

The Oban Times

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All revved up with some place to go

Rain doesn't dampen spirits at Oban and District Classic Vehicle Club event



Hands extend across the Atlantic

Schools celebrate 25th Laurinburg exchange

Community council leader shunned by hospital bosses

LOUISE GLEN
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HEALTH board bosses refused to sit beside the chairwoman of Oban Community Council because they did not like the way she talked about them at meetings, a spokesman for the community council said.

Marri Malloy, a pensioner who is convener of Oban Community Council (CC), was told by members of management at the Integrated Joint Board (formerly the health board) they would not share a platform with her and suggested an elected member sat in her place.

Mrs Malloy had convened a public meeting in the Corran Halls last Tuesday evening (June 13) to discuss ongoing concerns about the loss of services provided in Oban. She has been vocal in her criticism over lack of communication and consultation from hospital bosses.

She has persevered in her claims of a reducing list of services that are provided at the hospital, an assertion the hospital management refutes, stating it has increased the number of people it treats by three per cent.

A member of the community council, who did not want to be named, said Mrs Malloy would not be making a statement to the press on the matter, but that she 'will not back down in her belief that the hospital is cutting services without communicating well with the public'.

The member continued: 'I have no idea why anyone who is paid £80,000 to £100,000 a year, I believe, would think it

appropriate to refuse to sit and answer questions with the community council chairwoman.

'Marri has volunteered within the town for more than 40 years. She is not paid for her job. She does it because she believes the town deserves to know what is going on in the hospital. She is doing what she is doing with the backing of the MSP [Michael Russell] and the community council.'

'It begs the question: if there is nothing to hide, why did they not sit beside her and help people understand what is going on?'

Councillor Mary-Jean Devon who has also spoken out about her concerns about the hospital, was confirmed by health minister Shona Robison MSP as a member of the NHS Highland Board this week. Mrs Devon said she was raising the concerns of constituents about access to health care with Ms Robison and would ask her to consider the treatment of Mrs Malloy.

Mr Russell, MSP for Argyll and Bute, said he was concerned to hear a serious complaint about lack of communication from the health board.

He said: 'No public or private body should attempt to censor criticism or exclude legitimate complaint. If that was the intention, then there should be an immediate apology to Marri and the community.'

'The short history of the IJB is now littered with communication and governance mistakes. The current vice chairman, who was chairman until May, seems particularly unwilling to listen and learn, as does the chief

executive.

'I would therefore urge both of them to publicly acknowledge the failures, publicly apologise and then give quick public evidence of a major change in approach.'

'The board members - and especially the Argyll and Bute councillors on the board - also need to get a grip on the officials and ensure clear democratic accountability is restored.'

A spokesman for the Health and Social Care Partnership said: 'Our dedicated staff work extremely hard to provide a wide range of health and social care services for the local communities in Oban, Lorn and the Isles.'

'Locally, however, like many public sector organisations across Scotland we are going through change and we recognise that this can be unsettling for the local communities we serve. We are also committed to working closely with the local community, elected members and other community representatives and we welcome public scrutiny and encourage feedback.'

'In relation to the concerns that have been raised about how a member of public felt treated, then naturally that is concerning and something we take very seriously.'

'I would encourage them to contact our feedback team at argyllandbutehsc.feedback@nhs.net so any concerns can be investigated.'

'Alternatively, we can arrange for them to meet an independent member of our Integrated Joint Board to discuss their concerns.'

Gaelle gives up holiday to aid blaze victims



OBAN hospital physiotherapist Gaelle Smith travelled to London yesterday (Wednesday) to tend burns victims of the Grenfell Tower fire.

The 32-year-old physio is trained to help natural disaster and conflict zone victims by UK Med, a UK government Department for International Development-run agency which deploys medical volunteers to emergencies.

London needed more burns specialists, she had the skill set, so she decided to give up her holiday to help. 'News was coming through about the amount of patients who need critical

care,' she said. 'There has been a large increase in a specific injury.'

'I have done work in burns and how you cover a wound. A small burn in a critical place can create a functional loss. It is a very harrowing thing to see and to go through the pain. Also it is very disfiguring. Their concern will not necessarily be what they have endured, but what their families have endured.'

Gaelle came to Oban this year from Sierra Leone, where she had been relieving a shortage of staff following the ebola outbreak.

Oban High teacher assaulted woman

A FORMER Oban High School teacher has had his sentence deferred for a year after a sexual assault against a former pupil.

Boyd Henry Sigerson, 41, admitted touching the 18-year-old woman on her bottom on March 4 in an Oban shop. Sentencing was deferred on May 22 until June 20 for reports.

Sheriff Ruth Anderson QC told Oban Sheriff Court: 'It was clearly unacceptable but drunken behaviour. It clearly caused the complainant some distress.'

'It seems to have arisen out of drunkenness more than anything else. He has lost his job, his profession. He is dealing with the loss of his marriage.'

'As a result of this he has lost his reputation. He will never work in this profession again. He has paid very, very dearly for this drunken stupidity.'

'The court is not condoning this kind of behaviour, but the court has some sympathy with the fallout.'

Sheriff Anderson deferred sentence for a year for Sigerson to demonstrate good behaviour.

'The court will be told what you have done with your life,' she said: 'All is not lost. You still have a future and talents that could be employed elsewhere.'

All revved up with some place to go

THERE was delight for anyone with an interest in vintage and modern chic cars at Corachie Clematis, near Taynuilt, at the weekend. Kenny Devine, a member of Oban and District Classic Vehicle Club, said he was pleased with the great turnout on the day.

Picture special - page 10.



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Tenants told flats are fire safe

THE BOSS of a social housing association in Soroba, Oban, has said government legislation was followed when work was carried out on buildings in the area.

Speaking in the aftermath of the tower block fire in London, Alastair MacGregor, of Argyll Community Housing Association (ACHA), said the organisation had a proactive estate management presence in the area, and reminded residents of their responsibilities towards fire safety.

But a resident of the flats, Claire Rizos, of Clairty Safety Solutions Ltd, believes an urgent discussion is required over risks in the buildings.

Ms Rizos said: 'Although our flats in Argyll are nowhere near the height of Grenfell Tower, we need a community discussion about fire safety.'

'There is often not great fire separation between floors. Over the years, fire safety measures which were in place when the flats were built have been damaged by alterations made by individual owners.'

'This is in addition to the broken panes of fire-resistant glazing, stopped-open fire doors and combustible items in the stairways. I've noticed flat doors have frequently been replaced with doors which are not fire-rated. This means that if there is a fire in the flat, the

fire will break through and affect the stairway much more quickly, placing other residents at greater risk. This is not generally a problem with housing association-owned homes as they are aware of the fire rating.'

Former watch commander at Oban fire station Paul Finnigan said: 'What a horrific incident for firefighters and the emergency services to deal with.'

'The 'stay put' policy only works if there's no fire or smoke spread and the passive safety measures work. Early warning of fire, via interconnecting fire alarm systems leading to early intervention and attendance of the fire service, is crucial.'

'It is not my intention to scare

the Soroba residents, but the effective management of fire safety arrangements, informed by a suitable fire safety risk assessment (which is reviewed) is crucial for everyone's safety and to be compliant with the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005.'

Mr MacGregor added: 'ACHA is a minority housing owner in Soroba. The specification that ACHA uses for repairs and improvements such as re-cladding are compliant with the required building regulations.'

'ACHA has a proactive estate management presence in Soroba. Where debris is identified as a safety hazard, it is moved timeously and we remind our tenants of their obligations.'

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Dredging up a row over fishing

LOUISE GLEN
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A COUPLE who questioned the reason for an Orcadian scallop dredger off the coast at Tiree feel well and truly told off by *Oban Times* columnist and musician Angus MacPhail.

Regular visitor to the islander James Laikie wrote what he believed to be a 'polite' letter to Tiree's only newsletter. But, in return, Mr MacPhail took Mr Laikie to task over his letter in his weekly column.

In response to the newspaper, Mr Laikie said: 'No marine environment campaigner could do a better job than Angus MacPhail to illustrate the desperate PR problems of modern commercial fishing. His article

(*The Oban Times*, June 8) told off a tourist who questioned scallop dredging in a letter to Tiree's newsheet for arrogance, ignorance, superciliousness, narrow-mindedness and a lack of education.

'Well, at least Mr MacPhail was listening.

'I'm the tourist who wrote that short, polite letter, with my wife.

'We gently questioned the arrival of a scallop dredger (from Orkney) at an island pier.

'I had family links with Tiree and I have been visiting for many years.

'Along with all of marine science, I know well enough what devastation the dredgers have wreaked there and around Britain.

'Sadly, most small-scale,

fixed-gear fishermen and divers throughout Argyll and on the Clyde (where I live) have long been too nervous to speak up against this uniquely destructive fishing method. Someone needs to.

'But Mr MacPhail says we cannot. He doesn't appear to think tourists have any right to do anything except take in the view. He ignores the fact that we are fishermen's customers and that we are also taxpayers who subsidise commercial fishing - not least the improvement of fishing piers at Tiree and elsewhere.

'Mr MacPhail goes on. Marine science on dredging is not credible (if he disagrees with it). Britain's most eminent professor of marine and fishing policy

is simply 'manipulating data' to support his 'anti-fishing agenda'. There should be no Marine Protected Areas - fishermen can police themselves.

'Our view - which echoes that of the Marine Conservation Society, Scottish Environmental Link, Marine Stewardship Council, Greenpeace, Friends of the Earth and a horde of others, all science-based - is mere 'moral posturing'.

'Sounds a little like Mr MacPhail pulled up Donald Trump in his trawl.

'It is not funny, though. This industry has always shouted down those who dare voice concerns about a resource that belong to all of us.

'If Britain's fishermen had proved good custodians of the

sea and its contents over the past century, we might trust them a bit more.

'You only need follow the news to see how big scallop dredgers shamelessly flout the rules on gear and environmental protection - and we find out only about those that are caught. This is little to do with 'fragile island economies' - most large-scale scallop dredging is about big east coast companies, big profits and a workforce, up to half of whom are from abroad.

'I have the utmost respect for Tiree's fishermen and all people who make their living from the sea and land in a sustainable way - and I know many who do. I would suggest Mr MacPhail curb his temper and takes a measure of the width of his own

mind. We all want just what he wants, and what his father would have wanted - a healthy sea, recovering stocks and a fishing industry with hope for the future.'

In his column, Mr MacPhail claimed: 'The arrogance and ignorance of the content, coupled with the supercilious tone in which it was delivered, places this letter as a shining example of the very worst traits of anti-fishing lobbyists, and a good indicator as to why there is such deep distrust of environmental groups by the fishing industry.'

'The issues created by such strong opinions based on lack of knowledge are, of course, not limited to Tiree, but are a threat to populations across all fishing communities.'

Crofting Commission convener announced

ROD MACKENZIE has been appointed as convener of the Crofting Commission by Rural Economy Secretary Fergus Ewing.

A lifelong crofter, Mr Mackenzie is one of the six commissioners recently elected to the board by crofters from across the Highlands and Islands.

The board also includes two commissioners recently appointed by ministers and one re-appointment position who will also serve the crofting community in the coming years.

Mr Ewing said: 'I would like to offer my warmest congratulations to Mr Mackenzie in his election as a commissioner and I am pleased he has taken up the appointment of convener of the Crofting Commission's board. As a lifelong crofter, Mr Mackenzie will bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to the role and I look forward to working collaboratively with him in the future.'

'With the appointment of the new convener, the creation of the new board of commissioners and the recruitment of a new chief executive earlier this year, I believe crofting can look forward to a period of stability and a positive focus on issues that will greatly improve the lives of those living in remote and rural areas.'

Crofting Commission chief executive Bill Barron added: 'I'd like to endorse the words of the minister and add my own best wishes to Mr Mackenzie as he takes on his role as convener. We have had several meetings of the board since the elections in March and I have been impressed at each by Rod's enthusiasm and good sense.'

'Along with the staff of the commission, I am looking forward to the work ahead, promoting and regulating crofting with a very able group of commissioners, headed now by Mr Mackenzie.'

Mr Mackenzie added: 'This is great news. I'm delighted to have been selected to be the new convener of the Crofting Commission. We've had several meetings of the board of commissioners since the elections in March, both for business and for training as a new group coming together and I've been impressed by just that - how everyone wants to come together to do a good job for crofting.'

'And what I've quickly learned is that it is no simple thing. As a public regulator, you are working within constraints - there's no magic wand. But what there is, is the will to work together to make a difference.'

Luining bid to measure tide

AN APPLICATION by Luining Community Council to explore the tidal resource within Cuan Sound is published in today's *Oban Times*.

The sound separates the Isle of Luining from the mainland.

The proposal to deploy two tidal gauge instruments to measure the tidal height on either side of the sound will begin in July for 35 days. Each tidal gauge instrument weighs one kilogram and is 110mm by 450mm long.

Each will be secured on the seabed by a buoy. Luining Community Council has discussed the survey with CalMac.

Tiree recreates Trainspotting's classic film scene

FILM-LOVERS on the Isle of Tiree have taken social media by storm after they recreated the opening scene to *Trainspotting*.

The 45-second tribute was screened before *Trainspotting T2* was shown at Screen Tiree in front of around 20 people.

However, since sharing the short film on social media, it has been viewed more than 9,250 times.

And it even received a mention from Irvine Welsh, author of the *Trainspotting* books, who said 'Love it' on Twitter.

The film features Derek Campbell as Renton, Jo Vale, Mairi Forbes and Forrest Lockhart.

'We made a tribute to *Trainspotting* swapping Edinburgh's Princes Street for the roads of Scarinish on the Isle of Tiree,' said Jack Lockhart, who shot and uploaded the video to social media.

'The famous 'choose life' poem used in the film was changed to sum up island life.

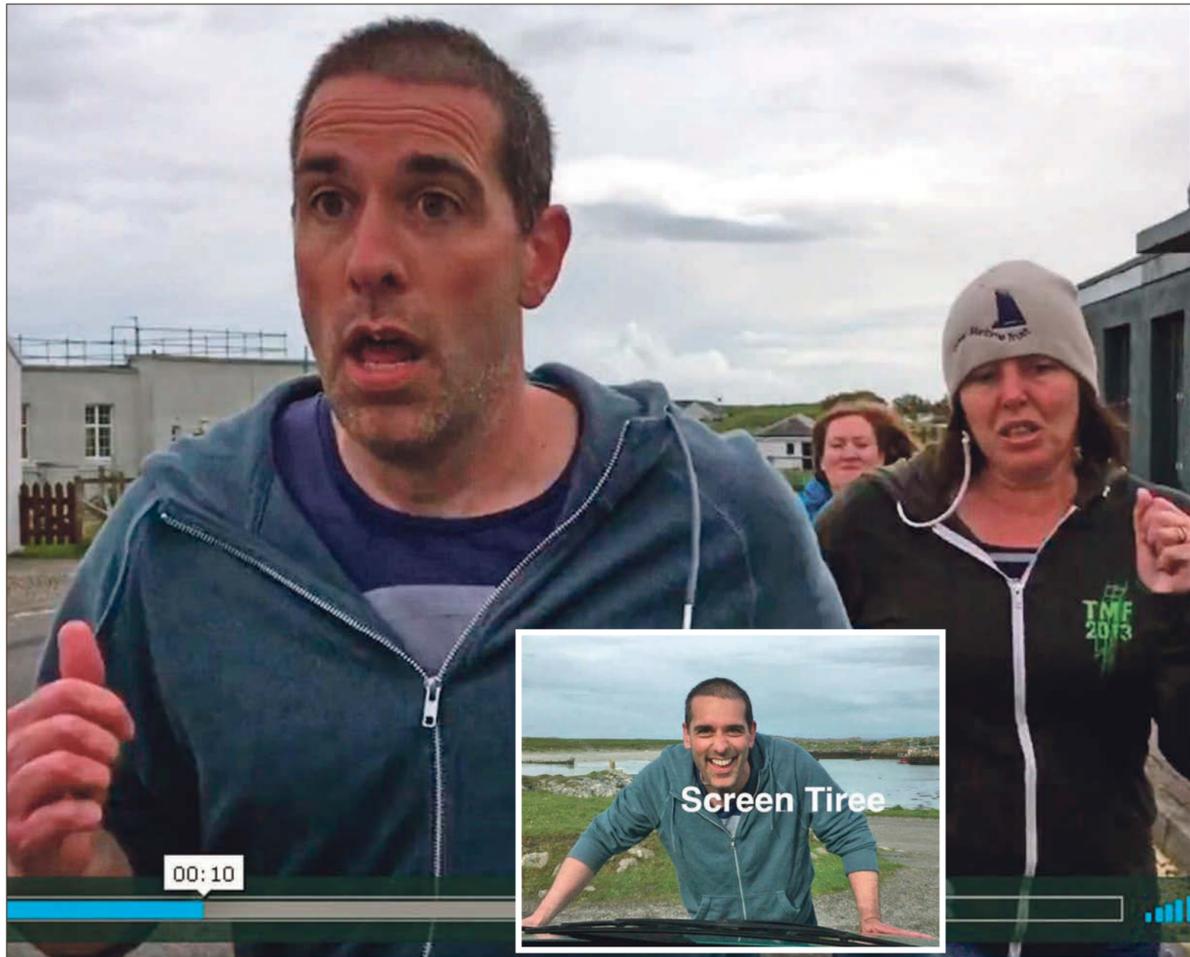
'Instead of choosing leisure wear and matching luggage we chose gale force winds, wellies and a fleece.

'Making the film was great fun and made with no budget in a couple of hours on a grey Sunday afternoon after some coffee and biscuits.

'It was shot entirely on a mobile phone. It was good fun and a real team effort.'

Accompanying the short film and the *Trainspotting* soundtrack was a voiceover, which said: 'Choose life. Choose gale force winds. Choose whole families of cyclists going really slowly on single-track roads. Choose power cuts. Choose no signal on your mobile phone. Choose ferry cancellations due to adverse weather conditions. Choose rusty cars. Choose wellies and a fleece. Choose your future. Choose Tiree.'

Search Screen Tiree on social media to keep up to date with future events.



Derek Campbell leads the way as Renton in the Tiree take on *Trainspotting*.

Gaelic missing from showcase exhibition

BÒRD na Gàidhlig, the leading organisation responsible for the promotion of Gaelic in Scotland, has raised concerns about a Bonnie Prince Charlie and the Jacobites exhibition which opens at the National Museum of Scotland this weekend.

The exhibition doesn't include Gaelic interpretation of a time in Scotland's history where Gaelic was used widely.

Shona MacLennan, Bòrd na Gàidhlig chief executive, said: 'Bòrd na Gàidhlig works with National Museums Scotland and many other public authorities to ensure that Gaelic language and culture is actively promoted in their respective organisations and throughout Scotland.'

'The development of Gaelic language plans is one of the key measures outlined in the Gaelic

Language Act as a means to achieve equal respect for Gaelic in Scotland.

'In their current Gaelic Language Plan, National Museums Scotland make a commitment to include side-by-side English and Gaelic interpretation for exhibitions that have a Gaelic-related theme or connection and the forthcoming Bonnie Prince Charlie and the Jacobites exhibition at the National Museum of Scotland seems like an ideal opportunity for National Museums Scotland to build on their good practice established in such exhibitions as Fonn's Dùthchas and Lewis Chessmen Unmasked.'

'We are aware concerns have been expressed by members of the Gaelic community at what is seen as a lack of Gaelic content in the exhibition.'

Knock Bridge re-opens after essential works

KNOCK Bridge on Mull, which was closed for essential strengthening work, has reopened ahead of schedule.

The bridge on the B8035 closed in April for the works.

It is now open again to all traffic two days ahead of schedule, with vehicles able to use it as of 5pm last Thursday June 15.

The bridge can also carry vehicles up to the previous 33 tonnes maximum gross weight (MGW) once again. For the weeks prior to the works starting, it had been restricted to 7.5 tonnes MGW.

Argyll and Bute Council's spokesman for roads, Councillor Roddy McCuish, said: 'I'm delighted we have been able to re-open Knock Bridge not just on schedule but a little earlier than planned.'

'This work was vital to improve the condition of the bridge and



Knock Bridge is back in use.

also remove the 7.5 tonne MGW restriction we had to place on it earlier this year.

Improvement
'The strengthening works allowing the bridge to re-open and once again carry vehicles

up to 33 tonnes MGW is a significant improvement that benefits local residents and businesses.'

'We are aware of the inconvenience the closure has caused to the local community and thank

everyone for their patience and understanding.'

The scheme was completed by the successful collaboration of Argyll and Bute Council's Roads and Amenity Services, Albion Drilling, MacLeod Scaffolding Services and, in particular, the council's bridge squad masons, whose skill and craftsmanship have received regular compliments throughout their time on the site, as well as roads operations squads and the infrastructure design team.

The scaffolding will remain in place for a further two weeks while pointing work is done to the outside of the bridge.

Knock Bridge dates from the 18th century and is a category B listed structure.

'Strengthening work was needed due to the condition and load-carrying capacity of the bridge deteriorating over time.'

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The nurse came and just clicked with our mum ...

Daughter Fiona says 'Marie Curie brought comfort, experience and laughter to our home'

AN ARGYLL woman has told her heartbreaking story of the loss of her mum and the care she received, so that people in a similar situation will know there is always someone to turn to.

Mum-of-two Fiona Bennett and her family struggled to cope with her mum's condition when she became terminally ill, requiring 24-hour care.

Marie Curie Cancer Care became involved and, as Fiona explains, her mum Catherine Macleod's passing was peaceful thanks to the nurses.

Fiona, HR manager at *The Oban Times*, explained: 'At Christmas 2015, mum had a sore back which escalated to a huge pain.'

'She had an X-ray and the doctors found a very large tumour blocking the entrance to one of her lungs. It was inoperable. They discussed chemo but weighed up the quality of life against what might not be a long time.'

'Mum went into the Beatson being mobile but in pain. But when she came out she had lost the use of both her legs and was in a wheelchair. She wanted to get home but needed full physical care.'

'We cared for mum at her home - myself, my sister and my Auntie Norma. It was 24-hour care. In May 2016, Auntie Norma said she thought Marie Curie could help us. At that time we were doing the night-shifts ourselves ... syringe, catheter ... we were exhausted. 'Norma lives in Glasgow,



Treasured memory: Fiona Bennett with her mum Catherine on Fiona's wedding day in 2007.

my sister is in Edinburgh and I'm in Oban so we were all travelling to get to mum in Helensburgh.

'When Norma got in touch, Marie Curie said they could cover two to three nights a week. We thought that was great. That increased to four nights a week. One of us was always there but it meant we could still sleep. We had a couple of nurses who were brilliant.'

'One evening Margaret-Ann came for the first time and she just clicked with mum. She very quickly fitted in and they formed a close, professional

bond. She wasn't a stranger in the house.

'When mum was in the Beatson, she'd said it was a dream of hers to get to my house and spend time in the garden.'

'Mum came up to Oban and we were astounded Marie Curie could cover as much as they did.'

'Margaret-Ann wanted to come up to continue the care which meant mum didn't have to go back to the beginning, building a relationship with another nurse. She was part of the family. She would come in and have a cup of tea, biscuits and we would chat. We felt safe

in the knowledge she was here. 'Mum spoke to her about things she wouldn't speak to us about - things emotionally that it was too difficult for her to speak to us about. Margaret-Ann would listen to us too and guide us. She would guide mum on how to communicate with us.'

'The environment we were in was a home under such pressure. Marie Curie brought comfort, experience and laughter to us.'

'When mum died it could have been chaos. However, Margaret-Ann was there and it could not have gone better. She kept it calm and peaceful. We can look back and say that we have special memories, as awful as it was.'

'We went to bed at about 10pm. Margaret-Ann called us about quarter of an hour later and said we needed to come back.'

'Margaret-Ann held mum and put her in the right position and then helped us hold her. She physically put us in position. My arm was round mum. She then stood back and left us to it.'

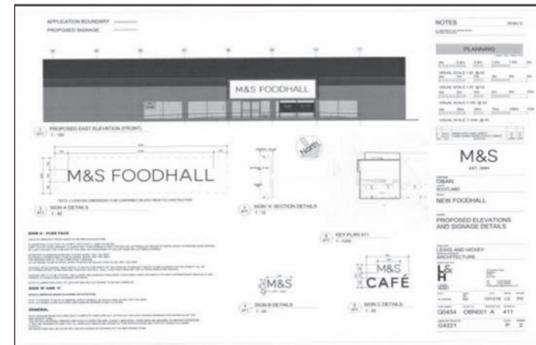
'We talked to mum and stroked her hair. She waited and watched. Everything seemed to reach a peak when mum died. Margaret-Ann was a close part of the team and made mum's final moments as good as they could have been. After, when we were all ready, she prepared mum and called all the right people.'

'Margaret-Ann disappeared, like Nanny McPhee but better looking, when we didn't need her anymore. She shared that night with us, then that was her gone.'

Gemma Smith at Marie Curie said: 'At Marie Curie, we want to reach more people who are living with a terminal illness and who need our hands-on care and support.'

'Readers should speak to their GP or district nurse to ask about receiving our services, which include the nursing service described so well by Fiona and a volunteer helper service.'

'Our services are free to families.'



M&S plans for Oban given public approval

PLANS for a Marks and Spencer foodhall and cafe in Oban have been welcomed with excitement.

Townsfolk are already planning what to buy at the shop, with many people commenting on and sharing the post on *The Oban Times* Facebook page. However, there is still no opening date.

The plans lodged with the Argyll and Bute Council last Wednesday show the company plans to install windows to the front of the former Lidl store.

The foodhall will incorporate an M&S cafe. The proposal comes in two sections: one is

for the display of window signs, canopy signs and trolley bays.

Comments on *The Oban Times* Facebook page were generally in favour of the well-established UK shop.

Sine Murray, from Oban, said: 'Great news! I think it will do well. It's not competing with Lidl or Aldi. Now, can we have a Matalan or similar large family department store?'

Laura Wately posted: 'Can't wait, saves a trip to Glasgow.'

Post-mistress Islay MacNab from Taynuilt was rueful of her decision to move away from the area, saying: 'Typical, just when I am looking to move away.'

Drink driver banned

AN EX-MINISTRY of Defence firearms officer caught almost four times the drink-driving limit has been disqualified for two years.

Francis Tanner, 59, of 61 Greenfield Road, Hamilton, admitted driving on Oban's George Street on February 4 while 100ml of his breath measured 84mg of alcohol, exceeding the limit of 22mg.

Procurator fiscal Eoin McGinty told Oban Sheriff Court on Monday that police

had observed a driver 'failing to maintain a straight line and swerving when not necessary'. When Tanner was stopped, officers smelled alcohol and arrested him after a breath test proved positive.

Sheriff Ruth Anderson said: 'He was nearly four times the limit. If you are drinking, you do not drive. Now fortunately for him he is taking every step he can to do something about it.'

She disqualified Tanner for two years and fined him £500.

POLICE FILES

Between 3pm and 5pm on Sunday June 11, at the car park at the Columba Hotel, North Pier, Oban, the paintwork of a white Volvo car was scratched.

Between 5pm on Saturday June 10 and 8.30am on Tuesday June 13, two fishing reels and a green canvas 'LEADER' fishing bag containing equipment, were stolen from a green Peugeot parked in the car park of the Lancaster Hotel, Corran Esplanade, Oban.

Between May 31 and June 14, at Colonsay Terrace, Oban, a black Vauxhall Mokka car was dented and scratched in several places.

Between 7am on Monday June 5 and 5pm on Thursday June 15, a stereo and a DVD/TV unit were stolen from a camper-van, parked in Millpark Place, Oban.

AT 12.10PM on Saturday June

17, in Glenclrudden Road, Oban, a man, aged 18, was arrested for allegedly taking a vehicle without consent of the owner, drug driving and driving without insurance. The man was charged.

At 4.50pm on Saturday June 17, a house in Fladda Road, Oban, was searched by police and a small quantity of heroin was found. The occupier, a 37-year-old man, was arrested and charged with possession of drugs and supplying drugs.

At 8.45pm on Saturday June 17, in Stevenson Street, Oban, a man allegedly assaulted another man by punching him. Subsequently, police arrested a man, aged 28, and charged him with assault. A report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.

Anyone with information should call 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Driver collided with cars after drinking

A MULL driver has been banned for 20 months and fined more than £1,000 for driving while three times over the alcohol limit, colliding with two parked cars and then lying to the police.

James William Boa, 23, of Antium Farm, Glen Road, Dervaig, pleaded guilty to driving a car without due care and attention, while measuring 75mg of alcohol in 100ml of breath where the drink-driving limit is 22mg, on Tobermory's Main Street on the night of February 12.

Procurator fiscal Eoin McGinty told Oban Sheriff Court on Monday June 19 that police received reports of the collisions and that the driver had fled the scene. Boa also called the police to say he had hit a parked car.

'The accused said he had had a couple of drinks and gone home,' Mr McGinty

said. Boa later advised police he was staying in a local hotel, where they found 'the front of the accused's car completely caved in'. All three cars had 'extensive damage'.

'His reply was he was driving the vehicle but not drinking.' He failed a breath test, but said he had consumed the alcohol after the incident. Mr McGinty added: 'He was seen to leave the pub, throw-up on the street, wipe his mouth and then get in the car.'

Defence agent William Mackay said: 'It was an act of gross stupidity, and he is going to pay a penalty. He decided to drive home, which clearly was not wise. He did at least telephone [the police], even if he was trying to cover his tracks.'

Sheriff Ruth Anderson said: 'He called them and told them lies.' She disqualified Boa from driving for 20 months and fined him £1,080.

Visitors will be sailing into town

THIS weekend is going to be so busy I don't know where to start getting ready for it, but I'm so looking forward to it, writes Bid4Oban ambassador Kay MacDonald.

Two cruise ships are due to visit - *Le Soleal* on Saturday and *Star Pride* on Sunday - and there is the Bid4Oban local market on Saturday and Lorne Highland Games on Sunday.

Eeeeeek! I've had the lovely news that the captain of *Le Soleal* has been in touch to ensure we will have our ambassadors available to make his passengers welcome.

It's so nice to know our efforts are recognised and appreciated.

A lot of effort is made by the Port of Oban Welcome Group to ensure the ships visiting Oban each year are made to feel welcome and that everything goes smoothly.

Councillors, representatives from Argyll and Bute Council, Bid4Oban, Oban and Lorn Tourist Alliance and lots of other people give their time and energy to make this happens in the hope the number of ships visiting Oban will grow.

For my part, I really enjoy watching people's first reaction on arriving in Oban.

Even the rain doesn't seem to put them off and they are always delighted to see a piper.

Our town has a reputation for being friendly and welcoming which is why so many of the people I speak to return year after year.

I'm really looking forward to the return of the Lorne Highland Games this year, as ambassador Joe and I will be around the town ensuring visitors know it's happening and directing them to the event.

I'll be dashing up after that to help with the stand run by the Scottish Women's Institute who will be having a bottle stall and also running the produce and crafts stall with lots of competitions for children and adults.

If you're interested, have a look on the games website or pop into the Bid4Oban office for a schedule of the competitions.

After this weekend, we only have a few days left of the school year then it's holiday time for pupils and teachers and, for me, it always feels as

if summer has really arrived then.

For those looking after children, it can often feel like the longest six weeks of the year as they struggle to find things to keep everyone amused but you don't have to look too far from home for things to do.

The West Coast Motors open bus tour isn't only for visitors to the town.

Being on the top deck of the bus is a great experience - I still love it.

The Marine Centre at SAMS

WHERE IS THIS?



at Dunbeg could be combined with a walk down to the beach and through the woods to the castle.

Take a trip to see the seals and a wander across the pier to see the boats or a ferry ride to Kerrera for a walk and a picnic as well as the hopefully lovely days to spend at the beach. Not to mention a walk out to Dunollie or up to the tower.

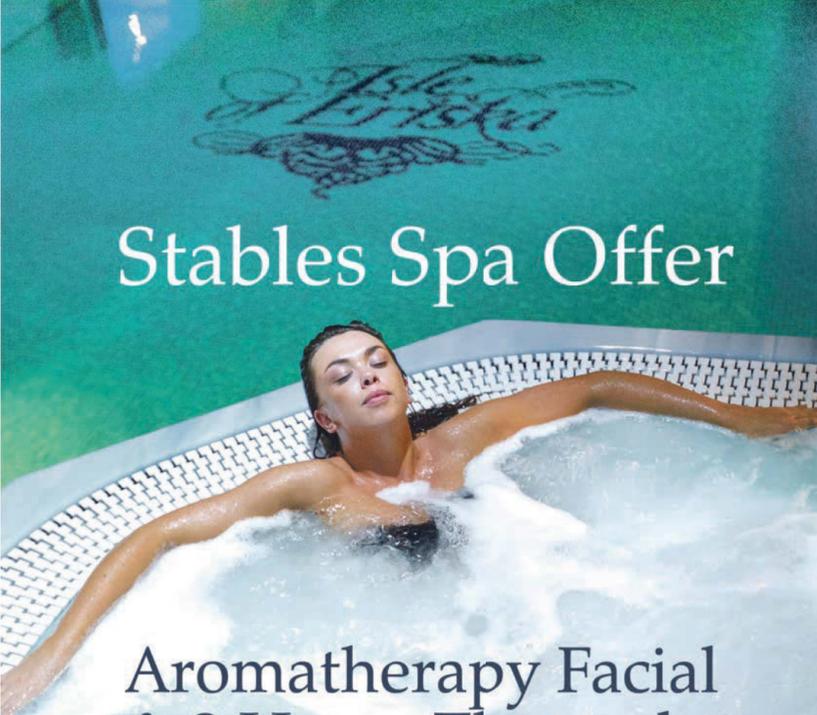
There are lots of parts of our town we forget about.

If you're stuck, just pop into the tourist office, it might just give you some ideas, or stop Joe or me in the street and ask for one of our Out and About leaflets.

Once you start thinking about it, there's lots to explore that won't break the bank as well as the fantastic Atlantis Leisure with all the activities it puts on for the holidays. And don't forget the playpark which is such an asset to the town.

Last week's photo was of the short cut from Tesco to the High Street not long after it had been cleaned by Hope Kitchen and myself.

This week is a bit more central, so keep your eyes open.



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OT

New parking plans for Oban

DAVID MCPHEE
dmcph@obantimes.co.uk

PARKING in Oban is to change and motorists are to get their say on the proposed alterations.

The changes were revealed at the Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee meeting last Wednesday and will be advertised to the public in mid-July.

On-street parking proposals include introducing a 30-minute free period on George Street, Corran Esplanade, William

Street, Queen's Park Place and Argyll Square.

However, on-street parking charges will be introduced on Gallanach Road - from the sailing club to Brandy Rock - and Corran Esplanade - Glenrigh to the war memorial.

The off-street parking proposals will see Ganavan, Lochavullin and Atlantis Leisure Centre car parks charged all-year-round, with the first two hours free, from Monday to Saturday from 9am to 6pm and from 1pm until 6pm on

Sundays.

Councillor Roddy McCuish also pointed out there is free parking at Mossfield, which is not in the report. And when the new school is built, there will be up to 80 spaces available there.

A council officer told the meeting: 'We have had workshops with elected members, invited comments and views from the public and we're about to advertise them formally.'

'We will then bring them back to the area committee for fur-

ther consultation once we have advertised.'

Councillor for Oban South and the Isles, Mr McCuish, said: 'I am glad to see this coming forward.'

'The only thing I would suggest is we use that funding for extra amenity wardens. I would like them to start at around 2pm. The majority of offences start when the warden finishes - campervans coming in at 5pm to 6pm and leaving before 8am. 'I think there's an opportunity to look at

our Millpark depot that burned down. It could be used to get some parking off the street.'

Councillor McCuish added: 'The only solution for Oban is a multi-storey car park. It would cost maybe £5 million, but we would get our money back.'

Some concern was raised over the new £1 coins not being accepted by various parking meters in the town.

Councillor for Oban South and the Isles Jamie McGrigor said: 'Is there any chance of the

parking meters taking cards? It has become the modern way to do it.'

To which a council officer responded: 'For the cards to work properly, we need a telephone wire or 3G or 4G.'

'We are really keen to do that, but we are held back a little by technology.'

'The real issue is getting a signal. We have a trial taking place in Helensburgh.'

Businesses urged to do survey

IF YOU are looking to expand, relocate or start up a new business in Oban and the surrounding area, Argyll and Bute Council wants to hear from you.

The council would like you to fill out the business and industrial land survey to gauge demand for new ventures.

It will also help determine the best possible location for various businesses.

Councillor Aileen Morton, Argyll and Bute Council's policy lead for economic development, said: 'As a council we want to attract and retain people and businesses to come here, which will help boost the local economy.'

'As well as developments opportunities at Oban airport, where the council owns land, we want to find out the requirements of businesses in the surrounding area and we look forward to hearing from as many businesses as possible.'

The short online survey can be carried out on the council website with the closing date Friday June 30.

Bus driver Doc dies suddenly

A WELL-KENT face in Oban has died suddenly.

'Doc', as Ian MacArthur was known, passed away on Sunday night.

'Doc' had been a school bus driver around Oban and Lorn for many years and was known by thousands of children whom he ferried back and forth over the years.

The Oban Times sends condolences to his family and friends.

Quack teams prepare for duck race

YOU would be 'quackers' to miss out on the annual duck race organised by the Rotary Club of Oban.

The race takes place on Saturday July 15, starting at Combie Street Bridge at 3pm.

Once people have placed their ducks on the starting line, they will race to Oban Bay to wait for the ducks to float to the finish line.

The race winner will receive £50, second will get £25 and third £15.

Entries cost £2 and all proceeds go to good causes.

Volunteers join in clean-up at Soroba viewpoint

SATURDAY saw the first clear-up in preparation for the Viewpoint Oban Community Centre. Twenty or so hardy volunteers came out in the drizzling rain to start the mammoth task of clearing the site next to the railway line where a new community centre serving the whole of Oban will be built.

From 11am, Chris and Ronnie from RM Tree Services, and Hire and Supplies from Mill Lane, along with Man and a Van George Berry took on the unenviable task of clearing logs, branches, debris and log after log from the site.

The group was helped by a willing band of volunteers from the Soroba community, Oban Community Council, five Oban councillors, students from the Scottish Association for Marine Science, The Oban Times and Soroba Community Centre.



Hardy souls turned out to help with the clean-up.



MS Centre cashes in on walk

A FUNDRAISING walk for Oban's Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Centre was boosted by £212.97 from the hairdressing department at Argyll College.

Crowds turned out for the annual fundraising walk which loops around the Gallanach circle and back.

The MS Centre thanked everyone who came out to the walk and to the hairdressers who donated the cash to the self-funded organisation.



Oban firm tries out electric bus

OBAN could be seeing electric buses in the future after a successful trial.

West Coast Motors tested an Optern electric bus, which releases zero emissions, on routes 001 from Soroba to Dunollie, the 416 town circular, 417 Ganavan Sands to Pulpit Hill and the new Dunstaffnage service, as well as the Rockfield and Lochnell primary schools run.

Oban and Mull area manager Russell Dods said: 'It worked well on nearly all the runs. The

children love it. It is quite an impressive wee machine. There are no smelly fumes. It makes no noise.'

'Apart from that, you would not know any difference between a diesel engine and that one. You can go along the road at 30-40mph just fine. With Oban, you are up and down the hill all the time, but it regenerates going down.'

The bus was given to West Coast Motors for a free month-long trial. 'We will not be buying

them at the moment. We do not have enough charging points for it in Oban. The price you pay for them is the same as a luxury coach. You can get three normal buses for the price. If the batteries only last five years and you need to replace them, then that will get very expensive.'

But he added: 'This is the technology to go for. If it works, I guess in the future we would have them. We would like to think we will get some at some point.'

Rotary hosts speakers competition

THE ROTARY Club of Oban held its annual Young Speakers competition on Wednesday June 14 at the Royal Hotel.

The competition, open to primary six and seven pupils, saw 15 youngsters take part representing Barcaldine, Dalmally, Dunbeg, Taynuilt, Lochnell, Rockfield and St Columba's primary schools.

The young speakers are judged by members of Oban Speakers' Club and, in his summing up, the chairman of the judging panel said the standard just gets better and better with this year's competition in overall terms probably the best yet.

The winner was Dylan Howe from Lochnell school, who gave an outstanding performance speaking to the pros and cons of social media.

Megan Day from Taynuilt came in second on the subject of women in NASA.



Winner Dylan Howe with, to his left, Sophie Houston and, right, Megan Day and Kirsty McClymont, behind, along with Oban Rotary's organising team.

Third equal were Kirsty McClymont, representing Rockfield, and Sophie Houston, also from Taynuilt, whose subjects were animal testing and the importance of bees respectively. The winners received cash

prizes with all participants getting a personalised Rotary certificate for taking part.

The event was well-attended by Rotarians and supporters of the participants with refreshments on hand, courtesy of the

Royal Hotel. The evening was brought to a close by Oban Rotary president Graham Fraser who thanked everyone for their contribution to what turned out to be an enjoyable and rewarding event.



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WHITE VAN Man

TO USE the term 'total disbelief' is not strong enough.

When I came home last week I thought I had turned the TV on to a movie.

But after a few seconds disbelief turned to pain, anger and many more mixed feelings. I was watching the Grenfell Tower fire disaster.

How in this day and age could this happen? As people escaped the flames, firefighters sought their way into the inferno.

Images of the twin towers passed in front of me as I watched. For firefighters making their way through that building, the reality of what was happening around them must have been terrifying.

Now the truth is starting to come to the surface. Senior politicians are saying this fire was preventable. Another line of inquiry taking place is investigating a possible cover-up as it emerged the building fire hazard cladding may be illegal

in Britain. I hope Scotland Yard seizes all files relating to the catastrophic doomed building's £8.6 million refurbishment.

But I have a feeling some files may have vanished already.

If anyone is found guilty of causing this fire or if any official is found to have cut corners in any way, they should be brought to justice and jailed.

To all those left in the aftermath of pain and anger who have suffered the loss of

family and friends, my prayers are with you.

Finally, let us hope our emergency services will never be exposed to this kind of incident again.

The only way to do that is by making every attempt to find out if any other buildings are at risk of suffering the same plight and putting things right before we face another apocalypse.

George Berry.

Man dies after six-month wait for lifesaving operation

LOUISE GLEN
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A PENSIONER in his 90s died four days before a stent operation to release pressure on his heart ... but after waiting for almost six months for an appointment in the city.

John Bartholomew, 92, was told by his GP that he needed a stent to relieve breathing difficulties, but after a wait of half a year and four appointments in Glasgow, he sadly died four days before his operation in Edinburgh.

In contrast, his wife, Alison, said their son, who had a similar condition, was given similar lifesaving treatment within 24 hours. Mrs Bartholomew, who has

lived on the island of Mull for most of her life, said: 'My experience of the NHS within the past year beggars belief. My husband was diagnosed with the need for a stent.'

'At that time, a year ago, we were 92 and 87. We had to go to see the surgeon and it was agreed my husband would need an operation because his breathing was getting worse.'

'I drove him up and down the road for all his appointments.'

'We waited for an appointment. We had three different appointments over several weeks in three different locations.'

'At 92 and 87, we had to drive down the night before as we were always offered 9am

appointments. Before we got to the CalMac ferry we had already travelled 30 miles, so there was absolutely no way we could get to the hospital in time. It meant staying the night before in Paisley.'

'The next problem was finding a place to park at Paisley. By 9am there are no spaces left so it meant dropping my husband at the door and parking in some cases a 10-minute walk away.'

'The appointment itself was on a first come, first served basis and we could be waiting until lunch-time before we were seen.'

'Eventually my husband got his appointment for an operation in Edinburgh in July last year. He passed away four days before.'

'It seems to me that there is

a fair amount of pontificating about management of services. I know from people who work in the medical profession on the island the biggest problem is interference in the working practices on Mull.'

'When, at the age of 15, I had an inflamed appendicitis, the boat came back to collect me and I had my operation in Oban the same day. That was in 1943. I don't think the service has improved by any manner or means.'

Last week, in response to concerns over patients' travel, the Health and Social Care Partnership (the health board) said: 'We are treating more and more people locally at the hospital and in the past year more than 16,300

people were seen at the hospital, an increase of three per cent on the year before. This is good news for the hospital and good news for the local community.'

'We have also built on the skills of staff and a wider range of services such as cardiology and enhanced diagnostic services are now being provided locally which means many people don't have to travel to Glasgow for investigations and treatment. In short, the hospital provides more services than it did five years ago.'

'It is also important to highlight there is a recognised national shortage of specialist consultants so unfortunately we are unable to provide a full range of consultant-led services from Oban.'

Rise in serious and fatal Argyll accidents

ROAD accidents fell in Argyll and Bute last year - but the number of serious and fatal accidents rose by almost half.

Police recorded 178 accidents in 2016, including 53 serious and eight fatal, according to Transport Scotland's latest statistics, compared to 226 accidents the year before, with 35 serious and six fatal.

The number of casualties also fell from 320 in 2015 to 240 in 2016, but those suffering serious injuries rose from 51 to 63, as did fatalities from six to nine.

In total, 191 people were killed in reported road accidents in Scotland in 2016, 23 more than in 2015. The figures show the total number of casualties fell by one per cent between 2015 and 2016 from 10,974 to 10,881, but the number of people seriously injured increased by six per cent to 1,693.

The figures also show that in 2016 there were 1,011 child casualties in reported road accidents, an increase of four per cent since 2015. This included 12 fatalities, eight more than 2015 and 167 children who were seriously injured, up from 139 in 2015.

There were three more pedal cyclists killed than in 2015 and 12 fewer pedestrian fatalities. There were also three more motorcyclists killed and 31 more car user fatalities.

Last year saw a 19 per cent increase in car users seriously injured, while motorcyclist serious injuries rose by four per cent. However, the number of pedestrians seriously injured

decreased from 424 to 397 and pedal cyclists seriously injured from 164 to 147 between 2015 and 2016. Other modes of transport saw increases in the number of people seriously injured from 67 to 81.

Transport minister Humza Yousaf said: 'It's disappointing that there has been an increase in the number of fatalities and the number of people seriously injured on our roads in 2016.'

'The longer-term downward trends are positive, and the annual decline in the total number of casualties, to the lowest level since records began, is encouraging. However, I am resolute in my determination to save lives and to meet the ultimate vision where no-one is killed on Scotland's roads.'

Jason Wakeford, spokesman for road safety charity Brake, said: 'Today's figures are deeply troubling. It's shocking to see more fatalities on Scotland's roads last year, and more children, cyclists and motorcyclists needlessly losing their lives.'

'We urge the Scottish Government to implement a default 20mph limit in built-up areas, accompanied by additional speed enforcement on roads by the police.'

Sandy Allan, road safety manager for RoSPA Scotland, said: 'We are disappointed to see the first increase in fatalities and serious injuries on Scotland's roads for a number of years. However, these figures of course represent a single year, and so no long-term trend can be drawn from them.'

STAY
Alive
on the A85



Left: Agnes, Christine, Janette and Mairi with Councillor Elaine Robertson (second right). Christine, Janette and Mairi have been with the centre since the days of the previous site and remember the move to the Lorne Resource Centre well. Mrs Robertson was the occupational therapist and social worker and has since become a councillor. She was one of the campaigners who helped get the new centre built.

Above: Councillor Elaine Robertson and Depute Provost Roddy McCuish were guests at the event.

Oban's Lorne Resource Centre celebrates 25th anniversary

Members, staff, friends and former colleagues got together at Glencruitten Golf Club to celebrate 25 years since the official opening of Lorne Resource Centre. Councillors Elaine Robertson and Depute Provost Roddy McCuish were guests at the event, at which Mrs Robertson gave a speech about the beginnings of the resource centre, including how it was funded and built. Over the years, the resource centre has undertaken a huge number of activities, including sailing, acting, filming, drama, dancing, carriage driving, outings and awards.

Firm to close after council eviction

SANDY NEIL
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A SPECIALIST plant engineering firm that employs eight people will close in September after being evicted from its yard in North Connel.

PMG Services was issued with a 'planning enforcement notice to vacate the premises' following a complaint. The ruling was upheld by the Scottish Government Reporter.

However, PMG Services owner Peter MacGregor was under the impression that Argyll and Bute Council would help him relocate.

But he was told weeks ago this wouldn't be the case.

Councillor for Oban South and the Isles Roddy McCuish said the council has let Mr MacGregor down badly.

Mr MacGregor, who is training two apprentices, said: 'The council employed an officer to find us a site on Connel airfield.'

'Because it has cost us over £20,000 to defend against the planning department, we have no money to move and invest in a new workshop and because of this they said they would find us a site at Connel airfield.'

'But they told us four weeks ago, after four months, that they would not find us a site.'

'So they have left me with three months to move somewhere and there are no other sites. This week I made the decision [to close] as there is no way out of this situation.'

'So with everything building



Peter MacGregor, right, with staff at the yard in North Connel.

up, I had a breakdown, to put it mildly.

'It has absolutely destroyed everything. The planners don't care. They take their wages and walk away from it.'

Councillor McCuish said: 'I'm extremely disappointed on the outcome of this tragic tale. I am not disputing the reporter's ruling, but it really is unbelievable that we have empty sites, no more than two miles from Mr MacGregor's present address.'

'I feel we have let him down badly.'

Mr MacGregor said the problems with the planning department started in 2010, when he took over the yard.

'We got a visit from a planning technician,' he said, 'who told me I was operating illegally and that he was going to shut my business down.'

'This went on for six to seven months. Then we had a meeting.'

'At that time, he said it was fine. They said there was no way of policing which vehicles came into the yard and closed the book on it that day and let us carry on.'

'We are surrounded by 12 neighbours and one was complaining a lot about every single thing to do with the yard and that led to the planning department coming back out again.'

'[The planning department] kept trying to prove we were operating illegally on the site.'

'Just about every week they were driving out. They were like private detectives. All their time was put into this.'

'A lot of businesses rely on us. A lot of people rely on us. We look after crucial services, such as the Lismore ferry.'

'We don't want to stay here. We realise we are in a residential area. We want to move, but we need the time to be able to afford to. We need a site.'

'They want to force us out and don't care that everyone is going to lose their job.'

Elizabeth MacGillivray, who has worked at PMG Services for two years, said: 'I love my wee job out here.'

'I have two young children to support. I don't know how I would find another job with so much flexibility and understanding. We have a good team here. We work well together.'

An Argyll and Bute Council spokesman said: 'The business was served with a planning enforcement notice to vacate the premises by September this year following the investigation of a complaint.'

'This decision was upheld by the Scottish Government Reporter. The business was established without the required planning permission.'

'We have been assisting the owners by identifying alternative available accommodation in the area and are happy to continue to offer this support.'

'The business expressed an interest in relocating to a site adjacent to Oban airport. The site remains available. However, it is not zoned for the purpose required and there are other constraints associated with proximity to the airport and nearby residences. As yet, we have not received a planning application.'

Anger at closure of Oban Ladbrokes shop



The Stevenson Street outlet is marked for closure.

MEMBERS of the betting public have informed *The Oban Times* that a branch of Ladbrokes on Oban's Stevenson Street is to close.

The company was unavailable for comment at the time of going to press.

A person, who did not wish to be named, said: 'I and every other customer I've spoken to are outraged that this shop is closing and instead it [Ladbrokes] is keeping the small shop open.'

'But we're more annoyed at

the way the staff in the bigger shop are being cast off without a second thought. The staff in question are the reason many of us still go to Ladbrokes.'

'They're hard working, extremely helpful and nice people who make you feel welcome and have a great craic with regulars.'

'When this shop closes and the staff leave, myself and many customers will also leave.'

'I will definitely be sad on July 18 as the doors shut for the final time.'

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OT

Coll

TWO WOMEN from Coll completed the first Stirling Marathon to raise money for cancer charities and services in Argyll and Bute.

Heather Davis and Clara McGhee began training for the challenge in January and also took part in the Tíree half-marathon in April as part of their preparations.

To kickstart their fundraising, they held an Easter dance at An Cridhe, Coll, with both Dun Mor Ceilidh Band and The Camans playing on the night.

The ceilidh was generously supported by the island community as well as Argyll and Bute businesses Lussa Gin and Adlephi Distillery. The event raised more

than £3,000 and, combined with marathon sponsorship, the ladies have raised a total of £5,682.20.

This was split between the cancer endowment fund for NHS Highland – supporting the work of the day bed unit at Lorn and Islands Hospital – as well as Macmillan Cancer Support across all of Argyll and Bute. The amount raised put Heather and Clara in the top one per cent of fundraisers on Justgiving in May 2017.

Clara and Heather were surprised they enjoyed the marathon as much as they did and are hugely grateful to everyone who helped them raise so much for local causes in Argyll and Bute.



Heather Davis and Clara McGhee in Stirling.

Western Isles

ALL SCHOOLS in the Outer Hebrides now have an outdoor defibrillator, members of the Education, Sport and Children's Services heard recently.

At its meeting in June 2016, the comhairle approved a grant payment to Lucky2BHere, a registered Scottish charity which has placed defibrillators and delivered emergency life support (ELS) training in numerous areas throughout

Scotland. It was also agreed Lucky2BHere volunteers would deliver ELS training at each of these schools. The training was open to all school staff and to pupils from primary five upwards.

Only four schools remain to have training provided: Sir E Scott School, Leverhulme Memorial School, Stornoway Primary School and the Nicolson Institute. To date, 874 pupils have received ELS training.

Callander

TROSSACHS and Teith Councillor Evelyn Tweed praised Callander's community spirit after a fire damaged a number of properties.

One Callander family was left without a home as the result. Councillor Tweed worked with Stirling Council officials to secure emergency accommodation.

Organisers set up a Justgiving charity donation page and held a jumble sale,

a tombola and an auction. Councillor Tweed met organisers last week at the jumble sale raising money for the victims of the fire.

Councillor Tweed has since written to organisers to thank them for their work. She said: 'On behalf of the local community, I am grateful to the individuals who dedicated their time and efforts to helping others in any way they could.'

Helensburgh

ARGYLL College UHI is to take over the council's Kirkmichael Centre, increasing a presence in Helensburgh and establishing its first standalone base in the town.

The college, part of the

University of the Highlands and Islands, has been looking to increase the provision of educational opportunities in the area. The investment in the Kirkmichael Centre is expected to begin in September.

Eigg

Island celebrates in style

THE STORY of the historic community buyout of the remote Isle of Eigg is global and this was underlined at last week's 20th anniversary celebrations.

Bob and Louise Giles travelled from Michigan, USA, to join the party and present Isle of Eigg Heritage Trust with a cheque for \$1,000 on behalf of the St Andrew's Society of Detroit.

The 450-strong society has sent annual donations to support Eigg residents with their regeneration plans and Mr and Mrs Giles were thrilled to see the transformation community ownership has delivered.

Mr Giles, a former president of the society, said: 'Our first visit to Eigg was on July 4 1997 when we organised a beach barbecue to celebrate Eigg's independence.'

'It was our independence day and it was a great joy to share in the celebration of such a marvellous achievement. The progress we have witnessed this week is truly inspiring and we have



Bob and Louise Giles toast the Eigg buy-out.

such a story to tell when we return to Detroit.'

It was on June 12 1997 that the local community – working with the Highland Council and the Scottish Wildlife Trust – celebrated the purchase of the island for £1.5 million.

At that time the population was 64 and more than half of the tenants had no security of tenure over their properties.

Since then the community has grown in confidence and delivered an impressive list of achievements resulting in the population growing to 105.

Amanda Bryan, chair-

woman of Isle of Eigg Heritage Trust, welcomed residents and guests to the newly-refurbished community hall for the celebration.

She said: 'Eigg truly embodies what land reform is all about – a synergy between people and place which has resulted in population growth and a balance between young and old that other communities can only dream of.'

'The people here have quietly delivered a huge range of infrastructure and activities without shouting about it. We're all aware of the big projects such as An Laimhrig, the housing

refurbishments, Eigg Electric, broadband, the and so on but it's what this has enabled that is important.'

'The population now stands at 105 and growing. People can now make a living here in a multitude of ways.'

'There is a vibrant creative economy with musicians, writers, artists and makers.'

'There are around 40 different accommodation options for visitors to the island and some great places to eat which make best use of local produce.'

Agriculture and horticulture and increasingly forestry management are undertaken and we even have the world's smallest island brewery.'

'Community ownership has been truly transformational here in that it has given this community the opportunity to define its own future.'

'There is a confidence and an optimism here that wasn't here before. It is a fantastic thing to be a part of and I thank you for letting me be a small part of it.'

Tyndrum



The pink-clad bikers gather in Tyndrum.

STAFF at the Real Food Café in Tyndrum sported their most magnificent mohawks at the end of May in support of the tenth annual Breast Way Round motorcycle fundraiser.

Breast Way Round

Scotland raises money for Macmillan Cancer Support with a sponsored motorbike run around the West Coast of Scotland.

Tutus

More than 60 riders took part in the four-day,

three-night event dressed in an array of bright pink mohawks, tutus and bras.

Participants were welcomed in Tyndrum on Monday May 29 at the Real Food Café with free cake and a show of hair-raising

solidarity from the staff. The café collected funds over the weekend as well as holding a raffle for a stunning cake, which was iced for the occasion in the renowned Breast Way Round colours.

Arrochar, Tarbet, Luss and Arden

THE communities of Arrochar, Tarbet, Luss and Arden are to be given the opportunity to be a part of a community hydro scheme.

Local residents and renewable energy supporters nationwide will have the option of purchasing a stake

in the scheme, from £250 to £100,000.

The 123kw hydro plant will be located above Arrochar and will be a run-of-river scheme.

The electricity generated will be sold to the National Grid. Income generated will be conveyed to

the community development trusts for ongoing projects and future community benefit, with a proportion returned to members as share interest.

The Arrochar community hydro scheme was initially proposed by Luss Estates to enable local development

trusts to generate income to reinvest in their communities.

The river and surrounding land on which the scheme will be developed is leased for a peppercorn rent by Luss Estates to Arrochar community hydro.

Benbecula

A NEW exhibition in Museum nan Eilean, Benbecula, Hebridean Norsemen, explores the Norse period in the Outer Hebrides from the first arrival of the raiding Vikings to their settlement on the islands.

The exhibition charts changes in the daily life of the inhabitants of the islands, the importance of craft activities and the artistic and religious life of the immigrants.

Archaeological artefacts from a number of sites across the Outer Hebrides are exhibited, including finds from Cardiff University's decade-long

archaeological excavation at Bornish in South Uist.

Director of the excavations, Professor Niall Sharples, said: 'It is a great pleasure to display a selection of the material recovered from Bornais, as they emphasise the importance of the Hebrides in the Viking world. There are a range of objects from regions as far apart as Norway and Greece, and much from near neighbours Ireland, England and Shetland.'

'The inhabitants of Bornais clearly included an important family that were of the highest rank in the Kingdom of Man and the Isles.'

Stornoway

MEMBERS of Comhairle nan Eilean Siar's Transportation and Infrastructure Committee were asked to approve the standardisation of a two-hour, no-return period across all pay and display car parks in Stornoway town centre, at a meeting of the committee on Wednesday June 14.

In March 2016, the comhairle agreed to an initial phase of extending pay and display parking in the town centre which included extending chargeable parking to the former Fisherman's car park and to South Beach adjacent to the Star Inn and the Caledonian Hotel and the retention of non-chargeable parking provision at No 1 Pier.

No objections were received through the public consultation.

Appin

RAISED levels of E coli bacteria have been identified at Kilfinichan Bay and Castle Stalker cockles following routine monitoring by the council's environmental health team.

The team warns that eating shellfish such as cockles, mussels, oysters or razor clams from these areas may pose a risk to human health. Notices to warn the public and casual gatherers have been posted at various locations on the shore. People are advised to avoid eating shellfish from these areas until further notice.

For information, contact the environmental health team on 01631 567849.

Tighnabruich

KILFINAN Community Forest Company has been awarded £47,200 from Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE), towards the cost of building a new forest centre.

This will provide an indoor venue for training courses, seminars, workshops and community events, as well as upgrading current facilities.

The building is expected to be delivered for under £80,000, with funding from the Scottish Government's Climate Challenge Fund (CCF) as part of a low-carbon classroom project – as

well as core KCFC funds – helping to fund the balance.

Nikki Brown, KCFC's development manager, said: 'A venue for training and skills development has always been a top priority in our development plans. Not only will this facility enhance our volunteering and training programme, it will also increase our capacity to deliver future projects, such as woodland burials.'

'We would like to extend our thanks to our funders for their support and we look forward to seeing the forest centre up and running this summer.'

At Random

MARTIN LAING
mlaing@obantimes.co.uk



Protect our health service provision

THE SALAMI slicing of hospital services in Oban has got to stop.

There is a steady, relentless trend that is seeing the superb Lorn and Islands Hospital in the town being diminished.

The latest service to be transferred to Glasgow and Paisley is the urology department. Patients requiring to see a consultant in that specialism now face an arduous and expensive round trip, sometimes for an appointment that lasts just a few minutes.

This problem is thrown into even sharper relief for those residents of our many islands who simply cannot make a 9am appointment and have to travel down the day before and stay overnight.

At a time when there is a major effort to reverse depopulation of the Highlands and Islands, it is crucial we have properly resourced essential services here.

If we want to attract inward migration to the Highlands and Islands – let alone persuading people who are already here to stay – providing good healthcare is vital.

We pay the same taxes as anyone in the central belt or other towns and cities, so we should be granted the same consideration and treatment.

As we said in our editorial comment last week: 'If there are diffi-



The Star Pride will be calling at Oban this weekend.

culties with hiring consultants, the solution should not be to abandon the attempt. People in Argyll and the Isles deserve better.'

Let's get behind Oban Camanachd

THIS Saturday sees one of the highlights of the shinty season with the final of the Gregor Cameron Glasgow Celtic Society Cup.

Oban Camanachd will be taking on Kyles Athletic at Taynuilt Sports Field in the 113th final.

The Oban boys face a stiff challenge as Kyles are the holders and will going for five in a row. Camanachd last won the cup in 2005, though they came close a couple of years ago, losing out to Kyles in the final.

Why not roll along to Taynuilt and cheer on the boys? It all starts at 4pm.

Luxury liner sails into Oban Bay

OBAN Bay will be graced this weekend by the arrival of a major cruise liner, the Star Pride.

The luxury ship will be calling at Oban on Saturday as part of what its parent company, Windstar, calls its Gaelic Explorers cruise. This particular jaunt carries passengers from Edinburgh to Dublin, with visits to, among other ports, Kirkwall and Portree.

It should make a fabulous sight anchored in the bay.

For those who like their information to be detailed, the Star

Pride carries 212 'guests' – the company's word, not mine – in 106 suites. She has six 'guest decks' serviced by a crew of 151. The Star Pride is registered in the Bahamas, though Windstar Cruises is headquartered in Seattle in the United States. The liner is 440 feet (134 metres) in length, has a beam of 63 feet (19 metres) and a draft of 16.5 feet (five metres). She displaces 9,975 gross registered tons and is driven by four Bergen marine diesel engines which give her a cruising speed of 15 knots.

Her passengers will be keen to spend their hard-earned – or inherited – cash in our economy, so let's make them welcome.

Brilliant Tíree Trainspotting video

THERE is a bit of video filmed on Tíree that has gone viral... and quite right too. The video is a pastiche of the Trainspotting scene where Renton and his chums are fleeing the 'polis'.

I won't give anything away but it's a must-see. Go to <https://vimeo.com/220545492>

What do you think?

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



Volunteer of the Year 2017

celebrating our COMMUNITY HEROES

Nominations are now open!

- Individual Volunteer of the year
- Young Volunteer of the year
- Voluntary/Community/Organisation of the year
- Social Enterprise Volunteer of the year
- Health Volunteer of the year
- Regional Heroes



ARGYLLSHIRE GATHERING HALLS, OBAN

THURSDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER 2017

10.30am - 2.30pm

Contact your local Argyll & Bute TSI Office, 21 High Street, Oban
tel: 01631 564839 or email: shirley@argylltsi.org.uk

Nomination closing date: 21st July 2017



www.argylltsi.org.uk



Dunollie Castle was lit up as part of last year's Oban Winter Festival and, inset, the Dalriada tartan. Main photograph: Kevin McGlynn.

Past has bright future for heritage at Dunollie

LOUISE GLEN
lglen@obantimes.co.uk

DUNOLLIE has always aimed to create something unique for visitors hoping they will go away having been touched by every element of their experience, whether it be tours, exhibitions, learning, volunteering, eating or even shopping.

The gift shop at Dunollie has come a long way from its small beginnings as a single display cabinet in the old kitchen of the 1745 house.

In 2014, with funding from Highlands and Islands Enterprise, the team at Dunollie restored what was once the old dairy to create The Old Drapers' Gift Shop.

The design was inspired by the bling of Victorian department stores with chandeliers, mirrors and old sewing machines dressed around an early 20th-century counter collected by Hope MacDougall from a local merchant.

The focus of the gift shop was to create beautiful gifts inspired by Dunollie's object collections, heritage landscape and surrounding environment.

This began with a tartan range



Isobel Smith's 'Mairi MacMouse' is a best-seller.

made from Dunollie's Heritage MacDougall and Dalriada tartans, both of which were found hanging as curtains in Dunollie House in 2010. While the Heritage pattern is ideal for the MacDougall clan, the Dalriada tartan pre-dates clan tartans and is perfect as a local but non-clan tartan.

Light and heavy weights of both tartans were exclusively woven for Dunollie by Lochcarron Weavers in the Borders, providing the Draper's shop with cloth for kilts and a range of scarves, shawls and ties. Two collections of jewellery were also designed and made by local

artists to match the tartans. The Hope MacDougall 'Mirror of History' exhibition in 2015 provided a great opportunity for a new product range.

Rolls of fabulous cotton calico featuring objects in the displays, such as bakelite telephones, spurtles and medicine bottles, were printed by Glasgow School of Art. The fabrics were then passed to Threads & Yarns - Dunollie's weekly volunteer sewing team - who created a beautiful range of handmade gifts including cushion covers, aprons, make-up bags and pencil cases.

Threads & Yarns has made a

“ We want to focus on mementoes visitors can enjoy onsite or at home ”

Jayne Mulqueen

huge contribution to the success and growth of the Old Drapers' shop, bringing creative flare to this special line of stock.

The team, led by milliner Jayne Mulqueen, who was once a volunteer member, said: 'We want to focus on making mementoes visitors to Dunollie can enjoy while on site or take home for friends and family.'

Threads & Yarns started with just Jayne and Isobel Smith but has grown to eight keen sewers meeting each week. Each participant brings new ideas and skills that contribute to the Threads & Yarns's range, which is as diverse as kitchen maid rag dolls,

hanging bluebell decorations, the popular Dunollie hare and wooden spoons with Dunollie engravings. Isobel's 'Mairi MacMouse' is now a best-seller and a favourite among visitors to Dunollie.

Dunollie's weaving team is also busy in the weaving shed, creating beautiful cloth on the old loom. The volunteer weavers, who meet most Monday afternoons and speak to visitors while they are working, are developing different patterns and experimenting with a range of colours for a selection of purses to be made by Threads & Yarns.

Dorie Wilkie, lead stitcher of The Great Tapestry of Scotland, has created embroidery kits from the fabulous Jacobean patterns on the ancient castle bed-hangings unearthed in 2012.

The kits are made up by Threads & Yarns and can be purchased in the Old Drapers' shop for keen stitchers to enjoy in the comfort of their own homes.

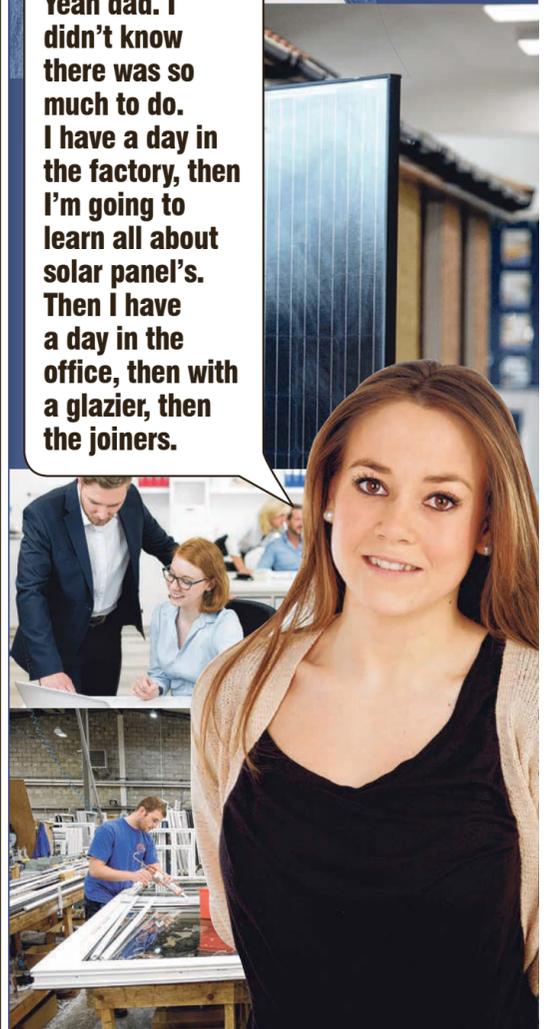
The Old Drapers' shop also stocks a range of locally made gifts and produce. The shop is open daily from April to October at Dunollie Museum, Castle and Grounds and occasionally during the winter.

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

James Henderson – a Highland deer stalker

THERE have been many changes in the deer-stalking world during the past few decades, none more noticeable than the disappearance of the traditional Highland gamekeeper.

Wedded to the hills like old stags and knowing no other job, they were wonderful naturalists, custodians of mountain lore and, above all, characters with a sound, practical knowledge of deer and their habits.

Such a man was James Henderson, stalker on Glenquoich for Edward Ellice, MP and chairman of the Hudson Bay Company, and then Sir Michael Arthur Bass, later Lord Burton, who leased the estate from 1873 to 1905. There James met Sir Edwin Landseer, who modelled much of the background to his world famous painting, The Monarch of the Glen, on the hills and rocks around Glenquoich and Loch Hourn.

During his tenancy, Lord Burton spent a fortune on the estate, bringing employment and wealth to Glenquoich on a scale not known before or since. Under the supervision and management of James Henderson, the old lodge was modernised, roads and bridges were built and 135 miles of pony-paths engineered and constructed.

Throughout Lord Burton's tenancy, Henderson kept detailed records of every season's cull. The Glenquoich Stag Book, published privately in 1898 for circulation among Lord Burton's friends and guests, shows that during the 33-year lease, 2,599 stags were killed, 208 of which carried 12 points or more.

Of these, 600 had been stalked by Henderson and he alone had shot more than 1,000 hinds – an impressive record given the type of weapon in use at the time. Henderson once said that some of his best ghillies could run almost as fast and straight as their round bullets.

According to those who preferred the



James Henderson of Glenquoich.

new, high-velocity weapons, the old, large calibre breech-loading rifles had a 'rainbow' trajectory and made a lot of noise, disturbing the deer for miles.

During his days at Glenquoich, James kept an account of the many guests he accompanied to the hill. The list reads like a chapter from Debretts, reminding us how popular deer stalking and a love of remote places had become at that time.

James Henderson's finest days were undoubtedly those spent in 1904 and 1905 when he came out of retirement to organise four great deer drives involving 200 stalkers and gamekeepers who came to Glenquoich from a wide area to move stags towards King Edward VII and his party hidden from view in stone butts specially built for the occasion.

Tips of the traditional kind were no doubt given by most of the guests but, instead of money, the King presented James with a solid silver pocket watch and flask engraved with the Royal cypher.

James's son Robert, who had taken over as head stalker in 1900, was the recipient of a magnificent cased Mauser revolver inscribed: 'To R Henderson, head deer stalker, Glenquoich, Inverness-shire. From His Imperial Highness Grand Duke Michael of Russia, 1904' – a gratuity which even then must have raised a few eyebrows.

Another unusual present which James received from his colleagues at Glenquoich in 1893 was a tricycle made by the British Cycle Manufacturing Company, Liverpool – a somewhat odd

present for a man by then in his late 50s living in such hilly terrain. According to a contemporary account: 'After a few drinks, Mr Henderson mounted his machine and drove for home amidst the ringing cheers of his friends and well-wishers.'

James retired at the close of the 1900 stag season. Such was Lord Burton's appreciation of his long and faithful service, he built a cottage for him and gave him a pension for life. In the last stag shot by Lord Burton were two bullets, one by the laird and the other by the stalker.

Lord Burton, knowing that his bullet had not quite killed the beast, handed the rifle to James with the words: 'We've brought down many stags together, let us share in the last.'

James died peacefully in his cottage at Bunchaolie in 1915 and was buried in a nearby cemetery to the strains of the old pipe tune *Lochaber No More*.

The beautiful old lodge where King Edward VII held court and the little cottage at Bunchaolie disappeared in 1955 beneath the waters of a hydro electric scheme. Huge, ugly pylons and more hydro schemes desecrate Landseer's primeval landscape.

But his name lives on in a book called The Placenames of Glengarry and Glenquoich and in the well-made pony path which zigzags its way up the side of Glourach above Loch Quoich to the King's Butt. No-one who uses it today can fail to be impressed by the stalker who engineered it all these years ago.

Sadly, for the deer and the natural history of the Highlands, the James Hendersons of yesteryear have been replaced largely by statisticians, men in trainers and laptops who have little or no practical knowledge of deer or the hill.

Yes, we need scientists now and again, but if the deer are to survive, these new-age stalkers should be kept well in the background to be consulted only as required.

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#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

It sometimes seems there is so much to be depressed about in the news, not least in recent times the dreadful tower block fire in London and apparently tit-for-tat attacks in the name of religion.

So it is heartening in the extreme today to report on a number of positive stories involving selfless, charitable efforts being made across Oban and Argyll.

As we detail elsewhere in today's *Oban Times*, Lorn and Islands hospital physiotherapist Gaelle Smith is giving up her holiday to tend to burns victims of London's Grenfell Tower blaze.

The 32-year-old specialist, who is trained to help natu-

ral disasters and conflict zones around the world, is now in London to help those in need.

Elsewhere, we have stories about volunteers cleaning up Soroba, cheques being presented to fund good causes, the hilarious Tiree Trainspotting video and the fantastic work done by Marie Curie nurses treating people who are terminally ill.

Every week we are happy to cover such heartwarming stories.

These are the true measure of the society and communities we live in. We applaud everyone involved for their public-spirited efforts.



Days gone by – 1995

Kenny and Barbara Matheson from Blythswood Care are presented with two blankets knitted by Brownies. The blankets were to be sent to a children's cancer hospital in Romania.

MacPhail

ANGUS MACPHAIL

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NOSTALGIA is a feeling I find deeply enjoyable. And when I was at home last week, coming across the very first music recording that I owned, I was immersed in that warm emotion.

My mum had been rooting through the attic looking for books and toys suitable for my new nephew, Eachann, and, in her foraging, she uncovered a box of music tapes and some Allan Campbell MacLean novels. Contained in the box was Hebridean Accordion, by Iain McLachlan. To this day, the late Iain McLachlan of Benbecula is my favourite accordionist and Hebridean Accordion my favourite recording.

I had taken this tape with me wherever I was living over the years, but somehow in the moves and the brochan of life, recently I had lost track of where it was.

What joy and relief to be unexpectedly reunited with it. The sentimental value of it is strong for many reasons, not least because it was signed by the musical genius.

I received this tape nearly 30 years ago, in October 1987, around the same time as I started my accordion lessons with Gordon Connell.

My father had bought a fishing boat in County Clare, in the west of



Iain McLachlan signed the tape.

Ireland, and on his way home with her after being in Oban getting work done at Currie's Boat Yard, he had stopped off in Tobermory. Playing in the Mishnish Hotel that night was Iain McLachlan and, as I had just started learning to play the box, dad bought this tape for me.

I was an instant fan and over the following months received two of his other recordings, An Island Heritage featuring Calum Campbell and Calum Iain MacCorquodale and The Kings of the Button Key Box, a collaboration with Fergie MacDonald.

In July the following year, while attending Fèis Bharraigh, we heard that Iain McLachlan was to be playing in

the Clachan Beag Hotel in Castlebay. My excitement was immense and this brought about the only encounter I was to have with my musical hero. The event nearly led to huge disappointment, but due to Iain's kindness and an understanding hotel owner, the situation was rescued.

The anticipation of hearing him play live and perhaps meeting him had been building for days, but when we arrived at the bar we were told no-one under the age of 14 was allowed in. I was only nine, so that meant having to listen from outside.

However, someone relayed to Iain that he had a super fan in the front conservatory and he – without being asked – spoke to the owner who then generously and cordially invited us in.

And, to my delight, they arranged seats for us right beside where the great man was playing.

This was a landmark experience for me and recollections of it are still vivid. Iain signed my three tapes – see picture – and his stature was elevated to new heights in the eyes of that young fan.

All these rich memories came flooding back on seeing the tape – the music, the excitement, the encouragement and, above all, the kindness.



Social media

There was huge excitement at the news that Marks and Spencer has lodged an application to open a food hall in Oban.

Sine Murray cheered: 'Great news! I think it will do well. It's not competing with Lidl or Aldi. Now, can we have a Matalan or similar large family department store?'

Margaret Adams posted: 'I'm so excited!'

Karen Macnab wrote: 'It's actually happening!'

Mary-Jean Devon posted: 'Dreams can come true.'

Donna Macculloch offered: 'This is good news. It will bring more people to the town.'

Karen Blair said: 'This would be brilliant, customer choice and jobs!'

Sam Wotton wrote: 'M&S food is awesome. Worth the money.'

Daniel Coleman warned: 'Won't last with Aldi and Lidl far cheaper.'

Colin Cooper countered: 'I'm more for independent businesses. I'd rather the Co-op returned.'

Nathalie Porter agreed: 'Do we really need another food shop? Shame it wasn't Next or Primark.'

Sandrahiggins Higgins said: 'Brilliant news. Just need some decent clothes shops too.'

There was widespread praise for Oban hospital nurse Gaelle Smith,

who is giving up her holiday to tend burns victims of London's Grenfell Tower fire.

Malcolm McFadyen lauded: 'To volunteer on the pittance of a salary they get is a fantastic gesture, big respect to her.'

Paul Finnigan wrote: 'A true, altruistic hero, putting others first! Well done Gaelle, a true inspiration to us all!'

Fiona Guthrie said: 'Great to be able to help in a practical way!'

Coil Maclean agreed: 'Well done fantastic work ethic.'

Marie Archer posted: 'Well done lovely caring person!!'

Isabella Dean praised: 'Fantastic to be able to help. Only wish I could.'

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.

It is time to arm all our police officers

Sir,

I refer to Martin Laing's At Random column (*The Oban Times*, June 15) regarding terrorism and the police response capability in our area.

I feel we have reached a point in time where we must routinely arm all police officers. Yes, the risk is that great. They must have firearms available to protect themselves and the public.

Specialist units are too far distant in many rural areas of the UK and probably more so in Scotland. An immediate and ruthless response is necessary to counter any potential or real terrorist threat. I agree the eight-minute response time in London proves the point that lives must have been saved.

It is time for the politicians to stop sitting on the fence and grasp the nettle. The time for being politically correct and tolerant is long past and the public demands action now.

The police, security, emergency and intelligence services do a fantastic job in this country and the public should appreciate this. However, we need to up our game and move to a much higher level of preparedness to counter the potential or real threat from these odious creatures.

Perhaps an even more controversial option which should be considered is the granting of powers by central government allowing the police to recruit and form locally-based volunteer militia units, trained in the use of firearms and deployed in emergency situations under the control of the police or army.

The terrorist is among us, especially in the large UK cities, but, without appearing to be alarmist, we must always be watchful and avoid complacency on our patch.

The terrorist is a despotic degenerate creature who should be treated accordingly. 'When you have to fight a beast, you must treat it as a beast' in the words of US President Harry Truman in the last year of the Second World War in the Pacific.

Let us hope the politicians can raise their game to meet the challenge.

Robert MacCallum,
by email.

No respite from political upheavals

Sir,

So after the council elections, we had the general election so can we now look forward to some respite from the political process. Or can we? I am not so sure as, given the implementation of Article 50, we are now heading to negotiations with Europe regarding Brexit.

The bit that confuses me (and there are many) is the difference between a hard and a soft Brexit. Does one take longer to cook and, when finished, needs something else like mayonnaise to stop it being too dry while the other is ready quicker but really lacks any material substance and, in fact, without the addition of some salt and a piece of toast would be very bland?

To me, it is fairly simple, regardless of opinion in or out of Europe, the government of the day (and if you listen to the pundits, it could be that short)

Beachd Ailein

ALLAN CAMPBELL

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MÒD IONADAIL SOIRB-HEACHAIL eile seachad. Thàinig a' chlànn nan dròbhan gu Mòd Ionadail Inbhir Nis air an deireadh seachdain seo chaidh, agus ged nach robh uimhir de dh'Inbhir a' gabhail pàirt is a bu mhath le luchd-deasachaidh na cuirme, bha na h-uile ag aontachadh gur e fìor dheagh fhèis a bh' ann. Mar is àbhaist 's i a' cheist a bu chudromaiche ciàmar a bha ire na Gàidhlig a chuala brìtheamhan, agus a rèir aithris bhupa agus bhon luchd-èisteachd, bha cùisean misneachail agus nach math an naidheachd sin.

Chuala mi fhìn cuid a bha fìor mhath, fileanta agus sìubhlach nan cuid còmhraidh agus le stòr fhaclan farsaing, nan deagh theisteanas air an fheadhainn a tha gan teagasg. B' e deagh fhoillseachadh eile a bha seo air cànan agus dualchas nan Gàidheal agus gun teagamh chuir e ri ìomhaigh agus inbhe na Gàidhlig anns a' tha na Mòdan ionadail agus naiseanta a' dèanamh gach bliadhna.

Nuair a dh'fhalbh an taigh-cèilidh chailleadh colaiste nam bailtean! Sin mar a chuir fear a' Leòdhas a bheachd

is about to enter long and complicated talks to get the best exit deal for the UK and on the other side of that table the European Union who unsurprisingly will be trying to negotiate the best deal for Europe.

Where soft versus hard becomes a bit confusing is that until the talks begin and compromises are made throughout the process, we will have no idea where it will lead. All the political parties in the UK are telling us the deal they would get ... really, I think Europeans might just have an opinion as well.

The way I see the political posturing following the referendum is a bit like some people rocking up in Las Vegas for the first time, approaching a poker table and telling the rest of the players how they are going to play. Then, once the game has started, showing the rest of the table your cards and asking for advice.

Finally, since the triggering of Article 50, the clock is ticking and this process is supposed to take two years. Would it be cynical to suggest that given it has taken eight years for Canada and Europe to come to a trading agreement that runs to approximately 1,600 pages, an agreement that is not only trade but territorial, migratory, legal and a multitude of other areas might take at least as long?

The European elections will be in June 2019.

If we are still negotiating that would mean in theory we are still a member. So do we get to vote again?

Derek Connery,
Chief executive, Bid4Oban.

Thanks for electing me as MP once more

Sir,

I would like to say a sincere thank you to the people of Argyll and Bute for re-electing me as Member of Parliament.

Regardless of where you put your cross on the ballot paper (or not), I am your MP and I will, as I have done previously, represent everyone in this constituency equally.

Throughout the campaign I promised that the economic regeneration of Argyll and Bute would be my number one priority and I intend to work with anyone and everyone to make good on that pledge, regardless of the political chaos that now engulfs Westminster in the aftermath of the vote.

It seems ridiculous we have all been through the upheaval and uncertainty of an unnecessary general election, only to have ended up in a worse place than when we started.

The decision to hold a snap election was nothing more than a cynical and opportunistic attempt by Theresa May to strengthen a majority she already had and, in the process, crush the opposition. She put the interest of the Conservative Party ahead of the country and it has backfired spectacularly.

From having a healthy, working majority, her lame-duck government now has to rely on MPs from the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP), of all people, for her to run a minority administration. And I shudder to think what price the DUP will demand in return for that support.

Brexit negotiations began this week

and I fear the UK is now severely compromised as we start these discussions and I remain fearful of the outcome for Scotland.

The SNP has said from the outset we want a seat at the Brexit negotiating table to protect Scotland from Mrs May's hard-Brexit stance.

I hope that in light of the disastrous performance of the Conservative Party last week, the government will now see the sense of having Scottish voices in those negotiations to protect Scotland's vital national interest.

Brendan O'Hara,
MP for Argyll and Bute.

Punishments will be counter-productive

Sir,

White Van Man in his column (*The Oban Times*, June 8) suggests the death penalty for terrorists and deportation for those associated with terrorism.

This proposal appears to be more of an appeal to populism than a well-reasoned argument.

The death penalty, apart from the humanitarian argument against it, has a fundamental flaw as in the mind of a radicalised terrorist, life is meaningless, death is glory. There is no fear of death and to enact the death penalty would surely only serve to further radicalise and offer them the additional reward of martyrdom. I imagine there would be more fear of being locked up for a life of hard labour than of state-sanctioned murder.

Then there's the suggestion deportation is the answer. Deport them to where – Tower Hamlets? Barking? Hackney? The largest comprehensive study (Gatesstone Institute) on UK terrorism carried out between 1998 and the present day shows 72 per cent of attacks are perpetrated by UK or dual passport holders.

One point White Van Man didn't mention and I think is a possibility, is that radicalised persons going abroad and training with terrorists should have their UK passports revoked.

So, what is the answer? I honestly don't know.

Every time there's an attack we inevitably hear 'known to security services'. Many times, we're told that a parent, friend or the wider community have reported the individual but no action was taken. So why was nothing done?

Perhaps the answer lies in the reality this government has cut security budgets to the bone. They simply don't have the resources. Even a small proportion of revenue from arms deals with Saudi Arabia, which funds the terrorists, would help in the fight against home-grown terrorism. Extreme irony.

Then we may consider why radicalisation happens. We bomb their relatives, accept maimed, mutilated and murdered mothers and children as collateral damage then wonder why those here in the UK are upset? Let's stop funding terrorism and radicalising the youth.

My thoughts on crime and punishment are somewhere to the right of Genghis Khan – but only if that punishment is effective.

John Paterson,
by email.

Ailean Caimbeul

an cèill dhomh iomadh bliadhna air ais, agus chan eil teagamh nach eil an saoghal againn nas bochda is cothroman agus dualchas agus eòlas a shùghadh bho na ginealaichean as sine mòran nas tearca na bha.

Tha sinn fortanach gum bheil seirbheis rèidio agus telebhisean againn a tha a' coileanadh cuid den dleastanas sin ach a dh'aindeoin ealantas nan seirbheisean sin, tha gainnead maoin gan cuingealachadh. Bha mi a' leughadh pios a sgrìobh eòlaiche-foghlaim nuair a chaidh a' chùdromach 's a tha ealain ann an oideachadh agus e ag argamaid nach fhaodar gearradh air ais air na seirbheisean sin ged a tha ionmhas poblach teann. Thug sin orm smaoinichadh air ais air mo làithean bun-sgoile fhìn agus cho beag 's a chuala sinn an sin nuair a bha dhuilgheas neo gun dearbh cànan agus thuig mi às ùr cho prìseil 's a bha neart na Gàidhlig anns a' choinneamh nach san robh mi a' fàs suas. Far nach eil slugh ga bruidhinn gu làitheil cha tèid aig cànan sam bith air fàs agus urrachadh agus ged a tha sgoiltean a' dèanamh obair ionmholt a' teagasg na

Gàidhlig dha cloinn, tha a' mhòr-chuid aca ag ionndrainn cothrom èisteachd agus cleachdaidh taobh a-muigh na sgoile, gun iomradh air an eòlas agus am fiosrachadh bho dhaoine nas sine.

Ged a tha sinn a' dèanamh adhartas ann an iomadh seagh a thaobh ath-bheothachadh na Gàidhlig, feumar aitheachadh gum bheil dùbhlain mhòr romhainn fhathast agus ged a tha fuasgladh air na cnapan-starra sin gu ìre an urra ri ionmhas, tha am prìomh fhreagairt ann an cumhachd shluagh na Gàidhlig fhèin. Tha an abairt 'cleachd i neo cail' i' 's dòcha nas fhior an-diugh na bha riamh!

AS ANOTHER successful provincial Mòd closed in Inverness, I noted a leading educationalist's argument that the arts should be protected from curriculum cuts and I recalled the elderly Gael who told me that when the cèilidh house tradition ceased, the villages lost their colleges.

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

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Sixty new homes and big cash boost for Lochyside

ELLIE FORBES
eforb@obantimes.co.uk

SIXTY new homes in Lochyside will come with a £60,000 boost which could be used for a new indoor training and community centre.

The Lochyside development was approved at the Highland Council's south planning committee when it met on Tuesday.

It could see the building of a new indoor training and community centre next to Lochaber High School - thanks to developer contributions, which the council seeks for new developments of four or more houses where appropriate.

A contribution of £1,000 per house towards community facilities will be given in this instance, meaning £60,000 will be secured towards a community project.

Ben Thompson, Caol and Mallaig councillor, told the *Lochaber Times* after the meeting that careful consideration needed to be given to what the money was spent on.

'When this development was being looked at, the council identified what there was a shortage of in Lochaber and at that time huge efforts had been made to get funding for an indoor facility,' he said. 'However, that plan was written about five

or six years ago, and we are in the process of getting a new one written, plus we have new councillors now, so I tried to stress to the council that plans for these funds should not be too specific, because things change.'

Andrew Baxter, Fort William and Ardnamurchan councillor, also stressed that should the plans for an indoor sports facility not go ahead, the community would still have the money to be spent elsewhere.

The accessibility of the 60 homes was also discussed. Earlier this year, Lochaber Disability Access Panel told the *Lochaber Times* it had formally objected to the application and has emphasised its disappointment that no representatives from the agents, Bracewell Stirling, had come to meet members of the panel.

Planning officer Susan MacMillan told the meeting on Tuesday that, while the panel has not formally removed its objection, members have since met with the agents, who said as many properties as possible will be wheelchair accessible.

Ms MacMillan said they will be flexible to meet the needs of the people who are living there, once the homes have been allocated.

Mr Baxter said he thought the

buildings were 'very grey' and lacked a bit of colour.

He said: 'Did the architects lose their crayons when drawing up the plans because it's very grey? I don't know if that was to blend in with the rain and weather of Lochaber though.'

Ms MacMillan responded by saying the homes are a mixture of white and beige. 'We have a condition in the planning to agree and finalise the colour and I am sure they [the architects] would be happy to look at some colour.'

Mr Thompson said the development would have been 'better with more three-bedroom houses'. He said: 'In the report, it says the mix of units has been informed by the Highland Council housing register. I think it assumes people are moving out of three- and four-bedroom homes into two-bedroom ones, but that doesn't happen as quickly as we would like it to.'

John Gillespie, vice chairman of Caol Community Council, told the *Lochaber Times*: 'We are pleased to see that the development has been passed, especially with many of the changes which were made on the feedback from local residents.'

'Hopefully, this level of communication will continue as the development progresses.'

Violinist Rhona bows out in style



VIOLINIST and Lochaber High School S6 leaver Rhona Mackintosh was awarded Highland Young Musician of the Year 2017 at Sunday's competition in Nairn.

Rhona fought off five fellow competitors from across the Highlands, performing a 15-minute programme at the evening's public final to secure her title. She was also awarded the Richardson Trophy for Musical Excellence.

All entrants for this competition are members of one of the Highland Young Musicians music groups and Rhona was joined by fellow

Lochaber High School pupil Rosie Clark, who performed on trumpet in the afternoon's prelim round.

The judges were particularly impressed with the Highland Council's 'continued support of the musical development of Highland's young people, affording them opportunities often not available in many other parts of the country and with the way the competitors conversed with the judging panel and conveyed their obvious enjoyment of playing and participating in a wide variety of musical activities.'

Mother assaulted her child

A LOCHABER woman held one of her children's head under the bathwater after she had whispered to her own mother she was going to drown the child.

Fort William Sheriff Court on Tuesday heard details of the assault, but nothing can be reported that would identify the child or its siblings.

The child was seen to be upset when attending school the following day and teachers discovered what had happened, Sheriff Gordon Fleetwood was told.

The woman, in her 30s, admitted assaulting the child, pushing the youngster's head under bathwater at an address in Lochaber on May 24 this year.

Procurator fiscal Andrew Shanks said that the child's maternal grandmother was overseeing bath time. 'She whispered to her mother she was going to drown the child and pushed the child's head under water and held [the child] under. The accused was spoken to by police, admitted the offence and tendered an apology.'

The woman's defence agent said that all her children were now on the child protection register, the children's panel is involved and she could only see them under the supervision of her own mother and her mother's partner.

The woman is suffering from depression and her medication has been changed, he added.

Sheriff Fleetwood deferred sentence for three months to September 12, calling for a supplemented community justice and social work report and advice from the children's panel.

Filming work begins but could cause delays on A82

FILMING taking place this week is expected to cause delays on the A82.

The A82 Partnership says there could be delays of 10 minutes around Invergarry and Invermoriston from today (Thursday

June 22) until Tuesday July 4. From today until Wednesday June 28, filming will be around Laggan and Aberchalder Farm, Invergarry, and from Wednesday June 28 till Tuesday July 4 it will be around Invermoriston

and Bught Drive, Inverness. It is believed the filming is for the Channel 4 production of *The Biggest Little Railway in the World* which will track the attempt to build a model train from Fort William to Inverness.



The beach clean was educational as well as good for the environment.

A very busy time for Achaleven youngsters

ACHALEVEN Primary School pupils have packed a full programme into a short space of time.

Starting with tag rugby last Monday June 12, pupils worked well together to achieve great results.

Pupils then planned a trip to Glen Nant for Wednesday. This involved creating a risk assessment. Pupils had to think about what would be appropriate clothing and footwear.

One pupil said: 'We learned how to stay safe in an open space and discovered a great deal about the flora and fauna in a new area not too far from home. We can now take our families back here in the holidays.'

'Thursday was beach clean day and we worked with Janie Steele from the Grab Trust to clean up an area of the beach across from the Oyster Inn, which we are adopting.'

'The first thing we had to do was measure 100 metres for our surveying area. We used varying lengths of rope to do this and used markers to designate the area. We started at the picnic spot because, although this isn't the beach, the rubbish here could

easily blow into the sea and harm sea creatures. We found a variety of things, from a disposable barbecue to nappies and on the beach there was a lot of plastic was stuck in the rocks.'

'Janie explained that this breaks up and then washes into the sea and turtles and other creatures think they are jellyfish and eat them, doing immense damage.'

'We took our haul back to school after lunch and put it all into categories and logged the information on our survey.'

'We finished the week in style with our den day in aid of Save the Children. We love building dens in our garden although the weather wasn't as kind so we built them inside this time.'

'Teamwork, problem-solving and accessorising were the order of the day as new structures popped up around the school. We also learned about how lucky we are to have a safe place to live and how some children and families are not as fortunate.'

'We had a fantastic week, learned a lot and discovered it feels great to help others.'



Tag rugby was great fun as well as a good physical activity.

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Mel Burnip and wife Margaret receive the Iain Campbell Memorial Trophy from Isobel Campbell.



The event field was packed.

All revved up with some place to go



Lorn Model and Model Engineering Club were giving rides on this fantastic steam engine.

THERE was a delight for anyone who had an interest in vintage and modern chic cars at Corachie Clematis, near Taynuilt, at the weekend.

But the runaway success of the day was a beige Cortina Mark 1 with the pet name 'Tina'.

Kenny Devine, a member of Oban and District Classic Vehicle Club, said he was very pleased with everyone who turned out on the day.

Mr Devine said: 'There are 45 members of the local club and many of them have turned out.'

'Members don't need to have a car, but we do have lots of activities that involve going to other events and drives.'

The winning car, chosen by members of the public, was

the beige Cortina Mark 1, TLG 587D, owned by Mel Burnip.

He has owned the 1966 Ford Cortina for 11 years and it is the first time he had won a prize for it at the club.

When asked if the car was the love of his life, Mel said: 'No, she is,' pointing to his wife.

Mel has been a member of the club since its earliest days, joining one year after the club was founded.

Aside from outstanding cars, Lorn Model and Model Engineering Club helped visitors enjoy the day.

There were miniatures of the puffer Vital Spark alongside a steam mini railway offering rides to adults and children, and a pristine and working steam engine.

A game of splat the rat, administered by Ken Groom, was at the centre of the proceedings. Try as they might, no-one within the half hour or so of watching the game could, in fact, catch the rat ... far less splat it.

Even Scott Cruickshank and his grannie Barbara, who were giving it a 'very good go', didn't manage to touch that wooden rat, nicknamed Usain Bolt.

Money raised by the club is donated to local charities. Last year Marie Curie and the Lorn Area Dementia Group shared almost £1,200 raised by the group.

The group will be involved in Motorfest Oban in September as well as Bunessan, Dalmally and Lorn shows.



A Volkswagen Beetle was a family car for four in the 1970s.



John Findlay of Lorn Model and Model Engineering Club with the boats on display.

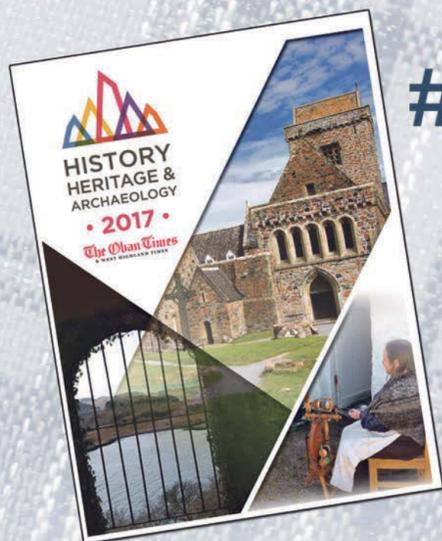


A superb red Escort.



Scott Cruickshank takes on splat the rat.

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A traditional Mini proved popular.



Finn Chapman, from Taynuilt, views the cars from the swing.



The event was marked into sections, including a luxury car range.



Husband of the late Karen Haggerty, Iain, with daughters Deborah and Dawn with the plaque dedicating the new bridge in her name. Photograph Iain Ferguson, The Write Image.

Bridge dedicated to Lochaber woman

AROUND 150 people turned out to celebrate the opening of the Glen Nevis bridge on Sunday, which has been dedicated to a Lochaber woman who lost her battle with leukaemia.

Difficult terrain had previously made the glen's riverside path a no-go area for wheelchair users, elderly and frail visitors, and families with young children.

But thanks to a £600,000 upgrade of the path and the provision of a new river crossing, the area is now accessible.

Before inviting traditional musician Robert Robertson to declare the new 1.5km route open, Alex Farquhar, chairman of the Nevis Partnership, which led the two-year project in conjunction with the Highland Council, told the attendance partnership was the key to the success of the scheme.

He said: 'This new all-ability path and bridge is testament to what can be achieved when organisations work in partnership.'

'However, it is impossible to bring together a project such as this without the help, funding and goodwill of a great many people and organisations.'

The day's celebrations, which included a march over the new bridge by Lochaber Schools Pipe Band and hours of family activities and entertainment, were sponsored by GFG Estates, part of the GFG Alliance, which recently became the owner of a large part of Glen Nevis when the business bought the Lochaber aluminium smelter.

The bridge was dedicated to Karen Haggerty, the former Glen Nevis visitor centre manager.

Karen started working with the Highland Council as a visitor centre assistant in 2002 and was promoted to manager a few years later. She died suddenly in March 2016 after a short battle with leukaemia.

Countryside ranger Fiona MacLean said: 'Karen was a hard-working and enthusiastic member of staff. She was instrumental in the decision to have the new bridge located at the visitor centre which will enable more hill walkers to benefit from the weather and safety information it promotes. She is missed by family, friends and colleagues.'

Crofter fined for uttering racially offensive remarks

A CROFTER from Arivegaig, Acharacle, appeared before Fort William Sheriff Court on Monday charged with shouting, swearing and uttering racially offensive remarks at an Englishman.

'But I'm English,' said Sean Reid, 53, of MacNeil's Croft, during his defence.

'My family are English and it would be financial suicide for my business - 80 per cent of my customers are English.'

Reid, who rents out a house and caravans on his croft denied

the offence on August 12 last year and also denied shouting, swearing and acting in an aggressive manner and uttering threats on October 29, 2015.

Sheriff Gordon Fleetwood heard the offences involved the occupants of the neighbouring croft, an English family, and that there was bad feeling between the parties.

Neighbour Anthony Smith, 55, told the court that in the August 2016 incident, Reid had shouted at him, when his car was parked in the common grazing access between their

properties: 'Have a nice day you ****ing English moron, have a nice day you ****ing English pig. Why don't you just **** off, nobody likes you.'

Reid also encouraged a terrier dog he had with him to go after the Smith family's cat, which had gone onto Reid's croft.

Reid denied this, saying rental customers were out in the croft grounds at the time and shouting such remarks and that behaviour would be 'financial suicide'.

He had been walking the dog around the croft and came

across Smith who stood staring and smiling at him and Reid told him: 'I'm contacting the police.'

But Smith's wife gave evidence supporting her husband and said she felt 'afraid, alarmed, helpless'.

During the October 2015 incident Mr Smith said he had parked his vehicle in the grazing access to unload feed when Reid began shouting at him 'get off the ****ing track you p****, get off the ****ing track you ****hole' and added 'You are ****ing dead meat', and made a finger

across the throat gesture. Smith denied all this, saying that in the dark of an October evening he would not have walked across his croft, as Smith described, as it had deep trenches and boggy land. During his evidence, Reid told the court the couple were acting out of 'resentment and envy'. 'I had to contact the planning department about their croft,' he said adding that he felt the couple wanted revenge.

Sheriff Fleetwood found Reid guilty and fined the first-time offender a total of £700.



The Fort William girls took on Tough Mudder at the weekend.

Fort William girls take on Tough Mudder

A GROUP of eight Fort William ladies took on Tough Mudder at the weekend to raise money for a charity 'close to their hearts'.

Anne Wallace, Rebecca Grant, Mhairi Clelland, Stephanie Clelland, Gail Bilsland, Tammy Mcghee, Vicki MacLeod and Rebecca Maclean took on the challenge and won.

Anne told the *Lochaber Times*: 'Rebecca G, my hairdresser, told me she and two of her sisters had signed up for Tough Mudder, and I had always wanted to tackle the challenge. I asked a few more details and found out it was taking place in Thornhill, Dumfries-shire, so thought it a sign as my late mum had grown up there. When I found out it was on June 17 I knew it was meant to be as my mum's birthday was June 19, so I signed up too. We chose the Macmillan Nurses Charity as it's something close to our hearts and we all have personal experience of the

amazing work they do.' Another close friend unfortunately didn't get a chance to try this challenge, having lost her own battle with cancer. And so the group set out to raise £750. 'We all started at 10am and finished four hours later. The course length was just over 11 miles and the obstacles ranged from a mud crawl under barbed wire, a chute which led to an ice bath, wall climbs ranging in height from six to eight feet and a monkey bar challenge. But we all completed it with teamwork, sheer grit and determination.'

The women are all back home and pleased to report they had raised £2,500, with cash still coming in. They would all like to say a big thank-you and if anyone still wants to donate they can find the link on the Nevis Radio Facebook page or drop in to the Lochy Bar, Caol, or Unique Hair and Beauty in the High Street, Fort William.

Sentence deferred

A FORT William man's drug addiction came to light when he was taken ill and rushed to the Belford Hospital.

The town's sheriff court heard on Tuesday that Alasdair Christopher Kelly, 46, of Flat 1, 33 High Street, Fort William, ended up in hospital for seven days in a medically-induced coma after falling ill.

Kelly admitted possessing heroin on August 4 last year at his then home at Brown Court in the town.

Procurator fiscal Andrew Shanks said that the 7.1g 'had a value of between £200 and £250 in the form it was seized'.

Hamish Melrose, defence agent, said that Kelly had begun to use heroin five years ago during the time he was acting as carer for both his parents. 'Since his illness he has not taken any drugs,' he added. Sheriff Gordon Fleetwood deferred sentence until July 18 for a community justice and social work report to be prepared on Kelly.

Police files

OVERNIGHT on June 16-17 an attempted theft took place at Mallaig boatyard. The tea hut was entered and various items removed and recovered elsewhere, and a boat was entered. Anyone who saw anything suspicious is asked to call Fort William or Mallaig police stations on 101.

Between June 12 and 14, items of clothing were stolen from a laundry room in Lochaline. Any information should be reported to Fort William or Strontian police stations.

Sometime between June 12 and 13 a new shelter at the Ballachulish Quarry was vandalised. Any information should be reported to Fort William or Glencoe police stations.

Clarification

THE LOCHABER Times retracts the comment 'community spirit has dissolved' attributed to Caol and Mallaig councillor Billy MacLachlan in last Thursday's paper (June 15).

The *Lochaber Times* apologises to Mr MacLachlan.

Forum chief voices anger

THE CHAIRMAN of Lochaber Transport Forum has expressed anger over the absence of a West Coast Motors representative at the group's latest meeting.

Former Fort William and Ardnamurchan councillor Brian Murphy questioned why, once again, there was no-one from the company at the meeting on Monday.

Benny MacDonald from the forum said he had been in touch with West Coast Motors and he had understood a representative was going to attend the meeting.

Mr Murphy said: 'I am getting really annoyed they are ignoring the concerns of the travelling public in Lochaber. This forum is representing some of their customers views.'

'I think they are treating the travelling public in Lochaber

with contempt. They should be making a real effort to get to this meeting. It's disgraceful.'

Arthur Cowie from Lochaber Disabilities Access Panel said: 'When this group was set up, we said Stagecoach, City Link, Shiel Buses and West Coast Motors would attend the meeting and West Coast Motors have not honoured that.'

'They have no excuse for not being here.'

Russell Dods, area manager for Oban and Mull, West Coast Motors, said: 'We revised our summer timetable based on demand and connectivity with other bus routes.'

'We are committed to delivering a bus service which meets the travel requirements of our customers.'

'To do this, we rely on our

customers for feedback and would encourage anyone with comments, suggestions or complaints to get in touch by calling 01586 552319 or emailing enquiries@west-coastmotors.co.uk.'

South Lochaber residents say they feel cut off as a result of poor bus services.

People living in Glencoe and Kentallen say they have no choice but to go to Fort William for work, shopping or a day out because there are not enough buses to Oban, and the ones that go don't give people enough time in the town.

Kentallen resident Sally Morris, who raised the issue with the *Lochaber Times* earlier this year, said: 'This is about the buses tying up and giving people two or three hours in Inverness or Oban.'

WHAT'S ON

CROILEAGAN Grianaich is hosting a fashion show today 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 Grianaich on 01397 709724 or at croileagan@grianaich.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 July 29. For more information, contact Sarah Kennedy on 07768 805040.

CAOL gala day will take place on Saturday June 24 at Bun-Sgoil Ghàidhlig Loch Abar from noon to 4pm. There will be family fun with a fair, a licensed bar, snacks and craft stalls. There will also be a tug-of-war, bonnie baby competition, gala grannie, cheerleaders and more. Teams for the tug-of-war are encouraged to get in touch, as is anyone with home-baking donations. Fancy dress is encouraged on the day. An unlimited ride wristband costs £9, with a single ride costing £1. For more information, email kirstykyle75@gmail.com.

A CRAFT fair will be held in Nether Lochaber village hall on Saturday June 24 between 10am and 4pm. Go along to support your local craft producers. For more information, call Berit on 01397 705539.

STAFF and volunteers from Lochaber Sensory Care for sight and hearing support will visit Morvern medical practice on Tuesday June 27 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. They will also supply NHS hearing aid

batteries and re-tube and maintain the hearing aids. No appointment is required.

THE ANNUAL general meeting of Alzheimer Scotland's Lochaber branch will be held in St Andrew's Church Hall, Fort William, on Wednesday June 28 at 5.30pm. Everyone welcome.

THERE will be a fashion and music taster day on Thursday June 29 at West Highland College UHI, Fort William. This will be a chance to have a look around, see the students' work and ask questions.

There will also be an opportunity to apply and have an interview the same day. At 4.30pm there will be a play-in-a-band session and find out more about the after school club for next year. Any instrument - no assessments or qualifications - just music. Call 01397 874000 or visit www.whc.uhi.ac.uk for more information.

ON SATURDAY June 24, a public meeting will be held between 3pm and 4.30pm at the Four Seasons Bistro at the Inchree Centre in Inchree, Onich, chaired by Councillor Andrew Baxter.

The purpose of this will be to have an open discussion about two different options for the Nether Lochaber community to acquire buildings and a small area of woodland from the Forestry Commission Scotland (FCS), and historic agricultural fields owned by Lochaber Housing Association.

This will be preceded by a drop-in information event from 1.30pm, to advise Nether Lochaber residents, particularly those at Inchree, as well as any interested members of the wider community, as to the potential for community ownership and development of these assets.

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ORKNEY'S WAR ON STOATS
THE INCREDIBLE COMPTON MACKENZIE
THE TALE OF A LEWD LAIRD

A beautiful Berwickshire garden

INVASION OF THE IDIOTS - Guy Grievie on the rubber-necking go-slow tourists who infuriate islanders

JULY ISSUE OUT NOW

Rugby legend Ian McLauchlan's PASSION FOR ISLAY

GALLOWAY THROUGH A LENS

Orkney's war on stoats
Tale of a lewd laird
A beautiful Berwickshire garden

free

SCOTTISH EQUESTRIAN YEAR MAGAZINE

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f

Arena

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

Àrd-sgoil Àird nam Murchan soirbheachail aig Duaisean Foghlaim na h-Alba

THA Bòrd na Gàidhlig a' cur meal-a-naidheachd air Àrd-sgoil Àird nam Murchan a bhunnaich Duais Foghlaim Gàidhlig aig Duaisean Foghlaim na h-Alba 2017.

Chaidh sgioba luchd-teagaisg, luchd-taice agus pàrantan Àrd-sgoil Àird nam Murchan a mholadh gu mòr airson na tha iad a' dèanamh leis an òigridh airson cultar na Gàidhlig, agus dualchas na sgìre, a leasachadh agus a

bhrosnachadh air feadh na coimhearsnachd. Am measg na tha òigridh na sgoile a' dèanamh tha iad a' gabhail pàirt ann an Duaisean John Muir, cèilidhean, Deasbad Nàiseanta nan Sgoiltean, farpais FilmG agus camanachd far a bheil iad a' faighinn barrachd eòlais air a bhith ag ionnsachadh agus far a bheil iad a' leasachadh nan sgilean Gàidhlig aca. Leis a bhith an sàs anns na diofar

phròiseactan, tha iad a' faighinn buannachd mhòr a-mach a bhith coinneachadh ri agus a' dèanamh càirdeas le daoine òga eile bho air feadh Alba. Le stiùireadh làidir bho Cheannard na sgoile agus le taic bho na tidsearan, luchd-obrach eile agus pàrantan tha Gàidhlig san sgìre a' dol bho neart gu neart agus tha seo na adhbhar toileachais mhòir a rèir Mona Wilson, Stiùiriche Foghlaim na

Gàidhlig aig Bòrd na Gàidhlig. A' bruidhinn às leth Bhòrd na Gàidhlig thuir a' Bhean-phòsta Wilson: 'Tha sinn airson meal-a-naidheachd a chur air a h-uile duine co-cheangailte ri Àrd-Sgoil Àird nam Murchan a tha ag cridhe na coimhearsnachd agus a tha gu math airidh air an duais chliùiteach seo a bhunnaichadh.' Thòisich Duaisean Foghlaim na h-Alba ann an 2001 agus tha iad air an cur air dòigh leis an *Daily Record* agus Foghlaim Alba le taic bho bhuidhnean mar Bhòrd na Gàidhlig agus Alba Chruthachail. Crioche Airson tuilleadh fiosrachaidh mun bhrath-naidheachd seo cuiribh fios gu Murchadh Moireasdan Ma-naidsear Conaltraidh agus Thachartasan (Sealach) aig Bòrd na Gàidhlig, air post-d murchadh@gaidhlig.scot no air a' fòn 01463 225454.



Success for Ardnamurchan High School at Scottish Education Awards 2017

BÒRD na Gàidhlig has congratulated Ardnamurchan High School after the school won the Gaelic Education Award at the Scottish Education Awards 2017 which were held recently in Glasgow on Wednesday June 7.

The Gaelic Education Award is sponsored by Bòrd na Gàidhlig and Ardnamurchan High School was praised for its strong ethos for Gaelic across the whole establishment which creates an inclusive

environment for Gaelic language, culture and heritage; staff who are highly committed to the development of Gaelic language and as a school where a high value is placed on ensuring that pupils have a sound knowledge of Gaelic heritage of the local area through, for example, place names and songs. The participation of young people in events such as village hall tours, ceilidh trails, the national schools

Gaelic debate, shinty, John Muir Award and FilmG enhance the quality of the learning experiences and further develop Gaelic language and awareness of culture. These opportunities enable the young people involved to meet and build friendships with other young people in GME from across Scotland. The committed leadership of the head teacher, ably supported by teaching staff, sup-

port staff and parents ensure that Gaelic is thriving in Ardnamurchan and going from strength to strength. The Gaelic-medium provision provides continuity from primary with evidence that this is having a positive impact on the numbers enrolling in GME at the primary feeder school. Mona Wilson, director of Gaelic education with Bòrd na Gàidhlig presented the Ardnamurchan representatives with the award saying: 'Bòrd na Gàidhlig is delighted to support the Scottish Education Awards and to once again sponsor the Gaelic Education Award and we congratulate Ardnamurchan High School on their well-deserved success.' The Scottish Education Awards began in 2001 and are organised by the *Daily Record* and Education Scotland with support from organisations such as Bòrd na Gàidhlig and Creative Scotland.

Heritage Angels

NOMINATIONS have opened for the third Scottish Heritage Angels Awards in a bid to find those groups and individuals – or 'Angels' – from Argyll and Bute who have played a special part in caring for, recording and celebrating the nation's historic environment. Last year saw entry submissions from the length and breadth of Scotland, with eventual winners including Mark Cranston, for his remarkable efforts to collect, catalogue

and research Scottish bricks, and Dig TV, a television channel run entirely by young people to highlight an archaeological dig in Dumfries, which scooped the first Young Heritage Angel award. Nominations will close on Friday August 11. A panel of heritage experts will have the tough task of whittling down shortlists for each category and a panel of judges will choose the eventual

winners who will be announced at the Scottish Heritage Angels Awards ceremony on Monday October 16 at the Assembly Rooms in Edinburgh. Andrew Lloyd Webber, whose charitable foundation helped establish the Scottish Heritage Angel Awards, said: 'Too often the individuals and groups who work tirelessly to protect their local historic buildings go unnoticed. We set up the Angel Awards in Scotland three years

ago to change all that. I encourage everyone to come forward and celebrate these stars of heritage – those who keep our heritage alive and thriving for the next generation deserve to stand in the spotlight.' For full details on how to enter the 2017 Scottish Heritage Angel Awards, nominate someone else for an award or find out about our previous winners, please visit www.scottishheritageangelawards.org.uk.

Glasgow Letter

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



The West Coast World Cup

IF GORDON Strachan is on the lookout for new talent for his Scotland football squad, which I suggest he perhaps should be, then he must look no further than the recent West Coast World Cup which took place last Saturday at Scotstoun Leisure Centre. Event organiser Donnie 'Maroot' MacLeod temporarily assumed the position of *Oban Times* Glasgow sports correspondent and has sent me the following tournament report. 'Thirty-two of the best and, most importantly, readily available footballers in the West Coast congregated in Glasgow for the third annual West Coast World Cup. This year's tournament featured teams from Lewis, Tiree, Islay and Rest of the West. 'Never mind "the grandparent rule"

(which controversially allows professional footballers to qualify for their national teams through the heritage of their grandparents), there were even more creative interpretations of the qualification criteria which saw one lad join the Tiree squad courtesy of owning a Skerryvore CD, while one of the Islay team earned his place by claiming to enjoy a dram of Bowmore. 'On to the action, and although the target was missed more often than the targets in Donald Trump's manifesto, there were some cracking goals, including a last-minute equaliser for Tiree that the opposition keeper did well not to get a touch on. 'As ever, fitness was the difference, which was unfortunate for the Islay and Tiree lads, who bowed out after the group stage – leaving Lewis and the Rest of the West to battle it out in the final.

'Congratulations must go to the West Coast World Champions 2017, Rest of the West, who saw off Lewis 7-3 in a gripping finale. 'Much like the tournament itself, the aftermath saw many of the players round off a great day by hitting the bar.' **Totally hooked** DONNIE Maroot recently popped into the Park Bar for a midweek pint and was amazed at how busy it was. He asked Joe, the barman, why the bar was so mobbed in the middle of the week. Joe responded: 'Have you not heard that Captain Hook is performing at the Kelvingrove Bandstand?' This answer confused Donnie for a moment until an old dear at the bar next to him gave him a nudge and explained in a discrete whisper that it was 1970s country-rock band, Doctor Hook, and not JM Barrie's fictional character,

Captain Hook, who were due to play at the bandstand. **A dance to remember** CONGRATULATIONS to Andrew Findlater of Trail West and Ailleachd Vernon not only for their recent marriage over in Crete but for putting on an absolutely phenomenal wedding dance for their friends in Glasgow last weekend. Fantastic music provided by Skipinnish, with a few guest appearances from the usual West Coast characters, a very fun photobooth and a great celebratory atmosphere all made it a night to remember for many years to come. All the best to the happy couple. **Pub scene** Park Bar. Friday 23: Trail West. Saturday 24: Dun Mòr. Sunday 25: Scott Harvey.



The Highlands' answer to Real Madrid's Galacticos: a few well-known faces from the ceilidh band scene in this team fielded by Tiree for the annual West Coast World Cup.

A' cur 's a' Buain

Listings for Thursday 22 June – Thursday 29 June 2017

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 – 52, 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 **Ceòlraidh** (rpt)

DIHAOINE 23 ÒGMHIOS
FRIDAY 23 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 **Sabhal Mòr Ostaig An-diugh** (rpt)
21.00 **SWAGs** – Shinty Wives and Girlfriends (rpt)
22.00 **Opry an Iùir** (rpt)
22.50 **Dhan Uisge** (rpt)
23.00 **Corp & Anam** – Irish Drama (rpt)
23.50 **Eadar-chluich** (rpt)

DISATHAIRNE 24 ÒGMHIOS
SATURDAY 24 JUNE
16.00 **Camanachd Beò** – Live Shinty

18.00 **Dè a-nis?** (rpt)
18.30 **Aithne air Ainmhidhean** (rpt)
18.55 **Binneas – Na Trads** (rpt)
19.05 **Machair** (rpt)
19.25 **Binneas – Na Trads** (rpt)
19.30 **Craic** – Women's panel discussion (rpt)
20.00 **Ceòlraidh** (rpt)
20.30 **Puirt-adhair** – 51, Ep2 (rpt)
21.00 **Opry an Iùir** (rpt)
21.50 **Dhan Uisge** (rpt)
22.00 **Camanachd** – Shinty (rpt)
22.50 **Eadar-chluich** (rpt)
24.00 **Corp & Anam** – Irish Drama (rpt)
24.55 **Eadar-chluich** (rpt)

DIDÒMHNACH 25 ÒGMHIOS
SUNDAY 25 JUNE
16.00 **Prògraman Chloinne** – Children's programming
18.30 **Seachd Là** – News Review
19.30 **Alleluia!** (rpt)
20.00 **Fuine** – Store Cupboard (rpt)
20.30 **Cuimhneachan** – Songs and Poetry about World War 1 – 52, Ep2 (rpt)

21.00 **Farpaisean Chon** – chaorach (rpt)
22.00 **Opry an Iùir** (rpt)
22.50 **Dhan Uisge** (rpt)
23.00 **An Cuan a Tuath** (rpt)
23.45 **Binneas – Na Trads** (rpt)

DILUAIN 26 ÒGMHIOS
MONDAY 26 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 **Puirt-adhair** – Highland Airports (rpt)
21.00 **Scotstar: Teasairginn Èigineach** – The ScotSTAR Transfer Service (rpt)
22.00 **Trusadh – Dachaigh's Dùthaich** – 100 Years of the SWI (rpt)
23.00 **Craic** – Women's panel discussion (rpt)
23.30 **Alleluia!** (rpt)

DICIADAIN 27 ÒGMHIOS
TUESDAY 27 JUNE
17.00 **Prògraman Chloinne** – Children's programming
19.05 **Gach Creutair Beò** – Vets (rpt)
19.30 **Speaking our Language** (rpt)
20.00 **An Là** – News
20.30 **Puirt-adhair** – Highland Airports (rpt)
21.00 **Scotstar: Teasairginn Èigineach** – The ScotSTAR Transfer Service (rpt)
22.00 **Trusadh – Dachaigh's Dùthaich** – 100 Years of the SWI (rpt)
23.00 **Craic** – Women's panel discussion (rpt)
23.30 **Alleluia!** (rpt)

DICIADAIN 28 ÒGMHIOS
WEDNESDAY 28 JUNE
17.00 **Prògraman Chloinne** – Children's programming
19.05 **Binnean nam Beann** (rpt)
19.35 **Speaking our Language** (rpt)
20.00 **An Là** – News
20.30 **Bean a' Mhinisteir** – A look at life behind the door of the Manse (rpt)
21.00 **Sgeulachd Sheila Garvie** (rpt)
22.00 **Fonn Fonn Fonn** – Music Quiz (rpt)
22.30 **Hòro Gheallaidh** (rpt)
23.00 **Air a' Chanàil** – Calum Macaulay & Niall Iain Macdonald explore the Fort & Clyde Canal (rpt)

DIARDAIN 29 ÒGMHIOS
THURSDAY 29 JUNE
17.00 **Prògraman Chloinne** – Children's programming
19.05 **Gach Creutair Beò: Vets** (rpt)
19.30 **Speaking our Language** (rpt)
20.00 **An Là** – News
20.30 **UR | NEW: Cuimhneachan** – Songs and poetry about World War 1 – 52, Ep3
21.00 **UR | NEW: Air a' Chanàil** – Calum Macaulay & Niall Iain Macdonald explore the Criann Canal
22.00 **UR | NEW: Belladrum 2016** – Skipinnish
22.30 **UR | NEW: Dhan Uisge**
22.40 **UR | NEW: An Cuan a Tuath** – Secrets of the North Sea
23.25 **Eadar-chluich** (rpt)
23.35 **Ceòlraidh** (rpt)



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Thursday 23 – Friday 29 June

ALONE IN BERLIN | 12A | 163 MIN

Mon: 19:15
Alone In Berlin is based on Hans Fallada's bestselling novel, described by Primo Levi as "the greatest book ever written about German resistance to the Nazis"

This unique event, featuring Emma Thompson, will be broadcast live to cinemas nationwide from London's world-renowned Imperial War Museum.

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

Sat: 16:15 Sun: 16:45 Wed: 16:00 Thu: 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. Unsurprisingly, things do not go according to plan and Heffley family antics ensue.

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

Fri: 16:00 Tue: 16:00
Set to the backdrop of 'Awesome Mixtape #2', Marvel's Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2 continues the team's adventures as they traverse the outer reaches of the cosmos.

KIDS CLUB - THE BOSS BABY | U | 120 MIN

Sat: 11:30
Children's. Entry £2.
DreamWorks Animation and the director of Madagascar invite you to meet a most unusual baby. He wears a suit, speaks with the voice and wit of Alec Baldwin, and stars in the animated comedy, DreamWorks' The Boss Baby.

MY COUSIN RACHEL | 12A | 126 MIN

Fri: 18:45 Sat: 18:30 Sun: 19:00 Mon: 16:00 Tue: 18:45 Wed: 18:15 Thu: 18:15

A young Englishman plots revenge against his mysterious, beautiful cousin, believing that she murdered his guardian. But his feelings become complicated as he finds himself falling under the beguiling spell of her charms.

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!

SILVER SCREEN - WHISKY GALORE! | PG | 118 MIN

Sun: 14:30

Silver Screening - 'Last Chance to See' - Concessions (age 60+) entry just £3!
During World War II, the tiny Scottish island of Today runs out of whisky. When the freighter S.S. Cabinet Minister runs aground nearby during a heavy fog, the islanders are delighted to learn that its cargo consists of 50,000 cases of whisky.

THE BOSS BABY | U | 120 MIN

Sun: 12:15
DreamWorks Animation and the director of Madagascar invite you to meet a most unusual baby. He wears a suit, speaks with the voice and wit of Alec Baldwin, and stars in the animated comedy, DreamWorks' The Boss Baby.

THE MUMMY | 15 | 130 MIN

Fri: 19:30, 21:00 Sat: 18:00, 20:30 Sun: 18:00, 20:30, Mon: 18:15, 20:30, Tue: 21:00 Wed: 20:30 Thu: 19:30, 20:30

THE MUMMY 3D | 15 | 130 MIN

Tue: 19:30
Though safely entombed in a crypt deep beneath the unforgiving desert, an ancient princess whose destiny was unjustly taken from her is awakened in our current day, bringing with her malevolence grown over millennia, and terrors that defy human comprehension.

WONDER WOMAN | 12A | 161 MIN

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

WONDER WOMAN 3D | 12A | 161 MIN

Sat: 12:00, Sun: 12:00
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.

Tobermory musician is guest of honour at club

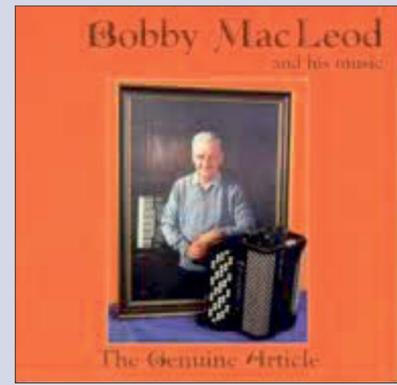
The National Association of Accordion and Fiddle Clubs has announced that Tobermory musician Alasdair Macleod will be guest of honour at celebrity lunch.

The association lunch takes place this Sunday June 25 at the Huntingtower in Perth. Alasdair Macleod, who is the son of the legendary Mull accordion maestro

Bobby Macleod, has had a long career as a double bass player having played with many of the leading Scottish dance bands and well merits this award for services to the music.

This is an honour given for services to Scottish dance music. Other people to be so honoured are Violet Tulloch from Shetland and George Darling from Edinburgh.

Well-known broadcaster Robbie Shepherd MBE, who recently retired after many years presenting the *Take the Floor* programme on BBC Radio Scotland, is awarded Honorary Life Membership of the Association.



Tap dance show



A WOMEN'S tap dance class gave their first performance to rapturous applause after only 20 lessons.

The five women attend an adult tap dance class on Tuesday evenings in the guide hall and the event at Atlantis was the first opportunity to perform in front of the public.

along with some of dance teacher Sarah Blacklaw's other classes, to take part in the Atlantis Summer Dance Show.

Nicola Wilson, one of the pupils, explained: 'These ladies have only had about 20 lessons, but put on a very professional show.'

'They put their heart and soul into their

'Fireball' routine and received a fabulous reception.

'It was great to have this opportunity to showcase our hard work after learning the routine. We have much fun at our classes, helped by our very enthusiastic teacher.'

Blacklaw Dance Company offer children's ballet and hip hop

classes in the Guide Hall on Saturdays, running through the school holidays.

A 'dancercise' class will be starting in Soroba Community Centre from Monday July 3 6.30pm-7.30pm.

Blacklaw Dance Company runs an adult tap class on Tuesday evenings in the guide hall 7.30pm-8.30pm.

Book review – The Finest Road in the World

'BE YE also ready' warns the inscription on a stone in the layby at the summit of the Ord of Caithness, in author James Miller's native county.

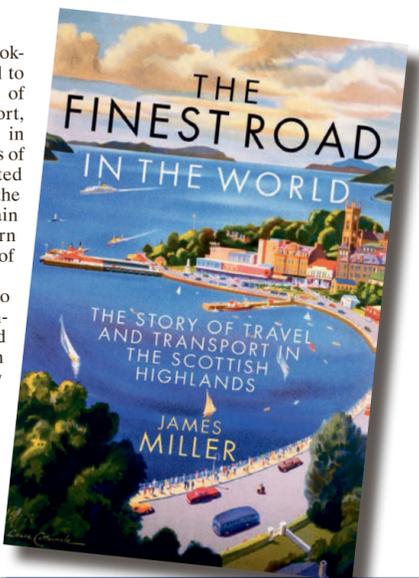
It commemorates traveller William Welch, a vagrant who perished in a snowstorm there in 1878. Stories about the challenges (and the sometime horrors) of travel in the Scottish Highlands abound as far as records go back and the stone's warning is wisdom for the ages: even with modern vehicle and infrastructure developments, travel in the Highlands can still be treacherous. James Miller tells

the dramatic and sometimes surprisingly humorous story of travel and transport in the Highlands, from the 18th century to the present day.

It is a story of journeys on foot, by horse, coach, schooner, steamer, locomotive, motor car and aircraft. Some of the figures in the story are familiar – General George Wade, Thomas Telford and Joseph Mitchell among them – but there are a host of others too, including the intrepid Lady Sarah Murray, who offered sound advice for travellers: 'Provide yourself with a strong roomy carriage, and have the

springs well corded'. This thought-provoking book will appeal to all who like stories of travel and transport, and are interested in how changing modes of transport have affected the ways of life in the Highlands and remain crucial to the modern life and the future of the region.

James Miller, who was born in Caithness and studied zoology in Aberdeen and marine biology in Montreal, has written a number of acclaimed books including *Scapa*, *The Dambuilders*, *The Foresters*, *Inverness* and *Swords for Hire*.



LOCAL MARKET

Saturday 24th June
10am - 3pm
Station Square, Oban

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Ireland in a Day aboard Paddle Steamer Waverley!

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

Sailing from TARBERT

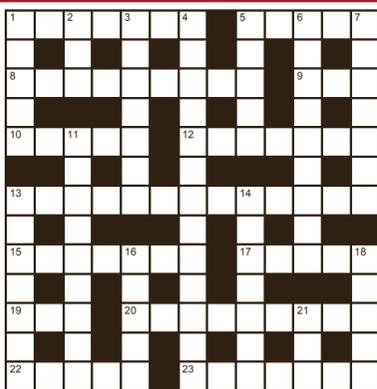
Cruise Loch Fyne EVERY WEDNESDAY until August 23 Leave 2.45pm back 4.20pm
SUNDAY July 30 Leave 3pm back 4.30pm
Fare: Cruise Loch Fyne £21 SC £19



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THE OBAN TIMES GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD



Across

- Extort money from (7)
- Cough (5)
- Nervously (9)
- Shoemaker's tool (3)
- Veranda (5)
- Declare legally void (7)
- One produced from another (5,8)
- Term of endearment (3,4)
- Bug (5)
- Wreath (3)
- Eye profession (9)
- Close (5)
- Perch (7)

Down

- Speak without clarity (5)
- Quandary (3)
- The basis of the minor key (7)
- Bored (13)
- Shade of blue (5)
- Custom (9)
- Tranquil (7)
- Close call (4,5)
- Second in command on flight (7)
- Exam helper (7)
- Call a stop to a mission (5)
- Goes up and down (2-3)
- Ball rest (3)

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION



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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.

Arena

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

Schools extend hands across the Atlantic



Oban High School Pipe Band played at the opening of the evening's celebrations.

A TRANSATLANTIC connection between high schools in Oban and Laurinburg, North Carolina, has been further cemented with a celebration ceildh to mark the 25th exchange. A group of around 40 Americans, including the 12 currently in Oban as part of this year's exchange, joined a large local contingent at the event last Saturday in the Argyllshire Gathering Halls to celebrate lasting friendships.

Argyll and Bute Council's deputy provost, Oban councillor Roddy McCuish, whose son Michael was part of the 2004 exchange, presented Laurinburg representatives Bear Hughes and Kelly Ficklin with a quaich to mark the occasion. Oban High School head teacher Peter Bain gifted two commemorative whisky glasses, before the Oban High School Pipe Band gave a rousing performance to begin the ceildh.

Oban High School teacher Murray Hamilton was part of the 1998 exchange as a pupil and spent the following academic year at Scotland High School in Laurinburg. Mr Hamilton, who now leads the exchange in Oban, said: 'The ceildh on Saturday was amazing and we were blown away by the number of people who came over from Laurinburg just for the weekend. It is a real testament to what this exchange means.'

'Every year, the pupils involved in the exchange make their own special memories and friendships - that has never changed. 'But over the years the world has become a much smaller place. The recent groups meet up more regularly and with social media it is much easier to keep in touch, strengthening the bonds made in June and October of each year.' Mr Hughes, who co-chairs

the Laurinburg exchange committee with Ms Ficklin, added: 'I think the success of the exchange is down to the love and warmth of the families involved. It has allowed people to make lifelong friendships. 'I came on the 2009 exchange and stayed with the Kupris family in Oban. I am staying with them again this time and it's as if I have been away for two weeks. We just picked up where we left off.' More than 500 students from

both Oban High School and Scotland High School have now benefited from involvement in the Laurinburg exchange, which was first mooted in 1991. That year a delegation from Laurinburg came to Oban with a view to setting up a twinning of the towns. Among the visiting group was Beacham MacDougald, who remains a leading light in the exchange. In 1992, Mr MacDougald contacted North Carolina Sen-

ator Terry Sanford, who in turn wrote to Oban High School rector Brian Mitchell to suggest a school exchange. The following year Scotland High School teacher Ann Stack and pupil Spencer Adams visited Oban High School. Then, in April 1994 Oban High School's head of geography Tom Laurenson took pupils Lisa MacKinnon and Nicola Meekin to Laurinburg to complete the first exchange.



give a pet a HOME

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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

Four out of five adults use their local paper to find out what's on

Source: Consumers' Choice V, The Newspaper Society

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With the announcement of the much anticipated International Jazz Sunday Brunch at Fairmont St Andrews this summer, you could be in with a chance to win an incredible prize for the family. Every Sunday this summer enjoy Scotland's best Jazz Brunch. This unlimited, lavish buffet of continental charcuterie, smoked salmon, sushi and sashimi, is complemented by a variety of main dishes ranging from, roasted rib-eye of beef, to a delicious selection of fresh local seafood. A sumptuous choice of home baked pastries and choice of desserts completes this feast, while listening to fantastic live entertainment. The attentive staff are always on hand to create a truly memorable experience.

**FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN, just answer the following question:
On which day of the week is the International Jazz Brunch?**

Competition closes on 14 July 2017. Overnight stay valid for Sunday nights only. Voucher must be used by (and including) Sunday 27 August 2017. Bookings are subject to availability. Other T&Cs apply and will be advised on voucher. 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, unless otherwise stated, is July 14 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.

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

Superbowl
open everyday from 12 noon until 10pm

SPECTRUM

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



This year's exchange group with their chaperones.



Oban High School head teacher Peter Bain, right, welcomes Bear Hughes and Kelly Ficklin, who co-chair the Laurinburg Exchange committee.



Americans Walter Jackson and Blake Bathie with some of their Oban High counterparts from the 2014 exchange.



Charlotte Laurent, left, from Laurinburg, first met mother and daughter Joan and Shannon Reynolds during the 2012 exchange and their families have remained close friends.



There was a large representation from Laurinburg at the ceilidh.



This year's exchange group with their chaperones.

Summer dining

Manor House Hotel – Georgian elegance on beautiful Oban Bay

Summer is a wonderful time to celebrate at The Manor House Hotel in Oban. Built around 1780 as a dower house for the Duke of Argyll, The Manor House is a four star, deluxe boutique hotel and fine dining experience. Set on the southern side of Oban Harbour, with stunning views of the town, McCaig's Tower and the isles, it's a lovely and tranquil setting in which to enjoy a special meal. The fine linens and tableware create a traditional,

yet relaxed, atmosphere, perfect for dining à deux, or celebrating a special occasion. The menu changes daily, featuring the freshest ingredients from Scotland's abundant larder. The menu is offered as a five-course prix fixe, but those with smaller appetites can choose from the a la carte menu. Head chef Gerard, who has been at the Manor House for six months, shows an incredible knowledge and understanding of fine foods and maintains

Manor House Hotel & Restaurant



More than just beautiful seafood!

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high standards in preparation and presentation of his creative dishes. In addition to local seafood and meats, Gerard always has a vegetarian dish on the menu. And be sure to leave room for a special dessert or a coffee and selection of petit fours. Drop in for lunch at Nelson's Bar to enjoy daily special sandwiches, salads and entrées in addition to standard favourites. Call 01631 562087 to reserve a table at The Manor House.

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Lochaber hopes to secure new global geopark status

SANDY NEIL
sneil@obantimes.co.uk

LOCHABER Geopark has 'great potential' to become a UNESCO site of worldwide importance in geology, but it still needs core funding from the Scottish Government.

A geopark, as defined by Scottish Natural Heritage, is 'an area of outstanding interest for its rocks and land forms, and where greater appreciation and understanding of that geological heritage can benefit local people and businesses through tourism and education initiatives'.

In 2015, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) created a new status of UNESCO Global Geopark to give geoparks the same level of recognition as World Heritage Sites.

So far the status has been granted to two in Scotland – North West Highlands Geopark and Geopark Shetland – while a third, Lochaber Geopark, also applied for UNESCO status.

Lochaber, according to the geopark's website, boasts some of the best geology in the world, 'with the UK's highest mountains, deepest lochs and stunning natural scenery'.

'In the east,' it explains, 'magmas formed by melting beneath the Caledonian range during the process of subduction, giving rise to the famous caldera volcanoes of Glen Coe and Ben Nevis.'



Lochaber has outstanding geology, such as this folded moine at Am Muidhe near Glenfinnan, also showing a rock pavement formed by glacial movement.

ing rise to the famous caldera volcanoes of Glen Coe and Ben Nevis.

'In the west, rifting apart of plates, triggered by the uprise of a hot "plume" from Earth's mantle, producing the internationally famous volcanic centres of Rum and Ardnamurchan and the lavas of Eigg and Morvern.'

'The rocks of Lochaber give us a fascinating insight into the past climates that Scotland has

experienced on its long journey from the southern hemisphere to its current location.'

Last June, two UNESCO evaluators from China and Crete arrived to assess the Lochaber Geopark Association's application, and recently announced the area has an 'exceptional geological heritage' as well as a 'massive value for the history of the development of the Earth sciences'. They concluded that

Lochaber has 'great potential' to be 'a very good UNESCO Global Geopark'.

However, the Lochaber Geopark explained, the Global Geoparks Committee 'have, however, deferred award of UNESCO status until we have addressed a number of recommendations, the most important of which is to secure long-term core financial assistance from the Scottish Government.'

'It was decided to defer our application for two years as it was felt we needed to secure a higher budget to support all future geopark activities. Naturally, this deferral was rather disappointing, but we intend to soldier on as best we can.'

In the meantime, Lochaber Geopark is involved in a major three-year project with a number of other geoparks. The project is called Drifting Apart, and is designed to support the development of new and aspiring Global Geoparks across the northern periphery and Arctic programme area.

The project partners include geoparks in Canada, Iceland, Norway, Russia and Ireland – as well as the two other Scottish geoparks in Shetland and the North West Highlands. The project involves the use of new virtual reality technology and filming, which took place in Lochaber at two different sites in May.

As well as Darwin's Rest – a coffee shop in Roybridge where you can learn about the famous Parallel Roads in nearby Glen Roy – the geopark now has a visitor centre on Fort William High Street.

Later this year it intends to produce a further information booklet on Glen Roy and the Parallel Roads. The geopark has also recently produced a geological map and excursion guide to Ben Nevis and Glen Nevis.

Spotting dragons and damsels across Lochaber

AS BEFITS northern climes, we do not have many species of dragonflies and damselflies, with perhaps only 15 breeding in Lochaber, but we do have some local specialities.

These include the evocatively named azure hawker, northern emerald, white-faced darter and beautiful demoiselle.

There has been a growing interest in spotting and photographing all the British species of odonata, so such rarities may even attract the visiting naturalist.

June and July are peak months for local species. Some thrive in bog pools, while others prefer small fast-flowing burns or the reedy fringes of shallow lochs.

Most feed on small insects, including midges. Different feeding strategies are employed, which are hinted at by the generic names such as hawkers, chasers or skimmers.

Eggs are laid on aquatic vegetation. On hatching, damselfly nymphs spend up to a year in the water before climbing up emergent plants to shed their final stage larval skin and develop wings.

Dragonflies can spend up to five years in the water, the nymphs feeding on



An azure hawker has been seen in Lochaber.

creatures as large as tadpoles or small fish. The warmth of the sun is needed to heat up their flight muscles and allow

them to hunt, so dragonflies are best looked for on warm sunny days with little wind.

Some of the larger dragonflies, such as the later appearing common hawker, can live for several months, but none survives the first frosts of winter.

Dragonflies are easily overlooked, particularly in less-well populated areas like ours, so distributions are poorly known.

A lucky visitor recently found a white-faced darter in Glen Loy, for example, which would be a new location for this small, active dragonfly. This follows last year's discovery of an azure hawker in the same area.

Climate change is also influencing the movement of these insects. The inquisitive southern hawker may already be breeding in a pond near you, and these are likely to be followed soon by the azure damselfly.

If you see any dragons or damsels please do take a record, together with a photograph if you are unsure of the identification.

For more information, and to submit records, see the British Dragonfly Society website, <https://british-dragonflies.org.uk>.

www.glenloywildlife.co.uk

Highlands climb to sixth in destination rankings

WITH the official start of summer a week away, coastal resorts such as Oban and Fort William are gearing up for a busy period as 55 per cent of British adults will be holidaying at home over the next few months.

Holidaymakers spend an average £599.80 on their annual break – giving the UK economy a boost of £17 billion. Topping the UK holiday location is Cornwall with Devon, the Lake District, London and north

Wales making the top five, with the Scottish Highlands in sixth place.

These findings have been revealed in Travelodge's annual holiday index. The report, which surveyed 3,000 British adults for the past seven years, shows that 2017 is set to be another strong year for the staycation.

A third of the Britons surveyed reported that they are taking a rural break this summer and the top destinations for this

year also including the Norfolk Broads, Yorkshire Dales and Peak District.

The study also revealed that nearly half of Britons are taking a one-week holiday supported by three short breaks throughout 2017.

Just 17 per cent of adults are taking a traditional two-week holiday.

The report revealed that over a third of holidaymakers are taking a multiple location break

as part of their main UK holiday and combining a coastal break with either a rural or city break.

Over half of the people surveyed reported that they are holidaying at home this year because it is too expensive to go abroad and a staycation break offers better value for money.

More than a third of adults also stated that they want to holiday at home this year in a bid to support the British economy as a result of Brexit.

A quarter reported that an annual holiday is one thing that they refuse to cut back on.

The report has also highlighted that the UK's top staycationers are in Aberystwyth with as many as 85 per cent of people from the Welsh town taking a staycation break this year and the average household spending £456.75. The other cities making up the top five are Gloucester, Sheffield, Plymouth and Worcester.

THIS WEEK'S WALKS

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 22) Sgurr nan Eugallt Kinloch Hourn Corbett

Start from the ruin at Coire-shubh, NG958054. Limited parking is available in the vicinity. Take the stalkers' path W and follow it up to the col S of Sgurr Dubh. Turn SW and climb the ridge to the trig point on Sgurr nan Eugallt, 894m. The true summit lies 600m NW at NG9271804856, 898m.

Follow the main ridge SE along the rim of Coire Shubh, which rises to an unnamed summit at NG941035. Descend NE down the ridge to the road just S of the start. An extension to Sgurr a'Chlaidheimh and descent ENE to the road adds a further 90m of ascent and 4km to the walk.

Many small crags and rough ground could make this descent confusing in bad visibility.

Meet at Fort William Woollen Mill at 9am. Contact Andrew Gilbert 07808 924722.

Friday June 23 Torlundy Circuit

This is a circular route from Carrs Corner down towards the river Lochy, following a track to Tomnacharich 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.

Contact: Colin Campbell, 07796 043836 or 01397 772523, colin@laragain.co.uk
Pace: Leisurely.

Saturday June 24

Two Lairigs Circuit, Glen Coe

Start from the car park at NN187562. Follow the footpath SW, which crosses the Allt Lairig Eilde at NN181557 on stepping-stones. If this is not possible, continue on the E side of the burn and rejoin the path at NN173542. Follow the path to the col, marked by a cairn. From the col, it is possible to contour at about 500m, around the SW and SE flanks of Stob Dubh, to arrive at the col in Lairig Gartain NN183529. Another short-cut may be taken further S down the Lairig Eilde path, if it is possible to cross the main burn at NN1713452700. A barely discernible path contours the base of Stob Dubh at about 350m, to reach the Lairig Gartain path at NN178524. Otherwise, continue S down the Lairig Eilde path to a junction among the trees above the Glen Etive road near Dalness.

Turn left and follow the path up to the col in Lairig Gartain. The path continues NE to the car park on the A82 at NN213559. Transport required.

Meet at Glencoe Village car park at 9.40am. Contact: Andrew Gilbert 07808 924722.

NEVIS HILLWALKING CLUB

Sunday June 25 Beinn Bhuidhe (Yellow Hill) (948m, Munro).

Park at the head of Glen Fyne, and walk for 7km up the private road to the house at Inverchrochan. Leave the road just beyond the house and climb the steep slopes beside a small stream.

At about 430m, cross to the north side and continue WNW up steep grass and bracken to the upper corrie. Then climb the SE ridge of the NE top (901m) with some pleasant scrambling. Then go SW along the ridge for about 1.5km to the summit trig point.

Return to the col between the summit and top and go SE to gain your upward route. 21km, 1150m ascent.

Suggested by John Burton and co-ordinated by Suzanne Theobald.

Animal charity welcomes review of use of stink pits

LEADING animal welfare charity One Kind has welcomed the Scottish Government's decision to review stink pits.

It follows the Stink Pits Stink debate, which was lodged by Christine Grahame MSP.

Stink pits, or middens, are used by gamekeepers across Scotland as a fundamental part of predator control on shooting estates, the charity said.

A One Kind spokesperson said: 'The pits are filled with bait such as wildlife carcasses, fish heads and other animal remains.'

The cabinet secretary for environment, climate change and land reform, Roseanna Cunningham MSP, confirmed two reviews would take place.

The Scottish Government Technical Assessment Group is to look at stink pits as part of an overall review of snaring. An independently-led group on grouse moor management will also look at stink pits.

Ms Cunningham said: 'I appreciate that the idea of rotting carcasses in a stink pit will be repugnant to many, if not most, people.'

'However, it is the job of legis-

lators to give careful consideration to how and why they are being used before immediately coming to the conclusion that they should be banned.'

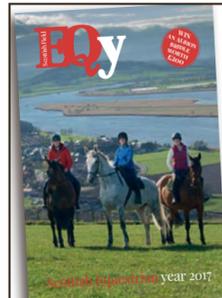
Sarah Moyes, One Kind campaigner, added: 'We are pleased to see confirmation from the Scottish Government that it will be reviewing stink pits. These barbaric pits are nothing more than piles of rotting carcasses set to lure in more animals to kill.'

'We want to see stink pits banned on ethical, animal welfare and public health grounds. We hope the reviews confirmed in today's debate will be the first step towards that happening.'

Farmers are not permitted to bury livestock on their land, other than in designated remote areas in the Highlands and Islands, under the Animal By-Products (Enforcement) (Scotland) Regulations 2013.

But a special derogation allows gamekeepers to dispose of entire animal bodies, or parts of wild game, as long as this is 'in accordance with good hunting practice'.

The Scottish Gamekeepers' Association gave no comment.



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schools' OUT



for summer!

SOON school will be out and echoes of 'Mum, I'm bored!' will resound throughout the house. Keeping the kids happy over the summer holidays can be daunting for parents, especially those on a budget. But with the help of our advertisers, families can keep the wee ones entertained, and if they learn something in the bargain, well, that makes everyone happy. In our 'School's out for summer' feature, we will share tips and ideas to have a fun holiday for the whole family.

Get out and about. There are lots of events and activities on offer for kids through the summer, so check the newspaper, local websites and the bulletin board at the library for story times, arts and crafts days, classes and special interest groups. Many community activities such as this are free or very affordable, so they won't break the bank. Get culture. Museums and galleries often have special exhibitions aimed at kids in summer, and usually have free or reduced entrance for children.

Get cooking. This is a great activity for a rainy day. Pick a recipe with the kids, go shopping for ingredients and cook something together. It doesn't

need to be fancy or complicated- a special sandwich or cookies that the kids can help put together will mean a lot to them.

Get looking. Organise a treasure hunt with clues and prizes- inside if it's rainy or in the garden if it's dry. The whole neighbourhood could get involved and hide things up and down the street.

Get creative. Set up an arts and crafts day with canvas, paints or even crayons. Frame the resulting masterpieces- it makes great art for the children's rooms or the kitchen.

Get outdoors. Dry days are great for picnics, ball games, a campout or a walk, even if it's in your own backyard. Have a family mini-Olympics with sack races, tug of

war and foot races. Let the kids make 'medals' and celebrate the event with a picnic. Summer is the ideal time for a family camping trip, and with a wide variety of campsites for every taste, from roughing it to glamping, you don't have to go far.

Remember that it's not necessary to fill the kid's schedules every minute of the summer. By letting children play on their own in their rooms or in the garden, they will develop imagination and independence. And it gives mum and dad a much needed break!

Argyll and Bute Youth Services

Argyll and Bute Council Youth Services

GIVE -

"Get Inspired through Volunteering and Engagement"

Our Summer Holiday GIVE Programme is for people going into S1 and up to 18 years old.

It involves young people doing community project days in return for FREE trips away and local activity days.

For example - Working in a community garden or for a local charity in return for a go karting trip or a day spent doing ropes courses and ten pin bowling.

For information on the GIVE programme in your local area contact your local Youth Services staff

Oban - Scott Douglas: Tel 01631 567977 or 0791 755 7279 or Email - scott.douglas@argyll-bute.gov.uk

Campbeltown - Dawn Wallace: Tel 01586 555288 or 07768904201 or Email Dawn.Wallace@argyll-bute.gov.uk

SUMMER DAY TRIPS & CRUISES ON MV BALMORAL

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Fri 7th July	Depart: 14.00	Arrive back: 17.00	£22/£20
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Sat 8th July	Depart: 10.00	Arrive back: 20.15	£41
DAY CRUISE TO CORRYVRECKAN WHIRLPOOL			
Sun 9th July	Depart: 11.00	Arrive back: 20.30	£34
DAY CRUISE TO ARDNAMURCHAN LIGHTHOUSE			
Mon 10th July	Depart: 11.00	Arrive back: 20.15	£38/36
CRUISE SOUND OF SLEAT			
Tues 11th July	Depart: 10.00	Arrive back: 20.45	£38/36
CRUISE TO ISLE OF IONA [time ashore]			
Weds 12th July	Depart: 11.00	Arrive back: 20.00	£40/38
CRUISE MULL OF KINTYRE TO CAMPBELTOWN [coach rtn]			
Thur 13th July	Depart: 09.30	Arrive back: 20.00	£35/33

Children (5-15yrs) half fare, under 5yrs free. Family fares available: 2 adults & 2 children.

DETAILS & BOOKING:

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Screen Machine

Scotland's Mobile Cinema

Screen Machine is an 80-seat digital cinema, which will visit all of the communities listed below over the summer, and we always bring something for children/families to enjoy. Visit our website for full details on the films we will be screening and when: www.screenmachine.co.uk

Kyleakin, main car park	28 - 29 June
Mallaig, harbour area	30 June - 1 July
Eigg, the pier	2 July
Dornie, Village Hall	4 July
Lochcarron, Battery Park	5 July
Torriddon, Torriddon Inn	6 July
Gairloch, High School	7 - 8 July
Ullapool, Leisure Centre	10 - 11 July
Lochinver, harbour area	12 - 13 July
Kinlochbervie, High School	14 July
Durness, the Square	15 July
Bettyhill, opp Bettyhill Hotel	17 - 18 July
Lairg, Community Centre	19 July - 20 July
Tomintoul, main car park	21 July
Newtonmore, Newtonmore Grill	22 - 23 July
Fort Augustus, main car park	24 - 25 July
Kinlochleven, by Ice Factor	26 - 27 July
Lochaline, West Pier	28 - 29 July
Tobermory, Ledaig car park	30 July - 1 August
Bunessan, car park	2 August
Lochgilphead, Resource Centre	3 - 5 August
Inveraray, main car park	7 August
Tarbert Loch Fyne, Campbeltown Rd	8 - 9 August
Portavadie, Spa & Leisure car park	10 August
Port Ellen, opp Ramsay Hall	11 - 13 August
Gigha, ferry car park	15 August
Brodick, Auchrannie Hotel	16 - 19 August

Book at: www.screenmachine.co.uk. Tickets also at the cinema 30 mins before screenings. Cash only, no cards. £7.50 Adults. Concessions £5.50.

Atlantis

COMMUNITY LEISURE

Summer Programme 2017

Children attending camp must be in primary group they attend before summer holidays.

SUMMER CAMPS 2017

P4 - P7

3 July - 9 August. Monday - Friday (last week Monday to Wednesday)

Full Day: 9am - 4pm. Half Day: 9am - 12pm or 1pm - 4pm

Full Day Camp Cost: £72.00 per camp. £14.40 per day

Half Day Camp Cost: £36.00 per camp. £7.20 per half day

This is a multi-sport activity camp where children will have the chance to experience varied sports and games.

JUNIOR MULTI-SPORT SESSIONS

P1 - P3

3 July - 9 August. Monday - Friday (last week Monday to Wednesday)

10am - 12pm

Cost: £31.00 per week. £6.20 per day

This is a multi-sport activity camp where children will have the chance to experience varied sports and games.

PRE-SCHOOL SESSIONS

3-5 years not yet in P1

4 July to 8 August. Every Tuesday and Thursday. 12.15pm - 1pm

Cost: £3.10 per session

Pre-school games and pre-school football.

POOL INFLATABLE FUN SESSIONS

4 July to 11 August. Every Monday, Wednesday & Friday. 11.15am - 12pm

Cost: £3.20 per session

In the main pool, must be 8+ and able to swim 50m.

SUMMER SENSATIONS 2017

P6 - P7

Thursday 10 August. 9am - 4.30pm Atlantis Leisure. Friday 11 August. 9am - 4.00pm Oban High School.

2-day activity programme open to all P6 & P7 pupils (during the 2016/2017 academic year) that will be moving to Oban High School. The programme supports existing transition programmes and offers the opportunity for children to get to know each other, familiarise themselves with Oban High School, try new activities, and build confidence before starting high school. The cost for the 2-day programme is £20 per child. This includes all activities, snacks & BBQ. (For families with 2 children in attendance the cost is £20 in total).

For more info: ben.pollock@atlantisleisure.co.uk or jade.macewan@atlantisleisure.co.uk

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BUSINESS NEWS

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Best of the West annual crafts competition wants applicants

BUSINESS Gateway Argyll and Bute is again giving the region's craft businesses the chance to showcase and sell their products at the popular Best of the West festival.

Now in its fourth year, the competition invites local businesses to pitch for a free trade stand within the Business Gateway-sponsored craft tent. The pitch should include what is special about their venture and why their products would be a good fit at the festival.

The annual Best of the West festival will be held at Inveraray Castle on Saturday and Sunday, September 9 and 10, with music on the evening of Friday September 8.

More than 5,000 visitors are expected to attend the festival over the week-

end and this competition allows up to six local crafters the chance to raise the profile of their business.

Last year, the competition attracted numerous entries from across the area, with the six winners proving popular with festival goers.

One of last year's winners, artist Ruth Slater, said: 'It was fantastic to win the competition and sell my products in the craft tent. It was a huge success and gave me the chance to meet and show dozens of new customers displays of my work.'

The winners will be selected by a panel of judges including festival host the Duchess of Argyll, Fergus Murray, Argyll and Bute Council's head of economic development and strategic transportation, and Councillor Aileen

Morton, Argyll and Bute Council's convener for economic development.

Eleanor, Duchess of Argyll said: 'We are very excited to be running the competition with Business Gateway again.'

'There have been a fantastic range of businesses over the years and each winner has been hugely popular with the Best of the West visitors. I'm really looking forward to seeing this year's entries.'

Councillor Morton added: 'This competition helps showcase the wealth of creative businesses we have in Argyll and Bute, as well as aiding the overall development of local businesses.'

To enter, craft businesses are invited to describe in no more than 250 words

why they and their products represent the 'best in the west'. Entrants must include a link to relevant websites or social media and include up to five photographs of their products and a film clip of no more than three minutes.

Entry is via email to business.gateway@argyll-bute.gov.uk. The closing date is 5pm on July 12. Competition terms and conditions are available at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/business-and-trade/business-gateway-service.

For information on the festival or for tickets, visit www.bowfest.co.uk.

To find out more about how Business Gateway can help you set up and develop your business call 01546 604 555 or go to www.bgateway.com/argyll-and-bute.



Councillor Aileen Morton.

Oban business is fit for purpose

A FORMER NHS occupational therapist has set up her own yoga and massage business promoting health and well-being.

With support from Business Gateway Argyll and Bute, Oban-based Gill Spink launched Chill with Gill this year, offering clinical aromatherapy, massage and yoga.

Gill is now running several yoga classes a week, offering one-to-one and small group private sessions as well as aromatherapy and massage.

Gill said: 'I worked as an occupational therapist in the NHS for 18 years in both hospital and community settings.'

'Having worked in a caring profession and from personal experience, I know how our health can be affected if we don't take the time to look after our physical and mental well-being.'

'Yoga, aromatherapy and massage were fundamental in helping me manage my own health which, in turn, was the catalyst to setting up Chill with Gill. I wanted to offer a service which helped others find balance in an often chaotic world.'

Helpful

'Business Gateway has been extremely helpful and my adviser Angela carved a pathway for me to learn how to start up, manage and run my own business.'

'I attended many of the free courses on offer and without her support I wouldn't have had the confidence to make the step into self-employment.'

Adviser Angela Vernel said: 'Gill is very experienced in her field but had never run a business. Attending our fully-funded workshops and accessing one-to-one advice helped Gill move into a great position to run Chill with Gill effectively and confidently.'

Gill added: 'I've been overwhelmed and humbled by the feedback I've received. People feel so much better when they take time for themselves.'

'I've had people tell me they have found the benefits to be way beyond what they anticipated and can see a real difference in their men-



Gill Spink's business is up and running thanks to help from Business Gateway.

tal and physical health. I work with a variety of people, from children and teenagers to pregnant ladies and pensioners.

'To see them reap the benefits of investing in

themselves is fulfilling. I feel passionate about promoting proactive, healthy coping strategies in life.'

'Hopefully, I can grow Chill with Gill and work

in partnership with others to offer more to the people of Oban and the surrounding area.'

For more information visit www.chillwithgill.co.uk.

Contract tender document published

THE STORNOWAY Trust and Comhairle nan Eilean Siar have prepared tender documents for the capital works elements of the Castle Grounds Regeneration Project.

A future contract opportunity notice will be published and it is anticipated tender documentation will be published on the Public Contracts Scotland website this week.

An information day and site visit for potential contractors will be held on Thursday June 29.

The capital works will be split into two contracts, one relating to the work in the grounds and one for the restoration of buildings.

The ground works have an estimated value £2.7 million and will include restoration of the former private gardens, historic features and planting schemes, drainage, works to paths and new signs within the grounds.

The building works have an estimated value of £450,000 and primarily comprise the repair and restoration of the Boatman's Tower and the Porters Lodge.

It is hoped there will be interest in these contracts from local suppliers as well as those based further afield.

Stornoway Trust chairman Calum Maclean urged businesses to take a close look at the opportunities and requirements.

'While there are heritage elements to both contracts, this can be effectively delivered either by the main contractor or through an effective sub-contracting arrangement.'

'We have framed the tender documentation in such a way that either a specialist or generalist contractor could take the lead and submit a tender submission.'

Number of jobless falls again

SCOTLAND'S unemployment rate has fallen to match the lowest rate in 25 years, the Scottish Government claims.

It fell by 0.6 percentage points over the last quarter to four per cent, equalling the figure for March to May 2008, and the lowest rate since the recession. Unemployment fell by 17,000 over the quarter to 109,000 and decreased by 49,000 over the year. Labour market statistics for February to April 2017, published by the Office for National Statistics, show Scotland's unemployment rate continues to be the lowest out of the four UK nations and lower than the UK rate of 4.6 per cent.

The figures also show:

- Scotland's employment rate increased by 0.3 percentage points over the quarter to 74.1 per cent – the second highest employment rate out of the four UK nations – with the employment level rising by 14,000.

- Over the year, Scotland's employment rate increased by 0.9 percentage points, with the employment level rising by 44,000.

- Scotland continued to outperform the UK on female employment rates, 70.6 per cent as opposed to 70.2 per cent.

Fishermen's leader backs exit from EU policy

SCOTTISH Fishermen's Federation chief executive Bertie Armstrong has insisted exiting the Common Fisheries Policy is the only way forward for the industry.

In a message to politicians, he said fishermen would not agree to anything which takes them back into a system that deprives them of 60 per cent of the catch.

He said: 'It's been a while since fishing mattered so much. That's because we are coming out of the EU and while most people are aware Brexit is a big deal for fishing, they are perhaps not sure why. 'Actually it's easy to under-

stand, but every politician and everyone in or connected with the fishing industry and its communities needs to know what is at stake.

'When you hear of promises to look after our fishing industry, there is only one single that this can be achieved – by permanently leaving the EU and the Common Fisheries Policy.'

'Whatever anyone may have thought of the value of EU membership, that specific component – the CFP – is plain bad for us.'

'The reason is not that fishermen just want more fish or less regulation. The real problem

is the conditions accepted on entry in 1973. These oblige us to give away 60 per cent of our fish and shellfish resource annually. That's a big ticket price, paid up every year since. But we're leaving and we simply cannot agree to anything that takes us back to that.'

'How on earth did it happen in the first place? The easy-to-understand background is that when we joined in 1973, everyone fished where they liked, as hard as they liked. There were no quotas.'

'On joining, this 'common access' was adopted as a fundamental principle and when

it became obvious we were in a downward spiral of overfishing, limits were introduced, quite correctly.'

'Crucially, each member state's share of the now restricted catch was fixed on the track record from the bad old days when everyone fished everywhere, without limits.'

'This was named 'relative stability' and persists until today – hence the 60 per cent allocation to others of fish our waters.'

'Meanwhile and crucially, the international community outside the European Union took an entirely different route to sustainable fishing.'

'This was by extending fisheries limits to 200 miles - or to the median line between countries where less - with the resultant coastal state having full rights and responsibilities for their own natural resource – in other words sovereignty over who was permitted to fish there, and for how much.'

'That's our sea of opportunity, that's what we will get on Brexit.'

'To cut a longer tale short, we are surrounded by some of the best fishing grounds in the world and most of the fish are in our waters.'

'That's why other member states come here to fish. It's not

for the scenery or a desire to burn off fuel, it's for the prime fish that can't be caught in their own waters.'

'When you hear fishing was 'expendable' as part of our entry to Europe, that's what is actually meant – awarding 60 per cent of what would have been our fish to the other EU fishing nations.'

That's why despite applying at the same time Norway did not join with us - slim majority in a referendum, sound familiar? - and why Iceland abandoned its application when it became clear it could not join without accepting the CFP, nor modify it after joining.'

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Spring produces bountiful crop of lambs and calves

By Ewen Campbell, SRUC's Kirkton and Auchtertyre research farms manager

WE HAVE just come to the end of one of the best lambings I can remember. The weather was good, there was plenty of grass and the ewes were in good condition.

The Kirkton blackface and Lleyn flocks are both around 10 per cent up on last year and the lambs are thriving on the lush grass available at the moment.

Our high hill flock at Auchtertyre has also finished lambing and has certainly profited from the favourable spring. This year, we are trying to get to the bottom of our 'Blackloss' problem by tagging all the lambs born in the hill parks before they were put to the hill.

This means come marking time we will know which lambs are missing and who their mothers are. We can then use this information to look for trends or similarities in the ewes which may shed light on why they are missing.

At the moment, we have tagged 406 lambs. Any dead lambs found on the hill were also subject to post-mortem examinations to find the likely cause of death.

The cows have also finished calving and for them it has been a successful year. We got 27 calves out of our 27 cows. I am very pleased with the calves by the shorthorn bull and it will be interesting to see if they grow as well as the Angus cross calves. The cows and calves are now out on the hill for the summer, where the calves receive no supplementary feeding.



SRUC's super ewe at nine years old has had a seventh set of twins.

ceive no supplementary feeding.

For the past three years we have weighed the cows and calves at weaning time to see how well the cows are working. The aim is for each cow to wean a calf that is 50 per cent of her bodyweight, quite a challenge on hard hill land. I'm delighted one cow has managed this and a further eight have averaged 45 per cent or above.

This is no mean feat when farmers on much better land are aiming at 40 per cent. Over the three years, our top cow had an average weight of 491kg and her calves averaged 246kg at an average 178 days from birth.

The good weather has meant the grass growth is between three weeks and a month ahead of last year. As a result, I have

shut five fields off for silage and sprayed one with glyphosate in preparation for ploughing.

We also plan to use a contractor with a big square baler to make our silage this year as it is cheaper and we have found the square bales just as good to work with as round ones.

We have also been busy at the Highland sheep exhibition near Strathpeffer and at NorthSheep near Durham. It was nice to see some familiar faces while we were there, so thanks for stopping and chatting with my colleagues on the SRUC stand.

This year, we focused our stand display on our new EU collaborative projects which look at ewe longevity, on-farm labour, lamb mortality and hill sheep systems efficiency. Our

plastic display sheep was certainly efficient and non-labour demanding.

We had long chats regarding ewe culling strategy and our questionnaire on that topic went down well with the farming public - possibly because we offered sweets to anyone filling it in.

We also had plenty of visitors to Kirkton and Auchtertyre. We have just hosted a field visit for the regional NFUS boards from Argyll and the Islands and Forth and Clyde. Around 35 board members came to see us and were shown the research we are doing to encourage farmers to use technology and be more efficient.

They were shown our handling facilities and we discussed our

research on how to use electronic identification to improve efficiency and labour on farms, as well as our research on different genetic lines and breeds. They also heard about our grassland management and how we will be using drones to detect weeds in our grass fields.

They finished their tour with the cows and calves and we touched on our efforts to tackle Blackloss. It was a lovely afternoon - the sunny weather helped - and it was great to see so many people interested in what we are doing. We hope they enjoyed the visit as much as we did.

Finally, we welcomed another international group. My colleagues are part of an EU project called SheepNet, which I have already told you about in an earlier article. The consortium partners came to Kirkton to see what research and sheep handling facilities we have, ahead of a bigger international workshop held later in the week at SRUC's main office buildings in Edinburgh.

We had representatives from France, Romania, Turkey, Spain, Italy and Ireland. They were impressed by the scale of our farm, both in terms of size and number of animals, which are different from some of their own situations.

This was especially the case for the French and Italians, who tend to have smaller dairy sheep flocks.

Our next outing will be to the Royal Highland Show from Thursday June 22 to Sunday June 25. Come along and see us on the Thursday and Friday, as some of my research colleagues from Kirkton and Auchtertyre will be there.

Around the markets

STIRLING - Caledonian Marts, at a sale on Thursday June 15, sold 153 cattle. Cattle again short of requirements with all classes meeting the dearest trade this season. Bulls sold to 245p (twice) from W Dandie & Sons, Learielaw, Broxburn purchased by Hugh Black & Sons, Butchers, Lanark and T Johnston, Butchers, Falkirk. Heifers sold to 248p from R Kennedy, Borlick, Aberfeldy purchased by Hugh Black & Sons. Young bulls sold to 212p from I W Brisbane & Son, South Woodlane, Blairdrummond to J F Finlay Ltd, Wishaw.

Leading prices:-
Bullocks ppgk 242p Faskine, Airdrie, 235p (twice) Moorfield, Kilmarnock, 228p & 225p Bruckley, St Andrews, 225p Lammervue, Athelstaneford, 225p Rathillet, Cupar, 225p & 220p Bruckley, 220p Easterton, Kirkintilloch & Seggarsdean, Haddington Heifers ppgk 245p Easter Ochtermuthill, Learielaw, Mains of Culmalundie & Borlick, 242p Borlick, Easter Ochtermuthill & Moorfield, 240p & 238p Easter Ochtermuthill, Moorfield, Easterton, Rathillet, Mains of Culmalundie & Learielaw, 232p & 230p Moorfield, Faskine & Bankhead, Aberdeen Young bulls 210p South Woodlane, 208p South Hourat & South Woodlane

Bullocks per head £1780 & £1705 South Flanders, Kippen £1694 Easter Ochtermuthill £1627 Caudshiel £1573 Learielaw & Mains of Culmalundie £1524 Greencraig Heifers per head £1582 Borlick £1572 Mains of Culmalundie £1548 Easter Ochtermuthill £1500 Learielaw £1447 & £1438 Greencraig Young bulls per head £1354 Nethercarse, Gargunock £1327 South Hourat

Also forward were 68 cast cows and bulls. Beef cows sold to 173ppkg for a Limousin from W Dandie & Sons, Learielaw, Broxburn and to £1290 for the same beast. Dairy cows to 130ppkg from R & W Waugh, Summerhouse, Avonbridge and to £1010 from W Hamilton & Sons, Meldrum, Stirling. Beef cows per head £1250 Ballingray £1230 Bolfornought £1120 Gelvan View £1070 Rathillet £1060 Ballingray £1030 Classlochie Beef cows ppgk 165.5p Classlochie 164p Bolfornought 158.5p Classlochie 153p Drumessie 148.5p Gelvan View Dairy cows per head £990 Carneil £950 North Bankhead £870 & £860 Summerhouse £790 Harviestoun

Dairy cows per kilo 128p North Bankhead 125p Summerhouse 124p Harviestoun 122p Caudshiel 120p Meldrum & Carneil A good show of 15 calves forward both beef and dairy bred, more calves required for buyers' requirements. Top price calf was £320 for a Charolais X from J Little, Letar, Callander. Top price black & white bull calves £95, £92, £88, £55, £52 (1 months) - Wester Lochdrum £58, £52, £48 (3 weeks) - Plean Top price bullock stirks £660 (Sim) - Doune of Glendouglas Top price bull stirks £220, £205 (Sim) - Doune of Glendouglas Next sale of calves will be 26/06/17.

STIRLING - United Auctions on Wednesday June 14 sold 377 store cattle, native bred cattle and young

bulls and 119 cast cows and forward cattle also 153 breeding cattle. Bullocks (166) averaged 244.39p to 304.80ppk for a 269kg CHX from Dyke and £1355 for a 604kg CHX from High Matherdock. B&W Bullocks (65) averaged 165.16p to 175.60ppk for a 450kg HFX from Hillend and £880 for a 510kg HFX from Lathalmond. Heifers (129) averaged 228.95p to 289.60ppk for a 260kg LimX from Dyke and £1210 for a 540kg BAX from Lochhead. Young bulls (17) averaged 220.39p to 288.30ppk for a SimX from Nether Birkwood and £1100 for a SimX from Newmains. Cast cows (107) averaged 146.39p to 194.30ppk for a LuiX from Blackburn and £1590 for a LimX from Pitcairn. Dairy cows (12) averaged 116.92p to 134.20ppk for a HFX from Kinnermit and £1130 for a HFX from Kinnermit. Bullocks: 0-250kgs- Knollhead £605, 270.10p 251-300kgs- Dyke £820, 304.80p 301-350kgs- Knollhead £840, 270.10p 351-400kgs- Cairncurran £970, 269.40p 401-450kgs- East Shawtonhill £1090, East Saucher 258.50p 451-500kgs- North Shields £1110, Strathellie 234.80p 501-550kgs- Glencairns £1240, Wester Aldie 232.10p 551-600kgs -High Matherdock £1345, 225.70p 601-650kgs- High Matherdock £1355, 224.30p. Heifers: Up to 250kgs- Knollhead £610, 251.00p 251-300kgs- Dyke £785, 301.90p 301-350kg- Wester Aldie £795, Bogside 240.50p; 351-400kgs- Knollhead £950, 268.40p 401-450kgs- Buchanan Street £1090, 246.60p 451-500kgs- Nether Dalkeith £1160, 251.10p 501-550kgs- Lochhead £1210, Cuttlehill 228.30p; 551-600kgs- High Matherdock £1170, 204.30p.

OTM cows: £ per head- Pitcairn (Lim) £1590; Blackburn (Sim) £1430; Nether Glinns (AA) £1310; Blackburn (Lui) £1290; Meikle Camoquhill (MO) £1270; Dumoier (BA) £1230; Muirland (CH) £1130; Kinnermit (HF) £1130; Montalt (Her) £1050. PPK- Blackburn (Lui) 194.30p; Ballinloan (Lim) 192.00p; Blackburn (Sim) 186.90p; Drumelzier (BA) 176.00p; Lephinkill (CH) 162.00p; Lochelbank (AA) 160.50p; Montalt (He) 157.20p; Meikle Camoquhill (MO) 146.00p; Kinnermit (HF) 134.20p.

OTM bulls: £ per head- Torrax (Lim) £1710; Torrax (Sim) £1690; Woodhead of Aberdalgie (CH) £1650; Millhills (AA) £1390. PPK- East Gogar (Sim) 180.90p; Lephinkill (CH) 172.80p; Torrax (Lim) 148.20p; Dinar (AA) 120.00p. United auctions also had forward 153 breeding cattle. Bulls- Rednock Est (Sal) £2000 Heifers with bull calves - Little Kilchattan (LimX) £2500; West Park (BP) £2400; Porterstown (SimX) £2400; Pitlochrie (ContX) £2250; Nethertown (AAX) £2250; Parkhouse (HerX) £1850. Heifers with heifer calves - Auchentorax (AAX) £2350; Porterstown (SimX) £2100; Chartershall (LimX) £2100; Pitlochrie (BP) £2100; Auchentorax (ContX) £2000. Cows with bull calves - Wolflaw (CH) £2400; Castle Rednock (SimX) £2300; Castle Rednock (Pure Sim) £2100; Derric (LimX) £1550. Cows with heifer calves - Castle Rednock (ContX) £2050; Castle Rednock (SimX) £2000; Wolflaw (CharX) £1850; Little Kilchattan (LimX) £1600. Store Sheep Cross hogs sold to a top of £91 from Corsehope and ewes with lambs at foot sold to a top of £136 from Corsehope and £134 from Powblack.

Farmers urged to visit NFUS at Royal Highland Show

MEMBERS of NFU Scotland are being encouraged to 'drop in' to its show stand at this week's Royal Highland Show to ask questions and seek advice.

Dedicated drop-in sessions over three of the four days have been planned to allow those looking to speak about tenancies, dyslexia or seek advice on land registration to discuss their issues.

The schedule is:
Today (Thursday June 22) from

10am to 11.30am - Scott Bond, head of voluntary registration in the agricultural and rural sector with Registers of Scotland, will be available to answer questions and provide information on how to apply for voluntary registration and protect land on Scotland's land register.

Tomorrow (Friday) from 1pm to 4pm - Tenancy drop-in surgery with NFU Scotland's policy manager Gemma Cooper to allow NFU Scotland members who are

engaged in agricultural tenancies the opportunity to discuss any concerns they may have with regards to tenancies, to find out the latest Scottish Government legislative developments or to discuss wider NFU Scotland policy in this area.

Sunday June 25 from 10am to 2pm - Following on from the success of previous years and organised as part of NFU Scotland's Farming with Dyslexia campaign, the union has once

again teamed up with Dyslexia Scotland to offer drop-in sessions for members and those working in the agricultural industry to obtain advice in confidence about dyslexia.

Andrew McCornick, NFU Scotland president, commented: 'With so many pertinent issues affecting farmers and crofters, we've teamed up with various organisations to give members the opportunity through dedicated surgeries to

speaking in confidence and gain advice about tenancies, land registration and dyslexia.

'If you can't make it along at the above times, do still pop along to stand 143 at Avenue 7 at a time that suits you and we'll do our best to help. Alternatively, you can call 0131 472 4000 if you'd like to set up an appointment with any of the NFU Scotland team to discuss your issues one-to-one and we'll try to accommodate you.'

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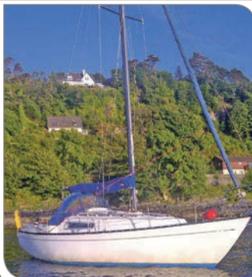


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UK AUTOMOTIVE CALLS FOR 'BUSINESS AS USUAL' INTERIM ARRANGEMENTS TO AVOID THE CLIFF EDGE

- UK GOVERNMENT must secure interim arrangements to safeguard future of UK motor industry and avoid a cliff edge.
- Industry body believes a final agreement on a new relationship with the EU that benefits the UK automotive industry will not be achieved by March 2019.
- UK must maintain single market and customs union membership until a final agreement on a new relationship with the EU has been agreed and implemented.

Tuesday June 20: The UK automotive industry has today called on the government to seek an interim arrangement with the EU that would maintain membership of the single market and customs union until a final agreement on a new relationship with the EU is negotiated and implemented.

The sector accepts that the UK will leave the EU and fully supports a bespoke and comprehensive agreement on a new relationship with the EU. However, a final agreement would be hugely complex and it does not believe such a comprehensive

agreement can be reached by March 2019 – just over 20 months away. Without agreed interim arrangements, businesses would be faced with the 'cliff edge' and forced to trade under the World Trade Organisation rules – the worst foreseeable outcome for the sector, its employees and the British economy.

Speaking today as the sector announced its annual performance figures, the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT) said it was time to be pragmatic about what can be achieved in the time available and what the consequences would be if the UK left without a deal. The UK and EU automotive sectors are highly integrated and any new relationship will need to address tariff and non-tariff barriers, regulatory and labour issues, all of which will take time to negotiate.

Mike Hawes, SMMT chief executive, said: 'We accept that we are leaving the European Union and we share the desire for that departure to be a success. But our biggest fear is that, in two years, we fall off a cliff edge – no deal, outside the single market and customs union, and trading on

inferior WTO terms. This would undermine our competitiveness and our ability to attract the investment that is critical to future growth.

'That's why we have to be honest with ourselves. If the UK cannot secure – and implement – a bespoke and comprehensive new relationship with the EU in two years, we need a back-up plan. Having looked at all the alternatives, we need government to seek an interim arrangement whereby we stay within the single market and customs union until that new relationship is implemented.'

The UK automotive industry has always maintained the importance of the EU to its prosperity. The EU is by far the UK's biggest automotive export market, taking over half our finished vehicles, four times as many as our next biggest market. The sector already exports to more than 160 different global markets and has a consistent approach to free trade. It needs that trade to be tariff-free, as frictionless as possible to support the 'just in time' manufacturing process and with consistent regulation.



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NEW TITLE SPONSOR FOR BLENHEIM PALACE INTERNATIONAL HORSE TRIALS



New SsangYong Rexton 4x4.



David Doel (GBR) and Chap during the dressage at the Blenheim Palace trials.



View of Blenheim Palace from across the south lawn.

SSANGYONG Motor UK has been announced as the title sponsor of Blenheim Palace International Horse Trials for the next three years.

Blenheim Palace International Horse Trials, the event owned by the sport's governing body, British Eventing, takes place in Oxfordshire from September 13-17, 2017. With the stunning backdrop of Blenheim Place, a UNESCO World Heritage Centre, home of the Duke of Marlborough and birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill, it has one of the most beautiful settings of any sporting event in the country.

'Blenheim is one of the top international horse trials held in the UK, and perfectly complements the SsangYong brand focus on four-wheel drive and SUVs, vehicles particularly suited to those living in the country or who tow a horse box, caravan or trailer,' said Paul Williams, CEO of

SsangYong Motor UK Ltd.

'As we prepare to launch our all-new Rexton 4x4 later this year, the timing couldn't be better. Blenheim will feature prominently in our launch plans,' added Paul.

Mandy Hervieu, Blenheim's event director, said: 'SsangYong joining us as title sponsor is brilliant news. We will be increasing the prize-money and enhancing our facilities for competitors, owners and visitors.'

There are three international classes this year at the SsangYong Blenheim Palace International Horse Trials: the CCI3, the prestigious CIC3 for eight- and nine-year-old

horses, and the final of the exciting Event Rider Masters series, also held at CIC3 level.

Blenheim also offers grassroots riders the chance to compete alongside their heroes with a wide range of amateur classes and a popular fun ride.

New course-designer David Evans is making exciting changes to the cross-country courses, utilising new areas of the park including the south lawn of Blenheim Palace, with new fences and fresh challenges built into the course.

Visit www.ssangyonggb.co.uk for more information about SsangYong UK.

Full information about the event and tickets are available at www.blenheimhorse.co.uk.



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Marine Operative x 3 Stronachullin

Salary: £17,510 - £20,163 plus overtime

We are currently recruiting for a Marine Operative to join our teams based in Stronachullin.

Applicants will be enthusiastic, self-motivated and be able to demonstrate prior experience of working in small teams. Duties will include all the day to day operations of the site including fish welfare, sampling, grading and moving of stock, site maintenance and boat handling. The successful applicant must be committed to high standards of Health & Safety and understand the importance of environmental issues.

Applicants must have good practical and problem solving skills and ideally have marine experience. Previous fish farming experience would be useful, but not essential as training will be provided. A full clean driving licence is also essential for this position.

To request an application form/or detailed job specification, please use the contact details below.

Veronica Anderson
The Scottish Salmon Company
Ardkinglas Estate, Cairndow, Argyll, PA26 8BH
Tel: 01499 600 415
veronica.anderson@scottishsalmon.com
Closing date: 3 July 2017
www.scottishsalmon.com



Planned Maintenance Manager Helensburgh or Oban

Salary £27,575 - £32,441 35 hours per week
Plus excellent benefits Permanent position

We require an experienced manager, who will have good time management skills, copes well in a hard working environment, has a structured and methodical approach to tasks with deadlines. Previous experience in supervision of staff and sub-contractors across a variety of trade skills to multiple domestic properties is preferred. A trades, trades management or surveying background is essential.

For more information, please contact Phil Burn on 01546 605824
For further details and to apply visit the recruitment section of our website www.acha.co.uk
CVs are not accepted.

If you are unable to access the website, contact the Recruitment Team:
Tel 01546 605917 or email recruitment@acha.co.uk
Closing Date: 12 noon on Friday 7th July 2017
Interviews will be held in Inveraray on Monday 17th July 2017




Engineer – Argyll

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Marine Harvest is one of the largest seafood companies in the world, and the world's largest producer of Atlantic salmon. The company employs 12,717 people globally, and is represented in 24 countries. In 2016 the company had a turnover of EUR 3.6 billion. Marine Harvest supplies healthy, delicious and sustainably farmed salmon and processed seafood to more than 70 markets worldwide. In 2016 harvest volumes of salmon was 381,000 tonnes (GWE).

Due to the current incumbent leaving the Company we currently have a vacancy for a multi skilled and self-motivated Engineer to work within Argyll seawater sites. Working in a seawater environment you will be in an autonomous role and have responsibility for supervising all planned preventative and reactive maintenance and ensuring that all plant and equipment, including generators, are maintained to the highest possible level. In addition you will be required to investigate all possible areas for improved plant utilisation and output and be required to undertake specific projects and industry training on net cleaning systems, and other key equipment.

The successful candidate should possess the following:

- Experience of servicing diesel engines and outboard motors
- Experience of servicing forklift trucks and cranes
- Sound knowledge of hydraulics.
- Detailed awareness of appropriate Health & Safety and MCA regulations
- Competent knowledge of computers
- Good communication skills
- Full Clean Driving Licence

In return the successful candidate will benefit from an attractive salary package, including bonus.

If you feel you have the necessary skills to respond to this challenging role, please submit an application in writing with full details of relevant experience, by the closing date of Thursday 29th June 2017 to: Gillian Dempster, Human Resources Advisor, Marine Harvest (Scotland) Limited, Stob Ban House, Glen Nevis Business Park, Fort William, PH33 6RX. Email: gillian.dempster@marineharvest.com

Informal enquires can be addressed to Colin whitehead (Seawater Engineering Manager) on Mobile: 07920272476/ Email: colin.whitehead@marineharvest.com



West of Scotland Area Services – Oban Saturday Club

Autism Support Workers

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Reference: SA/490

In this role, you will be an integral member of the support team contributing to and ensuring a high quality of care and support for individuals on the Autism Spectrum and/ or with complex needs within our Oban- West of Scotland Service. Hours will include supporting in a Saturday Club for children and providing an outreach service to young adults which will include daytime, evenings and weekends.

To download an application form or for more information please visit our website www.scottishautism.org

If you think you have the skills and experience to match our demanding requirements then please forward an application form to recruitment@scottishautism.org or by post to The HR Department, Scottish Autism, Hilton House, Alloa Business Park, Whins Road, Alloa, FK10 3SA.

Closing Date - 04th July 2017
Registered charity number is SC009068



Evening Scheme Assistant (Job Share)

£4,331 pro rata (£16,244 FTE) per annum. £8.33 per hour

We are looking for a Scheme Assistant to provide high quality person centred care to Service Users at Torosay Court in Oban.

The Role
You will maintain a high level of cleanliness and hygiene within all common parts of the development and provide general and emergency assistance to tenants, as required. You will also be involved in the preparation and serving of food to tenants in accordance with environmental health standards.
Hours of employment are 10 per week organised Monday and Tuesday 4:00pm - 9:00pm.

This post is a Job Share post. Job share partners will agree to share all the duties and responsibilities of the post in a manner that is agreeable to both and acceptable to their working colleagues and line manager.

Role Requirements
An interest in working with older people and an understanding of their needs is essential. Although relevant experience in a similar post is desirable, it is not essential as induction and training (e.g. food hygiene) will be provided. The successful candidate will also be required to become a member of the Protecting Vulnerable Groups Scheme through Disclosure Scotland.

Our Benefits

- Competitive salary, reviewed annually.
- Excellent holidays, up to 34 days each year (pro rata for part-time employees). With the option to buy or sell holidays each year.
- Payment of your PVG check with Disclosure Scotland.
- A wide range of learning and development activities including management & leadership programmes, job related training and qualifications to ensure your continuous progress

Closing Date for Applications is Sunday 2nd July 2017



Perle Oban Hotel is now recruiting for passionate and experienced staff to join our exciting new hotel in the heart of Oban with excellent pay and fantastic staff benefits.

We are seeking to fill the following roles:

- **Human Resources Manager**
The role will include supporting recruitment and selection, including pre-employment checks and contractual paperwork, maintaining staff records, preparing payroll information, general administration and assisting with HR project work.
- **Food and Beverage Manager**
This is a role that will suit an individual who is career focused with flair and ambition and looking to work within a high quality environment
- **Front of House Waiting Staff**
- **Housekeeping Staff**
- **Chef de Partie**
- **Kitchen Porter**

To apply please send your CV and Cover Letter to jchevet@perlehotels.com.




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



D. Carmichael and Sons Ltd require 1 experienced CSCS bricklayer for immediate start in the Oban area.

The post is a full-time, permanent position. Applicants must have at least five years recent experience and hold a clean driver's licence. Duties will include general building work, setting out new builds and material procurement.

If you are interested in joining a thriving, well-established business, which provides a reliable and high quality service, then please email CV and references from previous employers to info@dcarmichaelandsons.co.uk




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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
17/01144/PP	Extension of existing 8 metre high tower to create 15 metre high tower and associated equipment within existing compound	BT Claggan Radio Station Kildalton Isle Of Islay Argyll And Bute	Sub Post Office Port Ellen
17/01540/PP	Renewal of planning permission reference 14/00574/PP (Change of use from village hall to mixed business/ retail use and formation of external composting compound)	Coll Community Hall Arinagour Isle Of Coll Argyll And Bute PA78 6SY	Sub Post Office Isle of Coll
17/01503/PPP	Site for the erection of dwellinghouse (Plot 1) Glenevedale	Land North Of Tower Cottage (Plot 1) Glenevedale Isle Of Islay Argyll And Bute	Sub Post Office Port Ellen

Written comments can be made to the above address or submitted online <http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/find-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 Council's 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




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

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
17/02768/FUL	Land 400M E Of Struan Cottage, Airo, Inverie, Knoydart	Woodland access track
17/02619/PIP	Land 570M NE Of Sandaig Bay, Inverie, Knoydart	Erection of house on plot 1
17/02665/PIP	Land 60M NW Of Achnasol House, Achnabobane, Spean Bridge	Erection of house
17/02589/PIP	Land 20M South Of Melville House Garbhein Road, Kinlochleven	Demolition of shed and erection of house
17/02695/FUL	Land 110M NE Of Alt-Na-Slat Invergarry	Proposed erection of dwelling house with integrated garage

Time period for comments is 14 days
ePlanning Centre, The Highland Council, Glenurquhart Road, INVERNESS IV3 5NX
Email: eplanning@highland.gov.uk

GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENCE

Alexander Williamson trading as Williamson Waste Metals of Yard 1B, Mount Alexander, Camaghael, Fort William, PH33 7NF is applying for a licence to use Yard 1B, Mount Alexander, Camaghael, Fort William, PH33 7NF as an operating centre for 1 goods vehicle.

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.

GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENCE

CPL Distribution Ltd, Westthorpe Fields Road, Killamarsh, Sheffield S21 1TZ is applying for a licence to add an operating centre to keep 1 goods vehicle and 0 trailers at The Boat House House, Camas Inas, Acharacle, Argyll, PH36 4JQ.

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 representation to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner.

Notice to Mariners Maritime Safety Information

Submitted by: Aquatera Ltd, Old Academy Business Centre, Stromness, Orkney, KW163AW

Details of work

Vessel based ADCP survey of Cuan Sound between Luig and the mainland. This will involve a small vessel repeating a zig zag pattern survey through the sound over 14 hours. The vessel will try and stick to the same route each repeat although it will also have a watch to avoid any collisions. The survey will be carried out on the 26th and 27th of June.

Positions of maximum extent of projected works (coordinates WGS84, lat/long, in degrees/minutes/decimal seconds)

The maximum extent of the survey work will be - 56°16'2.3844"N 5°38'47.5584"W and the minimum will be 56°15'58.5648"N 5°37'14.7036"W.

The survey will be carried out during daylight hours. There will be two buoys placed at the coordinates above to show the position of two tidal gauges that will be deployed at the same time as the survey. These will be deployed on a creel rope and marked with a small buoy.

INSTRUCTIONS TO VESSELS

Mariners intending to use the sound on the 26th of June should be aware of the survey taking place.

Oban Times Oban Times
PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLIC NOTICES

HARBOURS ACT 1964 (AS AMENDED)
THE TOBERMORY HARBOUR EMPOWERMENT ORDER 2017

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT The Tobermory Harbour Empowerment Order 2017 (the "Order") was made by the Scottish Ministers on 9 June 2017. The Order came into operation on 10 June 2017.

Any person who desires to question the Order on the ground that there was no power to make the Order or that a requirement of the Harbours Act 1964 (as amended) was not complied with in relation to the Order may, within six weeks from the date on which the Order became operative, make an application for that purpose to the Court of Session.

A copy of the Order and the map annexed to it may be inspected, free of charge, between the hours of 9am and 5pm from Monday to Friday at Tobermory Harbour Association, Taigh Solais, Ledaig, Tobermory, Isle of Mull, PA75 6NR.

Any person who requires any further information regarding the Order should contact the undernoted agents for Tobermory Harbour Association:
Burness Paull LLP, 50 Lothian Road, Edinburgh EH3 9WJ
Ref: TOB/2001/3/CNM/AJXL

Argyll and Bute Council

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997, AS AMENDED
ADVERTISEMENT UNDER SECTION 67(2) OF THE MAKING OF A REVOCATION ORDER OR MODIFICATION ORDER

Planning Permission for Erection of dwellinghouse, installation of private treatment plant and formation of vehicular access at Land at Aintuin Farm, Dervaig, Isle of Mull, Argyll and Bute, PA75 6QW
REFERENCE NUMBER: 15/00319/PP

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT Argyll and Bute Council have made an order under section 65 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 to revoke the above planning permission.

The Council have been notified by the owner or lessee (if any), the occupier of the land, and all persons who in the Council's opinion will be affected by the Order that they do not object to the Order.

Any person who will be affected by the Order and who wishes for an opportunity of appearing before and being heard by a person appointed by the Scottish Ministers, must give notice in writing to The Scottish Ministers, Planning and Architecture Division, Planning Decisions, 2H (South), Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ not later than 20th July 2017.

If no such notice is given by that date the Order will take effect by virtue of the provisions of Section 67(7) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 on 3rd August 2017 without being confirmed by The Scottish Ministers.

Date 22nd June 2017
Charles Reppke, Head of Governance and Law, Argyll and Bute Council, Kilmory, Lochgilphead

To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us at: www.argyll-bute.gov.uk
Comhairle Earra – Ghàidheal agus Bhòid



Two public consultation events

BID4OBAN re-ballot

Thursday 22nd June, 6-9pm in
Atlantis Function Room
Friday 23rd June, 2-5pm in
Bid Office, 43 Stevenson Street,
01631 569 915

No appointment necessary although private appointments available if preferred.

First Registration of a Croft

Kathleen Millar has registered her croft 19 Cleadaile, 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

MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010
TEMPORARY FLOATING PIER, LOCH SUNART

Notice is hereby given that Scottish Woodlands Ltd has applied to the Scottish Ministers of the Scottish Government, under Part 4 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, in respect of a temporary floating pier, Invasion Bay, Loch Sunart at:

Location	Latitude Co-ordinates	Longitude Co-ordinates
Invasion bay,	56° 40.987' N	005° 42.139' W
Loch Sunart	56° 40.995' N	005° 42.139' W
	56° 40.996' N	005° 42.107' W
	56° 40.977' N	005° 42.118' W
	56° 40.979' N	005° 42.096' W

(WGS84)

Plans showing the position of the works may be inspected at the Ardnarnach Library in the Sunart Centre, Strontian, PH36 4JA.

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 14 days of the date of this notice or by email to: MS.MarineLicensing@gov.scot, quoting reference: **MCMS No. 06415**
Applicant: Scottish Woodlands Ltd

First Registration of a Croft

Iain Wilson has registered his croft 1 Bohenie, Kilmornaig 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 23, 2018.

Details of the registration can be found at www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home. The croft registration number is C4143

First Registration of a Croft

Mr David James Craig has registered his croft, Croft 2 Lettershuna, Lismore & Appin on the Crofting Register held by the Registers of Scotland.

Any person who wishes to challenge the registration may apply to the Scottish Land Court by the 1st March 2018.

Details of the registration can be found at www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home. The croft registration number is C4093.

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

GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENCE

CPL DISTRIBUTION LTD OF Westthorpe Fields Road Killamarsh Sheffield S21 1TZ is applying to: To add an operating centre to keep 1 goods vehicle and 0 trailers at:- The Boat House Camas Inas Acharacle Argyll PH36 4JQ. Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the Operating Centre(s) 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 representation to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner. T504571



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IAN BLACKFORD MP
Ross, Skye and Lochaber



is holding a surgery on **Friday June 30th** 2.30pm - 3pm
Constituency Office
Mamore House
FORT WILLIAM
PH33 6BA
Te: 01397 700030
No appointment necessary

CROFTING COMMISSION COIMISEAN NA CROITEARACHD DECISION ON APPLICATION TO CREATE A NEW CROFT

Application by Miss Anne MacLarty of Dunard Terrace, Glenshellach Road, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4BJ has been Approved. 70688

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

CROFTING COMMISSION COIMISEAN NA CROITEARACHD DECROFTING DIRECTIONS ISSUED

G Law & K Duncan
65 Banavie, Kilmallie
77196
0.048 ha
Reason - amenity ground
Condition -Fencing conditions.
Full details at www.crofting.scotland.gov.uk

First Registration of a Croft

Mr David James Craig has registered his croft, Croft 2 Lettershuna, Lismore & Appin on the Crofting Register held by the Registers of Scotland.

Any person who wishes to challenge the registration may apply to the Scottish Land Court by the 1st March 2018.

Details of the registration can be found at www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home. The croft registration number is C4093.

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The new housing apprenticeships



HOUSING apprenticeships are changing. The introduction of new housing apprenticeship standards represents a fantastic opportunity to bring through new talent into the sector – allowing housing organisations to build a bespoke programme of training around a young person to give them the skills they need to excel in a specific role. This great opportunity to bring fresh energy into housing requires a significant level of buy-in and support from housing organisations to deliver the training and assessment needed. Whether you know about the changes or not, if you have a pay bill of more than £3 million, which the vast majority of

housing organisations do, you will now be contributing to an apprenticeship levy which came into effect on April 6. If you don't draw down the levy and use it to pay for new apprenticeships, you lose it. And in order to make the most of it, you need to know how to navigate the new standards. That's where we, the Chartered Institute for Housing in Scotland, come in. With a century of experience equipping housing professionals with the skills they need to do the brilliant work they do, we can help you make the most of the new housing apprenticeships – whatever stage of the journey you are at. To find out more about the changes and how we can help visit; <http://www.cih.org/apprenticeships>.

Private rents in Scotland risesix per cent in the year

PRIVATE rent levels in Scotland were up six per cent in the year to May 2017, with the typical rental property letting for £574 a month, according to the latest buy-to-let index from Your Move Scotland. Edinburgh is showing a 'strong' performance, according to the index. Prices in the city and surrounding area increased by two per cent in the past 12 months to reach an average of £655. 'Demand continues to outstrip supply in Edinburgh, with this driving the price increases in all areas of the capital,' said Brian Moran, lettings director at Your Move Scotland. Yet Edinburgh wasn't the area which had the biggest increase in the country as prices in the South of Scotland have risen 7.1 per cent in the past year, with the average property now let for

£564 a month. Edinburgh and Lothians continued to be the areas with the highest rents in all of Scotland, Your Move Scotland found. Prices in the capital city and surrounding areas now average £655 per month, following a two per cent rise in the past year. This price is also 0.6 per cent higher than in March 2017. Your Move Scotland said the prices in Edinburgh are driven by a lack of suitable housing stock, as this pushed up prices across the city. The other region to see large increases was the East of Scotland, where the average rent grew by two per cent to reach £655. Families were a key reason for this growth, particularly in the Fife area where three and four bedroom properties were in especially high demand.

The only region to see rents fall compared to last year was Glasgow and Clyde. Prices here decreased by 1.2 per cent in the 12 months to April 2017 and now average £570 per calendar month. Inverness was another area which saw a rise in demand for family properties. In the Highlands and Islands region, prices were flat compared to last year but rose one per cent between March and April, faster than anywhere else in the country. The typical rent was £596 this month. On a monthly basis, all areas of Scotland saw the average rental price increase. Across Scotland the typical rent is now £574 per calendar month following a 1.7 per cent rise since March. The typical rent is now six per cent higher than at the same stage in 2016.



Are you looking to move house?
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GUIDANCE ON FIRE DETECTION IN PRIVATE RENTED PROPERTIES



The revised Domestic Technical Handbook guidance states there should be at least:

- one functioning smoke alarm in the room which is frequently used by the occupants for general daytime living purposes
- one functioning smoke alarm in every circulation space, such as hallways and landings
- one heat alarm in every kitchen
- all alarms should be interlinked.

A smoke alarm installed from September 3, 2007 onwards had to be mains powered with a standby power supply. To read the complete guidelines, visit beta.gov.scot/publications/fire-safety-guidance-private-rented-properties. For help in making sure that your property is up to standard for fire safety and all other regulations, give a member of our experienced Letting Team a call!

FIRES can have a devastating effect on the lives of people and results in around 50 deaths and 1300 injuries each year. The Scottish government has set out guidance for landlords in regard to fire safety in private rentals, and this week we will highlight some of the especially pertinent items. One part of the Repairing Standard is that a house should have satisfactory provision for detecting fires and for giving warning in the event of fire or suspected fire. The Repairing Standard sets a high benchmark for smoke and fire detection, matching the standard required for new building and which is higher than many owner-occupiers will meet for their own homes.

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PROPERTIES FOR SALE & TO LET

<p>SALEN, ISLE OF MULL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Semi-detached Cottage • 2 Bedrooms / 1 Bathroom • Views over River Aros • Renovated to a high standard throughout • Excellent Holiday Let • EPC Rating - D6c <p>OIRO £195,000</p> <p>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 cosy place to relax, with its fireplace, wood burning stove and views towards the old Aros bridge. The property achieves a weekly rental rate of £575 April - October and £575 November - March.</p>	<p>KILBRANDON COTTAGES, ISLE OF SEIL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terraced cottage with garage • 4 Bedrooms / 2 Bathrooms • Quiet residential situation • Close to the sea • Easy maintained front and rear garden • EPC Rating - D66 <p>OIRO £210,000</p> <p>7 Kilbrandon Cottages - A charming terraced cottage situated in a quiet residential area only a stone's throw away from the sea. The property has been maintained in excellent order throughout with manageable front and back gardens. The ground floor boasts a practical layout with a large lounge, complete with fireplace and patio doors leading to the rear garden. The well-proportioned kitchen diner boasts plentiful cupboard space and dining area. An adjoining utility room provides easy access to the rear garden.</p>	<p>APPIN, ARGYLL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detached Bungalow • 6 Bedrooms/2 shower rooms • Views across to Castle Stalker • Private situation with sizeable garden • In need of modernisation • EPC Rating - F <p>OIRO £240,000</p> <p>A well-proportioned detached bungalow situated in a sizeable garden and enjoying far reaching views across Appin towards Castle Stalker. In need of modernisation the property offers six double bedrooms, two shower rooms, a large open reception room with lounge area with a large window, where far reaching sea views can be enjoyed. The kitchen offers plentiful storage cupboards and a dining area. Heating and hot water is provided via an LPG fired boiler located in the kitchen with large external storage tank located within the boundary. The majority of the windows are double glazed with some single glazed windows.</p>	<p>GLENGORM, OBAN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detached bungalow • 3 bedrooms/1 bathroom • 1 shower room • Peaceful and pretty location • Walk-in condition • Established holiday let • EPC Rating: D47 <p>OIRO £235,000</p> <p>A well-proportioned cottage with integrated holiday let and owner's accommodation. The Old Power House offers buyer a great deal of flexibility. Currently used as a self-catering holiday let with separate but adjoining owner's accommodation, this property offers buyers a property with income potential or an opportunity for a sizable and practical family home. There is a double bedroom and en-suite bathroom off the living room, and completes the current owner's accommodation.</p>
<p>11B LONGSDALE TERRACE, ARGYLL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 Bedroom flat/1 bathroom • Long Term Let • EPC D <p>PCM £525</p> <p>A first floor two bedroom flat on Longsdale Terrace, Oban. Comprises of Lounge, Kitchen (inc. all white goods), 2 double bedrooms (with large amounts of storage), family bathroom, hall cupboard. Outside there is a large stairwell storage cupboard and a shared drying green to the rear. Electric storage heating & double glazing throughout. Parking is on street closeby. Deposit & References Required. Landlord Reg No. 163016/130/24420 Council Tax Band B - AVAILABLE END JUNE</p>	<p>FLAT 1 STEVENSON HOUSE, OBAN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 Bedroom flat/1 bathroom • Long Term Let • EPC C <p>PCM £500</p> <p>Located in Oban town centre, in a well-maintained block, this modern flat has 2 double bedrooms both with built-in large wardrobes, bathroom (including appliances), kitchen and lounge. Double glazing throughout and electric heating. Rent excludes Utilities & Council Tax (Band D). Deposit & references required. Landlord Registration No: 91986/130/31040. AVAILABLE JULY</p>	<p>STEVENSON STREET, OBAN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Bedroom flat/1 bathroom • Long Term Let • EPC Rating D <p>PCM £440</p> <p>1 bedroom flat available in Oban town centre. A bright flat comprising of lounge/kitchen area, bedroom and bathroom. The property is unfurnished, freshly decorated in neutral colours and has laminate flooring throughout. White goods include: hob, oven, fridge & washing machine. Rent excludes utilities and Council Tax (A). Double glazing throughout. £440.00 per month each. 12 Month initial term. Deposit & references required. Landlord Registration No: 91986/130/31040. AVAILABLE MID JULY</p>	<p>COMBIE LANE, OBAN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One Bedroom/One Bathroom • Part Furnished • Long Term Let • EPC Rating - E <p>PCM £450</p> <p>Spacious, ground floor flat located just a moments walk into Oban town centre. The property comprises one bright double bedroom to the back of the property with built in hanging space and freestanding storage, bathroom, kitchen and a newly decorated living room with electric fire. Electric Heating and Double Glazing throughout. Access to a shared garden to rear of property. Rent excludes Council Tax (B) & utilities. LL Reg: 300444/130/12561 & 463301/03/1171. Deposit & full references required.</p>

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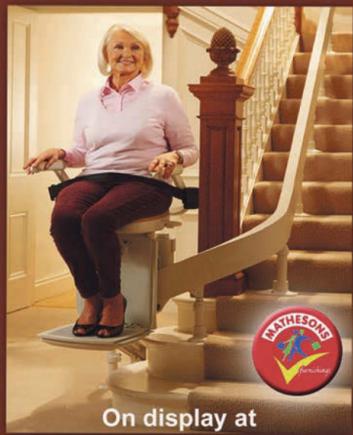
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DEATHS

BUTTERWORTH - Janet Helen, on June 15, 2017. Daughter of the late Charles and Daphne, sister of Tom and friend to so many. A celebration of Janet's life will take place at Barnacarry. An announcement with details will follow.

CAMERON - John (Iain) died peacefully at Craigie Knowes Care Home, Perth on Tuesday, June 13, 2017. Formerly of Sheilfoot, Acharacle. Brother of Janet, Donald, Duncan and the late Alec. Service will be held at McEwan's Parlour at noon on Friday June 23, 2017. Private cremation. Family flowers only. Donations towards dementia.

GORDON - Nigel Gordon, formerly of Dalnally, Head Chef to Dame Barbara Cartland, died peacefully on Saturday June 10, 2017 at Lister Hospital, Stenage aged 74 years. Thanksgivng Service to be held at St. Mary's, Essendon, Hatfield on Friday June 23, 2017 at 1:00pm. Interment at Achnaba Cemetery, North Connel, Argyll on Monday June 26, 2017 at 1:00pm.

MACARTHUR - With great sadness on 17th June 2017, Iain Alexander Currie MacArthur, (The Doc), "Firgrove", Ardconnel Road, Oban, only son of the late Doctor George and Dorothy MacArthur, long term partner of Bernadette, father of Douglas, Andrew, Valerie and Vivienne and grandfather of Molly. Funeral will take place at Oban Parish Church, Glencruitten Road, Oban, on Wednesday, 28th June 2017 at 1.00 p.m. Thereafter to Pennyfuir Cemetery.

PATRICK - Suddenly, after a short illness, on June 14, 2017, at the Mid Argyll Hospital, Lochgilphead, Alan Patrick (Big Al), aged 63 years, of 16 Argyll Street, Lochgilphead, former Technician at Lochgilphead High School, beloved son of the late Henry and Edna Patrick, much loved brother of Sue and Christine, a dear uncle and great uncle, and a good friend to many. In line with Alan's request, a private cremation service will be held. A memorial service will be held in the Stag Hotel, Lochgilphead, today Thursday, June 22 at 7.00pm, to which all friends are respectfully invited to attend. There will be an opportunity to donate to the SSPCA Charity, of which Alan was a great supporter

ROBERTSON - Isobel (née Black), Benderloch. Sadly passed away in hospital on her 84th birthday on June 15, 2017. Isobel was the dearly loved wife of the late John Robertson of North Uist and Benderloch. Much loved mum to Janice and Sandra, mother-in-law to Robert and Kevin. Devoted granny to Jenna, Aaron, Bryana, Oran and Carla and sister to Tommy Black. She leaves a big hole in all our lives and hearts.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

GILFILLAN - Robert, Carol and Claire along with their families wish to express their gratitude to all the doctors and nursing staff at the Lorn and Islands Hospital, also Dr Fiona MacLennan for her kindness in Caroline's last days. Many thanks to D & A Munn for their sensitive professionalism for the funeral arrangements. Thanks also the Very Reverend McNelly for the lovely funeral service and also to the members of St. John's choir for adding that special

touch. We are very grateful to all our family and friends for their cards, thoughtful words and presence at the church service, committal and those who took the time to join us at The Royal Hotel thereafter. Thanks also to the Royal Hotel for the lovely buffet. The retiral collection amounted to £779.25 and will be donated to Cancer Research.

LIPP - The family of the late Marie (née Chessor) wish to thank all those who attended the celebration of her life on Monday June 12 at the Argyllshire Gathering Halls, Oban. A special thank you to Belinda Braithwaite for officiating at the service. We are very grateful to Catriona and all at Hamish Hoey & Son for the funeral arrangements and also to Amanda and the staff of the Argyllshire Gathering Halls. Thank you too, to all the Community Nurses who have shown such professionalism in their care. We also wish to say a special thank you to all Carers, past and present, for wonderful care and dignity given to our mum over the years. A total of £360.60 raised for Cancer Research and the National Osteoporosis Society.

MACDONALD - Kathleen and family would like to thank most sincerely all relatives and friends for their sympathy, kindness and support following Ronnie's passing. Thank you for all the cards, Mass cards, telephone calls, messages and visits and to all who came to the church and graveside. Grateful thanks to Home Carers, District Nurses, Ballachulish Medical Practice and Abbeyfield staff for their caring and professional attention to Ronnie, helping him to remain at home. Thanks to staff at Belford Hospital for the care and compassion shown to Ronnie and Kathleen and the family during Ronnie's last few days. Thanks to Fr MacKinnon for spiritual support at hospital and to Fr Barrett for ongoing support, lovely service and kind words. Thanks also, to John McLellan, Funeral Directors, for caring and professional funeral arrangements, to Jimmy Forsyth for playing the organ, to McDonald Bros for beautiful floral arrangements and to The Laroch for catering. The sum of £625.28 was raised for Ballachulish Medical Practice and Abbeyfield.

MEMORIAMS

CAMERON - In loving memory of my mother Mary, who passed away on June 25, 2015. Remembering you is easy, I do it every day, Missing you is the heartache that never goes away.

- From your loving daughter, Margaret.

FERGUSON - In loving memory of Donnie, a dearly loved husband and Dad, who died June 26, 2004. Forever in our hearts.

- Ann, John, David and Lorne.

MACBRIDE - In memory of Donald who died June 25, 2016 and his devoted wife Margaret who died April 8, 2004. Dearly loved and sadly missed.

- James, Connal, Finlay, George and Neil.

MACCOLL - In loving memory of our devoted Mum, Kathie, who died June 20 2013. Those we love don't go away They walk beside us every day Unseen, unheard, but always near Still loved, still missed and very dear.

- Elspeth, Iain and families.

MACINTYRE - In loving memory of my dear mother Mary Ann MacEachen, who passed away June 25, 1988. RIP. The years pass by but memories stay Loved and remembered always.

- Inserted by her loving daughter Flora.

MACLEOD - Lewis, 28.1.83 - 23.06.07. Treasured memories of my darling son, forever in my heart.

- Mum xxx

POWER - Remembering with love Heckie, died June, 1988, his brothers John and Jimmy, parents Mary and Dan, late of Lundavra Road.

- From the family, Caol and Fort William.

REECE - Cherished memories of Alec devoted husband, dad and pappy who died June 20, 2002 and Catherine, who died on September 1, 2009. Greatly missed but our love and memories ever strong and clear.

- Sandy, Kathleen and families.

ROBERTSON - In loving memory of Mary Robertson, who passed away June 18, 2010. A dear wife, sister, mum and granny.

- Billy and family.

STEWART - In loving memory of a dear mother and granny, Nan, who died June 25, 2002. Gone are the days we used to share But in our hearts you are always there.

- Catherine, Kenneth, Margaret and families.



Rev David Railton remembered by Legion at St Bride's Church, Onich



THE man who had the inspired idea of creating the tomb of the unknown warrior at Westminster Abbey in London, was remembered on Saturday with a special service at St Bride's Church, Onich. The 62nd anniversary of the death of the Rev David Railton, MC MA, was marked by members of the Fort William and district branch of the Royal British Legion Scotland who gathered at St Bride's for a memorial service. The name of Rev David will not mean a lot to many people until it is pointed out that it was he who had idea of having a tomb for an unknown warrior in Westminster Abbey, which could be used to recognise the sacrifice of all those who were buried as 'unknown'

during the First World War. This military chaplain made his home in retirement at Ard Rhu, Onich. The event was organised by Bruce James, with 12 branch members present. The ranks were swollen by Kevin Gray, the CEO of Legion Scotland, and his wife; plus Major Janet McIntyre and Margaret Rae from the Salvation Army in Kinlochleven. Their presence was particularly poignant as David Railton's father had been the second in command to William Booth, who founded the Salvation Army. For the memorial service, all parties formed up in front of the grave and, after a brief introduction from Kevin Lane, the branch chairman, The Ode of Remembrance taken from Laurence

Binyon's poem, *For the Fallen*, was read out. Piper John MacCallum then played a lament during which the branch standard, carried by Drew Walker-Armitage, was lowered in homage. After a two-minute silence, a second lament was played, followed by Kevin Lane laying a wreath on behalf of the branch. The Rev Malcolm Kinnear then led the branch in the service of remembrance and prayers during which Bruce James read out a eulogy to David Railton. The service ended with everyone visiting the inside of St Bride's Church and then retiring to the Loch Leven Hotel for lunch. All agreed that this had been a fitting tribute to a great man whose memory should be perpetuated.

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WEDDINGS

COLTHART - BYERS
Angela Colthart & Richard Byers were married at the Appin Parish Church on April 28th 2017. The happy couple were joined by a large gathering of family & friends. Photograph by Perfect Images of Oban.

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Oban's Men's Shed receives £900 grant

THE Oban Men's Shed has received a £900 grant in order to help finance new ideas. The grant will enable the shed to visit other sheds across Scotland so they can learn how to develop and also to buy new tools to boost the number of projects they are able to work on.

Age Scotland has been delighted to support and enable the development of new sheds across Scotland, doing our bit to help improve the lives of thousands of men. 'We know that you can never underestimate the

value in providing a space to allow people to come together and feel welcomed. 'We look forward to seeing how the Oban Men's Shed grows with this new support. 'I wish all the shedders well in their individual projects.' In total, Age Scotland has financially supported 28 sheds across Scotland with a grants totalling over £40,000.

age Scotland
Love later life

Thought for the week

HERE is a quote worth remembering, especially in the light of the terrorist events that have blighted Europe, and even more so the Middle East: 'The opposite of faith is fundamentalism.' To some, this might seem counter-intuitive but that would be to misunderstand faith. Faith does not shun doubt. Rather, faith acknowledges the human reality of doubt. Just read the Gospels and see how the disciples were a confused bunch who, in that state, were still loved by Jesus Christ. Faith with doubt allows space to grow in both humility and knowledge. Fundamentalism is a blight on our world. It is not strong faith, it is blind faith that cannot deal with other opinions and insights. Fundamentalism

purports to be built with concrete, but the slightest deviance threatens to let the whole edifice tumble. Faith, on the other hand, is in reality far stronger for it can cope with alternative opinions and new understandings of life, culture, science and human sexuality. Jesus came into this world to both challenge and affirm our humanity. His spirit continues this work for the future is open and we are encouraged to explore it, eyes open. There are mysteries which forever unfold before us. Thanks be to God, Creator, Saviour and Holy Spirit.

Rev Dugald Cameron, Kilmore and Oban, Moderator of the Presbytery of Argyll

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Almost £3,000 raised from Texas scramble

Glencruitten

PHILIP Murphy leads the first round of the club championship with a score of 67. Martin Rae and Graham MacColl are two shots off the lead with scores of 69.

In the first round of the George Smith Trophy, Donald McGill leads with a score of 79-20 = 59, followed by Ian Harris, Andrew McHardy, Martin Rae and Graham MacColl with net scores of 64.

Neil Armour and Bunty Menassa retained the McVitie Price Trophy on Sunday with a score of 90-22 = 68, Diane Colewell and Steven Murphy were runners-up with a score of 81-9 = 72.

The Argyll and Bute handicap championship takes place on Saturday.

Taynuilt

LADIES: Action Research Trophy - 1 Mairead Sim 31 pts; 2 Sue Asher 26 pts (bih); 3 Liz Mudie 26 pts.



Office manager Beth MacBeath with senior funeral director Jamie Manson, present the cheque to Joan MacKintosh of Marie Curie.

Photo: Abrightside Photography.

ALMOST £3,000 was raised for Marie Curie in the second annual Mike McFall Funeral Directors charity Texas scramble.

Some 120 players took part on Saturday May 6 at Fort William Golf Club.

No lucky winners scooped up the car prize on hole 12 again this year but Sean Fraser shot a fantastic hole in one on the 16th which saw him take home a cash prize of £750.

Senior funeral director at Mike McFall's, Jamie Manson, said: 'A big thank you to all that participated in our second annual charity Texas scramble. It was another fantastic day and we couldn't have asked for better weather.'

'A big thanks to everyone who donated prizes for our raffle, bought raffle tickets and supported our event once again.'

'This year we raised more than £2,000 for Marie Curie, but this wouldn't have been achieved if it wasn't for all our

golfers and supporters. A big thank you once again to our hosts Fort William Golf Club, and all the staff for all their efforts, and to everyone who supported us and made it as good a day as it was.'

'We all hope you enjoyed it and look forward to hosting next years which will take place on Saturday May 5, 2018.'

Results were as follows:

Ladies' winners: Iona Cameron, Hazel Cameron, Kim Topping and Liz Merry, net 65 (74-9).

Runners-up: Ann Lovatt, Rosemary Macintyre, Kathleen Leitch and Helen Brian, net 66 (74-8).

Men's winners: Frank Sweeney, Pat Cassidy, Peter Stewart and Paul Campbell, net 54 (59-5) BIH.

Runners-up: Kevin Kerr, I Stockwell, M Stockwell and J Dunbar, net 54 (60-6) BIH.

Third: Willie Duncan, Stewart Leitch, Eric Wallace and John Hearman, net 54 (58-4).



Kenny Gray, 4th dan karate

KENNY GRAY'S first experience of martial arts was when he went to Argyll Shukokai beginners' class in Oban on an October evening in 1984. He was one of 40 students starting under Sensei Nicky Connolly. At that time Kenny was looking for another form of training to complement his running, which he was really into at that time. Little did he know that it would be the introduction to an activity that he would still be participating in 30 odd years later.



Kenny Gray.

Kenny quickly rose through the grades, taking part in competitions, and attending courses and seminars all over the country. He was at peak fitness during this time, training up to six days a week. Within a few years he found himself helping Sensei Connolly out with classes, which at that time were very popular. It was common to have a beginners' class of up to 30 students. As his knowledge increased, Kenny was attending courses regularly, run by martial arts legends such as Ticky Donovan, Pat McKay, Geoff Thompson, Vic Charles and Davy Coulthard. Closer to home, he was travelling to Dunoon and Lochgilphead to train with Iain Sinclair, and Archie MacAlister in their respective classes. While at 1st kyu (brown belt), Kenny started teaching around small villages to give those who couldn't travel into town a chance to learn karate.

In 1991, Kenny reached the grade of 1st dan (black belt). At this time, due to work commitments, he had problems attending classes in Oban. Work was mostly in the Crianlarich/Killin area and he saw an opportunity to start a class there. Within a year or so he had classes in Callander, Killin and Tyndrum, under the name of Central Freestyle Karate. With more than 80 students training, he had quite a lot on his plate. Kenny gained his 2nd dan in 1995 while attached to the UKASKO organisation. Kenny continued with this for four years and also ran weekend residential courses during the

summer months, with outdoor training and guest instructors. These were very popular, especially when the weather was fine. At this time, he also tried out a few other styles of martial art including judo, and jiu-jitsu under various instructors.

In 2004, Kenny returned to Oban to train with Argyll Shukokai, taking over the club along with Jim MacKay and Flo McBurnie as Sensei Connolly had moved to Spain. He gained his 3rd dan in 2007 and continued to train and teach in Oban. At this time he was also running a club in Lochawe/Dalmally which was a great success. Over the next few years many changes took place, with Argyll Shukokai becoming Argyll Martial Arts in 2012. Kenny opened a club in Inveraray in 2010, which has gone from strength to strength, and the Dalmally club is still well attended, he received his 4th dan in 2014 along with his sister, Flo McBurnie, who helps run the clubs. There are also two 2nd dans, Andrew Buchanan and Andrew Lawson, who help with the classes in Oban and Inveraray. In all they have well over 60 students training with them at present.

Kenny said: 'My advice for anyone wanting to try martial arts is, go for it! You have nothing to lose, and a lot to gain.'

'I would like to thank Nicky Connolly and Archie MacAlister (deceased), for all the knowledge passed on to me over the years. I now look forward to reaching my 5th dan in the near future.'

Novice group raise £35,000 through sporting challenges on Great Glen Way



Harry Mobey.

Harry scoops the double at U18 Durham Open Badminton

TAYNUILT'S Harry Mobey won the U18 Durham Open singles and doubles events last Saturday.

Harry comfortably made it into the boys' singles final and set the pace on what was a three-set final with fellow Scot Callum Smith. Harry also went on to win the boys' doubles event in a straight-sets final with Danny Robson from Glasgow.

Harry also recently took gold in the U18 boys' singles event in Oxford, winning in a very comfortable two-set final.

He has achieved his end-of-season goals - final ranking for end of season stands at fifth U18 boys and ranked 11th in Scottish seniors.

Harry has also been invited to train at the National Badminton Academy in Milton Keynes in the school summer holidays and has been offered a place at the world famous Misbun Sidek's Academy in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, where he will be based for part of December, training with the world's best junior players.

A GROUP of sporting novices have taken on a variety of challenges along the Great Glen Way to raise money for children's charity Kidasha, which supports some of the most vulnerable children in Nepal.

The team members chose to either walk or canoe the 73-mile length of the Great Glen Way or cycle the daunting 516 miles of the North Coast 500 route. Hailing from across Scotland and the rest of the UK, the participants are all supporters of Kidasha's work.

The participants tackled the challenges against the backdrop of some of Scotland's most breathtaking scenery. Luckily, the sun shone on the group as they battled blisters and braved hills during their way round the course. So far the group have raised an impressive £35,000 for Kidasha.

The participants included

Fundraising

Janice Miller, CEO of Kidasha, who took to a canoe to complete the challenge, despite a lifelong fear of water.

She commented: 'We are so grateful that such a large group took part in our Highland challenge to raise money for Kidasha. The challenges were no mean feat and everyone put in a lot of effort and training to get ready. Some of our participants had never been in a canoe or cycled any great distance, so it really was a big challenge. I'm delighted that I could overcome my phobia of water and complete the challenge too.'

'Overall, it was a real success and we're obviously delighted at how much money has been raised for Kidasha to date. It will help us change so many lives in Nepal.'



Some of the ladies who took part in the challenges.

Inverlochty win schools netball competition



St Columba's won the Fort William primary schools netball league.

Picture Iain Ferguson The Write Image, F25 netball 02 IF

HAVING won this year's Fort William primary schools netball league, St Columba's, continued on good form at the annual netball tournament.

The team was narrowly beaten in the final by Inverlochty Primary, who were in impressive shape.

Group stages

Seven primary schools from Lochaber entered teams, with Bun-Sgoil Ghaidhlig Loch Abar, Caol, Inverlochty and St Columba's making it through the group stages.

Bridget Thomas, Active Schools co-ordinator, said: 'The players produced some great netball in the semi-finals

Netball

and finals, with scorelines which were nail-bitingly close.'

'The inter-schools netball competitions are organised as part of the Active Schools programme but would not be possible without considerable help.'

'Hugh thanks to the pupils from Lochaber High School who did a great job umpiring, timing and score-keeping, to Fort William Falcons netball club and to the teachers, school staff and parents who support and coach the primary school teams through the year.'

Latest from Fort William Railway Bowling Club



Agnes Boyle and Eddie Downs were winners of the Charity Pairs Trophy held at the Railway Bowling Green, Inverlochty, with runners-up Robert Hunter, left, and Allan MacDonald.

SPOT THE SHINTY BALL

THIS WEEK'S JACKPOT £1900

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



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SHINTY

Best for all shinty news, results and fixtures

Marine Harvest Media Award winners 2016

Oban Camanachd take on Kyles in Celtic Cup final this weekend

OBAN Camanachd and Kyles Athletic will meet in the Artemis Macaulay Cup semi-finals following the shinty action on Saturday June 17.

Artemis Macaulay Cup - quarter final

Oban Celtic 0
Oban Camanachd 4
Oban Camanachd reached the Artemis Macaulay Cup semi-finals thanks to a 4-0 derby win over Oban Celtic at a wet Ganavan.

Oban Celtic manager Kenny Wotherspoon was without the suspended Ally McKerracher as well as David MacInnes, Connor Howe, Rory Bruce and Robert Alexander.

There were also suspension woes for Oban Camanachd boss Iain Hay who was minus Scott MacMillan who served a one-match ban for passing through the disciplinary points threshold. Gary McKerracher was on holiday but David Lafferty and youngster Lewis Buchanan were included.

Oban Celtic opened well and Gavin Stobbart in the Camanachd goal was called into action more than once.

However, the red and blacks adapted to the conditions and Aidan MacIntyre gave them the lead on 32 minutes when he won the ball in midfield before sending a dropping shot into the net on his left side from 25 yards out.

Daniel MacVicar forced home a rebound to make it 2-0 on 39 minutes. Malcolm Clark won the ball from an Oban Celtic goal-hit and he ran left before finding Matt Rippon who played in Andrew MacCuish. Oban Celtic keeper Stephen Davidson saved MacCuish's low shot but MacVicar netted from the rebound.

Matt Rippon scored twice in three second half minutes to seal the win. First, Rippon volleyed the ball into the net from close range following a long Lorne Dickie free-hit to make it 3-0 with 72 minutes played.

Then, just three minutes later, Rippon's snap-shot from the left went high into the net to make it 4-0.

The win sets Oban Camanachd up nicely for this Saturday's Gregor Cameron Glasgow Celtic Society Cup Final against Kyles Athletic. However, manager Iain Hay will have to do without Daniel MacVicar and Gary McKerracher who are both on holiday. Scott MacMillan is available again and there will be places in the squad for David

Lafferty, Craig MacDougall and Lewis Buchanan.

Kyles will do a check on keeper John Whyte who has a hand injury and Innes MacDonald who has an ankle knock.

Kyles Athletic 2

Glasgow Mid Argyll 0
Kyles Athletic are safely through to the semi-finals after they beat Glasgow Mid Argyll 2-0 at Tighnabruich.

Dunkie Kerr scored a goal in each half to give Kyles the win, his strikes coming on 13 and 60 minutes.

Kyles Athletic will now play Oban Camanachd in the Artemis Macaulay Cup semi-finals in a tie scheduled for Saturday July 22.

More immediately, Kyles Athletic and Oban Camanachd meet in the Gregor Cameron Celtic Society Cup Final at Tannoch Sports Field this Saturday. Throw-up is at 4pm with the match broadcast live on BBC Alba.

Balliemore Cup – quarter final

Skye Camanachd 0

Fort William 1
Fort William edged out Skye Camanachd 1-0 at Pairc nan Laoch, Portree, to reach the last-four of the Balliemore Cup.

Skye Camanachd co-managers Willie Cowie and Peter Gordon had selection headaches. Steven Morrison and Ally 'Spod' MacLeod remained out through injury while John Gillies joined them on the sidelines after breaking his wrist playing football. Gillesbuig MacDonald was unavailable and Kenny Campbell was on his honeymoon.

Fort William co-managers Victor Smith and Adam Robertson included youngster Lewis Clark who was free of his two-match suspension.

There was a minute's silence ahead of throw-up to mark the passing of former Kilmallie and Fort William player Duncan Rodger.

Neither of the sides had played for three weeks and both looked rusty during the early exchanges.

The closest Skye came to a first half goal was a Jordan Murchison shot which was saved with his feet by Paul MacKay whilst, at the other end, Graham Campbell played in Jack Fraser but his shot rose over the top.

It was fitting the only goal of the match came following the best move of the game. Fort William worked the ball down their right flank where Jack Fraser crossed

for Graham Campbell who had a shooting chance but opted to play the ball to his left where an unmarked Bryan Simpson ran in to finish well.

Fort William came close to doubling their lead when substitute Lewis Clark played in Bryan Simpson on the right but his shot went past the post.

Skye tried to take the tie to extra-time and the closest they came was a Will Cowie strike which went over the bar.

Stand-in full centre Danny Morrison was best for Skye whilst young defender Ally MacRae caught the eye for Fort William with play-maker Bryan Simpson their top man.

Speaking after the match, Fort William co-boss Victor Smith was pleased with the win. He said: 'It's not often we come to Skye and draw, never mind win so we're delighted with that. I enjoyed the winning goal. We saw three or four passes in the lead up to the goal and that didn't happen often for either team during the game. Conditions were very difficult, but both teams dug in despite the wind and the rain.'

When asked about the performances of Ally MacRae and Bryan Simpson, Smith added: 'Ally MacRae came in at wing back by default around three or four games into the season and he's been there ever since. He's young, fit and fearless and he's been absolutely fantastic for us. He's a good stick player and a good hitter. Bryan Simpson gives us experience up front and a wee bit of class too and he makes a difference to the team when he can play. The Skye full centre Danny Morrison was also very good and had plenty running and I liked watching him. We haven't turned the corner yet at Fort William but we are getting there.'

Next up is an Artemis Macaulay Cup tie against Newtonmore. Smith said: 'We've given Newtonmore a couple of good games this season but you always feel Newtonmore can go up two or three gears during a game so this will be difficult, especially at The Eilan.'

And with the Balliemore semi the week after, the Fort boss added: 'I haven't seen Inveraray this year but they are like ourselves, experienced players with a handful of youngsters.'

Skye Camanachd co-manager Willie Cowie offered no excuses. 'I thought we played well in defence and the midfield was good but we just didn't do enough up front,' he said.

Fort William will now meet Inveraray in the Balliemore Cup semi-finals. The tie will take place on Saturday July 1 at a neutral venue.

Strathdearn Cup – quarter finals

Glengarry 6

Fort William 0
Marine Harvest North Division 2 leaders Glengarry beat the Fort William second team from the league above 6-0 at Craighard.

Fort William were without the suspended Scott MacDonald who served a ban for passing through the disciplinary points threshold.

Nick Dalgety gave Glengarry the lead in the fifth minute and Raymond Robertson scored twice on 20 and 30 minutes to make it 3-0.

Nick Dalgety got his second a couple of minutes later and a Daniel MacLennan goal on 43 minutes ensured it would be 5-0 at the break.

Glengarry's Alan Knox scored

the only goal of the second half on 64 minutes.

Lochaber 4

Newtonmore 4
(After extra-time)
Newtonmore won 4-2 on pens) The Newtonmore seconds eventually got past the Lochaber seconds in a dramatic noon throw-up at Spean Bridge.

Lochaber took the lead on 24 minutes with Keith Neville scoring.

Lachlan Campbell made it 2-0 on 29 minutes but the visitors pulled a goal back a minute later so Lochaber took a 2-1 lead into the break.

Kenny Ross drew Newtonmore level on 59 minutes but the scoring didn't end there.

Calum Stewart looked to have put Newtonmore through when he completed his hat-trick with goals on 74 and 81 minutes to make it 4-2.

Lochaber refused to give in though and Sam Lees on 85 minutes and a second from Lachlan Campbell on the stroke of full-time ensured an extra 30 minutes would be required.

With no scoring during extra-time, referee Innes Wood took the tie to a penalty shoot-out which Newtonmore won 4-2. Kenny Ross, John MacKenzie, Craig MacLeod and Calum Stewart scored the penalties that made the difference.

The Newtonmore second team and Glengarry now meet in what should be an interesting semi-final.

Kingussie 2

Kilmallie 1
Two first half goals gave the Kingussie colts a 2-1 win over the Kilmallie colts at The Dell.

Dylan Borthwick on 25 minutes and Rory Fraser on 29 minutes made it 2-0 at the break.

Kevin Toye in the Kilmallie goal made some good saves during the match and Kingussie youngster Kieran MacPherson did well against another promising youth, Kilmallie's Calum MacDougall.

Kilmallie gave new signing Daniel Stewart some game time and he pulled a goal back on 60 minutes but it's Kingussie who go through.

Strathglass 1

Skye Camanachd 10
The Skye Camanachd second team overpowered the Strathglass second team, winning 10-1 at Cannich.

Skye travelled with seven players - Martin Pringle, James Morrison, Connor Gilpin, Ross Gordon, Calum Robertson, Stewart Taylor and Mark MacQueen - from the Skye Camanachd U17 squad which lifted the MacTavish Juvenile Cup the previous weekend and they chipped in with all but one of the Skye goals. Iain Murray is with the Skye first team.

Martin Pringle gave Skye the lead on 19 minutes and Ross Gordon made it 2-0 on 24 minutes.

Martin Pringle got his second on 25 minutes before completing his hat-trick to make it 4-0 on 36 minutes.

Connor Gilpin on 41 minutes and player/manager Kenny MacLeod a couple of minutes later made it 6-0 at the interval.

A second from Connor Gilpin on 53 minutes and a fourth from Martin Pringle on the hour made it 8-0.

Ross Gordon got his second on 71 minutes before Sam Cooper pulled a Strathglass goal back a couple of minutes later.

There was still time for Ross Gordon to complete his hat-trick, scoring on 82 minutes to round off the 10-1 victory.



Belated Happy Birthday! Drew Howie, who celebrated his birthday on Friday, can't hide his joy at the final whistle after Lovat's 1-0 win over Newtonmore. Photograph: Neil Paterson.

Skye gave youngster Mark MacQueen a second team debut in the second half.

The Skye Camanachd and Kingussie second teams now meet in the Strathdearn Cup semi-finals.

Bullough Cup – quarter finals

Aberdour 1

Lochside Rovers 2
Lochside Rovers came from a goal down to beat the Aberdour seconds 3-1 at Silversands.

With Gareth Evans away, Brian McCallum took Lochside. He had to do without Stephen Sloss, Craig MacDougall, Iain MacMillan and Jordan Kerr who were all working, whilst top scorer Lewis Buchanan was with the senior team.

This meant younger boys including Lennon Campbell, Scott Robertson and Ruaridh Horne got game time, whilst other players were tried in different positions.

A precise Jamie Anderson finish gave Aberdour the lead on 28 minutes. This was the first goal Lochside had conceded in seven matches, dating back to mid-April.

This stung Lochside into action and Craig MacMillan levelled on the half-hour mark with Michael MacQueen giving the Oban side the lead just a couple of minutes before the break.

Craig MacMillan got his second on the hour to seal a semi-final place.

It wasn't Lochside's best performance of the season but they'll be pleased with the win.

With no game this coming Saturday because of Oban Camanachd's involvement in the Gregor Cameron Glasgow Celtic Society Cup Final, Lochside's next outing will be against Glenurquhart's second team in the Aberdein Considine Sutherland Cup semi-finals the following week.

Strachur 5

Oban Lorn 0
Strachur are through to the semi-finals after they beat Oban Lorn 5-0 at Strachurmore. Calum MacLean was free

also injured. Evan Menzies was on holiday. Craig Ritchie and Conor Jones were given starts.

Both defences were on top throughout this game.

Newtonmore looked dangerous from set-pieces and when Callum Cruden was penalised by referee Lachie Wood, Steven MacDonald played the ball to Drew MacDonald but Lovat goalie Stuart MacDonald threw himself to make a good save with his stick.

With Newtonmore defending high up the park, Greg Matheson did well to anticipate a ball over the top and ran in on goal. Matheson took the ball into the 'D' and tried to take it around keeper Norman Campbell who halted his run and cleared the danger. Lovat claimed for a penalty, but referee Lachie Wood waved away their claims.

There were few shots on target with the Newtonmore defence quick to thwart any home attack.

The hosts found the back of the net on 40 minutes though. Lorne MacKay's backhand shot was saved with his legs by Norman Campbell but Greg Matheson was onto the rebound to steer the ball into the bottom left corner of the net to make it 1-0.

The match became tousy at times in the second half with Iain Richardson coming off the bench, continuing to look dangerous from set-plays.

When Steven MacDonald played a free-hit across the 'D' on 77 minutes, Glen MacKintosh hit a terrific shot but Stuart MacDonald made an even better save.

A minute later, another Newtonmore free-hit saw Steven MacDonald hammer the ball goalwards and this time Stuart MacDonald saved with his legs.

The defeat was harsh on Newtonmore but Lovat held on as they enjoy their best spell of the season so far.

Danny Kelly was tops for Lovat whilst Conor Jones, who was always willing to come deep to link up play, caught the eye for Newtonmore.

Lovat now leap-frog Newtonmore into fourth spot in the league with a two-point advantage, although they have played two games more.

The defeat, Newtonmore's third in the league this season, is a blow to the reigning champion's hopes of an eighth successive league Marine Harvest Premiership title.

Newtonmore now trail leaders Kyles by six points, with both teams having played eight games.

Newtonmore meet Fort William at The Eilan this Saturday in the Artemis Macaulay Cup quarter-finals. Lovat are also in Macaulay last four action and they face Lochaber at Spean Bridge on the same day.

Lochaber 1

Kinlochshiel 1
Lochaber and Kinlochshiel shared the points in a 1-1 draw in their 3pm throw-up at Spean Bridge.

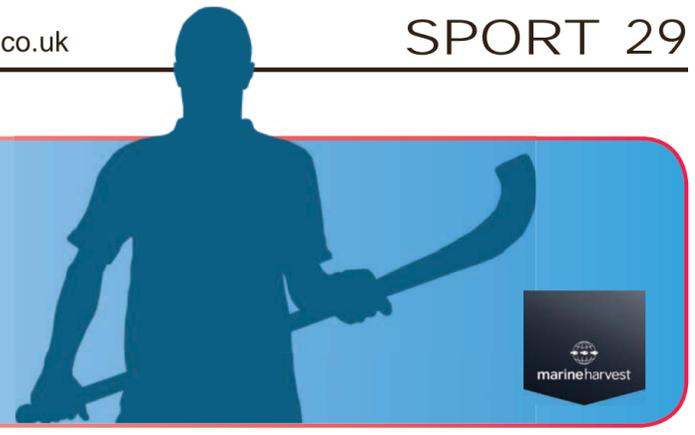
Lochaber manager Ally Ferguson had Callum MacDonald back in goal, taking over from stand-in keeper Lachlan Campbell. John Sweeney, Pat Toal and Donald Macrae were still out.

Kinlochshiel boss Johnston Gill had John MacRae and Conor Cormack sitting out the final games of their respective suspensions. Gordie MacDonald faces a spell on the sidelines with a knee problem whilst Jordan Fraser was another absentee. Fraser MacVicar was given a start and there was a place for Seamus Lane.

An opportunist Paul MacRae



Inveraray's Ali MacDonald tries an unorthodox method of shielding the ball from Inverness player Craig Nicholson. Photograph: Neil Paterson.



Camanachd Cup Macaulay Cup MacTavish Cup Celtic Society Cup

Sutherland Cup Balliemore Cup Strathdearn Cup Bullough Cup

strike on 31 minutes gave Kinlochshiel the lead. Lochaber had a couple of chances to clear their lines before MacRae, playing at full forward after returning early following a broken finger, took full advantage as he slotted the ball home from 12 yards, giving the keeper no chance.

Callum MacDonald was the busier of the two keepers in the first half but Lochaber perhaps had more of the play. However Kinlochshiel had to settle for a one-goal advantage at the break.

The second half saw Scott Kennedy much more involved but there was little he could do to prevent Stuart Callison levelling on 53 minutes. Brennan MacDonald slipped the ball past Finlay MacRae to bring Callison into play and he ran onto the ball before tucking it home to make it 1-1.

Lochaber had a chance to snatch both points with 10 minutes to go when Kevin Ferguson went through on goal, one-on-one with keeper Kennedy. But he was unable to hit the target with the ball just going wide of the post.

It was a hard fought point for both teams and whilst Lochaber will feel they did enough in the second half to win the game, a draw was probably a fair reflection of the overall play.

Kinlochshiel's Colin MacDiarmid could be sidelined after appearing to be red-carded by referee Innes Wood for something said just after he'd been substituted.

Lochaber's 18-year-old wing centre Findlay MacDonald was outstanding, working tirelessly in the middle of the park and creating space and chances for the home forwards.

Kinlochshiel's Keith MacRae and Paul MacRae always looked threatening but they were well marshalled by Zandz Ferguson and Duncan MacKinnon.

It was another valuable point for Lochaber who have now taken five points out of the last six in the league whilst Kinlochshiel have gone five consecutive games without a win.

Marine Harvest National Division

Caberfeidh 6 Strathglass 1
Caberfeidh go top of the Marine Harvest National Division after they beat Strathglass 6-1 at Castle Leod.

Caberfeidh's Martin MacDonal was free of suspension.

Craig Morrison put Caberfeidh in front on 13 minutes with the only goal of a first half played mainly in midfield. A good ball from the impressive Ally MacLennan at full centre found Kevin Bartlett on the right and he delivered a looping cross which deceived the Strathglass defence. It found Craig Morrison at the edge of the box and he hammered the ball home.

The remainder of the half ebbed and flowed into a flare up between Scott Douglas and Liam Symonds, joined by their respective brothers, with all four players receiving a warning and a yellow card from referee John Angus Gillies.

The second half started brightly and Colin MacLennan made it 2-0 on 51 minutes when he finished off a good move between the forwards by beating the keeper at his left post.

Kevin Bartlett had been well-policed by Donald Fraser during the first half but he created just enough space on the left to drill the ball past a helpless keeper to add a third on 55 minutes.

Michael Stokes pulled Strathglass back into the game with a goal a minute later to make it 3-1.

The goal came following a long run from the centre line during which Stokes was tripped but the referee played advantage and Stokes composed himself before his shot flew into the net off a home defender.

It then became 'Kevin Bartlett Show' as he took his tally to four goals with efforts on 66, 79 and 83 minutes. The last one was the best as the Scottish



Action from the Lochaber v Kinlochshiel premiership match which ended in a 1-1 draw. Photograph: Abridge Photography.

international took the ball down and slammed it into the roof of the net from 20 yards out.

Ally MacLennan had a faultless game at full centre for Caberfeidh and his team-mate Blair Morrison was commanding at buckshee back. The home forward line were very sharp and Craig Morrison and Kevin Bartlett shone over the 90 minutes.

Strathglass played well in defence, especially veteran Donald Fraser and keeper Ally MacAdams who made a number of good saves.

The Caberfeidh win, coupled with Skye being in Balliemore Cup action, means Caberfeidh go a point ahead of the islanders at the top although they have played a game more.

Inverness 0 Inveraray 10

Inveraray recorded a fifth successive win when they beat Inverness 10-0 at a glorious Bought Park.

The Inverness absentees included Dougie Rankin who sat this game out to complete a two match ban.

Inveraray travelled with a full squad with Scott MacLachlan coming back in for Graham MacPherson in goal.

The visitors started strongly and it wasn't long before they made their mark with full back turned star striker Allan MacDonald scoring with a ferocious strike with three minutes played.

With the wind in their favour, Inveraray continued to dominate the first half, putting a further five goals past Inverness goalie Kenneth Loades.

A stereotypical Garry MacPherson rocket found the back of the net on 13 minutes with top scorer Lewis Montgomery adding a third on 24 minutes.

Allan MacDonald got his second a couple of minutes later and a first senior goal for young Ruairaidh Graham made it 5-0 on 29 minutes.

Allan MacDonald completed his hat-trick on 35 minutes to make it 6-0 at the break.

Inverness made changes to try and stem the tide with player/manager Drew McNeil going to full centre. However Inveraray continued to play their characteristic silky shinty, giving the home side a torrid time.

Inverness now had the elements but the Inveraray back line dealt with any home threats and Lewis MacNicol added his name to the score-sheet on 59 minutes following a move which started from the defence, went through the centre line with the ball eventually landing kindly on MacNicol's stick.

Player/manager Ruairaidh Graham made it 8-0 with another well-worked team goal on 71 minutes.

With such a commanding lead, it would have been easy for Inveraray to take their foot off the gas but young Fraser Watt had different ideas, scoring his brace on 83 and 84 minutes to make it 10-0.

Fraser Watt's younger brother

Campbell made his first senior appearance and the 14-year-old showed that he is one to watch in the future, contributing well to the Inveraray forward line.

The win lifts Inveraray to third in the table on goal difference and with no scheduled game this Saturday, their management team of Ruairaidh Graham, Ally Watt and John Montgomery will want to ensure their players remain focused on keeping their winning streak going.

Inverness also have no fixture and they'll look to get players back and put this defeat behind them.

Marine Harvest North Division 1

Aberdeen University 4 Kinlochshiel 0
Aberdeen University go second in the league after they beat the Kinlochshiel second team 4-0 at a sun-kissed Balgowrie.

Stuart Cameron put the students ahead on 16 minutes and Gregor Cushnie made it 2-0 on 27 minutes.

Willie Hunter added a third on 33 minutes with Gregor Cushnie making it 4-0 with his second on 65 minutes.

Had it not been for some great goalkeeping, including a penalty save from Raymond Gillies, the home side could have won by a bigger margin.

The win lifts Aberdeen to second spot in the division on goal difference, two points behind the Newtonmore colts but with a game in hand, and continues their great start to their league campaign following their promotion from Marine Harvest North Division 2 at the end of last season.

Glenurquhart 3 Beaully 2

The Glenurquhart seconds edged out the Beaully seconds 3-2 in their 3pm throw-up at Blairbeg.

The teams occupied the bottom two places in the league going into this game and bottom side Glenurquhart took a two goal lead with strikes from Jed Stoddart on 20 minutes and Michael Fraser on 32 minutes.

Beaully had Marc MacLachlan back in their side for the first time this season and he reduced the deficit 10 minutes into the second half.

Daniel MacKintosh scored what proved to be a crucial third goal with 10 minutes remaining as Ross Forbes made it 3-2 on the stroke of full time.

The Glenurquhart seconds now move off the bottom of the table Beaully's expense.

Marine Harvest South Division 1

Bute 7 Tayforth 1

Bute continue their climb up the table following a 7-1 win over third-placed Tayforth in their 3pm throw up at The Meadows. Robert Walker was in prolific

form for the islanders and his early hat-trick, with goals on 7, 9 and 26 minutes, gave Bute a welcome goal cushion.

Gordon MacMillan added a fourth on 36 minutes whilst Robert Walker got his fourth a couple of minutes later.

A second Gordon MacMillan goal gave Bute an unassailable 6-0 lead at the break.

Robert Walker rounded off a superb personal performance with his fifth goal of the game on 65 minutes, although there was some consolation for Tayforth when Derry Barton netted on 69 minutes.

Bute are now eighth in the league and they have games in hand on the teams above them.

Glenorchy P Kilmory P

The meeting between Glenorchy and Kilmory was postponed as Glenorchy's Mart Park pitch was ruled unplayable.

Taynuilt P Col Glen P

The match between Taynuilt and Col Glen at Taynuilt Sports Field was postponed on Friday evening because of an unplayable pitch. The match will be rescheduled for a later date.

Marine Harvest North Division 2

Inverness 3 Strathspey Camanachd 1

The match between the Inverness colts and Strathspey Camanachd was played at a breezy Bought Park outside pitch on Friday June 16 with a 7pm throw-up.

Strathspey started well but the home side settled into the game and they had the ball in the net early in the contest but referee Andy MacLean ruled out the effort for a 'kick'.

Inverness, who had Peter Grace and Michael Price back in their side, did break the deadlock on 27 minutes courtesy of a sweet strike from former Fort William player Andy Reid.

The hosts had the chance to double their lead when they were awarded a penalty. Ewen MacKinnon made a surging run from the Inverness midfield and his cross into the 'D' from the corner flag on the left was adjudged to have been kicked by a visiting defender. However Doniel MacLeod missed the target from the spot.

A second Inverness penalty followed on 39 minutes. This time Ewen MacKinnon cut the ball back from the right and another 'kick' allowed Andy Reid a chance from the spot and he scored his second goal of the game with a rasping hit.

Strathspey came more into the game after the break, but it was Inverness who extended their lead on 57 minutes when Doniel MacLeod atoned for his earlier penalty miss when he netted from close in following a goalmouth scramble.

Strathspey introduced Donnie Ross on 62 minutes and they

pulled back a deserved goal on 84 minutes through former Kingussie player Russell Menzies who hit a long-range effort from the left which went through the keeper's legs.

The Highland Capital side stayed in front though and deserved the win, their third league victory of the season.

Andy Reid was excellent at full centre for Inverness, ably assisted by wing centres Ewen MacKinnon and Hannah Johnston.

Boleskine 2 Lochcarron 5

Lochcarron beat Boleskine 5-2 at Smith Park.

Boleskine's Peter Tinney started a two-match ban following his red card in his team's last outing, a 3-1 defeat to Strathspey Camanachd three weeks earlier.

Sean MacCuish was still out injured for Lochcarron. Lachlan Dean Morrice put Lochcarron ahead on seven minutes and Lance MacCuish made it 2-0 four minutes later.

Neil Hope pulled a goal back on 16 minutes and the visitors took the 2-1 lead into the break.

Lance MacCuish made it 3-1 on 51 minutes but Boleskine fought back again as Neil Hope scored his second to make it 3-2 on 59 minutes.

Sam Stubbs on 63 minutes and a hat-trick goal from Lance MacCuish on 82 minutes rounded off the 5-2 win.

Boleskine's cause wasn't helped when referee Euan Pearson showed red cards to Keith Nicolson and Craig Pirrie.

Lewis Camanachd 0 Caberfeidh 3

The Caberfeidh reserves go second in the division after they beat Lewis Camanachd 3-0 at Shawbost.

Lewis started well, playing

against a strong wind, but it didn't take Caberfeidh long to settle into the game.

All the goals came in the second half with Stuart Krzyzanowski giving Caberfeidh, who found it much easier playing into the wind, a 57th minute lead.

James MacLeod scored on 61 and 77 minutes to complete the 3-0 victory.

Caberfeidh gave a debut to 13-year-old Fraser MacDonald who came on as a second half substitute.

Caberfeidh now trail leaders Glengarry by two points with both sides having played eight games.

2017 Bullough Cup semi-final draw

The Bullough Cup semi-finalists are clearer following the weekend shinty action:

Saturday July 15
Kyles Athletic v Strachur
Inveraray / Kilmory v Lochside Rovers

The final will take place on Saturday August 5 with the venue still to be confirmed.

Strathdearn Cup semi-final draw

The Strathdearn Cup semi-finalists are as follows:

Saturday July 15
Kingussie v Skye Camanachd
Newtonmore v Glengarry

The final takes place on Saturday August 12 with the venue to be confirmed.

WCA round-up

The ladies focus was to be on the top flight title race but the wet weather wiped out most of the fixtures.

Marine Harvest National Division 1

Lovat 12 Aberdour 2
Lovat recorded a morale-boosting 12-2 win over Aberdour in their 1.30pm throw-up at Balgate.

Fiona Urquhart scored six times, Laura Gallacher hit a hat-trick whilst Leah Zblewski, Jennifer Mair and Holli Sneddon got the other home goals with Katy Smith and Megan MacFarlane countering for Aberdour.

Lochaber P Skye Camanachd P

The game between league leaders Lochaber and reigning champions Skye Camanachd at Spean Bridge was postponed because of an unplayable pitch.

Fort William P Glasgow Mid Argyll P

The 3.30pm throw-up between Fort William and Glasgow Mid Argyll was postponed as An Aird was unplayable.



Hannah Johnston wins the ball in front of Strathspey's Martin Ross. Photograph: Donald Cameron.

Fixtures

Saturday June 24 Gregar Cameron Celtic Society Cup Final

Kyles Ath v Oban Camanachd
Taynuilt Sports Field
Lachie Wood - 4pm

Balliemore Cup Semi Final Beaully v Caberfeidh

John Wood - Noon

Artemis Macaulay Cup Quarter Final (North)

Lochaber v Lovat
John Angus Gillies
Newtonmore v Fort William
Andy MacLean

Aberdeen Considine Sutherland Cup 3rd Round

Fort William v Kingussie
Ronnie Campbell

Bullough Cup 2nd Round

Inveraray v Kilmory
Graham Fisher - 1pm

Marine Harvest Premiership

Glenurquhart v Kilmallie
Martin MacLean
Kingussie v Kinlochshiel
Deek Cameron

Marine Harvest National Division

Oban Celtic v Strathglass
Willie MacDonald - 1.30pm

Marine Harvest North Division 1

Kinlochshiel v Newtonmore
Brian MacKay

Marine Harvest South Division 1

Glenorchy v Bute
Innes Wood - 1.30pm

Marine Harvest North Division 2

Kinlochshiel v Newtonmore
John Matheson

Marine Harvest National Division 1

Lochaber v Bute
Innes Wood - 1.30pm

Throw-ups 2pm, unless stated.

Results

Friday June 16

Marine Harvest North Division 2
Inverness 3 v 1 Strathspey

Bullough Cup

Inveraray P v P Kilmory
Unplayable field

Saturday June 17

Artemis Macaulay Cup Quarter Final (South)
Kyles Ath 2 v 0 Glasgow MA
Oban Celtic 0 v 4 Oban Camanachd

Balliemore Cup 3rd Round

Skye 0 v 1 Fort William

Strathdearn Cup 3rd Round

Glengarry 6 v 0 Fort William
Lochaber 4 v 4 Newtonmore
Newtonmore won 4-2 on pens
Kingussie 2 v 1 Kilmallie
Strathglass 1 v 10 Skye

Bullough Cup 2nd Round

Aberdour 1 v 3 Lochside Rovers
Bute 0 v 2 Kyles Athletic
Strachur 5 v 0 Oban Lorn

Marine Harvest Premiership

Lovat 1 v 0 Newtonmore
Lochaber 1 v 1 Kinlochshiel

Marine Harvest National Division

Caberfeidh 6 v 1 Strathglass
Inverness 0 v 10 Inveraray

Marine Harvest North Division 1

Aberdeen Uni 4 v 0 Kinlochshiel
Glenurquhart 3 v 2 Beaully

Marine Harvest South Division 1

Bute 7 v 1 Tayforth
Glenorchy P v P Kilmory
Unplayable field
Taynuilt P v P Col Glen
Unplayable field

Marine Harvest North Division 2

Boleskine 2 v 5 Lochcarron
Lewis 0 v 3 Caberfeidh



Fergus Bradbury.

Bradbury helps Scots to record high placing

OBAN rugby player Fergus Bradbury featured in the Scotland team that secured their highest finish to date in the World Rugby Under 20 Championship on Sunday.

Prop Fergus, who now plays his club rugby for Stirling County in the BT Premiership, came off the bench mid-way through the second half as Scotland beat Australia 24-17 in Georgia to cement fifth position in the tournament. Scotland's fifth place finish bettered their previous high of eighth.

Crucial scrum

Scotland came from 10-3 down at half-time to take the lead at 17-10, before Australia levelled with 10 minutes left. However, a crucial scrum in the dying moments saw the Scots pinch a try, which was converted with the last kick of the game for a thrilling win.

Fergus also featured in the

Rugby

previous round's narrow 29-25 victory over Wales, again starting as a replacement but coming on late in the game.

His brother Magnus, who was on tour with the senior Scotland squad, did not play in the historic victory over Australia in Sydney on Saturday. And Magnus will not feature in this weekend's test match against Fiji in Suva, having returned home.

Oban's Abi Evans will hope to be involved with the Scotland team that competes this weekend (Saturday and Sunday, June 22 and 23) at the Rugby Europe Women's Sevens Trophy in Hungary.

The Scots women won the trophy in the previous round in the Czech Republic earlier this month so will have high hopes of doing well.



Abi Evans.

Saints prepare for the new season

Football

AFTER a well-earned, though short, break Oban Saints players will soon be back in action preparing for the new season, which starts on Saturday August 12.

Training sessions will be held every Wednesday evening with the first on Wednesday July 5 at the rugby club starting at 6.30pm. Any new players will be made more than welcome.

A number of pre-season games and tournaments have also been organised. The first, on Saturday July 8, will be the annual D & K Cup Tournament at Mossfield Stadium with Dundee United, Hamilton Accies, Alloa Athletic and Berwick Rangers among teams taking part.

This will be followed by pre-season games against Vale of Leven Juniors (July 22), South Lochaber Thistle (July 29) and Lochgilhead Red Star (August 2), with the Argyll and Bute Cup tournament in Lochgilhead on Saturday August 5.

Saints have been drawn in Group A alongside Rothesay Brandane, Dunoon and Neilston. Group B is Lochgilhead Red Star, Tarbert, Glasgow Islay and South Lochaber Thistle.

Life's just a beach on Islay

OBAN Lorne's 1st XV and ladies' team made the trip to Argyll neighbours Islay RFC who hosted their annual Beach Rugby Festival in Port Ellen last weekend.

The Green Machine fielded both a strong men's and ladies' team who were both hoping to keep up their good record in recent festivals.

Oban's 1st XV team have reached the final of the event on four occasions but have never lifted the beach rugby trophy.

The ladies' team, with a large squad, performed well against the other three teams taking part with a good win over Cartha Queens Park and played well in losses to Watsonians ladies and T200.

The ladies then had a rematch with Cartha in the bowl final where the opposition won by a 3-2 margin. The team did suffer a blow midway through the day when Lucy Stewart was airlifted to hospital in Glasgow with a suspected neck injury.

Fortunately, the injuries were not as serious as first thought and she will return to pre-season training as normal.

Aberfeldy and Paisley along with an Islay team, were Oban Lorne 1st XV's opponents in the group stage of the men's competition where the Oban side won all matches fairly comfortably.

The semi-final was contested with reigning champions Kilchoman Distillery. Oban Lorne won a tough and close game despite yellow cards to both Robin MacQueen and Andy MacDougall.

Oban Lorne faced Bruichladdich Distillery in the final, who were represented on the day by BT Premiership newcomers Marr RFC. Unfortunately, Oban ran out of steam in the final going down nine tries to two as they finished up as runners-up yet again.

Argyll and Bute fielded a team made up with some Islay boys. Islay lost to Loch Lomond in the men's plate semi-finals, going down 4-1. Kintyre travelled over

for the second year running and made it through to the third-place final but went down seven points to three against a strong Trinity Accies. The second-place plate final saw a convincing win for Loch Lomond against Aberfeldy which ended 3-0.

The hospitality shown by Islay Rugby Club and the warm welcome from Port Ellen, along with a well-earned dram at the end of the day from Kilchoman Distillery, made for another great weekend.

Pre-season Training

Pre-season training for Oban Lorne RFC's senior teams will begin on Tuesday June 27.

Oban Lorne 1st XV are looking forward to their third consecutive season in West Division 1 under the guidance of head coach Corrie Louw.

Due to league expansion, the team will endure 22 league fixtures this season, meaning the squad will need to be well prepared for the season ahead.

Beach rugby

Oban Lorne's 2nd XV and ladies' fixtures are yet to be announced by their respective leagues.

Pre-season training is open to all players and beginners are more than welcome. Times and venues will be confirmed on the club's Facebook page and website.

Lions breakfast with Oban Lorne RFC

The club will be hosting a British and Irish Lions breakfast for the three upcoming test matches with the All Blacks on June 24, and July 1 and 8.

The test matches will be shown live on the club's big screen with a full breakfast being served from 8am.

Cost per person is £8.50 with proceeds going to club funds. All members and non-members are more than welcome to come along.



Bruichladdich defeated Oban Lorne 9-2 in the final.

Action from the final.

Winners of the ladies' competition were T200.



The Oban Lorne squad who finished runners-up in the Islay Beach Rugby tournament.



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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	04.03	3.8	10.10	0.8	16.16	3.7	22.39 0.8
Fri	04.52	3.9	11.00	0.6	17.03	3.9	23.32 0.6
Sat	05.38	4.0	11.47	0.5	17.49	4.0	*** **
Sun	00.23	0.5	06.23	4.0	12.34	0.4	18.33 4.1
Mon	01.13	0.5	07.08	3.9	13.21	0.4	19.18 4.0
Tues	02.03	0.6	07.53	3.7	14.07	0.5	20.03 3.9
Wed	02.58	0.8	08.39	3.5	14.53	0.7	20.48 3.7

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

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

Ferry Crossings/Sea States

Oban to Barra/South Uist	Moderate
Oban to Coll/Tiree	Moderate
Kennacraig to Islay	Moderate

WEATHER

Thursday Cloudy with rain later in the day
Winds light west south westerly
Temperatures 11°C to 14°C.

Friday Light rain followed by sunny intervals
Winds moderate westerly
Temperatures 10°C to 13°C.

Weekend Light rain showers on Saturday
Cloudy on Sunday
Winds moderate west south westerly
Temperatures 10°C to 13°C.



LOCHABER TIMES

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Ardnamurchan Mòd hits the high notes



Lochaber Jags take home Iain Thomson Memorial Trophy

Sixty new homes and big cash boost for Lochyside

ELLIE FORBES
eforb@obantimes.co.uk

SIXTY new homes in Lochyside will come with a £60,000 boost which could be used for a new indoor training and community centre.

The Lochyside development was approved at the Highland Council's south planning committee when it met on Tuesday.

It could see the building of a new indoor training and community centre next to Lochaber High School - thanks to developer contributions, which the council seeks for new developments of four or more houses where appropriate.

A contribution of £1,000 per house towards community facilities will be given in this instance, meaning £60,000 will be secured towards a community project.

Ben Thompson, Caol and Mallaig councillor, told the *Lochaber Times* after the meeting that careful consideration needed to be given to what the money was spent on.

'When this development was being looked at, the council identified what there was a shortage of in Lochaber and at that time huge efforts had been made to get funding for an indoor facility,' he said. 'However, that plan was written about five

or six years ago, and we are in the process of getting a new one written, plus we have new councillors now, so I tried to stress to the council that plans for these funds should not be too specific, because things change.'

Andrew Baxter, Fort William and Ardnamurchan councillor, also stressed that should the plans for an indoor sports facility not go ahead, the community would still have the money to be spent elsewhere.

The accessibility of the 60 homes was also discussed. Earlier this year, Lochaber Disability Access Panel told the *Lochaber Times* it had formally objected to the application and has emphasised its disappointment that no representatives from the agents, Bracewell Stirling, had come to meet members of the panel.

Planning officer Susan MacMillan told the meeting on Tuesday that, while the panel has not formally removed its objection, members have since met with the agents, who said as many properties as possible will be wheelchair accessible.

Ms MacMillan said they will be flexible to meet the needs of the people who are living there, once the homes have been allocated.

Mr Baxter said he thought the

buildings were 'very grey' and lacked a bit of colour.

He said: 'Did the architects lose their crayons when drawing up the plans because it's very grey? I don't know if that was to blend in with the rain and weather of Lochaber though.'

Ms MacMillan responded by saying the homes are a mixture of white and beige. 'We have a condition in the planning to agree and finalise the colour and I am sure they [the architects] would be happy to look at some colour.'

Mr Thompson said the development would have been 'better with more three-bedroom houses'. He said: 'In the report, it says the mix of units has been informed by the Highland Council housing register. I think it assumes people are moving out of three- and four-bedroom homes into two-bedroom ones, but that doesn't happen as quickly as we would like it to.'

John Gillespie, vice chairman of Caol Community Council, told the *Lochaber Times*: 'We are pleased to see that the development has been passed, especially with many of the changes which were made on the feedback from local residents.'

'Hopefully, this level of communication will continue as the development progresses.'

Filming work begins but could cause delays on A82

FILMING taking place this week is expected to cause delays on the A82.

The A82 Partnership says there could be delays of 10 minutes around Invergarry and Invermoriston from today (Thursday

June 22) until Tuesday July 4. From today until Wednesday June 28, filming will be around Laggan and Aberchalder Farm, Invergarry, and from Wednesday June 28 till Tuesday July 4 it will be around Invermoriston

and Bught Drive, Inverness. It is believed the filming is for the Channel 4 production of *The Biggest Little Railway in the World* which will track the attempt to build a model train from Fort William to Inverness.

Violinist Rhona bows out in style



VIOLINIST and Lochaber High School S6 leaver Rhona Mackintosh was awarded Highland Young Musician of the Year 2017 at Sunday's competition in Nairn.

Rhona fought off five fellow competitors from across the Highlands, performing a 15-minute programme at the evening's public final to secure her title. She was also awarded the Richardson Trophy for Musical Excellence.

All entrants for this competition are members of one of the Highland Young Musicians music groups and Rhona was joined by fellow

Lochaber High School pupil Rosie Clark, who performed on trumpet in the afternoon's prelim round.

The judges were particularly impressed with the Highland Council's 'continued support of the musical development of Highland's young people, affording them opportunities often not available in many other parts of the country and with the way the competitors conversed with the judging panel and conveyed their obvious enjoyment of playing and participating in a wide variety of musical activities.'

Mother assaulted her child

A LOCHABER woman held one of her children's head under the bathwater after she had whistled to her own mother she was going to drown the child.

Fort William Sheriff Court on Tuesday heard details of the assault, but nothing can be reported that would identify the child or its siblings.

The child was seen to be upset when attending school the following day and teachers discovered what had happened, Sheriff Gordon Fleetwood was told.

The woman, in her 30s, admitted assaulting the child, pushing the youngster's head under bathwater at an address in Lochaber on May 24 this year.

Procurator fiscal Andrew Shanks said that the child's maternal grandmother was overseeing bath time. 'She whispered to her mother she was going to drown the child and pushed the child's head under water and held [the child] under. The accused was spoken to by police, admitted the offence and tendered an apology.'

The woman's defence agent said that all her children were now on the child protection register, the children's panel is involved and she could only see them under the supervision of her own mother and her mother's partner.

The woman is suffering from depression and her medication has been changed, he added.

Sheriff Fleetwood deferred sentence for three months to September 12, calling for a supplemented community justice and social work report and advice from the children's panel.



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Red tape causes end for fireworks

'ONEROUS licensing requirements' have led to a community fireworks display being cancelled after more than a decade.

Balachulish Community Council has announced the village fireworks will be cancelled this year because of too much paperwork following the council's introduction for such events to have public entertainment licences.

In January, the Highland Council instigated a requirement for fireworks displays to have a public entertainment licence.

Chairman of Balachulish Community Council Kevin Smith told the *Lochaber Times* the community is going to have

to cancel the event at Balachulish Quarry for 2017 because of 'more onerous licensing requirements that were not previously required for small community events'.

He said: 'We have been looking at all the paperwork for over a year and have sadly concluded the additional requirements, both in terms of associated costs and additional man hours, make it impossible to continue at the present time to meet the Highland Council time frame for licenced events this year.'

Mr Smith said the fireworks have been a 'great community event' over the past decade and thanked everyone for their help. The council's licensing com-

mittee agreed to the changes in September.

It stated public fireworks displays are required to hold a licence where there is no admission fee or charge. Previously, a licence was only required when there was a charge to view or take part.

A council spokesperson said: 'Following a public consultation on a number of proposed changes to public entertainment licence activities, including a proposal to extend the activity of public fireworks displays to include those for which there was no charge to the public, the Highland Licensing Committee considered the feedback from this consultation and at its

meeting on August 11 2015, agreed to propose to amend its licensing resolution to include public fireworks displays for which there was no charge to the public.'

'In response to the consultation, the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service advised that it agreed and supported the proposal as any increased scrutiny and compliance would almost certainly have a direct impact in increasing public safety which directly aligns with the objectives of its service.'

'The licensing of this activity will ensure the relevant health and safety aspects, risk assessments and insurance requirements are considered and met.'

The Nevis Centre
Over the last 12 months, Linnhe Leisure have been engaged in developing a Master Plan for the Nevis Centre.

you are invited to: A presentation of the Nevis Centre Master Plan

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Bid to grow malt barley on Raasay

ELLIE FORBES
eforbes@obantimes.co.uk

TRIALS are taking place on Raasay to establish if it is possible to grow barley suitable for whisky on the island.

R&B Distillers, which is in the process of building a distillery on the island, is on a mission to find a variety that ripens well and has a low enough moisture content for malting.

With a Celtic well on site providing access to the high mineral content water, as well as a plentiful supply of peat in the north of the island, the distiller was curious to investigate if it would be possible to create a 'truly local whisky'.



Five varieties of barley are being grown on Raasay.

are bere, concerto, tartan, iskria and kannas, and were sown in April. Bere barley was grown on Raasay 40 years ago and

is a traditional and very early maturing Scottish barley. Concerto is the most widely grown UK malting barley, tartan is a variety which had a provisional recommendation for distilling and which was grown for several years in Orkney for Highland Park Distillery, iskria is an Icelandic variety, and kannas is a very early Swedish variety.

Once R&B has found a suitable variety, the barley will be sent away to be malted using Raasay peat. The barley will then be returned to the distillery and used to create a lightly-peated Raasay single malt.

Advice and support from neighbouring farmers has been

'vital' to the project, said the distillery. Andrew Gillies, along with John Gillies and Alasdair MacAskill, have disked, ploughed, rolled and sown the land as well as broadcasting it with lime and fertiliser.

A distillery spokesperson said: 'This has all been made possible with the knowledge and help of Peter Martin of the Highlands and Islands University Agronomy Institute.'

She added: 'If the trials are successful, R&B Distillers intends to hold an open day for local farmers and crofters to see the results as well as hear about the future of barley growing on Raasay.'

'R&B plans to offer local farmers and crofters an alternative

crop to grow, with a guaranteed end customer. Working directly with the primary producer, R&B will shorten its supply chain and offer an agreed price for any crofters on Raasay, Skye or Kyle that can grow the successful variety for distillery use.'

The long-term objective for the distillers is to grow enough barley on Raasay, Skye and Kyle to produce a single malt from 100 per cent locally grown barley.

The spokesperson added: 'While acknowledging this whisky may only be a small percentage of total production, R&B is keen to challenge the limitations of production in such a remote and unusual location.'

TIMESLINE

Exhibition looks at Norse period

A NEW exhibition in Museum nan Eilean, Benbecula, is exploring the Norse period in the Outer Hebrides, from the first arrival of the raiding Vikings to their settlement on the islands.

The exhibition charts changes in the daily life of the inhabitants of the islands, the importance of craft activities and the artistic and religious life of the immigrants.

Archaeological artefacts from a number of sites across the Outer Hebrides are exhibited, including artefacts from the 30 years of excavation by Iain Crawford at Udal in North Uist.

A special event for the community to go along for a private viewing was held yesterday (Wednesday).

Reduction in sports facility fees

COMHAIRLE nan Eilean Siar's Education, Sport and Children's Services Committee has agreed to offer free Slàinte Mhath memberships to groups supporting vulnerable or at-risk children across the islands.

A number of third sector bodies, charitable organisations and comhairle services approached the sport and health section requesting access to sports facilities for young people and their carers/mentors.

Since the Slàinte Mhath scheme came into place in 2010 and fees were reduced by more than half, there has been a 25 per cent increase in the number of people using the facilities.

Defibrillators are installed in schools

ALL schools in the Outer Hebrides now have a defibrillator.

At the Education, Sport and Children's Services meeting in June 2016, the comhairle approved a grant payment to Lucky2BHere, a charity which has placed defibrillators and delivered emergency life support (ELS) training in numerous areas throughout Scotland.

It was also agreed charity volunteers would deliver ELS training at each of the schools. This training was open to all school staff and to pupils from P5 upwards.

Only four schools remained to have training provided: Sir E Scott School, Leverhulme Memorial School, Stornoway Primary School and the Nicolson Institute. To date 874 pupils have received ELS training.

Committee asked to back parking limit

MEMBERS of Comhairle nan Eilean Siar's Transportation and Infrastructure Committee will be asked to approve the standardisation of a two-hour, no-return period across all pay and display car parks in Stornoway town centre, at a meeting of the committee on Wednesday June 14.

In March 2016, the comhairle agreed to an initial phase of extending pay and display parking in the town centre which included extending chargeable parking to the former Fisherman's car park and to the areas of South Beach adjacent to the Star Inn and the Caledonian Hotel, and the retention of non-chargeable parking provision at No 1 Pier. No objections were received.

Eigg celebrates 20th anniversary of historic buyout

RESIDENTS on the Isle of Eigg have been celebrating 20 years since the island's trailblazing buyout in 1997.

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 who now own and manage 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 Maruma.

At that time the population was just 64 people, but following a series of initiatives such as new homes and renewable energy, the number of permanent residents on Eigg has grown to 105.

Constituency MSP Kate Forbes was among the guests attending last Monday's event, which included speeches from representatives of the Isle of Eigg Heritage Trust, Scottish Wildlife Trust and Highland Council.

Speaking after the event, Ms Forbes said the day was a celebration of what communities can achieve when they are 'not at the mercy of landlords'.

'It was an honour to be on the Isle of Eigg to celebrate 20 years of community ownership - not only because of the progress that has been made but also because of the people who were there. Some of these people have been instrumental in leading the way on land reform and believing that communities should be in control of local assets.'

'Twenty years ago, Eigg led the way in showing the world how to create a sustainable community by owning the land, acquiring security of tenure and working together.'

'Today, the lively community numbers over 100



MSP Kate Forbes was on Eigg for the celebrations, as were Bob and Louise Giles, from Detroit, inset.

people and it's largely down to the sheer determination and commitment of a small number of people who weren't satisfied with the status quo.'

Eigg captured the attention of the world as the community appealed for contributions, and people followed the progress of the community buyout.

Ms Forbes added: 'My hope is that Eigg demonstrates what can be done and other communities choose to take control of their futures. There

is huge economic potential for communities on their front doorstep.'

Bob and Louise Giles travelled from Michigan, USA, to join the party and present the Isle of Eigg Heritage Trust with a cheque for \$1,000 on behalf of the St Andrew's Society of Detroit.

The 450-strong society has sent annual donations to support Eigg residents with their regeneration plans, and Mr and Mrs Giles were thrilled to see the transformation that community ownership has delivered.

Mr Giles, a former president of the society, said: 'Our first visit to Eigg was on July 4, 1997, when we organised a beach barbecue to celebrate Eigg's independence.'

'It was our independence day and it was a great joy to share in the celebration of such a marvellous achievement. The progress we have witnessed this week is truly inspiring and we have such a story to tell when we return to Detroit.'

Vice Lord-Lieutenant of Isles is appointed

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.

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 (CAB) in Barra after 25 years as manager. 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.

A volunteering stalwart, she has been active in community development with Voluntary Action Barra and Vatersay

for more than 35 years, being involved in establishing the Western Isles CAB Service, community newspaper Guth Bharraidh, the community bus service and the housing association.

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.'

Vice-Lord-Lieutenant Elizabeth McAtear receives her commission from Lord-Lieutenant Donald Martin.



Skye faces crisis over 'urgent' parking issue

PARKING problems on Skye have been identified as an 'urgent issue' at the first meeting to address tourism pressures on the island.

Skye MSP Kate Forbes held the meeting at the Aros Centre, Portree, on Friday June 9 with members of the public and representatives from 60 businesses and other organisations.

The purpose was to decide how businesses, public bodies and communities could collaborate to deal with the pressures on infrastructure as the number of tourists continues to grow.

Ms Forbes said one of the urgent issues is a lack of parking but the problem is 'no-one planned ahead 10 years ago. What is needed is money and someone or some organisation to be responsible for delivering what is necessary. We also need a plan for extra parking.'

'I asked everyone to write down their ideas so we can start to build

a strategy for the years ahead,' said Ms Forbes.

She added: 'There are obvious, immediate challenges to do with parking and toilets but there's also a need to plan ahead for the next few years in a way that hasn't been done before.'

'I recognise the growing frustrations across Skye and no meeting will solve everything. Unfortunately, there is no magic wand to solve all the pressures on the island as tourism continues to grow. But one idea would be to encourage people to visit different parts of the island that are not so busy with tourists and to visit at different times of the year.'

Parking at one popular spot got so bad the community decided to fundraise to extend the car park. Richard Powell from the Fairy Pools Community Fund, which hopes to raise £250,000 to create 135 parking spaces, said some progress has been made.

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Husband of the late Karen Haggerty, Iain, with daughters Deborah and Dawn with the plaque dedicating the new bridge in her name. Photograph Iain Ferguson, The Write Image.

Bridge dedicated to Lochaber woman

AROUND 150 people turned out to celebrate the opening of the Glen Nevis bridge on Sunday, which has been dedicated to a Lochaber woman who lost her battle with leukaemia.

Difficult terrain had previously made the glen's riverside path a no-go area for wheelchair users, elderly and frail visitors, and families with young children.

But thanks to a £600,000 upgrade of the path and the provision of a new river crossing, the area is now accessible.

Before inviting traditional musician Robert Robertson to declare the new 1.5km route open, Alex Farquhar, chairman of the Nevis Partnership, which led the two-year project in conjunction with the Highland Council, told the attendance partnership was the key to the success of the scheme.

He said: 'This new all-ability path and bridge is testament to what can be achieved when organisations work in partnership.'

'However, it is impossible to bring together a project such as this without the help, funding and goodwill of a great many people and organisations.'

The day's celebrations, which included a march over the new bridge by Lochaber Schools Pipe Band and hours of family activities and entertainment, were sponsored by GFG Estates, part of the GFG Alliance, which recently became the owner of a large part of Glen Nevis when the business bought the Lochaber aluminium smelter.

The bridge was dedicated to Karen Haggerty, the former Glen Nevis visitor centre manager.

Karen started working with the Highland Council as a visitor centre assistant in 2002 and was promoted to manager a few years later. She died suddenly in March 2016 after a short battle with leukaemia.

Countryside ranger Fiona MacLean said: 'Karen was a hard-working and enthusiastic member of staff. She was instrumental in the decision to have the new bridge located at the visitor centre which will enable more hill walkers to benefit from the weather and safety information it promotes. She is missed by family, friends and colleagues.'

Crofter fined for uttering racially offensive remarks

A CROFTER from Arivegaig, Acharacle, appeared before Fort William Sheriff Court on Monday charged with shouting, swearing and uttering racially offensive remarks at an Englishman.

'But I'm English,' said Sean Reid, 53, of MacNeil's Croft, during his defence.

'My family are English and it would be financial suicide for my business - 80 per cent of my customers are English.'

Reid, who rents out a house and caravans on his croft denied

the offence on August 12 last year and also denied shouting, swearing and acting in an aggressive manner and uttering threats on October 29, 2015.

Sheriff Gordon Fleetwood heard the offences involved the occupants of the neighbouring croft, an English family, and that there was bad feeling between the parties.

Neighbour Anthony Smith, 55, told the court that in the August 2016 incident, Reid had shouted at him, when his car was parked in the common grazing access between their

properties: 'Have a nice day you ****ing English moron, have a nice day you ****ing English pig. Why don't you just **** off, nobody likes you.'

Reid also encouraged a terrier dog he had with him to go after the Smith family's cat, which had gone onto Reid's croft.

Reid denied this, saying rental customers were out in the croft grounds at the time and shouting such remarks and that behaviour would be 'financial suicide'.

He had been walking the dog around the croft and came

across Smith who stood staring and smiling at him and Reid told him: 'I'm contacting the police.'

But Smith's wife gave evidence supporting her husband and said she felt 'afraid, alarmed, helpless'.

During the October 2015 incident Mr Smith said he had parked his vehicle in the grazing access to unload feed when Reid began shouting at him 'get off the ****ing track you p****, get off the ****ing track you ****hole' and added 'You are ****ing dead meat', and made a finger

across the throat gesture. Smith denied all this, saying that in the dark of an October evening he would not have walked across his croft, as Smith described, as it had deep trenches and boggy land. During his evidence, Reid told the court the couple were acting out of 'resentment and envy'. 'I had to contact the planning department about their croft,' he said adding that he felt the couple wanted revenge.

Sheriff Fleetwood found Reid guilty and fined the first-time offender a total of £700.



The Fort William girls took on Tough Mudder at the weekend.

Fort William girls take on Tough Mudder

A GROUP of eight Fort William ladies took on Tough Mudder at the weekend to raise money for a charity 'close to their hearts'.

Anne Wallace, Rebecca Grant, Mhairi Clelland, Stephanie Clelland, Gail Bilsland, Tammy McGhee, Vicki MacLeod and Rebecca Maclean took on the challenge and won.

Anne told the *Lochaber Times*: 'Rebecca G, my hairdresser, told me she and two of her sisters had signed up for Tough Mudder, and I had always wanted to tackle the challenge. I asked a few more details and found out it was taking place in Thornhill, Dumfries-shire, so thought it a sign as my late mum had grown up there. When I found out it was on June 17 I knew it was meant to be as my mum's birthday was June 19, so I signed up too. We chose the Macmillan Nurses Charity as it's something close to our hearts and we all have personal experience of the

amazing work they do.' Another close friend unfortunately didn't get a chance to try this challenge, having lost her own battle with cancer. And so the group set out to raise £750. 'We all started at 10am and finished four hours later. The course length was just over 11 miles and the obstacles ranged from a mud crawl under barbed wire, a chute which led to an ice bath, wall climbs ranging in height from six to eight feet and a monkey bar challenge. But we all completed it with teamwork, sheer grit and determination.'

The women are all back home and pleased to report they had raised £2,500, with cash still coming in. They would all like to say a big thank-you and if anyone still wants to donate they can find the link on the Nevis Radio Facebook page or drop in to the Lochy Bar, Caol, or Unique Hair and Beauty in the High Street, Fort William.

Sentence deferred

A FORT William man's drug addiction came to light when he was taken ill and rushed to the Belford Hospital.

The town's sheriff court heard on Tuesday that Alasdair Christopher Kelly, 46, of Flat 1, 33 High Street, Fort William, ended up in hospital for seven days in a medically-induced coma after falling ill.

Kelly admitted possessing heroin on August 4 last year at his then home at Brown Court in the town.

Procurator fiscal Andrew Shanks said that the 7.1g 'had a value of between £200 and £250 in the form it was seized'.

Hamish Melrose, defence agent, said that Kelly had begun to use heroin five years ago during the time he was acting as carer for both his parents. 'Since his illness he has not taken any drugs,' he added. Sheriff Gordon Fleetwood deferred sentence until July 18 for a community justice and social work report to be prepared on Kelly.

Police files

OVERNIGHT on June 16-17 an attempted theft took place at Mallaig boatyard. The tea hut was entered and various items removed and recovered elsewhere, and a boat was entered. Anyone who saw anything suspicious is asked to call Fort William or Mallaig police stations on 101.

Between June 12 and 14, items of clothing were stolen from a laundry room in Lochaline. Any information should be reported to Fort William or Strontian police stations.

Sometime between June 12 and 13 a new shelter at the Ballachulish Quarry was vandalised. Any information should be reported to Fort William or Glencoe police stations.

Clarification

THE LOCHABER Times retracts the comment 'community spirit has dissolved' attributed to Caol and Mallaig councillor Billy MacLachlan in last Thursday's paper (June 15).

The *Lochaber Times* apologises to Mr MacLachlan.

Forum chief voices anger

THE CHAIRMAN of Lochaber Transport Forum has expressed anger over the absence of a West Coast Motors representative at the group's latest meeting.

Former Fort William and Ardnarnach councillor Brian Murphy questioned why, once again, there was no-one from the company at the meeting on Monday.

Benny MacDonald from the forum said he had been in touch with West Coast Motors and he had understood a representative was going to attend the meeting.

Mr Murphy said: 'I am getting really annoyed they are ignoring the concerns of the travelling public in Lochaber. This forum is representing some of their customers views.'

'I think they are treating the travelling public in Lochaber

with contempt. They should be making a real effort to get to this meeting. It's disgraceful.'

Arthur Cowie from Lochaber Disabilities Access Panel said: 'When this group was set up, we said Stagecoach, City Link, Shiel Buses and West Coast Motors would attend the meeting and West Coast Motors have not honoured that.'

'They have no excuse for not being here.'

Russell Dods, area manager for Oban and Mull, West Coast Motors, said: 'We revised our summer timetable based on demand and connectivity with other bus routes.'

'We are committed to delivering a bus service which meets the travel requirements of our customers.'

'To do this, we rely on our

customers for feedback and would encourage anyone with comments, suggestions or complaints to get in touch by calling 01586 552319 or emailing enquiries@west-coastmotors.co.uk.'

South Lochaber residents say they feel cut off as a result of poor bus services.

People living in Glencoe and Kentallen say they have no choice but to go to Fort William for work, shopping or a day out because there are not enough buses to Oban, and the ones that go don't give people enough time in the town.

Kentallen resident Sally Morris, who raised the issue with the *Lochaber Times* earlier this year, said: 'This is about the buses tying up and giving people two or three hours in Inverness or Oban.'

WHAT'S ON

CROILEAGAN Grianach is hosting a fashion show today 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 July 29. For more information, contact Sarah Kennedy on 07768 805040.

CAOL gala day will take place on Saturday June 24 at Bun-Sgoil Ghàidhlig Loch Abar from noon to 4pm. There will be family fun with a fair, a licensed bar, snacks and craft stalls. There will also be a tug-of-war, bonnie baby competition, gala grannie, cheerleaders and more. Teams for the tug-of-war are encouraged to get in touch, as is anyone with home-baking donations. Fancy dress is encouraged on the day. An unlimited ride wristband costs £9, with a single ride costing £1. For more information, email kirstykyle75@gmail.com.

A CRAFT fair will be held in Nether Lochaber village hall on Saturday June 24 between 10am and 4pm. Go along to support your local craft producers. For more information, call Berit on 01397 705539.

STAFF and volunteers from Lochaber Sensory Care for sight and hearing support will visit Morvern medical practice on Tuesday June 27 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. They will also supply NHS hearing aid

batteries and re-tube and maintain the hearing aids. No appointment is required.

THE ANNUAL general meeting of Alzheimer Scotland's Lochaber branch will be held in St Andrew's Church Hall, Fort William, on Wednesday June 28 at 5.30pm. Everyone welcome.

THERE will be a fashion and music taster day on Thursday June 29 at West Highland College UHI, Fort William. This will be a chance to have a look around, see the students' work and ask questions.

There will also be an opportunity to apply and have an interview the same day. At 4.30pm there will be a play-in-a-band session and find out more about the after school club for next year. Any instrument - no assessments or qualifications - just music. Call 01397 874000 or visit www.whc.uhi.ac.uk for more information.

ON SATURDAY June 24, a public meeting will be held between 3pm and 4.30pm at the Four Seasons Bistro at the Inchree Centre in Inchree, Onich, chaired by Councillor Andrew Baxter.

The purpose of this will be to have an open discussion about two different options for the Nether Lochaber community to acquire buildings and a small area of woodland from the Forestry Commission Scotland (FCS), and historic agricultural fields owned by Lochaber Housing Association.

This will be preceded by a drop-in information event from 1.30pm, to advise Nether Lochaber residents, particularly those at Inchree, as well as any interested members of the wider community, as to the potential for community ownership and development of these assets.

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Annual Ardnamurchan Mòd hits the high notes



Francis MacDonald from Ardnamurchan High School won first in violin solo. F25 Mod 14 JP

MORE than 300 people – the largest number of entries for many years – competed in the annual Mòd Aird nam Murchan last Friday.

The Mòd was once again held in Ardnamurchan High School, with competitors coming from the peninsula's five primary schools.

Convener Fiona MacLean said: 'We had a good number of choirs and five action songs, which was fantastic.'

'That is a lot for us. Having more than 300 people competing is more than usual for us.'

'Having the national Mòd coming to Fort William this year has given us an edge and we hope first prize-winners will go on to

compete in the Mòd. The Mòd supports our five primary schools and gives the four non-Gaelic-medium schools a chance to take part in Gaelic competitively.'

'The high school has been so generous in having us because we turn the place upside down.'

'We can't thank them enough.'



Kilchoan Primary School at Ardnamurchan Mòd.



Ardgor Primary School children at the Mòd. F25 Mod 01 JP



Michael Doherty won first prize in chanter. F25 Mod 23 JP



Eilidh Morrison from Acharacle Primary School with her first place pin. F25 Mod 09 JP



Erin MacIntosh won first place for solo singing. F25 Mod 11 JP



Kenny Murdo MacLennan was first in the accordion. F25 Mod 18 JP



Roscoe Doors with big brother Parker both had first places at the Mòd. F25 Mod 24 JP



Eilidh MacInnes with her firsts for solo singing and poetry. F25 Mod 08 JP



Alexander Pervan with two first place medals. F25 Mod 05 JP



Laura Robertson got three first place prizes and had 100 per cent in her poetry. F25 Mod 22 JP



Ellie Richardson took part in this year's Mòd. F25 Mod 10 JP



Jamie Rowantree, 10, from Acharacle. F25 Mod 16 JP

Lochaber Times newsdesk 01397 703003



Layla MacIntyre and Verity Lawrence both took second place in solo singing. F25 Mod 21 JP

A conservatory – limitless possibilities for an extra room on your home



Donnie Macaskill got second place in chanter. F25 Mod 07 JP



Catriona Cameron competed at the Mòd. F25 Mod 06 JP



Alan MacInnes with his accordion. F25 Mod 26 JP



Maggie Griffin, six, with her first place pin. F25 23

Results

Solo Singing - Fluent - Boys and Girls 5-6 years: 1 Maggie Griffin, Mallaig PS. Boys and Girls 7 years: 1 Eilidh Morrison, Acharacle Primary School (PS); 2 Erin Rowantree, Acharacle PS; 3 Alastair MacGillivray, Acharacle PS. Boys and Girls 8 years: 1 Eva Griffin, Mallaig PS; 2 Alasdair MacKay, Acharacle PS. Girls 10 years: 1 Eubhaidh Kellett, Salen PS; 2 Raonaid Sanderson, Salen PS. Boys 9-10 years: 1 Parker Dawes, Acharacle PS; 2 Alexander Pervan, Acharacle PS; 3 Murdo Coll Morrison, Mallaig PS. Girls 11-12 years: 1 Laura Robertson, Bungoil Ghàidhlig Loch Abar; 2 Aine O'Rua, Bungoil Ghàidhlig Loch Abar; 3 Maighsi Rough, Acharacle PS. Boys 11-12 years: 1 Callan Griffin, Mallaig PS; 2 Alexander MacDonell, Mallaig PS. Girls 13-15 years: 1 Orla MacLennan, Tobermory High School.

Learners - Boys and Girls 5-6 years: 1 Eilidh MacInnes, Ardgor PS; 2 Molly Watson, Ardgor PS; 3 Ryan Cameron, Kilchoan PS. Boys and Girls 7-8 years: 1 Zara Cripps, Tobermory PS; 2 Edie Crosbie, Kilchoan PS; 3 Isla MacKechnie, Coisir Og Loch Alainn. Girls 9-10 years: 1 Layla MacIntyre, Coisir Og Loch Alainn; 2 Holly Gallagher, Tobermory PS; 3 Maria MacLachlan, Kilchoan PS. Alice Munro, Ardgor PS. Boys 9-10 years: 1 Jamie Rowantree, Acharacle PS. Girls 11-12 years: 1 Erin MacIntosh, Acharacle PS; 2 Isabella Sutherland, Oigridh Shuaimeart; 3 Chloe Curtis, Kilchoan PS. Boys 11-12 years: 1 Billy Richardson, Ardgor PS; 2 Toby Fisher, Ardgor PS. Girls 13-15 years: 1 Floriana Lawrence, Coisir Og Loch Alainn; 2 Rachel Bolton, Coisir Og Loch Alainn.

Local Own Choice, Fluent, Boys and Girls Fluent and Learners - 5-6 years: 1 Duncan MacAulay, Acharacle PS; 2 Anna MacAulay, Acharacle PS; 3 Mary Margaret MacAlpine, Acharacle PS. 7-8 years: 1 Roscoe Dawes, Acharacle PS; 2 = Alasdair MacKay, Acharacle PS; 3 Erin Rowantree, Acharacle PS. 9-10 years: 1 Alexander Pervan, Acharacle PS; 2 = Layla MacIntyre, Coisir Og Loch Alainn, Verity Lawrence, Coisir Og Loch Alainn; 3 Mairi-Ann MacGillivray, Oigridh Shuaimeart. 11-12 years: 1 Maighsi Rough, Acharacle PS; 2 Isabella Sutherland, Oigridh Shuaimeart. 13-15 years: 1 Rachel Bolton, Coisir Og Loch Alainn; 2 Floriana Lawrence, Coisir Og Loch Alainn; 3 Maryann MacPherson, Ardnamurchan High School.

Oral competitions - Poetry Recitation - Fluent: 5-6 years: 1 Aonghas Schmidt-Gorthy, Salen PS; 2 Eaidh Nic Iasgair, Salen PS; 3 Elin Nic 'Ill eathain, Salen PS. 7 years: 1 Bailidh Mac 'IlleDhuinn, Salen PS; 2 = Sienna Nic an Rothaich, Salen PS, Ruairidh Mac'IlleEathain, Salen PS; 3 Eilidh Camshron, Salen PS. 8 years: 1 Alasdair MacKay, Acharacle PS; 2 Eva Griffin, Mallaig PS; 3 Eoghann Sanderson, Salen PS. 9 years: 1 Murdo Coll Morrison, Mallaig PS; 2 Seonaidh Mac a'Phie, Salen PS; 3 = Eilidh Purfit, Salen PS. 10 years: 1 Catriona Camshron, Salen PS; 2 Parker Dawes, Acharacle PS; 3 Eubhaidh Kellett, Salen PS. 11-12 years: 1 Laura Robertson, Bungoil Ghàidhlig Loch Abar; 2 Alexander MacDonell, Mallaig PS; 3 Lillidh Howitt, Salen PS. 13-15 years: 1 Sean MacLellan, Ardnamurchan High School; 2 = Frances MacDonnell, Ardnamurchan High School; 3 Seamus Buchanan, Ardnamurchan High School.

Learners - 5-6 years: 1 Eilidh MacInnes, Ardgor PS. 7-8 years: 1 Edie Crosbie, Kilchoan PS; 2 Amy MacLachlan, Kilchoan Primary School. 9-10 years: 1 Jamie Rowantree, Acharacle Primary School; 2 Zacharius Alexander, Ardgor PS; 3 Daniel Craig, Ardgor PS. 13-15 years: 1 Mitchell MacPherson, Oigridh Shuaimeart; 2 Rachel Bolton, Coisir Og Loch Alainn; 3 Rona MacIntyre, Oigridh Shuaimeart.

Conversation - Fluent - 5-6 years: 1 Duncan MacAulay, Acharacle Primary School; 2 Maggie Griffin, Mallaig PS; 3 = Cian Gibson, Salen PS, Aonghas Schmidt-Gorthy, Salen PS. 7-8 years: 1 Eilidh Morrison, Acharacle PS; 2 = Ruairidh MacAulay, Acharacle PS, Erin Rowantree, Acharacle PS; 3 = Cannel Baxter, Salen PS, Alasdair MacKay, Acharacle PS.

9-10 years: 1 Alexander Pervan, Acharacle PS; 2 Donnie Morrison, Acharacle PS; 3 Catriona Camshron, Salen PS. 11-12 years: 1 Ruairidh Fothergill, Mallaig PS; 2 Laura Robertson, Bungoil Ghàidhlig Loch Abar; 3 Rio Mac'IlleDhuinn, Salen PS. 13-15 years: 1 Rachel Ford, Ardnamurchan High School; 2 Sean MacLellan, Ardnamurchan High School; 3 Maryann MacPherson, Ardnamurchan High School. Choral - Fluent - Under 13 Choral Unison: 1 Salen PS.

Under 13 Puir: 1 Salen PS. Learners - Under 13 Unison: 1 Tobermory PS. Under 13 Puir: 1 Kilchoan PS; 2 Acharacle "B" PS; 3 Lochaline PS. Under 13 Choral Rural: 1 Acharacle PS; 2 Kilchoan PS; 3 Oigridh Shuaimeart. Local: 1 Oigridh Shuaimeart. Action Song - Under 10 years: 1 Lochaline PS; 2 Acharacle PS; 3 Strontian PS. Under 13 years: 1 Ardgor PS. Folk Group - Under 13 years: 1 Acharacle PS; 2 Ardgor PS; 3 Strontian PS. 13-18 years: 1 Ardnamurchan High School.

murchan High School.

Instrumental competitions: chanter - 1 Michael Doherty, Acharacle PS; 2 Donnie MacAskill, Acharacle PS. Baggpipes - 1 Laura Robertson, Bungoil Ghàidhlig Loch Abar. Fiddle - Under 13: Mya Carmichael, Strontian PS. 13-18 years: Frances MacDonnell, Ardnamurchan High School; 2 Jodi MacLennan, Ardnamurchan High School; 3 Mitchell MacPherson, Ardnamurchan High School. Accordion - Under 13 years: 1 Allan MacInnes, Acharacle PS. 13-18 years: 1 Kenny Murdo MacLennan, Ardnamurchan High School; 2 Katie Cameron, Ardnamurchan High School. Tin Whistle - Under 13 years: 1 Murdo Morrison, Mallaig PS; 2 Megan MacLeod, Mallaig PS. Keyboard - Under 13 years: 1 Arran MacLennan, Ardgor PS. Piano - Under 13 years: 1 Isabella Sutherland, Strontian PS.

Guitar - Under 13 years: 1 Maighsi Rough, Acharacle PS; 2 Ellen Munro, Ardgor PS. 13-18 years: 1 Jonathan Ewers, Ardnamurchan High School; 2 = Herbie Patterson, Ardnamurchan High School, Nathan Fleming, Ardnamurchan High School. Clarsach - Beginners: 1 Frances MacDonnell, Ardnamurchan High School. Elementary: 1 Alice Munro, Ardgor PS. Intermediate 2: 1 Aine O'Rua, Bungoil Ghàidhlig Loch Abar. Senior competitions - Song of District: 1 Janet Campbell, Tobermory; Ladies Prescribed: 1 Janet Campbell, Tobermory. Ladies and men - own choice: 1 Janet Campbell, Tobermory. Senior Choirs - two songs, own Choice: 1 Burach.

Trophies awarded annually - junior section - Oral: Cupan Shuairdail (Swordle Cup) - for highest Gaelic mark in poetry - Local learners - Under 13 years: Jamie Rowantree, Acharacle PS. Mod Aird nam Murchan Trophy - for highest Gaelic mark in poetry: Open: Laura Robertson, Bungoil Ghàidhlig Loch Abar. Graham Croal Trophy - for highest mark in any of the competitions - under 18 years: Laura Robertson, Bungoil Ghàidhlig Loch Abar. Lochaber Gaelic Development Group Cuach for Conversation - Open - 5-8 years: Eilidh Morrison, Acharacle PS. Lochaber Gaelic Development Group Cuach for Conversation - Open - 9-12 years: Ruairidh Fothergill, Mallaig PS. Junior Section - Singing - John S Thomson, Glenborrodale Cup - for highest Gaelic mark attained in any of the competitions - Local - Solo - 9 under 13 years: Parker Dawes, Acharacle PS. Peter MacQueen, Ardgor Memorial Cup - for highest music mark attained in any of the competitions - 9 under 13 years: Joint - Parker Dawes, Acharacle PS and Layla MacIntyre, Coisir Og Lochan Alainn. Mod Aird nam Murchan Trophy - for highest mark attained in Music and Gaelic - 9 under 13 years: Parker Dawes, Acharacle PS. The Daily Record Cuach - for the highest Gaelic mark, confined to locals, Local Solo - 5-8 years: Eilidh MacInnes, Ardgor PS. Kate Stewart Memorial Cup - for the highest mark attained in Music, confined to locals. - Solo - 5-8 years: Eilidh MacInnes, Ardgor PS. Mod Aird nam Murchan Trophy - for the highest mark attained in music and Gaelic - Open - 5-8 years: Eilidh MacInnes, Ardgor PS. Scottish Natural heritage Trophy - for the highest total attained in Music and Gaelic - Open - Solo - 13-18 years: Rachel Bolton, Coisir Og Loch Alainn. The Joan Smith Memorial Cup - for the choir attaining the highest mark in Gaelic and Music - Unison Singing - Under 18 years: Acharacle PS. The Convener's Cup - for the choir attaining the highest mark in Gaelic and music - Unison Puir-a-beul - Under 18 years: Kilchoan PS. The Campbell Memorial Shield - for the choir attaining the highest mark in Gaelic and Music - 1 Song - under 13 years: Oigridh Shuaimeart. Special competitions: The Mod Air nam Murchan Shield - Action Song - Under 10 years: Lochaline PS.

Trophies awarded annually - senior section - Sheila Dewar Memorial Cup - Song of the District: Janet Campbell, Tobermory; Christina MacLaren Memorial Trophy - highest mark in Gaelic: Janet Campbell, Tobermory; Maclean of Ardgor Memorial Challenge Cup - for the highest total attained in Gaelic and music: Janet Campbell, Tobermory. Ceillear Trophy - Overall winner in Adult Choir Competitions - Burach. The Conductor's Baton - for the choir gaining the highest mark singing two songs of own choice: Burach. Instrumental - Sunart Oakwoods Trophy - for the highest mark in fiddle - 13-18 years: Frances MacDonnell, Ardnamurchan High School; Donald Boyd Cuach - for the highest mark in fiddle - Local under 13 years: Mya Carmichael, Strontian PS. Gillespie MacMillan Mod Cup - for the highest mark in accordion - Kenny Murdo MacLennan, Ardnamurchan High School. Ardnamurchan Mod Mini Silver Cup - for the highest mark attained in chanter - under 18 years: Michael Doherty, Acharacle PS. Ardnamurchan Mod Clarsach Cup - for the highest mark attained in Clarsach - Under 18 years: Aine O'Rua, Bungoil Ghàidhlig Loch Abar; Ardnamurchan Mod Guitar Cup - for the highest mark attained in guitar - under 18 years: Jonathan Ewers, Ardnamurchan High School.



Aaran MacLennan got a first for keyboard. F25 Mod 03 JP



Four pupils from Mallaig Primary School who took part in the Ardnamurchan Mòd. F25 Mod 02 JP



Sean MacLellan won first place for poetry. F25 Mod 25 JP

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Lochaber ladies on their bikes for vital charity fundraising

ELLIE FORBES
eforbes@obantimes.co.uk

THREE Lochaber ladies have cycled 50 miles to raise money for a charity highlighting the effects of a genetic disorder affecting one of their sons.

Amy Fulford, Lucy Swabey and Elspeth Berardelli took part in the Edinburgh night ride at the weekend raising more than £1,300 for Action Duchenne, a charity supporting Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD).

Elspeth's son, Giorgio, 12, is the driving force behind the fundraising after he was diagnosed with DMD in 2008.

Mum Elspeth said: 'As ever, our driving inspiration is the irrepressible Giorgio. He continues to amaze everyone around him with his strength of character and sheer grit. Whether it's ski-ing, biking, swimming, dancing or whatever goal he's set himself, he refuses to give up, however difficult his body makes things for him.'



The three ladies at the training lunch before the Edinburgh night ride.

'When Giorgio was diagnosed with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy in 2008 our world was turned upside down. With this new terrible diagnosis, combined with his complex heart condition, we felt the future was bleak. However, since then, largely due to the tenacity and enthusiasm of Giorgio himself, we have got ourselves back on track and feel it is important to be proactive in fundraising and increasing awareness of this condition.'

'We have been cycling together for several years but often it's been more about the tea and cakes than racking up the miles. However, in our constant quest to fundraise and increase awareness of DMD, we decided it was time to make our biking matter.'

Lucy told the *Lochaber Times*: 'We got on really well and made good time.'

'Our usual rides are about 10 miles so this was a big challenge for us, especially trying to fit in training around work. Having

the support from the community has really helped.'

Elspeth said since the last big fundraiser there have been promising results in the research into finding significant treatments and ultimately a cure for DMD.

She added: 'As ever, time is against us and further progress is dependent on cash injections from charities such as Action Duchenne.'

'Your continuing love and support is very much appreciated by us all. Without your help, everything would be so much harder.'

'With only 100 boys born with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy in UK every year, it is not deemed important enough to merit significant government funding, so public fundraising is vital.'

Before the event, the three ladies did a training ride around Achnacarry, with Janet Sidgwick providing a fundraising lunch for the group and friends.

Agreement on transfer

MEMBERS of the Highland Council's Places Committee have agreed to transfer the Highland Council ranger service to High Life Highland.

Committee chairman Councillor Allan Henderson said: 'In the past few years the number of rangers has fallen from 22 to 10.5 full-time equivalent posts to meet saving targets. I believe this proposal to transfer the team to High Life Highland is a great opportunity for the ranger service to grow and continue to play its important role in schools and communities.'

Work on the transfer will start later this year. In the meantime, the ranger service will operate as normal.

Grants up for grabs

LOCHABER Housing Association (LHA) is inviting applications for its fifth round of community grants.

Grants of up to £200 are available for Lochaber-based community groups.

Priority will be given to first-time applicants but the association will consider applications from organisations which have received grants in the past. Closing date for completed applications is Friday July 28. Forms can be downloaded from the LHA website or by contacting Nicola Gilbert on 01397 702530.

MP elected new leader

ROSS, Skye and Lochaber MP Ian Blackford has been elected as the new SNP leader at Westminster.

Mr Blackford will be supported by Kirsty Blackman, elected as the deputy group leader. Mr Blackford said: 'It is an honour and a privilege to be elected to lead the SNP's strong and talented team of MPs.'

Police to continue Skye road safety crackdown after 20 drivers snared

MORE than 20 drivers have been caught in a road safety operation on Skye.

A week-long roads campaign was carried out on the island after concerns were raised by residents and community groups.

The operation saw 15 drivers charged with speeding, two people charged with drink-driving, two vehicles seized for having no insurance and a driver reported for having no valid driving licence, along with other offences in relation to inappropriate driving and vehicle defects.

Constable David Canning, based in Dunvegan, who led the operation, said: 'It was disappointing to detect so many people driving at inappropriate speeds in built-up areas of the island, including one local man who has been reported to the procurator fiscal for driv-

ing at 51 miles an hour in a 30 mile per hour zone in Broadford.

'These proactive patrols, working jointly with the roads policing unit, will continue throughout the summer to ensure Skye roads are safe places for residents and visitors. All of those detected now face a fine and points being imposed on their driving licence, while those caught drink driving face a minimum of a 12-month driving ban if found guilty.'

'Our message to drivers on Skye is to take your time, drive with consideration for others and get there safely.'

Anyone concerned over inappropriate driving should call 101 to speak to a local officer and follow the @LochabSkyePol Twitter feed for up-to-date roads information.

Tenants reassured on safety

THE HIGHLAND Council has reassured its tenants their homes are safe following the fire at London's Grenfell Tower.

The local authority owns a number of multi-storey properties but does not have any high-rise buildings above five floors.

It said all council homes are fitted with hard-wired smoke detectors, but tenants are being advised to check regularly that theirs is working.

Caol and Mallaig councillor and chairman of the council's places committee, Allan Henderson, said the thoughts of everyone at the council are with those affected by the London tragedy.

He said: 'We would like to reassure anyone in Highland who has concerns following this tragic incident.'

'We are confident of the fire safety of our housing stock in relation to building standards and conditions, but will obviously consider the factors involved in the Grenfell Tower fire as details emerge on this and implement any fire safety recommendations for social landlords.'

General and specific fire safety information is available on the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service website.

The Highland Council is offering to help anyone who is

having difficulty checking their smoke detector.

The council said tenants of flats should make sure there are no combustible items left in stairwells and that stairs are left unobstructed.

Local senior officer for Highland fire service John MacDonald added: 'We are here to support communities, most notably through our free home fire safety visits, where firefighters will provide safety advice and guidance on what to do in an emergency.'

To book a free home fire safety visit, call 0800 0731 999, text 'FIRE' to 80800 or visit www.firescotland.gov.uk.



Double winners Inverloch Primary School. Photograph: Abridgeside Photography.

Inverloch celebrate shinty double

INVERLOCHY Primary School continued its dominance of youth shinty by doing the double at the Fraser MacPhee Shinty Tournament on Sunday.

The P5 and P7 teams saw off competition from a record number of opponents to retain the titles they won last year.

Nineteen teams took part in the Fort William tournament, which has become a popular event in the youth shinty calendar.

Almost 200 enthusiastic young shinty players took to three pitches at An Aird. More than 100 supporters, parents and spectators gathered in the stands and clubhouse of Fort William Shinty Club to watch the action and cheer the teams on in what everyone agreed was a brilliant, fun

day of shinty. The MacPhee family, which organises the tournament every year in memory of late Fort William Shinty Club youth player Fraser MacPhee, said: 'It was a great day and shows just how many fantastic young players are getting involved in the sport.'

'This year was the highest number of teams taking part in the tournament and that's testament to all the volunteers who give up their time to make it such a popular event every year.'

'Thank you to everyone who helped out, particularly the Latto family, the referees, the coaches and the parents but, most of all, the players who make it worthwhile.'

More than £650 was raised to support disability shinty.

Winners: Speed gun - Taegan MacLeod, Drakies Primary School, Inverness - 101 kmph. Keepe-ups - Taegan MacLeod, Drakies Primary School, Inverness - 74. Skills competition - joint winners with 70 points - Oliver Lamont, Cradlehall Primary School, Inverness; Sarah Pedrana, Cradlehall; and Daniel Warby, Dunvegan Primary School.

P5 Player of the Tournament - Joe Coyel, Newtonmore Primary School. P5 winners - Inverloch Primary School. P5 runners-up - Newtonmore Primary School.

P7 Player of the Tournament - Taegan MacLeod, Drakies Primary School. P7 winners - Inverloch Primary School. P7 runners-up - Kingussie Primary School.

View from the Chamber

FOLLOWING recent campaigns to raise the awareness of the poor condition and general unsuitability of the A82 for both business and tourism, Lochaber Chamber of Commerce has welcomed the summit announced for June 23 by Transport Minister Humza Yousaf.

The summit intends to discuss the future of the second longest road in Scotland.

However, disappointingly, the meeting is by invitation only and will serve to highlight existing works rather than a strategic review.

Lesley Benfield, chief executive of



Lochaber Chamber of Commerce, commented recently: 'Lochaber is a vibrant area of the Highlands which is experiencing high levels of growth

in tourism and business investment. While, on the face of it, the forthcoming summit falls short of our expectations, it is a good opportunity to get all the relevant stakeholders in one room and to be given the opportunity to be heard.'

She went on to say: 'Our members will be well represented at the meeting and include Ferguson Transport and Shipping, BSW Timber, Shiel Buses and Liberty Smelter, all of whom have all recently announced major expansion plans in the area which will put the A82 under even more pressure.'

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FW

Fort William

FORT William Town Team volunteers have been tidying up the Parade.

The sundial garden has been re-landscaped with sturdy paving to allow wheelchair-friendly access.

Volunteers put the finishing touches to the garden by planting orange, yellow and white begonias.

The project was a huge success thanks to contractor Eck Bruin, Callum Boyd of Boyd Bros (who donated the topsoil), GardenStop (which arranged delivery of the plants), James Kennedy for sourcing and putting in the topsoil and Norrie McLean for overseeing the landscaping.

Volunteer James Kennedy has also been busy painting 10 benches and seven flower barrels around the town in the past couple of weeks.

Gearing up for summer, all the hanging baskets have been put up in the High Street and all the Adopt a Plots planted.

Lundavra Primary School pupils and their teacher braved the Fort William rain to plant up Madame Butterfly, their adopted plot, again this year.

As part of the Tesco's Bags for Help donation, the team is buying new planters for the High Street and would like to plant these with different types of small trees.

The group is looking for suggestions from the community on what types of trees might be hardy enough to survive the Fort William weather.

If you have any ideas, post them on the group's Facebook page.



Fort William Parade's sundial has been planted.

Chance to be film extra

WORKING Title Films, the producers of the new *Mary Queen of Scots*, is looking for Fort William men to feature as extras in the epic film.

The film is expected to feature Irish actor Saoirse Ronan, star of Ed Sheeran's *Galway Girl* video and leading lady in films *Brooklyn*, *The Lovely Bones* and *The Grand Budapest Hotel*.

Casting for men wanted as part of Queen Mary's army will take place on Saturday June 24 between 10am and 5pm at the Nevis Centre.

Piece of Cake Casting, which is conducting the search, is looking for males over the age of 16.

Part of the filming will take place in Fort William later this year.

Alexandra Pickford from the casting agency told the *Lochaber Times*: 'As an agency, we much prefer local people to be involved rather than bussing in people from larger towns. It would be much nicer if people from Fort William take the opportunity to get involved. Extras will be paid for all costume fittings and filming days.'

If you can't make the casting, you can register online to be considered at www.pieceofcakecasting.com/become-an-artist.

Folk quartet on tour

TOURING Scotland for the first time in July 2017 is a unique collaboration between Charlie Grey, Ryan Young, Owen Sinclair and Joseph Peach.

The four have united to explore an alternative approach to traditional music. The project is an extension of Charlie and Joe's fiddle/piano duo.

Since the release of their debut album *Waves Rise From Quiet Water* in September 2016, they have enjoyed great successes, including reaching the finals of the 2017 BBC Radio 2 Young Folk Award.

They will be playing at Resipole Studios, Acharacle, on Monday July 3, the Ceilidh Place, Ullapool, on Tuesday July 4 and Glengarry Community Hall on Friday July 7.



Above: Kinlochleven Corps 1948 - Major Lilian Wylie and her daughter pictured fourth from bottom left.



Right: Major Lilian Wylie and Major Janet McIntyre.

Kinlochleven Salvation Army stalwart passes exams aged 92

A 92-YEAR-OLD Kinlochleven woman has been given the green light to help a local charity with its finances after passing an exam on information security.

Major Lilian Wylie is member of the Salvation Army's community church at Kinlochleven Business Park but a change in the organisation's accounting system across the UK meant she had to complete a course to demonstrate her understanding of new policies and procedures.

Lilian, who received an iPad for her 90th birthday, sat the course last week and passed the final exam with flying colours.

Lilian, who is originally from Devon, was the officer in charge of Kinlochleven Salvation Army almost 70 years ago and went on to have appointments around the UK before returning to live in the village.

Speaking about her achievement, Lilian said: 'I never thought I'd be taking courses at the age of 92 but

I'm delighted to have completed it successfully. It means I can continue helping with the finances of the church.'

Salvation Army church leader Major Janet McIntyre paid tribute to Lilian, saying: 'The support I get from Lilian is vital. She has been a big part of our church for many years. The course was needed to enable Lilian to approve the expenses for our church. It was time-consuming, but Lilian took it all in her stride. She's amazing.'



Above: Plockton Primary School String Ensemble which came second in the string group competition.

Left: Elgol Primary School String Trio took first prize at the recent Isle of Skye Provincial Mòd.

Mòd success for talented youngsters

TWO WEST Highland schools have achieved success at a provincial Mòd.

During the recent Isle of Skye Provincial Mòd 2017, Elgol Primary School's String Trio gained first place and Plockton Primary's String Ensemble gained second place in the string group competition.

The young musicians were delighted. It was Plockton Primary School String Ensemble's their first public

performance. The Elgol Primary School String Trio were overjoyed as it managed to retain the first place spot for the third year in a row.

A Highland Council spokesperson said: 'Both groups were excited to take part and couldn't wait to add ideas from the adjudicators to their arrangements.'

'They are looking forward to playing their new and improved pieces at their

end-of-term celebrations.' The pupils are taught by the Highland Council's temporary strings instructor Mhairi Mackinnon.

Music development officer for the council Norman Bolton sent congratulations to everyone involved and acknowledged the important part the pupils' music tuition plays in their wider education and development of life skills, health and wellbeing.



Caol school is only third in Highlands to earn national digital award.

Caol Primary School's delight at winning national digital award

CAOL Primary has become only the third school in the Highlands to earn a national award for its excellence in digital technology in teaching and learning.

Recognised by Education Scotland, the Digital Schools Award is designed to promote, encourage and reward schools that make the best use of digital technology in the classroom.

Caol Primary School head teacher Steven Hamilton said: 'We are all incredibly proud to become Highland's third

digital school. The new campus lends itself well to using new technology and everyone has worked incredibly hard with a variety of IT resources since moving.'

'The pupils love interacting with the robots, working with code and collaborating on documents with Chrome Books. I cannot praise the staff enough for the way they have taken on this aspect of the curriculum, which is daunting for some, and learned alongside pupils.'

Caol Primary School demonstrated the pre-

sence of a whole school digital strategy, evidence of how digital technology is being used to enhance learning and a commitment to ongoing professional learning for teachers.

One in seven primary schools in Scotland, 305 schools, have signed up to become a Digital School since the launch of the programme in September 2016.

The programme aims to sign up 400 primary schools in Scotland to participate in its first full year.

RETRO Roamer

More mid-1980s offerings:

☐ Wee Donald, a well-kent character in the Fort, had cause to make his way (back home) to Stornoway. He needed a new pair of slippers to ensure a warm welcome at the family fireside. Into a High Street shoe shop he went, in a hurry. He looked around, asked for size eight slippers, didn't wait to try them on, and rushed out with the box under his arm. When he got to Stornoway he was, therefore, surprised to find that both slippers were for the left foot. So the only time he's likely to wear them is at a ceilidh dance, as his prowess on the floor is of the two left feet variety. Aye, Donald Where's Your Slippers?

☐ That's the 'pictures' back in town again. And we trust the two studio cinemas will prove big attractions. Certainly, if you're stuck for something to do during the interval, you could always play 'Spot the Mastikes' in the printed programme. Some of the errors are very funny. Look out for the ads featuring 'Lockaber', 'Caull' Shopping Centre, 'Loch Onich' and 'Inverallochy' - all of which appear in the programme.

☐ Roamer has its archaeologists are digging away on Rum again. And that fragments of a pot found on the island last year have been analysed to yield the intriguing possibility it had contained the first fermented drink known to man. And it wasn't even rum, just mead, apparently.

☐ The name 'Roamer' is certainly catching on. Not content with having a range of jackets called 'Roamer' - these are not available to the husbands of the correspondents of the other local papers - BT has brought out a new satellite-assisted communication device called 'Roamer'.

☐ A bloke was discovered with more than his rear out of a first floor window of a Fort William hotel, as he tried to do a bunk without paying. His escape bid was spragged and his 'arrears' have now been settled.

☐ Local lassie drives into an attendant-serviced filling station in Fort William. While the petrol was being poured, the attendant noticed the car bonnet wasn't shut properly. 'It must have a faulty catch,' he observed to the young lady. Ever helpful, he lifted the bonnet. And there, alongside the radiator, was - a steak pie! Embarrassed female explains she's on her way to visit relatives in Acharacle, but had forgotten to defrost the pie for their tea. 'I hope it'll be thawed out by the time I get there,' she says. That was when the garage attendant turned up trumps again. He stuck the pie in the filling station microwave so the lassie could motor off without a pie in her bonnet.

☐ Spare a thought for Billy MacLachlan, Spean Bridge. There he was at a local fundraiser looking mournfully at the prize he had won on the Wheel of Fortune. A tin of tomatoes. 'The same blinkin' tin I got landed with last year,' he said. 'And I put it back in!'

☐ We all know about lambing time. But what was the Inverlochly Place gardener doing out at 5 o'clock in the morning with his jammies tucked into his wellies? He was driving sheep from his garden back towards the glen. They'd strayed into 'the garden that Jack built' and Jack had been awakened by his dog barking. So there were the sheep munching anything edible. On this occasion Jack was counting sheep - and keeping himself awake at the same time!

☐ A lady, 'in from the country' on Thursday, was telling me of her adventures among the bogs. Not the peat bogs, you understand. The Cameron Centre 'bogs'. Being unaccustomed to spending her pennies in town, she had been having difficulty in locating the loos in that hallowed Square off the High Street. No signposting, you see. Or don't see. So she did what every visitor will be doing this season. She called in at the tourist office. There she was given directions to 'go round the back'. She went round the back. And there she found the two ever-open doors, but with no symbols on them to indicate which was which. After sticking a bit more than her nose in the corridor she espied a urinal and deduced the ladies department must be next door. It seems almost as if the Cameron Centre has finally 'got going'.

☐ The *MV Shearwater* was making headway from Eigg to Rum when, suddenly, a leather glove was whipped by the wind out of a female passenger's hand. It went 'pop' into the choppy waters. 'That's it,' thought the 'towrist' from 'dahn saaf'. But what happened next? The skipper turned the vessel full circle, stopped the engines and a crewman snatched the glove out of the sea with a boathook. It was solemnly presented to its owner. 'I don't believe it,' she said. 'Such a wonderful gesture.' Aye, it was all part of the service, madam.

☐ Two young ladies were on polling booth duty at the regional election in one of the remotest parts of the Mallaig, Ardnamurchan and Small Isles ward. In came a local housewife who said: 'I'm not here to vote, but I heard there were a couple of strange faces in the village so I came along to have a look at you.' One of the clerks reckoned she was probably the wife of the bloke they saw putting petrol in his car. He was pouring it into the tank from a size-12 welly!

☐ I've just had a dispatch from York to advise that Evan and Skeesh did Lochaber proud as our local representatives at the Burma Reunion there. When Skeesh got back to the Fort he went into the Volley for a chota peg - and what does he see? Huge Raffles Hotel-like fans birling away up on the ceiling. 'I thought I was back in Burma,' he said.

☐ Fort William minister and wife out in the church garden. Along came the inevitable local wag to utter the well chosen words: 'Oh, look, it's Adam and Eve.'

☐ Now that Sammy has got planning permission for his chip shop in Caol, we can look forward to dining a la carte instead of a la van.



Who needs a hall or Cameron Square to have a Highland dancing display?



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- Young Volunteer of the year
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- Health Volunteer of the year
- Regional Heroes

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Caol Primary School demonstrated the pre-

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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

It sometimes seems there is so much to be depressed about in the news, not least in very recent times the dreadful tower block fire in London and apparently tit-for-tat attacks in the name of religion.

So it is heartening in the extreme today to report on the selfless, charitable efforts being made across Lochaber.

As we detail elsewhere in today's *Lochaber Times*, three ladies have cycled 50 miles in aid of Action Duchenne, a charity supporting Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, raising more than £1,300.

A group of eight Fort William women took on the daunting Tough Mudder challenge at the weekend – 11

miles of cross-country running complete with obstacles – to raise money for a charity 'close to their hearts', the Macmillan Nurses Charity, generating £2,500 in the process.

And a number of schools competed in the Fraser MacPhee Shinty Tournament on Sunday which raises funds for disabled youngsters to participate in the sport.

Every week we are happy to cover such heartwarming stories.

People such as these are the true measure of the society and communities we live in. We applaud them all for their public-spirited efforts.



Days gone by – 1995

Kenny and Barbara Matheson from Blythwood Care are presented with two blankets knitted by Brownies. The blankets were to be sent to a children's cancer hospital in Romania.

MacPhail

ANGUS MACPHAIL
angusmacphail@yahoo.co.uk



NOSTALGIA is a feeling I find deeply enjoyable. And when I was at home last week, coming across the very first music recording that I owned, I was immersed in that warm emotion.

My mum had been rooting through the attic looking for books and toys suitable for my new nephew, Eachann, and, in her foraging, she uncovered a box of music tapes and some Allan Campbell MacLean novels. Contained in the box was Hebridean Accordion, by Iain McLachlan. To this day, the late Iain McLachlan of Benbecula is my favourite accordionist and Hebridean Accordion my favourite recording.

I had taken this tape with me wherever I was living over the years, but somehow in the moves and the brochan of life, recently I had lost track of where it was.

What joy and relief to be unexpectedly reunited with it. The sentimental value of it is strong for many reasons, not least because it was signed by the musical genius.

I received this tape nearly 30 years ago, in October 1987, around the same time as I started my accordion lessons with Gordon Connell.

My father had bought a fishing boat in County Clare, in the west of



Iain McLachlan signed the tape.

Ireland, and on his way home with her after being in Oban getting work done at Currie's Boat Yard, he had stopped off in Tobermory. Playing in the Mishnish Hotel that night was Iain McLachlan and, as I had just started learning to play the box, dad bought this tape for me.

I was an instant fan and over the following months received two of his other recordings, An Island Heritage featuring Calum Campbell and Calum Iain MacCorquodale and The Kings of the Button Key Box, a collaboration with Fergie MacDonald.

In July the following year, while attending Fèis Bharraigh, we heard that Iain McLachlan was to be playing in

the Clachan Beag Hotel in Castlebay. My excitement was immense and this brought about the only encounter I was to have with my musical hero. The event nearly led to huge disappointment, but due to Iain's kindness and an understanding hotel owner, the situation was rescued.

The anticipation of hearing him play live and perhaps meeting him had been building for days, but when we arrived at the bar we were told no-one under the age of 14 was allowed in. I was only nine, so that meant having to listen from outside.

However, someone relayed to Iain that he had a super fan in the front conservatory and he – without being asked – spoke to the owner who then generously and cordially invited us in.

And, to my delight, they arranged seats for us right beside where the great man was playing.

This was a landmark experience for me and recollections of it are still vivid. Iain signed my three tapes – see picture – and his stature was elevated to new heights in the eyes of that young fan.

All these rich memories came flooding back on seeing the tape – the music, the excitement, the encouragement and, above all, the kindness.



Social media

There was huge excitement at the news that Marks and Spencer has lodged an application to open a food hall in Oban.

Sine Murray cheered: 'Great news! I think it will do well. It's not competing with Lidl or Aldi. Now, can we have a Matalan or similar large family department store?'

Margaret Adams posted: 'I'm so excited!'

Karen Macnab wrote: 'It's actually happening!'

Mary-Jean Devon posted: 'Dreams can come true.'

Donna Macculloch offered: 'This is good news. It will bring more people to the town.'

Karen Blair said: 'This would be brilliant, customer choice and jobs!'

Sam Wotton wrote: 'M&S food is awesome. Worth the money.'

Daniel Coleman warned: 'Won't last with Aldi and Lidl far cheaper.'

Colin Cooper countered: 'I'm more for independent businesses. I'd rather the Co-op returned.'

Nathalie Porter agreed: 'Do we really need another food shop? Shame it wasn't Next or Primark.'

Sandra Higgins said: 'Brilliant news. Just need some decent clothes shops too.'

There was widespread praise for Oban hospital nurse Gaelle Smith,

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

who is giving up her holiday to tend burns victims of London's Grenfell Tower fire.

Malcolm McFadyen lauded: 'To volunteer on the pittance of a salary they get is a fantastic gesture, big respect to her.'

Paul Finnigan wrote: 'A true, altruistic hero, putting others first! Well done Gaelle, a true inspiration to us all!'

Fiona Guthrie said: 'Great to be able to help in a practical way!'

Coil Maclean agreed: 'Well done fantastic work ethic.'

Marie Archer posted: 'Well done lovely caring person!!'

Isabella Dean praised: 'Fantastic to be able to help. Only wish I could.'

It is time to arm all our police officers

Sir,

I refer to Martin Laing's At Random column (*The Oban Times*, June 15) regarding terrorism and the police response capability in our area.

I feel we have reached a point in time where we must routinely arm all police officers. Yes, the risk is that great. They must have firearms available to protect themselves and the public.

Specialist units are too far distant in many rural areas of the UK and probably more so in Scotland. An immediate and ruthless response is necessary to counter any potential or real terrorist threat. I agree the eight-minute response time in London proves the point that lives must be saved.

It is time for the politicians to stop sitting on the fence and grasp the nettle. The time for being politically correct and tolerant is long past and the public demands action now.

The police, security, emergency and intelligence services do a fantastic job in this country and the public should appreciate this. However, we need to up our game and move to a much higher level of preparedness to counter the potential or real threat from these odious creatures.

Perhaps an even more controversial option which should be considered is the granting of powers by central government allowing the police to recruit and form locally-based volunteer militia units, trained in the use of firearms and deployed in emergency situations under the control of the police or army.

The terrorist is among us, especially in the large UK cities, but, without appearing to be alarmist, we must always be watchful and avoid complacency on our patch.

The terrorist is a despotic degenerate creature who should be treated accordingly. 'When you have to fight a beast, you must treat it as a beast' in the words of US President Harry Truman in the last year of the Second World War in the Pacific.

Let us hope the politicians can raise their game to meet the challenge.

Robert MacCallum,
by email.

Nationalising buses is the only answer

Sir,

John Fotheringham needs a reality check ('Delay over new buses questioned', *Lochaber Times*, June 8). I would suggest the article about Stagecoach/Citylink is more a dig at Stagecoach's Fort William depot.

The Highland Council awarded bus contracts to another operator without thought of the implications that giving some services to Shiel Buses would have for customers or to the viability of Stagecoach's operation within Fort William and surrounding areas.

We now have two bus companies operating two different ticketing systems which have, in some cases, doubled passengers' weekly travel costs. This has occurred because the new operator was allowed to cherry-pick some services they can run – daytime services to Upper Achintore – but handing the

Beachd Ailein

ALLAN CAMPBELL
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MÒD IONADAIL SOIRB-HEACHAIL eile seachad. Thàinig a' chlànn nan dròbhan gu Mòd Ionadail Inbhir Nis air an deireadh seachdain seo chaidh, agus ged nach robh uimhir de dh'Inbhir a' gabhail pàirt is a bu mhath le luchd-deasachaidh na cuirme, bha na h-uile ag aontachadh gur e fìor dheagh fhèis a bh' ann. Mar is àbhaist 's i a' cheist a bu chudromaiche ciàmar a bha ire na Gàidhlig a' chuala brìtheamhan, agus a rèir aithris bhupa agus bhon luchd-èisteachd, bha cùisean misneachail agus nach math an naidheachd sin.

Chuala mi fhìn cuid a bha fìor mhath, fileanta agus sìubhlach nan cuid còmhraidh agus le stòr fhaclan farsaing, nan deagh theisteanas air an fheadhainn a tha gan teagasg. B' e deagh fhoillseachadh eile a bha seo air cànán agus dualchas nan Gàidheal agus gun teagamh chuir e ri ìomhaigh agus inbhe na Gàidhlig anns a' tha na Mòdan ionadail agus naiseanta a' dèanamh gach bliadhna.

Nuair a dh'fhalbh an taigh-cèilidh chailleadh colaiste nam bailtean! Sin mar a chuir fear à Leòdhas a' bheachd

service back to Stagecoach for the same evening service which then requires the passenger to buy another ticket.

Highland Council's answer is that it is 'talking' to Stagecoach and Shiel to sort a problem it caused in the first place, a problem it states will be fixed in the future while the customer pays the price for the council's incompetence.

Citylink stated last year it received very few complaints about services out of Fort William and has announced its operator, Stagecoach, has ordered new buses to be delivered towards the end of the year.

Drivers have a robust defect reporting system that is carried out before the bus leaves the depot and can log faults that may occur during the day which can then be looked at.

What does happen, though, and Mr Fotheringham's is a good example, is that passengers complain to the drivers but do not bother taking it any further or write to newspapers like yours.

Stagecoach Fort William has lost a few drivers to Shiel Buses and Mr Fotheringham and others wonder why the Highland Council couldn't have given all the services to Shiel. The truth is that Shiel has cherry-picked the routes it wants, the subsidised school services, the taxpayer-funded routes that help make the company viable and allow it to buy new buses. The only real way to give us a reliable modern transport service is to nationalise the bus industry which will spread the cost of operating rural services throughout Scotland.

Cyril Bonnett,
Ballachulish.

Thanks for electing me as MP once more

Sir,

I would like to say a sincere thank you to the people of Argyll and Bute for re-electing me as Member of Parliament.

Regardless of where you put your cross on the ballot paper (or not), I am your MP and I will, as I have done previously, represent everyone in this constituency equally.

Throughout the campaign I promised that the economic regeneration of Argyll and Bute would be my number one priority and I intend to work with anyone and everyone to make good on that pledge, regardless of the political chaos that now engulfs Westminster in the aftermath of the vote.

It seems ridiculous we have all been through the upheaval and uncertainty of an unnecessary general election, only to have ended up in a worse place than when we started.

The decision to hold a snap election was nothing more than a cynical and opportunistic attempt by Theresa May to strengthen a majority she already had and, in the process, crush the opposition.

She put the interest of the Conservative Party ahead of the country and it has backfired spectacularly.

From having a healthy, working majority, her lame-duck government now has to rely on MPs from the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP), of all people, for her to run a minority administration. And I shudder to think what price the DUP will demand in return for that support.

Brexit negotiations began last week and I fear the UK is now severely compromised as we go into these discussions and I remain fearful of the outcome for Scotland.

The SNP has said from the outset we want a seat at the Brexit negotiating table to protect Scotland from Mrs May's hard-Brexit stance.

I hope that in light of the disastrous performance of the Conservative Party last week, the government will now see the sense of having Scottish voices in those negotiations to protect Scotland's vital national interest.

Brendan O'Hara,
MP for Argyll and Bute.

Punishments will be counter-productive

Sir,

White Van Man in his column (*The Oban Times*, June 8) suggests the death penalty for terrorists and deportation for those associated with terrorism. This proposal appears to be more of an appeal to populism than a well-reasoned argument.

The death penalty, apart from the humanitarian argument against it, has a fundamental flaw as in the mind of a radicalised terrorist, life is meaningless, death is glory. There is no fear of death and to enact the death penalty would surely only serve to further radicalise and offer them the additional reward of martyrdom. I imagine there would be more fear of being locked up for a life of hard labour than of state-sanctioned murder.

Then there's the suggestion deportation is the answer. Deport them to where – Tower Hamlets? Barking? Hackney? The largest comprehensive study (Gatesstone Institute) on UK terrorism carried out between 1998 and the present day shows 72 per cent of attacks are perpetrated by UK or dual passport holders.

One point White Van Man didn't mention and that I think is a possibility, is that radicalised persons going abroad and training with terrorists should have their UK passports revoked.

So, what is the answer? I honestly don't know.

Every time there's an attack we inevitably hear 'known to security services'. Many times, we're told that a parent, friend or the wider community have reported the individual but no action was taken. So why was nothing done?

Perhaps the answer lies in the reality this government has cut security budgets to the bone. They simply don't have the resources. Even a small proportion of revenue from arms deals with Saudi Arabia, which funds the terrorists, would help in the fight against home-grown terrorism. Extreme irony.

Then we may consider why radicalisation happens. We bomb their relatives, accept maimed, mutilated and murdered mothers and children as collateral damage then wonder why those here in the UK are upset? Let's stop funding terrorism and radicalising the youth.

My thoughts on crime and punishment are somewhere to the right of Genghis Khan – but only if that punishment is effective.

John Paterson,
by email.

Ailean Caimbeul

an cèill dhomh iomadh bliadhna air ais, agus chan eil teagamh nach eil an saoghal againn nas bochda is cothroman gun dualchas agus eòlas a shùghadh bho na ginealaichean as sine mòran nas tearca na bha.

Tha sinn fortanach gun bheil seirbheis rèidio agus telebhisean againn a tha a' coileanadh cuid den deastanas sin ach a dh'aindeoin ealantas nan seirbheisean sin, tha gainnead maoin gan cuingealachadh. Bha mi a' leughadh pios a sgrìobh eòlaiche-foghlaim mu cho cudromach 's a tha ealain ann an oideachadh agus e ag argamaid nach fhaodar gearradh air ais air na seirbheisean sin ged a tha ionmhas poblach teann. Thug sin orm smaoineachadh air ais air mo làithean bun-sgoile fhìn agus cho beag 's a chuala sinn an sin mu dualchas neo gun dearbh cànán agus thuig mi às ùr cho prìseil 's a bha neart na Gàidhlig anns a' choinneamh nach san robh mi a' fàs suas. Far nach eil slugh ga bruidhinn gu làitheil cha tèid aig cànán sam bith air fàs agus ùrachadh agus ged a tha sgoiltean a' dèanamh obair ionmholtas a' teagasg na

Gàidhlig dha cloinn, tha a' mhòr-chuid aca ag ionndrainn cothrom èisteachd agus cleachdaidh taobh a-muigh na sgoile, gun iomradh air an eòlas agus am fiosrachadh bho dhaoine nas sine.

Ged a tha sinn a' dèanamh adhartas ann an iomachd seagh a thaobh ath-bheothachadh na Gàidhlig, feumar aicheadh gun bheil dùblhain mhòr romhainn fhathast agus ged a tha fuasgladh air na cnapan-starra sin gu ìre an urra ri ionmhas, tha am prìomh fhreagairt ann an cumhachd shluagh na Gàidhlig fhèin. Tha an abairt 'cleachd i neo cail' i 's dòcha nas fhìor an-diugh na bha riamh!

AS ANOTHER successful provincial Mòd closed in Inverness, I noted a leading educationalist's argument that the arts should be protected from curriculum cuts and I recalled the elderly Gael who told me that when the cèilidh house tradition ceased, the villages lost their colleges.

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

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Community council leader shunned by hospital bosses

LOUISE GLEN
lglen@obantimes.co.uk

HEALTH board bosses refused to sit beside the chairwoman of Oban Community Council because they did not like the way she talked about them at meetings, a spokesman for the community council said.

Marri Malloy, a pensioner who is convener of Oban Community Council (CC), was told by members of management at the Integrated Joint Board (formerly the health board) they would not share a platform with her and suggested an elected member sit in her place.

Mrs Malloy had convened a public meeting in the Corran Halls last Tuesday evening (June 13) to discuss ongoing concerns about the loss of services provided in Oban. She has been vocal in her criticism over lack of communication and consultation from hospital bosses.

She has persevered in her claims of a reducing list of services that are provided at the hospital, an assertion the hospital management refutes, stating it has increased the number of people it treats by three per cent.

A member of the community council, who did not want to be named, said Mrs Malloy would not be making a statement to the press on the matter, but that she 'will not back down in her belief that the hospital is cutting services without communicating well with the public'.

The member continued: 'I have no idea why anyone who is paid £80,000 to £100,000 a year, I believe, would think it

appropriate to refuse to sit and answer questions with the community council chairwoman.

'Marri has volunteered within the town for more than 40 years. She is not paid for her job. She does it because she believes the town deserves to know what is going on in the hospital. She is doing what she is doing with the backing of the MSP [Michael Russell] and the community council.'

'It begs the question: if there is nothing to hide, why did they not sit beside her and help people understand what is going on?'

Councillor Mary-Jean Devon who has also spoken out about her concerns about the hospital, was confirmed by health minister Shona Robison MSP as a member of the NHS Highland Board this week. Mrs Devon said she was raising the concerns of constituents about access to health care with Ms Robison and would ask her to consider the treatment of Mrs Malloy.

Mr Russell, MSP for Argyll and Bute, said he was concerned to hear a serious complaint about lack of communication from the health board.

He said: 'No public or private body should attempt to censor criticism or exclude legitimate complaint. If that was the intention, then there should be an immediate apology to Marri and the community.'

'The short history of the IJB is now littered with communication and governance mistakes.

The current vice chairman, who was chairman until May, seems particularly unwilling to listen and learn, as does the chief

executive.

'I would therefore urge both of them to publicly acknowledge the failures, publicly apologise and then give quick public evidence of a major change in approach.'

'The board members - and especially the Argyll and Bute councillors on the board - also need to get a grip on the officials and ensure clear democratic accountability is restored.'

A spokesman for the Health and Social Care Partnership said: 'Our dedicated staff work extremely hard to provide a wide range of health and social care services for the local communities in Oban, Lorn and the Isles.'

'Locally, however, like many public sector organisations across Scotland we are going through change and we recognise that this can be unsettling for the local communities we serve. We are also committed to working closely with the local community, elected members and other community representatives and we welcome public scrutiny and encourage feedback.'

'In relation to the concerns that have been raised about how a member of public felt treated, then naturally that is concerning and something we take very seriously.'

'I would encourage them to contact our feedback team at argyllandbutehsc.feedback@nhs.net so any concerns can be investigated.'

'Alternatively, we can arrange for them to meet an independent member of our Integrated Joint Board to discuss their concerns.'

Gaelle gives up holiday to aid blaze victims



OBAN hospital physiotherapist Gaelle Smith travelled to London yesterday (Wednesday) to tend burns victims of the Grenfell Tower fire.

The 32-year-old physio is trained to help natural disaster and conflict zone victims by UK Med, a UK government Department for International Development-run agency which deploys medical volunteers to emergencies.

London needed more burns specialists, she had the skill set, so she decided to give up her holiday to help. 'News was coming through about the amount of patients who need critical

care,' she said. 'There has been a large increase in a specific injury.'

'I have done work in burns and how you cover a wound. A small burn in a critical place can create a functional loss. It is a very harrowing thing to see and to go through the pain. Also it is very disfiguring. Their concern will not necessarily be what they have endured, but what their families have endured.'

Gaelle came to Oban this year from Sierra Leone, where she had been relieving a shortage of staff following the ebola outbreak.

Oban High teacher assaulted woman

A FORMER Oban High School teacher has had his sentence deferred for a year after a sexual assault against a former pupil.

Boyd Henry Sigerson, 41, admitted touching the 18-year-old woman on her bottom on March 4 in an Oban shop. Sentencing was deferred on May 22 until June 20 for reports.

Sheriff Ruth Anderson QC told Oban Sheriff Court: 'It was clearly unacceptable but drunken behaviour. It clearly caused the complainant some distress.'

'It seems to have arisen out of drunkenness more than anything else. He has lost his job, his profession. He is dealing with the loss of his marriage.'

'As a result of this he has lost his reputation. He will never work in this profession again. He has paid very, very dearly for this drunken stupidity.'

'The court is not condoning this kind of behaviour, but the court has some sympathy with the fallout.'

Sheriff Anderson deferred sentence for a year for Sigerson to demonstrate good behaviour.

'The court will be told what you have done with your life,' she said: 'All is not lost. You still have a future and talents that could be employed elsewhere.'

All revved up with some place to go

THERE was delight for anyone with an interest in vintage and modern chic cars at Corachie Clematis, near Taynuilt, at the weekend. Kenny Devine, a member of Oban and District Classic Vehicle Club, said he was pleased with the great turnout on the day.

Picture special - page 10.

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The beach clean was educational as well as good for the environment.

A very busy time for Achaleven youngsters

ACHALEVEN Primary School pupils have packed a full programme into a short space of time.

Starting with tag rugby last Monday June 12, pupils worked well together to achieve great results.

Pupils then planned a trip to Glen Nant for Wednesday. This involved creating a risk assessment. Pupils had to think about what would be appropriate clothing and footwear.

One pupil said: 'We learned how to stay safe in an open space and discovered a great deal about the flora and fauna in a new area not too far from home. We can now take our families back here in the holidays.'

'Thursday was beach clean day and we worked with Janie Steele from the Grab Trust to clean up an area of the beach across from the Oyster Inn, which we are adopting.'

'The first thing we had to do was measure 100 metres for our surveying area. We used varying lengths of rope to do this and used markers to designate the area. We started at the picnic spot because, although this isn't the beach, the rubbish here could

easily blow into the sea and harm sea creatures. We found a variety of things, from a disposable barbecue to nappies and on the beach there was a lot of plastic was stuck in the rocks.'

'Janie explained that this breaks up and then washes into the sea and turtles and other creatures think they are jellyfish and eat them, doing immense damage.'

'We took our haul back to school after lunch and put it all into categories and logged the information on our survey.'

'We finished the week in style with our den day in aid of Save the Children. We love building dens in our garden although the weather wasn't as kind so we built them inside this time.'

'Teamwork, problem-solving and accessorising were the order of the day as new structures popped up around the school. We also learned about how lucky we are to have a safe place to live and how some children and families are not as fortunate.'

'We had a fantastic week, learned a lot and discovered it feels great to help others.'



Tag rugby was great fun as well as a good physical activity.

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The nurse came and just clicked with our mum ...

Daughter Fiona says 'Marie Curie brought comfort, experience and laughter to our home'

AN ARGYLL woman has told her heartbreaking story of the loss of her mum and the care she received, so that people in a similar situation will know there is always someone to turn to.

Mum-of-two Fiona Bennett and her family struggled to cope with her mum's condition when she became terminally ill, requiring 24-hour care.

Marie Curie Cancer Care became involved and, as Fiona explains, her mum Catherine Macleod's passing was peaceful thanks to the nurses.

Fiona, HR manager at *The Oban Times*, explained: 'At Christmas 2015, mum had a sore back which escalated to a huge pain.'

'She had an X-ray and the doctors found a very large tumour blocking the entrance to one of her lungs. It was inoperable. They discussed chemo but weighed up the quality of life against what might not be a long time.'

'Mum went into the Beatson being mobile but in pain. But when she came out she had lost the use of both her legs and was in a wheelchair. She wanted to get home but needed full physical care.'

'We cared for mum at her home - myself, my sister and my Auntie Norma. It was 24-hour care. In May 2016, Auntie Norma said she thought Marie Curie could help us. At that time we were doing the night-shifts ourselves ... syringe, catheter ... we were exhausted. 'Norma lives in Glasgow,



Treasured memory: Fiona Bennett with her mum Catherine on Fiona's wedding day in 2007.

my sister is in Edinburgh and I'm in Oban so we were all travelling to get to mum in Helensburgh.

'When Norma got in touch, Marie Curie said they could cover two to three nights a week. We thought that was great. That increased to four nights a week. One of us was always there but it meant we could still sleep. We had a couple of nurses who were brilliant.'

'One evening Margaret-Ann came for the first time and she just clicked with mum. She very quickly fitted in and they formed a close, professional

bond. She wasn't a stranger in the house.

'When mum was in the Beatson, she'd said it was a dream of hers to get to my house and spend time in the garden.'

'Mum came up to Oban and we were astounded Marie Curie could cover as much as they did.'

'Margaret-Ann wanted to come up to continue the care which meant mum didn't have to go back to the beginning, building a relationship with another nurse. She was part of the family. She would come in and have a cup of tea, biscuits and we would chat. We felt safe

in the knowledge she was here.

'Mum spoke to her about things she wouldn't speak to us about - things emotionally that it was too difficult for her to speak to us about. Margaret-Ann would listen to us too and guide us. She would guide mum on how to communicate with us.'

'The environment we were in was a home under such pressure. Marie Curie brought comfort, experience and laughter to us.'

'When mum died it could have been chaos. However, Margaret-Ann was there and it could not have gone better.'

She kept it calm and peaceful. We can look back and say that we have special memories, as awful as it was.

'We went to bed at about 10pm. Margaret-Ann called us about quarter of an hour later and said we needed to come back.'

'Margaret-Ann held mum and put her in the right position and then helped us hold her. She physically put us in position. My arm was round mum. She then stood back and left us to it.'

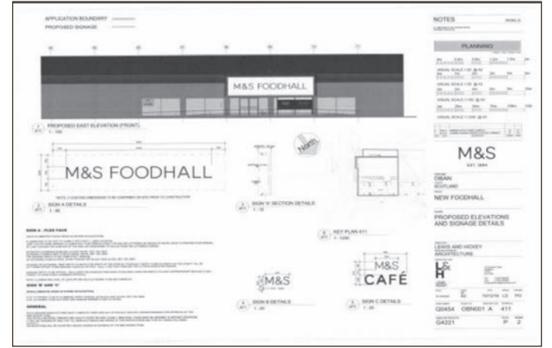
'We talked to mum and stroked her hair. She waited and watched. Everything seemed to reach a peak when mum died. Margaret-Ann was a close part of the team and made mum's final moments as good as they could have been. After, when we were all ready, she prepared mum and called all the right people.'

'Margaret-Ann disappeared, like Nanny McPhee but better looking, when we didn't need her anymore. She shared that night with us, then that was her gone.'

Gemma Smith at Marie Curie said: 'At Marie Curie, we want to reach more people who are living with a terminal illness and who need our hands-on care and support.'

'Readers should speak to their GP or district nurse to ask about receiving our services, which include the nursing service described so well by Fiona and a volunteer helper service.'

'Our services are free to families.'



M&S plans for Oban given public approval

PLANS for a Marks and Spencer foodhall and cafe in Oban have been welcomed with excitement.

Townsfolk are already planning what to buy at the shop, with many people commenting on and sharing the post on *The Oban Times* Facebook page. However, there is still no opening date.

The plans lodged with the Argyll and Bute Council last Wednesday show the company plans to install windows to the front of the former Lidl store.

The foodhall would incorporate an M&S cafe. The proposal comes in two sections: one is

for the display of window signs, canopy signs and trolley bays.

Comments on *The Oban Times* Facebook page were generally in favour of the well-established UK shop.

Sine Murray, from Oban, said: 'Great news! I think it will do well. It's not competing with Lidl or Aldi. Now, can we have a Matalan or similar large family department store?'

Laura Watley posted: 'Can't wait, saves a trip to Glasgow.'

Post-mistress Islay MacNab from Taynuilt was rueful of her decision to move away from the area, saying: 'Typical, just when I am looking to move away.'

Drink driver banned

AN EX-MINISTRY of Defence firearms officer caught almost four times the drink-driving limit has been disqualified for two years.

Francis Tanner, 59, of 61 Greenfield Road, Hamilton, admitted driving on Oban's George Street on February 4 while 100ml of his breath measured 84mg of alcohol, exceeding the limit of 22mg.

Procurator fiscal Eoin McGinty told Oban Sheriff Court on Monday that police

had observed a driver 'failing to maintain a straight line and swerving when not necessary'. When Tanner was stopped, officers smelled alcohol and arrested him after a breath test proved positive.

Sheriff Ruth Anderson said: 'He was nearly four times the limit. If you are drinking, you do not drive. Now fortunately for him he is taking every step he can to do something about it.'

She disqualified Tanner for two years and fined him £500.

POLICE FILES

Between 3pm and 5pm on Sunday June 11, at the car park at the Columba Hotel, North Pier, Oban, the paintwork of a white Volvo car was scratched.

Between 5pm on Saturday June 10 and 8.30am on Tuesday June 13, two fishing reels and a green canvas 'LEADER' fishing bag containing equipment, were stolen from a green Peugeot parked in the car park of the Lancaster Hotel, Corran Esplanade, Oban.

Between May 31 and June 14, at Colonsay Terrace, Oban, a black Vauxhall Mokka car was dented and scratched in several places.

Between 7am on Monday June 5 and 5pm on Thursday June 15, a stereo and a DVD/TV unit were stolen from a camper-van, parked in Millpark Place, Oban.

AT 12.10PM on Saturday June

17, in Glenclrudden Road, Oban, a man, aged 18, was arrested for allegedly taking a vehicle without consent of the owner, drug driving and driving without insurance. The man was charged.

At 4.50pm on Saturday June 17, a house in Fladda Road, Oban, was searched by police and a small quantity of heroin was found. The occupier, a 37-year-old man, was arrested and charged with possession of drugs and supplying drugs.

At 8.45pm on Saturday June 17, in Stevenson Street, Oban, a man allegedly assaulted another man by punching him. Subsequently, police arrested a man, aged 28, and charged him with assault. A report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.

Anyone with information should call 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Driver collided with cars after drinking

A MULL driver has been banned for 20 months and fined more than £1,000 for driving while three times over the alcohol limit, colliding with two parked cars and then lying to the police.

James William Boa, 23, of Antium Farm, Glen Road, Dervaig, pleaded guilty to driving a car without due care and attention, while measuring 75mg of alcohol in 100ml of breath where the drink-driving limit is 22mg, on Tobermory's Main Street on the night of February 12.

Procurator fiscal Eoin McGinty told Oban Sheriff Court on Monday June 19 that police received reports of the collisions and that the driver had fled the scene. Boa also called the police to say he had hit a parked car.

'The accused said he had had a couple of drinks and gone home,' Mr McGinty

said. Boa later advised police he was staying in a local hotel, where they found 'the front of the accused's car completely caved in'. All three cars had 'extensive damage'.

'His reply was he was driving the vehicle but not drinking.' He failed a breath test, but said he had consumed the alcohol after the incident. Mr McGinty added: 'He was seen to leave the pub, throw-up on the street, wipe his mouth and then get in the car.'

Defence agent William Mackay said: 'It was an act of gross stupidity, and he is going to pay a penalty. He decided to drive home, which clearly was not wise. He did at least telephone [the police], even if he was trying to cover his tracks.'

Sheriff Ruth Anderson said: 'He called them and told them lies.' She disqualified Boa from driving for 20 months and fined him £1,080.

Visitors will be sailing into town

THIS weekend is going to be so busy I don't know where to start getting ready for it, but I'm so looking forward to it, writes Bid4Oban ambassador Kay MacDonald.

Two cruise ships are due to visit - *Le Soleal* on Saturday and *Star Pride* on Sunday - and there is the Bid4Oban local market on Saturday and Lorne Highland Games on Sunday.

Eeeeeek! I've had the lovely news that the captain of *Le Soleal* has been in touch to ensure we will have our ambassadors available to make his passengers welcome.

It's so nice to know our efforts are recognised and appreciated.

A lot of effort is made by the Port of Oban Welcome Group to ensure the ships visiting Oban each year are made to feel welcome and that everything goes smoothly.

Councillors, representatives from Argyll and Bute Council, Bid4Oban, Oban and Lorn Tourist Alliance and lots of other people give their time and energy to make this happens in the hope the number of ships visiting Oban will grow.

For my part, I really enjoy watching people's first reaction on arriving in Oban.

Even the rain doesn't seem to put them off and they are always delighted to see a piper.

Our town has a reputation for being friendly and welcoming which is why so many of the people I speak to return year after year.

I'm really looking forward to the return of the Lorne Highland Games this year, as ambassador Joe and I will be around the town ensuring visitors know it's happening and directing them to the event.

I'll be dashing up after that to help with the stand run by the Scottish Women's Institute who will be having a bottle stall and also running the produce and crafts stall with lots of competitions for children and adults.

If you're interested, have a look on the games website or pop into the Bid4Oban office for a schedule of the competitions.

After this weekend, we only have a few days left of the school year then it's holiday time for pupils and teachers and, for me, it always feels as

if summer has really arrived then.

For those looking after children, it can often feel like the longest six weeks of the year as they struggle to find things to keep everyone amused but you don't have to look too far from home for things to do.

The West Coast Motors open bus tour isn't only for visitors to the town.

Being on the top deck of the bus is a great experience - I still love it.

The Marine Centre at SAMS

WHERE IS THIS?



at Dunbeg could be combined with a walk down to the beach and through the woods to the castle.

Take a trip to see the seals and a wander across the pier to see the boats or a ferry ride to Kerrera for a walk and a picnic as well as the hopefully lovely days to spend at the beach. Not to mention a walk out to Dunollie or up to the tower.

There are lots of parts of our town we forget about.

If you're stuck, just pop into the tourist office, it might just give you some ideas, or stop Joe or me in the street and ask for one of our Out and About leaflets.

Once you start thinking about it, there's lots to explore that won't break the bank as well as the fantastic Atlantis Leisure with all the activities it puts on for the holidays. And don't forget the playpark which is such an asset to the town.

Last week's photo was of the short cut from Tesco to the High Street not long after it had been cleaned by Hope Kitchen and myself.

This week is a bit more central, so keep your eyes open.

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Lochaber Jags take home Iain Thomson Memorial Trophy

South Lochaber Thistle 3
Cardross 1
Thomson Memorial Trophy

HAVING had a three-week break due to inclement weather, the final had been put back a week so Thistle could have been forgiven for starting sluggishly.

This, however, was not the case. The first 10 minutes saw Thistle pile heavy pressure onto Cardross, with the direct running from Munro, Kennedy and Noble causing all sorts of problems for the Cardross back line.

Despite the pressure from the Jags attacking trio, it took a fortuitous goalkeeping error to break the deadlock. An indirect free kick from just inside the Cardross half from Kieran Lopez appeared to be catching practice for the unchallenged Cardross keeper, only for the ball to bounce off his gloves and into the back of the net making it 1-0 to South Lochaber.

“The quality is in our changing room, but only if we play the game our way”

Alan Gray

The Jags continued to press with the frustration evident in the Cardross camp. This was intensified as a strong run from Kennedy saw the ball bounce to Sean Noble, who had luck on his side as the ball rebounded up off the defender onto his chest before he was able to poke the ball under the keeper to make it 2-0 to the Lochaber side.

As half-time approached, Cardross began to come into the game and had some good pressure on the edge of the Thistle box only to find their attempts thwarted at source by a dogged Jags midfield. Their opportunity came, however, from a cross ball when some good forward play by the Cardross striker saw Danny Mackintosh caught under the man as the cross came in, resulting in a penalty to Cardross. Thistle keeper Hunter was booked for his protestations at what appeared a soft penalty. The Cardross striker's well-placed penalty down low in the corner was only bettered by Ryan Hunter's acrobatic save, giving Thistle a feeling of confidence and buoying them until half-time whistle sounded.

The second half brought with it tired legs with both teams beginning to toil in the glorious Glasgow sunshine. This didn't, however, stop Thistle from continuing to pressure with Dave Forbes working higher up the park to support Kennedy. Tireless work in midfield from Stephen Lopez and Andrew Mclean frustrated Cardross leading to some hefty challenges coming the Jags' way.

Cardross began to create chances, however, and capitalised on a misplaced pass back



South Lochaber Thistle celebrate their win at the weekend.

in the 80th minute to pull a goal back, making it 2-1 to Thistle.

This was a warning to Thistle as legs really began to tire, with cramp rife among them after a long season and intense match. Lieder replaced Forbes in the centre of the park. Shortly after, a terrible challenge off the ball, missed by the referee, saw Kennedy taken off injured to be replaced by Lewis Morrison.

Thistle began to pile pressure on again with Morrison narrowly missing a headed opportunity after great wing play from Munro.

With the game becoming ever

more scrappy, manager Alan 'Spud' Gray replaced Stephen Lopez as Thistle looked to close out the game.

As the game was in its final throes, a Cardross corner was cleared well by Gray before the ball broke to Andrew Mclean who drove beyond the Cardross defence before squaring it to Martin Munro who calmly placed the ball under the keeper and into the bottom corner giving the Jags a 3-1 lead.

On the final whistle, a jubilant Thistle had their hands on their second trophy of the season. With the West of Scotland

Amateur League folding after the game South Lochaber will be the last team to have won both the Challenge Shield and the Iain Thomson Memorial Trophy and of this they are very proud.

Manager Gray had this to say after the final whistle: 'When you work so closely with a group of players such as we have you never doubt their ability. I've said to them all season that the quality is in our changing room, but only if we play the game our way.'

'We did that today and, to be fair to them, they have all

season. I am very proud of them all and although I am looking forward to finally getting a break I can't wait to see what next season brings.

'Thank you to everyone involved in the club and for those who travelled down to cheer on the lads.'

South Lochaber Thistle will be having their awards ceremony at Sunny's Sports bar in Fort William from 7pm on Saturday June 24 and everyone is welcome (16+ with an adult until 10pm then 18+ thereafter). Entrance is free and there are prizes to be won.

Recent results from Fort William Golf Club Golf

A ROUND-UP of the latest results from Fort William Golf Club.

The third and fourth rounds of the club championship were played on the weekend of June 17 and 18.

The club champion for 2017 is Steven Jamieson with a score of 310 (77 + 80 + 79 + 74); runner-up was Paul Campbell with a score of 314 (84 + 76 + 73 + 81); and third was Eric Wallace with a score of 324 (80 + 81 + 79 + 84).

On Tuesday June 13, the Campbell Homes medal was played with the following result: 1 Alan Overend net 78 (90-12); 2 Stewart Duncan net 79 (94-15).

Ladies: On Sunday June 11, the SLGA brooch competition was played with the following result: 1 Kathleen Leitch net 69 (86-17); 2 Rosemary Macintyre net 79 (90-11); 3 Iona Cameron net 82 (102-20).

The Fort William Open sponsored by Bowmans Skip Hire takes place on Sunday June 25.

Tee times from 8am to 3pm. To book a tee-off time, contact the clubhouse on 01397 704464.

Club lotto numbers Lottery numbers

THERE is £600 available in the Fort William Golf Club lotto draw today (Thursday June 22). Last week's winning numbers were 1, 3, 11 but no-one claimed the prize.

There were no winners in the Ballachulish Shinty Lottery last week. The winning numbers were 4, 15 and 19. There is £600 up for grabs this week.

Winning numbers in the Caol Regeneration Lotto were 8, 16 and 20. There were no winners so the jackpot is up to £500.

Fort William Jiu Jitsu Club celebrate first anniversary

FORT William Jiu Jitsu Club celebrates its first anniversary this month and, with a growing membership, has started to have monthly seminars with 10th Planet Glasgow.

Steven Thompson, the most qualified instructor in Scotland, and his team have been extremely welcoming and generous in sharing information, techniques and skills, as well as visiting the Fort William club.

Eddie Lopez, who helps organise the local club, said: 'Nothing has been too much trouble and Steven encourages us to call, email or text him any time with any issue. Steven and his partner Natalie stayed in the town and after the day's session and joined us for dinner and drinks to celebrate our anniversary.'

'10th Planet is a highly successful worldwide

Jiu Jitsu

fighting system. We are lucky to have an official 10P club here in Scotland (one of only three in the UK) and even luckier to have such a good relationship with them. The experience and help they have provided has been pivotal in our young club's progress.'



Fort William Jiu Jitsu Club. Photo: Iain Ferguson The Write Image



Fort William Celtic Supporters' Club presents cheques to Belford Hospital staff and Michael. Photo: Abridgeside Photography.

Celtic club donate to two local causes

THE CELTIC Supporters' Club of Fort William has raised £500 for two local causes. The club raised the money in a raffle at the recent club function at the Caol Community Centre.

Ronald Wegner and Brian Dunn from the club presented £250 to the Belford Hospital Fund and Michael MacEachen, who cycled from Celtic Park

Football fundraising

to Lisbon on behalf of the Celtic Foundation, as previously reported in the *Lochaber Times*. Michael raised £1,888.67 with this donation pushing him over the £2,000 mark.

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Chain, shackles, buoys all available to purchase in Oban

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	Ardrihaig	-5.35	Mallaig	+0.25					
Thur 04.03	3.8	10.10	0.8	16.16	3.7	22.39	0.8	Campbeltown	-5.30	Portree	+0.55
Fri 04.52	3.9	11.00	0.6	17.03	3.9	23.32	0.6	Crinan	-0.47	Tobermory	+0.16
Sat 05.38	4.0	11.47	0.5	17.49	4.0	***	**	Islay Port Ellen	2.00	Dover	+5.30
Sun 00.23	0.5	06.23	4.0	12.34	0.4	18.33	4.1	Lochboisdale	+0.30		
Mon 01.13	0.5	07.08	3.9	13.21	0.4	19.18	4.0				
Tues 02.03	0.6	07.53	3.7	14.07	0.5	20.03	3.9				
Wed 02.58	0.8	08.39	3.5	14.53	0.7	20.48	3.7				

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

WEATHER

Thursday	Cloudy with rain later in the day Winds light west south westerly Temperatures 11°C to 14°C.
Friday	Light rain followed by sunny intervals Winds moderate westerly Temperatures 10°C to 13°C.
Weekend Outlook	Light rain showers on Saturday Cloudy on Sunday Winds moderate west south westerly Temperatures 10°C to 13°C.

