

The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

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Specialist police units assist Argyll

Local police call on assistance from 10 expert teams over three incident-packed days

A WEEKEND of major incidents in Oban, Lorn and the Isles saw Oban Police call on help from multiple specialist police teams. In what was one of the busiest weekends for police this year, no fewer than 10 expert teams were called in from the central belt to assist Oban-based officers.

On top of busy community events a number of road traffic incidents, sudden deaths and a crackdown on drugs coming into the area put an unusually high demand on the police force.

Chief inspector Auld said: 'The past weekend has been particularly demanding and challenging for my team. Tragically, we have seen the untimely and heartbreaking deaths of a young man with a young family in Mull and an unidentified male, whose body was discovered in the waters off Lismore.'

'The thoughts of my staff are with those who have suffered great loss.

In managing these many

challenges, my team have been supported by a number of specialists, in a number of disciplines, in keeping the people we serve safe.'

Last Friday road crash investigators from the Central Road Policing Complex, Govan, attended the lorry collision at Connel, while the police helicopter took images from above the crash site. The same day area commander Brian Auld requested the Strathclyde Police Underwater Unit retrieve a body from the water off Lismore.

A roadside check at the A82 at Tarbet on Friday afternoon, involved the force's Divisional Flexi Unit (a team of seven officers); a drug detection dog; an automatic number plate recognition (ANPR) car from central road policing, police motorcyclists; and the firearms unit, following the discovery of an unlicensed stun gun in a car.

In the space of only four hours at Tarbet nine drivers were

charged with alleged possession of cannabis.

The same flexi unit team set up roadside checks in Oban the following day and charged one driver for drink driving and issued a number of penalty notices for road traffic offences.

Saturday also saw the death of a young man climbing on Mull, which required back-up from Strathclyde Police Mountain Team and the Royal Air Force helicopter. While on Sunday a fire in Oban required support from forensics specialists.



Inveraray and District Pipe Band led the crowds through Inveraray's main street to the games field.

Increased numbers view Inveraray Games

MORE THAN 4,000 people descended on Winterton Park on Tuesday as the annual Inveraray Highlands got underway.

Numbers at the event, a spectacle of Scottish sporting and cultural heritage, were up by 500 compared to last year.

Hosted by the Duke of Argyll in the grounds of Inveraray

Castle, the games saw hundreds of athletes, pipers and Highland dancers from across the world compete for a coveted Inveraray games medal.

Jim McMillan, treasurer of the Inveraray Highland Games Committee, said: 'It was a very successful day and the weather was kind to us with the rain

only coming on towards the end of the afternoon.'

'The crowd was four to five hundred up on last year; we are delighted with this in view of the general trends, where numbers attending these types of events seems to be falling.'

'We are also pleased to have a new main sponsor, Loch Fyne

Oysters who gave us £4,000 this year and have committed to this level of support for the next five years.'

Home to the World Caber Championship, the Inveraray games saw Sebastian Wentas named champion, reclaiming the title from brother Lucas, who won the event last year.

Clocked at 136mph

A MOTORCYCLIST has been clocked by traffic police officers travelling at 136mph on the A85 at Arrivain straights, between Dalmailly and Tyndrum.

Police officers from Strathclyde Police's central road policing unit, who were carrying out speed checks in the area last Thursday afternoon charged the 45-year-old with speeding.

Schumacher accused of drink driving at speed

A MAN who allegedly drove dangerously, at excessive speed, and while over the drink/drive limit appeared from custody at Oban Sheriff Court on Monday.

Jurgen Schumacher, 26, of 8 Laurence Park, Kinglassie, Kirkcaldy, is alleged to have taken a car from Lochawe without the owner's permission.

He is also accused of losing control of the vehicle at speed, mounting the kerb where the two rear tyres deflated and then continuing to drive for over a mile with the rear of the vehicle swaying about the road.

Mr Schumacher is further accused of failing to stop for police, driving with no licence or insurance and with one and a half times the legal limit of alcohol in his breath.

The case was continued without plea until July 24.

Oban man tried to steal policeman's car - from outside police station

AN OBAN man who attempted to steal a policeman's car that was parked outside the town's police station, appeared at Oban Sheriff Court last week and pled guilty to the offence.

Daniel Kelly, 22, of 19 High Street, Oban was spotted on CCTV trying to force open the door of the vehicle on May 7.

Sheriff Douglas Small said: 'It is not the first time you have been before this court on a charge of this nature. I'm looking at your record and you have been convicted of the attempted theft of a vehicle on three previous occasions.'

Kelly will be sentenced on July 24.



Man's body found floating off Lismore remains a mystery

THE IDENTIFICATION of a body found floating in the water off Lismore was still not confirmed as *The Oban Times* went to press.

The sailing yacht *Revolution* reported seeing the body of a man floating near Bernera Bay, 50 metres off the south west of the island of Lismore, at around 8pm last Friday.

Oban Lifeboat was launched

and confirmed the sighting, before alerting police, who called in Strathclyde Police's marine unit to retrieve the body.

However, a lack of personal identification has made police enquiries more difficult.

A wallet with the emblem of a New Zealand fern was retrieved from his clothing but it contained only a train ticket, dated 7am on June 26, 2012 for travel

from Morar to Fort William.

The man was wearing a white vest, a dark t-shirt with narrow horizontal stripes, blue jeans with a black leather Levi's belt and black work boots. He wore a white metal watch with an oblong face on his left wrist.

Anyone who recognises the description of the man should contact Oban Police Station on 01631 510 500.

Bunessan man dies after climbing on Mull

A MARRIED father of two died while climbing on cliffs near where he lived on Mull.

Experienced climber Steve Jones, 39, had been on Meall nan Carn, Kintra with a 64-year-old mountain rescue team member from Cumbria when he told his colleague he was seriously ill.

Mr Jones, from Bunessan, worked as a BT engineer and had two children, aged eight and

two. His father, Rob, said: 'Steve died while doing something he loved. He didn't fall, he was properly roped and secured.'

'He was aware of something happening to him and they had to lower him to the ground.'

The incident happened on Saturday afternoon. A RAF helicopter took Mr Jones to Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban where he was pronounced dead.

Oban publicans restore successful Pubwatch scheme

A SCHEME that sees problem pub-goers banned from every licensed premises in Oban if they are barred from just one has been re-launched this week.

Renewed optimism
Pubwatch is a national scheme that was adopted by Oban's

licensed trade association nearly six years ago but after an effective start it was allowed to 'fall by the wayside', according to licensees, after it became difficult to manage.

However, licensed premises in the town have renewed optimism that the scheme will

succeed this year after police constable Emma Campbell was designated to a support role.

Very successful
Licensed premises will soon be receiving Pubwatch packs, explaining how the scheme works and what is expected of landlords.

Speaking at the relaunch on Tuesday, a spokesman for the Oban Pubwatch committee said: 'Pubwatch was very successful but it was allowed to fall by the wayside.'

'However, this relaunch is to let the town's folk know that Pubwatch is still up and run-

ning and will be enforced from today.'

A Pubwatch scheme is a unified approach by licensees that can lead to people being banned for up to four years from every public house within a town if they commit a serious offence in one.



Strathclyde Police's Divisional Flexi Unit struck in Oban on a busy Saturday, catching many motorists by surprise.



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Fisherman Frazer's Tiree lobster is 'true blue'

A TIREE fisherman, who caught a rare blue lobster off the island, has pledged his catch to Barcaldine's Scottish Sealife Sanctuary.

Frazer MacInnes hauled in the colourful crustacean from Skipinnish Bay and is keen to see it go on display at the sealife centre. The 26-year-old fisherman said: 'I was just amazed when I saw it. I thought someone was playing a joke at first but I have spoken to other fishermen who have seen smaller ones before. I haven't even looked into selling it because I want to give it to the sealife centre.'

Frazer, who owns the *Edward J*, said the lobster was an 'average' size, weighing in at around half a kilogram.

Staff at the Scottish Association for Marine Science at Dunstaffnage confirmed the odds of a lobster developing the bright blue colour - a rare genetic occurrence - is approximately two million to one.

Alastair Law from the Scottish Sealife Sanctuary said: 'We have re-homed lobsters before, so we wouldn't have room for it here, unfortunately. Our colleagues at the Sealife Centre in Balloch, however, would love to have it.'

Pictured is Frazer's blue lobster beside one of his more common catches.



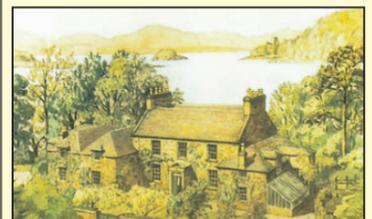
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Beachd Ailein
Ailean Caimbeul

GED A THA AN ÀIREAMH a chaidh an leòn air rathaidean Alba air a dol sìos, chaidh fhathast faisg air dà mhìle duine am marbhadh ann an tubaistean rathaid feadh Bhreatainn an-uiridh.

Tha caochladh adhbharan airson nan tubaistean bàsmhor sin, ach a rèir coltais tha àrd-oifigearan poilis den bheachd gum bheil astar na phrìomh thrioblaid, gu sònraichte am measg dhàrbhearagan òga. Air sgàth sin, tha Comunn Àrd-Luchd-stiùiridh Phoilis Alba a' moladh gun tèid innealan a chur anns na carbadan a tha dràibhearagan òga a' cleachdadh a ghleidheas fiosrachadh mun astar aig am bheil iad gan cleachdadh ann am bitheantas agus an dòigh sam bheil iad gan obrachadh san fharsaingeachd. Rachadh am fiosrachadh seo a sgrùdadh agus a chleachdadh ann a bhith a' measadh ìre an àrachais a thigeadh air an dràibhear a phàigheadh. Tha eifeachdas na h-inneal seo ga rannsachadh dha Rìaghaltais na h-Alba tro sgeama dearbhadh a tha ga ruith le Comunn Rìoghail airson Seachnadh Thubaistean (ROSPA) agus a rèir cho-dhùnaidhean nan deuchainnean sin, dh'fhaodadh gun tig air a h-uile dràibhear òg innealchaidh den t-seòrsa a bhith sa charbad mus fhaod iad falbh leis.

Saoilidh cuid nach eil an seo ach ionnsaigh eile air daoine òga agus nach eil iad a' dèanamh air uimhir den chòir 's a thathas a' fàgail orra airson tubaistean rathaid agus tha ceist ann cuideachd dè bu chòir òg a bhith a' ciallachadh ann an leithid seo de shuidheachadh. Aig ceann cùise, feumar aontachadh gum bheil e iomchaidh rud sam bith a dhèanamh a tha dol a chomharrachadh beatha agus cha bhiodh anns na thathas a' moladh an seo ach leudachadh air na riaghailtean a th'againn mar-thà a thaobh ìre meacanaigeach charbadan.

Cha ghabh luach a chur air eòlas a thaobh sgìl mar dràibheadh agus chun am faigh an neach òg cothrom an t-eòlas sin fhathast, chan eil e neo i gu bhith cho comasach ri feadhainn a th'air a bhith ris fad bhliadhnaichean. Ach gu cinnteach, chan eil an t-òig uile air guaillean òigridh agus bhiodh fhathast ceist mun an aon seòrsa ceannsal a chur air na dràibhearagan a sine a tha gun chùram agus a tha glè thrì air chomas càraichean mòran nas cumhachdaiche a cheannach 's a chleachdadh. Tha na poilis a' comharrachadh gu goireasach 's a tha an rianadair-astair a tha na phàirt de dh'uidheam-stiùiridh cuid a charbadan agus tha iad a' moladh dha dràibhearagan aig am bheil leithid sin an cleachdadh gu cumbhalach. Am bu chòir deuchainn-dràibhidh a bhith ann gach deichead? Ach, le luchd-turais is eile a' siubhal às an Roinn Eòrpa gach latha, theagamh nach eil leasachadh air an dùbhlán ach ciall!

THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE for experience and statistics will probably justify moves to make black-box monitors compulsory for young drivers, but the challenge remains as to how the attitude and behaviour of other road-users can be controlled. Should drivers be routinely re-tested every decade for example, or must we continue to hope that sense will ultimately prevail?

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Loch Awe camping trip ends in fines for trio

THREE men ended up having a very expensive camping trip on the shore of Loch Awe after being fined £150 each at Oban's Justice of the Peace Court.

Stephen Stewart, 25, of 14 Gladstone Avenue, Johnstone, Derek Black, 29, of 42 Wallace Avenue, Elderslie and Scott Crawford, 22, of 6 Clifton Terrace in Johnstone all appeared from custody last week after failing to turn up on a previous occasion at the court.

Procurator fiscal David Glancy told the court: 'This sort of thing is becoming a particular problem in this area. With the cracking down on wild camping at Loch Lomond there has been a displacement up to Loch Awe.'

The trio had been part of a larger group who had been camping near Kilchurn Castle on July 16 last year.

The concerned landowner had contacted police who warned the men they faced prosecution if they did not tidy up the site before leaving in the morning.

Mr Glancy said: 'It was a horrendous mess the next day, there were numerous bottles lying in and around the fire, tents had been discarded, there was rotting food lying around and a barbecue left behind.'

'Clothing was also left behind, along with fishing tackle and line and the associated problems that would cause for wildlife.'

'Tourists have been put off going anywhere near this site.'



Streetscene technician Peter McLuckie is joined by police constable Beata Baldyga on patrol. 16_1299patrol01

Crackdown on dog fouling

POLICE officers joined Oban's dog warden on patrol for the start of a trial to crackdown on dog fouling.

Fixed penalty notices
Argyll and Bute Council's Streetscene technician Peter McLuckie is being backed up by police officers as he targets irresponsible dog owners.

The patrols have been organised between the council and Oban Police Station in response to community complaints about dog fouling.

In the first of these patrols last Wednesday, Peter was joined by

police officer Beata Baldyga. Peter, a former policeman in Oban, said: 'Having the police officers gives me more support and more respect from the public.'

'If we catch dog owners letting their pets defecate in a public area, without cleaning up after them, we will be issuing a fixed penalty notice of £40.'

'We will also be on the lookout for people who are littering.' The trial will last until the end of the month, when the authorities will decide on whether it will continue.

Deferred sentence for child harbourer

A MAN who harboured a child that had ran away from a children's home appeared at Oban Sheriff Court last week.

Philip Edge, 21, of 4D Colonsay Terrace had his sentence deferred for a year to show the court he could be of good behaviour.

Sheriff Small said: 'The charge you faced was a serious charge. I took the view that you were suspicious that the girl was under 16. But I do think that your harbouring the girl was misguided and I'm persuaded to take a lenient view of the offence.'

Oban's 'first' crack cocaine case ends in jail

A MAN who pushed crack cocaine inside his body to prevent police officers from seizing it has been sent back to prison to serve the remainder of a previous sentence.

Thomas Carberry, aged 32, of 198 Haywood Street, Parkhouse, Glasgow, had previously pled guilty to obstructing police officers and possessing crack cocaine on May 4 and 5.

Procurator fiscal David

Glancy told Oban Sheriff Court this was the first time he had encountered crack cocaine in his 18 months as a procurator fiscal in Oban.

Appearing at Oban last Thursday for sentencing, the court heard police officers had detained Carberry at Glenfoot Terrace after he exhibited symptoms of being under the influence of drugs.

He was brought into a cell

at Oban police office for a full search but procurator fiscal David Glancy said: 'Officers noticed a small bag protruding from his anus and he told them he would take it out himself. Instead of doing that he pushed it further in. That made it impossible to be retrieved.'

Carberry was taken to hospital in Oban and eventually removed the item himself. The white substance in the bag, weighing

0.4 grams, tested positive for crack cocaine.

Carberry's defence agent Gordon Seaton said the father of two had 'relapsed' into drug taking after a fallout with his girlfriend.

He added: 'What he did after his arrest was stupid and unacceptable. He regrets what has happened.'

Carberry was previously imprisoned following Oban Po-

lice's Operation Independence but was released on February 17.

Last Thursday Sheriff Douglas Small ordered him to serve the remainder of that sentence of 168 days, backdated to May 4.

He also sentenced him to a nine-month community payback order, with a condition he attends drug addiction counselling.



The Isle of Jura community is pulling out all the stops to find a doctor

Desperate for a doctor

Isle of Jura offers 'bounty' to successful doctor finder

AN ISLAND community is so desperate to secure the services of resident doctor, even the local distillery has offered a 'spirited' reward to the person who finds one.

Jura has not had a resident doctor for two years, relying on costly locum cover during that time.

The islanders have now

launched a major recruitment drive through social media and news outlets, aimed at selling the island to prospective applicants.

And island businesses have also put their weight behind the campaign, with Jura Distillery offering a premium bottle of whisky as a finder's fee for the person who locates the perfect

candidate.

Isle of Jura Community Council chairman Willie MacDonald has highlighted that Jura requires a different approach that that adopted on other islands. He said: 'The reason we are so desperate to get a resident doctor is because Jura cannot be managed from off the island. Our transport links to Islay

are fragile and once you get past 6.30pm you don't have a regular ferry link and in bad sea conditions it won't sail anyway.'

'It is only 700 metres of water between Islay and Jura but in bad sailing conditions it might as well be 700 miles.'

NHS Highland has been advertising the post and is working with the community to

help fill the vacancy.

Jura Passenger Ferry and Jura Hotel are offering discounts to prospective candidates for the post, which comes with a house and covers only 200 patients.

Mr MacDonald added: 'This is a unique vacancy on a fantastic island. It isn't a run of the mill job - it's a life changing opportunity for the right person.'

Princess opens Coll's new 'heart'

'It is hugely impressive as a building and as a way of bringing more people to Coll'

MORE than 300 people crammed into Coll's new £2.5million hall, An Cridhe, to celebrate its opening last week, with Princess Anne lauding the islanders' efforts.

Officially opening the hall, the Princess Royal spoke of her admiration for the community in securing funding equivalent to more than £11,000 per resident to build the Arinagour facility.

She told islanders that they should make sure they 'enjoy' the new building - the name of which is Gaelic for 'The Heart' which will play host to concerts, sports, theatre and education as the island's new community hub.

Princess Anne's visit heralded four days of celebrations on the island, with more people cramming into the hall than live on the island to enjoy Thursday's headliner, folk legends Phil Cunningham and Aly Bain.

It proved to be a tremendous success, and Development Coll's John Fraser, chair of the An Cridhe project board, thanked everyone in the community for their support and efforts in helping to build the high-specification hall.

His words were echoed by Princess Anne, who said An Cridhe presented an opportunity to grow the island's economy.

She said: 'It is hugely impressive as a building and as a way of bringing more people to Coll. They can enjoy their time here even more than they did before. It is, above all though, a place for you to use. That's the critical factor.'

'The potential that it gives you, your own groups, your own interests and anyone who comes here is enormous.'

'You've gone quite rightly for quality and long term investment.'

'I hope you will enjoy the hall and will look forward to doing so. You can rest on your laurels for just a few days and enjoy that part of it - but after that just get in here and enjoy it.'

'Everything hereafter you can truly enjoy because of the amount of effort you've put into it.'

'I hope you will all be thrilled to look back on what you've achieved - many congratulations.'

'It's a real pleasure to officially declare it open.'



Princess Anne is pictured at the entrance to An Cridhe with members of social enterprise Development Coll before officially opening the building last Wednesday. 15_129ancridhe1



Vicky Baston, Pauline White and Paula Jamieson share a joke with the Princess Royal during a coffee break at An Cridhe's new bunkhouse. 15_129ancridhe2



Coll Community Council chairman, Rob Wainwright, shares a joke with the guest of honour as she bought a souvenir from one of the island's crafters. 15_129ancridhe4



Left: Local schoolchildren had the honour of being the first musical act to take to An Cridhe's new stage, drawing roaring applause from the capacity audience. 15_129ancridhe3



Above: Residents of the Isle of Coll, Tiree and visitors from much further afield crammed into An Cridhe's new hall to hear Aly Bain and Phil Cunningham headline Thursday's celebrations. It is thought to be the biggest audience the island has ever attracted for any event. 15_129ancridhe5

£1.5 million Silver Ghost to tour Highlands

A 1910 Rolls Royce, valued at £1.5 million will be among a fleet of vintage cars embarking on week-long tour of the west Highlands.

Starting in Belfast on the July 21, the 'Thistle Tour' will stop at a number of locations including Aberfeldy, Loch Fyne and Islay.

A Rolls Royce Silver Ghost will be among the cars in the tour, the first of its kind. Sydney Cooper of the Rolls Royce Enthusiast Club hopes it will be one of many annual tours they make of the Highlands.

Mr Cooper said: 'There is nothing like seeing Scotland from the inside of a 1910 Silver Ghost.'

'We are doing the tour purely for fun, and hope that local people will also get enjoyment out of our visit. My wife and I fell in love with Scotland some time ago, it's a beautiful scenic place with many friendly people.'

The Silver Ghost was so called due to the ghost like quietness of its engine, and has been coined 'the best car in the world' by Rolls Royce enthusiasts.

The fleet of 10 cars will also include a 1973 Silver Shadow, as well as Bentleys of various vintages.

Tour guide fined and banned

A FRENCH tour guide gave a frank explanation to a drink driving charge when he appeared at Oban Sheriff Court last Thursday.

Jean Louis Duval, aged 56, from Montpellier, pled guilty to driving on Dunollie Road, Oban, earlier that morning with 54 microgrammes of alcohol in 100 millilitres of breath. The legal limit is 35 microgrammes.

Asked by Sheriff Douglas Small if he required a solicitor, Duval replied: 'No. For me the situation is quite simple.'

'I drove after drinking three pints. I was wrong and that is a lesson for me. Next time I will take a taxi.'

Duval, who guides tours through Scotland and Ireland, was fined £300 and banned from driving in the UK for a year.

West Highland line re-opens after freight derailment

THE WEST Highland line has reopened at Tulloch - with a boulder being identified as the likely cause of the freight train derailment.

The section of line, between Crianlarich and Fort William, reopened last Wednesday after being closed for almost two weeks.

The Rail Accident Investigation Branch (RAIB) said the derailment, on June 28, was caused by a boulder that dislodged during a landslide hitting the train and ploughing it down a slope.

Message man on sex offenders' list

A MAN who sent sexually explicit messages to a 14-year-old boy has been placed on the sex offenders register at Oban Sheriff Court.

Jamie Patel, 30, of 109 West Way, Eastfield, Scarborough pled guilty to sending the communications from an address in Oban over a period of nine days from May 14 to May 23.

Sheriff Small called for background reports before sentencing but placed Patel on the sex offenders register in the meantime.

He will appear again on August 21.

MSP backs fishing fleet against cuts

HIGHLANDS and Islands MSP, Jamie McGrigor, has told Europe it should not look to Scotland for fishing fleet cuts.

A report released by the European Commission has stated that fleets across Europe need to shrink further to ensure sustainable fishing.

But Mr McGrigor said: 'No-one has done more for the health of Europe's fishing stocks than Scottish fishermen.'

'We've done our bit, and that should be appreciated by the European Commission.'

Woman jailed

A WOMAN who was angry and abusive towards a former friend was sentenced to 81 days in prison at Oban Sheriff Court last week.

Karen McGillivray, 51, of Room 9, McCaig's Return, Shore Street, Oban had her sentence backdated to take account of the 30 days she has already spent in custody. McGillivray pled guilty to behaving in a threatening manner and committing a breach of the beach on June 9 in Glenfoot Terrace.

Fish farming increasingly important to economy claims report

THE ECONOMY in Argyll and Bute has benefited to the tune of almost £200 million over the last five years thanks to salmon farming, according to a new report.

The Scottish salmon farming - industry research report also reveals that 67 new jobs were

created in the area in the last year.

It also says direct employment provided by members of the Scottish Salmon Producers Organisation (SSPO) has risen from 321 in 2008 to 489 in 2012. SSPO represents 98 per cent of salmon production.

Scott Landsburgh, chief executive of SSPO said: 'The new economic report shows that salmon farming continues to be an expanding part of our economy.'

'Direct employment is only part of the picture as there are many more thousands of jobs

supported in the supply chain. 'The expenditure on the immediate suppliers and services to the sector also recorded a massive leap.

'At a time of slow growth in the global economy, the Scottish salmon sector continues to be a source of major capital invest-

ment and new opportunities.'

Professor Phil Thomas, chairman of SSPO said: 'Scotland has relatively few world class industries, but its salmon farming is in that category.'

'By international standards our farms are small and our commitment to high standards

of husbandry and management incurs added costs.

'Scotland seeks to produce the best and we are immensely proud of our history and tradition.'

The report also found that over the last five years SSPO member companies have made £35.7

million capital investments and 17 per cent of those investments have been in Argyll and Bute.

Also during the last five years £41.3 million local wage payments have generated over £189 million of economic benefits as money earned locally is spent locally.

Lorne Games deny clash

'Definitely no conflict' say Argyllshire Gathering

ORGANISERS of the inaugural Lorne Highland Games have strongly denied national newspaper accusations that the event has been set up to compete with the established Argyllshire Gathering.

participate or just watch at a convenient time.'

Mr MacIntyre, who is also involved in the Argyllshire Gathering, added: 'This is not a games to compete with the Argyllshire Gathering, it is to complement what is already there.'

Locals in mind

The new Highland games this Sunday at Mossfield Stadium will have a similar setting and layout to the Oban Highland Games but has been organised to be held on a Sunday afternoon, with local attendance in mind.

A spokeswoman for the Argyllshire Gathering said: 'We welcome the Lorne Highland Games and wish it every success.'

'I think part of the reason it has been organised is that there is no Kilmore Games this year.'

'There is definitely no conflict with the Argyllshire Gathering; we have a very different event. For example, the fact we have a major piping championship is a distinguishing feature.'

'Any event in Oban is good for the area.'

With the demise of the Kilmore Highland Games, equipment from the committee there has been borrowed in the hope the Lorne Highland Games will fill a gap in the local events calendar.

Athletics judge Duncan MacIntyre, one of the organisers behind the new games, explained: 'The committee has started these games so the people of Oban and district can come and

participate or just watch at a convenient time.'

'I was at the most recent meeting of the Argyllshire Gathering committee and I explained what was happening and even invited them to take a trade stand to promote their event.'

Starting at 1pm at Mossfield the Lorne Highland Games will feature a line-up of heavyweights, including a category for local novices, and athletics events, from sprints through to a 3.2km hill race and field events.

There will also be a 'small arena' showing an under-12 five-a-side football tournament, mini rugby, a Highland dancing demonstration, tug of war, and an exhibition shinty match between Oban Camanachd and Oban Celtic junior teams.

There are plans for a march led by Oban Pipe Band to start from Station Square to the games field at 1.30pm, with a return march at 5pm, although this was yet to be confirmed as *The Oban Times* went to press.

There is still trade stand space available at the Lorne Highland Games and anyone interested in taking a stall can contact Alex Milligan on 01631 569 630 or email alamemco@rocketmail.

Argyll development plan receives response

A PLAN on how to develop Argyll and Bute has received responses from 700 people.

Additional sites

Argyll and Bute Council's public consultation on the future of land use and development took responses on what people would like to see in the new Local Development Plan.

As a result the council is to consult on 32 potential additional sites which were suggested by the public, includ-

ing assessments of their likely environmental implications.

Subject to the outcome of the consultation the sites may be included in the proposed Local Development Plan in addition to those identified in the Main Issues Report.

The consultation will run until August 20, with the document available on the council's website, as well as libraries and main council offices across the county.



Fire crews arrive at The Harbour Bowl premises on Shore Street, Oban on Sunday night as flames engulf the building

Police search for Oban fireraiers

A FIRE that gutted a vacant business premises in Oban's Shore Street is being treated as wilful fire-raising by police, who have issued descriptions of three teenagers seen near the premises at the time.

Emergency services were alerted to the fire at The Harbour Bowl at around 7.45pm on

Sunday evening and three fire appliances, as well as the High-Reach appliance from Oban Fire Station were mobilised.

Teenagers sought

Oban Police has made an appeal for witnesses and are particularly keen to speak to three teenagers, two females and one male, all aged between

13 and 16 years old, who were seen in Shore Street at around 5.30pm and subsequently in Shore Street, Campbell Street, Albany Street and Argyle Square shortly after the fire was reported.

The young male is white, tall with a thin build and wore a grey hooded top and blue jeans.

The first female is white and wore a pink hooded top, dark trousers and white trainers, while the second female, also white, wore a two-tone jacket, red or pink trousers and white trainers.

Police appeal

Chief inspector Brian Auld said: 'I would appeal to anyone

who may know these people and to parents, friends and others, who smelled smoke from their clothing, to get in touch'

Anyone who saw these people or may have any other information can contact Oban Police on 01631 510 500 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111, where anonymity can be maintained.

Three injured as lorries collide head-on at Connel

A HEAD-on collision between two lorries closed the A85 at Connel for 10 hours and resulted in two men being airlifted to hospitals in Paisley and Glasgow.

The collision occurred at 6.15am last Friday between a Co-op DAF lorry driven by a 55-year-old Broxburn man and an Iveco flatbed lorry driven by Dunbeg man David MacNiven, aged 40, whose passenger was Alan MacPhee, 32, also from Dunbeg.

Mr MacNiven suffered a fractured skull and fractured leg in the incident and was initially taken to Lorn and Islands Hospital in Oban, before being transferred by air to the Glasgow's Southern General Hospital.

The driver of the DAF lorry, who suffered a fractured ankle, was immediately flown by heli-

copter to the Royal Alexandra Hospital, Paisley.

Both drivers had to be cut from their vehicles by Oban firefighters, while Mr MacPhee was able to leave the vehicle unaided, suffering only a cut to his head.

The incident, at the eastern edge of the village of Connel, near Dunfuinary Cottage, saw the main Oban - Dalmlally road closed immediately, with a Scottish Ambulance Service helicopter landing at the nearest possible landing site - on the road next to the Oyster Inn in the village.

Following an initial assessment by a Road Policing Unit from Dunoon and a Police Crash Investigation Unit from Govan, Transerv Scotland was tasked with setting up diversions and clearing the road, which was re-opened at around 4.30pm.



A Scottish Air Ambulance helicopter landed on the road some distance from the accident site

Islanders warned to lock up as Isle of Mull hit by mini-crime wave

A SPATE of house break ins on the Isle of Mull has led to police warning residents to let them know if they are going to be away from home.

Police confirmed there have been a number of attempted

break ins and thefts on the island, particularly in the Bunnisan area.

Halls, business premises and homes have all been targeted. Residents are now being asked to keep premises and vehicles

secure while they are unoccupied.

Concerns were also raised about the levels on burglary on the island at the recent Mull Community Council meeting. Local island councillor Mary-

Jean Devon said the situation was 'really sad' for the community.

Community council chairman Steve Willis said: 'It seems to have all of a sudden reared up, I think it has got out that we are a

soft touch.'

Police would like to hear from anyone who saw any suspicious activity over the past five to six weeks and request to be notified if residents are going to be away for a long period of time.

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Woman jailed for more than a year after catalogue of offences

AN OBAN woman who hurled verbal abuse at nursing staff, threatened a woman in a doctor's surgery and drove on three wheels through red lights at Connel Bridge while drunk has been sentenced to almost a year and a half in prison.

Charlene MacDonald, 26, who was a resident at the Ledaig caravan site, had previously been placed on a community payback order for

motoring offences including drink driving.

During that offence, earlier this year, she repeatedly crossed the opposing carriageway causing other drivers of vehicles to take evasive action and continued to drive despite the vehicle having lost a tyre.

She breached the terms of the order by committing the further

two offences on April 10 at Oban hospital and on April 13 at a medical centre in Oban.

The court heard how nurses at the accident and emergency department of Oban hospital refused to treat MacDonald after receiving a barrage of abuse.

The court also heard how three days later MacDonald threatened a female in the waiting room of a

medical practice.

She had to be escorted from the premises.

Sheriff Small sentenced MacDonald to 60 days in prison for her behaviour at the hospital, 108 days in prison for the offence at the medical centre and 365 days for driving offences.

He ordered that the sentences be served consecutively.

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GORDONS
CHEMISTS
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Lorn Lines

MEMBERS of Oban and District Classic Vehicle Club went 'off road' on Sunday, July 15, when they organised a run over the Leacainn Forest Drive.

The forest drive starts between Ford and Eredine on east Loch-Awe side, and stretches for 12.5 miles through the forest to Auchindrain, near Furnace.

All the cars completed the drive without incident and members enjoyed lunch at the Auchindrain Museum before returning to Oban via Inveraray.



Strath of Appin Primary School Pre 5s visited Duror for their end of year outing. They had fun playing at the local swing park and had the opportunity to go on a horse and cart ride around the village. 'Manda' and 'Monty', two Clydesdales from Lagnaha Farm showed them the sights of Duror.

BUSINESSES in Oban and Tobermory with shop fronts are being encouraged to enter the West Highland Yachting Week window dressing competition to complement the regatta that takes place from July 28 to August 3.

The competition returned to Oban last year after a number of years absence with 18 shops and businesses taking part.

Orsay in Oban's Stevenson Street was the winner last year receiving a trophy, a commemorative cake and a selection of sponsors' products.

JRC chairman David Waltho explained: 'We are actively encouraging the town to become more part of West Highland Regatta Week. It's one of the biggest sailing events in the UK and we hope to attract upwards of 120 boats this year.'

He added: 'WHYW brings many competitors and visitors to Oban and Tobermory for this spectacle of sail and it would be great to see the local shops and businesses playing their part to show everyone is behind the event.'

The theme will be left to individual shops as long as it ties in with WHYW and sponsors products will be handed out to use in the displays.

For entry forms and more information please contact Alison Chadwick on mail@amcnab.co.uk or 01631 565213.

THE OBAN Concern for Palestine Group recently played host to a different kind of event intended to promote a better understanding of the situation in Palestine and Israel.

Karen Chalk and Penny Stone had been peace observers under the Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme, after which they devised a song, story and image programme under the title of Still Life: Tales from the West Bank. Their show was performed at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe when they played to packed houses nightly. More than 40 people turned up at the Victory Hall in Benderloch.

Send your news from Oban and Lorn to Euan Paterson at *The Oban Times*
epaterson@obantimes.co.uk Telephone 01631 568000

Much loved character and island leader is mourned

A RETIRED priest whose humour lit up BBC Scotland's 'An Island Parish' has passed away at the age of 86.

Father Calum MacLellan of Eriskay became a household face as the oldest of the three priests in the popular BBC series, which brought daily life in the southern Outer Isles to a huge audience.

Much loved
The much-loved churchman died in the early hours of Saturday at Raigmore Hospital in Inverness, where he had been a patient for several weeks.

He had been retired for 11 years following a decade as parish priest to St Michael's on his beloved Eriskay, where he lived until his final days.

Fr Calum spent the whole of his priesthood in parish ministry in



Father Calum MacLellan of Eriskay was made a Freeman of the Western Isles in 2004

the Argyll and The Isles diocese, first as a curate in Oban between 1954 and 1956, in Dunoon from 1956 to 1962, and in Daliburgh, South Uist, in 1963. That year he was appointed

parish priest of the neighbouring parish, St. Mary's Bornish, and then of St. Barr's, Northbay, Barra (1966-72), St. Mary's, Benbecula (1973-80), Our Lady Star of the Sea, Castlebay (1980-91), and St. Michael's, Eriskay (1991-2001).

Humour and humility
Bishop of Argyll and Isles Joseph Toal paid warm tribute to Fr Calum, who retired from St Michael's in 2001 aged 75.

He said: 'Through these last 11 years he offered great support to his fellow priests by the many supplies he did both in the island and mainland parishes.'

'His spiritual and human contribution was much loved by the people for whom he celebrated mass and the sacraments through

these later years. 'He was never adverse to talking about his own experiences, particularly his achievements, but always with a touch of humour and humility.'

He added: 'We trust Fr Calum is at peace with the Lord - hopefully there is still a room for smokers in heaven!'

Flags at the council offices throughout the Western Isles flew at half-mast following news of Fr Calum's death.

He was Comhairle nan Eilean Siar's first vice-convenor from 1974 to 1980 and he and convenor Rev Donald MacAulay were made Freemen of the Western Isles, the highest honour the comhairle can confer, in 2004.

Comhairle convenor Norman A MacDonald and leader Angus

Campbell described Fr Calum as 'an inspiration'.

Councillor MacDonald said: 'One of the original pioneers of Comhairle nan Eilean, he was a true community leader who spoke for his people but he was also a man of kindness, humility and great humour.'

'Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends.' Both men will attend the funeral.

Former conveners Alex MacDonald, Donald M Mackay and Alexander Matheson are also expected to attend.

Fr Calum's funeral mass and burial will be on Eriskay tomorrow (Friday) at 11am. A requiem mass will also be celebrated in St. Columba's Cathedral, Oban today (Thursday) at 1pm.

Sun shines on Lochaline's big games' day

Traditional curtainraiser to Morvern Gala Week

THE WEATHER gods smiled kindly on Knock Park, Lochaline on Saturday as Morvern Games once more enjoyed perfect conditions for the peninsula's biggest day out of the year.

The games - the traditional curtainraiser to Morvern Gala Week - featured a full programme of athletics and heavy events including flat races, hammer, putting the stime and throwing the weight.

But the biggest cheer of the afternoon came when the Morvern Belly Dancers strode into the arena to perform three graceful routines in front of hundreds of spectators.

Popular demand and perfect weather meant the girls could perform outdoors in the sunshine after last year's inaugural public performance in the marquee.

Games chieftain was local man Johnny Scoular, now of Glasgow, who was a member of the original organising committee which revived the event back in 1987.

"Morvern Games and Gala Week - always at the heartbeat of the community."

Games chieftain Johnny Scoular

Mr Scoular, 52, told *The Oban Times*: 'It's always great to come back to Lochaline and Morvern, and Knock Park in particular.'

'I spent a lot of time here as a kid running around playing football and we used to have the school sports here. It's one of my favourite places on the whole planet to be honest.'

'Morvern Games and Gala Week has always been the heartbeat of the community. It's as much about bringing people together as a community as it is a sporting occasion. It's all about families coming up, making new friends and being able to share a bit of time together.'

He added: 'In my time there's been a lot of changes, the place used to be quite vibrant when I was younger. Fish farming came along and kept a lot of young people in the area then there was a bit of a lull, but I sense a new optimism about the place now.'

'There's the new pontoons and the new school, there's a lot of young people in the village and the mine's opening again, so hopefully we are going to go through a good period of prosperity in the community.'

Morvern Games chair Katrina MacDowall was delighted all her committee's efforts had paid off.

She said: 'The attendance is really good, but the weather has helped as usual. It is our 25th year and it's been great having our chieftain back - that brings quite a nice personal touch to everything.'

'Everybody seems to have enjoyed themselves - it's been a great family day and has just brought the Morvern peninsula together.'



Mid Argyll Pipe Band entertained the crowds with some stirring tunes on the day 20_f29morvern03



Lindsay Gale from Lochaline had plenty of takers at her 'be creative' stall, including local children Kay Christian and Layla Orr 20_f29morvern02



Mervyn Nudds and Fiona and David Christian of the Lochaline Allotments Committee celebrated their first year of production by selling produce at the Games 20_f29morvern06



Left - Lochaline man Alistair Scoular was a proud man on Saturday as son Johnny was Morvern Games chieftain 20_f29morvern09



Below left - Frank Cousins from Morar launches the 56 lb weight in the heavy events competition 20_f29morvern04



James Campbell from Craignure on Mull launches the heavy stone 20_f29morvern05



Local lad Bruce Lawson from Kinlochteagus, left, and friend Martin Bothwell from Lisburn in Northern Ireland ran to a dead heat on the boys' 200 metres 20_f29morvern10



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Records tumble at Taynuilt Games

Commonwealth Games athlete takes trio of heavyweight events

HEAVYWEIGHT competitors took centre stage at this year's Taynuilt Highland Games, as the crowd welcomed a new record breaker, while remembering a heavyweight hero of the past.

As Lord Gray led the march from the village hotel to the games field last Saturday, the sun shone brightly and the good weather likely had a say in the large turnout of spectators.

The air of expectation around the heavyweight tent proved to be justified as Commonwealth Games athlete Scott Ryder, competing in his first Taynuilt Highland Games, went on to set three new open records.

The Englishman, a Commonwealth Games shot-putter and former Winter Olympics bobsledder, smashed the records for the shot putt, weight for distance and the Nant Stone.

Scott also came close to winning the £800 additional prize

put up by local builder Neil MacGougan for the first person to toss the Taynuilt Caber at a perfect 12 o'clock.

Before the competition got underway, announcer Donald Harrison informed the crowd there would be a minute's silence for former Taynuilt heavyweight athlete Stephen Aitken, who died in May this year at the age of 45.

Stephen still holds local heavyweight records for putting the shot, the weight for distance and the light hammer.

There was a familiar name on the piping prize list, as Angus MacColl and his son, Angus John, dominated the local piping categories. Angus senior showed he still had the measure of his talented junior and also went on to win three of the four open competitions.

In the junior piping, Oban's Aaron Hossain, 14, was

delighted to win the Open Junior Piping Trophy, which is awarded in memory of Pipe Major Arthur Gillies.

There were also familiar names on the gents athletics prize list with Kilchrenan's David MacLachlan winning the 100 yards and the quarter mile, while Tom Smith was first place in the mile race.

The women's races were split between Oban's Abigail Evans and Taygan Henry, of Livingston and District AAC. Taygan, 13, and younger sister Tia, 11, who were on holiday in Oban visiting their grandmother Sandra Owens, showed they could already cut it with adult competitors.

The usual strong showing from Highland dancers at Taynuilt was another draw for the crowds, as was the tug of war, which was won by the village's shinty team.



Heavyweight champion Scott Ryder won the caber competition with a near perfect toss.



Inveraray's Stephen King, a Taynuilt Games veteran, in action during the Nant Stone competition.



Highland dancers Kirsty Barrett, aged 17, from Rothesay, number 876, and Kirsty Strang, aged 18, from Stirling compete in the sword dance.



John MacFarlane presents the MacIntyre Shield for the best performing Rockfield Gaelic Medium Unit pupil to Niamh Cameron, right. Lauren MacLeod was third and Calum McLuckie, not pictured, was second.



The march to the field down the hall brae.



Angus J MacColl competed against his father in the local piping competition.



David MacLachlan, right, edges the 100 yards race.



Aaron Hossain won the junior open piping trophy.



Scott Ryder won the weight for distance.

Mull Lines



A BOAT containing four teenagers went adrift close to Ardnamurchan Point, the most westerly point of the British mainland, last week.

Tobermory's volunteer lifeboat crew were called to the aid of the four teens and an adult who was accompanying them last Thursday.

The crew reported the 16 foot angling boat had engine failure and was drifting towards the rocks on the treacherous coastline.

On arriving at the scene, the lifeboat crew found that another pleasure craft had managed to tow the boat clear and was standing by.

The lifeboat took the boat under tow and recovered it to nearby Kilchoan in Ardnamurchan.

Deputy Second Coxswain Andrew McHaffie said: 'Even though this was a sunny, calm day it shows how quickly things can change for the worst.'

'Fortunately the occupants of the angling boat were very well equipped with lifejackets and a VHF radio.'

'They took the right action by calling for help as soon as they got into difficulties. We would much rather be called out sooner rather than later.'

'Thanks must also go to the crew of the vessel which went to their aid so quickly and undoubtedly prevented the boat from going aground.'

THE FRONT man and co-founder of a famous Scottish rock band has been recording a solo album on the Isle of Mull.

Roddy Wooble, familiar to thousands from Idlewild, has self produced and recorded his new album at An Tobar with his live band.

Since Idlewild went on indefinite hiatus in 2010, Roddy has been concentrating on his own music and has been touring constantly with his live band on the back of his solo music. His third solo album will be released in March 2013.

OVER £500 was raised at the recent Isle of Mull Lions strawberry tea, the annual event saw bowls of strawberries and cream and homebaking enjoyed by dozens.

The total of around £560 was raised on July 12, the eighth year of the strawberry tea, and will be distributed to local charities on the island.

Jenny Smith, one of the organisers said: 'I would like to thank everyone who attended especially as most had been at the coffee evening the night before but this didn't stunt their generosity or their good humour.'

'In particular I would like to thank all helpers especially the non lions and Fiona Maclean for baking and donating the amazing cake for us to guess the weight of.'

Organisers would also like to thank all of the local businesses who donated to the raffle, Tobermory Golf Club for hosting the tea in the club house and the Tobermory Co-operative for part supplying the strawberries.

Send your news from the Isle of Mull to Faith Orr at The Oban Times

forr@obantimes.co.uk Telephone 01631 568000

Drinks licence case in court

THE LICENSEE of a popular Oban venue appeared at the town's sheriff court last week as her trial for allegedly obtaining an extended hours licence by fraud continues.

Elizabeth Callander, also known as Elaine Cameron, 59, of Cherrytree Cottage, Glencruitten, Oban denies the charge.

Wedding claim

Callander is alleged to have falsely told an employee of Argyll and Bute Council that there was to be a wedding reception in Paparazzi on Breadalbane Street on March 26, 2010 in order to stay open an hour later than usual. The court previously heard how police officers had attended at the venue and saw

no visible evidence of a wedding reception.

Callander claimed during evidence that the reception was not immediately after the wedding, the bride and groom lived in Spain and wanted to have an informal reception in Oban.

Paparazzi is owned by Albion Oban Limited, the court heard that Callander is a director and shareholder of that company. She is also the designated premises manager for Paparazzi.

A former DJ in Paparazzi said he remembered 'a groom at a wedding dance with an Irish accent'. But under cross examination by procurator fiscal David Glancy he admitted: 'They would apply for extensions even when functions weren't on to

give them an extra hour.'

Defence agent Sandy Mitchell re-examined the witness, confirming he was not involved in making applications to extend the licence.

A solicitor who specialises in licensing laws had been contacted by Callander to represent her at a hearing of the local authority licensing board. He told the court how he had looked for evidence that a wedding reception had taken place.

He had seen a booking sheet for a guesthouse also run by Callander but did not question the fact that every name on the sheet was the same and they all paid cash.

The trial is expected to conclude on August 10.

HIE consult on broadband needs

RESIDENTS in the Highlands and islands are being asked for their opinion on the provision of super-fast broadband.

A rollout of the high speed internet is expected to begin in the region next year and the Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) is seeking information from local people and businesses about the quality of their current service. HIE is also asking broadband providers to confirm plans they may have to upgrade to super-fast and aims to ensure that super-fast broadband is available to everyone in the area by 2020.

Stuart Robertson, head of digital for HIE said: 'This is probably the largest rural broadband project anywhere in Europe at present.'

'We've been very successful so far in securing a substantial amount of the funding we need to make it happen. Now we want to make sure we have the most up to date information, both from customers and suppliers, to inform final decisions on rollout.'

It is hoped that the upgrade will deliver speeds of 30 megabits per second (Mbps) or more and significant progress will be made by 2015.

Arisaig ready for Highland and Clan Ranald gathering

FINAL preparations are being made for Arisaig's biggest day of the year, the Arisaig Highland Games and Clan Ranald Gathering next Wednesday.

Solo piping, throwing the hammer, tossing the caber, Highland dancing, track and field events and children's races all feature on the day's programme.

Lochaber Schools Pipe Band will lead a ceremonial parade through the village to open proceedings.

The venue, Traigh Farm, is one of the most scenic in the Highland games circuit, with sweeping views across to the Cuillin and the Small Isles.

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Lochaber feels the pinch

LOCHABER tourism businesses are feeling the pinch this summer as cash-strapped consumers count the pennies.

Despite better weather than elsewhere in the UK, visitor numbers appear to be well down on previous years.

Ben Nevis Whisky Distillery Visitor Centre manager John Carmichael did not mince his words, saying the season so far had been 'diabolical'.

He told *The Oban Times*: 'There's a few problems, petrol is one, the Olympics as well. Maybe the nice weather doesn't help, but even on the wetter days we've been pretty quiet.'

'Money definitely does seem to be tighter just now. I run a bed and breakfast as well and I've had people try to haggle prices for rooms.'

Roadworks impact
At Spean Bridge, Woolten Mill manager Marie-Ann Campbell said traffic queues during works at the Lochybridge roundabout had cut coach tours to the village.

She said: 'We were doing fine up till then, but the delays had a significant impact on us. We normally have a lot of coaches coming up but we didn't see many of them.'

'I understand these works have to be done but I don't think they understand the impact it can have on local businesses.'

'We're just a wee bit quieter this year, but if there is ever any issues on the road our numbers drop.'

Treasures of the Earth in Corpach, which houses a collection of rare gems and stones, said numbers were 'down on last year' - but Nevis Range bosses were more upbeat.

Marketing manager Heather Negus told *The Oban Times*: 'June was a fairly good month. July has by no means been a bumper month but it's been okay.'

'The better than average weather has helped us a bit, but I'm not sure if people around the country know we are having all this sunshine.'

'We typically get a lot busier with the English schools holidays rather than the Scottish holidays.'

NEWSDESK
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New marina brings more sailors to Mallaig

Lochaline pontoons also experiencing rising demand

EFFORTS to reinvent Mallaig as a major west coast yachting destination appear to be paying off as sailors flock to its new marina.

Mallaig Harbour Authority (MHA) officially opened its 48 serviced pontoons and 12 moorings just 12 weeks ago in a blaze of publicity.

Now hopes that a different kind of seafarer could bring better fortunes to the once bustling fishing port appear to be justified.

Just 20 years ago Mallaig had around 100 fishing vessels, but that figure dwindled to around 25 in 2011.

Ironically, fishing effort has increased this year with east coast prawn boats in particular boosting numbers to about 50.

However, many have now left for their traditional North Sea grounds, meaning the marina will become increasingly important as a source of revenue this summer.

Port manager Robert MacMillan said Mallaig Harbour Authority was 'very happy' with business levels at the marina.



They typically get a lot busier with the English schools holidays rather than the Scottish holidays.

EXCLUSIVE REPORT
by **STEPHEN NORRIS**
snorris@obantimes.co.uk

He told *The Oban Times*: 'It's our first season of operation so we have nothing to compare it with. But the marina has been full on at least two occasions - that's around 50 yachts.'

'It just seems to be passing trade. Our harbourmaster James MacLean says it can only get better next year as people get to know about us.'

'We have had Swedish boats coming through from the Caledonian Canal, but the bulk is UK business.'

'We have also appointed a marina attendant, so that's another job and good from Mallaig's point of view.'

Mr MacMillan said MHA was 'encouraged' by the amount of good comments regarding the pontoons' layout.

He added: 'Our aim now is to provide toilets and shower facilities for the yachtspeople. Come October we will sit down

to take a look at all the figures and statistics, for example how many folk stayed for one night, for two or for a week.'

Asked about economic spin-offs for the village, Mr MacMillan said: 'If you have 30 or 40 boats in people are bound to be buying something, whether it's a pint, a meal or a paper.'

Meanwhile, Morvern Community Development Company's Lilia Dobrokhodova reports that between April 1 and July 6, 367 visiting yachts had used the new pontoons at Loch Aline.

The figure outstripped the 2011 total of 353 - although that season only began after the 24-berth development opened on July 20.

Ms Dobrokhodova told *The Oban Times*: 'I think everybody is benefiting, especially food and drink establishments. We have had people from all over the world, including Scandinavia and Germany.'

Work on a building housing toilets, showers, laundry facilities and an MCDC office is underway and will be completed for next season.

Camanachd Cup semi-final draw made live on Radio Scotland

KINLOCHSHIEL will play Inveraray, and Kyles Athletic either Lochaber or Newtonmore in the Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup semi-finals.

The draw was made live on John Beattie's Radio Scotland show on Tuesday afternoon.

The ties will be televised live on BBC Alba on August 4 and August 11, respectively. Venues have yet to be confirmed.

The final at Mossfield Park, Oban on September 15 will be televised live on BBC 2 Scotland. See more page 21.



A touch of Eastern promise came to Lochaline as the Morvern Belly Dancers wowed the crowds at Morvern Games 20. f29morvern13

Oriental magic comes to Lochaline

A BIT of oriental magic lit up Knock Park at Lochaline on Saturday when the local belly-dancing group spiced-up Morvern Games with a performance full of grace and poise.

Five women, led by Clare

Holohan, danced three graceful routines in front of hundreds of spectators - with carpet for a stage.

The group's inaugural public appearance was in the marquee last year, but popular demand

and perfect weather meant the girls could perform outdoors in the sunshine.

The seductive spectacle provided a perfect counterpoint to the grunting strongmen competing in the traditional heavy

field events.

Local man Johnny Scouler returned 'home' from his new base in Glasgow to be this year's Games Chief in what proved to be a highly successful day. For more see Page 4

Geology student unearths little gems from shores of Loch Linnhe

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

A GEOLOGY student uncovered an unusually precious pair of rocks washed up on the shores of Loch Linnhe - two diamond rings.

Cuil Bay
Ellen Phillips, a student at Cardiff University, came across a water-damaged ring box containing the two valuable bands just south of Cuil Bay near Duror.

The 19-year-old handed her find into local police who are now making efforts to return them to their rightful owner.

Miss Phillips was carrying out research for her dissertation on



Ellen Phillips yards from the site of her surprising find on the shoreline of Loch Linnhe.

the formation of the Duror and Kentallen peninsula when she made the discovery.

She told *The Oban Times*: 'The box was lying below the

tide line. The tide was really far out so I was able to get quite far down, and it was just sitting on some rocks.'

'I was really quite surprised when I found them, they're not the kind of thing you expect to find lying around.'

'The box was really damp and there's been some water damage. It looked like they had been in the water for quite a while.'

Police told Miss Phillips if the rings are not been claimed in two months, she would get to keep them.

She continued: 'They don't mean anything to me, although they are beautiful, but for someone who has lost them they might have a lot of sentimental value.'

'If I get to keep them, I will feel very special because they

are beautiful, but if they find their way back to the person who lost them then there would be a happy ending.'

A Northern Constabulary spokesperson told *The Oban Times* police were in contact with a jewellers in England where the rings may have originated.

The spokesperson said: 'We will be doing our best to get them back to their rightful owners. They may be worth a lot of money, but even if they are not, they will still be valuable to the person who has lost them.'

Police were reluctant to give any description of the rings or the box to try and prevent fraudulent claims being made.

Anyone who thinks the rings may belong to them should contact Fort William Police Station on 01397 702361.

Take part in Oban's own Olympic relay

OBAN'S very own Olympic relay will take place next Saturday (July 28) as part of celebrations for the 20th anniversary of Atlantis Leisure.

The Olantis Torch Relay will see groups and individuals run with a torch on every street in the town, with everyone who registers given a specific route.

The event will finish at Atlantis Leisure, where an

Olympic-themed fun day will be going on with activities such as a bungee run, human table football and water walkers.

There will also be a chance to have your picture taken with the Olympic torch Kyle Dods, the centre's assistant manager, ran with during the real Olympic torch relay.

For more information contact Claire at Atlantis Leisure.

Free helpline ready as SQA qualifications due

STUDENTS in west coast schools and colleges will be among 160,000 young people in Scotland who will get their exam results on August 7.

For those who results did not go quite their way or who just need some support and advice a free exam results helpline has been set up.

The helpline, ran by Skills Development Scotland (SDS), can be reached on 0808 100 8000.

SDS chief executive Damien Yeates said: 'The exam results helpline will be live from 8am on August 7 as people begin to receive their SQA qualifications.'

'It is there to give advice and support to students and their parents whether they are thinking about going to college or university, getting a job or a Modern Apprenticeship.'

This year students will have more support than ever after a

new SDS Facebook page was launched.

It offers answers to common problems, handy hints for making the best career move and practical tools and advice from the My World of Work website, it also features useful links to other relevant bodies such as UCAS, SAAS and the SQA.

Mr Yeates added: 'As always our advice is not to panic - making the call is the vital first move in finding out what

options are available. Often parents or carers call on behalf of their children and that can enable family discussions on the best way ahead.'

'The helpline is about finding the right path for the individual and we have a wide range of services to help people identify and build successful careers.'

The Exam Results Helpline will run from 8am to 8pm on August 7 and 8, then from 9am to 5pm until August 15.

Village stunned by cash theft

A VILLAGE on the Isle of Mull was left stunned by the theft of a substantial sum of cash from a house there.

The theft of the four-figure sum in Fionnphort took place sometime between June 29 and July 12 in Abbeyview.

Anyone with any information regarding the theft is encouraged to contact the local police or, alternatively, Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Morvern Lines

LORD ROBERTSON of Port Ellen, the former Labour MP for Hamilton George Robertson, spent several days in Morvern recently with his sons and grandson visiting their ancestral home on the shores of Loch Teacuis.

Lord Robertson, who was born at Port Ellen, Islay, who later in his career became Defence Secretary for the United Kingdom and the Secretary General of NATO, is a descendant of two Morvern brothers, John and Peter Robertson.

From 1866, the men had the tenancy for many years of the once well known and productive sheep and cattle farms of Rahoy and Kinlochteacuis. Both are buried in the family plot in Kiel graveyard, Morvern.

Lord Robertson is a Knight of The Most Ancient Order of The Thistle - Scotland's highest honour. Shortly before visiting Morvern he took part in the ceremony at St Giles in Edinburgh when the Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, the Princess Royal and the Countess of Strathearn, installed her grandson Prince William, Earl of Strathearn, as a Royal Knight.

THE RIVER Aline, or more correctly the Gearr-Abhain (Gaelic, Short River) which flows from Loch Arienas to Loch Aline, has produced very few fish so far this season.

Several salmon and sea trout have been seen in the estuary but there have not been many runs due to the drought conditions.

Not even Alastair (Ally) Gowans, the well known fly tying author and inventor of the ubiquitous 'Ally's Shrimp,' who has been staying on Ardtornish Estate, was able to catch more than a finnock or two in the lower tidal pools.

A few years ago a seal created a sensation by making its way up the river and into Loch Arienas where it wreaked havoc among the native stock.

HIGHLAND Council's Road Department has honoured its promise to the former Morvern Community Council by repairing and tarring the road surfaces in around Lochaline Village, Kirk Brae, Aline Park and Torr na Faire. The work, which is to a high standard, has been warmly welcomed.

THANKS to the generosity of a visitor to the area who wishes to remain anonymous, much good work has been done recently amongst many of the historical burial enclosures in the ancient graveyard at Kiel. Railings have been scraped, painted and repaired and unsightly vegetation has been cut back and treated.

Kiel is the burying place of many notable Highland families including the Lords of the Isles, the Macleans of Duart and Morvern, the Macleods of Finarny, the Macleachs of Rahoy, Laudale and Dunadd, David

Livingstone the explorer's forebears, John Sinclair, the founder of Tobermory and Lochaline Village and many others. It is good to see these familiar old landmarks being cared for again.

Iain Thornber

WIN £500 OF Lidl vouchers

Summer is here!

To celebrate, The Oban Times is giving readers the chance to win £500 worth of shopping vouchers to spend at Lidl in Oban or Fort William!

Lidl is proud to serve the communities of Oban and Fort William and has built up a solid reputation for offering excellent quality products and superb value for money. Both stores receive a fresh delivery every day - 7 days a week. You can also rest assured that you will only be charged the exact same low prices as charged in every other Lidl store in Scotland.

To enter, simply send us your five tokens that we have printed in The Oban Times, answer this easy question, complete the entry form below and post it to The Oban Times, Lidl Comp, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB. Entries must be received by Monday, July 30, 2012.

QUESTION:
In which supermarket isle are you most likely to find ice cream?
a) Frozen isle b) Cleaning Product isle c) Health and beauty isle

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

I have enclosed my five tokens
The Oban Times would like to send you special offers and details of our forthcoming promotions. If you would prefer not to receive information from us please tick here

TOKEN FIVE

Terms and conditions: The prize is as stated. No cash alternative. The Editor's decision is final. Photocopied entries will not be accepted. One entry per purchased copy. The winner may be asked to take part in publicity and may appear in a Wyvex Media publication and website. This competition is not open to Wyvex Media and associated company employees and their families. This competition is open to readers of other Wyvex Media publications. The £500 vouchers can only be spent in Lidl stores in Fort William and Oban, Scotland.

Canna Criomgan

CANNA had some very special visitors on Canada Day - Sandy MacDonald from Cape Breton arrived with her grandson Andrew and cousin Joanne to visit the island on which she has heard so much since childhood.

Sandy's great grandfather was among the hundreds who left Canna during the clearances.

'I've been told about Canna ever since I was knee high, and I've heard so much about it,' said Sandy. 'It's amazing to finally come here and see it. And it's more beautiful than I ever imagined.'

There are more than 400 Canna MacDonald descendants in Canada, and Sandy assures us that many more of her relatives will now be visiting the island to discover their heritage.

Now that contact has been



Left to right, Sandy MacDonald, Joanne and Andrew, in front of Tighard on Canna, with the Canadian flag flying. Picture - Olivia Uney

CANNA'S community has pulled together again - this time to create and run their own independent website, www.theisleofcanna.co.uk.

Here you can find information about the island, its history and people, what goes on today, the latest news, and information about visiting. The site will be updated and expanded as time goes on, so please take a look.

NEED a calendar for 2013? Looking for the perfect gift for a friend? Or just one of those annoyingly organised people who buys their Christmas presents in July?

The Canna Calendar 2013 is hot off the press and available to order - just visit the new Canna community website, address above.

Packed with beautiful photos of the island, its wildlife and scenery by resident photographer Olivia Uney, it is also available to buy in the island's community shop.

ISLANDERS ARE used to cruise ships coming to visit Canna but earlier this month it was all hands on deck as the *Quest for Adventure* arrived in the bay.

With 400 passengers, the enormous liner was making a tour of some of the National Trust for Scotland's best sites, and Canna was one of them.

It was non-stop tours of Canna house, non-stop guided walks around the island and non-stop serving of tea and cake in the Gille Brighde all afternoon, much to the bemusement of the regular ferry passengers.

The islanders were rewarded for their hard work, though, with a trip to the ship that evening, with cocktails, a five-course dinner and traditional ceilidh on the deck.

How the other half live...

TAYNUILT

THE CRUACHAN Branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach organised its first ceilidh of the summer season on July 5.

Young piper Aaron Hosain kicked off the proceedings with a rousing selection of tunes. Another set of tunes from Aaron later in the evening only confirmed the fact that he is a gifted piper with a keen sense of timing.

Two young Isla Sinclair Dancers, namely Emma Hill and Ailie Munro, gave excellent displays of Highland dancing.

Ann Barlow's local fiddle group 'No Strings Attached' provided some very enjoyable fiddle tunes while Robert Robertson gave his usual accomplished performance on the accordion.

The Sequence Ladies Choir, conducted by Janet Fergusson, gave polished performances throughout the evening.

Their soloists Lora MacLeod, Pauline Carson and Amy Hoyce produced beautiful singing performances.

Fear an Taighe for the evening was Donald Harrison who kept proceedings flowing smoothly and the large audience amused with his usual selection of anecdotes.



Sequence Ladies Choir entertained at the first ceilidh of the season in Taynuilt.

Sale of Work will be held in the Rhinns Hall, Portnahaven today (Thursday). Home baking and locally produced crafts will be on sale.

ISLAY

FOLLOWING on from last year's external improvement works to properties in Texa Crescent, Port Ellen, ACHA have carried out the same works to their Corrsgeir Place scheme.

The works were again carried out by A C White.

All 16 properties owned by ACHA have now been upgraded with new roof covering and new insulated external rendering.

The houses have also been fitted with new guttering and external meter box covers.

The benefits of this work are, increased energy efficiency, reduced heating costs for tenants and it also improves the overall look of the scheme.

THE REINSTATED Ellister Show will be held this weekend at Easter Ellister Farm, near Portnahaven, featuring fun events and showing classes for ponies and sheep.

On the Saturday events will start with a fancy dress raft race across 'Lochindawson', sponsored by Bruichladdich Distillery, followed by mini sports for children, face painting, coconut shy, mud hunt, treasure hunt and many other attractions.

The show organisers are most grateful to sponsors: Bruichladdich Distillery, Kilchoman Distillery, An Taigh Osda, Bridgend Hotel, Islay Woolen Mill, Port Charlotte Hotel and Iain at the Lochindaal Hotel for organising and running the bar on both days.

On Sunday there will be showing classes for native breeds and cross-bred native ponies in hand, with sections for heavy horses, purebred Highland Ponies in hand and leading-rein ridden pony classes.

Classes for Scottish Blackface, minority breeds and minority crossbred sheep will be judged by Alasdair Fletcher of Leigh Hatton, Bishopston.

Also on Sunday there will be an open cross country fun run, crossing one kilometre of fields, valley and steep raised beach, with classes for all ages.

The Ellister Show is held in aid of Cancer Research UK and every penny that is donated by entrants and spectators will go to the charity.

ALASTAIR Carmichael, the Liberal Democrat MP for Orkney and Shetland and the UK Coalition Government's Deputy Chief Whip, will be guest chairman at the Glasgow Islay Association's Home Gathering in Bowmore on July 28.

Alastair, an Illeach, was born in the Mull of Oa and attended Port Ellen Primary School then the island's high school in Bowmore.

With his veterinary surgeon wife Kathryn and their two sons, he currently lives in Orkney.

The MP previously presided at the Association's Glasgow-based 143rd annual gathering in 2005.

This upcoming Home Gathering continues the year of celebration, marking the 150th anniversary of the founding of An Comunn Illeach.

The gathering will see the launch of the newly designed 'Islay' postcard.

Among the highlights of the Islay event will be the first public performance of a new pipe tune commissioned by the Association, commemorating this year of celebration during the Saturday evening concert, when the Glasgow Islay Gaelic Choir joins the island's Còisir Ghàidhlig Ile, Islay's senior Gaelic choir, and other artistes.

The concert will be followed by the anniversary dance, with music by Charlie Kirkpatrick and his band.

THE RHINNS WRI Annual

Sale of Work will be held in the Rhinns Hall, Portnahaven today (Thursday). Home baking and locally produced crafts will be on sale.

KILMORE

THE JULY winner of the Kilmore 100 Club was L Battison.

There are still some places available for the 100 Club, contact D Mudie, 01631 770268.

There will be a fundraising Burger Stall at the Lorn Show on Saturday, August 4 and more volunteers are required to help out on the day.

All proceeds raised go to hall funds. Contact F Dickie 01631 770228 with names.



AT THE Annual General meeting of Kilmore and District SWRI Mrs Elma Lennox, a founder member of the Kilmore Institute, was made an honorary Member. Mrs Isabele Smith, retiring president, presented her with her certificate and badge.

New president, Mrs Fiona Dickie, provided a beautiful cake.

ARDNAMURCHAN

ARDNAMURCHAN is getting ready for its annual agricultural show and sports day, which will be held tomorrow (Friday) at Kilchoman sports field.

As well as the popular sheep competitions, a high number of entrants are expected in the new poultry competitions.

The day will get underway from 9am with a bbq and drinks on sale, with baking and horticulture competitions to be held.

In the afternoon the attractions will include a junior sports, senior and junior heavy events, bouncy castle, stalls, a pet parade and a road race.

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BALMACARA

A FORMER dairy at Balmacara Square in Lochalsh is set to be demolished to make way for affordable housing.

The move comes after the Scottish Government provided £125,000 from its Vacant and Derelict Land Fund.

Highland Council plans to build eight homes for rent on the site, with Lochalsh and Skye Housing Association acting as project leaders.

SPEAN BRIDGE

SPEAN Bridge, Roy Bridge and Achnacarry Community Council held their monthly meeting last week. Among the issues discussed were:

A number of amenity areas had been identified as requiring the grass cut. It was agreed that the Highland councillors would allocate £300 from their discretionary budget to the Roy Bridge Garden Fund.

A further complaint had been received about the untidy state of Kinlochvaig Cemetery.

Secretary and co-opted members - The wards manager has agreed to the interim measure of the chairman covering the post of secretary. There has been a limited response to our adverts but we will continue to explore any and all avenues to increase our numbers.

Brushings in the ditches at Inveroy - Despite a previous assurance the problem still remained. Highland Councillors to contact Mike Leary to resolve the matter permanently.

Concerns were expressed about the possible reckless discharge of a firearm after a cow was shot at Inveroy. It was agreed to await the result of ongoing police enquiries before initiating any action.

Bus shelters in Roy Bridge and Altour Road, Spean Bridge were dirty and leaking. The secretary to contact the official concerned.

The community council will not take a summer break this year. The next meeting will be in Spean Bridge Primary on Tuesday August 7.

A CANADIAN Pipe Band is to put on two special performances in Glencoe and Fort William on Sunday July 29.

GLENCOE

A CANADIAN Pipe Band is to put on two special performances in Glencoe and Fort William on Sunday July 29.

MALLAIG



Pupils, parents, and staff past and present have waved farewell to Lady Lovat Primary School's retiring head teacher Maureen Sutherland. A surprise do was held in Mallaig Community Centre to celebrate Mrs Sutherland's 36 years of teaching, including over 13 years as head teacher. Her colleagues Rosemary Bridge, Martin Sullivan and Joan Smith were amongst those paying tribute to Mrs Sutherland, who was presented with a painting of the view of Egg and Rum by Morar artist Andrew Fairburn.

The 40-strong band is visiting Scotland for a tour mainly consisting of dates in the central belt, but will make time for a trip to Lochaber.

Glencoe resident Ros MacDonald, who has helped to organise the event, told *The Oban Times* the day would be 'special' for the village, and said she expected visitors to flock to Glencoe for the performance.

SLEAT

RESIDENTS in Kinloch on Sleat are now seeing pine martens on a regular basis around their properties after the Forestry Commission clear felled the Kinloch conifer plantation.

Isleornsay-based Skye and Lochalsh Environment Forum reports the martens have relocated into 'all available habitats' nearby.

KILCHRENAN

AN APPLICATION for a site of workers caravans near Kilchrenan has been approved by Argyll and Bute Council.

The move comes despite local protest against the plans although only four objections were ever received by the council. Permission has been granted for 50 caravans and associated facilities for a period of 18 months at land east of Herons Reach. The caravans are to house men working on the construction of a nearby wind farm.

GLENFINNAN

ST MARY and St Finnan Catholic Church in Glenfinnan is to host the Edinburgh Quartet's opening performance in its summer tour of west Lochaber.

The famed ensemble will play the full cycle of Beethoven String Quartets in the course of a week-long visit to five different venues.

From the Glenfinnan curtain-raiser on July 28 at 8pm, the quartet will play at Kilmallie Hall in Corpach on July 29 at 7.30pm, in the Shielbridge Hall in Acharacle on July 30 at 7.30pm, the Arundale Centre in Stronanton on August 1 at 7.30pm, Glenluig Hall on August 2 at 7.30pm before a final performance at Glenfinnan on August 3 at 7.30pm.

All young string musicians of Lochaber and the Inner Isles are invited and may attend any or all performances without charge.

The quartet have a record of bringing top class chamber music to remote parts of Scotland and providing workshops to children to nurture future Scottish musicians.

From August 4 the quartet moves on to Ullapool to provide intensive workshops for students there.

GLENGLARRY

THE GLENGLARRY Highlands Games were held last week at Invergarry.

The results were as follows: **Heavies** Hammer - 1, Craig Sinclair 126'7"; 2, Jason Young 115'8"; 3, Lorne Colthart 114'5"; 4, Stuart Anderson 106'8".

Shot Putt - 1, L. Colthart 48'5"; 2, J. Young 45'1 1/2"; 3, C. Sinclair 42'5"; 4, S. Anderson 41'2".

Weight over the bar - 1, L. Colthart, J. Young, C. Sinclair 14'6"; 4, S. Anderson 13'.

Caber - 1, J. Young; 2, L. Colthart; 3, S. Anderson; 4, C. Sinclair.

Weight for distance 28lb - 1, C. Sinclair 4'8"; 2, S. Anderson 7'0 1/2"; 3, L. Colthart 6'7"; 4, J. Young 6'6".

Weight for distance 56lb - 1, S. Anderson 37'1" (new record); 2, C. Sinclair 34'6"; 3, J. Young 32'3 1/2"; 4, L. Colthart 29'8 1/2".

Best Local - 1, Craig Sinclair; 2, Jason Young; 3, Lorne Colthart; 4, Stuart Anderson.

Hill race Men - 1, Calum Fraser LAC; 2, Alex Cambell (Local); 3, Alex MacInnes. Ladies - 1, Isla Mackay LAC.

Juniors - 1, Paddy MacInnes; 2, Ben Johnston; 3, Fergus Fraser.

Race Results Ladies Sack Race - 1, Isla Mackay; 2, Karen Cameron. Ladies Three Legged Egg and Spoon - 1, Isla Mackay/Karen Cameron. 100 metres: Ladies - 1, Isla Mackay; 2, Karen Cameron. Men - 1, Calum Fraser; 2, Ronan Cousins.

Ladies - 1, Isla Mackay; 2, Karen Cameron. Men - 1, Calum Fraser; 2, Oliver Crawshaw; 3, Jonathan Nixon.

400m: Ladies - 1, Isla Mackay; 2, Karen Cameron. Men - 1, Calum Fraser; 2, Oliver Crawshaw; 3, Jonathan Nixon.

1,500m: Ladies - 1, Isla Mackay. Men - 1, Calum Fraser.

Children's results Under five flat race - 1, Lucy Bloom; 2, Beta; 3, Murray Donald.

Girls/Boys Mixed: 5-7 Sack Race - 1, Cameron Fraser; 2, Eva Wuttich; 3, Finlay Fraser.

8-9 Sack Race - 1, Fergus Fraser; 2, Rebecca Johnston; 3, Ross Gordon.

12-15 Sack Race - 1, Connor Young; 2, Owen Ross; 3, Emma Gordon.

Three Legged Race 5-7: 1, Cameron and Finlay Fraser; 2, Lily and Lucy Bloom.

8-11 Three Legged Race - 1, Fergus Fraser and Ben Johnston; 2, Scott and Ailie Brown; 3, Ross MacNeil and Mungo Blakey.

12-15 Three Legged Race - 1, Megan Stewart and Sophie MacLennan; 2, Stewart Taylor and Paddy MacInnes; 3, Emma Gordon and Claire MacLeod.

Egg and Spoon 5-7: 1, Finlay Fraser; 2, Cameron Fraser; 3, Lily Bloom.

8-11: 1, Ross MacNeil; 2, Ailie Brown; 3, Callie Rodgers.

12-15: 1, Emma Gordon; 2, Megan Stewart; 3, Owen Ross.

Flat Race, 5-7: 1, Finlay Fraser; 2, Cameron Fraser; 3, Eva Wuttich.

8-11: 1, Ben Johnston; 2, Emily Vermeire; 3, Rebecca Johnston.

12-15: 1, Connor Young; 2, Emma Gordon; 3, Harry MacInnes.

Mini Highland Games - ages 5-8 - 1, Connor, 8-10 - 1, Callie Rodgers; 10+ - 1, Stewart Taylor.

Highland Dancing Beginners 8 years Highland Trophy - Bryana McColl, Oban.

National trophy - Bryana McColl, Oban. 12 yrs + Highland Trophy - Anna Morrison, Inverness.

National trophy - Anna Morrison, Inverness. Novice - 9yrs and under - Highland Trophy - Holly Tait, Portree.

National trophy - Holly Tait and Calum Ross, Inverness. 13 yrs + Highland Trophy - Chloe Greenhouse, Conon Bridge.

National trophy - Chloe Greenhouse, Conon Bridge. Intermediate - 10 yrs and under - Highland Trophy - Lexy Ballantyne, Arisdale; National trophy - Hannah Webster, Cawdor.

11 yrs + - Highland Trophy - Rhiannon Brebner, Lossiemouth. National trophy - Tove MacArthur, Inverness.

Premium - 11 yrs - Highland Trophy - Holly Lyall, Kirkhill. National trophy - Holly Lyall, Kirkhill.

12-13 yrs - Highland Trophy - Kirsty MacNeil, Aberdeen. National trophy - Cara Wilson, Dingwall.

14 yrs - Highland Trophy - Chloe Ross, Inverness. National trophy - Eilidh Coleman, Strathpeffer.

15 yrs - Highland Trophy - Fiona Hunt, Drumadrochit. National trophy - Fiona Hunt, Drumadrochit.

16 yrs + - Highland Trophy - Cara Mackenzie, Beaulieu. National trophy - Cara Mackenzie, Beaulieu.

Morning local trophy - Laura Robertson. Afternoon local trophy - Jamie-Lee Lavery.

Boys morning trophy - Calum Ross, Inverness. Boys afternoon trophy - Duncan Sinclair, Fife.

Overall dancer of the day - Holly Lyall, Kirkhill.

MULL

THIS YEAR'S Uisken Beach Games, held in aid of the RNLI, will take place on Sunday, July 29 with fun and games for all the family.

There will be a barbeque as well as RNLI souvenirs, model aircraft demos and representatives from the Mull and Iona Ranger Service on hand.

The raft race kicks off at 3pm with a maximum of four people per raft. Entrants are reminded that lifejackets must be worn.

AFTER being in the same hands for more than 10 years Ardachy House, Bunnass is up for sale.

Cathy Jones and Margaret Walker have owned the property for over a decade and have run it successfully as a small hotel.

The pair decided to sell to spend more time enjoying their interest in the history and geology of the island.

Having worked in London for many years they have fallen in love with Mull and plan to continue living on the island.

They said: 'It will be a wrench to leave Ardachy House as has given us a wonderful lifestyle and home.

'We will miss looking out of our conservatory window and watching the dolphins playing and basking sharks feeding in the bay.'

ISLAY LETTER

Swiss tattoo FOUR dancers from the Ella Edgar Dance School are presently in Switzerland where they are participating in the annual Basel International Tattoo.

Katie MacNiven, Stacey Baker, Ashley Harrison and Mairi MacGillivray will join up with 28 other dancers from the Ailsa Craig Dancers who are representing Scotland at the prestigious event.

The dancers will perform in 15 shows during their visit and will be put through their paces by Ayr dance teacher Aileen Robertson.

SLIMMING CHAMP

CONGRATULATIONS to Islay MacIntyre, a resident at Bowmore's Donald Caskie Square, who has received Islay Slimming World's 'man of the year' award after shedding 5 stone, 11.5lbs since enrolling in October of last year.

His achievement was greatly praised by local organiser Marion MacGregor and he now will compete in the national competition at Slimming World's headquarters at Alfreton in Derbyshire. Well done Islay.

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

Down Your Way

Dunvegan and Duirinish

PEOPLE across the globe with ties to Duirinish are expected to arrive in their hundreds for the third Glendale Homecoming this week.

The four-day programme of events opens tonight (Thursday) with a Gaelic Homecoming Service led by Rev Kenny Macdonald in Glendale Free Church of Scotland at 7.30pm.

Tomorrow's events include: 11am-8pm - Heritage Exhibition at Borrodale School (Cafe open 11am-8pm).

11am-4pm - Exhibition by The Archive Centre from Portree (portacabin). The archive centre from Portree will be exhibiting material they have on Glendale.

2pm-4pm - Fishing Competition open to all, off the rocks at Meanish Pier. First Prize is a bottle of whisky.

5pm-6pm - The Glendale Lecture By Professor Norman Macdonald on 'The Glendale Bard' Neil MacLeod at Glendale Free Church of Scotland.

6pm-8pm - Tatties with mince or fresh mackerel at Borrodale School.

8pm to late - Traditional Cèilidh Gathering at Borrodale School to meet old and new friends to share stories and reflections of Glendale life. Centrepiece of the evening will be a fèisean produced by Feisean nan Gaidheal showcasing emerging musical talent from Skye and Lochalsh. The evening is hosted by Allan Campbell.

Featuring on Saturday's programme is a walk from Fasach up the Hamera river to the shielings at 10am, and a Glendale v Rest of the World football match at 3pm. Players are wanted - all ages and skills welcome. From 8pm there will be a cèilidh at the Community Hall with Ardmore Cèilidh Band.

An inter-denominational Homecoming Service led by Rev. Neil Maclean in the Free Church on Sunday at 11am will bring proceedings to a close.

Thig dhachaigh gu Gleann Dail - Come Home to Glendale!



Judge Ronnie MacKinnon from Glendale presents last year's Glendale Homecoming fishing competition winner Elizabeth Ann MacDonald with the Iain Morrison Memorial Trophy.

DUNVEGAN Castle and Gardens has just been awarded a 4-star quality grading by Visit Scotland.

Executive director of MacLeod Estate Janet Clarke said it was 'wonderful' the estate's major investment combined and the team's hard work over the past four years had been recognised.

She added: 'We will continue to do everything we can to make Dunvegan a must see destination for visitors to the enchanting Isle of Skye.'

FAMED Gaelic singing family The Campbells of Greepe will perform in their native Dunvegan on Saturday, September 17 as part of the Blas Festival.

Sister and brother Kenna and Seumas Campbell, Kenna's daughters Mary Ann and Wilma Kennedy and her niece Maggie Macdonald will take the stage at Dunvegan Hall at 7.30pm.

The family has its roots in the tiny township of Greepe near Dunvegan. Mary Ann, a major contributor and commentator on Gaelic music and song on the BBC for 15 years, also runs Watercolour Music Studios in Ardgour, Lochaber, with her husband Nick Turner.

Competition was fierce in the sheep sections at last year's Dunvegan Show

FINAL preparations are being made for Dunvegan's biggest day in its summer events calendar, Dunvegan Show.

Proceedings get underway at the usual venue, Dunvegan Primary School and Dolly MacLeod's croft on Saturday, July 28 at 10.30am. Classes include horse, cattle, sheep, fleece, horticulture and home produce.

The dog show in the afternoon promises to attract its usual large entry from local and visitors, with trophies up for grabs in every class - including one for 'friendliest dog'.

Other attractions on the day include Highland dancing, Portree High School Pipe Band and primary school children's group The Jaggy Thistles. Tug-o-war and throwing the weight competitions will also feature.

A photography competition is expected to prove popular after a local photographer put up a framed studio portrait as a prize. Show publicity secretary Moira Campbell told *The Oban Times*: 'The biggest thing in the afternoon is the Cullin F

Government to fund feasibility study on Isle of Skye abattoir

HOPES that Skye and Lochalsh could have its own abattoir service for the first time in over 20 years have been given a boost.

The Scottish Government is to fund a feasibility study into a small-scale slaughtering and processing facility, which would be co-operatively owned and operated.

A Scottish Agricultural College team led by Portree-based senior consultant Siobhan Macdonald will draw up the report.

The move follows work by the Scottish Crofting Federation (SCF) explaining the cost and animal welfare benefits of a local abattoir.

Skye and Lochalsh crofters

and farmers currently have to transport animals to Dingwall for slaughter - a journey of up to three and a half hours - or ferry them to Lochmaddy.

SCF crofting resources programme manager Donald Murdie said: 'Previous feasibility studies have envisaged a full-time, industrial-scale meat plant, which clearly would not

be viable.

'The aim of this study is to produce costed plans for a facility appropriate in scale and ownership structure, with a flexible operating strategy able to respond to seasonal demand.'

'The resulting report will be made freely available to other groups of producers wishing to develop their own small-scale

abattoir facilities.'

Siobhan Macdonald said SAC was 'delighted' to work with SCF on a blueprint for the micro-abattoir.

She said: 'Such a venture needs careful consideration, but could provide opportunities for crofters and farmers to reach new markets and add value to stock reared in this area of high

nature value farming.'

Highlands and Islands MSP Jamie McGrigor, convener of the Scottish Parliament's cross party group on crofting, welcomed the news.

He said: 'Small-scale and rural abattoirs are extremely important for farmers and crofters throughout the Highlands and Islands, allowing producers

to gain added value for their produce, as well as being useful for those who want to consume their own meat and for local sales.'

'I applaud this initiative and wish it well and am sure that the results of this study will be useful to many other rural and remote communities throughout the country.'

Police hunt fuel thieves on Skye

POLICE in Kyle of Lochalsh are hunting fuel thieves after a large quantity of diesel was taken from a storage tank at Broadford Industrial Estate.

The theft, carried out sometime over the past two weeks, prompted Northern Constabulary to remind companies and individuals to ensure their property is secure.

Any information on the theft given will be treated in the strictest confidence. Kyle police can be contacted on 01599 534222.

Man admits carrying knife in Fort William

A MAN has pled guilty to carrying a knife on the streets of Fort William.

Appearing from custody, John McPhee, admitted having a knife in his possession with out reasonable excuse or lawful authority on Hill Road and Cameron Road on March 30.

McPhee, a prisoner in Inverness, had been due to stand trial in front of a jury at Fort William Sheriff Court on Monday but changed his plea.

After hearing McPhee was already serving a 40 month sentence from Edinburgh High Court, Sheriff Douglas Small deferred sentencing the 22-year old until August 13 for reports.

Invite to music and culture at national nature reserve

VISITORS and locals are being invited to Beinn Eighe National Nature Reserve in Wester Ross next Thursday to celebrate Gaelic and nature.

Scottish Natural Heritage is hosting the event which features a guided walk with renowned Gaelic writer Roddy Maclean and performances from Feis Rois musicians.

Details about the free event are available from Beinn Eighe Visitor Centre on 01445 760258.

Fort William woman admits biting policeman

A FORT William woman has admitted biting a police officer on the hand during a drunken struggle outside a pub in the town.

Appearing at Fort William Sheriff Court from custody, Roxanne Simpson, of 22 Young Place, pled guilty to assaulting the constable on July 15.

Procurator fiscal Alison Wylie said Simpson had been denied entry to the pub and got into an argument with a doorman before the police were called.

Sheriff Douglas Small deferred sentencing the 24 year-old until August 13 for reports.

Alba up for awards

MG ALBA Gaelic short film competition FilmG and its Scots Trad Music Awards have both been shortlisted for honours at the Scottish Event Awards 2012.

FilmG, nominated for best cultural event, is managed by Cànàn on behalf of MG ALBA. The competition has had 250 films submitted for judging since it began 2008.

The Trad Awards, shortlisted in the best traditional category, are organised by Hands up for Trad and have been sponsored by MG ALBA for four years.

The 2012 awards will be presented in the Radisson Blu Hotel in Glasgow on Thursday, September 6.

Fort William sudden death investigations continue

POLICE investigations are continuing into the death of a young woman in Fort William last Thursday.

Heather Elizabeth McGregor was found dead in a house in Upper Achintore in the early hours of the morning. The 32 year-old is understood to have lived on Lochaber Road.

Northern Constabulary would not confirm if the death was being treated as suspicious or local reports that the Crime Investigation Department were involved, but said enquiries would be continuing in the coming weeks.

A spokesperson said: 'A report has been submitted to the Procurator Fiscal and no further details in relation to this matter will be released until the results of the post mortem examination.'

The spokesperson added a 'number of tests' were being carried out, the results of which may not be known for another two weeks.

Public input to digital planning

Europe's biggest superfast broadband project planned

HOUSEHOLDERS and businesses are being asked to provide vital information to help Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) plan Europe's biggest superfast broadband project.

The £200 million undertaking would see the region enjoy universal superfast download speeds by 2020 and 'significant progress' made by 2015.

But before discussions on the detailed rollout plan begin, the development agency needs to know whether its data on existing and planned broadband provision is accurate.

REPORT by STEPHEN NORRIS snorris@obantimes.co.uk

"This is probably the largest rural broadband project in Europe."

HIE head of digital Stuart Robertson

To find out, HIE has launched a region-wide public consultation on how good or bad present broadband services are. The survey will also invite broadband providers to confirm any plans they have to install superfast.

Responses will allow HIE to target resources effectively throughout the giant upgrade, which aims to deliver speeds of at least 30 megabits per second (Mbps).

Due to begin next year, the project is widely regarded as being crucial if the region's economy is to prosper in the digital age.

The consultation move follows last month's Scottish Government announcement of a £120m investment package to back the HIE's ambitions. Further investment from the private sector, local authorities and the European Union will be needed, as the total cost may exceed £200m.

Should negotiations between HIE and first choice partner BT conclude successfully, work will begin on deciding which areas and towns should get superfast first, starting in 2013.

HIE has already published a provisional list of 50 towns and settlements, including Fort William, Portree, Stornoway, Oban, Lochgilphead and Campbeltown, which appeared to offer the best potential to introduce the service quickly. Smaller centres such as Mallaig, Tobermory and Balavanich on Benbecula also feature.

HIE head of digital Stuart Robertson said careful targeting of such a huge investment was 'vital' to achieve best value and impact.

He said: 'This is probably the largest rural broadband project anywhere in Europe at present.'

'We've been very successful so far in securing a substantial amount of the funding we need to make it happen. Now we want to make sure we have the most up to date information, both from customers and suppliers, to inform final decisions on rollout.'

'It's important we know where private providers are considering investing in upgrades so we can ensure there's no risk of duplication.'

'At the same time, we want members of the public to let us know if the information we hold on current provision is accurate, particularly with regard to download and upload speeds.'

Broadband is currently available to around 99 per cent of the Highlands and Islands population. However, average speeds are well below the UK average of 7.6Mbps, with many places only capable of receiving a maximum 0.5Mbps.

HIE's project will make 2Mbps the minimum speed available anywhere in the region by 2015, with most places experiencing a much faster service.

To take part in the consultation, which runs until August 13, visit www.hie.co.uk/digital/consultation.html.



Local youngsters Michael Lawrie and Lewis Smith, with organisers and sponsors of Gallop and Grind, will be aiming to win their year's event.

Entries get underway for Gallop and Grind

PREPARATIONS for this year's Gallop and Grind fundraising duathlon are well underway, with entries now open.

The event, being held for the fifth time, will get underway at Lochaber Leisure Centre in Fort William from 12pm on Saturday September 29.

Hundreds of people set off from the start line in 2011, with

organisers hoping for an even bigger turnout this year.

The race starts and finishes at the centre, with participants completing a short walk or run and bike ride through Glen Nevis. While some taking part will be trying for the fastest time, many others will just be out to enjoy a scenic walk.

Sponsoring the event are Marine Harvest, Ferguson

Transport, Maclean Electricals and MacPhee and Partners.

Trustee Karen MacInnes said: 'All entrance fees and money raised go directly to the Sharon Fraser Memorial Trust Fund, Cancer Care in the Highlands and Argyll.'

'Funds raised from last year's event are already making a difference to the lives of families whose lives have been touched

by cancer.'

The duathlon was first organised in 2008 by Invergarry mother Sharon Fraser while she was ill with cancer. Mrs Fraser passed away later in the year and the event has been held in her memory ever since.

Sharon's son Callum was the fastest junior home last year and third fastest athlete overall. £5,000 raised last year was

donated to the Inverness branch of CLIC Sargeant, which provides support to children and young people with cancer. The money will be used to provide all-inclusive holidays to five Highland families.

A further £4,070 was given to Maggie's Centre at Raigmore Hospital in Inverness to fund a year of nutrition and tai chi workshops for patients.

Mountain rescue team aid stroke victim 3,000ft up

Large crowds gather for annual River Nevis raft race

LOCHABER Mountain Rescue Team was in action again on Saturday - just hours before members turned out to steward a major fundraising event in aid of its work.

The team was scrambled after a visitor suffered a suspected stroke 3,000 feet up on Ben Nevis during the morning.

The man, in his mid 60s, was airlifted to the Belford Hospital in Fort William for treatment.

By the afternoon, large crowds gathered on the banks of the River Nevis below to see competitors from across the country plunge into the icy water on blow-up lilo's race two miles down waterfalls and rapids.

Competitors raised up to £1,000 each in sponsorship money, which goes towards LMRT's annual running costs.

Team leader John Stevenson told *The Oban Times* total funds raised had yet to be calculated, but spectators and competitors had had 'a good day'.

He said: 'There was a good turnout, with about 150 people taking part. The water was a bit low, which is pretty unusual for Lochaber, but it all went well.'

Corpach man Colin Ross was fourth man home in a time of 46 minutes and 30 seconds. Aidan Ryan set the fastest time of the day, finishing in 41m and 15s.



John Parrot tackles the wild waters of the River Nevis on his inflatable lilo. Picture - Scott Wilkie

Lewis girl is named Sabhal Mòr Ostaig student of the year



A LEWIS girl dedicated to Gaelic language and culture has been named Sabhal Mòr Ostaig UHI student of the year.

Native Gaelic speaker Laura MacLennan was commended for her outstanding course work and passion for the language at the Gaelic college on Skye.

Laura, who grew up in Barvas, has just completed her final year of her BA (Hons) Gaelic and media studies degree.

For her fourth year dissertation, the 21 year-old investigated language use and broadcasting in Scotland and Ireland. Tutors believe her original comparison will inform and stimulate further research in the field.

Laura, who is currently employed as a researcher with BBC Radio nan Gàidheal in Stornoway, hopes to work behind the scenes in Gaelic broadcasting. She said: 'I am absolutely delighted to have been named as the Sabhal Mòr

Ostaig UHI student of the year and it was a very nice surprise to have won it.

'I have thoroughly enjoyed my past four years in Skye and was very lucky to have had the best lecturers for both Gaelic and media studies.'

Laura wins £150 for best student and will be presented with her award at her graduation on October 5. She will also go forward as a candidate for the overall University of the Highlands and Islands student of the year award.

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CD review

Skerryvore World Of Chances
Fourth CD from this award winning band, with elements of trad, folk, rock, country and pop, reflecting the varied influences on their music.
Piper Martin Gillespie's instrumental *The Showman*, dedicated to Red Hot Chili Pipers founder, Stuart Cassells, stands out as a showcase for Daniel Gillespie's accordion playing.
In 2011 the band won various awards - Scottish New Music Awards Frankie Miller Song Writer Of The Year for singer/guitarist Alec Dalgligh, Album Of The Year for their third CD 'Skerryvore', and The Scots Trad Music Awards Live Act Of The Year.

Skipinnish Ceilidh Show
This CD reflects the memorable experience you will have when you visit a Skipinnish Ceilidh House.
A true ceilidh experience - from bagpipes, songs in Gaelic and in English to traditional west coast tunes on accordion and fiddle.
The Skipinnish brand was created by Andrew Stevenson and Angus MacPhail in 1999. You can find The Ceilidh Houses in Oban and Fort William and here you will hear the very best of Highland culture and entertainment.

Drams Allowed Aye Tunes
Debut album from this dynamic 4 piece ceilidh dance band from Lochaber and Argyll. In the modern traditional music world the concept of a fixed line-up can be quite loose; musicians often drift between several different groups, but sometimes a combination will get together with explosive results. *Drams Allowed* is one instance of this, and shows what can happen when four young people with musical pedigrees as long as the A82 combine their natural talents with some serious musicianship.
The last track of the album gives the whole band a chance to show off, with classical cadenzas and rock rhythms and riffs skilfully blending with some of the best reels you'll hear this side of Ardgour.

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Tiree Feis take to the high seas

Island musicians push the boat out with 'muse cruise' to Barra

FOR THE first time Feis Thiriodh decided literally to push the boat out and take their feis on a 'Muse Cruise' from Tiree to the Isle of Barra.
In a pre-arrangement with the Barra feis, there were plenty folk waiting for them on Castlebay pier and with special permission from *MV Lord of the Isles* captain, Michael MacNeil, the Tiree feis musicians and youngsters disembarked and met with some lively Barra dancers - they all joined forces for a grand Orcadian Strip the Willow.
Fifteen minutes later, and with a final blast of the ship's whistle, it

was back on board and on with the music all the way back to Tiree.
The feis organisers are already discussing where and when their next 'Muse Cruise' will be.
On Tiree, the usual high quality of tutors was on offer at the feis, with the inimitable Gordon Connell teaching accordion, assisted by Eilidh MacFadyen.
Guitar tutor was Marit Flat, originally from Norway, and fiddle by Rona Wilkie, BBC Young Scottish Traditional Musician of the Year.
Gaelic song was taught by local girl Iona Brown, with Dr John Holliday teaching flute and whistle.
Scott Wood, a member of the Red Hot Chili Pipers taught bagpipes and chanter and finally beach sports were in the capable hands of Lynsey Gray.



Representatives of Feis Thiriodh on the pier at Tiree before heading off for a tune on Barra.

Mendelssohn on Mull Festival



The Mentors and Young Professionals took part in this year's Mendelssohn on Mull Festival earlier this month. L-R: George Ross, Rory McCleod, Louisa Tatlow, Susie Mészáros (Mentor), Elaine Ambridge, Stephen Orton (Mentor), Lyrit Milgram, Fergus Egan, Laura Samuel (Mentor), Christine Anderson, Jessica Hall, Marcia Crayford (Mentor), Eva Demeter, Iain Jennison, Rosemary Attree, Elliot Perks, Stephanie Tress, Levon Chilingirian (Festival Artistic Director), Amy Tress.



Fèisean Lochabair Cèilidh Trail musicians join ceilidh in Fort William

The Fèisean Lochabair Cèilidh Trail musicians joined by some familiar faces from the Gaelic music scene for a ceilidh at the Ben Nevis Hotel in Fort William last week. The night brought together youngsters currently on the trail with past Feis Lochabair performers. The ceilidh trail sees a group of young up-and-coming musicians performing at venues across Lochaber throughout July. Crowds gathered at the hotel to hear songs from the band, which included Manran's Ewen Henderson, Robert Nairn, Iain MacMaster and Lauren Tait.

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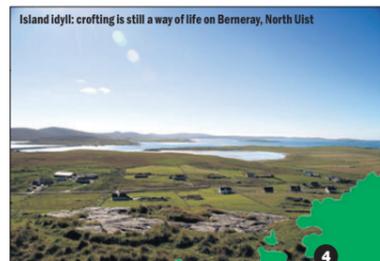
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Contact Jean Doherty on
01878 710 227

WHILE the rest of the country is suffering one of the wettest summers in recent times, the north west highlands and islands have been basking in the warm sunshine – so what better time to pay a visit to the beautiful Outer Hebrides.

The breathtaking scenery regularly attracts thousands of holidaymakers every summer, and with the number of Scots choosing to take 'stay-cations' on the rise visitor numbers are set to rise in 2012.

NORTH UIST

North Uist is preparing for one of its busiest weekends of the year as it plays host to its annual Highland Games this Saturday.

Former sons and daughters of the island, as well as hundreds of visitors, will descend on Balone Field in Tigharry.

SOUTH UIST

South Uist offers visitors beautiful scenery and a range of wildlife.

The Uists can be easily reached by ferry from the mainland, with a daily service between Oban and Lochboisdale in South Uist. Lochmaddy in North Uist has direct ferry links

with Uig on the Isle of Skye, with 12 crossings a week travelling the 1hour and 45minutes journey.

ISLE OF LEWIS

The Isle of Lewis has the largest population centre in the Outer Hebrides, Stornoway, with a wide range of things to do and see.

The island boasts a range of flora and fauna, such as the golden eagle, red deer and seals, and the An Lanntair Arts Centre in Stornoway offers the best in arts, events, music and entertainment in the Western Isles.

The island is home to a number of sites of archaeological interest, including the Neolithic Calanish Stones, which predate the Egyptian pyramids.

An island which is well used to visitors, Lewis has an abundance of hotels and restaurants to enjoy.

HARRIS

Harris is linked by land to Lewis and offers a more striking hilly landscape than the comparatively flatter Lewis.

A number of guided walks and seas cruises are available to get the best view of the landscape and wildlife on the island.



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Castlebay, Barra: a scenic entry point to the islands

Lewis can be reached by ferry with 15 crossings a week from Ullapool, at a cost of £42.50 for a single ticket for a car, whereas ferries to Tarbet in Harris run regularly from Uig on Skye.

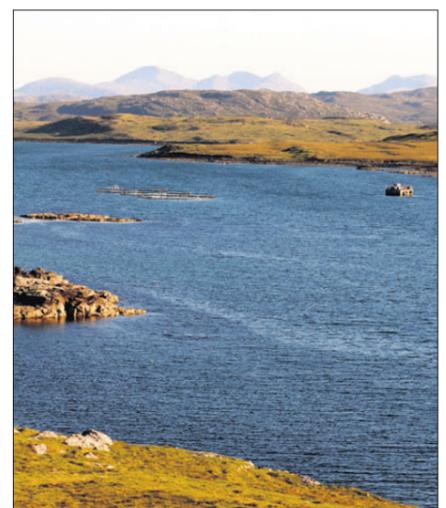
BARRA

Barra rose to national prominence after the acclaimed BBC2 documentary 'An Island Parish' focussed on the life of Fr John Paul on the island last year.

The small island has a population of just over 1,000, but caters well for visitors with numerous hotels, bed and breakfasts and cafes.

The west of the island has white sandy beaches backed by shell-sand, machair and the east has numerous rocky inlets.

The predominantly Gaelic-speaking island be reached by ferry from Oban as part of the Oban-Lochboisdale service.



Scenic: The mountains of Harris from Loch Roag on the west coast of Lewis



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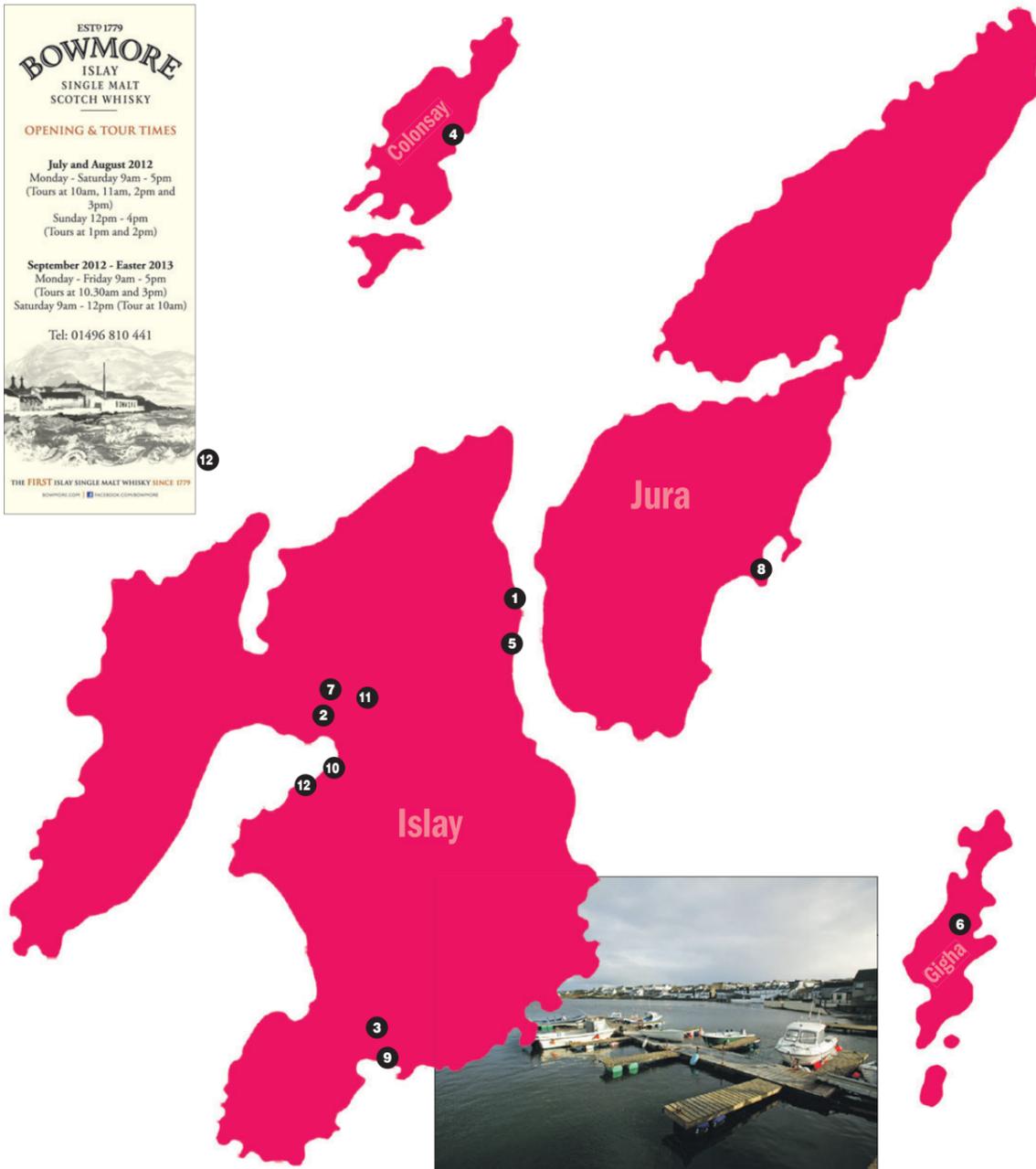
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ISLAY

Boasting eight working whisky distilleries, stunning scenery and amazing wildlife, a stop on the Isle of Islay is well worth your while.

The island is well-known for its farming, fishing and tourism industries.

Large flocks of wild geese make Islay the ideal bird watching destination throughout the year.

There is a long and rich human history on the island, the Museum of Islay Life giving visitors a good impression of island life in earlier and historic times.

Several annual festivals attract all sorts of visitors, with the Islay Beach Rugby Festival, and others growing year on year.

JURA

From walkers to gamekeepers, the Island of Jura in the southern Inner Hebrides, offers a fantastic array of activities.

The island is inhabited by around 200 people, outnumbered by the huge population of deer.

It can be found a few miles northeast of Islay, accessed by ferry.

Jura has lots to offer visitors: a distillery which is open by appointment, a tearoom, hotel and shop in the village of Craighouse, as well as giving unique views for miles around from the Paps of Jura.

In the south of the island is Jura House, which was built by the Campbell's of Jura, and the Walled Garden.

GIGHA

Located a short 20 minutes by boat off the west coast of the Kintyre peninsula, the community-owned Isle of Gigha is a gem of an island waiting to be explored.

With a host of wildlife, clear blue seas and sandy beaches as well as a nine-hole golf course, there are a variety of activities on offer to let you get the best out of the island.

It is the southernmost island in the Inner Hebrides, and is drier and warmer compared to some parts of the west of Scotland due to the influence by the North Atlantic Drift.

The world famous Achamore Gardens boasts more than 50 acres of rare and unusual plants surrounded by picturesque woodland.

COLONSAY

With just over 100 inhabitants and its nearest neighbouring community almost 10 miles away, Colonsay constitutes one of the most remote communities in Britain.

The dramatic cliffs off the western coast are home to enormous colonies of seabirds, notably fulmars, guillemots and all types of gull.

Colonsay's landscape is exceptionally beautiful and varied, with some of the finest sandy beaches in the Hebrides.

The growth of tourism has been the mainstay of the island's economy, with numerous holiday cottages for visitors to benefit from.

More unusual inhabitants of the eastern coastline of Colonsay are the wild goats, reputedly the descendants of Spanish goats carried on an Armada vessel shipwrecked on Colonsay.



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Port Askaig Hotel ISLAY

Port Askaig Hotel has been in family ownership for over 50 years.

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Polaris Ranger Diesel, 3 seats and semicab.....£11,998 + VAT

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Valtra A82 88hp 4wd 40km/h, 3300hrs, 2009 model.....£19,895 + VAT
Zetor Proxima 6441 68hp, 1500kg loader, 2200hrs 2008 model.....£21,495 + VAT
John Deere 6510 Premium 115hp 4wd 4300hrs 1999 model.....£17,495 + VAT
Lamborghini 115 36x36 synchro shuttle 1992 model.....£9,995 + VAT
JCB Groundhog diesel ATV, cab, power tip, road legal, 2008.....£5,495 + VAT
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Crofters and farmers urged to complete forum survey

FARMERS, crofters and land managers are being urged to complete the survey recently sent out by the Scottish Agricultural College (SAC) on behalf of the Argyll and Isles Agricultural Forum the regional partnership, set up to raise awareness of their concerns.

The aim is to identify the level of confidence of agricultural businesses in the area and learn more about their future needs. The survey was issued last month and the response has been excellent to date, but there are many more opinions out there. Development Manager for the Forum, Fergus Younger said: 'We want to catch as many different views as

possible and gain a better understanding of farmers and crofters future intentions. Only then can this information be used with any authority by the forum, or when lobbying Government to develop initiatives that benefit the area.' Organisations on the Argyll and the Islands Agricultural Forum include farming, crofting and

landowners bodies like NFUS, SCF and Scottish Land and Estates. There are conservation groups like RSPB Scotland, as well as local authorities, development agencies and advisers, such as SAC and SAOS, who encourage co-operation. The last survey was completed nine years ago and much has happened since then.

One of the main local consultants involved in producing this report, SAC's Oban-based Niall Campbell said: 'This is an appropriate time to be seeking an update on producers' thoughts and aspirations due to the period that has lapsed since the last report and the changes since then. We now face even more change with subsidy reform, strengthen-

ing Sterling, rising inflation and transport costs, so it is even more important to understand what those in the industry are thinking.' Farmers and crofters are asked to continue sending in their completed Surveys using the pre-paid stamped addressed envelope provided. They can even opt to enter a prize draw for a crate of beer from Fyne

Ales! Any farmer or crofter who has not received a survey is also asked to contact their local NFUS or SAC office. The more surveys that are returned, the more confidence can be taken that the summary results reflects the consensus and used to achieve maximum benefit for the area.

Prime trade remains firm at Dingwall

DINGWALL and Highland Marts Ltd sold 41 prime cattle and 226 prime and feeding sheep at Dingwall on Tuesday.

Prime bullocks averaged 210.4p (+2.7p) and sold to 234p per kg for a 610kg Charolais cross from Bridgford Farm, Dingwall, and £1,438.50 for a

685kg Limousin cross from Udale, Poyntzfield. Lambs averaged 195.2p (+6.0p) and sold to 210.2p per kg and £92.50 for 44kg Cheviots from 34 Newmarket, Stornoway. Feeding sheep sold to £81 for Cheviot ewes from Bogburn Farm, Dingwall.

Morris Leslie Monthly Auctions
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DIRECT FROM COUNCIL & OTHERS Scania 8 x 4 Hooklift, 2005 Dennis RCV, 2002 Mitsubishi FE649 c/cab recovery spec lift, 2005 Iveco Ford ML75E17 sleep/cab slidebed, 2002 Iveco Ford 65C15D c/cab recovery spec lift, 2004 VW LT35 95 motorcycle recovery p/van, Ldv conveyer minibus, Terex HD1000 H tip dumper, Kubota B2710 hydrostatic 4WD tractor, Kubota B2410 manual 4WD tractor, Walfin 500kg power dumper, 2006 Hyster LT 322 mower, Vauxhall combo vans, water & fuel bowzers, plant trailers, water pumps, compaction plates, lawnmowers, strimmers, groundcare equipment, cabins, containers and rollers.
DUE TO CHANGE IN COMPANY POLICY A National Publisher is selling a quantity of its Distribution Fleet. Vehicles to include: 2007 Iveco Stralis 6x2 Artic c/w curtain trailer, 2002 Iveco Cargo 26t, 2004 DAF FA curtain-sided, 2004 Iveco Cargo 10t, 2002 Iveco Cargo 7.5t, 1992 Leyland Daf FA breakdown recovery truck, 4 x 2006 - 2008 Ford transit 350L, HRV vans, 5 x 2006 - 2009 Vauxhall Combo 1.3CDTi vans, 2 x 2009 Vauxhall Combo 1700 CDTi vans, 2008 Vauxhall Combo 1248 1700CDTi van.
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Highland champion at the Yorkshire Show was Eoin Mhor 8th of Mottistone Picture - Wayne Hutchinson

Yorkshire success for Mottistone Fold

THERE WAS considerable success for west coast Highland cattle enthusiasts at this year's Yorkshire Show, despite the event being cut short due to torrential rainfall which flooded both showground and car parks.

Following his success at the Royal Highland Show, Willie MacLean produced the overall champion, female champion and male champion from Michael Poland's Mottistone Fold.

Champion was the bull Eoin Mhor 8th of Mottistone with the reserve award going to the female champion Morag Odhar of Mottistone. Also enjoying success was the Cladich Fold from Dalnally, Stockman Stuart Campbell said he was delighted with a wealth of tickets including first and second in a very strong yearling class. Stuart told *The Oban Times*: 'First was Frangag Ruadh of Cladich, who came

fifth in a strong class of 19 at the Royal Highland Show. The reserve was won by Olga of Cladich, who also had a sensational outing at the Highland, receiving first in her class, and also taking out reserve junior champion. The two yearlings also took third in the pairs class. 'And finally a fifth place went to our two year old Sorcha of Cladich, in the two year old class.'

PUBLIC NOTICES

DUNBARTONSHIRE AND ARGYLL & BUTE VALUATION JOINT BOARD
ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1 APRIL 2011 TO 31 MARCH 2012 PRE-AUDIT INSPECTION
Notice is hereby given, under Regulation 5(1) of the Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Regulations, that:
• Copies of the unaudited accounts of DUNBARTONSHIRE AND ARGYLL & BUTE VALUATION JOINT BOARD for the period from 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012, will be available for public inspection in the offices of the TREASURER, DUNBARTONSHIRE AND ARGYLL AND BUTE VALUATION JOINT BOARD, GARSHAKE ROAD, DUMBARTON and CLYDEBANK MUNICIPAL BANK, COUNCIL OFFICES, ROSEBERRY PLACE, CLYDEBANK between the hours of 9.15 a.m. to 1.00p.m. and 2.00p.m. to 4.00p.m. Monday to Friday from 30 July 2012 to 20 August 2012, both days inclusive;
• Any person interested may inspect a copy of the abstract of the accounts to be audited, all books deeds, contracts, bills, vouchers and receipts related thereto, and may take copies of any or all parts of the accounts;
• Any interested person may object to the Accounts or part of those accounts, no later than 20 August 2012 by:
- Sending their objections in writing, together with a statement of the grounds thereof to the auditor, Elaine Boyd FCCA, Senior Audit Manager, Audit Scotland, 7th Floor, Plaza Tower, East Kilbride, G74 1LW; and
- Sending their objections in writing, together with a statement of the grounds thereof to The Controller of Audit, Audit Scotland, 110 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 4LH; and
- Sending a copy of that objection and statement to me, the undersigned, and to any officer of the authority who may be concerned.
• The auditor shall, if requested by the person objecting, the authority, or by any officer of the authority who may be concerned, afford to that person or authority or officer, as the case may be, an opportunity of appearing before and being heard by the auditor with respect to that objection; and any such person or officer may so appear and be heard either personally or by a representative.
Stephen West CPFA
Treasurer
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CROFTING COMMISSION COIMISEAN NA CRUITERACHD
THE CROFTING COMMISSION - AREA ASSESSORS PANEL
The Crofting Commission is seeking people from throughout the crofting counties to serve on a new Panel of Assessors.
Are you interested and engaged in crofting? Would you like to serve your community on crofting matters? If so, you could be just the person the Crofting Commission is seeking for the new Panel of Assessors.
Assessors act as the link between communities and the Commission, to assist us in regulating crofting more effectively. They are appointed to cover particular areas.
This involves;
• Contributing to locally held meetings and hearings
• Assisting with queries on regulatory cases, for example assignment and decrofting
• Disseminating information on matters of interest to crofting in the local area.
The appointments will be for a 5 year period, commencing in October 2012. Training will be provided to help Assessors carry out their roles.
Existing Assessors can apply for selection and we would also welcome applications from under-represented groups, such as young people, to increase the diversity of the panel.
The appointment is not paid but the Commission will reimburse reasonable travel and subsistence expenses and compensate for any loss of earnings incurred.
Closing date 24th August 2012
For an application form, please call 01463 663 439
Email info@crofting.scotland.gov.uk
Website: www.crofting.scotland.gov.uk

MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010 TERN RAFTS: LOCH CRERAN
Notice is hereby given that Mr Craik has applied to the Scottish Ministers of the Scottish Government, under Part 4 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, in respect of installing four tern rafts at:

Description	Latitude	Longitude
South Shian	56 31.805 N	005 23.960 W
	56 31.805 N	005 23.931 W
	56 31.744 N	005 24.035 W
	56 31.744 N	005 24.015 W

(WGS84)
Plans showing the position of the works may be inspected at The Post Office, Benderloch.
Objections relating to safety of navigation or environmental issues in respect of the application should be made in writing to:
Licensing Operations Team, Marine Scotland, Marine Laboratory, 375 Victoria Road, Aberdeen, AB11 9DB within 28 days of the date of this notice or by email: MS.MarineLicensing@scotland.gsi.gov.uk, quoting reference: **FKB/J187**
Mr Clive Craik

www.highland.gov.uk
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 PLANNING (LISTED BUILDING AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997
The applications listed below, along with plans and other documents submitted with them, may be examined between the hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays) at the AREA PLANNING AND BUILDING STANDARDS OFFICE, FULTON HOUSE, GORDON SQUARE, FORT WILLIAM, PH33 6XY and online at www.highland.gov.uk
Written comments should be made to the EPC at the contact details below within the time period indicated from the date of this notice. Anyone making a representation about this proposal should note that their letter or email will be disclosed to any individual or body who requests sight of representations in respect of this proposal.

Reference Number	Development Address	Proposal Description
12/02595/FUL	Arisaig Hotel, Arisaig	Erection of four holiday letting units (renewal of 06/00287/FULLO)
12/02618/PIP	Land West of Westfield, Inverie, Knoydart	Erection of house

Time period for comments is 14 days
ePlanning Centre, The Highland Council, Glenurquhart Road, INVERNESS IV3 5NX
Email: eplanning@highland.gov.uk

DECISION ON APPLICATION TO CREATE A NEW CROFT
Application by Mr P Sinclair, of Sunnyside, Glenbarra has been **Approved**.
5.01.37173
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.

MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010 CONSTRUCTION: PORTACHOILLAN, WEST LOCH TARBERT
Notice is hereby given that Mr J Murphy (Per Arch Henderson LLP) has applied to the Scottish Ministers of the Scottish Government, under Part 4 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, in respect of repair work and extension to pier at:

Description	Latitude	Longitude
Portachoilan	55° 45.807' N	05° 34.517' W

(WGS84)
Plans showing the position of the works may be inspected at The Post Office Tarbert, The Rest, Tarbert, Argyll, PA29 6TN.
Objections relating to safety of navigation or environmental issues in respect of the application should be made in writing to:
Licensing Operations Team, Marine Scotland, Marine Laboratory, 375 Victoria Road, Aberdeen, AB11 9DB within 28 days of the date of this notice or by email: MS.MarineLicensing@scotland.gsi.gov.uk, quoting reference: **FKB/A1355**
James Murphy, 27 Swinton Street, London, WC1X 9NW
Or Agent
Arch Henderson LLP, 26 Rubislaw Terrace, Aberdeen, AB10 1XE

Alan Reid MP Meet your MP
Alan Reid MP will be in your area for his Constituency Tour on the following dates:
Tuesday 24th July 2012
Lochgilthead : 4.00pm - 5.00pm
(Lochgilthead Community Centre)
Friday 27 July 2012
Benderloch : 2.30pm - 3.00pm
Connel : 3.30pm - 4.00pm
Dunbeg : 4.30pm - 5.00pm
Oban : 6.00pm - 7.00pm
(Kilmore & Oban Church Centre)
Saturday 28 July 2012
Coll : 10.00am - 11.00am
(An Cridhe)
For an appointment please call 01369 704840

69% of the business community read the regional press

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

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

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

Ref	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
12/01406/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse	Land West of Seaside (South Plot) Vaul Isle of Tiree Argyll and Bute PA77 6TP	Tiree Area Office
12/01420/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse, installation of septic tank and formation of vehicular access	Land North West of Cnoc Na Creag Vaul Isle of Tiree Argyll and Bute	Tiree Area Office
12/01424/PP	Installation of generator and vehicle bollard	Police Station Albany Street Oban Argyll and Bute PA34 4AL	Oban Area Office
12/01456/PP	Installation of hydro electric scheme (100 kW scheme) and formation of new access track	Land North West of Hazel Cottage West Drive Ardbrecknish Dalnally Argyll and Bute PA33 1BL	Oban Area Office
12/01463/PP	Erection of 2 windturbines (37 metres high to hub height, 54 metres high to blade tip) and associated infrastructure including access tracks	Land North West of Barran Caltunn Cottage Oban Argyll and Bute	Oban Area Office

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

Ref	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
12/01480/PP	Erection of two storey extension and front porch (amended design relative to planning permission 11/02261/PP)	Bishops House Isle of Iona Argyll and Bute PA76 6SJ	Sub Post Office Isle of Iona

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

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

Ref	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
12/01432/PP	Deletion of planning conditions 3, 4, 5 and 6 of planning permission 07/02298/DET - in relation to access	Bruichladdich Distillery Bruichladdich Isle of Islay Argyll and Bute PA49 7UN	Sub Post Office Port Charlotte

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

Ref	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
12/01514/PP	Erection of two storey rear extension and formation of car parking area	6 Queen Street Portnahaven Isle of Islay Argyll and Bute PA47 75J	Sub Post Office Portnahaven

Argyll and Bute council encourages planning applications to be made on-line through The Scottish Government website: <https://eplanning.scotland.gov.uk>
The Council maintain a Register of planning applications which can be viewed during normal office hours at Planning and Regulatory Services, Whitegates Office Whitegates Road Lochgilphead PA31 8SY.
A weekly list of applications can be viewed at the above address and at all Council Libraries.
Any letter of representation the Council receives is considered a public document and will be published on our website. Anonymous or marked confidential correspondence will not be considered.

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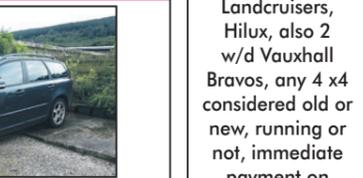
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PERSONALS

Many would like to thank Dr Yadav, her surgeon, and all the other doctors who looked after her after her operation. Special thanks to all the nurses who attended her so kindly day and night. And thank you all thoughtful friends who sent me cards with kind words and thoughts, helped the morale. Thanks for all the lovely flowers. Grateful thanks to all. Catcheon, Fionnphort, Mull.

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BIRTHS



COLLINS

Niamh (nee Anderson) and Brian are delighted to announce the birth of Joseph Jeffrey on July 4, 2012. A sixth grandchild for Maggie and Jeff and seventh for May and Michael.

GREIG - James and Mairi (nee MacKinnon) are delighted to announce the birth of twins Kelson William Donald and Hannah Alesta on June 20, 2012 at RAH Paisley. A brother and sister to Erin and grandchildren for Alec and the late Sandra MacKinnon, Carradale, Pat Greig of Shropshire and Denis Greig of Herefordshire.

MACDONALD - Colin and Helen are delighted to announce the safe arrival of their son Alasdair Tandy, born in Paisley on Sunday July 8, 2012. A sister for Eilidh and sixth grandchild for both Olive Brown, Stronsaule, Tobermory, and for Archie and Janet MacDonald, Cnoc na Sgillin, Tobermory.

ENGAGEMENTS



DONN - MOUAT

Trine Dale, daughter of the late Jane Layburn Dale and Joergen Rasmussen of Oban are happy to announce the engagement to William John, son of Ann Margaret and the late Harry Mouat, Taynuilt.

RUBY WEDDING

LAWRIE - CAMPBELL - On July 22, 1972, Willie to Cheryl at Kinlochleven Parish Church by the Rev David Black.

GOLDEN WEDDING



CAMPBELL - FERRIER

On July 18, 1962 at Inveraray Parish Church by Rev D W MacKenzie, Donnie to Lilah. Present address Lorona, Inveraray.

DEATHS

CLARK - Peacefully after a long illness borne in his own inimitable style, at the Lorn & Islands Hospital, Oban on July 11, 2012, aged 58, Norman, much loved husband of Sheila, dad to Anna and Rebecca, grandad to Jade, Jasmine, Natasha and Curtis, son of the late Robbie and Doris, Aberdeen and brother of the late Ian. Soberly missed.

JOHNSTONE - Peacefully at Dunaros Hospital Isle of Mull, on July 12, 2012 Jessie (Jetta) Johnstone aged 92 years. Wife of the late Sam Johnstone, Loving Mother, Grandmother and Great Grandmother. Sadly missed. Funeral service was held on Wednesday July 18, 2012 at Tobermory Parish Church, thereafter to Tobermory Top Cemetery.

MCNEILL - Peacefully, at the Mid Argyll Hospital, with his family by his side, on July 14, 2012, Hector J McNeill, of 9 Rowan Park, Lochgilphead, beloved husband of the late Florence, much loved dad of Catherine, Hector and the late John and Graham, adored grandpa of Stuart, Steven, Katie, Laura, Diane and Chloe, proud great grandpa of Ewan and Holly, much respected father-in-law of Rhona, dear brother of Hamish and cherished uncle. Funeral service will be held in Lochgilphead Parish Church, today, Thursday, July 19 at 1.00pm, thereafter to Achnacree Cemetery. Flowers or donations, if desired, to Glenaray Ward, Mid Argyll Hospital.

SMILLIE - Mairi Ishbel. Peacefully in her sleep on July 10, 2012, after a short illness Mairi-Ishbel, dearly loved and loving wife of Alan, mother of Calum and Morna, grandma of Megan and Maya, sister of the late Jim and darling daughter of Flora and the late John MacKenzie (Ex Cal Mac Oban).

THOMSON - William Campbell. Bill of Runa, Glenarn Road, Rhu, Helensburgh, sadly but peacefully, passed away on Monday, July 10, 2012, at Ayr Hospital. His children; Nancy, Marion, Hazel and Iain were at his bedside. Bill and his late wife Betty had, amongst other achievements, helped to found the Surrey Wine and Food Society and the Helensburgh Wine Society. The funeral will take place at Masonhill Crematorium, by Ayr on Monday, July 23, at 10.30am.

WOODFORD - Margaret (nee McKerral). My last aunt in Scotland, will be sadly missed. God Bless. - From Don in Australia.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

SCOTT-MORTON - Mary, Michael, Fiona, Lesley and families would like to thank all those friends who came to Mary's memorial service. We are most appreciative of the kindness and support shown by friends. She would have been moved by the friendship of so many. The family is very grateful for the supportive help of the Appin community, particularly Sandy and Barbara Carmichael, Jessie MacKenzie and the Linda MacLeod team that produced such delicious refreshments. Reverend Roderick Campbell and Brigitte Harris's choir combined to provide a moving and meaningful closure to the life of a wonderful wife, mother, grandmother and friend to many.

MACLEOD - Margaret, Donald and family of the late Alice MacLeod wish to thank all relatives and friends for their expressions of sympathy and support shown to them, following their sad loss. Sincere thanks to the staff of Ward 1, Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban who were so attentive, Rev James Beaton for his comforting service, Hamish Hoey and Son for their professional help and guidance and to Falls of Lora for their funeral catering. Finally thanks to all who travelled from near and far to pay their respects at the church and cemetery.

IN MEMORIAM

BELL - In loving memory of our mum Betty who passed away on July 21, 2002, also remembering our dad John who passed on December 12, 2004. Soberly missed.

GILLIES - Precious memories of a much loved husband Donnie, father and granddad who passed away on July 16, 1992 and loved ones gone since. Remembering you always In our hearts you stay Tears we shed often As we miss you every day. - Jean and family, 47 Drumfadda Terrace, Corpach.

KIRSOP - Robert who passed away on March 3, 2012 after a long bravely fought battle with illness, was an inspiration to us all by his courage, work ethic and generosity. Always in our thoughts and sorely missed especially at this time of the Mull Highland Games. Robert, we said farewell, because it can never really be goodbye, You've been too big a force of personality, too big a glint in the eye. A true one-off, the warmest embrace, you were famed for being both, With good looks that started off like Elvis, and slowly became more Meat Loaf. We all recall childhood memories of being lifted up high in the air, Happy days with Uncle Rob, always willing, always there. A big heart, a joker's touch, but really you never missed a thing, A plumber's plumber, a loyal friend, you gave ballcock a brand new ring. We remember the glasses, thick as bottles, and the finger pushed to the nose, A star of Tob Utd, you were Celtic, as everyone knows. Things are quiet in Tobermory, it's fair to say in all of Mull, It will never be the same again, but this legend will never dull. Yes in Washington, another Bobby K, was once known far and wide, But to us there was only one true original, and when it mattered he didn't hide. It was: "What's the crack?" "How's the form?" The red van always racing. And with your usual sense of timing, you lived to see Rangers go into administration. Even when things got tough, you were brave and never complained, Showing that fighter's touch, the strength for which you were famed.

Yes the world is now a duller place, a force has been laid to rest, A man who brought light into a room, who stood out from all the rest. Fun - life - the heart and soul, this is the King of Tob's last hurrah. So let's toast him now, Robert K, Uncle Bob: "Slainte Mhath!"

MACKINNON - Precious memories of Jean, our dear mother, mother in law and granny who passed away on July 19, 2009. Soberly missed, I miss you now and always will. - Ever loving son Archie.

MORREN - In loving memory of a very dear sister-in-law and Aunt. Morag died July 19 2005 Always remembered Ellen and Family and Ron

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WEDDINGS



On April 11, 2012, at Rowton Castle, Shrewsbury, Heather Lawrie, Kinlochleven, to Justin Matthews, Chessington.



Scott - Clark
Pamela Scott and Ryan James Clark married at Killermont Parish Church, Bearsden 28th April 2012. Pamela is elder daughter of John and Patricia Scott of Bearsden Glasgow. Ryan is elder son of William and Tracy Clark Glasdrum Fort William. Reception held at Airth Castle Hotel.

MUIR - (Dr Edward Antony). In memory of my dearly missed husband Tony, who died on July 17, 2010. At his request his ashes were scattered on the Firth of Clyde by the Royal Navy on April 4, 2012. A small group of invited family and friends attended and a short service was given by the Rev Richard Rowe. That day in April was beautiful and with the company present Tony would have loved sailing on the Clyde with us.

ECCLESIASTICAL NOTICES

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Thought for the week

Proverbs ch. 22 v 28

'Remove not the ancient landmark'

THE ANCIENT landmark was a series of stones which indicated the boundaries of a person's property. It was a warning to Israelites not to engage in moving landmarks at night time to gain more ground dishonestly. Spiritually, 'the ancient landmark' is 'the faith once delivered to the true believers in the church.' See Jude v 3.

In other words, the fundamental doctrines of Christianity are not to be tampered with or altered or denied. To do so is to rebel against the living word of the living God and its authority over us and is a dishonest, serious thing to do. The person who is not really a true and born again believer engaging in such a practice will be judged and condemned by God. When one thinks of what it costs the likes of Latimer and William Tundale and others, being burned at the stake, not for any crime but to make the truth of God available to every citizen. It is sad to see that the Church of Scotland has been in denial of the true teaching of Christianity as it is portrayed in the Bible and has been dilly-dallying about making a proper decision about it for at least three years. Maybe it is time for those who attend the General Assembly every May to read seriously Psalm 12 which concludes by saying: 'Vileness is praised throughout the land (The Living Bible) and it 'seems' many are approving of such a lifestyle even being practised among their clergy. Thankfully those in St George's Tron have acted properly as all companies of true believers should. I only hope and pray that more local churches will do the same. JA Elliot, Inveraray.

Oban church finds twin in Australia

A CHURCH in Oban is to be twinned with one in Australia at a special service later this month. The Congregational Church in Oban is twinning with Moss Vale Uniting Church in New South Wales and organisers say they are 'really looking forward to it'. A special service will be held in both churches to mark the occasion on July 29. Moss Vale Uniting Church has its office in Argyll Street, Moss Vale and organisers say this is one reason for the twinning. It is also situated in an area of New South Wales referred to as the Highlands. Reverend John Balding ministers at Moss Vale. Organiser Deirdre Bruce, a member of the congregational church in Oban said: 'The twinning will bring a fellowship and we are hoping to have a connection with the children in Australia. It would be nice to have people over from Australia and for people here to visit the church in Moss Vale. I don't see why that can't happen.'

GRADUATIONS



Jamie Melville who graduated from Edinburgh University in June with an Honours Bachelor of Science in Environmental Geoscience. Jamie is the son of Sandra and Donald Melville and attended Oban High School and Easdale Primary School.



Michelle Marie Anton
BSc Hons Psychology, Abertay University, Dundee, daughter of Roy and Angela Anton, granddaughter of the late Billy and Zena Dicke, Musdale Farm. Michelle now works for Richmond Fellowship.



Congratulations
Arlene MacMillan graduated from Glasgow Caledonian University with a BA (hons) in Social Work. Arlene is the daughter of Roddy and Margaret Ann MacMillan, Barra and Grand daughter of Mairi and the late Hector J.C Campbell, Cornaigbeg Tírce.



Naomi Kelly daughter of John and Carolyn Kelly graduated from the University of St Andrews with a B.Sc. Honours Degree from the Faculty of Medicine. Naomi is the grand-daughter of Effie and the late Billy Craven Dumbeg, and Michael and the late Catherine Kelly Oban.



Jenny Smith from the Isle of Mull Lions presents a cheque to the Western Isles Yacht Club cadets and cadet instructor Nigel Hewitt.

Young sailors get a financial boost from Isle of Mull Lions

CADETS at an Isle of Mull yacht club have received £200 from a local charitable organisation to allow them to buy new equipment. Western Isles Yacht Club cadets received the cheque from the Isle of Mull Lions welfare officer Jenny Smith. Cadet instructor Nigel Hewitt said: 'This is absolutely fantastic, the children can buy a new sail and we can get on with some proper sailing. It makes all the difference between happy faces and sad faces.' The cadets still need new dinghies and more sails and any contributions will be gratefully received. Mr Hewitt added: 'The boats we have got are quite old, we really need new ones - even equipment that is broken is welcome as pieces can be salvaged or the item can be restored.'

Those Were The Days The Oban Times 20 Years Ago Thursday, July 23, 1992

Guest house is 'home' to family of six

LITTLE Samantha Murdoch has never lived in a proper house. She has spent the first two months of her life cooped up in one room with her parents, two sisters and a brother. Five weeks ago, her parents, Robert and Christine Murdoch feared they would end up on the streets and have their children taken into care because they had no settled accommodation. The family is living in a room in the Glenview Guesthouse on Soroba Road, Oban. The Murdochs have been homeless since early May. Argyll and bute District Council initially paid for them to stay in temporary accommodation, first at the Thornloe Guesthouse and then at Glenview. Samantha was born on May 13, about a week after the family became homeless. For the last five weeks, the Murdochs have had to pay for bed and breakfast accommodation themselves. Mr Murdoch said the council told him the family had 'intentionally' made itself homeless.

Call for inquiry into low pay

A STRATHCLYDE regional council has called for an inquiry into wage rates paid to staff at private old people's homes. The move comes after employees walked out of a Tobermory home last week in protest at low pay. Councillor for Lorn and Mull, Iain Bell, is to ask Argyll and Bute MP Mrs Ray Michie to look into the Department of Social Security's control over wage rates. 'The DSS should have more say if they are paying out thousands of pounds every month for residents,' said Mr Bell. Staff from Tobermory Court, home for the elderly, walked out on Friday after owner, Mr Peter Wilkinson, offered a new cook £3.50 per hour but refused to increase other wages of £2.60 per hour for a 60 to 70 hour week. Ex-manager Stuart Somerville said that the DSS paid £175 to £180 per resident every week and the amount had increased over the last two years.



THREE-year-old David Lafferty and his friend, Laura MacDonald, four, both of Miller Road, Oban, helped set off these balloons to mark the opening of the renovated Shell garage in Soroba Road, Oban.

Kilmallie have three must-wins games to avoid the big drop

'We're still a good side but the confidence is a bit low just now'

REPORT BY

RICHARD HADDOCK
rhaddock@obantimes.co.uk

KILMALLIE'S focus will now be fully on making a great escape from relegation trouble after they were knocked out of the Camanachd Cup 3-2 by Inveraray at Canal Parks last weekend. Kilmallie have three must-win games left to have any chance of avoiding the drop, starting with a trip to again play Inveraray this Saturday.

The Caol side created chances in the first half, but Inveraray were the more clinical side and managed to take the lead in the 26th minute through a strike from Andrew MacMurdo.

The away team doubled their lead four minutes before half time when Chris Crawford scored his first of the game.

Kilmallie improved after

break and delighted the home fans when Ryan Stewart pulled a goal back in the 57th minute. But Inveraray were given the chance to restore the two goal advantage when home keeper Kevin Toye caught an aerial ball.

Crawford took the penalty and managed to score despite a valiant effort from Toye.

Kilmallie battled back again and made the score 3-2 through Michael Rodger with 17 minutes to go.

A fantastic Rodger effort nearly forced a replay but Inveraray were able to hold on for the win.

Kilmallie coach Peter Jackson told The Oban Times: 'Inveraray probably had the better of the first half but we created plenty in the second half. We had chances in the first half as well but we weren't able to trouble their keeper.'

Jackson admitted the penalty had been a turning point in the

SHINTY

game, but refused to blame Toye for his error.

He said: 'I'm not sure what he was thinking, but Kevin's been great for us all season and he nearly kept the penalty out as well.'

'We're in the ascendancy at that point, we'd just got it back to 2-1 and we had a few chances but that took the steam out of us a little bit.'

He continued: 'Our forward line is what we built our foundations on - we always thought we could outscore the other side. But we're not playing as fluently up front as we were last season. We're still a good side but the confidence is a bit low just now.'

'We're not gone yet, and we'll keep going. The only way you can do is with 14 points, and that means winning all our games.'



Jamie Miller from Inverness sprints to victory in the 100 metres at Morvern Games at Lochaline on Saturday. The 25 year-old Inverness Harriers athlete also won the 200 metres race on an exciting day's competition on track and field. 20_129morvern12

Isle of Skye GC

GOLF

ISLE OF Skye Golf Club held the RNL Trophy over the weekend, with Simon Latton taking first place.

Latton scored 44 points in the stableford competition, two more than nearest rival Sandy Ross. JA MacLeod finished third with a score of 40 points.

The club held round three of the Strath Cup last week with John Fenwick scoring 44 points to take first place. In a close competition, Greig Miller was second with 43 points, while third placed Murdo MacLean was one point further back.

The club will hold its annual open competition this Saturday.



Jim Hamilton, centre, hands over the shield for the competition he sponsored at Lochaber Bowling Club on Saturday, July 7. The competition turned out to be a Mr and Mrs final with Judith and Alan Robinson narrowly beating Agnes and Wilson Thain. The day drew a large entry and finished just as the heavy rain came in.

Finlay sets new record at hill race

ATHLETICS

LOCHABER athlete Finlay Wild set a new record as he won the David Shepherd Memorial Glamaig Hill Race by a clear distance on Saturday.

A field of nearly 200 runners set off from Sligachan Hotel on Skye to climb the 2,400ft hill.

Wild's time for the 4.5mile course of 44m 27s broke the previous record of 44m 41s, which was set in 1997. The second fastest runner Brian Marshall finished nearly seven minutes behind the Lochaber man.

Francis Shephard was the first Skye runner to finish in a time of 53m 49s, to give him 13th place overall. Lochaber Athletic Club's Paul MacLean finished 19th in 56m 6s.

Catriona Buchanan was the first woman to cross the finish line, in a time of 1h 0m and 51s - some 11m and 2s faster than last year's winning time.

LAC's Lyndsey Shaw finished with a time of 1h 5m 29s, while club mate Amanda Blackhall completed the course in 1h 6m 46s.

Lochaber yachts do well in Mull race

SAILING

TWO ENTRIES from Lochaber Yacht Club performed well at the Round Mull passage race on July 6-8.

Scintilla (Marian Austin) raced in Class Three and won the third leg from Bunness to Oban of 41 miles and came second in class overall.

Windmark (Roddy Campbell) raced in Class One - and won the class and the Glencoe trophy for the fastest corrected time in the whole fleet for the third leg from Bunness to Oban.



Kilchoan FC men's team line up before the big derby.

Kilchoan stunned by last gasp winner

KILCHOAN FC took nearly 40 players and supporters across to Coll for the annual derby match on Saturday.

As the sun shone and crowds gathered, the ladies teams took each other on in a seven-a-side game. The visitors started strongly and opened the scoring after 10 minutes through player of the match Rosie Curtis.

Curtis went on to score a further three goals as Kilchoan notched up a 6-0 victory, although keeper Nan MacLachlan had to make a

smart save before half time to keep her clean sheet.

It was then the men's turn, with Kilchoan looking to atone for an 8-2 loss last year.

Injury

Coll were largely penned back in their own half, but managed to open the scoring against the run of play. Kilchoan then lost two players to injury, but got a deserved equaliser through man of the match Liam Anderson.

The injury jinx hit the hosts in the second half as they also lost

FOOTBALL

two players, and Kilchoan took advantage and took a 2-1 lead when Mark Dornan found the back of the net.

Kilchoan continued to press, but Coll were awarded a penalty, which they scored to bring the scores level again.

As the game seemed to be heading for a draw, Coll snuck through the Kilchoan defence to grab a last gasp winner and stun the visiting fans.

Golden oldies fail to cope with BA's mobile forwards

BA CLUB bounced back after losing for the first time in the Lochaber Welfare League this season by thrashing Ballachulish 8-1 at the BA Club last week.

Fielding a central defence with a combined age of 106 (Gabor Tot, aged 52, and Kenny Hazelton, aged 54) Ballachulish were not able to cope with BA's mobile forwards.

Scoresheet

Logan Barker (2), Ray Munro and Leon Lopez were on the scoresheet in the first half. Lopez scored twice after the break to get his hat-trick, while Sean MacDonald also netted twice. William Taylor scored a consolation for Ballachulish.

BA lost 3-1 to Lundavra at Canal Parks earlier in the week, which meant Caol Cosmos closed

WELFARE FOOTBALL

the gap to just three points with a game in hand.

Caol were awarded a 3-0 win after Balla United cancelled due to a lack of players.

The only other league game saw Lundavra put five past Celtic to move up to fourth place.

In the first round of the Uisdean MacDonald Cup, Caol Cosmos secured a narrow 3-2 win over Lochaber, while Mallaig moved into the next round with a 12-2 thumping of Celtic.



BA Club's Sean MacDonald being chased down by Ballachulish player John Viray. 10_129football1

Fort Augustus Golf Club prepares for the Open

GOLF

FORT Augustus Golf Club is preparing for its annual Open championship, which is due to be held on Sunday July 29.

The event is open to both club members and visitors, with the club hoping the good weather will attract a large crowd.

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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.

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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.

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Competition Rules

No responsibility will be accepted for entries which are delayed, mislaid or lost, and proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery. The Company's decision is final on all matters relating to the competition and no correspondence will be entered into. The final decision rests with the Company.

In the event of more than one correct entry, the jackpot will be shared equally between all winning entries. Any decision regarding the awarding of a prize is entirely at the discretion of the Company. The Company reserves the right to declare the competition null and void at any time, subject to its discretion and to make full refund of the price of the coupon to any person who has entered the competition at that time.

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Young Hearts side triumph in Keyline Cup tournament

Spectators treated to some excellent football at the annual competition



GLORIOUS weather and a big crowd of spectators were in attendance at the 19th annual Keyline Cup tournament held at Mossfield Stadium and Glenrui Park, Oban last Saturday.

The competition is organised by Oban Saints Football Club and sponsored by Keyline Builders Merchants.

The tournament is run on a

round robin format with all the teams playing each other in short, sharp 30 minute games with a total of 15 matches played on the day.

Although the host club didn't win a match they can be happy with their performances, drawing three games and losing two. They could have won two of the drawn games as they missed a couple of good scoring chances.

In the first game Saints took on St Johnstone with the match ending in a 0-0 draw.

Next up was Scottish Cup holders Hearts and the young Edinburgh side scored two quick goals which Saints never recovered from.

The local side then played Hamilton Accies with the Scottish First Division team winning by the only goal of the game.

FOOTBALL

Saints then took on SPL side Dundee United which ended in a 0-0 draw, but this was a game the local lads could have won.

The Oban boys then took on last year's winners Alloa Athletic and again on-form Saints could not get the breakthrough their play deserved and the match finished goalless.

At the end of the day's play tournament organiser David Buchanan introduced Councillor Roddy McCuish who handed over the trophy and medals to the deserved winners Hearts. Runners-up were Alloa Athletic.

The player of the tournament award went to young Hearts winger Sam Nicholson.

Scores: Oban Saints 0, St Johnstone 0; Hearts 0, Hamilton Accies 0; Alloa Athletic 1, Dundee Utd 0; Oban Saints 0, Hearts 2; Hamilton 0, Alloa 1; Dundee Utd 0, St Johnstone 0; Hamilton 1, Oban Saints 0; St Johnstone 0, Alloa 0; Dundee Utd 0, Hearts 1; Hamilton 1, St Johnstone 0; Alloa 1, Hearts 2; Oban Saints 0, Dundee Utd 0; Hearts 0, St Johnstone 0; Alloa 0, Oban Saints 0; Dundee Utd 1, Hamilton 0.



Young Hearts supporter Innes Horne from Oban is pictured holding the Keyline Cup with the Hearts squad after the presentation. Photo: John MacTavish



Saints striker Donald Campbell lines up a shot during the game against Hamilton Accies, watched by team mate Willie Gemmill. Photo: John MacTavish



Saints front man Craig MacEwan takes on a Hearts defender in his team's 2-0 defeat by the Scottish Cup holders. Photo: Stephen Lawson



Hamilton Accies manager Billy Reid, extreme left, keeps a close eye on things during the game with Alloa.



Dundee United come close with this header in their game against Hamilton Accies. Photo: Stephen Lawson



Alloa Athletic manager Paul Hartley shouts out instructions in his team's match with Oban Saints.



The Oban Saints squad pictured during the tournament.



The Oban Saints youth section were in attendance to raise funds for the coming season with a raffle and a target football competition.



Saints keeper Daniel Cassells comes to collect this cross during the game with Alloa.

Tag rugby at West Highland Week

AN INTER-yacht tag rugby tournament will take place at Oban Lorne RFC clubhouse on July 28 as part of West Highland Yachting Week's après sail social programme.

Dee Bradbury, rugby club president, said: "This is a great night with some really good competition and we want as many teams as possible to compete."

"It's a mixed gender event with teams of different ages submitting a squad of seven and five players on the field at any time. Those wanting to take part must be up here for 7pm prompt."

Oban Lorne's Gary McEwan and his 'Tank Commanders' won last year's event with Alastair Hart's Just'Cos winning the inter-yacht competition. Sandy Rokitta provided the music and

RUGBY

a barbecue went down well with all competitors and spectators.

The winning teams will take away Tunnock's teacakes and caramel wafers as well as some Tunnock's branded clothing.

More information from Dee on 07733 266213 or Oban Lorne clubhouse 01631 570268.

Taynuilt trio win Dalmally Stableford

THE TAYNUILT trio of Fraser Inglis, Andrew Diggory and Alan Wilson were triumphant at Dalmally Golf Club's annual Open Team Stableford Competition.

A combined three-quarter handicap score of 108, the highest for some years, outdid the Three Amigos of Gerry

Davies and Shaun Squire (both Dalmally GC) and Alan McKie (Glenrui), who thought they had done enough returning a score of 104.

The individual star of the day, however, was Taynuilt's Mark Grant, who racked up an amazing 48 full handicap stableford points, without a doubt the high-

GOLF

est score ever recorded over the Orchy course.

Dalmally Golf Club's Gents Open is fast approaching and local golfers can enter for the event, which takes place on July 29, via the club's website.



Mark Grant, left, pictured with his individual winner's prize, along with winning team members Fraser Inglis and Andrew Diggory.



Oban's Kevin Keen took home three trophies after winning the local gent's doubles, gent's handicap singles and the best young local player award in last week's West Highland Tennis Tournament held in Oban. Photo: Bob McCulloch

Ladies bowl them over

IT WAS ladies day at Oban Bowling Club last Saturday, as president Gerry Flannigan welcomed bowlers for the Ladies Invitation Triples, sponsored by Scottish Sea Farms.

Local ladies were joined by teams from Campbeltown, Helensburgh, Milngavie and Linlithgow.

Despite some excellent bowling by the visiting teams, it was four local triples who were to contest the final and the consolation wine run final.

The main contenders for the day's major honours were the triples of Anne Campbell, Janet Campbell and Marion Carr, opposed by Helen MacLean, Margaret MacAlpine and Donna Forbes. The result was in doubt until the last end, with Helen's team emerging as winners.

The consolation final saw Anne MacDougall, Floey Smith and Anne Stewart going down narrowly to the winners, Elizabeth MacGillivray, Lynn Laverty and Maureen Goldie.

BOWLING

Kenny wins MacIver Cup

GOLF

FORT WILLIAM Golf Club staged the MacIver Cup over the weekend July 14-15 and winner with a net 146 (73 + 73) was Kenny Gillespie. Runner-up was Steven Jamieson on 146 (72 + 74) and third was Marc MacDonald on 148 (66 + 82).

The ladies played a Medal and Eclectic on Tuesday July 10, which was won by Hazel Cameron with a net 71 (88 - 17) (BIH). Runner-up was

SAILING

Rosemary Macintyre with a net 71 (82 - 11) and Ann Lovatt was third with a net 72 (96 - 24). The ladies also played the fourth round of the Cameron Stableford on Saturday, July 14, which saw Gail Anderson win with 32 points. Iona Cameron was runner-up with 30 points (BIH) and Ann Lovatt third, also with 30 points.

On Sunday Craobh Haven Watersports will also host Craobh Day, which will be a Sunday Market along with on-the-water and off-the-water games, singing, live music, all day barbecue, all in association with the Craignish Arts Festival.

Liam picked to represent Scotland

CHESS prodigy Liam Richmond has been selected to represent Scotland in two international events over the coming weeks.

The 10-year-old Oban boy travels to Northampton this week to play in the annual Home Nations Glorney Tournament.

In August Liam will travel to Prague to play in the European Youth Chess Championships.

Glencruitten GC results

GOLF

THE second round of the George Smith Trophy was held at the weekend, Allan Garret leading with a score of 61, 58 = 119. Gavin Owens is second on 64, 58 = 122 and David Devine third with 60, 63 = 123.

The third round takes place on

Players wanted

FOOTBALL

TAYNUILT Amateurs have launched a recruitment drive after failing to fulfil a friendly fixture at the weekend because of a lack of players.

The team has joined the West Of Scotland Amateur League for the 2012/2013 season and manager Stuart Reid is encouraging new players to come along to training on Wednesdays between 7pm and 9pm at Ganavan.

The Oban team's next fixture is away to Campbeltown FPs on July 28, followed by a home match against Quayside Thistle on August 4. Stuart can be contacted on 01866 822 583 for more information.

GOLF

August 4 with two out of three best scores counting.

This Saturday is the Argyll and Bute Golf Union Summer Meeting and on Tuesday a Stableford takes place.

Oban Sailing Club

SAILING

RACE 85, second Tuesday on July 10, Agg 1: 1 Amber Haze, Sigma 33, Eric Chapman; 2 Shadowfax, First 31.7, Billy Forth; 3 Nimrod, Dehler 34, Colin Crawford.

Race 86, second Tuesday, Agg 1: 1 Hot Toddy, Sadler 25, Alison Chadwick; 2 Seal NS, Van DeStad Leg 34, Andrew Mead; 3 Torrnanan, Albin Cumulus, Dr Toby Sherwin; 4 Zipper, Elythene 24, Michael McGarry.

Race 81, second Thursday, Agg 7: 1 ZZAAPP, Laser Radial, James Chapman; 2 Rosie, Laser Radial, Adam Davies. Race 82, second Thursday, Agg 7: 1 Laser 4.7, Laser 4.7, Tierney Carter; It's all Go, Laser 4.7, Thomas Smith, Wavelength, Laser 4.7, Jamie Sinclair.

Sail for Gold event at Craobh Haven

SAILING

A SAILING event at Craobh Haven to promote the GB Olympic sailing team will be held this Saturday.

Craobh Haven Watersports will host Sail for Gold to get both locals and tourists out on the water between 10am and 7pm.

Liam picked to represent Scotland

CHESS prodigy Liam Richmond has been selected to represent Scotland in two international events over the coming weeks.

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In August Liam will travel to Prague to play in the European Youth Chess Championships.

SPORTS DESK

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Kyles host Newtonmore in match that could decide championship

KYLES ATHLETIC trainer James Perlich denied this Saturday's game against Newtonmore was a league decider, as the top two in the division prepare to go head-to-head.

Kyles have been in a rich vein of form and having home advantage against Newtonmore has given the team the belief they can take the lead in the title race.

James said: 'It is too early to call this game a league decider but whoever does win will be in the driving seat.'

'We have a full squad to pick from, we are at home and we are starting to score more goals in matches, so the Newtonmore game will be a good indicator of how we are doing.'

Last Saturday's 5-2 win on Skye in the Camanachd Cup saw Kyles get five different names on the scoresheet: Roddy MacDonald, John Whyte, Thomas Whyte, Duncan Kerr and Fraser MacDonald.

James added: 'It was quite a tony affair in the first half and we gave away silly goals. In the second half we got out shape back and played quite well.'

NEWTONMORE will hope to take a big step towards retaining their Orion Group Premiership title when they visit rivals Kyles Athletic this Saturday.

Both teams are tied on 19 points after 12 games - a point ahead of third placed Lovat who have played a game more. A win for either side this weekend would give them a big advantage with only five games left to play.

The sides fought out an entertaining 3-3 draw when they met at The Eilan in March, but 'More manager Norman MacArthur said both sides had improved since that game.'

He told The Oban Times: 'We've definitely got our act together and are playing better since then, but then so are they.'

'It'll be a tough game, but it would be a big step in the right direction if we could get a win.'

'If we get a result it is in our hands, even a draw leaves it in our favour. They've still got a few hard games to play.'

After their Camanachd Cup tie with Lochaber, the Newtonmore squad held a full training session to keep fitness levels up.

KILMALLIE will play Inveraray for the second time in seven days on Saturday desperate to turn the tables on their opponents after a 3-2 loss in the Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup at Canal Parks last weekend.

The Blues have only three games left to save themselves from the drop - and with games against Newtonmore and Fort William looming, beating Inveraray is a must to keep alive any hopes of premiership survival.

Club chairman Hugh MacIntyre told The Oban Times: 'We are running out of games and we have to try all we can to get a win.'

'It won't be easy to pick the players back up but they are keen to get revenge, especially as they feel they could have won the cup game.'

'We are desperate to get the two points and we don't want to go any lower in the league. The boys feel they should have the beating of them. We have to get to the ball first - and get the goals of course.'

In the cup clash, Andrew MacMurdo and Chris Crawford gave the Royal Burgh a well-earned half-time lead before Ryan Stewart pulled one back.

Chris Crawford restored Inveraray's two-goal advantage with a penalty before a Michael Rodger rocket on 74 minutes set up a grandstand finish, but Kilmallie could not find a leveller.

INVERARAY responded to last week's criticism of the team by boss John Smylie to progress through to the semi-final of this season's Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup.

John berated his side's slow start to the previous match against Oban Camanachd, which led to them losing the Artemis

Macaulay Cup match.

However, a blistering start at Kilmallie on Saturday saw Inveraray race to a two-goal lead at half time, thanks to Andrew McMurdo and Chris Crawford, and eventually take the victory by the odd goal in five, through Crawford's 68th minute penalty.

John said: 'I obviously got a reaction because that was the best first half performance they have put together for a while. However, we took the foot off the gas in the second half and let Kilmallie back into it.'

The fixture list has thrown the two teams together this weekend, as the Royal Burgh host Kilmallie at the Winterton and will welcome Russell McKinlay and Euan McMurdo back into the fold.

With his brother returning to play up front, Andrew McMurdo is likely to plug the gap in defence left by captain Scott Robertson, who will be missing this weekend.

Looking ahead to the Camanachd Cup draw, manager John said: 'I hope we can avoid



Grant MacKenzie of Kilmallie and Inveraray's Scott Robertson fought out a tough duel throughout the match.

Newtonmore in the semi-final, as we don't have a good record against them.

'If we can get to the final I think Mossfield will suit our game better and I think we have a good chance against of beating anyone then.'

LOVAT return to league duty this weekend aiming to keep their Orion Group Premiership title hopes alive by beating Fort William at Balgait Park.

The Kiltarlity men must pick themselves up following Saturday's 3-1 Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup defeat at the hands of Lochalsh raiders Kinlochshiel, who not for the first time this season impressed greatly against fancied opposition away from home.

For Lovat coach Allan MacRae, the cup loss was a sore one to take but reckons a tough encounter against a team like Fort William is just the tonic his team needs to rediscover their form.

He told The Oban Times: 'In some ways it's nice to come back in about the league and hopefully play our normal game - we are sure to improve.'

'We should have the same squad available as we had against 'Shiel. Fort are a decent team and I think we will take a few lessons from the last game and change things round a bit.'

'Against 'Shiel we just did not turn up, to be honest. It was just one of those days. 'Shiel deserved it - they were right up for it and there was only going to be one winner on Saturday. All the boys are gutted, they were not much of a show about them later on.'

FORT WILLIAM travel to high-flying Lovat on Saturday seeking to put a late season shine on their Orion Group Premiership campaign.

Fort will be without at least two key players going into the

SHINTY

game - in form forward Gary Innes is working while combative midfielder Alex Duncan is suspended.

On the plus side however, Arran MacPhee is likely to start after a lengthy spell on the sidelines with a broken wrist.

The 16 year-old came on in the second half in the 3-0 MacAulay Cup semi-final defeat to Glenurquhart a fortnight ago but is now closer to match fitness.

Coach Peter MacIntyre reckons having MacPhee back is a great boost - but knows that beating Lovat - who still harbour hopes of winning the premiership - will be no easy task.

He told The Oban Times: 'It's great to have Arran back, he's a great wee player. Lovat are having a great season and at home they are a very difficult team to beat.'

'We did beat them 4-3 in the MacAulay up there, but it's a hard place to go to get any points at all. All the teams are taking

GLENURQUHART will be looking to continue their good form when they travel to take on Kinlochshiel this Saturday.

Manager Fraser Mackenzie told The Oban Times: 'Kinlochshiel have come up and done very well. They've got a big squad and they've brought in a lot of young players who have done really well for them.'

'It'll be a really tough game for us and we'll have to play really well to get something from it.'

Delaney told The Oban Times: 'It's another final, and we didn't do ourselves justice in the last one. We've had a tough, tough draw to get here. We have played really well this season but we haven't won anything yet.'

'Our midfield is the key. If they can command the middle of the park, we now we have goals up front.'

Delaney's side beat Beaulieu 5-0 when the sides met in the league, but Delaney said that result would have little bearing on the final.

He said: 'Beaulieu have got their act together since then. I watched them last weekend and they've got good movement up front and good experience in midfield.'

Lochaber's Camanachd Cup quarter final against Newtonmore last weekend was postponed after the death of former Glengarry player Finlay Nicolson, 51, father of Lochaber players Shaun and Finlay. Delaney said he would let the pair decide if they want to play in the final this weekend.

SKYE CAMANACHD face Inverness in North Division 1 at Pairc nan Laoch on Saturday after taking on mighty Kyles in the Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup quarter final last weekend.

The opposition may be lesser, but the game is nonetheless vital as Skye continue their promotion battle with Lochaber, coach Willie MacRae told The Oban Times.

He said: 'We have had a couple of stuffy games against them, but I believe they are going to be a bit short this week. The boys just have to get the results until we play Lochaber again.'

Skye will be without Gings MacDonald, who is seeing a specialist about his broken finger, Jamie MacDonald (kneecap) and Iain Morrison (jaw). Buckshee back Alan MacKinnon will also be unavailable.

Against Kyles, Skye matched their illustrious opponents until Thomas Whyte put Kyles 3-2 ahead in the dying seconds of the first half, with a strike from Iain Nicolson and a Jordie Murchison penalty cancelling out goals from Roddy MacDonald and John Whyte.

Kings' recent good run of

'They are going to be a very hard team to beat, but if our defence plays the way it did did on Saturday that give us a platform.'

John Don MacKenzie is doubtful with a deep thigh injury, but Calum MacLean and Oliver MacRae should be fit after picking up knocks against Lovat.

'Shiel booked their place in the cup semi courtesy of first half goals from Keith and Finlay MacRae, and a 75th minute clincher from Jordan Fraser after Greg Matheson made it 2-1 from the spot.'



The Ballachulish connection: Mark MacLachlan, left, and Dougie Rankin both former Ballachulish players but now playing for Beaulieu and Inverness respectively in action during last week's match between the teams at the Bught Park, Inverness.

results has seen them move up to fourth and within touching distance of league leaders Newtonmore, but manager Russell Jones has ruled out a late title challenge.

Jones is building a squad for next season and is likely to try and include some younger players in the team for this weekend's tie.

Kings won 2-0 when the teams met in a fiery encounter in April, with Bute having two players sent off.

Kings did not have a game last weekend after being knocked out the Camanachd Cup earlier in the season by semi finalists Kinlochshiel.

LOCHABER will be looking to secure their first win in the Balmacara Cup since 1994 when they take on Beaulieu in the final at Strathpeffer this Saturday.

The Spean Bridge side's form this season will see them marked a favourites for the final in many spectators' eyes. Lochaber recently lost to Newtonmore in the MacFavish Cup final.

Delaney told The Oban Times: 'It's another final, and we didn't do ourselves justice in the last one. We've had a tough, tough draw to get here. We have played really well this season but we haven't won anything yet.'

'Our midfield is the key. If they can command the middle of the park, we now we have goals up front.'

LOCHCARRON were due to play bottom club Strathglass at Battery Park on Tuesday night.

Andrew Mackenzie's men's recent run of good form came to an end last weekend when they were beaten 1-0 by Caberfeidh, who moved to the top of north division one.

Caber's Kevin Bartlett scored the only goal of the game in the fifth minute, with the home side unable to break through to get an equaliser.

OBAN CELTIC will travel to Northern Ireland for the Dalriada Festival this weekend, where they will play an Antrim Select. The Coasters, in a shinty/hurling challenge match.

The Oban side lost their winning streak last Saturday against Glasgow Mid Argyll but have probably done enough to ensure league survival thanks to an inspired run of form in the past month.

Speaking after the 5-1 defeat in Glasgow last Saturday, in which Ally McKerracher scored Celtic's only goal, club spokesman David Hamilton said: 'I think the boys were still on the bus in the first 10 minutes and they caught us napping, scoring two goals.'

'We brought it back to 2-1 and had chances to level before half time but they scored at the start of the second half and that seemed to kill the game off.'

Oban Celtic will play The Coasters tomorrow (Friday) in Glenarn, north of Larne.

GLENORCHY travel to Glasgow this weekend in a game that could make or break their season.

Described as a 'must-win' match by coach Allan MacKernie, anything other than two points for either side would all but hand the Marine Harvest South Division One title to Oban Camanachd.

Glenorchy played their first game in four weeks against Aberdeen last weekend, when they barely had enough players to field a team. Young John McNulty played - and scored twice - in the 3-1 win, despite suffering from tonsillitis.

However, Allan insists more first team regulars will be available this weekend.

Allan said: 'They [GMA] beat us 2-1 at Dalnally but it was a close match and I expect it to be close again down there.'

'If we win, we are almost guaranteed second place and, if we have any hope of winning the

league, we must win this game. I believe we can win it because the better the opponent, the better we seem to play.'

Glenorchy's makeshift team took a 2-0 lead early on through McNulty last Saturday and John Sartain added a third before half time. However, as the game progressed Aberdeen grew in confidence and scored a second-half consolation goal.

SCOTTISH HYDRO CAMANACHD CUP SEMI FINAL DRAW

Kyles Athletic v Newtonmore or Lochaber on Saturday 11 August. Venue to be decided

Kinlochshiel v Inveraray on Saturday 4 August. Venue to be decided

The Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup Final takes place Saturday 15th September at Mossfield Park, Oban and will be televised on BBC 2 Scotland.

OBAN CAMANACHD co-manager Gussie Campbell admits he will have one eye on the match between Glasgow Mid Argyll and Glenorchy.

Camanachd's title challengers square up in Glasgow as the Oban side host Strachur at Mossfield on Saturday.

Although Camanachd will be overwhelming favourites to get two points, manager Gussie said he was taking nothing for granted.

'I'll give every team their due and Strachur will get the respect they deserve,' he said. 'They have come up to this division and are sitting ahead of more established teams in the league. I know they are a formidable side and our players will be taking nothing for granted.'

Camanachd will be missing the suspended Gareth Evans, Andrew 'Papa' McCuish and Ian 'Gussie' Campbell, who has a back injury.

However, there is a welcome return to the squad for those who missed the Macaulay Cup win over Inveraray, including captain Daniel Cameron.

Gussie said: 'After the excitement of the cup it's time to get back to league business. I must admit, I will have one eye on the result from Glasgow; something has to give between those two teams.'

TAYNULT manager Davy Thomson has challenged his players to justify their league credentials ahead this weekend's home game against Kilmory, as the tangerine and blacks attempt to ensure their safety in Marine Harvest South Division One.

A run to the AJG Parcels Celtic Society Cup final, which ultimately ended in heart break against Inveraray, has been a distraction from Tainult's league woes but Davy has now set his players a target of at least four points from the last four games in a bid for league survival.

Davy said: 'This is a very important game for us. In fact, it is a must win.'

'We won't be at full strength for this weekend but we have players who can come in and this is their chance to show what they can do.'

'If we don't win this game and get the points we need, you have to ask whether we are good enough to be in this division.'

Marine Harvest South Division 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Glenorchy	10	8	0	2	24	10	16
Oban Camanachd	7	7	0	0	35	3	14
Glasgow MA	9	7	0	2	28	11	14
Oban Celtic	12	5	1	6	24	28	11
Strachur	12	3	3	6	16	21	9
Kilmory	11	3	2	6	22	26	8
Tainult	10	1	4	5	14	29	6
Aberdour	11	2	0	9	10	45	4

Marine Harvest North Division 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newtonmore	14	12	0	2	68	15	24
Kinlochshiel	14	7	4	3	29	30	18
Glenurquhart	11	6	2	3	24	19	14
Skye	12	5	2	5	27	21	12
Aberdeen Uni	13	5	2	6	27	26	12
Fort William	11	6	0	5	18	20	12
Glengarry	13	6	0	7	24	32	12
Kingussie	12	3	3	6	24	31	9
Lovat	14	4	1	9	21	37	9
Lochaber	14	2	2	10	32	63	6

Marine Harvest South Division 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Lochside Rovers	13	12	0	1	70	23	24
Kyles Athletic	13	9	0	4	48	24	18
Ballachulish	11	7	1	3	24	18	15
Tayforth	13	7	1	5	32	31	15
Col Glen	14	6	2	6	37	39	14
Inveraray	15	5	3	7	41	42	13
Ardnarmurchan	16	5	1	10	42	41	11
Bute	10	4	1	5	27	21	9
Glasgow MA	15	4	0	11	18	72	8
Aberdour	14	3	1	10	25	53	7

Marine Harvest North Division 3

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Beaulieu	13	13	0	0	76	10	26
Lochbroom	16	11	1	4	46	24	23
Boleskine	14	10	1	3	59	32	21
Lochcarron	14	8	1	5	42	30	17
Kilmallie	13	7	2	4	47	32	16
Caberfeidh	14	6	0	8	36	39	12
Lewis Camanachd	16	3	2	11	26	52	8
Strathspay	14	3	2	9	31	57	8
Strathglass	15	3	2	10	23	66	8
Inverness	15	2	1	12	14	58	5



Results

Saturday 14 July 2012

- Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup Quarter Finals,**
Kilmallie 2 - 3 Inveraray
Lovat 1 - 3 Kinlochshiel
Newtonmore P - P Lochaber
Due to Bereavement
Skye 2 - 5 Kyles Athletic
- Bullough Cup Semi Final**
Lochside Rovers 9 - 0 Inveraray
Bute 0 - 3 Ballachulish
- Strathdearn Cup Quarter Final**
Beaulieu 2 - 1 Kilmallie
- Strathdearn Cup Semi Final**
Fort William 2 - 0 Glenurquhart
- Orion Group Premiership**
Bute 1 - 4 Glenurquhart
Dunkie Kerr
- Marine Harvest North Division 1**
Inverness 0 - 5 Beaulieu
Lochcarron 0 - 1 Caberfeidh
- Marine Harvest South Division 1**
Glenorchy 3 - 1 Aberdeen
Glasgow MA 5 - 1 Oban Celtic
- Marine Harvest North Division 2**
Aberdeen University 4 - 1 Lovat
Glengarry 1 - 5 Newtonmore
Lochaber P - P Kingussie
Due to Bereavement
Skye 1 - 3 Kinlochshiel
- Marine Harvest South Division 2**
Aberdour 4 - 3 Glasgow Mid Argyll
Ardnarmurchan 5 - 2 Col Glen
- Marine Harvest North Division 3**
Lochbroom 6 - 4 Caberfeidh
Strathglass 2 - 5 Boleskine

Fixtures

Saturday 21 July 2012

- Ballymore Cup Final**
Beaulieu v Lochaber
Evan MacRae
At Castle Leod, Strathpeffer
- Orion Group Premiership**
Inveraray v Kilmallie
Ted McDonald
Kingussie v Bute
Graham Irving
Kyles Athletic v Newtonmore
Duncan Kelly
Lovat v Fort William
Evan MacRae - 3pm
Kinlochshiel v Glenurquhart
Billy Wotherspoon
- Marine Harvest North Division 1**
Skye v Inverness
Dunkie Kerr
- Marine Harvest South Division 1**
Oban Camanachd v Strachur
Robert Baxter
Tainult v Kilmory
Graham Cameron
Glasgow Mid Argyll v Glenorchy
David Mitchell
- Marine Harvest North Division 2**
Fort William v Kingussie
Lachie Wood
Glenurquhart v Skye
John Matheson
Lovat v Kinlochshiel
John Angus Gillies - 12pm
Newtonmore v Aberdeen Uni
Robert Morrison
- Marine Harvest South Division 2**
Ballachulish v Inveraray
Deek Cameron
Lochside Rovers v Col Glen
Dunkie Kerr
Tayforth v Glasgow Mid Argyll
Euan Pearson
- Womens Camanachd Association Fixtures Sunday 15th July**
Marine Harvest North Division 2
Ardnarmurchan v Skye - 1.30pm
- Valerie Fraser Cup Semi Finals**
At The Eilan, Newtonmore
Aberdour v Tir Connail Harps
Deek Cameron - 1pm
(13.00 Throw Up)
Glasgow Mid Argyll v Glengarry
Deek Cameron - 2.30pm
- Marine Harvest Challenge Cup Semi Finals**
At The Dell Kingussie
Strathglass v Glasgow Mid Argyll
Graeme MacMillan - 1pm
Lochaber v Cowal & Bute
Graeme MacMillan - 2.30pm

League Tables

The Orion Group Premiership

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newtonmore	12	8	2	2	38	18	18
Kyles Athletic	12	8	2	2	31	20	18
Lovat	13	7	3	3	30	19	17
Kingussie	11	6	2	3	27	21	14
Fort William	12	5	2	5	22	21	12
Kinlochshiel	13	5	2	6	31	32	12
Glenurquhart	11	4	2	5	21	27	10
Inveraray	9	4	0	5	14	20	8
Kilmallie	15	3	2	10	26	37	8
Bute	12	0	3	9	7	32	3

Marine Harvest North Division 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Caberfeidh	13	7	1	5	38	27	15
Skye	8	7	0	1	23	14	14
Lochaber	7	6	1	0	37	8	13
Beaulieu	10	5	1	4	22	21	11
Lochcarron	13	3	3	7	17	33	9
Inverness	11	3	2	6	21	30	8
Strathglass	12	1	2	9	20	45	4

Sponsorship boost for West Highland Yachting Week

YACHTING

WEST Highland Yachting Week (WHYW) has received a sponsorship boost ahead of its 65th anniversary event this year, from July 28 to August 3.

The event will be sponsored once again by Tunnock's, Tobermory Whisky, Tobermory Harbour Association, Argyll and Bute Council and The Oban Common Good Fund.

Caledonian MacBrayne is also back aboard as is The Crown Estate to help support the 2012 event along with Scottish Fuels, West Coast Motors and Flit Autos.

David Waltho, chairman of the Joint Regatta Committee that runs WHYW, said: 'We are delighted the same organisations have again given their help to run the event. Our regatta has a strong community involvement across the board that is mirrored by this support.'

Boyd Tunnock CBE, managing director Tunnocks, who is also an enthusiastic competitor in the event said: 'We are delighted once again to be supporting this well loved yachting regatta which has such a loyal following and great camaraderie. We look forward to this year's racing.'

Tunnock's will sponsor the spinnaker classes this year and these will be known as the Tunnock's Fleet. The restricted sail classes are known as The Argyll Fleet reflecting the support from Argyll and Bute Council.

The Crown Estate sponsors WHYW as part of its wide ranging programme to promote the sustainable development of leisure sailing across Scotland and to help raise the profile of an industry that is crucial to coastal communities.

Caledonian MacBrayne hosts The Skippers' Reception for West Highland Yachting Week in the Departure Lounge of the CalMac Terminal in Oban on July 30. Prizes for both the feeder races and the Sunday Craobh to Oban trophies will be presented at this reception.

Tobermory GC

GOLF

JACKIE Tauge Memorial Trophy: 1 Andrew McHaffie, 36 points; 2 Ewan MacCrone, 34 points; 3 Shaan Fisher, 34 points; Ladies, Olive Brown, 38 points; Juniors, Lewis Wilshire, 38 points.

Highland Games Trophy: 1 Peter MacCrone, 36 points; 2 Ian McNaughton, 36 points; 3 Andrew McHaffie, 34 points.

The junior course record was equalled by William MacCrone with a Gross 64, playing in the Summer Challenge Trophy on July 10. Lewis Wilshire was one off with a 65, in what was good golf from the club's juniors.

Argyll derby games in Centenary Cup

FOOTBALL

OBAN Saints have been drawn in Section One of the Scottish Amateur League's Centenary Cup competition along with Argyll neighbours Lochgilphead Red Star and Tarbert.

Dates for the Centenary Cup ties, will be August 11 and 18.

Derby match will mark club's 50th anniversary

AN ARGYLL derby match against 'friendly rivals' Mull in September will mark the 50th anniversary of Oban Lorne Rugby Football Club.

The Oban club will play their first home game of the 2012/2013 West Division Three season against the Muileachs on September 1, the same day the club celebrates its anniversary with a dinner dance following the big match.

Having been relegated from West Division Two last season Oban Lorne are now in the same division as Mull and Arran.

The club has sought permission from the Scottish Rugby Union (SRU) to adjust the fixtures to allow the special derby to take place.

Oban Lorne RFC secretary Karen MacCorquodale said: 'Everyone is looking forward to the derby, which is the perfect match to mark the anniversary, as we are hoping for a large support. There are former players still around the town who played in those early matches in the 1960s and we hope they will also come along.'

'We have close links with Mull that we are hoping to build

on and there is now an alliance between Oban Lorne and Mull ladies.

'On the derby day we will also look to have youth development matches and perhaps a ladies match. There are also plans to have a veterans match the night before.'

The club's anniversary dinner dance will be held in the Argyllshire Gathering Halls, where broadcaster and former British Lion John Beattie, new SRU president Alan Lawson and Scottish rugby representative Bill Nolan will be speakers.

John Beattie's band will then play for the expected 250 guests.

Mull Rugby Club development manager Fergus Whyte said: 'We are looking forward to the day and we know it is going to be quite a challenge.'

'We haven't played Oban Lorne in the league for a good number of years but we have developed a friendly rivalry.'

'People here will see the match as the small island against the big town, so there will be a lot of interest around Mull and we will all be fired up for the forthcoming derby match.'



One of Oban Lorne's early 1st XV teams (1973 - 74) back row, from left: Ronnie Hogg, Clark Rydings, Donny Campbell, Brian Mitchell, Dave Petrie, Pat Cadzow, Rab Drummond, unknown, unknown, David Taylor. Front row, from left: Robert Pemberton, Brian Silkowski, James Henry Weir, Peter Semple (captain), Bill Aiken, Bill Matthews, Joe Black.

Eight Argyll boys sign on for Dumbarton

YOUTH FOOTBALL

SCOTTISH Football League club Dumbarton have confirmed they will start the Pro Youth season with eight players from either Oban or Lochgilphead in their ranks.

Oban's Ali McKerracher and Stuart Alexander and Taynult's David Beaton will be joined by Oban's Connor Howe in the under-17 team.

Successive

Ali, Stuart and David have signed on for their third successive season and will also hope to taste senior team action with the reserve squad.

Lochgilphead's Kyle Selfridge and Oban's Zak Straub will line up for the under-15s, while Aaron Whitefield, from Lochgilphead has signed for the under-14s.

New signing Stewart MacAl-

lister, North Connel, has joined the under-13 squad.

Jim Chapman, Dumbarton Football Club's director of community football, said: 'It has taken us a while to get the youth structure in place but I have said to the board that the answer is youth development.'

'Dumbarton is a fantastic opportunity for these boys but we have benefited too from an untapped market in Argyll.'

'We appreciate the relationship with the local coaches; guys that I see as working at the coalface of player development. Their work is producing better players every year and that can only be of benefit to Dumbarton Football Club.'

Mull driver extends his lead in both the Scottish and Brick and Steel rallies

RALLYING

MULL rally driver Craig Rutherford chalked up another fine result at the RSAC Scottish Rally in Dumfries to extend his lead in both rally championships he is competing for.

The 21-year-old from Fionnphort, is currently class leader in the Scottish Rally Championship and the Brick and Steel Ecosse Challenge, a championship aimed primarily at younger drivers with very tightly controlled car specifications.

Craig's Honda Civic Type R is eligible for honours in both series, so the times he sets on the Scottish stages are counted in both title races.

'I was still trying to build my

confidence back up after the accident I had whilst testing before the last round,' said the PMG Services and Fiddan Campsite-backed Craig. 'At the start of the day I admit I still wasn't fully committed to every corner, although by the end of the day I felt I was getting back on it.'

The company director was full of praise for co-driver Ross Hynd in coaxing him back to full speed.

The next outing for Craig and Ross will be the Gleaner Oil and Gas Speyside Stages in Elgin on August 4.

Youths back in training

YOUTH FOOTBALL

OBAN Saints youth players are back in training in preparation for the new season.

The next session takes place this Sunday at Oban High

School starting at 12.30pm. The club are on the lookout for new players for all age groups.



Lochnell Football Club, who play in the Oban and District Primary Football League, held their final training session of the season, during which players of the year for the four teams were presented with their shields. A special award was made to Lachie Statherm, who is retiring after being involved in running the club for the past four years.



10 PAIRS of Atlantis Leisure day passes up for grabs!

Atlantis Community Leisure centre is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year. Celebrations will kick start with a torch relay around the streets of central Oban at 11am on Saturday, July 28, with various local groups and clubs carrying the flame. The relay will finish at Atlantis Leisure with a barbeque and Fun Olympics event for all the family including water walkers and a human football table. To take part in the relay and for more information contact Claire at Atlantis on 01631 566800.

To celebrate, The Oban Times has ten pairs of Atlantis Leisure day passes to give away. For your chance to win, simply answer this easy question, complete the coupon and post it to The Oban Times, Atlantis Comp, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB. Entries must be submitted by Monday, July 30 2012.

Question: Which anniversary is Atlantis Leisure celebrating this year (2012)?
a) 20 b) 40 c) 50

Answer

Name

Address

Telephone

Email

Please post your entries to The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban PA34 4HB
Entries to be in by 12 noon Monday, July 30 2012.

Terms and conditions: The prize is as stated. No cash alternative. The Editor's decision is final. Photocopied entries will not be accepted. The winner may be asked to take part in publicity and may appear in a Wyvex Media publication and website. This competition is not open to Wyvex Media and associated company employees and their families.

Weather

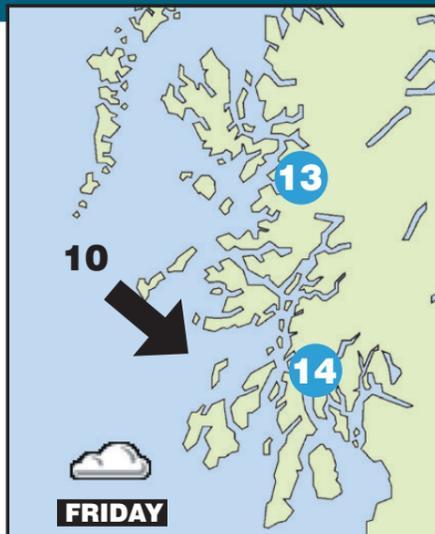
Thursday Sunny
Winds light north, north easterly
Temperatures 10°C to 15°C

Friday Cloudy
Winds light west north westerly
Temperatures 11°C to 14°C.

Weekend Light rain showers

Outlook Winds light south westerly
Temperatures 12°C to 14°C.

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



Tides

Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday, July 19, 2012** are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath.

All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am	pm
Thur	00.00 1.2 05.59 3.7 11.58 0.9 18.05 3.8	
Fri	00.35 1.1 06.34 3.8 12.33 0.8 18.39 3.9	
Sat	01.10 1.0 07.06 3.8 13.07 0.7 19.11 3.9	
Sun	01.44 1.0 07.34 3.7 13.42 0.7 19.43 3.9	
Mon	02.16 1.0 08.06 3.6 14.19 0.7 20.18 3.8	
Tues	02.51 1.1 08.43 3.5 15.01 0.9 20.58 3.7	
Wed	03.33 1.2 09.27 3.3 15.49 1.0 21.44 3.5	

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

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

The Oban Times weather is brought to you in association with



website: www.northwestmarine.co.uk
Address: 7E Glengallan Rd., Oban, Argyll. PA34 4HG
Ph: 01631 565740 Fax: 01631 565780
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The following pages are from the Fort William (Northern) Edition of The Oban Times.

The Oban Times prints two editions of the paper. There is the main edition as well as the Fort William (Northern) Edition.

Sometimes pages that appear in the Fort William edition do not appear in the main edition (and vice versa).

As an electronic subscriber you get the main edition plus the pages that appear in the Northern edition.

The Oban Times

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& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

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Lochaber feels the pinch

LOCHABER tourism businesses are feeling the pinch this summer as cash-strapped consumers count the pennies.

Despite better weather than elsewhere in the UK, visitor numbers appear to be well down on previous years.

Ben Nevis Whisky Distillery Visitor Centre manager John Carmichael did not mince his words, saying the season so far had been 'diabolical'.

He told *The Oban Times*: 'There's a few problems, petrol is one, the Olympics as well. Maybe the nice weather doesn't help, but even on the wetter days we've been pretty quiet.'

'Money definitely does seem to be tighter just now. I run a bed and breakfast as well and I've had people try to haggle prices for rooms.'

Roadworks impact

At Spean Bridge, Woollen Mill manager Marie-Ann Campbell said traffic queues during works at the Lochybridge roundabout had cut coach tours to the village.

She said: 'We were doing fine up till then, but the delays had a significant impact on us. We normally have a lot of coaches coming up but we didn't see many of them.'

'I understand these works have to be done but I don't think they understand the impact it can have on local businesses.'

'We're just a wee bit quieter this year, but if there is ever any issues on the road our numbers drop.'

Treasures of the Earth in Corpach, which houses a collection of rare gems and stones, said numbers were 'down on last year' - but Nevis Range bosses were more upbeat.

Marketing manager Heather Negus told *The Oban Times*: 'June was a fairly good month. July has by no means been a bumper month but it's been okay.'

'The better than average weather has helped us a bit, but I'm not sure if people around the country know we are having all this sunshine.'

'We typically get a lot busier with the English schools holidays rather than the Scottish holidays.'



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New marina brings more sailors to Mallaig

Lochaline pontoons also experiencing rising demand

EFFORTS to reinvent of Mallaig as a major west coast yachting destination appear to be paying off as sailors flock to its new marina.

Mallaig Harbour Authority (MHA) officially opened its 48 serviced pontoons and 12 moorings just 12 weeks ago in a blaze of publicity.

Now hopes that a different kind of seafarer could bring better fortunes to the once bustling fishing port appear to be justified.

Just 20 years ago Mallaig had around 100 fishing vessels, but that figure dwindled to around 25 in 2011.

Ironically, fishing effort has increased this year with east coast prawn boats in particular boosting numbers to about 50.

However, many have now left for their traditional North Sea grounds, meaning the marina will become increasingly important as a source of revenue this summer.

Port manager Robert MacMillan said Mallaig Harbour Authority was 'very happy' with business levels at the marina.

EXCLUSIVE REPORT by STEPHEN NORRIS snorris@obantimes.co.uk

He told *The Oban Times*: 'It's our first season of operation so we have nothing to compare it with. But the marina has been full on at least two occasions - that's around 50 yachts.'

'It just seems to be passing trade. Our harbourmaster James MacLean says it can only get better next year as people get to know about us.'

'We have had Swedish boats coming through from the Caledonian Canal, but the bulk is UK business.'

'We have also appointed a marina attendant, so that's another job and good from Mallaig's point of view.'

Mr MacMillan said MHA was 'encouraged' by the amount of good comments regarding the pontoons' layout.

He added: 'Our aim now is to provide toilets and shower facilities for the yachtspeople. Come October we will sit down

to take a look at all the figures and statistics, for example how many folk stayed for one night, for two or for a week.'

Asked about economic spin-offs for the village, Mr MacMillan said: 'If you have 30 or 40 boats in people are bound to be buying something, whether it's a pint, a meal or a paper.'

Meanwhile, Morvern Community Development Company's Lilia Dobrokhodova reports that between April 1 and July 6, 367 visiting yachts had used the new pontoons at Loch Aline.

The figure outstripped the 2011 total of 353 - although that season only began after the 24-berth development opened on July 20.

Ms Dobrokhodova told *The Oban Times*: 'I think everybody is benefiting, especially food and drink establishments. We have had people from all over the world, including Scandinavia and Germany.'

Work on a building housing toilets, showers, laundry facilities and an MDCDC office is underway and will be completed for next season.

Camanachd Cup semi-final draw made live on Radio Scotland

KINLOCHSHIEL will play Inveraray, and Kyles Athletic either Lochaber or Newtonmore in the Scottish Hydro Camanachd Cup semi-finals.

The draw was made live on John Beattie's Radio Scotland show on Tuesday afternoon.

The ties will be televised live on BBC Alba on August 4 and August 11, respectively. Venues have yet to be confirmed.

The final at Mossfield Park, Oban on September 15 will be televised live on BBC 2 Scotland. See more page 21.



A touch of Eastern promise came to Lochaline as the Morvern Belly Dancers wowed the crowds at Morvern Games 20. f29morvern13

Oriental magic comes to Lochaline

A BIT of oriental magic lit up Knock Park at Lochaline on Saturday when the local belly-dancing group spiced-up Morvern Games with a performance full of grace and poise.

Five women, led by Clare

Holohan, danced three graceful routines in front of hundreds of spectators - with carpet for a stage.

The group's inaugural public appearance was in the marquee last year, but popular demand

and perfect weather meant the girls could perform outdoors in the sunshine.

The seductive spectacle provided a perfect counterpoint to the grunting strongmen competing in the traditional heavy

field events.

Local man Johnny Scouler returned 'home' from his new base in Glasgow to be this year's Games Chieftain in what proved to be a highly successful day. For more see Page 4

Geology student unearths little gems from shores of Loch Linnhe

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

A GEOLOGY student uncovered an unusually precious pair of rocks washed up on the shores of Loch Linnhe - two diamond rings.

Cuil Bay

Ellen Phillips, a student at Cardiff University, came across a water-damaged ring box containing the two valuable bands just south of Cuil Bay near Duror.

The 19-year-old handed her find into local police who are now making efforts to return them to their rightful owner.

Miss Phillips was carrying out research for her dissertation on



Ellen Phillips yards from the site of her surprising find on the shoreline of Loch Linnhe.

the formation of the Duror and Kentallen peninsula when she made the discovery.

She told *The Oban Times*: 'The box was lying below the

tide line. The tide was really far out so I was able to get quite far down, and it was just sitting on some rocks.'

'I was really quite surprised when I found them, they're not the kind of thing you expect to find lying around.'

'The box was really damp and there's been some water damage. It looked like they had been in the water for quite a while.'

Police told Miss Phillips if the rings are not been claimed in two months, she would get to keep them.

She continued: 'They don't mean anything to me, although they are beautiful, but for someone who has lost them they might have a lot of sentimental value.'

'If I get to keep them, I will feel very special because they

are beautiful, but if they find their way back to the person who lost them then there would be a happy ending.'

A Northern Constabulary spokesperson told *The Oban Times* police were in contact with a jeweller in England where the rings may have originated.

The spokesperson said: 'We will be doing our best to get them back to their rightful owners. They may be worth a lot of money, but even if they are not, they will still be valuable to the person who has lost them.'

Police were reluctant to give any description of the rings or the box to try and prevent fraudulent claims being made.

Anyone who thinks the rings may belong to them should contact Fort William Police Station on 01397 702361.

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Last train for 'Dinkie'

Fort William Railway Station charge person Duncan 'Dinkie' Cameron has said a final goodbye to his colleagues as he starts his retirement. The Caol grandfather started at the station some 21 years ago and worked in a number of different jobs over the years.

He told *The Oban Times* he did not have any big plans for his retirement, but would probably spend most of his time 'walking or gardening'. He said: 'I've had some good times and some bad, but I've always enjoyed the craic with my colleagues.' Duncan is pictured receiving a memorial plaque from station team manager Alastair MacLennan (left) and north Clyde and west Highlands team manager Tarek Sheikh.

Screen Machine Scotland's Mobile Cinema

Fri 27 - Sun 29 July
Nevis Centre Car Park, Fort William

Ice Age 4: Continental Drift (U)
Fri 27 at 5:30pm, Sat 28 & Sun 29 at 2:00pm

Prometheus 3D (15)
Fri 27 at 8:30pm
"For a sheer sci-fi thrill ride, it doesn't get better than this" *The Sun*

You've Been Trumped (PG)
Sun 29 at 5:30pm
Winner of 10 awards. Aberdeenshire homeowners vs tycoon Donald Trump as he tries to build his golf course

The Angels' Share (15)
Sat 28 at 8:30pm
Ken Loach's award winning Scottish heist movie. 'British comedy at its warmest and most pleasurable' *The Telegraph*

Salmon Fishing in the Yemen (12A)
Sat 28 at 5:30pm, Sun 29 at 8:30pm
Ewan McGregor, Emily Blunt, Kristin Scott Thomas

Book in advance at: www.screenmachine.co.uk or phone 0871 902 5750. Tickets also at the cinema 30 mins before screenings. £7.00 Adults. Concessions £5.50 3D +£1.50

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FW



Beachd Ailein
Ailean Caimbeul

GED A THA AN ÀIREAMH a chaidh an leòn air rathaidean Alba air a dhol sìos, chaidh fhathast faisg air dà mhìle duine an marbhadh ann an tubaistean rathaid feadh Bhreatainn an-uiridh.

Tha caochladh adhbharan airson nan tubaistean bàsmhor sin, ach a rèir coltais tha àrd-oifigearan poilis den bheachd gum bheil astar na phrìomh thrioblaid, gu sònraichte ann measg dhàrbhearann òga. Air sgàth sin, tha Comunn Àrd-Luchd-stiùiridh Phoilis Alba a' moladh gun tèid innealan a chur anns na carbadan a tha dràibhearann òga a' cleachdadh a ghleidheas fiosrachadh mun astar aig am bheillean gan cleachdadh ann an bitheantas agus an dòigh sam bheillean gan obrachadh san fharsaingeachd. Rachadh an fiosrachadh seo a sgrùdadh agus a chleachdadh ann a bhith a' measadh ìre an àrachais a thigeadh air an dràibhear a phàigheadh. Tha èifeachdas na h-innleachd seo ga rannsachadh dha Rìaghaltais na h-Alba tro sgeama dearbhadh a tha ga ruith le Comunn Rìoghail airson Seachnadh Thubaistean (RoSPA) agus a rèir cho-dhùnaidhean nan deuchainnean sin, dh'fhaodadh gun tig air a h-uile dràibhear òg innleachd den t-seòrsa a bhith sa charbad mus fhad iad falbh leis.

Saoilidh cuid nach eil an seo ach ionnsaigh eile air daoine òga agus nach eil iad a' dèiligeadh air uimhir den chòir 's a thathas a' fàgail orra airson tubaistean rathaid agus tha ceist ann cuideachd dè bu chòir òg a bhith a' ciallachadh ann an lethid seo de shuidheachadh. Aig ceann cùise, feumar aontachadh gum bheil e iomchaidh rud sam bith a dhèanamh a tha dol a chomharradh beatha agus cha bhiodh anns na thathas a' moladh an seo ach leudachadh air na riaghailtean a th'againn mar-thà a thaobh ìre meacanaigeach charbadan.

Cha ghabh luach a chur air eòlas a thaobh sgil mar dràibheadh agus chun an faigh an neach òg cothrom an t-eòlas sin fhàgail, chan eil e neo i gu bhith cho comasach ri feadhainn a th'air a bhith ris fad bhliadnaichean. Ach gu cinnteach, chan eil an t-òle uile air guaillean òigridh agus bhiodh fhathast ceist mun an aon seòrsa ceannsal a chur air na dràibhearann as sine a tha gun chùram agus a tha glè thrì air chomas càraichean mòran nas cumhachdaiche a cheannach 's a chleachdadh. Tha na poilis a' comharrachadh cho goireasach 's a tha an rianadair-astair a tha na phàirt de dh'uidheam-stiùiridh cuid a charbadan agus tha iad a' moladh dha dràibhearann aig am bheil lethid sin an cleachdadh gu cunbhalach. Am bu chòir deuchainn-dràibhidh a bhith ann gach deichead? Ach, le luchd-turais is eile a' siubhal às an Roinn Eòrpa gach latha, theagamh nach eil leasachadh air an dubhlan ach ciall!

THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE for experience and statistics will probably justify moves to make black-box monitors compulsory for young drivers, but the challenge remains as to how the attitude and behaviour of other road-users can be controlled.

Should drivers be routinely re-tested every decade for example, or must we continue to hope that sense will ultimately prevail?

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



Venues for Sgoil Shamhraidh Dhrama students included the streets of Portree

Skye Gaelic Drama Summer School success

SGOIL Shamhraidh Dhrama – the annual Gaelic Drama Summer School – concluded last Friday after another successful fortnight.

The previous evening saw the young actors put on their final performance at the Fàs Studio in Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, the Gaelic college in Sleat.

They were joined by young fèisean musicians who have been undergoing preparations for their cèilidh trails at Fèis Alba at Plockton.

This year's summer school, based in Portree, saw a strong team of tutors keep the young participants busy in workshops and other events.

Artair Donald was director of the school this year, assisted by well-known actor Davie Walker, Ruairidh Nicolson of Eden Court and Gaelic singer, musician and broadcaster Mary Ann Kennedy.

The students, aged 14 to 18

and from Uist, Skye, Morar, Fort William, Glasgow and Edinburgh, learned film-making, street theatre and outdoor sports in Gaelic.

Fèisean nan Gàidheal chief executive Arthur Cormack said: 'The successful re-establishment of the Sgoil Shamhraidh Dhrama five years ago has led to a large number of young people having gained new skills through a positive experience, which can be put to good use in a variety of situations.'

'We hope that we will be able to continue developing the event.'

Sgoil Shamhraidh Dhrama was re-established by Fèisean nan Gàidheal five years ago with financial backing from Bòrd na Gàidhlig, Highlands & Islands Enterprise and Creative Scotland. Over that time more than 70 young actors have benefitted from training in a wide range of drama skills.

Waiter was two-and-a-half times drink-drive limit

A LOCHABER hotel waiter has been banned from driving for 18 months and fined £600 after admitting driving on the A82 while two and a half times the alcohol limit.

Appearing from custody, South African Matthew Da Silva pled guilty to drink driving on the A82 North Road on July 14.

Prosecutor fiscal Alison Wylie said the 20-year-old had driven from his work accommodation to a garage a mile away in the early hours of the morning. Staff smelt alcohol on his breath and called police.

Defence solicitor Stephen Kennedy told Fort William Sheriff Court Da Silva had been at a party in Fort William on the night.

He said: 'He got a taxi back to the hotel. He woke up hungry at 5.30am and drove to the garage to get food.'

Da Silva also admitted driving without insurance. Mr Kennedy said he had been looking at insurance quotes online before the incident but had not purchased one.

Da Silva, who lives at his place of work five days a week, gave his parents' home at 40 Ayr Road, Motherwell as his address.

Sentencing, Sheriff Douglas Small said it was a 'high reading'.

Sports clubs to be consulted on grass pitches in Lochaber

Sports association highlight five-stage maintenance plan

LOCHABER Sports Association is canvassing the views of its 40-plus member clubs on provisional plans to set up a comprehensive maintenance programme for grass pitches in and around Fort William.

The move comes after local clubs, notably Fort William FC, Fort William Shinty Club, Lochaber Rugby Club and Lochaber Welfare League football clubs suffered severe disruption to fixtures through pitches being waterlogged or ground repairs.

Once responses have been gathered, LSA plans to meet with Highland Council's TEC services and Highlife Highland to discuss how to fund and implement the bold bid.

LSA chair Jane Blanchard said relying on cash-strapped Highland Council to do all the work was 'simply not possible'.

Stressing 'a sustainable pitch maintenance programme' was of equal importance to the feasibility study on indoor training facilities currently

Community council reject Spean Bridge craft centre proposal

A PROPOSAL to turn the former Little Chef restaurant in Spean Bridge into a craft centre and fast food outlet has been turned down due to lack of funds.

The suggestion came from a local resident, who sug-

gested the disused eatery to be bought over by Spean Bridge, Roy Bridge and Achnacarry Community Council, but was rejected at a meeting in the village last week.

Community council chairman John Fotheringham said

that finances were not in place for such a venture. He said: 'We don't have the money for something like that, and because community councils aren't allowed to own property we would have had to set up a community company.'

'It's certainly an eyesore. The community would like to have functioning site in the village rather than another sign of commercial failure. We would like to find someone to promote it, and would welcome any help for development.'

'We just have to hope somebody else can see the potential of the site.'

The Little Chef restaurant, located at the southern entrance to the village, closed earlier this year after trading in the village for around 30 years.

Historic Arisaig painting continues to cause friction

Nineteenth century artwork to move to Fort William

REPORT

by

STEPHEN NORRIS

snorris@obantimes.co.uk
PLANS to relocate a valuable oil painting from a former stately home in Arisaig to the West Highland Museum (WHM) Museum Fort William have divided local opinion.

Furious row

Museum trustees want to bring 'Letters and News at the Lochside' to its Cameron Square premises from Arisaig House so more people can view it.

The 1868 artwork, by Henry Tamworth Wells and showing nine men in boats being welcomed by a ghillie on Loch Eilt-side, was the focus of a furious row last year when owners WHM proposed selling it to raise funds.

Angry locals accused trustees of breaching their own disposals policy - a claim denied - and removing a priceless piece of history from Lochaber. Descendants of men depicted in the painting still live around Arisaig.

The furore forced the sale plan to be scrapped, and the canvas remained in Arisaig House, the former home of the late Miss Joan Becher who bequeathed it to the museum.

The public can view the artwork but its secluded location means visitors number hundreds rather than thousands.

WHM management committee chairman Chris Robinson said: 'I can say that the trustees are keen to bring the painting for permanent display into the museum where it will have pride

of place in Room 6 upstairs in the museum.'

'It can then be viewed by 30,000 plus visitors annually and the full story of its Arisaig provenance will be prepared to go along with its display.'

'However, there are a number of practical considerations which we are currently investigating.'

Arisaig Community Council secretary Maureen MacColl told *The Oban Times*: 'We will be sorry to see it go but it is the property of West Highland Museum and where they place

it is up to them. 'We are just happy it's going to get a good placement where more people will see it than if it was left at Arisaig House.'

'This time last year they were talking about selling - now they are talking about putting the painting in a prominent position in the museum, which is much better outcome than we expected last year.'

'It is a piece of work that belongs in Arisaig and it would be nice if we could get some kind of reproduction of it. They did tread on a few feet here

when they first started talking about selling it - so some kind of goodwill gesture would go down well.'

She added: 'On the whole we are quite pleased the way it has gone, but I know there are people in the village who are disappointed and we understand that.'

Comunn Eachdraidh Arisaig (Arisaig Historical Society), who oppose the move, has written to WHM suggesting the nearby museum-accredited Mallaig Heritage Centre could take custody of the painting.

CEA member Elizabeth MacDonald told *The Oban Times*: 'We want it to stay where it is. It is native to the district and important to us. We were promised a reproduction but now they say they will give us a photo. We are not happy at all.'

Fearing the painting would ultimately be sold, she added: 'They [WHM] have gone back on their word more than once and we don't trust them any more.'

'It seems it they are taking it because they are being challenged, and because they can.'



Historical oil painting 'Letters and News at the Lochside' could be Fort William-bound.

Sea lochs return to safe toxin levels

MONITORING work undertaken on behalf of the Food Standards Agency has identified that the high levels of toxins identified in shellfish in three sea lochs on Harris have returned to safe levels, Western Isles Council reports.

The toxins were detected over recent weeks in shellfish such as razor clams, mussels and oysters, in Loch Seaforth, East Loch Tarbert and Loch Stockinish.

The all clear means that warnings issued against eating shellfish from this area have now been lifted.

The alert saw harvesting of shellfish suspended and warning signs put up round the southeast Harris coastline advising the public not to eat any shellfish gathered from the shore.

The problem arose after blooms of toxic algae inundated local waters. The shellfish filter the algae as they feed, accumulating the toxins in their flesh and posing the risk of severe gastric upsets if consumed.

Five generations come together at Fort William



Five generations of a Fort William family came together recently to celebrate the arrival of the clan's newest member - four-week-old Katie Cara. The women gathered at the home of Katie's great-grandmother Sarah MacLennan, 76, to mark the occasion with Katie's mum Emma MacSween, 25, grandmother Pat MacKay, 45, and great great grandmother Ina Hope, aged 102, who lives with her daughter Sarah. Ina moved to Fort William from Clydebank before Sarah was born. The family have stayed in the area and still live close to each other.

Skye Book Festival continues to offer something for everyone

'AN EXCITING programme of events' has been lined up for next week's Skye Book Festival - Feis Leabhraichean an Eilein - next week, according to organisers.

The 70th birthday of the great Skye writer Aonghas Macneacail will be celebrated in his native island, as will the life and work of the 'English Skye-man, the late Allan Campbell McLean.

Children will enjoy events with the children's author Lari Don, while the little-known fact that Virginia Woolf based her famous novel 'To the Lighthouse' on a lighthouse between

Skye and Kyle of Lochalsh will be explored.

'Something for everyone' The piping traditions of Skye will be discussed with author Bridget Mackenzie and the festival will round off on Saturday night with a dramatic production of the life of the Uist 'weaver of grass' Angus MacPhee by the Horse and Bamboo Theatre Company, introduced by MacPhee's biographer Roger Hutchinson.

Festival committee chairman Donald MacDonald told *The Oban Times*: 'We have worked hard to present a book festival which is both reflective of our

region and accessible to the wider world.'

'We think there is something for everyone at Feis Leabhraichean an Eilein - and that every single event will be fascinating in its own right.'

'We naturally hope that visitors will find themselves welcome at the Skye Book Festival. And we hope that our local residents will support this project, and encourage it to move from strength to strength in future years.'

A full programme of events is available from the Aros Centre in Portree. The festival runs from July 26-28.

Charles Kennedy launches Stromferry bypass petition

ROSS, SKYE and Lochaber MP Charles Kennedy has launched a petition calling on the Scottish Government to help fund a rerouting of the landslide-prone Stromferry bypass.

Engineering options include a bridge over Loch Carron - which has strong local support - and a relief road through Attadale. The cost of a permanent solution up to £116 million

would almost certainly require significant government support. Mr Kennedy said: 'The Scottish Government has got to will the means, not just the ends. We can't afford to wait.'

Lewis man jailed for his part in kidnap

A LEWIS man has been jailed for 15 years for his part in the kidnap and horrific assault of a fellow Scot in Portugal.

Calum MacLeod, 46, was one of five members of a drugs crime gang caged by a Portuguese judge for the torture of James Ross from Wick.

Ringleader, Manchester man Steven Johnson, 49, got 25 years after denying the attempted murder of Mr Ross.

Coventry duo William Quinn and Terrance McGurk received eight years each and Ronnie Rose 30 months. The men had denied various charges of kidnap, assault and drug trafficking.

Mr Ross was lured to Portugal over a £9,000 drugs debt only to be abducted and tortured for almost two weeks. His assailants hacked off an ear, a finger and two toes.

Mr Ross escaped, but required plastic surgery.

Northern Constabulary, who worked with Portuguese police on the case, welcomes the stiff jail sentences.

Detective Superintendent Kenny Anderson said: 'This was a protracted investigation which resulted in Mr Ross fortunately being found alive after a sustained ordeal.'

'This case highlights that organised crime groups operate throughout the country, including rural communities. This should serve as a warning to anyone who may think about becoming involved in this type of crime.'

Busy playscheme at Fort William

OVER 80 children took part in the Fort William Playscheme last week as part of High Life Highland's summer activity programme.

The children participated in four different activities each day including football, swimming, mountain biking, gymnastics, tennis, art, craft, story time and music.

A second week of activity for 5-12 year olds started on July 30 and can be booked at Lochaber Leisure Centre. A variety of other sessions are also available on the programme, which can be found at the centre.

Lochaber cricketers on Sky Sports tv

CRICKETERS from across Lochaber lined up in front of Sky Sports cameras at the BA Club in Fort William to test themselves against fast bowlers from around the UK.

Around 40 people took part in the challenge for the TV show 'Cricket AM', with Fort William Cricket Club's Charles Luxton the fastest Lochaber man with a speed of 62mph.

Nairn man Arian Neill was the overall winner with a speed of 63mph.

A raffle held on the day raised almost £1,000 for the cricket club.

Man injured in Cuillins range fall

A MAN in his sixties sustained slight head injuries after he fell 50 feet while climbing Sgurr Dubh Mor in the southern Cuillins last Thursday afternoon.

Members of Skye Mountain Rescue Team and the Stornoway Coastguard attended the scene.

The injured party and his wife were airlifted off the mountain to Broadford Hospital.

Harris dialysis patient in documentary

A KIDNEY dialysis patient from Harris will appear in a BBC Alba programme on Monday.

Alexander MacLeod from Grosebay will tell his story in Trusadh: The Gift at 9pm.

Mr MacLeod, who was diagnosed with kidney failure in 2009, said: 'My initial concern was that haemodialysis would mean I'd have to give up work'. However, another solution arose.

The programme will show what the harsh reality of kidney failure and time-consuming, and at times painful dialysis, means for patients as they await a transplant. The debate around organ donation and those whose lives have been transformed through receiving a new kidney will also feature.

Jobs come from Skye timber centre opening

FIVE JOBS have been created in Portree after independent construction store chain Rembrand Timber opened an outlet in the Skye capital on Monday.

Western Isles Gaelic plan goes out to consultation

COMHAIRLE nan Eilean Siar's draft Gaelic language plan for 2013-17 has gone out for a six-week period of public consultation.

Public bodies, Gaelic development and teaching bodies, and members of the public in the Western Isles have until August 20 to comment on the proposals, which are in Gaelic and English.

Contributions suggesting how Gaelic usage can be developed in Western Isles communities are especially welcome.

All suggestions, recommendations or observations should be submitted in writing, either by letter to Donald Weir, Gaelic Support Officer, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, Sandwick Rd, Stornoway, HS1 2BW, or by e-mail to Donald.Weir@cne-siar.gov.uk.

Lewis man is new Gaelic convener



Angus MacDonald has been appointed to new Gaelic post at Scottish Parliament

LEWIS-born Angus MacDonald MSP has become the new convener of the Scottish Parliament's cross party group on Gaelic.

Mr MacDonald, who comes from a well-known Stornoway business and farming family, was elected to the Parliament last year to represent the Falkirk East constituency.

He said: 'With the launch of the new National Plan for Gaelic 2012-2017 at the end of June it is clear that much work needs to be done in encouraging greater support for the language in the community and in education.'

'The cross party group allows MSPs from all parties to discuss the challenges and successes of the Gaelic language and I very much look forward to ensuring Gaelic is at the forefront of MSPs minds in the months and years to come.'

Government to fund feasibility study on Isle of Skye abattoir

HOPES that Skye and Lochalsh could have its own abattoir service for the first time in over 20 years have been given a boost.

The Scottish Government is to fund a feasibility study into a small-scale slaughtering and processing facility, which would be co-operatively owned and operated.

A Scottish Agricultural College team led by Portree-based senior consultant Siobhan Macdonald will draw up the report.

The move follows work by the Scottish Crofting Federation (SCF) explaining the cost and animal welfare benefits of a local abattoir.

Skye and Lochalsh crofters

and farmers currently have to transport animals to Dingwall for slaughter - a journey of up to three and a half hours - or ferry them to Lochmaddy.

SCF crofting resources programme manager Donald Murdie said: 'Previous feasibility studies have envisaged a full-time, industrial-scale meat plant, which clearly would not

be viable.

'The aim of this study is to produce costed plans for a facility appropriate in scale and ownership structure, with a flexible operating strategy able to respond to seasonal demand.'

'The resulting report will be made freely available to other groups of producers wishing to develop their own small-scale

abattoir facilities.'

Siobhan Macdonald said SAC was 'delighted' to work with SCF on a blueprint for the micro-abattoir.

She said: 'Such a venture needs careful consideration, but could provide opportunities for crofters and farmers to reach new markets and add value to stock reared in this area of high

nature value farming.'

Highlands and Islands MSP Jamie McGrigor, convener of the Scottish Parliament's cross party group on crofting, welcomed the news.

He said: 'Small-scale and rural abattoirs are extremely important for farmers and crofters throughout the Highlands and Islands, allowing producers

to gain added value for their produce, as well as being useful for those who want to consume their own meat and for local sales.'

'I applaud this initiative and wish it well and am sure that the results of this study will be useful to many other rural and remote communities throughout the country.'

Police hunt fuel thieves on Skye

POLICE in Kyle of Lochalsh are hunting fuel thieves after a large quantity of diesel was taken from a storage tank at Broadford Industrial Estate.

The theft, carried out sometime over the past two weeks, prompted Northern Constabulary to remind companies and individuals to ensure their property is secure.

Any information on the theft given will be treated in the strictest confidence. Kyle police can be contacted on 01599 534222.

Man admits carrying knife in Fort William

A MAN has pled guilty to carrying a knife on the streets of Fort William.

Appearing from custody, John McPhee, admitted having a knife in his possession with out reasonable excuse or lawful authority on Hill Road and Cameron Road on March 30.

McPhee, a prisoner in Inverness, had been due to stand trial in front of a jury at Fort William Sheriff Court on Monday but changed his plea.

After hearing McPhee was already serving a 40 month sentence from Edinburgh High Court, Sheriff Douglas Small deferred sentencing the 22-year old until August 13 for reports.

Invite to music and culture at national nature reserve

VISITORS and locals are being invited to Beinn Eighe National Nature Reserve in Wester Ross next Thursday to celebrate Gaelic and nature.

Scottish Natural Heritage is hosting the event which features a guided walk with renowned Gaelic writer Roddy Maclean and performances from Feis Rois musicians.

Details about the free event are available from Beinn Eighe Visitor Centre on 01445 760258.

Fort William woman admits biting policeman

A FORT William woman has admitted biting a police officer on the hand during a drunken struggle outside a pub in the town.

Appearing at Fort William Sheriff Court from custody, Roxanne Simpson, of 22 Young Place, pled guilty to assaulting the constable on July 15.

Procurator fiscal Alison Wylie said Simpson had been denied entry to the pub and got into an argument with a doorman before the police were called.

Sheriff Douglas Small deferred sentencing the 24 year-old until August 13 for reports.

Alba up for awards

MG ALBA Gaelic short film competition FilmG and its Scots Trad Music Awards have both been shortlisted for honours at the Scottish Event Awards 2012.

FilmG, nominated for best cultural event, is managed by Cànán on behalf of MG ALBA. The competition has had 250 films submitted for judging since it began 2008.

The Trad Awards, shortlisted in the best traditional category, are organised by Hands up for Trad and have been sponsored by MG ALBA for four years.

The 2012 awards will be presented in the Radisson Blu Hotel in Glasgow on Thursday, September 6.

Public input to digital planning

Europe's biggest superfast broadband project planned

HOUSEHOLDERS and businesses are being asked to provide vital information to help Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) plan Europe's biggest superfast broadband project.

The £200 million undertaking would see the region enjoy universal superfast download speeds by 2020 and 'significant progress' made by 2015.

But before discussions on the detailed rollout plan begin, the development agency needs to know whether its data on existing and planned broadband provision is accurate.

To find out, HIE has launched a region-wide public consultation on how good or bad present broadband services are. The survey will also invite broadband providers to confirm any plans they have to install superfast.

Responses will allow HIE to target resources effectively throughout the giant upgrade, which aims to deliver speeds of at least 30 megabits per second (Mbps).

Due to begin next year, the project is widely regarded as being crucial if the region's economy is to prosper in the digital age.

The consultation move follows last month's Scottish Government announcement of a £120m investment package to back the HIE's ambitions. Further investment from the private sector, local authorities and the European Union will be needed, as the total cost may exceed £200m.

Should negotiations between HIE and first choice partner BT conclude successfully, work will begin on deciding which areas and towns should get superfast first, starting in 2013.

HIE has already published a provisional list of 50 towns and settlements, including Fort William, Portree, Stornoway, Oban, Lochgilphead and Campbeltown, which appeared to offer the best potential to introduce the service quickly. Smaller centres such as Mallaig, Tobermory and Balavach on Benbecula also feature.

REPORT by STEPHEN NORRIS snorris@obantimes.co.uk

"This is probably the largest rural broadband project in Europe."

HIE head of digital Stuart Robertson

HIE head of digital Stuart Robertson said careful targeting of such a huge investment was 'vital' to achieve best value and impact.

He said: 'This is probably the largest rural broadband project anywhere in Europe at present.'

'We've been very successful so far in securing a substantial amount of the funding we need to make it happen. Now we want to make sure we have the most up to date information, both from customers and suppliers, to inform final decisions on rollout.'

'It's important we know where private providers are considering investing in upgrades so we can ensure there's no risk of duplication.'

'At the same time, we want members of the public to let us know if the information we hold on current provision is accurate, particularly with regard to download and upload speeds.'

Broadband is currently available to around 99 per cent of the Highlands and Islands population. However, average speeds are well below the UK average of 7.6Mbps, with many places only capable of receiving a maximum 0.5Mbps.

HIE's project will make 2Mbps the minimum speed available anywhere in the region by 2015, with most places experiencing a much faster service.

To take part in the consultation, which runs until August 13, visit www.hie.co.uk/digital/consultation.html.



Local youngsters Michael Lawrie and Lewis Smith, with organisers and sponsors of Gallop and Grind, will be aiming to win their year's event.

Entries get underway for Gallop and Grind

PREPARATIONS for this year's Gallop and Grind fundraising duathlon are well underway, with entries now open.

Cancer related charity

The event, being held for the fifth time, will get underway at Lochaber Leisure Centre in Fort William from 12pm on Saturday September 29.

Hundreds of people set off from the start line in 2011, with

organisers hoping for an even bigger turnout this year.

The race starts and finishes at the centre, with participants completing a short walk or run and bike ride through Glen Nevis. While some taking part will be trying for the fastest time, many others will just be out to enjoy a scenic walk.

Sponsoring the event are Marine Harvest, Ferguson

Transport, Maclean Electricals and MacPhee and Partners.

Trustee Karen MacInnes said: 'All entrance fees and money raised go directly to the Sharon Fraser Memorial Trust Fund, Cancer Care in the Highlands and Argyll.'

'Funds raised from last year's event are already making a difference to the lives of families whose lives have been touched

by cancer.'

The duathlon was first organised in 2008 by Invergarry mother Sharon Fraser while she was ill with cancer. Mrs Fraser passed away later in the year and the event has been held in her memory ever since.

Sharon's son Callum was the fastest junior home last year and third fastest athlete overall. £5,000 raised last year was

donated to the Inverness branch of CLIC Sargeant, which provides support to children and young people with cancer. The money will be used to provide all-inclusive holidays to five Highland families.

A further £4,070 was given to Maggie's Centre at Raigmore Hospital in Inverness to fund a year of nutrition and tai chi workshops for patients.

Mountain rescue team aid stroke victim 3,000ft up

Large crowds gather for annual River Nevis raft race

LOCHABER Mountain Rescue Team was in action again on Saturday - just hours before members turned out to steward a major fundraising event in aid of its work.

The team was scrambled after a visitor suffered a suspected stroke 3,000 feet up on Ben Nevis during the morning.

The man, in his mid 60s, was airlifted to the Belford Hospital in Fort William for treatment.

By the afternoon, large crowds gathered on the banks of the River Nevis below to see competitors from across the country plunge into the icy water on blow-up lilos race two miles down waterfalls and rapids.

Competitors raised up to £1,000 each in sponsorship money, which goes towards LMRT's annual running costs.

Team leader John Stevenson told *The Oban Times* total funds raised had yet to be calculated, but spectators and competitors had had 'a good day'.

He said: 'There was a good turnout, with about 150 people taking part. The water was a bit low, which is pretty unusual for Lochaber, but it all went well.'

Corpach man Colin Ross was fourth man home in a time of 46 minutes and 30 seconds. Aidan Ryan set the fastest time of the day, finishing in 41m and 15s.



John Parrot tackles the wild waters of the River Nevis on his inflatable lilo. Picture - Scott Wikkie

Fort William sudden death investigations continue

POLICE investigations are continuing into the death of a young woman in Fort William last Thursday.

Heather Elizabeth McGregor was found dead in a house in Upper Achintore in the early hours of the morning. The 32 year-old is understood to have lived on Lochaber Road.

Northern Constabulary would not confirm if the death was being treated as suspicious or local reports that the Crime Investigation Department were involved, but said enquiries would be continuing in the coming weeks.

A spokesperson said: 'A report has been submitted to the Procurator Fiscal and no further details in relation to this matter will be released until the results of the post mortem examination.'

The spokesperson added a 'number of tests' were being carried out, the results of which may not be known for another two weeks.

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 Fort William: 21st July, LIDL, Camanachd
 Wick: 22nd August, LIDL, Castlegreen Road
 Alness: 23rd August, Dalmore Road
 Dingwall: 24th August, LIDL, Tulloch Street
 Fort William: 25th August, LIDL, Camanachd

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Lewis girl is named Sabhal Mòr Ostaig student of the year

A LEWIS girl dedicated to Gaelic language and culture has been named Sabhal Mòr Ostaig UHI student of the year.

Native Gaelic speaker Laura MacLennan was commended for her outstanding course work and passion for the language at the Gaelic college on Skye.

Laura, who grew up in Barvas, has just completed her final year of her BA (Hons) Gaelic and media studies degree.

For her fourth year dissertation, the 21 year-old investigated language use and broadcasting in Scotland and Ireland. Tutors believe her original comparison will inform and stimulate further research in the field.

Laura, who is currently employed as a researcher with BBC Radio nan Gàidheal in Stornoway, hopes to work behind the scenes in Gaelic broadcasting. She said: 'I am absolutely delighted to have been named as the Sabhal Mòr

Ostaig UHI student of the year and it was a very nice surprise to have won it.

'I have thoroughly enjoyed my past four years in Skye and was very lucky to have had the best lecturers for both Gaelic and media studies.'

Laura wins £150 for best student and will be presented with her award at her graduation on October 5. She will also go forward as a candidate for the overall University of the Highlands and Islands student of the year award.

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FW

Specialist police units assist Argyll

Local police call on assistance from 10 expert teams over three incident-packed days

A WEEKEND of major incidents in Oban, Lorn and the Isles saw Oban Police call on help from multiple specialist police teams. In what was one of the busiest weekends for police this year, no fewer than 10 expert teams were called in from the central belt to assist Oban-based officers.

On top of busy community events a number of road traffic incidents, sudden deaths and a crackdown on drugs coming into the area put an unusually high demand on the police force. Chief inspector Auld said: 'The past weekend has been particularly demanding and challenging for my team. Tragically, we have seen the untimely and heartbreaking deaths of a young man with a young family in Mull and an unidentified male, whose body was discovered in the waters off Lismore.

'The thoughts of my staff are with those who have suffered great loss.

'In managing these many

challenges, my team have been supported by a number of specialists, in a number of disciplines, in keeping the people we serve safe.'

Last Friday road crash investigators from the Central Road Policing Complex, Govan, attended the lorry collision at Connel, while the police helicopter took images from above the crash site. The same day area commander Brian Auld requested the Strathclyde Police Underwater Unit retrieve a body from the water off Lismore.

A roadside check at the A82 at Tarbet on Friday afternoon, involved the force's Divisional Flexi Unit (a team of seven officers); a drug detection dog; an automatic number plate recognition (ANPR) car from central road policing, police motorcyclists; and the firearms unit, following the discovery of an unlicensed stun gun in a car.

In the space of only four hours at Tarbet nine drivers were

charged with alleged possession of cannabis.

The same flexi unit team set up roadside checks in Oban the following day and charged one driver for drink driving and issued a number of penalty notices for road traffic offences.

Saturday also saw the death of a young man climbing on Mull, which required back-up from Strathclyde Police Mountain Team and the Royal Air Force helicopter. While on Sunday a fire in Oban required support from forensics specialists.



Inveraray and District Pipe Band led the crowds through Inveraray's main street to the games field.

Increased numbers view Inveraray Games

MORE THAN 4,000 people descended on Winterton Park on Tuesday as the annual Inveraray Highlands got underway.

Numbers at the event, a spectacle of Scottish sporting and cultural heritage, were up by 500 compared to last year. Hosted by the Duke of Argyll in the grounds of Inveraray

Castle, the games saw hundreds of athletes, pipers and Highland dancers from across the world compete for a coveted Inveraray games medal.

Jim McMillan, treasurer of the Inveraray Highland Games Committee, said: 'It was a very successful day and the weather was kind to us with the rain

only coming on towards the end of the afternoon.

'The crowd was four to five hundred up on last year; we are delighted with this in view of the general trends, where numbers attending these types of events seems to be falling.

'We are also pleased to have a new main sponsor, Loch Fyne

Oysters who gave us £4,000 this year and have committed to this level of support for the next five years.'

Home to the World Caber Championship, the Inveraray games saw Sebastian Wentas named champion, reclaiming the title from brother Lucas, who won the event last year.

Clocked at 136mph

A MOTORCYCLIST has been clocked by traffic police officers travelling at 136mph on the A85 at Arrivain straights, between Dalmailly and Tyndrum.

Police officers from Strathclyde Police's central road policing unit, who were carrying out speed checks in the area last Thursday afternoon charged the 45-year-old with speeding.

Schumacher accused of drink driving at speed

A MAN who allegedly drove dangerously, at excessive speed, and while over the drink/drive limit appeared from custody at Oban Sheriff Court on Monday. Jurgen Schumacher, 26, of 8 Laurence Park, Kinglassie, Kirkcaldy, is alleged to have taken a car from Lochawe without the owner's permission.

He is also accused of losing control of the vehicle at speed, mounting the kerb where the two rear tyres deflated and then continuing to drive for over a mile with the rear of the vehicle swaying about the road.

Mr Schumacher is further accused of failing to stop for police, driving with no licence or insurance and with one and a half times the legal limit of alcohol in his breath.

The case was continued without plea until July 24.

Oban man tried to steal policeman's car - from outside police station

AN OBAN man who attempted to steal a policeman's car that was parked outside the town's police station, appeared at Oban Sheriff Court last week and pled guilty to the offence.

Daniel Kelly, 22, of 19 High Street, Oban was spotted on CCTV trying to force open the door of the vehicle on May 7.

Sheriff Douglas Small said: 'It is not the first time you have been before this court on a charge of this nature. I'm looking at your record and you have been convicted of the attempted theft of a vehicle on three previous occasions.'

Kelly will be sentenced on July 24.

NEWSDESK
01397 703003

Man's body found floating off Lismore remains a mystery

THE IDENTIFICATION of a body found floating in the water off Lismore was still not confirmed as *The Oban Times* went to press.

The sailing yacht *Revolution* reported seeing the body of a man floating near Bernera Bay, 50 metres off the south west of the island of Lismore, at around 8pm last Friday.

Oban Lifeboat was launched

and confirmed the sighting, before alerting police, who called in Strathclyde Police's marine unit to retrieve the body.

However, a lack of personal identification has made police enquiries more difficult.

A wallet with the emblem of a New Zealand fern was retrieved from his clothing but it contained only a train ticket, dated 7am on June 26, 2012 for travel

from Morar to Fort William.

The man was wearing a white vest, a dark t-shirt with narrow horizontal stripes, blue jeans with a black leather Levi's belt and black work boots. He wore a white metal watch with an oblong face on his left wrist.

Anyone who recognises the description of the man should contact Oban Police Station on 01631 510 500.

Bunessan man dies after climbing on Mull

A MARRIED father of two died while climbing on cliffs near where he lived on Mull.

Experienced climber Steve Jones, 39, had been on Meall nan Carn, Kintra with a 64-year-old mountain rescue team member from Cumbria when he told his colleague he was seriously ill.

Mr Jones, from Bunessan, worked as a BT engineer and had two children, aged eight and

two. His father, Rob, said: 'Steve died while doing something he loved. He didn't fall, he was properly roped and secured.'

'He was aware of something happening to him and they had to lower him to the ground.'

The incident happened on Saturday afternoon. A RAF helicopter took Mr Jones to Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban where he was pronounced dead.

Oban publicans restore successful Pubwatch scheme

A SCHEME that sees problem pub-goers banned from every licensed premises in Oban if they are barred from just one has been re-launched this week.

Renewed optimism
Pubwatch is a national scheme that was adopted by Oban's

licensed trade association nearly six years ago but after an effective start it was allowed to 'fall by the wayside', according to licensees, after it became difficult to manage.

However, licensed premises in the town have renewed optimism that the scheme will

succeed this year after police constable Emma Campbell was designated to a support role.

Very successful
Licensed premises will soon be receiving Pubwatch packs, explaining how the scheme works and what is expected of landlords.

Speaking at the relaunch on Tuesday, a spokesman for the Oban Pubwatch committee said: 'Pubwatch was very successful but it was allowed to fall by the wayside.'

'However, this relaunch is to let the town's folk know that Pubwatch is still up and run-

ning and will be enforced from today.'

A Pubwatch scheme is a unified approach by licensees that can lead to people being banned for up to four years from every public house within a town if they commit a serious offence in one.



Strathclyde Police's Divisional Flexi Unit struck in Oban on a busy Saturday, catching many motorists by surprise.

Take part in Oban's own Olympic relay

OBAN'S very own Olympic relay will take place next Saturday (July 28) as part of celebrations for the 20th anniversary of Atlantis Leisure.

The Olantis Torch Relay will see groups and individuals run with a torch on every street in the town, with everyone who registers given a specific route.

The event will finish at Atlantis Leisure, where an

Olympic-themed fun day will be going on with activities such as a bungee run, human table football and water walkers.

There will also be a chance to have your picture taken with the Olympic torch Kyle Dods, the centre's assistant manager, ran with during the real Olympic torch relay.

For more information contact Claire at Atlantis Leisure.

Free helpline ready as SQA qualifications due

STUDENTS in west coast schools and colleges will be among 160,000 young people in Scotland who will get their exam results on August 7.

For those who results did not go quite their way or who just need some support and advice a free exam results helpline has been set up.

The helpline, ran by Skills Development Scotland (SDS), can be reached on 0808 100 8000.

SDS chief executive Damien Yeates said: 'The exam results helpline will be live from 8am on August 7 as people begin to receive their SQA qualifications.'

'It is there to give advice and support to students and their parents whether they are thinking about going to college or university, getting a job or a Modern Apprenticeship.'

This year students will have more support than ever after a

new SDS Facebook page was launched.

It offers answers to common problems, handy hints for making the best career move and practical tools and advice from the My World of Work website, it also features useful links to other relevant bodies such as UCAS, SAAS and the SQA.

Mr Yeates added: 'As always our advice is not to panic - making the call is the vital first move in finding out what

options are available. Often parents or carers call on behalf of their children and that can enable family discussions on the best way ahead.'

'The helpline is about finding the right path for the individual and we have a wide range of services to help people identify and build successful careers.'

The Exam Results Helpline will run from 8am to 8pm on August 7 and 8, then from 9am to 5pm until August 15.

Village stunned by cash theft

A VILLAGE on the Isle of Mull was left stunned by the theft of a substantial sum of cash from a house there.

The theft of the four-figure sum in Fionnphort took place sometime between June 29 and July 12 in Abbeyview.

Anyone with any information regarding the theft is encouraged to contact the local police or, alternatively, Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Canna Criomgan

CANNA had some very special visitors on Canada Day - Sandy MacDonald from Cape Breton arrived with her grandson Andrew and cousin Joanne to visit the island about which she has heard so much since childhood.

Sandy's great grandfather was among the hundreds who left Canna during the clearances.

'I've been told about Canna ever since I was knee high, and I've heard so much about it,' said Sandy. 'It's amazing to finally come here and see it. And it's more beautiful than I ever imagined.'

There are more than 400 Canna Macdonald descendants in Canada, and Sandy assures us that many more of her relatives will now be visiting the island to discover their heritage.

Now that contact has been



Left to right, Sandy MacDonald, Joanne and Andrew, in front of Tighard on Canna, with the Canadian flag flying. Picture - Olivia Uney

made, Sandy will be sending information and photos of her ancestors to Canna, all of which will enrich our museum and archives.

CANNA'S community has pulled together again - this time to create and run their own independent website, www.theislofcanna.co.uk.

Here you can find information about the island, its history and people, what goes on today, the latest news, and information about visiting. The site will be updated and expanded as time goes on, so please take a look.

NEED a calendar for 2013? Looking for the perfect gift for a friend? Or just one of those annoyingly organised people who buys their Christmas presents in July?

The Canna Calendar 2013 is hot off the press and available to order - just visit the new Canna community website, address above.

Packed with beautiful photos of the island, its wildlife and scenery by resident photographer Olivia Uney, it is also available to buy in the island's community shop.

ISLANDERS ARE used to cruise ships coming to visit Canna but earlier this month it was all hands on deck as the *Quest for Adventure* arrived in the bay.

With 400 passengers, the enormous liner was making a tour of some of the National Trust for Scotland's best sites, and Canna was one of them.

It was non-stop tours of Canna house, non-stop guided walks around the island and non-stop serving of tea and cake in the Gille Brighde all afternoon, much to the bemusement of the regular ferry passengers.

The islanders were rewarded for their hard work, though, with a trip to the ship that evening, with cocktails, a five-course dinner and traditional ceildh on the deck.

How the other half live...

Morvern Lines

LORD ROBERTSON of Port Ellen, the former Labour MP for Hamilton George Robertson, spent several days in Morvern recently with his sons and grandson visiting their ancestral home on the shores of Loch Teacuis.

Lord Robertson, who was born at Port Ellen, Islay, who later in his career became Defence Secretary for the United Kingdom and the Secretary General of NATO, is a descendant of two Morvern brothers, John and Peter Robertson.

From 1866, the men had the tenancy for many years of the once well known and productive sheep and cattle farms of Rahoy and Kinlochteacuis. Both are buried in the family plot in Kiel graveyard, Morvern.

Lord Robertson is a Knight of The Most Ancient Order of The Thistle - Scotland's highest honour. Shortly before visiting Morvern he took part in the ceremony at St Giles in Edinburgh when the Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, the Princess Royal and the Countess of Strathearn, installed her grandson Prince William, Earl of Strathearn, as a Royal Knight.

THE RIVER Aline, or more correctly the Gearr-Abhain (Gaelic, Short River) which flows from Loch Arlenas to Loch Aline, has produced very few fish so far this season.

Several salmon and sea trout have been seen in the estuary but there have not been many runs due to the drought conditions.

Not even Alastair (Ally) Gowans, the well known fly tying author and inventor of the ubiquitous 'Ally's Shrimp,' who has been staying on Ardtornish Estate, was able to catch more than a finnock or two in the lower tidal pools.

A few years ago a seal created a sensation by making its way up the river and into Loch Arlenas where it wreaked havoc among the native stock.

HIGHLAND Council's Road Department has honoured its promise to the former Morvern Community Council by repairing and tarring the road surfaces in around Lochaline Village, Kirk Brae, Aline Park and Torr na Faire. The work, which is to a high standard, has been warmly welcomed.

THANKS to the generosity of a visitor to the area who wishes to remain anonymous, much good work has been done recently amongst many of the historical burial enclosures in the ancient graveyard at Kiel. Railings have been scraped, painted and repaired and unsightly vegetation has been cut back and treated.

Kiel is the burying place of many notable Highland families including the Lords of the Isles, the Macleans of Duart and Morvern, the Macleods of Finuary, the MacLachlans of Rahoy, Laudale and Dunadd, David

Livingstone the explorer's forebears, John Sinclair, the founder of Tobermory and Lochaline Village and many others. It is good to see these familiar old landmarks being cared for again.

Iain Thornber

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Summer is here!

To celebrate, The Oban Times is giving readers the chance to win £500 worth of shopping vouchers to spend at Lidl in Oban or Fort William!

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QUESTION:

In which supermarket isle are you most likely to find ice cream?

a) Frozen isle b) Cleaning Product isle c) Health and beauty isle

Answer

Name

Address

Telephone.....

Email

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Canna Criomgan

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How the other half live...

Fish farming increasingly important to economy claims report

THE ECONOMY in Argyll and Bute has benefited to the tune of almost £200 million over the last five years thanks to salmon farming, according to a new report.

The Scottish salmon farming – industry research report also reveals that 67 new jobs were

created in the area in the last year.

It also says direct employment provided by members of the Scottish Salmon Producers Organisation (SSPO) has risen from 321 in 2008 to 489 in 2012. SSPO represents 98 per cent of salmon production.

Scott Landsburgh, chief executive of SSPO said: 'The new economic report shows that salmon farming continues to be an expanding part of our economy.

'Direct employment is only part of the picture as there are many more thousands of jobs

supported in the supply chain.

'The expenditure on the immediate suppliers and services to the sector also recorded a massive leap.

'At a time of slow growth in the global economy, the Scottish salmon sector continues to be a source of major capital invest-

ment and new opportunities.'

Professor Phil Thomas, chairman of SSPO said: 'Scotland has relatively few world class industries, but its salmon farming is in that category.

'By international standards our farms are small and our commitment to high standards

of husbandry and management incurs added costs.

'Scotland seeks to produce the best and we are immensely proud of our history and tradition.'

The report also found that over the last five years SSPO member companies have made £35.7

million capital investments and 17 per cent of those investments have been in Argyll and Bute.

Also during the last five years £41.3 million local wage payments have generated over £189 million of economic benefits as money earned locally is spent locally.

Lorne Games deny clash

'Definitely no conflict' say Argyllshire Gathering

ORGANISERS of the inaugural Lorne Highland Games have strongly denied national newspaper accusations that the event has been set up to compete with the established Argyllshire Gathering.

participate or just watch at a convenient time.'

Mr MacIntyre, who is also involved in the Argyllshire Gathering, added: 'This is not a games to compete with the Argyllshire Gathering, it is to complement what is already there.'

Locals in mind

The new Highland games this Sunday at Mossfield Stadium will have a similar setting and layout to the Oban Highland Games but has been organised to be held on a Sunday afternoon, with local attendance in mind.

A spokeswoman for the Argyllshire Gathering said: 'We welcome the Lorne Highland Games and wish it every success.'

'I think part of the reason it has been organised is that there is no Kilmore Games this year.'

'There is definitely no conflict with the Argyllshire Gathering; we have a very different event. For example, the fact we have a major piping championship is a distinguishing feature.'

'Any event in Oban is good for the area.'

With the demise of the Kilmore Highland Games, equipment from the committee there has been borrowed in the hope the Lorne Highland Games will fill a gap in the local events calendar.

Athletics judge Duncan MacIntyre, one of the organisers behind the new games, explained: 'The committee has started these games so the people of Oban and district can come and

'I was at the most recent meeting of the Argyllshire Gathering committee and I explained what was happening and even invited them to take a trade stand to promote their event.'

Starting at 1pm at Mossfield the Lorne Highland Games will feature a line-up of heavyweights, including a category for local novices, and athletics events, from sprints through to a 3.2km hill race and field events.

There will also be a 'small arena' showing an under-12 five-a-side football tournament, mini rugby, a Highland dancing demonstration, tug of war, and an exhibition shinty match between Oban Camanachd and Oban Celtic junior teams.

There are plans for a march led by Oban Pipe Band to start from Station Square to the games field at 1.30pm, with a return march at 5pm, although this was yet to be confirmed as *The Oban Times* went to press.

There is still trade stand space available at the Lorne Highland Games and anyone interested in taking a stall can contact Alex Milligan on 01631 569 630 or email alamemco@rocketmail.

Argyll development plan receives response

A PLAN on how to develop Argyll and Bute has received responses from 700 people.

Additional sites

Argyll and Bute Council's public consultation on the future of land use and development took responses on what people would like to see in the new Local Development Plan.

As a result the council is to consult on 32 potential additional sites which were suggested by the public, includ-

ing assessments of their likely environmental implications.

Subject to the outcome of the consultation the sites may be included in the proposed Local Development Plan in addition to those identified in the Main Issues Report.

The consultation will run until August 20, with the document available on the council's website, as well as libraries and main council offices across the county.



Fire crews arrive at The Harbour Bowl premises on Shore Street, Oban on Sunday night as flames engulf the building

Police search for Oban fireraiers

A FIRE that gutted a vacant business premises in Oban's Shore Street is being treated as wilful fire-raising by police, who have issued descriptions of three teenagers seen near the premises at the time.

Emergency services were alerted to the fire at The Harbour Bowl at around 7.45pm on

Sunday evening and three fire appliances, as well as the High-Reach appliance from Oban Fire Station were mobilised.

Teenagers sought

Oban Police has made an appeal for witnesses and are particularly keen to speak to three teenagers, two females and one male, all aged between

13 and 16 years old, who were seen in Shore Street at around 5.30pm and subsequently in Shore Street, Campbell Street, Albany Street and Argyll Square shortly after the fire was reported.

The young male is white, tall with a thin build and wore a grey hooded top and blue jeans.

The first female is white and wore a pink hooded top, dark trousers and white trainers, while the second female, also white, wore a two-tone jacket, red or pink trousers and white trainers.

Police appeal

Chief inspector Brian Auld said: 'I would appeal to anyone

who may know these people and to parents, friends and others, who smelled smoke from their clothing, to get in touch'

Anyone who saw these people or may have any other information can contact Oban Police on 01631 510 500 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111, where anonymity can be maintained.

Three injured as lorries collide head-on at Connel

A HEAD-on collision between two lorries closed the A85 at Connel for 10 hours and resulted in two men being airlifted to hospitals in Paisley and Glasgow.

The collision occurred at 6.15am last Friday between a Co-op DAF lorry driven by a 55-year-old Broxburn man and an Iveco flatbed lorry driven by Dunbeg man David MacNiven, aged 40, whose passenger was Alan MacPhee, 32, also from Dunbeg.

Mr MacNiven suffered a fractured skull and fractured leg in the incident and was initially taken to Lorn and Islands Hospital in Oban, before being transferred by air to the Glasgow's Southern General Hospital.

The driver of the DAF lorry, who suffered a fractured ankle, was immediately flown by heli-

copter to the Royal Alexandra Hospital, Paisley.

Both drivers had to be cut from their vehicles by Oban firefighters, while Mr MacPhee was able to leave the vehicle unaided, suffering only a cut to his head.

The incident, at the eastern edge of the village of Connel, near Dunfurnary Cottage, saw the main Oban - Dalmlally road closed immediately, with a Scottish Ambulance Service helicopter landing at the nearest possible landing site – on the road next to the Oyster Inn in the village.

Following an initial assessment by a Road Policing Unit from Dunoon and a Police Crash Investigation Unit from Govan, Transerv Scotland was tasked with setting up diversions and clearing the road, which was re-opened at around 4.30pm.



A Scottish Air Ambulance helicopter landed on the road some distance from the accident site

Islanders warned to lock up as Isle of Mull hit by mini-crime wave

A SPATE of house break ins on the Isle of Mull has led to police warning residents to let them know if they are going to be away from home.

Police confirmed there have been a number of attempted

break ins and thefts on the island, particularly in the Bunnassan area.

Halls, business premises and homes have all been targeted. Residents are now being asked to keep premises and vehicles

secure while they are unoccupied.

Concerns were also raised about the levels on burglary on the island at the recent Mull Community Council meeting.

Local island councillor Mary-

Jean Devon said the situation was 'really sad' for the community.

Community council chairman Steve Willis said: 'It seems to have all of a sudden reared up, I think it has got out that we are a

soft touch.'

Police would like to hear from anyone who saw any suspicious activity over the past five to six weeks and request to be notified if residents are going to be away for a long period of time.

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Woman jailed for more than a year after catalogue of offences

AN OBAN woman who hurled verbal abuse at nursing staff, threatened a woman in a doctor's surgery and drove on three wheels through red lights at Connel Bridge while drunk has been sentenced to almost a year and a half in prison.

Charlene MacDonald, 26, who was a resident at the Ledaig caravan site, had previously been placed on a community payback order for

motoring offences including drink driving.

During that offence, earlier this year, she repeatedly crossed to the opposing carriageway causing other drivers of vehicles to take evasive action and continued to drive despite the vehicle having lost a tyre.

She breached the terms of the order by committing the further

two offences on April 10 at Oban hospital and on April 13 at a medical centre in Oban.

The court heard how nurses at the accident and emergency department of Oban hospital refused to treat MacDonald after receiving a barrage of abuse.

The court also heard how three days later MacDonald threatened a female in the waiting room of a

medical practice.

She had to be escorted from the premises.

Sheriff Small sentenced MacDonald to 60 days in prison for her behaviour at the hospital, 108 days in prison for the offence at the medical centre and 365 days for driving offences.

He ordered that the sentences be served consecutively.

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Sponsorship boost for West Highland Yachting Week

YACHTING

WEST Highland Yachting Week (WHYW) has received a sponsorship boost ahead of its 65th anniversary event this year, from July 28 to August 3.

The event will be sponsored once again by Tunnock's, Tobermory Whisky, Tobermory Harbour Association, Argyll and Bute Council and The Oban Common Good Fund.

Caledonian MacBrayne is also back aboard as is The Crown Estate to help support the 2012 event along with Scottish Fuels, West Coast Motors and Flit Autos.

David Waltho, chairman of the Joint Regatta Committee that runs WHYW, said: 'We are delighted the same organisations have again given their help to run the event. Our regatta has a strong community involvement across the board that is mirrored by this support.'

Boyd Tunnock CBE, managing director Tunnocks, who is also an enthusiastic competitor in the event said: 'We are delighted once again to be supporting this well loved yachting regatta which has such a loyal following and great camaraderie. We look forward to this year's racing.'

Tunnock's will sponsor the spinnaker classes this year and these will be known as the Tunnock's Fleet. The restricted sail classes are known as The Argyll Fleet reflecting the support from Argyll and Bute Council.

The Crown Estate sponsors WHYW as part of its wide ranging programme to promote the sustainable development of leisure sailing across Scotland and to help raise the profile of an industry that is crucial to coastal communities.

Caledonian MacBrayne hosts The Skippers' Reception for West Highland Yachting Week in the Departure Lounge of the CalMac Terminal in Oban on July 30. Prizes for both the feeder races and the Sunday Craobh to Oban trophies will be presented at this reception.

Tobermory GC

GOLF

JACKIE Tauge Memorial Trophy: 1 Andrew McHaffie, 36 points; 2 Ewan MacCrone, 34 points; 3 Shaun Fisher, 34 points; Ladies, Olive Brown, 38 points; Juniors, Lewis Wilshire, 38 points.

Highland Games Trophy: 1 Peter MacCrone, 36 points; 2 Ian McNaughton, 36 points; 3 Andrew McHaffie, 34 points.

The junior course record was equalled by William MacCrone with a Gross 64, playing in the Summer Challenge Trophy on July 10. Lewis Wilshire was one off with a 65, in what was good golf from the club's juniors.

Argyll derby games in Centenary Cup

FOOTBALL

OBAN Saints have been drawn in Section One of the Scottish Amateur League's Centenary Cup competition along with Argyll neighbours Lochgilphead Red Star and Tarbert.

Dates for the Centenary Cup ties, will be August 11 and 18.

Derby match will mark club's 50th anniversary

AN ARGYLL derby match against 'friendly rivals' Mull in September will mark the 50th anniversary of Oban Lorne Rugby Football Club.

The Oban club will play their first home game of the 2012/2013 West Division Three season against the Muileachs on September 1, the same day the club celebrates its anniversary with a dinner dance following the big match.

Having been relegated from West Division Two last season Oban Lorne are now in the same division as Mull and Arran.

The club has sought permission from the Scottish Rugby Union (SRU) to adjust the fixtures to allow the special derby to take place.

Oban Lorne RFC secretary Karen MacCorquodale said: 'Everyone is looking forward to the derby, which is the perfect match to mark the anniversary, as we are hoping for a large support. There are former players still around the town who played in those early matches in the 1960s and we hope they will also come along.'

'We have close links with Mull that we are hoping to build

on and there is now an alliance between Oban Lorne and Mull ladies.

'On the derby day we will also look to have youth development matches and perhaps a ladies match. There are also plans to have a veterans match the night before.'

The club's anniversary dinner dance will be held in the Argyllshire Gathering Halls, where broadcaster and former British Lion John Beattie, new SRU president Alan Lawson and Scottish rugby representative Bill Nolan will be speakers.

John Beattie's band will then play for the expected 250 guests.

Mull Rugby Club development manager Fergus Whyte said: 'We are looking forward to the day and we know it is going to be quite a challenge.'

'We haven't played Oban Lorne in the league for a good number of years but we have developed a friendly rivalry.'

'People here will see the match as the small island against the big town, so there will be a lot of interest around Mull and we will all be fired up for the forthcoming derby match.'



One of Oban Lorne's early 1st XV teams (1973 - 74) back row, from left: Ronnie Hogg, Clark Rydings, Donny Campbell, Brian Mitchell, Dave Petrie, Pat Cadzow, Rab Drummond, unknown, unknown, David Taylor. Front row, from left: Robert Pemberton, Brian Silkowski, James Henry Weir, Peter Semple (captain), Bill Aiken, Bill Matthews, Joe Black.

Eight Argyll boys sign on for Dumbarton

YOUTH FOOTBALL

SCOTTISH Football League club Dumbarton have confirmed they will start the Pro Youth season with eight players from either Oban or Lochgilphead in their ranks.

Oban's Ali McKerracher and Stuart Alexander and Taynuilt's David Beaton will be joined by Oban's Connor Howe in the under-17 team.

Successive

Ali, Stuart and David have signed on for their third successive season and will also hope to taste senior team action with the reserve squad.

Lochgilphead's Kyle Selfridge and Oban's Zak Straub will line up for the under-15s, while Aaron Whitefield, from Lochgilphead has signed for the under-14s.

New signing Stewart MacAl-

lister, North Connel, has joined the under-13 squad.

Jim Chapman, Dumbarton Football Club's director of community football, said: 'It has taken us a while to get the youth structure in place but I have said to the board that the answer is youth development.'

'Dumbarton is a fantastic opportunity for these boys but we have benefited too from an untapped market in Argyll.'

'We appreciate the relationship with the local coaches; guys that I see as working at the coalface of player development. Their work is producing better players every year and that can only be of benefit to Dumbarton Football Club.'

Mull driver extends his lead in both the Scottish and Brick and Steel rallies

RALLYING

MULL rally driver Craig Rutherford chalked up another fine result at the RSAC Scottish Rally in Dumfries to extend his lead in both rally championships he is competing for.

The 21-year-old from Fionnphort, is currently class leader in the Scottish Rally Championship and the Brick and Steel Ecoose Challenge, a championship aimed primarily at younger drivers with very tightly controlled car specifications.

Craig's Honda Civic Type R is eligible for honours in both series, so the times he sets on the Scottish stages are counted in both title races.

'I was still trying to build my

confidence back up after the accident I had whilst testing before the last round,' said the PMG Services and Fidden Campsite-backed Craig. 'At the start of the day I admit I still wasn't fully committed to every corner, although by the end of the day I felt I was getting back on it.'

The company director was full of praise for co-driver Ross Hynd in coaxing him back to full speed.

The next outing for Craig and Ross will be the Gleaner Oil and Gas Speyside Stages in Elgin on August 4.

Youths back in training

YOUTH FOOTBALL

OBAN Saints youth players are back in training in preparation for the new season.

The next session takes place this Sunday at Oban High

School starting at 12.30pm. The club are on the lookout for new players for all age groups.

Saints take on Westerlands in pre-season friendly

FOOTBALL

AFTER a successful Keyline Cup tournament Oban Saints kick-off the first of a series of pre-season friendly matches when they take on Caledonian League side Westerlands at the rugby pitch on Saturday.

The Glasgow side will be a tough test for Saints as they finished in third place in the Caledonian Premier Division.

The game will kick-off at 2pm with referee by Alan MacGregor in charge.

Oban Bowling Club

BOWLING

OBAN Bowling Club's ladies champion Anne MacDougall triumphed in the recent Argyll and Bute finals at Campbeltown.

The event was the finals to decide who would represent the county in the bowling world.

Anne first played Kathleen MacGougan (Campbeltown) and beat her 21 shots to 12, then in the afternoon saw off the challenge of Jean Burns from Dunoon by winning 21 shots to 6.

The pairs winners were Bridie Ferguson and Jeanette Campbell from Dunoon, beating beat a team from Ardrishaig.

The winning triples were skipped by Nan Reynolds from Rothesay and they beat Bogleha, Dunoon.

The fours from Campbeltown beat the team from Kirn and Hunters Quay, Dunoon.

All these winners will now represent Argyll and Bute in next seasons Torrance Purvis competition.



Lochnell Football Club, who play in the Oban and District Primary Football League, held their final training session of the season, during which players of the four teams were presented with their shields. A special award was made to Lachie Stathern, who is retiring after being involved in running the club for the past four years.

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Competition Rules

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Kilmallie have three must-wins games to avoid the big drop

'We're still a good side but the confidence is a bit low just now'

REPORT BY RICHARD HADDOCK
rhaddock@obantimes.co.uk

KILMALLIE'S focus will now be fully on making a great escape from relegation trouble after they were knocked out of the Camanachd Cup 3-2 by Inveraray at Canal Parks last weekend. Kilmallie have three must-win games left to have any chance of avoiding the drop, starting with a trip to again play Inveraray this Saturday.

The Caol side created chances in the first half, but Inveraray were the more clinical side and managed to take the lead in the 26th minute through a strike from Andrew MacMurdo.

The away team doubled their lead four minutes before half time when Chris Crawford scored his first of the game. Kilmallie improved after

break and delighted the home fans when Ryan Stewart pulled a goal back in the 57th minute. But Inveraray were given the chance to restore the two goal advantage when home keeper Kevin Toye caught an aerial ball.

Crawford took the penalty and managed to score despite a valiant effort from Toye.

Kilmallie battled back again and made the score 3-2 through Michael Rodger with 17 minutes to go.

A fantastic Rodger effort nearly forced a replay but Inveraray were able to hold on for the win.

Kilmallie coach Peter Jackson told The Oban Times: 'Inveraray probably had the better of the first half but we created plenty in the second half. We had chances in the first half as well but we weren't able to trouble their keeper.'

Jackson admitted the penalty had been a turning point in the

SHINTY

game, but refused to blame Toye for his error.

He said: 'I'm not sure what he was thinking, but Kevin's been great for us all season and he nearly kept the penalty out as well.'

'We're in the ascendancy at that point, we'd just got it back to 2-1 and we had a few chances but that took the steam out of us a little bit.'

He continued: 'Our forward line is what we built our foundations on - we always thought we could outscore the other side. But we're not playing as fluently up front as we were last season. We're still a good side but the confidence is a bit low just now.'

'We're not gone yet, and we'll keep going. The only way you can do is with 14 points, and that means winning all our games.'



Jamie Miller from Inverness sprints to victory in the 100 metres at Morvern Games at Lochaline on Saturday. The 25 year-old Inverness Harriers athlete also won the 200 metres race on an exciting day's competition on track and field. 20. f29morvern12

Isle of Skye GC

GOLF

ISLE OF Skye Golf Club held the RNL Trophy over the weekend, with Simon Latton taking first place.

Latton scored 44 points in the stableford competition, two more than nearest rival Sandy Ross. JA MacLeod finished third with a score of 40 points.

The club held round three of the Strath Cup last week with John Fenwick scoring 44 points to take first place. In a close competition, Greig Miller was second with 43 points, while third placed Murdo MacLean was one point further back.

The club will hold its annual open competition this Saturday.



Jim Hamilton, centre, hands over the shield for the competition he sponsored at Lochaber Bowling Club on Saturday, July 7. The competition turned out to be a Mr and Mrs final with Judith and Alan Robinson narrowly beating Agnes and Wilson Thain. The day drew a large entry and finished just as the heavy rain came in.

Finlay sets new record at hill race

ATHLETICS

LOCHABER athlete Finlay Wild set a new record as he won the David Shepherd Memorial Glamaig Hill Race by a clear distance on Saturday.

A field of nearly 200 runners set off from Sligachan Hotel on Skye to climb the 2,400ft hill.

Wild's time for the 4.5mile course of 44m 27s broke the previous record of 44m 41s, which was set in 1997. The second fastest runner Brian Marshall finished nearly seven minutes behind the Lochaber man.

Francis Shepherd was the first Skye runner to finish in a time of 53m 49s, to give him 13th place overall. Lochaber Athletic Club's Paul MacLean finished 19th in 56m 6s.

Catriona Buchanan was the first woman to cross the finish line, in a time of 1h 0m and 51s - some 11m and 2s faster than last year's winning time.

LAC's Lyndsey Shaw finished with a time of 1h 5m 29s, while club mate Amanda Blackhall completed the course in 1h 6m 46s.

Lochaber yachts do well in Mull race

SAILING

TWO ENTRIES from Lochaber Yacht Club performed well at the Round Mull passage race on July 6-8.

Scintilla (Marian Austin) raced in Class Three and won the third leg from Bunnassan to Oban of 41 miles and came second in class overall.

Windmark (Roddy Campbell) raced in Class One - and won the class and the Glencoe trophy for the fastest corrected time in the whole fleet for the third leg from Bunnassan to Oban.



Kilchoan FC men's team line up before the big derby.

Kilchoan stunned by last gasp winner

KILCHOAN FC took nearly 40 players and supporters across to Coll for the annual derby match on Saturday.

As the sun shone and crowds gathered, the ladies teams took each other on in a seven-a-side game. The visitors started strongly and opened the scoring after 10 minutes through player of the match Rosie Curtis.

Curtis went on to score a further three goals as Kilchoan notched up a 6-0 victory, although keeper Nan MacLachlan had to make a

smart save before half time to keep her clean sheet.

It was then the men's turn, with Kilchoan looking to atone for an 8-2 loss last year.

Injury

Coll were largely penned back in their own half, but managed to open the scoring against the run of play. Kilchoan then lost two players to injury, but got a deserved equaliser through man of the match Liam Anderson.

The injury jinx hit the hosts in the second half as they also lost

FOOTBALL

two players, and Kilchoan took advantage and took a 2-1 lead when Mark Dornan found the back of the net.

Kilchoan continued to press, but Coll were awarded a penalty, which they scored to bring the scores level again.

As the game seemed to be heading for a draw, Coll snuck through the Kilchoan defence to grab a last gasp winner and stun the visiting fans.

Golden oldies fail to cope with BA's mobile forwards

WELFARE FOOTBALL

BA CLUB bounced back after losing for the first time in the Lochaber Welfare League this season by thrashing Ballachulish 8-1 at the BA Club last week.

Fielding a central defence with a combined age of 106 (Gabor Tot, aged 52, and Kenny Hazelton, aged 54) Ballachulish were not able to cope with BA's mobile forwards.

Scoresheet

Logan Barker (2), Ray Munro and Leon Lopez were on the scoresheet in the first half. Lopez scored twice after the break to get his hat-trick, while Sean MacDonald also netted twice. William Taylor scored a consolation for Ballachulish.

BA lost 3-1 to Lundavra at Canal Parks earlier in the week, which meant Caol Cosmos closed

the gap to just three points with a game in hand.

Caol were awarded a 3-0 win after Balla United cancelled due to a lack of players.

The only other league game saw Lundavra put five past Celtic to move up to fourth place.

In the first round of the Uisdean MacDonald Cup, Caol Cosmos secured a narrow 3-2 win over Lochaber, while Mallaig moved into the next round with a 12-2 thumping of Celtic.



BA Club's Sean MacDonald being chased down by Ballachulish player John Viray. 10. f29footie01

Fort Augustus Golf Club prepares for the Open

GOLF

FORT Augustus Golf Club is preparing for its annual Open championship, which is due to be held on Sunday July 29.

The event is open to both club members and visitors, with the club hoping the good weather will attract a large crowd.

20 Anniversary Atlantis

10 PAIRS of Atlantis Leisure day passes up for grabs!

Atlantis Community Leisure centre is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year. Celebrations will kick start with a torch relay around the streets of central Oban at 11am on Saturday, July 28, with various local groups and clubs carrying the flame. The relay will finish at Atlantis Leisure with a barbeque and Fun Olympics event for all the family including water walkers and a human football table. To take part in the relay and for more information contact Claire at Atlantis on 01631 566800.

To celebrate, The Oban Times has ten pairs of Atlantis Leisure day passes to give away. For your chance to win, simply answer this easy question, complete the coupon and post it to The Oban Times, Atlantis Comp, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB. Entries must be submitted by Monday, July 30 2012.

Question: Which anniversary is Atlantis Leisure celebrating this year (2012)?
a) 20 b) 40 c) 50

Answer.....
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Weather

Thursday Sunny
Winds light north, north easterly
Temperatures 10°C to 15°C

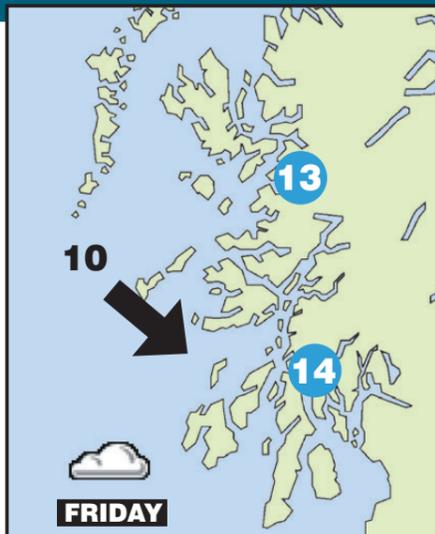
Friday Cloudy
Winds light west north westerly
Temperatures 11°C to 14°C.

Weekend Light rain showers

Outlook Winds light south westerly
Temperatures 12°C to 14°C.

Ferry Crossings/Sea States

Oban to Barra/South Uist Moderate
Oban to Coll/Tiree Moderate
Kennacraig to Islay Moderate



Tides

Tide tables for Oban during the week from **Thursday, July 19, 2012** are listed below with differences for major ports listed beneath.

All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am	pm
Thur 00.00	1.2 05.59 3.7 11.58	0.9 18.05 3.8
Fri 00.35	1.1 06.34 3.8 12.33	0.8 18.39 3.9
Sat 01.10	1.0 07.06 3.8 13.07	0.7 19.11 3.9
Sun 01.44	1.0 07.34 3.7 13.42	0.7 19.43 3.9
Mon 02.16	1.0 08.06 3.6 14.19	0.7 20.18 3.8
Tues 02.51	1.1 08.43 3.5 15.01	0.9 20.58 3.7
Wed 03.33	1.2 09.27 3.3 15.49	1.0 21.44 3.5

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

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

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