its new career as a dressing room for our young rugby players and footballers at the weekend. As it was being craned into the adjacent Black Parks, the van broke in two. No problem. It will now double as home and away dressing rooms.

■ The colour of the drain pipes in Claggan! 'Rhone Blue', I'm told. Surely this must just be the undercoat? At the moment the pipes look out of place on the walls of the modernised houses. A nice shade of maroon would tone in much better.

■ The sartorial elegance of the four male Labour members of Lochaber District Council (LDC) at last week's meeting was something to behold. And their tonsorial styling was reminiscent of the Beach Boys. I was expecting to hear them crooning for the benefit of the Council Chambers tape recorder. This could really catch on, you know. Councillors in Concert. On cassette with up-to-date videos shot in the chambers. Starring roles 'in camera' for LDC elected members. It would certainly be more acceptable than hearing them ask for their 'dissent to be recorded'.

■ It was like a ceilidh in Winky Kennedy's shop last Thursday. BBC Highland requests were on the wireless and Wee Donald and a calliach in from the country were going the Gaelic at the same time. Just then a local mum and her wee lassie came in to buy sugar coated almonds and the record changed to *Postman Pat*. 'Oh! It's good here', said the wee one delightedly. 'They're playing my favourite song!'

■ Here's a poem received from Mallaig in response to the Lochaber District Council circular asking tenants not to keep animals, hens, pigeons or seagulls in the vicinity of their homes – without local authority consent. It's called *Mutton Mutterings*:

Ol' Doggie, I'm grieving, to see you relieving
Yourself on my village so clean.
The cats they don't matter; the seagulls they scatter
Their dirt on the rocks all unseen.
The binmen are sweating, the council is fretting,
'Keep Mallaig tidy', they say -
'If your pets don't repent, they all will be sent
To another place – far, far away'.
Council tenants are lawful; the penalties awful,
But their pets one or two want to keep.
My bin is all battered, the pavement is scattered
With the mess of these horrible SHEEP!
So, let's just be fair, who put the sheep there?
'They were here before you!', crofters scoff.
But I don't agree – if you look you will see
'Twas the sheep drove all our forebears off.
Now please, LDC, be sensible with our plea
And let's have a fence six feet deep.
Send your officials with klaxons and whistles
In your efforts to rid us of sheep.

■ The local polis are intent on keeping fit. But there appear to be some strange side effects. At five-a-side football, for example, a PC from down Ballachulish way accidentally kicked the surrounding wall of the pitch and is now nursing a badly bruised foot. Another, from Fort William, has torn ligaments and a colleague has pulled a muscle. Dominoes and pool might provide a safer option for the policemen's lot.

■ What did he do, late at night, with the rain persisting down on the High Street? He took a taxi home. But the driver of the taxi wasn't in it at the time! This caused much gnashing of teeth till the taxi turned up safe and sound in Upper Achintore. The taxi-jacker didn't even leave a tip!

■ I'm often accused of making up some of the stories which appear in the Roamer column. Continuing on the taxi theme, you can draw your own conclusions on this one. A fairly rumbustious trio of young locals had been disporting themselves at the disco. On their way out, heading for a late night party, they removed a wax model of a female from the premises. 'She' was elaborately dressed and sporting a blonde wig. The men 'helped' her into a back seat of the taxi and sat her between two of the trio. Off to the Higher Reaches they went and on arrival at the requested destination the three likely lads got out. One of them said to the driver, 'The girl in the back isn't coming to the party. Will you take her to ----- Place? And she's paying'. Off to -----Place, then. After a longish interval, and no movement from the back seat, nothing for it but for the taxi driver to get out and open the back door. And out into his arms fell – a Dumb Blonde.

■ Here's a fishy tale from Lochaber. To protect the innocent I'll describe the characters involved as 'D' and 'A'. Out onto a sea loch in a rowing boat went they, taking with them a certain amount of 'the morning after the night before syndrome'. 'A', in particular, was affected by the motion of the boat. As a result he put his head over the side – resulting in his false teeth going overboard. 'D', humorous fellow that he is, took out his own wallies, secured them to a hook on his line and dropped them into the water. After commiserating with 'A', he yelled, 'I've got a bite' and reeled in his false teeth. 'A' looked at him as if he was Angler of the Year, and a miracle worker to boot. Thanking 'D' profusely he shoved the salty falsers into his mouth. 'They don't fit. They can't be mine!', he cried, disconsolately. And threw the wallies back in.



Welcome to Fort William.

Gael Force GROUP

Argyll and Bute COUNCIL

Looking for a new partnership opportunity?

Gael Force Group are a leading provider of marine related products and engineering services. Following recent success of being awarded contract by Argyll and Bute Council to supply transit berthing pontoons in Oban, Gael Force would like to invite the business community to meet the team, and representatives from the Council, where they will receive an introduction to their services and involvement in the Aquaculture sector. This will be an opportunity to establish working partnerships with Gael Force and the wider supply of product and services offered.

Format An informal drop in session with information presented on Gael Force plus an opportunity to discuss specifics.

Who is it for? Anyone, business or individual, interested in partnering with Gael Force Group in supply of service or product, or able to provide trade to better support Gael Force range specifically within Aquaculture.

Where Corran Halls, Oban.

When Wednesday 21st June 15:30 – 18:30

Further information Jamie Young 07702207538 or jamie.young@gaelforce.net

Volunteers take Road to the Isles to ensure show success

ELLIE FORBES
eforb@obantimes.co.uk

FARMERS and families flocked to Arisaig at the weekend to enjoy everything on offer at the Road to the Isles Agricultural Show.

The 22nd show at Camusdarach brought people from all over Lochaber and the islands together on Saturday.

Show secretary Anne MacDonald said she was pleased with this year's turnout.

She said: 'Sheep were dwindling about three years ago and I have made an effort to get more people involved with the show by going to others. If you invite people to your show, and you have been to theirs in the past, they tend to come.

Everyone tries to support each other. We are really pleased with the turnout this year. We always get good support from people in Mallaig and Morar. This is the first year we thought it might be rained off. It's always the one day of the year the weather is good round here so we were worried when we saw how overcast it was in the morning, but it stayed dry and the midges weren't out.'

Anne explained the show relies on volunteers. She said: 'There are a lot more volunteers involved with the games now because a number of new people and families moved into the area recently which has helped. Without their help it would be so much harder to do the show. You really depend on people to give you hand.'

'Applying for all the required licences and the mountain of paperwork involved is killing these shows.

'People don't want to do the paper work. It's a nightmare. I have had such a hassle doing it this year.'

It was the first year the Ewen Campbell trophy was awarded for best home-bred animal. The prize is in memory of Mr Campbell, who was the auctioneer in Lochaber for 39 years. He died last October.

His daughter Linda told the *Lochaber Times*: 'He went to all the shows around here. He just loved his job at the auction mart and seeing good livestock was what he loved.'

'The prize was won by Jade Brown's Highland cow.'



Holly Dodman, Vicky Dodman and Digby Dodman dress up for the agricultural show. Photograph: Abrightside Photography.



Archie Campbell, grandson of the late Ewen Campbell, presents Jade Brown with the memorial trophy for the best home-bred animal. Photograph: Abrightside Photography.



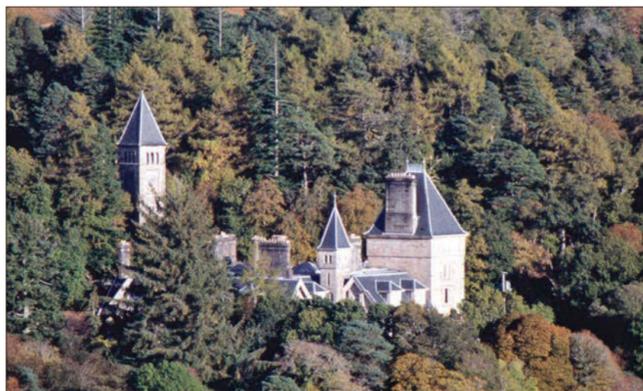
Above: Vhairi MacPhail, first in tack and turnout, with her mum Eilidh MacPhail. Photograph: Abrightside Photography.



Caroline MacPhail from the Isle of Mull took part in the agricultural show. Photograph: Abrightside Photography.



Left: The Road to the Isles Agricultural Show was a huge success. Photograph: Abrightside Photography.



Ardtornish House.

Highland retreats

A FEW years ago, I took a party of visitors from Texas into Loch Aline by boat. Jerking her thumb in the general direction of the massive Ardtornish House which dominates the head of the loch, one of the group turned to me and asked: 'Is that some kind of factory up there?'

Knowing how most Texans like the world to think they have everything bigger and better than anyone else, I thought to myself, I'm not letting you away with that and replied, rather casually: 'Actually, it is only a holiday cottage' - which it is. 'Gee,' was the response from the lady whose eyes were now standing out like organ-stops. 'If that's a holiday cottage, what's the main house like?'

Mansion houses grandstanding on hillsides or quietly tucked away in secluded wooded glens have attracted admiration and intrigue for generations. There are those which embody Gaelic tradition and others that exude Victorian elitism.

The first are often the living heart of the local community and a source of inspiration and excellence; the second, when their owners say they have a little place in Scotland but don't get up nearly as much as they would like, become a reminder of an old proverb dating back to the time of the infamous Highland Clearances, about there being nothing so slippery as the doorstep to the big house.

Of course Ardtornish House, built in 1884-95 on the proceeds of gin and wool by Thomas Valentine Smith for sporting holidays, is no manufactory but an outstanding example of a period country villa of the late Victorian era still with its original decorated interiors and furnishings. Its story, and that of many other architectural Highland

gems, appears in one of most remarkable books published this millennium.

Highland Retreats - the Architecture and Interiors of Scotland's Romantic North by Mary Miers - Highlander, historian, writer and the fine arts and books editor of *Country Life* - is a new and sumptuous work, beautifully produced with hundreds of stunning colour photographs by Paul Barker and Simon Jauncey.

It would be wrong to infer Highland Retreats is yet another coffee-table production. It isn't. Unlike Aristotle's bee, it brings together a vast amount of information and images, some never seen before, lovingly compiled and written in a lively style reflecting the author's enthusiasm for her subject.

In eight chapters illustrated with photographs of historic paintings, drawings and sketches, Miers shows how one of the wildest and most beautiful regions of Europe was transformed into a sporting paradise by industrial wealth and old family money from the south.

Taking Torosay, Ardtornish, Ardkinglas and Cour in Argyll, Dunrobin, Kinlochmoidart, Ardrverkie, Kinloch [Rum], Skibo, Corroul, Mar Lodge, Shewglie and numerous others, the author charts the development of Highland shooting and fishing lodges which began long before Queen Victoria and Prince Albert came to Scotland. Many large houses were commissioned by leading architects of the day containing art work of national importance and equipped with the latest technology. Others were less so.

Lord Malmesbury, who was twice Foreign Secretary, in 1852 and 1858, took Achnacarry Castle and its surrounding deer forest on a 15-year lease from its owner, Donald Cameron of Lochiel. He recorded with amusement the experience of one of his guests, Sir James Hudson, the British ambassador to Turin, who was obliged to spend a night in a bothy after a day's deer stalking in Glencamagarry on the south side of Loch Arkiaig.

'He said there were seven men, five dogs, three women and a cat in two small rooms and only three beds for the whole party. The maid asked him with whom he would like to sleep and that he answered that if he couldn't sleep with her, he would prefer Macoll the stalker. The latter, however, replied, "Methinks you had better sleep alone". So Sir James had a bed to himself, as far as I know.'

Mary Miers's conclusion is bang up to date. 'For the makers and inheritors of great wealth, owning large swathes of the Highlands is still a powerfully seductive aspiration. Increasingly, though, the impetus is not so much the desire to buy access to top sport and society as the irresistible urge to manipulate nature.'

For those who have everything, playing God in the wilds represents the last major challenge.

And so today, not only sportsmen, but also sporting eco-warriors and other romantic visionaries, are drawn inexorably north with dreams of creating their own Highland Eden.'

I have only a minor criticism of this book. None of the modern photographs has any people in them, making the houses, especially their interiors, seem somewhat embalmed and impersonal, like a book of pressed flowers - pretty, but dead.

Houses mirror their owners' taste and style. It would have been nice to have been able to have seen something of those individuals who usually stand aside from the ordinary course of life.

Highland Retreats is to be the definitive book on the subject for years to come. Price £45 (Amazon £29.25). ISBN: 978-0-8478-4476-0: Rizzoli New York.

Iain Thornber
iain.thornber@btinternet.com

Work experience for Emily... a money saving experience for Mike

All set for your work experience at Cairngorm Group, Emily? Let me know more about their solar panels, I've heard they can save you a lot of money.



Yeah dad. I didn't know there was so much to do. I have a day in the factory, then I'm going to learn all about solar panel's. Then I have a day in the office, then with a glazier, then the joiners.



1 Longman Drive, Inverness IV1 1SU
Tel: 01463 238 000

Tyock Industrial Estate, Elgin IV30 1XY
Tel: 01343 545315

6-8 High Street, Thurso KW14 8AG
Tel: 01847 894956

Email: info@cairngormgroup.co.uk
www.cairngormgroup.co.uk

#MeetTheCairns

FW

Viewpoint



Write to us: send your letters to editor@obantimes.co.uk or The Editor, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB

The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

We wrote last week about the need for good public transport links – and make no apology for returning to the subject again this week.

As we report on page three, poor access to buses in Lochaber for people with disabilities has been raised as a concern at a recent Transport Forum meeting.

The forum was told of bus problems ranging from poor wheelchair accessibility to a lack of low-floor buses on certain routes.

We stressed last week the vital role public transport has to play in all our lives for a number of reasons, not the least of which is the environment, a point picked up by

Highlands and Island MSP David Stewart. Mr Stewart told us he has now written to Stagecoach to inquire about disability access on its buses.

Mr Stewart said: 'I am concerned to hear that some disabled people in and around Fort William have experienced difficulty with access to some Stagecoach Buses.'

In response, Stagecoach has said, quite reasonably, that it will wait until it receives Mr Stewart's letter and will reply in due course.

We welcome Mr Stewart's intervention in what is a very serious issue for the people involved, and we await Stagecoach's response with interest.



Days gone by – 1997

Mrs Pat Greenhill OBE, second left, with Mrs Barbara Caldwell, chairwoman of Isle of Bute Housing Association, meet Mrs and Mrs Dugald McGlynn who live at 10 Baddens Park, Lochgilphead.

MacPhail

ANGUS MACPHAIL
angusmacphail@yahoo.co.uk



TO GIVE further background to my position on the conflict between fragile human populations and adverse effects of external influence – in the case of last week's subject, over-zealous and ill-informed environmentalists – this is a continuation on that theme.

There is no doubt as to the importance of stewarding our natural environment.

One of the greatest assets the Highlands and Islands has is the relatively untouched surrounding natural world. This is understood by the populations of islands such as Tiree and they have lived in harmony with their surroundings for many generations.

There are always going to be legitimate areas of debate regarding certain issues, and that, of course, is essential to progress.

However, the place of the human population of these islands is in a precarious position.

Continued survival of indigenous people should never be put at risk by the narrow agendas of special-interest groups from far away with little care or knowledge of the culture, language, history, present and future of the people living there, be that a landlord of years gone by, a multinational power company, an environmental group or a holiday-maker protesting against a local fisherman sustainably dredging for scallops.

The Reaping of the Barley

I stand upon Ben Hynish and view a barren land Reaped and raped by strangers to feed the landlord's hand; Those left pushed to the shorelines and thousands forced abroad Driven out like cattle, by systems foul and flawed.

Deceit and lies were used to prise the people from their homes. When that no longer had effect, there came more brutal tones. Triple rents by landlords bent, the world's wealth to keep, Evictions, burning houses, just to clear the land for sheep.

Too long our people trodden down had no resisting voice. Made weak by laws of lords because we thought we had no choice. The 1880s saw the change, no longer we'd retreat And fought for firm tenure on the land beneath our feet.

We know how cruel is the world, such ruthlessness we see. These sad but constant truths of life will never cease to be. Grudges held for anger's sake bear no fruit now or then But learn, and move and never let our corn be reaped again.

RSPB and SNH have ever-growing powers. These faceless groups would make Tiree a land of birds and flowers. If they could they quickly would fill ships in Hynish Bay, 'Clear and burn, get out, get off, you're getting in our way!'

Talk of turbines standing high along our western view, Reaping wind to save the world, I do not doubt they'll do; But if our doorstep holds the gold of winds or birds or flowers We must not dance to the strangers' tune – they must dance to ours.

Play parks on surrounding seas for experimental science, No thought of Milton's fishing fleet, to be killed with forced compliance; Control if stolen yet again, by fickle far off whim For livelihoods and families – the reaper's scythe is grim.

The paradox is change must be a constant by our side. This fact we must embrace because we cannot stop the tide. Sail with the tide but choose our course, show strength in where we steer And give the children of the grain a future bright and clear.



from trees and when it's warm it's vile. Not really nice to see and heartbreaking that people care so little about our countryside!

Mark Cardwell said: 'Don't know if it's on the increase but it is worse than many other towns. Particularly annoying are when people do manage to bag it up and then leave it lying around or hanging from branches, who do they think is going to bin it for them?'

Malcolm Cullen wrote: 'The whole Glencluiten/Mossfield/Dalintart area is quite bad.'

Crannog Lane, Lochavullin estate, Oban, PA34 4HB.

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

either telephone IPSO on 0300 123 2220 or email inquiries@ipso.co.uk. IPSO is an independent body which deals with complaints from the public about the editorial content of newspapers and magazines. We will abide by the decision of IPSO.

SNP members have been great value

Sir, I write in response to the letter from D Johnson, Tarbert, ('A poor choice of election candidates', *The Oban Times*, June 1).

While I agree with his comments regarding Alan Reid and Jamie McGrigor, I take exception to his comment regarding Brendan O'Hara.

The latest Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority (IPSA - <http://www.theipsa.org.uk/>) show SNP MPs are the hardest working MPs at Westminster, cost significantly less and are better value for money than their predecessors from other parties.

Here are the facts. Figures published on IPSA's website confirm that in 2015-16 SNP MPs in fact cost more than £1 million (£1,140,801.64) less than their predecessors in 2014-15. On average, SNP MPs cost more than £21,000 less than their predecessors.

New figures show that SNP MPs work harder than their predecessors, and are some of the most active MPs at Westminster.

In 2016, SNP MPs spoke in an average of 64 debates. This compares to an average of just 43 debates for Labour MPs and 38 debates for Conservative MPs.

SNP MPs have each tabled an average of 58 written parliamentary questions. In total, SNP MPs have tabled over 3,000 written parliamentary questions – holding UK government ministers to account and providing a strong voice for Scotland at Westminster.

SNP MPs have tabled over 600 early day motions – helping bring attention to the important issues facing local communities, the people of Scotland and the UK. SNP MPs have contributed to the work of 77 select committees, sub-committees, bill committees and commissions, including chairing three select committees.

I Sanderson, Tarbert.

Parking charges are driving tourists away

Sir, I have just returned from an exhilarating family holiday on the Isle of Iona. On reading *The Oban Times* of June 1, I note that under Argyll and Bute Council's off-street parking places and charges (Isle of Mull) order 2017, I will in future be charged for leaving our vehicle in the currently free car park at Fionnphort.

Diesel and ferry costs for travel from the south of England are about £250 for a family of four, even after the welcome reduction in CalMac fares. I fear that any further charges could be the tipping point – we can be in Normandy for less than £100.

I have no idea what the parking fees will be (the council invites queries on its website, but a search for 'Fionnphort off-street parking' results in a message telling me I am not authorised to access this information), but I fear that a seven-day stay on Iona will no longer be in next year's holiday plans.

Mike Jones, 4 Oak Close, Pinhoe, Exeter.

Beachd Ailein

ALLAN CAMPBELL
ailean@obantimes.co.uk



A' SIUBHAL CHUN an Eilein Sgìtheanaich tràth madainn Dhisathairne seo chaidh, bha an aimsir cho fliuch, dorcha agus mi-thlachdmhor 's gun robh faclan a' bhàird a' tilleadh thugam air mar a bhiodh 'geamhradh is samhradh' a' cogadh le chèile.

Ach thog an latha air tràth feasgar agus chan fhaca sinn an còrr uisge chun an d' ràinig sinn Gleann Seile is sinn a' tilleadh. Cha b' iongnadh leam sa mhadainn na bha de charbadan a' togail a-mach bhon iar a' teicheadh bhon uisge. Sin mar a bha riamh le mòran luchd-turais, seunta le maise agus sìth àrainneachd nan eileanan nuair a tha an aimsir fàbharach ach air an tàmailteachadh le mar a dh'atharraicheas cùisean cho luath.

Ach mar a dh'innseas croitear, tuathanach, neo gairnealair sam bith dhuinn, bha an talamh feumach air uisge agus eadar na fhuaras den sin bho chionn ghòirid, agus blàths, tha fàs da-riabh air a bhith ann. Fàs air plantrais agus lùibhean, agus an cois sin fàs air obair-àiteachais!

CalMac must provide Islay back-up ferry

Sir, The recent problems with ferry sailings from Kennacraig to Islay highlight the need for a back-up ferry on this run during the busy periods.

This time of year is when we need a reliable ferry service the most, for locals and tourists alike.

Along with the recent disruptions to the Jura ferry service, the problems with ferry sailings will inevitably cause further hardship for our island businesses that have to make the most of the tourist season in order to make it through the quieter winter months.

A big thanks must go out to the hard-working, front-line CalMac staff, who did a fantastic job of helping and supporting all the passengers who were affected by the disruptions.

As a councillor, I will continue to press CalMac for a back-up vessel for the Islay run.

Councillor Alastair Redman, Islay.

Thanks to all the people who voted

Sir, I would like to thank the near 16,000 people who voted for me last week. We came from third in 2015 to within 1,300 votes of the winning this seat.

My congratulations to Brendan O'Hara on his victory and best wishes for what will be an interesting parliament. Commiserations to Alan Reid and Michael Kelly.

My campaign team, led by John McMurtrie, was unbelievable and I don't think I have laughed so much as we travelled across the area meeting some fantastic folk along the way.

For me, it is back to the day job and the family I love.

Gary Mulvaney, Conservative candidate for Argyll and Bute.

Students exchange reaches landmark

Sir, Just over 26 years ago a small delegation from Laurinburg, North Carolina, met some Oban leaders at the Rowantree Hotel on George Street.

We jointly signed a hastily drawn, but thoughtfully-worded, agreement to begin co-operating for the betterment of both communities.

To our chagrin, no-one really had a clue what we were doing.

The editor of our local newspaper and I were rooming together, and sitting in our room that evening we tossed out ideas about where this agreement was going.

As a summer-long exchange student in 1968 studying in Mexico with two other classmates, the idea to establish some sort of student exchange programme quickly became the prime goal. The idea was shared with former head teacher Brian Mitchell, who in turn asked former Oban High School teacher Tom Laursen to take control on the left side of the pond.

The first exchange started small, with one student and one teacher from our Scotland High School visiting for a week in October, and two students – Nicola Meekin and Lisa MacKinnon (McNeill) – visiting for almost a fortnight in April.

On Saturday June 17, a celebration recognising the 25th annual exchange will be held in Oban. Many former student participants will be there from both sides of the pond.

I truly hate to miss it, but family illnesses are keeping us confined close to home, but one of the greatest honours is know that folks in Oban now understand and even speak 'y'all', and folks in Laurinburg and Scotland County are now having ceilidhs.

Best wishes to all of my friends and former exchange students. You have established and continued long-binding friendships at a time when every country on earth needs to start build bridges of friendships rather than walls.

Beacham McDougald, Laurinburg, North Carolina.

Drive with more care and consideration

Sir, Isabel MacKenzie (Letters, *The Oban Times*, June 1) asks if someone would explain what the road sign 'Let motorbikes overtake safely' means.

There are several instances of these (and similar) messages in our region. This is in response to several road traffic collisions and one fatality caused by drivers pulling out into the path of overtaking motorcyclists. The usual cause is because the driver of the overtaken vehicle had demonstrated poor road sense and had not used their mirrors correctly. The Highway Code clearly states what is expected and what is required by law and in summary includes:

1. Before overtaking make sure the road is clear ahead, others are not beginning to overtake you and there is a suitable gap in front of the road user you plan to overtake.

2. Do not get too close to the vehicle you intend to overtake.

3. Use your mirrors, signal when it is safe to do so, take a quick sideways glance if necessary into the blind spot area and then start to move out.

4. If a driver is trying to overtake you, maintain a steady course and speed, slowing down if necessary to let the vehicle pass. Never obstruct drivers who wish to pass. Speeding up or driving unpredictably while someone is overtaking you is dangerous.

This does not mean (as Ms MacKenzie writes) that the overtaken driver should 'pull over' or indeed take any action other than continue a steady course.

It is the duty of all road users to comply with the Road Traffic Act and the Highway Code, and motorcyclists are no exception. Motorcyclists are particularly vulnerable road users and where a small 'bump' to a car driver may be inconvenient, to a motorcyclist it could result in a serious injury or fatality.

There cannot be any room for adversarial behaviour on our busy roads, and whether on two, four or multiple axles, we should be driving defensively and with care and consideration for all.

Geoff Nix, Appin, Argyll.

Ailean Caimbeul

Social media

One of the most talked about topics on our social media in recent days was Oban Live and the performance of K9 Kev and Rory O'B, the two Oban rappers who won the chance to play at the festival.

Lyndsay Elliott cheered: 'Loved them! Highlight of the day, wish they could have been on again later.'

Bob Blainey posted: 'Brilliant. In honour of Oban we should call the Drizzle Kicks.'

Laura Docherty agreed: 'They were fab would have loved more of them

will be keeping an eye out for more from them.'

Rachel Smith said: 'They were fantastic I hope they go far!'

There was also comment on the problem of dog fouling in Oban and its surrounding areas.

Mairi MacDonald complained: 'I walk my daughter to nursery at dunbeg school everyday and at the start it was really bad on the pavement and even along the shortcut path to the school it's seems to be not so bad now but there are some poo filled bags hanging

Press policy

WE AT The Oban Times endeavour to ensure that all our reports are fair and accurate and comply with the Editors' Code of Practice set by the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO). We realise, however, that mistakes happen from time to time.

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

Crannog Lane, Lochavullin estate, Oban, PA34 4HB.

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

either telephone IPSO on 0300 123 2220 or email inquiries@ipso.co.uk. IPSO is an independent body which deals with complaints from the public about the editorial content of newspapers and magazines. We will abide by the decision of IPSO.

Your letters

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

must be supplied, including on emails, to indicate good faith. A daytime telephone number is also required for verification. Anonymous letters or those supplied without a contact telephone number will not

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

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

Infirm and poor priced out of appointments at hospital

LOUISE GLEN
lglen@obantimes.co.uk

Oban meeting hears transfer of services is impacting on patients

ELDERLY, infirm, poor families and looked-after children will be worst hit by long journeys to hospitals in Paisley, Alexandria and Glasgow, Councillor Mary-Jean Devon told hospital bosses on Tuesday evening.

The meeting to update people on hospital services, and take questions and answers from the community, was attended by around 100 people, including a large number of Oban hospital staff and managers.

The largest round of applause of the evening was in response to a statement by Councillor Devon, who outlined her concerns about the number of morning appointments now being made in the city for patients.

While people can reclaim the mileage and an allowance for overnight accommodation, Mrs Devon told of one patient who had raised concerns with her.

Mrs Devon, who lives on Mull, said: 'Mr X is in his late 70s his appointment is at 9am in Paisley. It is impossible for him to get from the island to the hospital for that time, so he has to stay overnight in the city.'

'At his appointment, there can often be more than 10 people who have been given the same appointment time. Therefore he can sometimes be waiting until 1pm to be seen.'

'He depends on his wife to drive him to Paisley. This month he has had three appointments and a further appointment next week. This means he will have travelled more than 1,000

miles. 'They are unable to find accommodation at the rate of £35.70 [understood to be the amount that can be refunded]. The last number of times, accommodation cost £80.'

'There are many people who cannot afford this and will mean people who have not got the money to travel to the hospital will not go.'

'Has there ever been an impact assessment of moving these services away from Oban? 'I am very concerned that there will be a divide between the rich and the poor, and that people will just not attend appointments. What do you have in place to deal with that?'

Another woman, who said she was involved with looked-after children, said it would not just be the elderly and the infirm who would suffer. She said: 'Please don't forget the impact on children, especially those who are looked-after, when people have to get time off to take children to appointments for five minutes.'

Annie MacLeod, locality manager for Oban Lorn and Isles, said: 'Anyone who is experiencing problems should speak to us.'

'In the future, we will do much more video conferencing for appointments. For example, on

Tiree we are planning to offer a midwife service so women can get in touch with us.'

In response to a question about why the public did not know about the removal of the urology service to Glasgow until they read about it in *The Oban Times*, Mrs MacLeod said: 'It was discussed last year at the health forum. We wrote to users of the service and told people who used the clinic.'

'If we haven't got it right, then we need to look at that differently.'

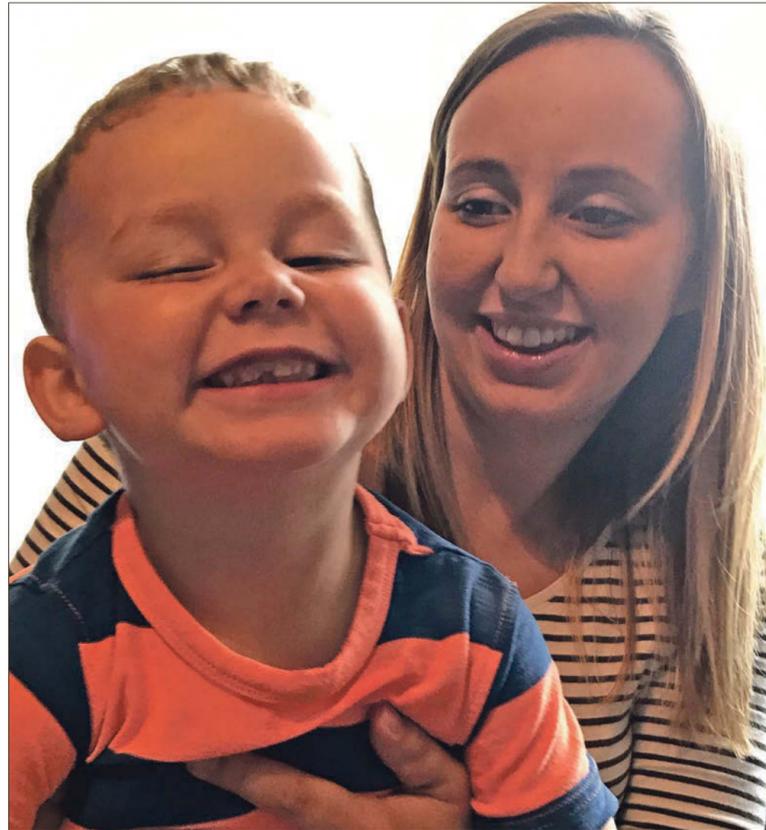
Steven Wiston, head of planning for Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership, said: 'We want to know about people's experiences. I have heard so often that people from the islands are offered 9am appointments and this cannot be achieved. People should phone up and get the time changed.'

'But if you are having problems, contact us. We need to know about it. I have a commitment from Glasgow and they will look at that.'

'The Highlands and Islands transport scheme attempts to reimburse as closely as possible. It will not cover everything, but that is the resource we have.'

'We want to mitigate that [the cost of accommodation and travel] and improve access to services.'

The bonniest baby of them all ...



More than 200 wee tots were entered into *The Oban Times'* annual bonnie babies competition – but in the end it all came down to one happy chap – wee Calum Brown from Tobermory. For the full story and to find out who were the runners-up, turn to page three.

Concern voiced over terror response

SAFETY on the West Coast's ferries and in rural areas will be discussed at a government level, after a senior police officer voiced fears over the force's ability to deal with terror attacks.

The Oban Times raised the matter with islands and transport minister Humza Yousaf when he visited Mull this week.

As Counter Terrorism Awareness Week was launched across Scotland, Mr Yousaf said he was concerned to hear that staff working on transport systems and in rural police offices were being put in the firing line.

Many staff members and police officers who have approached *The Oban Times* feel they have nothing to use against terrorists if the unthinkable were to happen.

Island and rural communities are considered 'soft targets' by terrorists, but as one senior Argyll police officer explained off the record: 'We have none of the resources required to meet the threat of a terror attack.'

'Police armed units are at least an hour away by helicopter and three hours by road.'

'All we have here is a vehicle to drive at people. That leaves us in a vulnerable position and leaves staff ill-equipped to cope with a response in the firing line.'

It is understood that until now the majority of firearms staff are based in the two major cities in Scotland.

North Argyll has a number of strategic facilities and events that have been identified as soft targets for terrorists. Ferry terminals, strategic routes, events such as Oban Live and Oban Airport are all relatively lightly protected.

Concerns have been raised by staff across the area that there is little or no security to check people, bags and vehicles before accessing ferries, buses or trains.

Digital news at your fingertips

Digital VERSION Included

Unlimited access

The Oban Times & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

Established 1861 No 8358 Thursday 8 June, 2017 www.obantimes.co.uk

5 PAGES OF OBAN LIVE COVERAGE LAST CHANCE TO VOTE FOR YOUR WINNER bonnie babies

Heroes run into building as blaze rips through flats

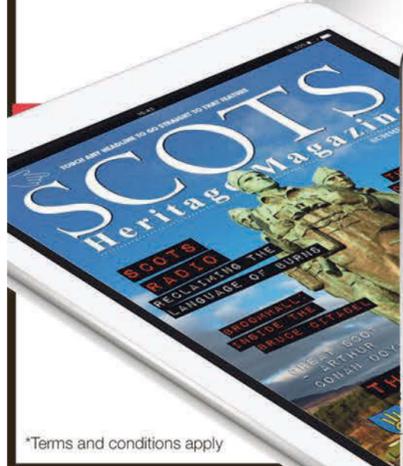


AT LEAST three people were rescued from flat six at Chalmers George Street after a fire spread from the chip shop below on Tuesday evening.

Crowds flock to Oban Live



THOUSANDS left buzzing by brilliant Oban Live



obantimes.co.uk/magoffer

SPECIAL OFFER

Offer ends July 15, 2017

FREE digital subscription to Scottish Field magazine AND Scots Heritage Magazine when you subscribe to obantimes.co.uk

USE CODE OTSFSH1

*Terms and conditions apply



Clockwise from left: Craig Kennedy from Lundavra Primary School won the beginners accordion class. F24 Lochaber Mod 12no JP; Meggie Soe-Paing won the 9-10 fluent conversation. F24 Lochaber Mod 22no JP; Freddy Fulford won the advanced accordion class. F24 Lochaber Mod 13no JP; and Hamish Drennan won several bagpipe competitions in the under-18 classes. F24 Lochaber mod 14no JP

Calum Archie MacKinnon won the boys' under-13 fluent traditional singing. F24 Lochaber Mod 17no JP; while Emma MacColl won girls' 9-10 fluent solo singing. F24 Lochaber Mod 18no JP



Freida MacLeod won first prize for girls' 5-6 learner solo singing. F24 Lochaber Mod 19no JP; while James MacRaild won 7-8 learner conversation, 7-8 learner recitation and 7-8 learner solo singing. F24 Lochaber Mod 21no JP

Summer dining

A feast for all the senses – Loch Melfort Hotel and Restaurant

Loch Melfort Hotel
FOOD WITH A VIEW
 OPEN ALL DAY 11am-10pm

Seafood, kids playground, home baking
 NEXT TO NTS ARDUAINE GARDEN ON A816

ARDUAINE, BY OBAN, PA34 4XG, 01852 200233
 www.lochmelfort.co.uk



For the best of West Coast produce, fresh and wonderful flavours, served in a stunning setting, look no further than Loch Melfort Hotel and Restaurant.

Loch Melfort is situated by Arduaine Point next to Arduaine Gardens and has direct access to the beach, where you can take a digestive stroll by the sea after a lovely meal.

You can dine in the hotel's 2AA Rosette restaurant (evenings) or the more informal

bistro (open all day for refreshments and drinks, as well as lunch and dinner service). Both have direct sea views and you won't fail to be taken in by the amazing scenery, looking out over the Sound of Jura and the Inner Hebrides beyond.

Loch Melfort is passionate about good food and fine wine, and this is reflected in a menu that makes the most of Argyll produce and foraged summer ingredients.

The bistro is a relaxed bar and restaurant with an emphasis on fresh local seafood although meat lovers also get plenty of choice. It boasts a strong wine list and some excellent local ales and draught beers. The homemade ice-creams and baking make it an excellent choice for families with a play area next to the terrace and our friendly local residents, the hens and Highland cows.

The restaurant offers a wonderful dining experience in comfortable, more

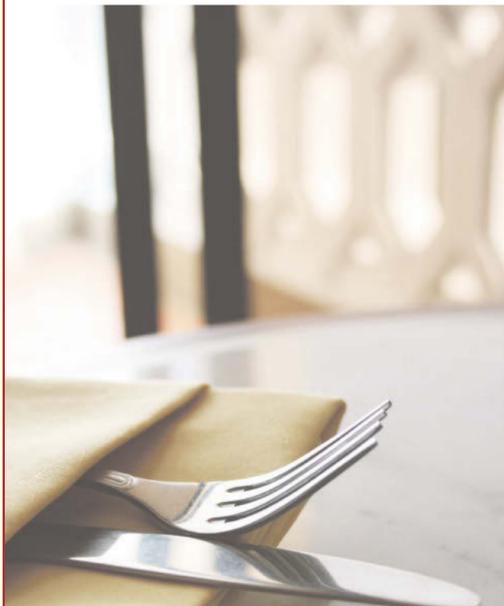
formal surroundings. The seasonal menu delivers options that combine traditional dishes with modern techniques, showcasing a range of locally foraged ingredients from the woods and the sea. Sure to delight food lovers from home and abroad. With a choice from the A La Carte or Table d'hôte menus and a beautiful wine list to select from, a meal here is a lovely experience you won't forget in a hurry.

Loch Melfort looks forward to welcoming you this summer.

Manor House Hotel & Restaurant

More than just beautiful seafood!

Gallanach Road 01631 562087



If you would like to advertise in the Summer Dining section, please call our sales team on 01631 568000

Gordon George Construction Services Ltd.

KMF **David Macdonald ROOFING**

THE BEATLES ESTATE **LBS**

Supporting Fort William Football Club

Half-marathon draws the crowds



Men's top three in the half-marathon Graham Bee, Oliver Spaeth and Hugh Campbell. Photos: Sara Bain

A GERMAN visitor on a week's holiday in Scotland took the title of 2017 Scottish Salmon Co Isle of Skye half-marathon champion at Portree on Saturday.

Oliver Spaeth of Stuttgart breezed across the finish line at the high school with a time of 1:14.10, 2.34 minutes in front of the second placed runner, Graham Bee of Inverness Harriers (1:16:44) who also won the Scottish Athletics North District Championship, hosted in Skye this year for the first time.

Skye's half-marathon titleholder Hugh Campbell of Skye and Lochalsh RC was advised not to take part in Saturday's race. Not fully recovered from a hamstring injury, the five times winner of the race ignored his physio's warnings to come a very respectable third place in the Skye half-marathon and second in the North District Championships with a time of 1:16:52.

Hugh said: 'I had a bit of an injury and am not quite as fit as I would like to be. I ran a very tactical race but my legs just couldn't find the strength to last the miles. Under the circumstances, I am very pleased with today's result.'

There was local success in

the women's section when Iona Craft, from Skye and Lochalsh RC, was the first lady to cross the finish line with a time of 1:32:08. Second was Avril Pearson of Livingston (1:32:51) and third was Sarah Attwood of Knavesmire Harriers with a time of 1:32:55.

Around 750 runners from all over the world turned out on a wet and windy morning to complete the punishing 13.1-mile course in what is considered to be one of the world's most scenic races.

As well as an event that sees competitive runners taking part for trophies, the Skye half-marathon also attracts a large number of individuals who have personal tales to tell.

Eight-time winner of the race and the current record holder for the most consecutive wins was Simon Axon, running for Hunters Bog Trotters. Simon first ran the half-marathon in 1986 and Saturday's event marked his 1,000th race. He said: 'It felt a very long way but it was probably my fastest for a few years, so that's fine.'

Also running on the day was 80-year-old Angus Nicolson from Uist. This was his 487th

half-marathon, counting 100 miles of 10Ks. He started running when he was 49 and his goal of 500 marathons is in his sights. Saturday was his 12th Skye half-marathon and the unstoppable Angus is off to the Isle of Barra in two weeks to take part in the Barrathon.

A number of ladies from Skye who had never run before decided to start a Facebook group a year ago. They called themselves the Skye Ladies Run and competed in the island's half-marathon for the first time this year. Their efforts paid off as they won third in the ladies' team prizes.

David Heggie from Lewis made a mammoth effort to take part in the race. Part of sponsors Scottish Salmon Co's team, David cycled from Lewis,

that was the first girl to come in. Sue Cox, director sponsors Scottish Salmon Co, said: 'This is our first time here and it has been brilliant. We have several of our own people taking part in the race, all of them from different parts of Scotland.'

'It is important to us to invest in our local communities and we are delighted to be supporting the Isle of Skye half-marathon. There are over 100 volunteers here all playing their part in helping the day go smoothly and we are so pleased to be a part of such an enjoyable event.'

Mark Crowe of Skye Events, which organises the Skye half-marathon, said: 'The event went very well with 750 runners all completing the course. We got really good feedback from everyone and the weather didn't



Top three places in the ladies' half-marathon went to Sarah Attwood, Iona Craft and Avril Pearson.

that we intend to give at least £2,500 back to the community groups who supported us. We would also like to thank our major sponsors Scottish Salmon Co, for giving us the means by which to run the race on a more professional level.

'The Isle of Skye half-marathon has come a long way in 34 years and is growing year on year in size, status and professionalism. Our sincere thanks go to everyone who has helped us achieve this.'

Results and prizes

Top five males – Oliver Spaeth 1:14.10 (TVZell); Graham Bee 1:16.44 (Inverness Harriers); Hugh Campbell 1:16.52 (Skye and Lochalsh RC); Ruairidh Campbell 1:18.41 (Arbroath Footers); Fraser Stewart 1:19.04.

Top five females – Iona Craft 1:32.08 (Skye and Lochalsh RC); Avril Pearson 1:32.51 (Livingston); Sarah Attwood 1:32.55 (Knavesmire Harriers); Lisette Walter 1:34.44; Catherine Harris 1:35.43 (Team Angus).

Local prizes – Skye male: Hugh Campbell; Chris James 1:25.09. Skye female: Tina Schuman 1:46.29; Lesley Campbell 1:48.38.

Men's team prizes – Hunters Bog Trotters: Ewan Crawford 1:20.41, Ray Ward 1:20.46, Andrew Cummings 1:26.20. Skye and Lochalsh RC: Hugh Campbell, Chris James, Sandy Laing 1:29.49. Stornoway R and AC: John Macaskill 1:26.36, Andy McMahon 1:30.19, Paul Hadley 1:44.51.

Athletics

Ladies team prizes – Skye and Lochalsh RC: Iona Craft, Lesley Campbell, Sam Crowe 1:50.10. Hunters Bog Trotters: Claire Ward 1:42.53, Lucy Taylor 1:43.41, Rachel Heathcote 1:55.48. Skye ladies run: Pauline Walker 1:52.55, Helen Day 1:53.19, Fiona Rennie 1:55.16.

Age categories male – 40-44: Ray Ward 1:20.45; 45-49: Ruairidh Campbell 1:18.41; 50-54: Andy McMahon 1:30.19; 55+: Christopher Creegan 1:31.09.

Age categories female – 35-39: Iona Craft; 40-44: Claire Ward 1:42.35; 45-49: Avril Pearson; 50+: Heather Akers 1:40.27.

Scottish Athletics North District Championship Senior men – gold: Graham Bee (Inverness Harriers); silver: Hugh Campbell (Skye and Lochalsh RC); bronze: Chris James (Skye and Lochalsh RC).

Masters men – gold: John Macaskill (Stornoway R and AC); silver: Alex Turner (Skye and Lochalsh RC); bronze: Christopher Smith (Moray Road Runners).

V50 – gold: Andy McMahon (Stornoway R and AC); silver: Philip Owens (Garioch Roadrunners); bronze: Paul Hadley (Stornoway R and AC).

Senior women – gold: Iona Craft (Skye and Lochalsh RC); silver: Ros James (Skye and Lochalsh RC).

Masters women – gold: Marianne Wilson (North Highland Harriers); silver: Lesley Campbell (Skye and Lochalsh RC); bronze: Sam Crowe (Skye and Lochalsh RC).



Fun run winners were Ross MacLeod, Joe Jones, Jamie MacKinnon and Tabitha Jones.

ran the course and then cycled home again.

The morning's children's race was well supported by eager runners and cheering parents. First across the finish line was 13-year-old Joe Jones, followed closely by 11-year-old Ross MacLeod. Third was Jamie MacKinnon, aged 12.

Joe's eight-year-old sister Tabi-

turn out too bad either.

'I believe, in total, we had about 120 volunteers giving their time on the day and the committee would like to thank everyone who turned up to help. In particular, the local police, Coastguard, Brownies, Skye and Lochalsh Pipe Band and Rotary Club did a fantastic job. We are pleased to say



Inverlochry Primary won the Alastair Campbell Shield at the annual Macaulay Association sixes held in Oban last Saturday.



Fort William Railway Bowling Club held the James Fitzsimons nominated pairs competition at their green at the Railway Social Club in Inverlochry. Club president Allan MacDonald (centre) presents the trophy to brother and sister Agnes Boyle and Eddie Downs runners up were Helen Ross and Wilson Thain.

Photos: Anthony MacMillan Photography.



Ladies of Fort William Bowling Club who became the Scottish Ladies Railway Bowling Champions and go on to the British. Left to right are Liz Kennedy, Agnes Boyle, Helen Ross.

Recent results from Fort William Golf Club

Golf

A ROUND-up of Fort William Golf Club results. On Saturday June 3 the June medal was played with the following result: Section 1 – 1 Ronald MacDonald net 69 (81-12); 2 Brian Gillespie net 70 (81-11); 3 Paul Campbell net 71 (76-5). Section 2 – 1 Jason Wallace net 74 (89-15); 2 Frank Sweeney net 76 (92-16); 3 Paul Brian net 86 (104-18).

On Sunday June 4 the senior June medal was played with the following result – 1 Willie McCann net 64 (78-14); 2 Gareth Lee net 69 (82-13) BIH; 3 Alex Stewart net 69 (83-14).

On Saturday June 10, the first round of the Club Championship was played.

The leading scores are – Steven Jamieson77; Ian Robertson 80; Eric Wallace 80; Scott Lawrie81; Steward Leitch 82.

Ladies: On Saturday June 3 the June medal was played with the following result: 1 Rosemary Macintyre net 73 (84-11) BIH; 2 Kathleen Leitch net 73 (90-17).

The Fort William Open sponsored by Bowmans Skip Hire takes place on Sunday June 25 2017. Tee times from 8am to 3pm.

To book a tee-off time contact the clubhouse on 01397 704464.

Winning lottery numbers

Lotto

THERE were no winners in the Fort William Golf Club lotto draw last Thursday. The winning numbers were 5, 10 and 12. The jackpot is up to £500 for today's draw (Thursday June 15).

There is £600 up for grabs in the Caol Community Centre bingo lotto this Sunday. Winning numbers for the draw on June 11 were 14, 16 and 17, with no winners.

Winning numbers for the Ballachulish shinty lottery draw on June 11 were 7, 9 and 10. There were no winners so the draw goes to £400 this week.

like us on facebook
www.facebook.com/obantimes

Iomain Cholmcille to mark 10 years of success at the Royal National Mòd

IOMAIN Cholmcille, the international shinty-hurling competition for Scottish Gaelic and Irish speakers, will be held in Fort William this year, marking 10 years of the most successful sporting event in Gaelic in Scotland.

The event will be held as part of the Royal National Mòd, Mòd Loch Abair on October 14, 2017, at An Aird.

The competition is unique in that all the players must be fluent in Scottish Gaelic or Irish and that they must use the language on the park. This is the first term that the competition has been held as part of the Mòd in

its long history. Iomain Cholmcille was first held in Oban in 2007 as part of the Fèill Chaluim Chille. Since then, it has been held in Connemara, Donegal, Skye and Glasgow.

It has grown from one game between Alba, the Scottish Gaelic team, and Micheál Breathnach GAA to take in Fir Uladh from the North of Ireland and Na Gaeil Óga from Dublin. It has also now included a competition the Gaelic-speaking women of both countries, with the Còrn Sgàthaich played every year.

This year, there will be a youth competition for Lochaber youngsters where they will learn Gaelic while

playing the game of the Gael. They will also have the opportunity to learn some hurling skills with coaching from representatives for the two competing Irish teams at An Aird in the morning.

Eògh Stewart, who has been the Scottish co-ordinator for 10 years, said: 'We are delighted to be taking Iomain Cholmcille X to Fort William at the same time as the Royal National Mòd is in Lochaber. We are placing our fantastic event at the centre of Gaelic's cultural heart and it is a great opportunity to learn from each other in language and sport.'

'There are many exciting things hap-

pening in Ireland right now in terms of trying to secure language rights and we hope that Scottish Gaels will gain some encouragement from our Irish guests. Iomain Cholmcille has been very successful in encouraging young men and women to engage with Gaelic and speak it again over the years and we hope that this continues to go from strength to strength.'

James Graham, Mòd development manager, welcomed the new partnership saying: 'An Comunn Gàidhealach are delighted to host the international shinty-hurling competition for Scottish and Irish Gaels. There could be no better stage to host

the competition that at the Royal National Mòd, Scotland's largest Gaelic arts festival. It is also fitting that the competition takes place in Lochaber, a traditional heartland of shinty with a rich history. The competition is culturally important to both Irish and Gaelic languages in helping to strengthen the links between the Gaelic-speaking communities of both countries.'

The Royal National Mòd always holds a competition for shinty every year, and this has not been neglected. The Mòd Cup for local teams will be held on the same day at another venue TBC in the area. All in all, it

Shinty

will be a fantastic festival of shinty across Lochaber.

Iomain Cholmcille receives support from Colmcille, a partnership between bòrd na Giadhlig and Foras na Gaeilge which seeks to strengthen and develop connections between Gaelic-speaking communities and individuals in Scotland and Ireland.

Iomain Cholmcille will be working in partnership with An Comunn Gàidhealach, the local Mòd committee and Fort William Shinty Club on this project.

SPONSORS OF THE OBAN TIMES WEATHER AND TIDES

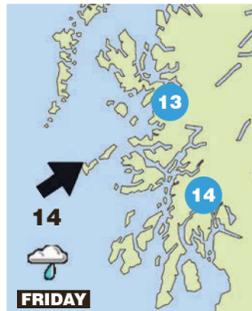
NORTH WEST MARINE
DIVING & MARINE SPECIALISTS

7 E Glengallan Road, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HG
T: 01631 565740 F: 01631 565780 M: 07836 366419
Em: enquiries@northwestmarine.co.uk Web: www.northwestmarine.co.uk

Chain, shackles, buoys all available to purchase in Oban

WEATHER

Thursday	Light rain showers Winds moderate south westerly Temperatures 11°C to 14°C.
Friday	Light rain Winds moderate west south westerly Temperatures 11°C to 14°C.
Weekend Outlook	Light rain showers on Saturday Cloudy on Sunday Winds moderate west south westerly Temperatures 12°C to 15°C.



Stop Press: New pontoons at Ulva Ferry and visitor moorings installed at Lochaline by North West Marine Ltd

TIDAL INFORMATION
Tide tables for Oban during the week from Thursday June 15, 2017 are listed below with differences for major ports listed on the right. All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am	pm			
Thur	03.09 1.5 18.53 3.2 15.18 1.5 21.25 3.4	Ardrishaig	-5.35	Mallaig	+0.25
Fri	03.55 1.6 09.38 3.1 16.06 1.6 22.15 3.3	Campbeltown	-5.30	Portree	+0.55
Sat	04.55 1.6 10.35 3.0 17.05 1.6 23.20 3.2	Crinan	-0.47	Tobermory	+0.16
Sun	06.04 1.6 11.47 3.0 18.14 1.6 *** **	Islay Port Ellen	2.00	Dover	+5.30
Mon	00.44 3.3 07.14 1.5 13.15 3.0 19.26 1.5	Lochboisdale	+0.30		
Tues	02.08 3.4 08.19 1.3 14.30 3.2 20.36 1.3				
Wed	03.10 3.6 09.18 1.1 15.27 3.5 21.40 1.0				

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

Ferry Crossings/Sea States

Oban to Barra/South Uist	Moderate
Oban to Coll/Tiree	Moderate
Kennacraig to Islay	Moderate